



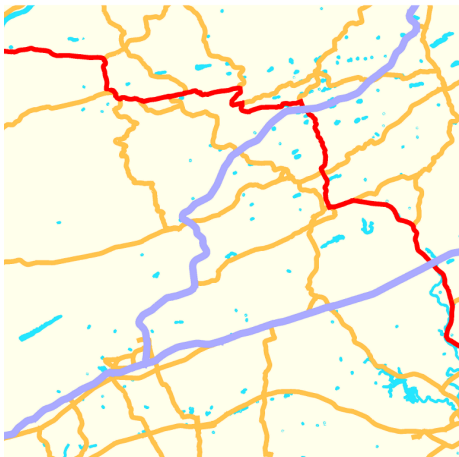
SPRING & AUTUMN CAMINOS

type :	Camino Hiking Tours
level :	🌀 🌀 🌀 🌀 🌀
duration :	34 days
period :	Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct
code :	VE-12.5

Camino Francés Total, Backpack - Spain

From Roncesvalles to Santiago

34 days, PRICE FROM € 1525



Camino de Santiago Backpack: Roncesvalles to Santiago

Walking the Camino Francés from Roncesvalles to Santiago de Compostela means embracing the full journey: over 780 km across northern Spain, from the Pyrenees to Galicia, crossing landscapes, regions and cultures step by step. This is one of the most iconic ways to begin the **Camino de Santiago from Roncesvalles**, a route chosen by thousands of pilgrims each year.

This is the complete Camino — not a section, not a highlight — but the whole experience. You begin in the quiet mountain setting of Roncesvalles and move through Navarra, La Rioja, Castilla y León and finally into green Galicia. Vineyards and medieval towns, vast plateaus and lively cities, silent mornings and shared hostel dinners: each stage adds something essential to the journey, making the **Camino de Santiago backpack** one of the most meaningful long-distance walks in Europe.

This version of the trip is designed for those who wish to experience the Camino in its most authentic form, staying in pilgrim hostels and sharing spaces with fellow walkers from around the world. It is a journey of continuity, simplicity and community — where the focus remains on walking, meeting others and living the rhythm of the trail.

Route

Day 1 Arrival in Roncesvalles

Your journey begins in Roncesvalles, a small mountain village nestled in the Pyrenees, just beyond the French border. Surrounded by forests and misty peaks, this historic pilgrim hub has welcomed walkers for centuries. The atmosphere is quiet and reflective, shaped by the presence of the Collegiate Church and the ancient monastery complex. As evening falls, pilgrims gather, exchange stories and prepare for the first steps of the Camino. Tomorrow, the path truly begins.

Day 2 From Roncesvalles to Zubiri, 22 km

Leaving Roncesvalles, the trail descends gently through dense woodland, crossing small streams and quiet clearings. The Pyrenean landscape feels fresh and green, with soft light filtering through the trees. Villages such as Burguete and Espinal offer short pauses before the path continues downhill toward Zubiri. The day ends beside the medieval bridge over the River Arga, where tired legs find rest in the simple rhythm of pilgrim life.

Distance: 22 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 3 From Zubiri to Pamplona, 20 km

Today the Camino follows the River Arga through a peaceful valley, weaving between small villages and cultivated fields. Gradually, the landscape becomes more open as you approach Pamplona. The arrival contrasts rural quiet with urban energy: cobbled streets, lively plazas and the impressive cathedral welcome you into the historic capital of Navarra. It is a perfect place to wander, reflect and enjoy a shared meal with fellow pilgrims.

Day 4 From Pamplona to Puente La Reina, 24 km

Leaving Pamplona, you begin a steady climb toward Alto del Perdón, where wind turbines line the ridge and wide views stretch across Navarra. The iconic sculpture of pilgrims marks a symbolic point on the journey. The descent leads through vineyards and small villages to Puente la Reina, where Romanesque architecture and the elegant medieval bridge create one of the Camino's most memorable arrivals.

