

## THE SAINT JAMES WAY IN SPAIN

### CAMINO FRANCES

#### From Logroño to Burgos

From the heart of la Rioja, a beautiful wine-growing region, as far as the amazing city of Burgos, you follow tracks which are steeped in history. This was a land of struggle and confrontation between Muslims and Christians in the Middle Ages. From here you gradually move on into Castille and León, the cradle of the history of this land.

This rich historical past is evident in every town and village you pass through. Navarrete, Nájera, Santo Domingo de la Calzada, San Juan de Ortega- there are so many places marked by their history which convey a sense of wonder.

The St James Pilgrims' Way, the 'Camino Francé' passes through the great wine-growing estates which produce the famous wines of la Rioja and then leads you into an area of medium-sized mountains, the Montes de Oca. Then comes your arrival in the centre of the city of Burgos with its magnificent cathedral, an architectural gem. Immerse yourself, step by step, in the culture of the Iberian peninsula and allow yourself to be amazed by the Camino Francés, which is without any doubt the most cosmopolitan long-distance walk in the world...

#### PROGRAMME

JL002

7 days, 6 nights, 5 days' walking.

#### DAY 1 : LOGROÑO 384 m

Arrival at the end of the afternoon in the capital of la Rioja, **Logroño**, a town crossed by the river Ebro. You will be able to visit its beautiful cathedral, Santa María de la Redonda and its old quarter. Overnight stay and half board.

#### DAY 2 : LOGROÑO - NÁJERA 485 m

From **Logroño**, going towards **Nájera**, the way passes through the vineyards and cornfields of la Rioja. Nájera is the former capital of Navarre. Visit the Monastery of Santa Maria La Real de Nájera which contains a convent and a royal pantheon.

Overnight stay and half board.

Walking time: 7 hours (28 Km)

#### DAY 3 : NÁJERA - SANTO DOMINGO DE LA CALZADA 639 m

This day's walk takes you to Santo Domingo de la Calzada, a remarkable staging post. The day will give you a foretaste of the next section of the way as it crosses the Spanish 'meseta', a wide plateau where cereal crops are grown. The pleasant oak-woods of Cirueña will bring you a breath of coolness before you come to Santo Domingo de la Calzada. Now is the time to go and see the celebrities of the cathedral: a hen and a cockerel...

Overnight stay and half board.

Walking time: 5 hours (22 Km)



#### **DAY 4 : SANTO DOMINGO DE LA CALZADA - BELORADO 772 m**

From la Rioja à la Castille, we offer you a detour to avoid the original pilgrims' way, which some feel contains too much road-walking. Then you arrive at Belorado, a beautiful Castilian village with a rich history.

Overnight stay and half board

Walking time: 6.5 hours (26 Km)

#### **DAY 5 : BELORADO - SAN JUAN DE ORTEGA 1040 m (night in ATAPUERCA)**

You pass through villages and hamlets, and then take a track which is wilder and more adventurous in crossing the Montes de Oca. You arrive at the impressive San Juan, one of the high points of the pilgrimage, not only because of its altitude but also because of the architectural richness of its monastery. **From here you will be transported to your hotel at Atapuerca**. Overnight stay and half board.

Walking time: 6 hours (23 Km)

#### **DAY 6: ATAPUERCA – BURGOS 860 m**

Then you walk from Atapuerca into the middle of Burgos. When you get there, take the time to stroll around one of the most beautiful cathedrals in Europe: the queen of gothic cathedrals. Overnight stay and half board.

Walking time: 5 hours (20 Km)

#### **DAY 7 : BURGOS**

The holiday ends after breakfast.

***Note:** 1 – It will not be possible to alter the places where you are accommodated or the order of the walking stages etc (for obvious organisational reasons). Once the day's walk has started, you are expected to continue the day's programme as arranged, except where exceptional circumstances intervene (for example, safety issues linked to adverse weather conditions).*

*2 – If you wish to shorten a walking stage, you will need to contact and pay for any taxis used when the occasion arises.*

#### **DATES**

There is no fixed departure date. It is for you to choose, any time between mid-April and the beginning of November (All Saints' Day) subject to the availability of accommodation.

Please indicate on the booking form any alternative dates which might suit you (for example if you would be able to book the holiday for a period of time shortly before or after your preferred date). This may be useful if one or more hotels are already booked on the preferred date.

