



FRENCH WAY BY BIKE PRIMO



Discover the French Way on a bike. Cycle the French Way from Leon to Santiago de Compostela in 7 days and get your Compostela or Certificate of Achievement.

If you go everywhere by bike, wish to experience as much of the Way as you can in a shorter time frame or simply want a new challenge while having everything organized for you at a great value, this is the tour for you.

Cycling the Camino and covering more ground each day means each night you will sleep in the middle of a vibrant and historical town and be able to witness first hand Northern Spain hospitality.

PRICE & DATES

Can be organized on request for any number of participants on the dates of your choice - subject to availability and price fluctuations.

€990 per person

- Single room supplement: +€210 per room
- Transfer in from Oviedo & out from Santiago Airport: +€100 per 6 people
- Half-board supplement: +€150 per person
- Discount for bringing your own bike: -€200
- Electric bike supplement: +€180 per bike
- No luggage transfers discount: -€40 per person
- Private Van Support during the cycling days: +€1700 per van
- Extra night in 3* hotel: +€115 per room (dinner not included)

FACT FILE

Accommodation Rustic Charm Guest Houses & 1 to 3* Hotels

Singularity Cycling trip

Total Riding Distance 312 km

Duration 8 days / 7 nights

Starts Leon

Stops Astorga, Ponferrada, Valcarce, Portomarin, Arzua

Ends Santiago de Compostela

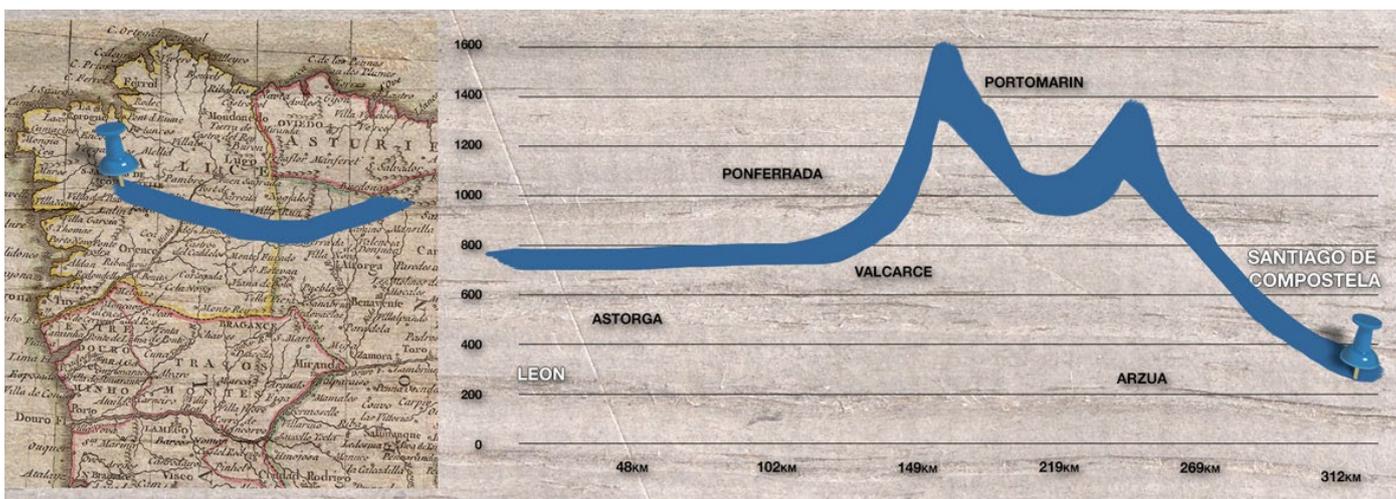
FRENCH WAY BY BIKE PRIMO INCLUDES

- En-suite accommodation with breakfast in charming guest-houses & 1 to 3* hotels
- Luggage transfers from hotel to hotel
- High quality custom hybrid bike equipped with 27 gears, disc brakes and 27.5" wheels. Delivered with all the necessary equipment: pannier rack, bottle holder, bell, (front and rear) lights, tool kit, safety retro-reflectors and a bicycle lock
- Emergency support from our local team and from a network of bike garages
- All taxes and gratuities for the guides and hotels
- A detailed guidebook and Spanish phrasebook per room
- A Pilgrim Kit per person
- Cycle between 48 km and 70 km per day



FRENCH WAY BY BIKE PRIMO DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

This 7 nights route follows the 312km of the Camino Frances - French Way from Leon to Santiago de Compostela.



DAY 1 - MAKING OUR WAY TO YOUR STARTING POINT OF THE CAMINO

Make your way to León, one of the most strikingly beautiful Cities along the Way. León is the Capital of the region of Castilla-y-León, the medieval kingdom that led the re-conquest of the Iberian Peninsula from the Moors, gave birth to modern Spain and gave the world Castilian Spanish.

The whole old town is UNESCO protected City and hosts to one of the most beautiful Gothic Cathedrals, filled with more than 100 stained glass windows. If time allows spend the afternoon visiting the Cathedral and the old town before having a tapas dinner in the old town.