Distance: 24 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 5 From Puente la Reina to Estella, 22 km

The trail continues through rolling countryside dotted with olive trees and vineyards. Passing through Cirauqui and its well-preserved medieval streets, you walk stretches of ancient Roman road still visible underfoot. Estella awaits with its rich artistic heritage, Romanesque churches and lively atmosphere. It is a town shaped by pilgrims for centuries — a fitting place to pause and gather strength.

Distance: 22 km

Elevation Gain

Day 6 From Estella to Los Arcos, 22 km

Leaving Estella, the Camino soon brings you to one of its most curious landmarks: the wine fountain at Irache, where pilgrims can symbolically taste a sip of local red wine before continuing their journey. Beyond this point, the landscape opens into wide agricultural plains under vast Navarre skies. The villages grow smaller and further apart, and the rhythm of walking becomes steady and contemplative. Los Arcos appears almost unexpectedly, gathered around its impressive church tower — a quiet and welcoming place to end the day.

Distance: 22 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 7 From Los Arcos to Logroño, 29 km

Today's longer stage carries you steadily toward La Rioja, a region defined by vineyards and gentle horizons. The trail crosses open farmland and small rural hamlets before the first signs of wine country begin to appear. Crossing the border into Rioja feels like entering a new chapter of the Camino. The arrival in Logroño brings a lively contrast: elegant streets, shaded plazas and the hum of local life. Calle Laurel, famous for its tapas, offers the perfect setting to share stories and celebrate the journey so far.

Distance: 29 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 8 From Logroño to Nájera, 29 km

Leaving the city behind, the path climbs gently through vineyards that seem to stretch endlessly across the hills. The Camino alternates between rural tracks and quiet country roads, with broad views over Rioja's fertile landscape. Passing through Navarrete and small agricultural villages, you begin to sense the deeper rural character of this region. Nájera welcomes you along the banks of the River Najerilla, its monastery of Santa María la Real standing as a reminder of the town's medieval importance and long-standing connection to pilgrims.

Distance: 29 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 9 From Nájera to Santo Domingo de la Calzada, 22 km

The trail continues through open fields and golden farmland, where the sky feels particularly wide and luminous. Small villages punctuate the landscape, offering brief pauses along the way. As you approach Santo Domingo de la Calzada, the cathedral tower rises above the rooftops. The town is closely tied to Camino legend — inside the cathedral, live chickens are kept in memory of a medieval miracle. It is a place where history and storytelling remain vividly alive.

Distance: 22 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 10 From Santo Domingo de la Calzada to Belorado, 23 km

Today the Camino follows long agricultural paths that lead gradually toward the wooded foothills of the Montes de Oca. The terrain is gentle but open, encouraging a steady, unhurried pace. Fields give way to softer hills as you approach Belorado, a welcoming town with a quiet pilgrim tradition. It feels like a natural pause before tomorrow's ascent into forested landscapes — a subtle transition from open plains to something more enclosed and intimate.

Distance: 23 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 11 From Belorado to San Juan de Ortega, 25 km

Leaving Belorado, the Camino begins to rise gradually toward the Montes de Oca. The landscape shifts from open farmland to wooded hills, and the path becomes quieter, shaded by oak and pine forests. This stretch has long been known as one of the more solitary sections of the early Camino, once feared by medieval pilgrims for its remoteness. Today it feels peaceful and contemplative. The small settlement of San Juan de Ortega gathers around its Romanesque church — a simple, atmospheric place to rest after crossing the forest.

Day 12 From San Juan de Ortega to Burgos, 26 km

The morning begins gently through woodland before the terrain opens again into rolling fields. Small villages mark your steady progress toward one of the great historic cities of northern Spain. As you descend toward Burgos, the magnificent Gothic cathedral gradually comes into view, rising high above the rooftops. Entering the city feels momentous — Burgos offers grand architecture, lively plazas and a strong pilgrim tradition. It is a vibrant contrast to the rural stages of the previous days.

