Spain El Camino de Santiago Hiking

11 Days

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL
Spain El Camino de Santiago Hiking

For over a thousand years, the faithful have hiked the Camino de Santiago trail across northern Spain. Whether you’re on a spiritual journey or just want to enjoy the thrill of walking this famous pilgrimage path, take off along its most popular route, the Camino Frances - the French Way, which begins in France. Enjoy the expertise of a local guide, incredible meals, comfortable accommodations, full coach support, and tours of charming cities and towns along the way, including Pamplona, Burgos, and Leon. On this epic adventure, the journey is the destination.

---

**Details**

- **Arrive:** Bilbao, Spain
- **Depart:** Santiago de Compostela, Spain
- **Duration:** 11 Days
- **Group Size:** 2-16 Guests
- **Minimum Age:** 18 Years Old
- **Activity Level:**

**Testimonials**

“It’s the best trip we’ve been on and we’ve been on some good ones. It just doesn’t get any better than the leadership on this trip. Perfect.”

Ann U.

“We enjoyed our trip on the Camino de Santiago more than can words can express. We relished every meal, every accommodation, every location, every mile, and every minute. Thank you for making it so special for us.”

Dennis

---

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.

1.888.831.7526  INFO@MTSOBEK.COM
REASON #01
MT Sobek has been leading treks on this famous pilgrimage route for over 7 years, with back-up coach support for those who need it.

REASON #02
Guided by a top-notch team of local experts, hikers enjoy historical and cultural tours in ancient towns on the way to Santiago de Compostela.

REASON #03
This trip has been perfected to blend hiking and history, plus delicious cuisine and elegant accommodations.

What to Expect

ACTIVITIES
Moderate to challenging hikes through spectacular landscapes, paired with city, culture and history tours.

LODGING
Revamped medieval monasteries and historic buildings offer standard to high-class amenities, comfort, and warm hospitality.

CLIMATE
Spring and fall mornings are cool but warm up to 75°F at midday, cooling back down to about 55°F in late afternoon.

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips’ success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Erik was born and raised in the Asturias region of northern Spain and has been leading MT Sobek trips in Europe, Asia and South America since 1989. Erik is a highly accomplished mountaineer and backcountry downhill skier who holds the coveted IFMGA/UIAGM certification, which is the highest professional award attainable in mountaineering. He has written two guidebooks on hikes and climbs in the Picos de Europa. Erik studied Humanities at the University of Oviedo—the capital city of Asturias—and received a Masters degree in History. He is among MT Sobek’s most well-loved guides, leading Across the Pyrenees, El Camino de Santiago, and MT Sobek’s 50th Anniversary Base Camp Trek in 2019.

Leo was born in the mountains of Spain’s Basque Country and made his home in Jaca, in the heart of the Pyrenees, where he spends his winters on backcountry skis. He has been guiding in the Pyrenees for many years, as well as in Nepal, Morocco, Tanzania, Peru, Chile, Venezuela, Pakistan, India, and the French Alps. He has also taught skiing in Colorado. He is an International Certified Mountain Guide (UIAGM) and a professional ski instructor (ISIA). Leo is fluent in English, French, and Basque.

Leo San Sebastian

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.
1.888.831.7526  INFO@MTSOBEK.COM
**Itinerary**

**DAY 1**

**MEET IN BILBAO & TRANSFER TO SAINT JEAN-PIED DE PORT**

Arrive in Bilbao this morning and transfer to the hotel. Meet your guide and the rest of the group at 11am for a brief orientation and transfer to San Sebastian. Enjoy lunch and a short visit of this beautiful city along the Bay of Biscay before continuing on to Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port, a small market town on the French side of the Basque Pyrenees. After checking into the hotel, take a brief walking tour and end the day with a welcome dinner.

Meals: L, D

---

**DAY 2**

**BEGIN THE FIRST STAGE OF EL CAMINO**

Transfer from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port to Biakorri, where a statue of the Virgin Mary watches over travelers from atop a rocky ridge. Begin the first stage of El Camino, crossing from France into Spain along the historical Pass of Roncesvalles, where the hero of the Charlemagne Army, Roland, battled against the Basques. Hike in the mid-altitude meadows of the Pyrenees, with a very gradual climb to the cols of Bentarte and Leopeder, eventually descending through beech tree forests to Roncesvalles. In the afternoon, enjoy a guided tour of Roncesvalles’ historic sites.

Activity: 6 hours/9.5 miles hiking with 1,656’ elevation gain & 2,114’ elevation gain

Meals: B, L, D

---

**DAY 3**

**HIKE TO ZUBIRI & TRANSFER TO PAMPLONA**

After breakfast, hike through meadows and forests, passing villages on the way toward the charming old town of Zubiri in the valley of Esteribar. Cross the Erro valley through oak and beech tree forests, typical for the southern slopes of the Pyrenees. In Zubiri, board the bus and transfer to Pamplona. Founded by the Roman General Pompeius, Pamplona is the first big city that the pilgrims discovered when they arrived in Spain. Take a walk through the old city, including the streets where the famous "running of the bulls" takes place.

