

# El Camino de Santiago Trek

Trek one of the oldest pilgrimage routes in the world



Ultimate Challenges

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# El Camino de Santiago Trek, Spain

A 6 day spectacular trek along one of the oldest pilgrimage routes

The El Camino de Santiago, otherwise known as 'The Way of St James', is one of the oldest pilgrimage routes in the world and is a World Heritage Site. A journey millions of pilgrims have completed over thousands of years. The way is marked by the symbol of the scallop shell, typically found on the Galician shores.

This 6 day trek takes in a section of this incredible route and enables you to experience the beauty of rural northern Spain.



# Detailed itinerary

## Day 1: Depart Manchester to Porto

On arrival we will be met by our guides. We will then transfer to our overnight accommodation in Porto.

## Day 2: Transfer to Sarria and afternoon trek

After breakfast we will have a briefing about the challenge ahead before a 3hr transfer to Sarria, the start of our epic challenge. This afternoon we will do a short warm up trek. Overnight in Sarria.

## Day 3: Sarria to Portomarín, 22km (6hrs trekking)

The first day of our epic challenge! Today expect a stunning trek through pretty villages and peaceful hamlets under the shade of oak trees and along quiet country roads. Along the way, we will have the opportunity to spot many Galician traditional 'hórreos' (granaries). Overnight in Portomarín.

## Day 4: Portomarín to Palas de Rei, 22km (6hrs trekking)

Starting from the beautiful village of Portomarin, today the Camino will cross the river Miño and rise uphill steadily towards the Serra de Ligonde. We will pass nice hamlets such as Gonzar and Ventas de Narón.

On route we can Stop to visit the Romanesque Church of Santa María in Castromaior and the Romanesque church in Eirexe, as well as Pilgrim Santiago. Overnight Palas de Rei.

## Day 5: Palas de Rei to Arzúa, 28km (7hrs trekking)

Today, the Camino trail continues downhill, passing the village of Casanova and the delightful village of Leboreiro. The Camino crosses several streams and follows a forest track to the village of Boente with its church of Santiago. Next is the pretty medieval village of Ribadiso and finally the town of Arzúa (389m). Overnight in Arzúa.

## Day 6: Arzúa to Amenal, 23km (6hrs trekking)

Today's Camino trail will go through pretty woods, sleepy villages and across streams. The chapel of Santa Irene, with its unique statue of Santiago, is worth a visit. The rest of the route to Amenal is along a mix of good and calm country roads and forest tracks. Overnight Amenal.

## Day 7: Amenal to Santiago de Compostela, 14km (4hrs trekking)

The final day of your challenge! Today we start by trekking towards Lavacolla sitting on the outskirts of Santiago, where pilgrims used to wash themselves in the river in preparation for their arrival in Santiago de Compostela. Rows of tall eucalyptus trees line our route to Monte do Gozo and it is from here we will catch our first glimpse of the Cathedral of Santiago our finish point. When we arrive in the city (264m), explore this UNESCO World Heritage Site's architecture and delight in the wonderful atmosphere of this spiritual and cultural mecca. Tonight we enjoy a celebration dinner and overnight Santiago de Compostela.

## Day 8: Depart Porto to Manchester

Today we will be transferred back to the airport in Porto for our return flight to the UK.

*© Ultimate Challenges Itinerary complex and subject to change*

## Challenge grade

Moderate - Tough

# Why choose Ultimate Challenges?

- We have over 16 years experience running pioneering charity challenges e.g. Kilimanjaro , the Inca Trail, California Bike
- We choose the most unexplored and upcoming regions for our amazing expeditions
- We are built on a team of Senior Event Fundraisers
- Our team is driven to provide inspiring, life changing and effective fundraising events for our charity partners
- We use the best ground agents, the most experienced trek staff and doctors to ensure your supporters have a safe and memorable challenge
- We operate an Ethical Code of Conduct with all our ground handlers to ensure fair treatment of all our local staff. We have high health and safety expectations and all our partnerships are conducted with respect for local cultures and environmental concerns
- We offer an end-to-end service to ensure our charity partners are given full support from our experienced staff ensuring you maximise your income

***' Choose your Tour Operator with your head, so your supporters can follow their hearts when they travel'***



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