

Spain - Walking the Hidden Sierra de Salamanca (2025) Individual Self-Guided 8 days / 7 nights



Stunning walking in the mountainous region of Sierra de Francia, near the Portuguese border, an area with excellent weather, untouched by mass tourism, where the traditional way of life is still very much alive. Fabulous walking amongst terraces of olive groves, vineyards, cherry and plum orchards and small vegetable plots carved on the hills, in an area otherwise dominated by vast oak and chestnut forests. The mountain villages retain their narrow streets and stone watch towers as they have done since the Middle Ages. The only sound you will hear on your walks will be birdsong and the distant rumor of running water.

This is a very special walking holiday away from the crowds. We truly recommend it!

A first night in Salamanca city, World Heritage Site, to discover this ancient university city which is reputed to have the most beautiful main square in the whole of Spain. Then 6 days of gentle walks along perfectly signposted woodland walks in an area of extraordinary beauty, staying at four charming rural hotels.

OK Cycle & Adventure Tours Inc. - 666 Kirkwood Ave - Suite B102 – Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1Z 5X9 www.okcycletours.com Toll Free 1-888-621-6818 Local 613-702-5350



Itinerary Day to Day



Day 1: Arrival to Salamanca

Arrival at the UNESCO World Heritage City of Salamanca and begin your city tour.

Day 2: Salamanca and La Alberca 12km 260-725m

You have all morning to explore this truly impressive city, explore its beautifully preserved historic centre and enjoy its many fabulous sights and monuments before your taxi to Sierra de Francia in the afternoon. Take time in the evening to stroll through the cobbled streets of La Alberca. Look out for its curious resident 'San Antonn', the resident, free range pig!

Commons.wikimedia.org

Day 3: La Alberca - Las Batuevas 12 Km + 260 m - 725 m

Brace yourself for the spectacular, breath taking views that accompany you on today's route. Descend into the beautiful Batuecas Valley with its isolated monastery, then take the meandering riverside path to the prehistoric cave paintings. You won't be able to resist taking a dip in the crystal clear waters of the river Batuecas! A taxi transfer will take you back to La Alberca. This evening you could visit the charming 'Museo del traje' or 'Casa Juanela', both little museums illustrating village life form a bygone era.

Day 4: La Alberca - Mogarraz 19 km + 800 m - 1100 m

Today's route takes you through lush oak and chestnut woodland, passing by several typical mountain villages, and finishing off in the picture perfect, 12th century village of Mogarraz. Here you can enjoy the singular street art exhibition of portraits which reflects a former age, past but not forgotten!

Day 5: Mogarraz - Miranda del Castañar 12 km + 741 m - 524 m

Today's beautiful walk follows the river Francia through leafy aromatic woodland and among the local's terraced orchards and vegetable gardens. You then reach the charming medieval town of Miranda del Castanar where you can visit its castle and take a dip in the natural river pool in summer time.





Day 6: Miranda del Castañar - San Martin del Castañar 16 km + 524 m

A walk taking you though the south facing slopes, cultivated with vineyards and olive groves and surrounded by strawberry tree and oak woodland. You will walk past two traditional mountain villages to reach the wonderful village of San Martin del Castañar. Don't miss its ancient bullring at the top of the village and be sure to take the opportunity to lose yourself in the enchanting cobbled streets of this historic place.



Day 7: Peña de Francia to San Martin del Castañar 17 km + 395 m – 1200 m

Today we will take you up to the dizzy heights of 1727 meters...by taxi! The lofty peak of "Pena de Francia" will offer you breathtaking 360 degree views of the surrounding countryside. You will have time to explore the monastery and chapel. From here your walk winds through open mountain landscapes, aromatic pine forest and later through beautiful woodland of oak and chestnut on the lower slopes of this singular mountain. Return to San Martin del Castanar where you can reward yourself with a traditional dinner in one of the village's excellent restaurants.

Day 8: Departure

Return home or extra night in Salamanca or Madrid.



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<u>Route</u>



Technical Characteristics:

Tour Profile: Average. Undulating or hilly terrain with perhaps three ascents per day.

Distance: 70 km

Travel Season: Daily arrival from April 1 to October 31

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Price per Person:

		Additional Nights per person		
Double Occupancy B&B	€867		Double	Single
Single Supplement	€268	Madrid	On request	On request
Solo Traveler Supplement	€433	Salamanca	On request	On request
Half Board	On request			

Included:

- 7 nights' accommodation in charming small rural hotels •
- 7 breakfasts •
- Luggage transfers between hotels
- Local transfer from Salamanca to Alberca on day 2, and two further local transfers on days 3 and 7
- Detailed maps with your trail clearly marked •
- Itinerary description, full of recommendations for things to do and places to visit, advice and suggestions and information about your accommodation, etc
- GPS tracks and navigation app for your phone
- **Emergency support**
- Activity insurance

Not Included:

- Extra night/s in Madrid or Salamanca
- Half Board- select hotels only



Assisting people in realizing their touring dreams worldwide is our passion.

www.okcycletours.com



THIS IS A PARTNER TOUR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OK Cycle & Adventure Tours Inc. 666 Kirkwood Ave - Suite B102 – Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1Z 5X9 Toll Free 1-888-621-6818 Local 613-702-5350 TICO Ontario Registration No: 50022848

Additional Nights nor norson