

# THE COASTAL CAMINO PORTUGU**É**S

# PORTO TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

From 6200 EUR 16 days, 15 nights 1 - 16 June, 2025

# About the Coastal Camino Portugués

Embark on an extraordinary two-country pilgrimage along 271 kilometers (169 miles) of windswept coastline, stretching from Portugal's stunning northern shores to the enchanting province of Galicia, Spain. Your journey begins in the vibrant city of Porto and continues northward into the mystical Celtic lands of Galicia. You will explore picturesque towns like Viana do Castelo, Vigo, Pontevedra, and Padrón before arriving in the legendary city of Santiago de Compostela.

Historically, the Camino Portugués became fashionable in the 14th century after Queen Isabel of Portugal made the pilgrimage. Today, the Coastal Camino thrives as more travelers discover its beauty, serenity, and spiritual depth. Boardwalks and serene beaches characterize the Portuguese section of the Camino while rolling hills, majestic rivers, and tranquil forests await you in Galicia. Following in the footsteps of countless pilgrims, you'll embrace the essence of the Camino de Santiago—an unforgettable and life-changing experience.

This tour is fully guided, ensuring your adventure is seamless from start to finish. We take care of every detail so all you need to do is lace up your walking shoes, let the spirit of adventure guide you, and become part of this timeless tradition. The Camino isn't just a journey; it's a story you'll cherish forever.



Trip Photos





# Highlights

- Guided city tours of Porto and Pontevedra.
- Guided tour of the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela.
- Being a part of the Camino! You will be walking with people from all over the world all heading to the same place one of the things that make the Coastal Camino Portugués so special.
- Walking in two countries and crossing the border by boat! The landscape, architecture, language, cuisine, and climate change as you move northwards and into Spain.
- The many monuments, chapels, churches, and cathedrals marking the way, from the magnificent 12th-century cathedral of Porto to the *Misericórdia* in Viana de Castelo and the *Santuario de la Virgen Peregrina* in Pontevedra.
- The wild Atlantic Ocean as your travel companion for much of the way with enormous white sand beaches and rocky inlets.
- Arriving at the Plaza de Obradoiro to see the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, along with the familiar faces of all the other pilgrims who have, like you, walked hundreds of miles to get there!

#### Trip Facts

Walking Distance: 271 km/169 mi

Departure City: Porto

Arrival City: Santiago de Compostela

Tour Availability: Guided group tour with fixed trip dates

Accommodation: Excellent hotels, casas rurales, pazos and manor houses

Transportation: Van or bus (depending on group size)

Language: English

Guides: English, Portuguese, and Spanish-speaking Camino experts

Walking Hours: 6-8 hours per day

#### Price

• Price per person sharing a double/twin room: 6200 EUR

• Price per person for a private room: 7700 EUR



#### Food

Our pilgrims always highlight the food as central to their Camino experience. On the Camino Portugués, you get the bonus of experiencing the best cuisine that both Portugal and Spain have to offer. Enjoy Portuguese specialities, such as the sweet *pasteis de natas* or the fish dish, *bacalhau a bras*. In Spain, you can indulge in the famed Galician wines (both red and white), abundant seafood from the Atlantic, and flavorful cheeses. We choose only the best restaurants for your tour, and will be there to guide you through this enriching culinary journey. Your tour includes most of the following meals:

- Breakfasts: Each morning, a buffet breakfast will be on offer at your accommodation.
- Lunches: Depending on the weather, we will either provide you with a gourmet picnic lunch or a delicious meal at one of our favorite restaurants. Our picnics are a favorite of our pilgrims. Each is freshly prepared by your Andaspain guide(s) and include a tasty variety of beautifully presented dishes.
- Dinners: We will either dine at our accommodation or in one of our favorite local restaurants, where your guide(s) will make sure that you get to taste the best food that the Camino has to offer.

# Allergies and Dietary Restrictions

We take your allergies and dietary restrictions very seriously. As part of our booking process, we give you the opportunity to tell us your preferences and medical conditions so that we can communicate with restaurants, hotels, and make sure that our gourmet picnics include a variety of wonderful food that you can enjoy.

