

Chapter 2 – The Camino de Santiago

- an adventure from our backyard -

12 days & 11 nights: The next stage of your Camino



In Chapter 1, your epic journey began with a Pilgrims blessing in the foothills of the Pyrenees at Roncesvalles. After working our way through Pamplona, the capital of Navarra, we crossed over Roman bridges and acres of vineyards to arrive in Logroño. Our journey following the Milky Way continues as we start Chapter 2 and enter into Castilla y Leon.

Don't forget to bring your Pilgrim Credential from Chapter 1, as you will continue collecting stamps. Buen Camino!

Day 1: Logroño

Mid-morning, we meet the group in Logroño for a short Orientation Meeting followed up by a short walk to the historic town of Navarrete, with its 16th century Church of the Assumption. Keep an eye out for the family crests and shields on the houses and buildings that display the wealth of this town. Once there, sit back and have a glass of Rioja wine - Chapter 2 has begun!

Accommodations: Navarrete / Walking: 13 km (L, D)

*We are happy to provide assistance in arranging your transportation from Madrid to Logroño.



Day 2: Navarrete to Nájera

With boots on, we head out the front door and begin our day with a steady up hill to get the blood going! As we pass through vineyards we work our way downhill into Nájera, which was the Navarre capital in the 11th and 12th centuries. It houses the Monasterio Santa María de la Real, where many kings, queens and knights of Navarra are buried.

Accommodation: Santo Domingo / Walking: 17 km (B, L, D)

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch & D=Dinner



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Day 3: Nájera to Santo Domingo

Shortly after leaving Nájera, we have our first opportunity for a coffee break in Azofra. Afterwards, we work our way uphill to Santo Domingo de la Calzada, with its winding streets and many historic buildings. Here, we learn of the mystery of Santo Domingo, who is said to have saved a young man from hanging after he was falsely accused of stealing a silver goblet.

Accommodation: Santo Domingo / Walking: 22 km (B, L, D)



Day 4: Santo Domingo to Villamayor

Entering into the breadbasket of Spain, Castilla y León, we notice the change in terrain with its flat plateaus or mesetas and many wheat fields. We come to Castildelgado, home of the 12th century Church of San Pedro, and continue on to Vitoria de la Rioja, the birthplace of Santo Domingo (Saint Dominic). We end the day in Villamayor del Rio and head to our hotel for some rest.

Accommodation: Santo Domingo / Walking: 18 km (B, L, D)

Day 5: Villamayor to Montes de Oca

This morning we continue to Belorado, where we see the 15th century Church of Santa María, built against limestone cliffs. Behind the church, you can still see some of the ancient cave dwellings where hermits once lived! Today we end the walk in Villafranca Montes de Oca, which makes reference to one of the many towns where French pilgrims settled. Its location at the foot of Montes de Oca is infamous for the bandits that roamed the area taking advantage of the pilgrims. These bandits would then pray at the Church of Santiago for protection from the Saint! Ah, the ironies...

Accommodation: Montes de Oca / Walking: 17 km (B, L, D)



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Day 6: Montes de Oca to Atapuerca

After a good climb through the woods, we reach San Juan de Ortega. San Juan was a disciple of Santo Domingo and also dedicated his life to helping pilgrims. The Augustinian monastery, founded in 1150, houses a chapel dedicated to San Nicolás, who apparently saved San Juan from drowning during one of his pilgrimages. We finish the day in Burgos where we visit the 13th century Gothic Cathedral of Santa María, considered one of the most beautiful cathedrals in Spain.

Accommodation: Burgos / Walking: 19 km (B, L, D)

Day 7: Atapuerca to Burgos

We start the day by crossing the Atapuerca hills where our ancestors first settled hundreds of thousands of years ago. The arrows take us to Burgos city where we will follow the nice river pathway that keeps us off the main road that leads into the city.

Accommodation: Burgos / Walking: 19 km (B, L)



Day 8: Burgos to Hornillos

Leaving the University area of Burgos, we work our way to Hornillos del Camino. Enjoy the beauty of this medieval village with its Gothic San Román Church and the Fuente del Gallo (Rooster Fountain) on the square. The name Hornillos possibly originates from small oven or kiln.