DAY 2 - 48 KM - CYCLE FROM LEON TO ASTORGA

We will start your journey on the Camino Frances with a busy day today, so we will wake up early to cycle to the ancient Roman city of Astorga. Asturica Augustus was an important communications hub for the Romans and the most important city in this region of Spain, known as the Maragatería, due to its proximity with the Gold Mines of Las Medulas. This fascinating town offers to its visitors a beautiful Gothic Cathedral, a unusual Episcopal palace designed by Antoni Gaudí (mostly known for designing the Sagrada Família in Barcelona) and a Chocolate Museum as well as plenty of terrace bars and tapas restaurants.

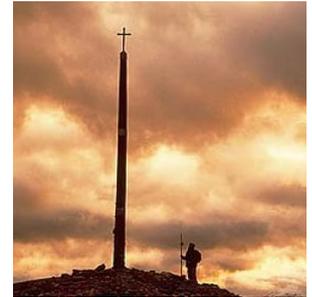
DAY 3 - 54 KM - CYCLE FROM ASTORGA TO PONFERRADA

Get ready because today, we will attempt to cross one of the highest mountain peaks of the French Way to arrive at the Cruz de Hierro, the Iron Cross. Here it is common for pilgrims to leave a souvenir of their passage, a rock, piece of paper or even shoes as a symbol of shrugging off the weight of one's sins. So don't forget to bring along a symbolic token.





Our destination is Ponferrada, an ancient Roman citadel which was placed under the custody of the Order of the Temple in the 11th century. The Knights Templar used the site of a primitive Roman fortress to build a castle in which they settled and which, at the same time, protected the passing pilgrims. This impressive structure which still stands in the center of the old town is one of the last remaining Templar Castles and the location chosen by Paolo Coelho for one of the most memorable scenes from his book "The Pilgrimage".



DAY 4 - 47 KM - CYCLE FROM PONFERRADA TO VALCARCE



On your last full day in Castilla-y-León, you will notice the landscape starting to change as you cycle across the valley of El Bierzo in between mountain ranges. Take it easy today, as tomorrow you will have to cross one of those mountains to get into Galicia.

Our first stop today, is Villafranca del Bierzo, a lively medieval town with great importance for the pilgrimage. Indeed, Pilgrims who could not make it to Santiago de Compostela because they were ill were given the jubilee blessing once they passed the Puerta del Perdón gate (again remember "the Pilgrimage" by Paolo Coelho). After a short visit, we will then continue to the foot of the O Cebreiro Mountain in the Valcarce Valley where we will stay in a charming guest-house.

DAY 5 - 70KM - CYCLE FROM VALCARCE TO PORTOMARIN

Prepare for a challenging and rewarding day with an ascent of 1000m in the first 10 km, a long descent and impressive landscapes. But we promise it will all be worth it once you make it through beautiful mountain paths into the timeless Celtic village of O Cebreiro. With stunning panoramic views of the valleys below from 1300 meters up, the ancient pallozas (circular pre-Roman stone dwellings built by the Celts of the region) and the rebuilt Romanesque church of St. Mary's, site of a 14th century Eucharistic miracle, few places along the Camino are as enchanting as O Cebreiro!

The rest of the journey is then downhill and breathtaking. At Triacastela, you'll have the option of making a detour to the Benedictine monastery of Samos, one of the wealthiest and most powerful monasteries of the peninsula in Medieval Times. After Sarria, the starting point of most pilgrims along the French Way, we will pass the 100 km marker and continue along easy paved trails through beautiful countryside, meadows and oak woods, charming villages with slate roofs. Our destination is a small hotel in the center of Portomarin, a town with great history, impressive archways and a memorable church. This town is very unique as great battles that took place in the valley below and the town you visit is only a replica of the Medieval town relocated in the 60s rock by rock to avoid floods.



DAY 6 - 50KM - CYCLE FROM PORTOMARIN TO ARZUA

Today, you will be following a trail that has been protected by the Knights of the Order of Santiago since 1184 and you will pass near the Romanesque Church of Vilar de Donas, where the knights are buried (2,5 km away from the Camino). There will be some more uphill and downhill but mostly peaceful oak and eucalyptus forests and charming villages We will have a chance to marvel



at Furelo's medieval bridge, considered one of the jewels of the French Way's civil architecture, and the oldest surviving cruceiro (calvary) in the world in Melide. Around lunchtime we will stop in Melide where you should treat yourself to "Pulpo a la Galega" (Octopus) at our recommended establishment. Our destination for the night, Arzua, is famous for cheese, so ask your host tonight to do a cheese and wine degustation at dinner.

DAY 7 - 43KM - CYCLE FROM ARZUA TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA!

This is it! Only 43 kilometers separate you from your goal. Leave early to reach Santiago before twelve if you wish to see the pilgrim mass at midday (other at 7:30).