#### Accommodation

In addition to the food, our pilgrims love our accommodations. Every hotel, converted monastery, *parador*, and manor house is meticulously chosen for its proximity to the Camino and its charm. Whenever possible, we opt for accommodation that perfectly embodies the best that the region has to offer in traditional food, service, & architecture. You can always count on a peaceful and comfortable night's sleep on any Andaspain tour.

#### Weather

The north of Portugal and Galicia are characterized by an oceanic climate and do not experience the scorching temperatures typical of the south and center of either country. Late spring and early summer are great times to be on the Coastal Camino. Each season brings its special highlights to the journey, such as wildflowers and vibrant young vines in springtime.



## Our Guides

Our Andaspain guide(s) are the critical ingredient in each of our amazing tours. They work hard alongside you to give you the best experience possible. All of our guides are passionate Camino experts and fully bilingual.

# Level of Difficulty

The Camino Portugués is well-marked and has plenty of places to rest along the way. While it is certainly not a mountainous region, Northern Portugal and Galicia are only flat right alongside the ocean, and sometimes not even then. The varied terrain includes boardwalks, sand, rocky footpaths, surfaced roads, cobblestones, and gravel roads. It is a long-distance walk so you will want to train and build up your stamina to become comfortably accustomed to covering a lot of ground each day! The distances we plan for you are the typical *etapas* or stages of the Camino. However, the distances are approximate and will partly depend on the location of our accommodation.

# Support Vehicle and Checkpoints

Each tour features a support vehicle, which will meet you at various checkpoints throughout the walking day to provide you with water, delicious energizing snacks, and access to other essentials that you can store in a day bag.

# Luggage Transfer

From the start of your tour to its finish, we handle all luggage and transportation. You simply leave your bags with your guide in the morning and we will take them to the next hotel.

# The Compostela

The highly coveted *Compostela* is a personalized certificate issued by the Archdiocese of Santiago de Compostela that marks the completion of your pilgrimage. To be eligible, you must walk at least the Last 100 kilometers of the Camino de Santiago. As you walk, you will document your progress by gathering stamps in your *credencial*, or pilgrim's passport. Once you reach Santiago, your guide(s) will collect your *credencial* and apply for the *Compostela* on your behalf. One fascinating fact about the *Compostela* is that it is all written in Latin, including your name (if there is a Latin equivalent).



#### What's Included

- 15 nights' accommodation
- All breakfasts, 7 lunches and 9 dinners, including wine and other drinks (While we guarantee the number of meals provided, the schedule outlined in the daily itinerary is subject to change based on restaurant availability, weather, and other factors)
- Guided city tours of Porto and Pontevedra
- Guided tour of the Cathedral de Santiago
- Water and snacks along the way
- Luggage transport (limited to one 23 kg/50 lb piece of luggage per person)
- English and Spanish speaking guide(s)
- The Pilgrim's Credencial, or Pilgrim's Passport, and scallop shell
- Camino Portugués Guide Book

#### What's Not Included

- Travel to the start of your tour or from its end
- Meals and drinks not included in your tour
- Extraneous items purchased on your behalf by your Andaspain guide
- Guide gratuity (250 EUR/person/guide is suggested)
- Additional activities not outlined in the What's Included section





Accommodation



Included Meals (subject to rescheduling)

#### Day 1: Arrive in Porto





Porto



Dinner

You will meet your guides at your hotel in Porto for a welcome meeting. You will have the opportunity to meet your fellow group members and ask any questions about your pilgrimage. You will then take a private guided tour of the city of Porto before heading to dinner at our favorite restaurant in town.

**Tour Start** 

# Day 2: Walk Porto to Boa Nova Lighthouse





Vila do Conde



Breakfast, Dinner

Today, we will walk from Porto to the Boa Nova lighthouse via the Senda Litoral, or coastal path. We begin at the foot of the cathedral, making our way down to the Douro River and following it until we reach the Atlantic Ocean. We then turn northward into the bustling port of Matosinhos, complete with a drawbridge through the docks. Eventually, we arrive at the lighthouse, one of Portugal's tallest at 46 meters (150 ft) high. Finally, we shuttle to our accommodation in Vila do Conde.