Distance: 26 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 13 From Burgos to Hornillos del Camino, 20 km

Leaving Burgos behind, the Camino leads you into the vast openness of the Meseta. The city fades quickly, replaced by expansive agricultural plains and long, straight paths stretching toward the horizon. The sense of space becomes the dominant feature of the day. Walking here is rhythmic and meditative, accompanied by wide skies and subtle changes in light. Hornillos del Camino appears as a small cluster of stone houses gathered in the open landscape — quiet, simple and perfectly in tune with the Meseta's spirit.

Distance: 20 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 14 From Hornillos del Camino to Castrojeriz, 20 km

The Meseta continues, unfolding in gentle undulations of wheat fields and open farmland. The path rises gradually before offering broad panoramic views over the Castilian plains. Approaching Castrojeriz, the ruins of its hilltop castle dominate the skyline, visible long before you reach the town. Narrow streets and historic churches tell of its medieval importance as a key Camino stop. The atmosphere remains tranquil, shaped by centuries of pilgrims who have passed through these same fields.

Distance: 20 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 15 From Castrojeriz to Frómista, 25 km

Today begins with a steady climb out of Castrojeriz toward the Alto de Mostelares, where sweeping views reward the effort. From here, the landscape opens once again into wide, cultivated plains. The Camino follows straight gravel tracks and crosses the impressive Canal de Castilla before reaching Frómista. The town is home to one of the finest Romanesque churches on the entire route, San Martín, whose harmonious proportions reflect the deep architectural heritage of this region. It is a day defined by openness, light and long horizons.

Distance: 25 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 16 From Frómista to Carrión de los Condes, 20 km

Leaving Frómista, the Camino follows a long, straight stretch beside the Canal de Castilla before returning to open farmland. The Meseta reveals its most essential character here — vast skies, cultivated fields and a silence broken only by the wind. The walking is steady and reflective, encouraging a natural rhythm. Carrión de los Condes emerges as a historic pilgrimage town, once an important medieval centre. Its monasteries and churches still echo centuries of devotion, offering a meaningful place to pause.

Day 17 From Carrión de los Condes to Terradillos de los Templarios, 28 km

This is one of the longest and most expansive stages across the Meseta. The path stretches across wide agricultural plains, with long, uninterrupted sections between small villages. The horizon feels endless, and the simplicity of the landscape becomes its defining beauty. Pilgrims often describe this stretch as meditative — a place where the mind quiets and the steady rhythm of footsteps takes over. Terradillos de los Templarios, linked historically to the Knights Templar, offers a humble and welcoming end to the day.

Day 18 From Terradillos de los Templarios to Burgo Ranero, 29 km

The Camino continues across the open plains of Castilla y León, where golden fields and straight gravel tracks define the scenery. Occasional tree-lined sections provide welcome shade, while small villages punctuate the route at measured intervals. The repetition of landscape invites introspection; the simplicity becomes almost elemental. Reaching Burgo Ranero feels like arriving at a quiet outpost in the vast countryside — a small settlement shaped by the steady flow of pilgrims through the centuries.

Distance: 29 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 19 From Burgo Ranero to Mansilla de las Mulas, 19 km

Today's walk remains largely flat, crossing agricultural terrain under expansive skies. The route alternates between rural tracks and paths lined with poplars, creating welcome corridors of shade. The medieval walls of Mansilla de las Mulas appear gradually, enclosing a town that still preserves its historic layout. Entering through its gates offers a sense of continuity with generations of travellers who have walked this same road toward León.

Distance: 19 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 20 From Mansilla de las Mulas to León, 20 km

Leaving the walled town behind, the Camino gradually approaches one of the great cities of northern Spain. The transition from rural quiet to urban energy unfolds step by step. León welcomes pilgrims with its magnificent Gothic cathedral, whose stained-glass windows flood the interior with coloured light. The city's lively streets, tapas bars and historic squares offer both celebration and reflection — a milestone on the long journey westward.

