



# Spain El Camino de Santiago Hiking

## A Bucket-List Pilgrimage Across Northern Spain

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for downloading this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change depending on the specific departure date. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

**We love talking travel!**  
Contact us at [info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)  
or call **800-974-0300**



# Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

## Unrivaled Expertise

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Tour Company in 2022 by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

## Unique Trip Design

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail — the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

## Small Groups

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.





## Leading the Way

### World-Class Local Guides

Our knowledgeable and passionate expert guides effortlessly create an immersive local experience for you. They are trained to the highest professional standards and are at the heart of everything we do. They make it possible to meet the challenges of adventure travel, and help create lasting memories and lifelong friendships... we can confidently say our guides are the best in the business.





# Why take this trip with us?

## REASON 1

MT Sobek has been leading journeys in Europe for more than 50 years and has decades of experience on this famous pilgrimage route across northern Spain.

## REASON 2

This 11-day adventure has been perfected to blend hiking and history, plus delicious cuisine and elegant accommodations. And, back-up coach support for those who need it.

## REASON 3

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.

## At A Glance

### ACTIVITIES

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



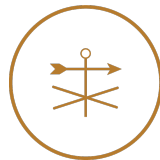
### LODGING

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.



### KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

*“What a total comfort to know that with MT Sobek, you're in the hands of professionals who have been doing it so long and so well. That was part of why we landed on them as our operators for our dream trip, and everything about the experience they gave us—from tailored expertise to unswerving professionalism—confirmed the company's emphasis on excellence.” - Alex M.*



# Spain El Camino de Santiago Hiking

## A Bucket-List Pilgrimage Across Northern Spain

Whether you're on a spiritual journey or just want to enjoy the thrill of walking this thousand-year-old pilgrimage path, follow the Camino de Santiago trail across northern Spain, taking off along its most popular route, the Camino Frances, 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. In 2024, You can also pair this trip with the new El Camino Portugués through northern Portugal to Spain!

### 11 Days

**Start:** Bilbao, Spain

**End:** Santiago de Compostela, Spain

**Departing:** April, May, June, August, September, October, November

**Activities:** Hiking & Trekking, Cultural Discovery

**Lodging:** Comfortable Hotels, Luxury Hotels

**Group Size:** 4-16 Guests

#### ACTIVITY:



Check [mtsobek.com](https://mtsobek.com) for date-specific pricing.

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*"After 35 years of overseas travel, I would rate MT Sobek's Camino trip as one of the best we have ever had"*

- Larry A.

# The Itinerary

DAY  
01

## Meet in Bilbao & Transfer to Saint Jean-Pied de Port

Arrive in Bilbao this morning. Meet your guide and the rest of the group at 11am for a brief orientation, and then 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.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hotel Les Pyrenees, Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port

**MEALS:** Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2.5-hour private van transfer

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DAY  
02

## 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.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hotel Roncesvalles, Roncesvalles

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**ACTIVITY:** 6 hours/9.5 miles hiking with 1,656' elevation gain & 2,114' elevation loss

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DAY  
03

## 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.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hotel Tres Reyes, Pamplona

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 40-minute private bus transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 6 hours/14 miles hiking with 1,428' elevation gain & 2,853' elevation loss

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## 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.

**ACCOMMODATION:** NH Collection Palacio de Burgos, Burgos

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2-hour private bus transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 6 hours/12.5 miles hiking with 1,000' elevation gain & 1,500' elevation loss

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## 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.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hotel Monasterio San Zoilo, Carrion de los Condes

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1-hour private bus transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 7 hours/16.5 miles hiking with 891' elevation gain & 865' elevation loss

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## Hike through El Burgo Ranero & Transfer to Leon

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.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hotel Real Colegiata de San Isidoro, Leon

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.25-hour private bus transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 6 hours/12 miles hiking with 464' elevation gain & 1,090' elevation loss

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DAY  
07

### 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 Santibañez 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.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Parador de Villafranca del Bierzo, Leon

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.75-hour private bus transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 6 hours/11 miles hiking with 800' elevation gain & 834' elevation loss

DAY  
08

### Hike from Las Herrerias to the Celtic Village of O Cebreiro

Leave behind the high plains of Castilla y Leon 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 Pedrafita 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.



**ACCOMMODATION:** Parador Nacional de Monforte de Lemos, Lugo

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.5-hour private bus transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 4 hours/6 miles hiking with 2,416' elevation gain & 394' elevation loss

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## Reach Santiago de Compostela

After breakfast, a 2-hour 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 for the journey — Santiago de Compostela and the cathedral that is the reputed burial place of St. James. The Cathedral sits on the Plaza del Obradoiro, as does the hotel, a five-star Parador located within a spectacular 16th-century building.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Parador de Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Compostela

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2.25-hour private bus transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 6 hours/14 miles hiking with 1,534' elevation gain & 1,600' elevation loss

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## 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.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Parador de Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Compostela

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2.5-hours private bus transfer

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## Depart from Santiago de Compostela

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

**MEALS:** Breakfast



## Where You'll Stay

These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.

