

French way / Camino Frances Section 6


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Walk From Leon to Ponferrada - 99km

6 Days/5 Nights



Half Board

hotels en-suite

year round

From €390

This Walking Holiday explores the sixth section of the Camino Frances / French Way, the most traditional of all the pilgrims' ways to Santiago de Compostela and the best known internationally.

Start in Leon, one of the greatest cities in Spain and finish in Ponferrada, built by the Templars in the 12th century. The Camino, or Way of Saint James, starts on the central high plateau, and traverses the untouched and eerie Leon Mountains.

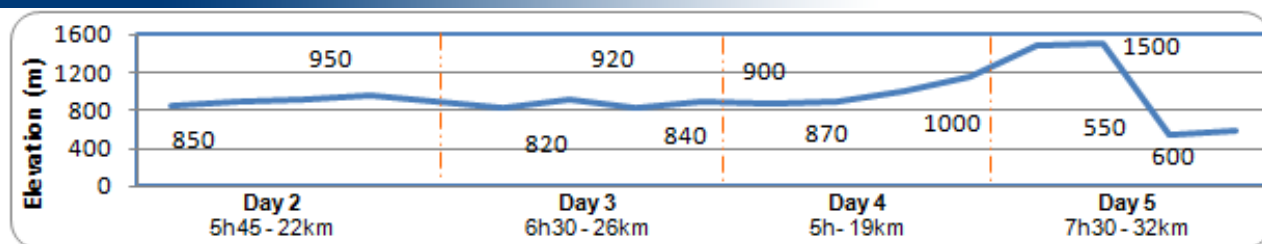
Everyday, during the walk, you are guaranteed a high level of comfort and gastronomy. The Camino is clearly marked with the "Scallop Shell" showing you the way. This walk can be physically demanding and requires a reasonable level of fitness. However, it's a highly rewarding walk that includes numerous cultural highlights.

[maps](#)


French Way in Yellow

Use the navigation tools on the left to zoom-in

Day By day



» Day 1 - Coming to Leon

You will be pre-booked in a traditional hotel in the heart of the town.

The historic centre of Leon is well preserved and worth visiting. Over the course of time, Leon became the capital of the kingdom in the Middle Ages; a historic enclave on the pilgrim's road to Santiago de Compostela. Don't miss The Pulchra Leonina (the 'Sistine Chapel' of Spanish architecture) & the old "Hospital de San Marcos".



Town: Shops, ATM, all facilities.
Accommodation: 3* hotel in an old 16th-century monastery and right inside the historical centre, en-suite.

» Day 2 - Leon To Villadangos del Paramo

» DAY 4 – Astorga to Rabanal del Camino (5h, 19km, +270m -20m)

We are now deep in the region as we gradually make our way up to the first foothills of the Leon Mountains. This part of the countryside is characterised by broom, oak trees and conifer plantations.



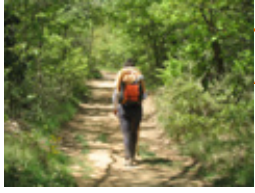
Town: Limited facilities.
Accommodation: 1* family-run hotel in a charming village.
Meals: Half Board

» DAY 5 – Rabanal del Camino to Ponferrada (7h30, 32km, +250m -880m)

One of the most rewarding days. Enjoy the beautiful

(5h45, 22km, +110m -50m)

Leaving Leon, the urban area continues almost as far as Virgen del Camino (7km). From this point on, the route becomes more interesting as you follow the historical Camino along the Plateau of Leon.



Town: Shops, ATM, all facilities.
Accommodation: 1* hotel in the middle of the village, en-suite.
Meals: Half Board

» **DAY 3 –Villadangos del Paramo to Astorga (6h30, 26km, +/-140m)**

You pass the famous "Puente de Orbigo" and leave behind the Plateau of Leon. The Leon Mountains can be seen up ahead and the end of this stage will bring you to Astorga, the capital of Margateria. Not to miss in Astorga: Episcopal palace, the cathedral, and the city walls.



Town: ATM, shops.
Accommodation: 3* hotel right in the historic centre, en-suite.
Meals: Half Board

broom and heather surroundings as you ascent to "Mount Irago". Witness the "Iron Cross" on the mountain pass before making your way downwards to the wealthy area of Bierzo.