For similar reasons we ask you to **make your reservation as soon as possible**. We do not keep places reserved in the hotels and some of them can fill up with bookings several months in advance.

#### **Extra Nights:**

If you wish, we can reserve extra nights for you during the course of a holiday or in the gap between two booked holidays. Billing for these will be included in the total cost of the holiday. The city of Burgos in itself is well worth seeing in more detail, and if you wish to stay there...



## THE PRICE INCLUDES

- Half board at all hotels
- The carriage of luggage
- A guidebook (one guidebook for 1-2 people)

## THE PRICE DOES'NT INCLUDE

- Packed lunch/ midday meals
- Insurance, drinks; personal spending
- The cost of getting from your home to the starting point, or getting home again after the holiday
- Any taxis or shuttles taking you back to your car; any extra transport for shortening sections of the walk
- Visits.
- Booking fees
- Extra charge for postage outside France.

## ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Reception of holiday participants takes place at the hotel in Logroño at the end of the afternoon on the day before your first day's walking. For those who come by car, private parking at the hotel is available, up to a limit of 18 places. Otherwise there is private parking (paying) five minutes away from the hotel. For those who come by train there is a taxi from the station to the hotel (five minutes, cost about 6 €).

Your holiday finishes at Burgos after breakfast, on the day after your final walking day.

## LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

4 to 7 hours of walking per day, without difficulty, in rolling countryside

## ACCOMMODATION

Generally in one- and two-star hotels, but three-star hotels in the towns of Logroño and Burgos. It might be that showers and WCs will be positioned on the landings of certain establishments. Dogs are not allowed.

### **If hotels are full:**

It can happen that hotels fill up on certain dates. If this happens, and to ensure that you are comfortable, different accommodation will be provided.

## FOOD

Breakfasts are served rather late by French standards, typically after 8.30am. If you need an earlier breakfast than this, please talk to the hotel staff the evening before if possible. Generally speaking, Spanish hotel-keepers are usually happy to serve earlier breakfasts to satisfy the needs of walkers.

**Bear in mind that Spanish mealtimes are often different from French ones. Meals can be served up to two hours later than their French equivalents (breakfast around 8h30-9h and the evening meal around 21h: i.e. 9pm).**

Packed lunches are not included in our prices. You will be free to organise your own picnics. Along your walking stages you will find opportunities for buying food.

## TRANSPORT OF LUGGAGE

All you have to carry are things you will need for your day's walk and your packed lunch. Other luggage will be carried for you in a vehicle. We ask you, however, to **make sure that you do not have more than one piece of luggage for each person ( weigh no more than 15Kg )**



If you are a member of a group we ask you to show on your luggage labels the NAME of the group leader (the person who booked the holiday).

## ACCESS

Several ways of getting to the starting point of the walking holiday are possible, but they are all rather complicated because the town of Logroño does not lie close to any major transportation routes.

*Train and bus timetables vary according to the time of year and the day of the week. We suggest that you contact directly the different public transport operators to prepare your journey to the starting point, and from the finishing point, of the holiday.*

### ARRIVING

**By train** : From Hendaye or Irún, there are several connections during the day going to Logroño with changes at Miranda de Ebro.

There are departures from **Irún** to **Miranda de Ebro** (or Vitoria Gasteiz) - journey time: between 2 h.30 and 3 hours.

Departures from **Miranda de Ebro** towards **Logroño**: (journey time: about 1h00).

RENFE (Spanish railways) also runs a direct **Paris - Burgos** service. If you use this service, then take a train to Logroño (journey time between 2h and 2h30).

**By bus** : **La Estellesa** bus company run two daily services between Irún and Logroño. (journey time: 3 hours).

**By air** : We do not recommend this method because the services change and the cost is rather high. Vitoria airport, then the regular ALSA bus service from Vitoria to Logroño (journey time: about 2h).

**By car** : From Bayonne by the motorway towards San Sebastián (Donosti in Basque), Pamplona, then the main road N 111, Puente La Reina, Estella, Los Arcos and Logroño. Michelin Map N° 442.

Estimated travel time between Bayonne and Logroño: 2h30.

### RETURN

**By train** : From Burgos, there is a night train to Paris. There are also several trains (direct) during the day to Irún and Hendaye. Expect a 4-hour journey time.

RENFE (Spanish railways) runs a service between Burgos and Logroño (journey time: about 2h).