Accommodation: Castrojeriz / Walking: 21 km (B, L, D)

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Day 9: Hornillos to Castrojeriz

On the way to Castrojeriz, we will pass the remains of the 14th century Convent of San Antón Abad, the patron saint of animals. Once in Castrojeriz, we can see the rose window in the 14th century Church of Nuestra Señora del Manzano, which contains an interesting image of Santiago. Moreover, you can see Roman and Visigothic remains in this historic fortified town. Those feeling energetic can make their way up to the ruins of the castle and take in the spectacular views.

Accommodation: Castrojeriz / Walking: 20 km (B, D)



Day 10: Castrojeriz - Frómista

After a hefty climb out of town, we come to Itero de Castillo, where the Knights of Saint John took care of the pilgrims in the Middle Ages at their hospital. The walk flattens out into Frómista as we walk along the Canals of Castilla, a complex series of canals used to irrigate the dry fields of Castilla y León. In Frómista, make sure to admire the Church of San Martín, a gem of Spanish Romanesque architecture.

Accommodation: Frómista / Walking: 25 km (B, L, D)

Day 11: Frómista –to Carrión de los Condes

Our last page of Chapter 2! We continue along the flat meseta to the village of Villalcázar de Sirga, where the magnificent Santa María Church stands out like a ship at sea. We continue following the yellow arrow to the venerable town of Carrión de los Condes, which for centuries belonged to the Kingdom of León. After our walk, we return to Burgos, where transportation to your next destination is readily available, and prepare for our Farewell Dinner.

Accommodation: Burgos / Walking: 20 km (B, L, D)



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Day 12: Burgos

After breakfast, we bid you a buen camino as Chapter 2 has come to an end, but put your book marker in place as the action of this saga continues with Chapter 3 and the Roman Legion and arrival of the Knights Templars Castle! To be continued...

Tour ends: (B)

Please note: this itinerary is subject to slight modifications due to hotel availability, weather, festivals & other occurrences.

DATES AND PRICING



Scan or click the QR code to Book.



What to expect?

Expect to have a wonderful time! We've designed each trip to enjoy the stunning beauty of the Spanish landscape, while giving you a true sense of the soul and magic of these exciting people and their culture. We love to share this magnificent country and want you to feel a part of it.

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WHAT'S INCLUDED?

2 Guides:

Our greatest resource! We know Spain because it is our home. Both of your Fresco guides are experienced professionals that are either Spanish or live in Spain year-round – no hired out summer help!

When specified, local art historians will join us to provide further insights of the specific monument / museum that we visit.

* Groups of 3 - 6 pax are accompanied by only 1 guide.



Meals:

Food speaks volumes about a culture and we love to eat! During our walk days, when possible, we prepare gourmet picnics using the freshest of local ingredients and selecting the tastiest recipes of the region. All breakfasts, lunches and dinners are included - minus 1 lunch and 1 dinner where we encourage you to try the local cuisine on your own. We are proud to cater to vegetarians and those with food allergies – milk, egg, wheat, etc.

Accommodation:

Fresco Tours selects a combination of 3 & 4-star hotels and B&B's that offer the best in hospitality, comfort and location.

All rooms have in-suite baths. Tour prices are based on double occupancy.



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WHAT'S INCLUDED?



Limited Group Sizes:

Fresco Tours are in small groups to ensure that you receive the individual attention that you deserve. We want to be able to treat each of our clients with a personal touch and we limit the groups to a maximum of 16 participants. We also recognize that each person's Camino is their own personal experience and if you wish, we encourage you to walk on your own – with the assurance that we will be there for you!

Support Vehicles:

Your walks will be accompanied by 2 support vehicles (minimum 6 pax) that are there to provide assistance when needed and look out for your safety. You will have access to the bus every couple of hours, so you won't need to carry a heavy backpack. In addition, the possibility of shorter routes and pick-up options will be offered and explained on a daily basis.



Ground transportation:

All ground transportation between our meeting point in Logroño and Burgos is provided on your Fresco Tour.

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Luggage transfers:

Your luggage will be transported between hotels. You do the walking, we'll do the lifting!

Pre-Tour Assistance:

We will help with your travel arrangements prior to and after the tour start and finish of your Fresco Tour, including assistance with hotel reservations and train tickets.



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