Distance: 20 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 21 From León to Villadangos del Páramo, 22 km

Leaving León, the Camino gradually returns to open countryside. After crossing the outskirts of the city, the landscape becomes wide and agricultural once more, with long stretches of rural paths cutting through cultivated fields. The rhythm settles again after the urban interlude. Small villages punctuate the route, offering simple cafés and quiet plazas. Villadangos del Páramo marks the end of the stage — a modest, peaceful stop before the terrain begins to shift in the days ahead.

Distance: 22 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 22 From Villadangos del Páramo to Astorga, 27 km

Today the scenery slowly changes as the Camino moves toward the foothills of León's mountains. The path crosses farmland and traditional villages before gradually approaching Astorga, a town rich in Roman and medieval heritage. Its elegant cathedral and Gaudí's striking Episcopal Palace stand proudly above the historic centre. Astorga has long been a crossroads of cultures and trade routes, and arriving here feels like stepping into a layered history that blends architecture, pilgrimage and local tradition.

Distance: 27 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 23 From Astorga to Rabanal del Camino, 21 km

Leaving Astorga behind, the route begins to climb gently toward the Montes de León. The agricultural plains give way to more rugged terrain, with heather-covered hills and wide open views. The ascent is gradual but steady, marking a clear transition in the landscape. Rabanal del Camino, a small mountain village with stone houses and a deeply rooted pilgrim tradition, offers a quiet and atmospheric setting for the night — a place to gather strength before the higher passes ahead.

Distance: 21 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 24 From Rabanal del Camino to Ponferrada, 29 km

This is a memorable and varied stage. The climb continues to Cruz de Ferro, one of the symbolic high points of the Camino Francés, where pilgrims traditionally leave a small stone as a personal gesture. From here, the path descends through mountain scenery into the green region of El Bierzo. The landscape softens as vineyards and rolling hills appear. Ponferrada welcomes you with its impressive Templar castle, standing as a reminder of the region's medieval past.

Distance: 29 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 25 From Ponferrada to Villafranca del Bierzo, 25 km

Today the Camino follows the fertile valley of El Bierzo, known for its vineyards and gentle terrain. The walking is steady and pleasant, framed by mountains in the distance and cultivated fields along the way. Small villages provide welcome pauses before reaching Villafranca del Bierzo, often called "Little Compostela" for its strong pilgrim heritage. Its historic centre, noble houses and the Church of Santiago make it a meaningful stop before the climb into Galicia.

Distance: 25 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 26 From Villafranca del Bierzo to O Cebreiro, 28 km

Today is one of the most demanding — and rewarding — stages of the entire Camino. Leaving Villafranca, the route follows the valley before beginning the long ascent toward Galicia. The climb to O Cebreiro is steady and at times challenging, but the mountain scenery grows increasingly dramatic with every step. Crossing into Galicia feels symbolic: green hills, misty horizons and ancient stone villages announce the change of region. O Cebreiro, perched high on the ridge, welcomes you with its traditional thatched pallozas and a deep sense of arrival.

Distance: 28 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 27 From O Cebreiro to Triacastela, 22 km

The morning begins among rolling Galician hills, often wrapped in soft mist. The trail undulates gently across high pastures and small hamlets, offering wide views over the surrounding mountains. The terrain is varied but less steep than the previous day, allowing a steady rhythm to return. Gradually the path descends toward Triacastela, a quiet rural village that has welcomed pilgrims for centuries. Here, the landscape feels greener, softer, and unmistakably Galician.

Distance: 22 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 28 From Triacastela to Sarria, 21 km

From Triacastela you may follow one of the traditional routes toward Sarria, either through forested hills or via the historic monastery of Samos. Both options reveal the intimate character of inland Galicia: shaded woodland paths, small stone churches and peaceful rural scenery. The walking is gentle but constant. Sarria marks an important milestone, as many pilgrims begin their Camino here — bringing renewed energy and a growing sense of anticipation for the final stretch.