**By bus** : The ALSA bus company also run a service between Burgos and Logroño (journey time: about 2h). There are also departures from Burgos to Irún with the ALSA company (journey time: 3h45).

**By air** :

From Burgos airport there are flights to Paris but most of them go via Madrid or Barcelona.

## DOCUMENTATION

A guidebook will be sent to you on receipt of your holiday payment (**1 guidebook for 1 to 2 people**). In it you will find a description of your route (all the tracks are way-marked). You will also find information on villages, features of interest etc. In addition we will send you a travel wallet for all the documents you will need on your walking holiday: luggage labels, information about organisation and other practicalities and the addresses of hotels.

## THINGS TO BRING WITH YOU

A small rucksack for packed lunches and whatever you may need to carry with you when walking A small individual first-aid kit, including elastoplasts (sticking plasters), 'new skin', disinfectant/antiseptic for treating



blisters or small wounds etc

A pair of strong, comfortable walking shoes suitable for long-distance walking on stony tracks Beware of bringing new footwear which has not been tested for comfort!

Sun-glasses, sun-cream and a sunhat

Rain-wear

Light footwear for the evenings.

A water-bottle: you will need to drink 1.5 to 2L of water each day.

A knife

A small torch (optional)

Binoculars (optional)

Paper handkerchiefs/tissues

Needle, thread and a couple of safety pins.

## INSURANCE

Our insurances, Contrat Assistance Plus (Assistance étendue) and Contrat Sérénité (Premium) are individual and optional. If you sign up for them it must be **AT THE LATEST, 14 WORKING DAYS** after booking the holiday, and the insurance cannot take effect until after you have paid the full cost of the holiday. Anybody can take out one of our insurances, whatever their country of residence.

The total cost of the Contrat Assistance Plus (insurance for Assistance/Rapatiation) is set at 1.70% of the cost of the holiday. It takes into account only the cost of the holiday.

The total cost of the Contrat Sérénité (insurance for Assistance/Repatriation, cancellation and interruption of the holiday) is set at 3.6 % of the price of the holiday. It takes into account the cost of the holiday and the extra charges (for individual bedrooms, for a single holidaymaker, extra nights and possible extra transportation etc).

If you cancel the holiday yourself, if you haven't taken out our insurance for cancellation, the cancellation fees will be retained by us.

The size of the cancellation fee depends on the date of cancellation:

- 1) more than 30 days before the planned departure: 50 € of administration fees per person.
- 2) between 30 days and 22 days before departure: 25% of the total cost of the holiday.
- 3) between 21 days and 15 days before departure: 50% of the total cost of the holiday.
- 4) between 14 days and 8 days before departure: 75% of the total cost of the holiday.
- 5) between 7 days and 2 days before departure: 90% of the total cost of the holiday.
- 6) less than two days before the departure date: 100% of the total cost of the holiday.

In all cases of cancellation, even if it is more than 30 days before the planned starting date of the holiday, a fee of 50 € per person will be retained by us to cover administration costs.

➤➤ If the person with whom you planned to share a bedroom cancels their holiday, you will be billed for the individual supplement for that bedroom.

If you have to cancel your holiday **before you set off**, contact La Pèlerine on +33 (0)4 71 74 47 40, and we will do whatever is necessary.

**During your holiday**, your first action in such a situation should be either to contact **ASSISTANCE MUTUAIDE** on +33 (0)1 45 16 43 47 (if you have taken out the insurance contrat assistance plus) or **SERVICE SINISTRE ASSURANCE** on +33 (0)5 32 09 21 81 (if you have taken out the insurance contrat sérénité).

If you have any questions about your insurance contract, please contact the Hot Line on **05 32 09 21 81**.

Not turning up at the beginning of the holiday, or abandoning the holiday after you have begun it with no explanation, will disqualify you from reimbursement.



An example of an insurance contract, detailing the guarantees it gives you and the procedures you have to follow to make a claim, will be sent to you either at the time you make your booking – or at any other time if you ask for it.

**CHANGING YOUR BOOKING:**

**ATTENTION!**

Administration fees (50 €) will be kept by us for **any change you make in a booking already made** (e.g. for type of bedroom, departure dates, number of people etc).

If you want to book **extra nights** at the beginning or the end of your holiday this **must** be done **at the time of booking** and be specified on the booking confirmation sheet. Once bookings have been confirmed, if you want to arrange extra nights this must be done directly with the establishments concerned, and paid for at the time.

