

Portugal – Cycling the Portuguese Camino de Santiago Bicycle Tour (2024) Individual Self-Guided 8 days / 7 nights



Cycling the Portuguese Camino de Santiago allows you to appreciate the beauty of Portugal's Minho region and Galicia in Spain. The scenery is a glorious blend of greenery with woodland, rivers, valleys, vineyards, fields and traditional villages with their architecture and age-old rural farming practices. Sections of the Portuguese Camino share the ancient Roman road and you'll cross many a Roman bridge on your journey. You'll also discover attractive towns and cities with stunning ancient architecture and fascinating histories. To keep your energy levels up along the Way, tuck into Portuguese and Spanish cheeses, traditional cured meats, the freshest of fish and seafood and *vinho verde* wines.

Begin your incredible journey in the UNESCO World Heritage <u>city of Porto</u>. Learn how St. James and a cockerel saved a pilgrim's life in Barcelos, why Roman soldiers were terrified of crossing the river at Ponte de Lima and appreciate the significant part Valença's fortress played in defending Portugal's borders

One the other side of the River Minho the stunning Tui Cathedral awaits, as do Redondela's viaducts and the medieval center of Pontevedra. Riverside Caldas de Reis is famous for its soothing thermal waters while Padrón lays claim to St. James' first burial spot. His remains have since been relocated to what is now a monumental cathedral in Santiago de Compostela.



Itinerary Day to Day

Day 1: Arrival to Porto

Free day in Oporto

Day 2: Porto - Barcelos 54 km

On this first stage you can appreciate the progressive transition from urban into rural areas. You will go through Vilarinho, Rates and Pedra Furada, and then on rural roads you will reach the town of Barcelos where the stage ends.

Day 3: Barcelos – Ponte de Lima 33 km

You will leave from Barcelos, and following minor roads you will enter in the rural area. This is a day of rural roads, and a magnificent journey until reaching Ponte de Lima, where you will be dazzled by the stunning landscape.



Day 4: Ponte de Lima - Valença 5 km

Leave the medieval town of Ponte de Lima and go into the rural world. On the middle of the stage you will arrive to Labruja Mountain - two kilometers uphill that are the most demanding of the whole Way. From the top until the end of the stage it is an easy ride.

Day 5: Valença – Pontevedra 56 km

Cross Rio Minho and enter in Spain. Go through the medieval town of Tui and before reach Pontevedra you pass through the cities of O Porriño and Redondela.

Day 6: Pontevedra - Padron 41 km

From the old city of Pontevedra continue along the beautiful Valley of the Gandra River until Caldas de Reis and from there along some enchanting stretches, along the side of the Valga River you reach Padron.

Day 7: Padron - Santiago 25 km

The last stage starts leaving Padron through Galician villages until the magnificent sanctuary of Nossa Señora da Escravitute. Continue to Teo and following broad streets and narrower shortcuts you finally arrive to the suburbs of Santiago that lead us through a labyrinth of streets to the Cathedral of Santiago.

Day 8: Departure

After breakfast - end of our services





Route



Technical Characteristics:

Tour Profile: Relatively Difficult. Terrain is 40% asphalt and 60% dirt roads or unpaved roads, some narrow at times. We recommend cycling the Camino only if you have some cycling experience and essential bike maintenance knowledge.

Distance: 230 km

Travel Season: Daily departures from March 1 to October 31, 2023



Price per Person:

Double Occupancy B&B March 15- June 30 and September 16 – October 31	€945
Double Occupancy B&B July 1 – September 15	€995
Single Supplement March 15- June 30 and September 16 – October 31	€305
Single Supplement July 1 – September 15	€335
E-Bike upgrade	€200
Extra nights	On request

^{*}All prices subject to confirmation on booking.

Accommodation:

3* hotels with private washrooms

Included:

- 7 nights of accommodation with breakfast
- 6 Days MTB bike rental 20 gears bike Cannondale trail 6 (bike with front suspension, disc brakes, 29' wheels and pannier bags)
- Luggage transfers between hotels (1 bag per person Max. 15 kg/bag)
- 24 hour emergency support
- Pilgrim Kit: passport (Credencial) and shell (Vieira)
- Road book of the way with tips and information (in English)

Not Included:

- International flights
- Arrival & departure transfers
- Meals (where not listed as included in the itinerary)
- Optional additional tours or activities during free time
- Tips and items of a personal nature



Bikes

<u>Hybrid Bike</u> Cannondale Trail 6



E-Bike



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