Note: Here we can split the day in two stages (24 km and 8 km). Accommodation is in a superb chalet hotel in Molinaseca.



Town: Shops, ATM, all facilities.
Accommodation: 3* hotel 200m from the historical center, en-suite.
Meals: Breakfast

» **DAY 6 – Ponferrada, end of the walking holiday**

After breakfast we bid you farewell.



Meal: Breakfast

how to get there

It is best to fly to Madrid or to Santiago de Compostela. More info: <http://www.spanish-airport-guide.com/>

Fly to Madrid

Virtually every company flies to Madrid
 Spanish national company: www.iberia.com
 Spanish low-cost: www.spanair.com

Fly to Santiago

[Ryanair](http://www.ryanair.com) and [Iberia/BA](http://www.iberia.com) fly direct to Santiago de Compostela from the UK. Ryanair fly from Stansted, Nottingham East Midlands and Liverpool and [Aer Lingus](http://www.aerlingus.com) operates from Dublin.

Many of the flights that arrive at the airport are from internal Spanish destinations. Iberia and [Spanair](http://www.spanair.com) offer the best selection of flights and you can fly to and from Santiago De Compostela from: Frankfurt, Paris and Rome and Barcelona, Bilbao, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, Madrid, Malaga, Palma, Seville, Tenerife and Valencia.

To start your walking holiday: Leon

From Madrid

Train 4h30, several per day

From Santiago

Bus 4h, several per day

Train 6h, several per day

Back home, from Ponferrada

To Santiago de Compostela

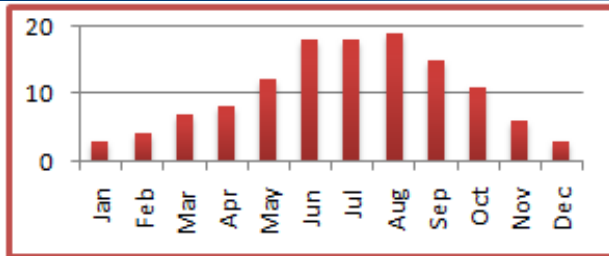
- Bus (takes 3h, 4 per day @11.45, 15.45, 18.45, 20.45, <http://www.alsa.es/>)

- Train (takes 3h, 2 per day <http://horarios.renfe.es/hir/ingles.html>)

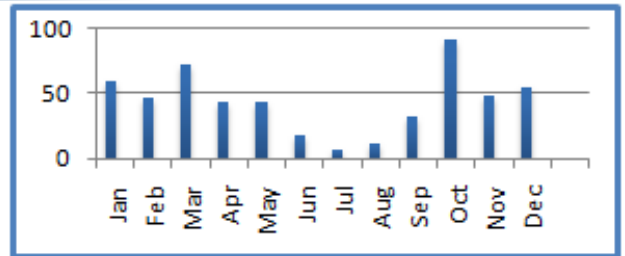
To Madrid

Train takes 6h

WEATHER



Average temperatures



Average rainfall

about the walking holiday

hotels

These hotels and guesthouses have been carefully selected for their comfort, location, friendliness and character, and are subject to availability. If the hotel described is not available we provide an alternative with the same standard of comfort & price.

Luggage

We will transport your luggage from one hotel to the next. You only need to carry your backpack during the day!

Included

- Luggage transferred from hotel to hotel
- Rooms en-suite
- Half Board during the hike
- Detailed Walking Notes
- Map
- Pilgrim passport

Not Included

- Flights
- Insurance (recommended)
- Drinks
- Dinner first and last nights
- Flights from/to airport

prices & options

Period	Price (€)	Single Room (€)		
High Season April, May, June, September	510	121		
Mid Season July, August, October	460	104		
Low Season January, February, March, November, December	390	86		

Options

Transport To Leon from Santander (€pp)	Extra Nights Leon, Pamplona, Ponferrada, Santiago, Santander & Bilbao				Picnic lunches
	2* Hotel B&B (€)		3* Hotel B&B (€)		
	Single	Double (pps)	Single	Double (pps)	
For info on transfers for more passengers or from other airports, please ask us .	60	44	95	65	(sandwich, fruit, chocolate bar)
2-8 people €135pp					€50
Special rates for groups of 6+					

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