

ADVENTURES

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SANTIAGO TO THE SEA: CAMINO FINISTERRE

Trip Summary

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the Camino to Finisterre, once believed to be the 'Edge of the World'
- Walk through hamlets, quiet villages, remote farmland and along seaside bluffs
- Enjoy a swim or walk on the Atlantic beach coast of Galicia
- Hike to the fishing village of Muxía, known for its 'magic' stones
- Enjoy local food and wine
- Earn a 'Muxiana' certificate

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TRIP AT A GLANCE

Location:	Santiago de Compostela, Spain
Activities:	Hiking
Arrive:	Arrive at the hotel by 4pm on Day 1 and meet the group at 5pm.
Depart:	You can depart from Santiago de Compostela after 3pm on Day 9.

Trip Overview

The official Camino ends at Santiago Cathedral, but other traditions tell of a pre-Christian route to Finisterre, once considered the westernmost point in Europe. Pilgrims then may have travelled just for the adventure or in search of wise teachers of hidden knowledge who had a school at the "End of the Earth". Nowadays walkers have re-discovered the route to Finisterre and Muxía, either to continue their Camino journey or wanting to experience the stunning Atlantic coast of Galicia.

Nowadays walkers have re-discovered the route to Finisterre and Muxía. Some people have never done the classic Camino. Some pilgrims need time to think about their Camino journey. Other pilgrims just can't stop walking and yet others return years after their pilgrimage, wanting to complete their experience by walking from Santiago to the coast.

After Santiago the feeling of the trail changes. There are fewer pilgrims, less infrastructure, smaller villages. And with Santiago de Compostela behind instead of ahead, pilgrims walk not focused on reaching the big destination, but on the joy of walking. If that might be you, come join us to walk Santiago to the Sea! This trip can also serve as an extension of our traditional Camino de Santiago trip.

Rating

This trip is designed for women who are interested in traveling a traditional pilgrimage route on foot, who are able to enjoy walking four to six hours each day on consecutive days and want to experience the community of the Camino de Santiago beyond Santiago and hike to the sea. The trip is rated 3. Prior to beginning the trip, participants should be engaging in aerobic conditioning, such as walking vigorously up hills, jogging, cross country skiing or stair stepping for 30 - 45 minutes at least 3 - 4 times a week. **Rating:** 1 2 **3** 4 5.

What's Included

- 1-2 local English-speaking guides plus an AGC guide depending upon group size
- 8 nights lodging in small, family-run hotels
- 8 breakfasts and 7 dinners
- Your 'Camino de Finisterre'/ Muxiana' passport and Camino shell

- Luggage transfer during the walk
- Private bus from Muxía back to Santiago

Not included: Travel to and from Santiago, guide gratuities, beverages, lunches, 1 dinner, and travel insurance. Some lunches will be at cafes where you can order an empanada/sandwich, other lunches may be picnics purchased at the hotels or with food from stores.

OUR ITINERARY

Below is the itinerary we have planned for the trip. As is true on any adventure travel trip, plans for any specific day may be modified due to weather considerations, unforeseen circumstances, new opportunities, and group interests.

DAY 1

Meet in Santiago in the afternoon at the hotel by 4pm. After our get-to-know you meeting at 5pm, we'll enjoy dinner at a restaurant near the hotel.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY 2

We leave Santiago from the Cathedral square, taking small streets to a park on the edge of the city. An easy ascent takes us to our last view of the Santiago Cathedral, before heading west on small roads through forests and villages, up a long rolling hill and down at last to lovely Maceira bridge and village. A trail along the river and a paved road take us to Negreira.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Daily Activities: Hiking (12.8 miles)

DAY 3

A maze of lovely, forested roads takes us to a second breakfast, almost at our day's high point. After that we walk on mostly asphalt through pastures and cultivated fields to lunch and beyond to the van pickup point; there are no hotels here so we'll transfer forward, driving around the area we will traverse the next day.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Daily Activities: Hiking (12 miles)

DAY 4

This morning, we will transfer back to where we ended the day before and walk forward to Olveiroa, climbing up Monte Aro (Gold Hill) along the way, with very nice views on the way up and down. Since it is a short day, we'll be back in Olveiroa in time for lunch, relaxing, washing socks, journaling or taking photos of the many stone *horreos* (structures serving for corn cribs or animal feed storage) in the village.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Daily Activities: Hiking (8.2 miles)

