



PILGRIMAGE TO

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

September 17th- 27th, 2019



\$2895
(does not include air taxes, fuel surcharges, or gratuities)

• Day 1 - September 17: Depart U.S.A.

Today you will depart on your overnight flight to Madrid, Spain.

• Day 2 - September 18: Arrive Sarria

Upon arrival in Madrid we will be met at the airport. Board our motor coach and drive to Avila for Mass. Continue west to Sarria, which is a popular pilgrims' starting point for the Camino de Santiago. Stay overnight in Sarria.

• Day 3 - September 19: Sarria / Portomarin (14 mi)

Today we will begin our walk along the Camino de Santiago. Today's walk is spread equally between quiet country roads and natural pathways, passing through many small hamlets that seem to blend seamlessly one into the next. Overnight in Portomarin.

Day 4 – September 20: Portomarin / Palas de Rei (16 mi)

A day of varied terrain as you start skirting Belesar reservoir and climbing up through woodland before a further gentle climb to Alto do Rosario (Rosary Heights). A short descent takes you to your accommodation in Palas de Rei.

Day 5 - September 21 : Palas de Rei / Melide (12 mi)

Today you will cross four river valleys mostly on pathways through woodland. In Melide, a medieval township with close links with the Jacobean pilgrimage, the French Way temporarily becomes an urban route. Visit the town's medieval center and churches, and try Melide's local delicacy: Pulpo (Octopus). Overnight in Melide.

Day 6 – September 22: Melide / Arzua (9 mi)

Today's walk takes you through meadows, oak and eucalyptus woodland through countless small hamlets, some of which bear names that echo their historical connections with the Pilgrim's way. This is the county of Arzua, a land with a strong dairy production and known for its delicious cheeses. Overnight in Arzua.

Day 7 - September 23: Arzua / Arca (12 mi)

Walk on natural pathways with good shade offered by trees. The Camino now becomes busier with pilgrims as we near the fabled city of Santiago. Overnight in the delightful hamlet of Arca.

Day 8 – September 24: Arca / Santiago de Compostela (12 mi)

The first part of your final stage into Santiago is through dense woodland. Enjoy the shade and peace - as you approach the city, asphalt roads take over. After leaving the town of Lavacolla, the Way approaches the Monte do Gozo (The Mount of Joy), a small hillock from which the pilgrim was able to see, for the first time, in the distance, the towers of the Cathedral of Santiago, hence the name of this spot. Descend the Mount of Joy into the new part of the city before winding through the old town and emerging in the Plaza de Obradoiro, home to the magnificent Cathedra de Santiago. Overnight in Santiago.

• Day 9 - September 25: Santiago / Fatima

This morning we will enjoy a complete tour of Santiago de Compostela. Visit the impressive Cathedral which is considered to be one of the finest pieces of architecture in Europe. After Mass, climb up the stairs behind the altar to visit the crypt, where a silver urn contains the relics of St. James. See the Portico de la Gloria (Gateway to Heaven), an unparalleled masterpiece. Walk to the top of the Cathedral for a panoramic view of this glorious city. We will also visit the museum in the cloister adjoining the Cathedral. In the afternoon we will depart Santiago de Compostela and drive south to Fatima, where the Blessed Virgin appeared to three shepherd children, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, in 1917. Overnight in Fatima.

Day 10 – September 26: Fatima

Today we will celebrate Mass on the spot where Our Lady appeared at the Chapel of Apparitions. Visit the Basilica to see the site of the visionaries' graves and then on to the hamlet of Aljustrel where the three children lived during the Apparitions. Continue to Valinhos, the site where Our Lady appeared following the children's release from prison. This evening you will have the opportunity to participate in the Stations of the Cross along the Via Sacre, site of the first Apparition, or the candlelight rosary procession in the courtyard of the basilica. Overnight in Fatima.

Day 11 - September 27: Fatima / Lisbon / U.S.A.

Transfer to the airport in Lisbon to catch our return flight home.