Distance: 21 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 29 From Sarria to Portomarín, 23 km

The Camino continues through classic Galician countryside: shaded lanes, stone farmhouses, eucalyptus groves and quiet villages where life moves slowly. The steady flow of pilgrims becomes more noticeable along this stretch. The route crosses rivers and rolling hills before descending toward Portomarín, rebuilt stone by stone above the reservoir. Its fortified church dominates the main square, offering a striking backdrop for the evening.

Distance: 23 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 30 From Portomarín to Palas de Rei, 25 km

Today's stage follows a series of gentle ascents and descents through farmland and woodland. The rhythm is steady, the scenery pastoral and peaceful. Small villages offer opportunities to pause before the path climbs gradually toward Palas de Rei. This historic settlement, once associated with medieval kings, provides a welcoming stop as the final days toward Santiago draw closer.

Distance: 25 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 31 From Palas de Rei to Arzúa, 29 km

One of the longer stages of the final stretch, today's walk moves through a mosaic of woodland, open fields and traditional Galician villages. The trail alternates between quiet rural paths and small settlements where cafés and fountains invite short pauses. You cross the province of Lugo into A Coruña, symbolically moving closer to Santiago. Arzúa, known for its creamy local cheese, welcomes pilgrims with a lively yet relaxed atmosphere.

Distance: 29 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 32 From Arzúa to Pedrouzo, 19 km

A slightly shorter day allows for a gentler pace as anticipation builds. The route winds through eucalyptus forests and shaded country lanes, with small villages appearing at regular intervals. The walking is smooth and well-trodden, shared with many fellow pilgrims who, like you, are approaching the final stage. Pedrouzo is a natural stopping point before the last push toward Santiago — a place to rest, reflect, and prepare.

Distance: 19 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 33 From Pedrouzo to Santiago de Compostela, 22 km

The final day begins quietly, through woodland paths that gradually lead toward the outskirts of the city. Crossing Monte do Gozo, you may catch your first glimpse of Santiago's cathedral towers — an emotional moment for many pilgrims. The descent into the historic centre feels both ordinary and extraordinary at once. And then, suddenly, you step into Praza do Obradoiro. The cathedral stands before you. After weeks of walking, the journey reaches its symbolic end — a moment of arrival, gratitude, and quiet celebration.

Distance: 22 km

Elevation Gain:

Day 34 ¡Adiós Santiago de Compostela!

This morning marks the conclusion of your Camino. You may choose to attend the Pilgrim's Mass, collect your Compostela certificate, or simply wander once more through Santiago's granite streets and arcades. The city invites you to linger — in its cafés, markets and quiet squares — before beginning your journey home. The Camino may be finished, but its rhythm often continues long after the final step.

Practical info



Arrival in Roncesvalles

The easiest way to reach Roncesvalles is via Pamplona. From Pamplona airport or train station, regular buses connect to Roncesvalles (journey time approx. 1–1.5 hours). Alternatively, a private transfer can be arranged.

We recommend arriving in Pamplona with enough time to reach Roncesvalles comfortably in the afternoon and settle into the quiet atmosphere of the monastery village before your first walking day.

Departure from Santiago de Compostela

Santiago is well connected by airport, train and long-distance buses to Madrid, Barcelona and other major Spanish cities. The airport offers both domestic and international flights.

We suggest spending at least one extra night in Santiago to attend the Pilgrim's Mass, explore the historic centre and fully absorb the significance of your arrival.

Included

What is included

- 33 Nights in double room in hostels (common rooms and shared bathroom) with breakfast
- Maps and detailed description of the itinerary
- Medical and luggage travel insurance
- 24h phone assistance

What is not included

- Transfers to the starting location and from the arriving location of the tour
- Lunches and dinners, if not otherwise stated
- Visits and entrance fees - tips
- Personal expense
- Possible sojourn taxes
- Everything that is not mentioned in the "What is included" section.

Optional Services

These services can be added to the ones included in the base price of the tour:

- Luggage transfers from hostel to hostel
- Excursion to Costa da Morte (Finisterre and Muxia)
- Cancellation insurance
- Pilgrim Passport
- Transfers to reach the starting location or to leave the arriving location of the tour, which will be quoted on request.