Enter the Medieval Town through the Puerta del Camino, pass the iconic Plaza de Cervantes. A few meters further you will find the Azabachería Door, the official entrance to the Cathedral on non-Holy years (in 2016 and 2021 you will be able to enter through the Holy Door on the Quintana Square). Enter the Cathedral now, if you wish, we recommend continuing to the Plaza del Obradoiro, the main Square of the Cathedral, where you will find the Portico de la Gloria and the most impressive view of the Cathedral. Simply stop here.

Congratulations, you have made it to Santiago de Compostela, the resting place of the Apostle Saint James. Breath in and truly live this moment, do whatever feels right. You still have a few things to do today - check in to your hotel 200 meters way, get your pilgrim certificate, attend pilgrim mass, try some delicious tapas and marvel at the architecture of our beloved City.

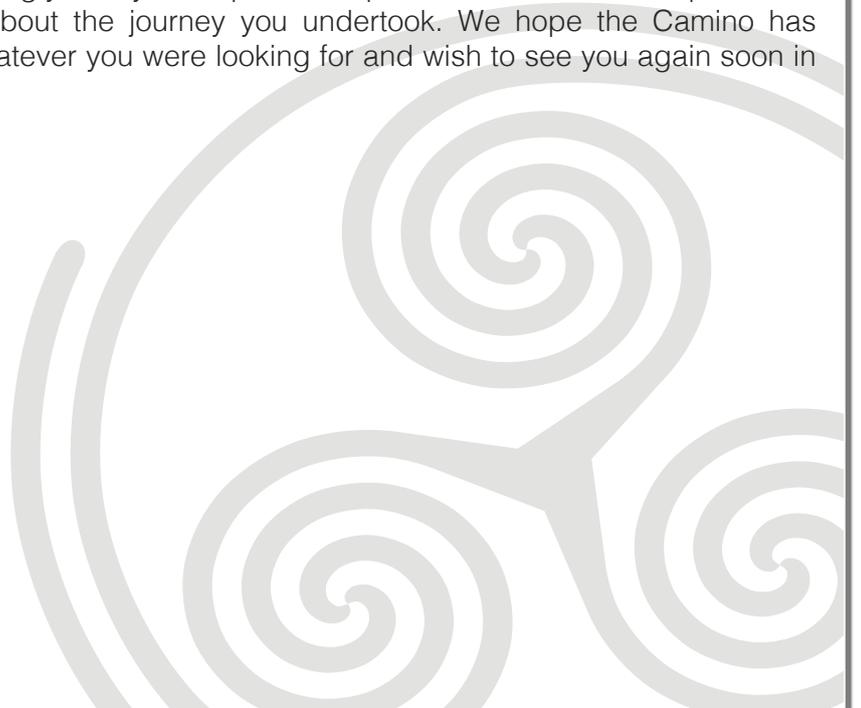


DAY 8 - START OF YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE



A wise pilgrim once told us "the real Camino starts where the Camino de Santiago finishes but I will not be afraid because the Camino will always be there for me."

Today, as we bring you to your departure airport, we will share our impressions and thoughts about the journey you undertook. We hope the Camino has brought you whatever you were looking for and wish to see you again soon in Galicia!





ABOUT ULTREYA TOURS

Ultreya Tours is an incoming Tour Operator specialized in **organizing comprehensive and highly personalized walking, cycling and horse-riding tours for groups and solo travelers on the Camino de Santiago**. Founded and based in Santiago de Compostela, we know the region of Galicia and the secrets of the Camino by heart.

The Camino de Santiago is not just our business it is our way of life and we would love nothing more than to introduce you to our vision of the Camino.

Our name Ultreya comes from the Latin word for Onwards. "Ultreya, Suseya, Santiago" was the common greeting amongst pilgrims in Medieval times. It meant courage, further and higher is Santiago. We are already in Santiago so our goal is to bring you there and help you every step of the Way.

WHY CHOOSE US?

- Fully bonded, ensured and registered as retail & wholesale Travel Agency in Spain
- We are based in Santiago and you can reach us 24/7 while you are on the Camino
- We only book the best accommodation according to your group's requirements and budget
- You will get a dedicated Camino Account Planner to assist at every step
- Special rates and dedicated offers for large groups
- Excellent commission structure for resellers and travel agents

"Our mission is to ensure that our customers enjoy such a memorable and rewarding experience on the Camino de Santiago that they wish to repeat it with us."

Nellie Meunier - Ultreya Tours founder

ONLY 4 STEPS AWAY FROM YOUR JOURNEY

- STEP 1** Get in touch with one of our Camino Planner for a personalized quote
- STEP 2** Once you are satisfied with the Terms & Conditions of your tour, we will invoice you for a 50% of the total price non-refundable deposit to process the booking
- STEP 3** Immediately after receiving the initial deposit we will start booking your accommodation, meals, activities, guides and any other services
- STEP 4** 30 days before the departure, we will request the 50% remaining deposit and you will receive the list of your accommodation, confirmation vouchers for extra services and activities, pilgrim kits for each members of your group, a detailed guidebook and Spanish phrasebook per room

If you dream of walking the Camino de Santiago, don't delay it any further contact info@ultreyatours.com or visit our website to find the best Way for your group!