**Porto** 

14.8 km/9.2 mi

**Boa Nova** Lighthouse

# Day 3: Walk from Boa Nova Lighthouse to Povoa de Varzim





Vila do Conde



Breakfast, Lunch

The senda continues along the coast, passing sandy beaches, boardwalks, and the quiet seaside town of Lebruge. As we move forward, we'll encounter a prehistoric castro and a secluded chapel before making our way through rolling dunes to the beach. Next, we pass through Vila do Conde, a town known for its impressive boat-building heritage, before completing the final few kilometers to Povoa de Varzim.

**Boa Nova** Lighthouse

23.7 km/14.7 mi

Povoa de **Varzim** 





Accommodation



Included Meals

# Day 4: Walk from Povoa de Varzim to Esposende



Viana do Castelo



Breakfast, Dinner

This morning, we'll walk along miles of scenic boardwalks, as the shoreline gradually becomes wilder. The trail then veers inland, winding through country lanes and lush, green fields before bringing us back to the coast in the charming seaside resort of Esposende, renowned for its excellent surf. The beach, backed by low dunes, is framed by the historic 17th-century São João Baptista Fort and the striking red metal tower of the Esposende lighthouse.

Povoa de Varzim

22.7 km/14.1 mi

**Esposende** 

# Day 5: Walk from Esposende to Viana do Castelo



Viana do Castelo



**Breakfast** 

Today marks a change as we leave the Senda Litoral behind and head inland over hills and ridges, through quaint villages, past numerous chapels, and along ancient stone pathways. On the way, we're treated to some stunning vistas. Our destination, Viana do Castelo, is a gem of a town, rich in maritime history, with much to explore. The Church of Misericordia stands out as one of the finest examples of Baroque architecture in Portugal.

**Esposende** 

26 km/16.1 mi

Viana do Castelo

#### Day 6: Walk from Viana do Castelo to Caminha





Caminha



Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today, our route takes us along forest tracks and cobblestone lanes bordered by high stone walls, before a short climb that leads us to Vila Praia de Âncora. We'll pause for a rest among the rocks at Praia de Moledo, where we can enjoy the expansive views of Santa Tecla in Spain ahead. This marks the last Portuguese town on our Camino, so let's raise a glass of vinho verde, the local white wine, to celebrate our journey so far. Tomorrow, we cross into Spain!

Viana do Castelo

27 km/16.8 mi

Caminha





Accommodation



Included Meals

#### Day 7: Walk from Caminha to Viladesuso





Baiona



Breakfast, Dinner

A short boat ride across the mighty River Minho marks the start of our Spanish adventure. Once on the other side, we climb to the Santa Tecla castro, an impressive archaeological site rich in history. From there, we descend into the town of A Guarda. The trail then follows a scenic walking path along the rugged, dramatic coastline, passing the 12th-century Monastery of Oia. Continuing on, we reach the village of Viladesuso, where we'll take a shuttle to our accommodation.

#### Caminha

23.3 km/14.5 mi

Viladesuso

## Day 8: Walk from Viladesuso to Nigrán





Baiona



**Breakfast** 

We begin the day with stunning ocean views. The trail then splits and we head slightly inland and uphill along picturesque pathways and ancient stone roads. We'll pause for lunch in the charming, historic town of Baiona, famous for its connection to Christopher Columbus. Afterward, we journey back in time along the old Roman road known as the Camino Real, crossing ancient bridges as we continue to our destination.

#### Viladesuso

21.8 km/13.5 mi

Nigrán

# Day 9: Walk from Nigrán to Vigo





Vigo



Breakfast, Lunch

Today, we embrace the hills, with their breathtaking views, tiny chapels, and charming old bridges and fountains. It's hard to believe that we're nearing Galicia's largest city, the bustling port of Vigo. Upon arrival, we'll experience the lively contrast of its vibrant streets and settle into an evening among the lively plazas and elegant buildings. The old quarter retains its strong maritime charm, providing a striking contrast to the modern amenities of the city's marinas.