### Hotel Les Pyrenees

Arrambide Hotel Les Pyrenees is a charming 4-star hotel located in the heart of the enchanting Basque village of Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port and facing the citadel. Its 18 quiet and comfortable rooms feature a flat screen TV, air-conditioning, and free Wi-Fi. There is a large pool and garden at the rear of the property for relaxing after a day of adventure, and the gourmet restaurant boasts Basque specialties.

### Hotel Roncesvalles

A welcome respite after walking the Camino de Santiago, Hotel Roncesvalles features well-appointed, modern rooms in a restored medieval monastery that retains much of its original character. Amenities include private bathrooms, TVs, hair dryers, and free Wi-Fi. The restaurant offers hearty breakfasts to fuel up hikers.

### Hotel Tres Reyes

Ideally located only a short distance from the city center, the upscale Hotel Tres Reyes is a perfect homebase for exploring Pamplona. Spacious, modern rooms come equipped with private bathrooms, minibars, LED televisions, telephones, safes, A/C, and free Wi-Fi. The hotel boasts a bar, cafe, restaurant, swimming pool, and fitness center.



# Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

## **NH Collection Palacio de Burgos**

This elegant hotel, housed in a Gothic church erected in the 16th and 17th centuries, sits at the heart of Burgos. Guests are only a short walk from the UNESCO-protected Burgos Cathedral, as well as the city's other attractions and restaurants. Modern amenities abound at this historic property, including a fitness center, sauna, rooftop terrace, and free Wi-Fi.

## **Hotel Monasterio San Zoilo**

Set in a spectacular 10th-century monastery, the sophisticated Hotel Monasterio San Zoilo is a short walk from Rio Carrion. The individually decorated rooms seamlessly blend historic details, like exposed brick and original archways, with modern amenities such as free Wi-Fi. The hotel features a charming bar and a Castilian restaurant, as well as a beautiful cloister and peaceful gardens.

## **Hotel Real Colegiata de San Isidoro**

Located in the heart of Leon's historic quarter, the Hotel Real Colegiata San Isidoro consistently wows guests. As a converted monastery built in to the city's Roman walls, the hotel oozes Romanesque elegance with its brick walls, frescoes, and cloistered corridors. Its comfortable rooms are stylish and clean, with modern amenities and private bathrooms. The hotel also has a royal pantheon, museum, and collegiate library.

## **Parador de Villafranca del Bierzo**

Framed by the Ancares Mountains, Parador de Villafranca del Bierzo offers modern accommodations in the El Bierzo district. Its Galician-style exterior, clad in stone and slate, is offset by lovely flower-filled grounds, which provide unobstructed views of the verdant mountains. The parador also has indoor and outdoor pools and an ice fountain.

## **Parador Nacional de Monforte de Lemos**

Set in a beautiful 17th-century, neoclassical building that was once a monastery, this parador is ideally located in historic Lugo. Enjoy a stroll around the property's tranquil cloister with elegant carved stonework. Comfortable rooms offer air conditioning, free Wi-Fi and flat-screen TVs. Other amenities include laundry service, a hot tub, fitness center, and an outdoor pool.

## **Parador de Santiago de Compostela**

Travel back in history with a stay in this grand hotel — originally a royal hospital built in the 15th century — in the center of Obradoiro Square. Four-poster beds, brocade linens, warm woods, and rich velvets adorn the comfortable rooms. The restaurant serves a delicious menu of Galician-style food, although endless culinary delights await outside the hotel.

# Departure Dates

This trip is available to run in: April, May, June, August, September, October, November

**Book early for a greater choice of available dates.**

Once you book, your price is GUARANTEED!

April 7-17, 2024

April 21-May 1, 2024

May 5-15, 2024

May 19-29, 2024

June 2-12, 2024

June 16-26, 2024

August 25-September 4, 2024

September 8-18, 2024

September 22-October 2, 2024

October 6-16, 2024

October 20-30, 2024

November 3-13, 2024

April 6-16, 2025

April 20-30, 2025

May 4-14, 2025

May 18-28, 2025

June 1-11, 2025

June 15-25, 2025

August 24-September 3, 2025

September 7-17, 2025

September 21-October 1, 2025

October 5-15, 2025

October 19-29, 2025

November 2-12, 2025

# What's Included

## PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

## PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses



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