DAY 5

We start with a climb, almost to the windmills then have downs and ups before the final ascent to Hospital crossroads, where some pilgrims turn off towards Muxía and others (like us) head for Finisterre. After Hospital crossroads we cross open fields—if the day is clear, we get our first view of the sea! Then fields and forests take us past a traditional stone cross to the Virgin of the Snow chapel. After a rest at the chapel, a relatively gentle climb with glimpses of the sea takes us up to San Pedro chapel. Just after this chapel we have a splendid view of the coast, with our day's destination and part of our route for the next day clearly visible, then a steep descent takes us to seaside Cee.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Daily Activities: Hiking (12 miles)

DAY 6

Today will be a shorter day, partly along the coast and partly just back from the coast, again through villages and forests. One last descent with a pretty view takes us to the road into Finisterre, where there is a great photo op with the trail leading right towards the sea. At Finisterre, most pilgrims walk out to the lighthouse to see the view and the "0" kilometer marker. This rocky cape was considered the "End of the Earth" in medieval times; pilgrims traditionally burned their clothes and threw their shoes into the sea, symbolizing the end of the journey and the beginning of a new life. While that's not allowed today, we'll celebrate this milestone and look forward to continuing the journey.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Daily Activities: Hiking (7.5-12 miles)

DAY 7

Today we'll take roads less travelled to stay along the coast. Shortly after Finisterre, we leave the marked path to walk a quiet paved road behind Rostro—if weather and tides permit, we can walk part of the distance on the beach. Then after a gentle hill and a bit of forest, again we leave the marked trail to do a picturesque loop through a pine forest with views of seaside bluffs and a lovely, almost deserted beach before reaching Lires.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Daily Activities: Hiking (8 miles)

DAY 8

Our last day on the trail starts with a bit of forest and a bridge that's almost too big for the road—with the stepping stones of the old ford visible just downstream. Today's route is mostly inland: a gentle ascent takes us through tiny villages, with the last, somewhat steeper section traveling almost to the ridgetop windmills. A long, gentle descent through the forest takes us to a beach just outside of Muxía. From here, it is a pleasant stroll along the access road to reach our seaside destination. Muxía is known for handmade lace and for the Virgin of the Boat chapel, out on a rocky point. It is believed that the stones here are the remnants of the stone boat the Virgin Mary arrived in. For locals, this is one of the most beloved shrines in all of northwest Spain, and even for non-locals, it's the perfect setting for the end of a journey.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Daily Activities: Hiking (9 miles)

DAY 9

Sadly, today we bid *adios* to this delightful region of Spain. After breakfast, we'll make our way back to Santiago de Compostela on our private bus, arriving in Santiago around 11:30AM. AGC pilgrims and participants will be dropped off at the bus station and airport and can plan your flights home for leaving anytime after 3pm.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Travel Time: Driving (1.5 hours)

ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

Getting There

You will be flying into the Santiago de Compostela Airport (SCQ). From there you can get to the trip hotel by taxi. The airport is serviced by a number of airlines including Ryan Air, Vueling, Aer Lingus, EasyJet, Lufthansa and Iberia. The airport is about 20 minutes from the city and the flight from Madrid takes around 50 minutes. Both Iberia and RyanAir have flights between Santiago (SCQ) and Madrid (MAD).

If you prefer, you can also take a train from Madrid to Santiago, which takes about 3+ hours.

If you would like assistance with airfare, we recommend contacting our AirDesk Partner, [Exito Travel](#). Start by submitting this [form](#). Just fill in your dates and destinations, including any additional notes about preferred carriers, class of service, possible stopovers, etc., and an agent will typically respond via email within a few hours. If you prefer to call, the number is 800-655-4053; be sure to tell them you are traveling with Adventures in Good Company.

Please note: Exito charges a one-time, non-refundable processing fee of \$50 per passenger.

Accommodations

We will be staying in double occupancy rooms with ensuite bathrooms in different types of accommodation, typically mid-range family-run hotels that are chosen for their hospitality or proximity to the path.

Travel Insurance

We recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer travel protection through Travelex Insurance Services. For more information on the available plans or to enroll, visit www.travelexinsurance.com or call 1-800-228-9792 and reference location number 06-0331.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. All products listed are underwritten by, Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation charges reflect the many expenses Adventures in Good Company cannot recover if you cancel, even if you must do so due to illness, injury, or personal emergencies. These fees are not meant to be punitive. The charges made reflect the expenses Adventures in Good Company has incurred in administering your reservation and planning for your participation. We recognize that the majority of those who cancel their reservations do so out of necessity. Please note that we do not make any refunds for any unused portion of your trip, not arriving, arriving late, or leaving the trip early.

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