Nigrán

18.6 km/11.6 mi

Vigo





Accommodation



Included Meals

# Day 10: Walk from Vigo to Arcade





Pontevedra



Breakfast, Dinner

We escape the bustling city onto the Senda da Auga, a peaceful trail of wide dirt paths and country lanes, offering stunning views of the vast Ría de Vigo estuary. After a steep descent, we reach Redondela, where we join the Central Portuguese Camino. The town is famous for its 19th-century viaducts. We then move on to the charming estuary town of Arcade, known as the oyster capital of Galicia. This is a perfect spot for a refreshing dip in the waters by the old Pontesampaio bridge.

Vigo

20.4 km/12.7 mi

**Arcade** 

#### Day 11: Walk from Arcade to Pontevedra





Pontevedra



Breakfast, Lunch

Today, the Camino Real takes us to Santa Marta, where we walk alongside the River Tameza into the city. Pontevedra thrived during the 15th and 16th centuries as a bustling port and sardine fishing hub. As we enter the historic center, designated a Historic Artistic Site in 1951, we are greeted by the stunning 18thcentury Virgen Peregrina Sanctuary, a shrine dedicated to the city's patron saint. Here, we will take a tour of the city.

**Arcade** 

12.8 km/7.9 mi

**Pontevedra** 

### Day 12: Walk from Pontevedra to Caldas de Reis





Caldas de Reis



Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today offers a peaceful walk through serene and secluded countryside, following the railway line. The forest paths, lined with eucalyptus and pine, provide a calming atmosphere, perfect for slipping into the rhythm of simply walking—nothing else matters. We arrive in Caldas de Reis, a town famous for its healing thermal waters. Settled by the Celts and Romans, who named it Aquis Celenis, it's the perfect place to embrace the tradition of soaking weary feet in the steaming waters of the lavadero, a traditional stone wash house.

**Pontevedra** 

22 km/13.8 mi

Caldas de Reis





Accommodation



Included Meals

## Day 13: Walk from Caldas de Reis to Padrón



Caldas de Reis



Breakfast, Lunch

Today is a peaceful day of walking, with a few hills, charming forest paths and country roads. Our arrival in Padrón marks an important milestone on the Camino, as this is where the story of Saint James in Iberia began. We'll take some time to explore, including climbing the narrow 126-step path behind the Convent and Fountain of Carmen to Santiaguiño do Monte, a shrine built on the very rocks where Saint James first preached and performed his first miracle. Padrón is also renowned for its small green peppers, fried whole in olive oil—a truly addictive treat!

#### Caldas de Reis

18.4 km/11.4 mi

**Padrón** 

#### Day 14: Walk from Padrón to Teo





Caldas de Reis



Breakfast, Dinner

As we return to Padrón, we will embark on a gentle trail that offers our final, up-close view of rural Galician life. We will pass by an impressive baroque sanctuary at Esclavitud, before climbing through pine forests and country roads. There will be a couple of short stretches of main road leading to the beautiful village of Rúa do Francos, surrounded by ancient oak trees and home to one of the oldest crosses in Galicia.

#### **Padrón**

11.3 km/7 mi

Teo

# Day 15: Walk from Teo to Santiago de Compostela





Santiago de Compostela



Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Teo

12.6 km/7.8 mi

Santiago de Compostela

Today marks the end of your pilgrimage! Congratulations! This afternoon, you will arrive at km 0 in the famous Plaza del Obradoiro. While you check in to the hotel, your guide will head to the pilgrim's office to get your Compostela certificate. We will then regroup for a private guided tour of the Cathedral before heading to our last celebratory dinner at our favorite restaurant in old town Santiago.





Accommodation



Included Meals

Day 16: Tour End





Extra nights on request



**Breakfast** 

If today is not Sunday or a holiday, we will offer a guided visit to one of the most popular destinations in Santiago de Compostela, the Mercado de Abastos. This local market has been selling delicious vegetables, fruits, meats, fish and many other local products since 1874.

**Tour End** 

Finally, it's time to say good-bye to our Camino family. We hope that you walk away with a great sense of accomplishment, lifelong friendships, and many treasured memories. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for experiencing this magical journey with us at Andaspain and we look forward to seeing you back on the Camino someday.