Activity: 6 hours/14 miles hiking with 1,428’ elevation gain & 2,853’ elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

---

**DAY 4**

**HIKE THE MESETA & ARRIVE AT BURGOS**

After transferring 2 hours from Pamplona to Ages, begin one of the main stages of El Camino: the high plains of central Spain, known as the Meseta. After a short 500-ft ascent to Matagrande, the journey follows a very flat route, passing through several villages. In the afternoon, arrive at the 9th-century city of Burgos on the Rio
Arlanzon, home town of El Cid, whose statue guards the Puente de San Pablo. Check in to the hotel and enjoy a
guided tour of the Gothic-style cathedral and the old town before dinner.

Activity: 6 hours/12.5 miles hiking with 1,000’ elevation gain & 1,500’ elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5
CROSS THE TIERRA DE CAMPOS & REACH CARRION DE LOS CONDES

Today enjoy another full day on the high plains of central Spain, while crossing through the Tierra de Campos (or Campos Goticos). Today known as Castilla, this region is filled with the history of La Reconquista, a period lasting nearly 800 years in the Middle Ages. Pass green and golden grasslands and fields of sunflowers on the way to the medieval town of Carrion de los Condes. Take a guided tour of the old town, then settle into the hotel, impressively located within a restored medieval monastery.

Activity: 7 hours/16.5 miles hiking with 891’ elevation gain & 865’ elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6
HIKE THROUGH EL BURGO RANERO & TRANSFER TO LEBON

Today hike through the small town of El Burgo Ranero and through vast fields of crops and grasslands on very flat terrain. By lunchtime, reach the medieval market city of Mansilla de las Mulas, a crossroads in this area of El Camino. After lunch, take a short transfer to the capital of Christian Spain: the city of Leon, also known as El Reino de Leon. Take a historical tour of the city and its early Gothic-style cathedral, one of the most famous in Spain.

Activity: 6 hours/12 miles hiking with 464’ elevation gain & 1,090’ elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7
HIKE FROM HOSPITAL DE ORBIGO TO THE ROMAN CITY OF ASTORGA

Begin today's hike in Hospital de Orbigo, with its picturesque old Roman bridge, and continue along country roads through vineyards and rolling hills. En route pass through the small villages of Valle de Santibanez and Valdeiglesias, and reach El Crucero de Santo Toribio, the religious cross that has marked this trail for centuries. Continue on to the small Roman city of Astorga, founded in 14 B.C. and today known for its fascinating, eclectic architecture. Then transfer to Villafranca del Bierzo, home for the night.

Activity: 6 hours/11 miles hiking with 800’ elevation gain & 834’ elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D
HIKE FROM LAS HERRERIAS TO THE CELTIC VILLAGE OF O CEBRERIO

Leave behind the high plains of El Camino and enter the northwestern region of Galicia. Begin the hike in Las Herrerias and reach the first significant ascent in many days. Climb over 2,000’ in the last five miles to reach the old Celtic village of O Cebreiro by way of the Piedrifita Pass, where custom has it the pilgrim must throw one stone in the Cruceiro for good luck. Spend the night in the ancient city of Monforte de Lemos.

Activity: 4 hours/6 miles hiking with 2,416’ elevation gain & 394’ elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

REACH SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

After breakfast, a 45-minute transfer leads to the town of Pedrouzo, where you start the last stage of the trek along El Camino de Santiago. Today reach the official destination of the journey — Santiago de Compostela and the cathedral that is the reputed burial place of St. James. The cathedral sits on La Plaza del Obradoiro, as does the hotel, a five-star parador located within a spectacular 16th-century building.

Activity: 6 hours/14 miles hiking with 1,534’ elevation gain & 1,600’ elevation loss
Meals: B, L, D

DAY TRIP TO FINISTERRE & TOUR SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Today enjoy a guided excursion to the coastal village of Finisterre ("the end of the Earth"), 51 miles from Santiago de Compostela. It is a tradition for pilgrims to end their journey by burning their clothes or boots here at the westernmost point of the Iberian Peninsula. In the afternoon, return to Santiago for a guided historical tour of the old city and the cathedral, then rest up for a special farewell dinner.

Meals: B, L, D

DEPART FROM SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Today say adios to Spain. After breakfast, transfer to the airport in Santiago de Compostela for departures home.

Meals: B
Dates

Oct 12 - 22, 2020
May 3 - 13, 2021
Sep 13 - 23, 2021
Oct 11 - 21, 2021
Pricing

2020
$ 6,195 per person

Additional Cost
$ 1,300 Single Supplement

2021
$ 6,395 per person

Additional Cost
$ 1,300 Single Supplement

PRICE INCLUDES
- Expert leadership from experienced adventure guides
- Accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary
- Potable water and snacks throughout
- 1 glass of wine or beer at dinner
- All group entrance fees, activities, and ground transportation
- Arrival and departure day group airport transfers

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE
- International airfare, any airport taxes, or excess baggage charges
- Optional tips to your adventures guide(s) and driver(s)
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, phone calls, laundry, or souvenirs
- Airport transfers if arriving outside of the group transfer
- Optional travel protection

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.
1.888.831.7526  INFO@MTSOBEK.COM
The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world’s most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are the adventure company.

Awards

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.
1.888.831.7526  INFO@MTSOBEK.COM
TWO HUNDRED ADVENTURES.
SEVEN CONTINENTS.
A WORLD OF DISCOVERY.

Where’s Your Next Adventure?