

# PILGRIM PATHS

SELF-GUIDED HIKING TOURS

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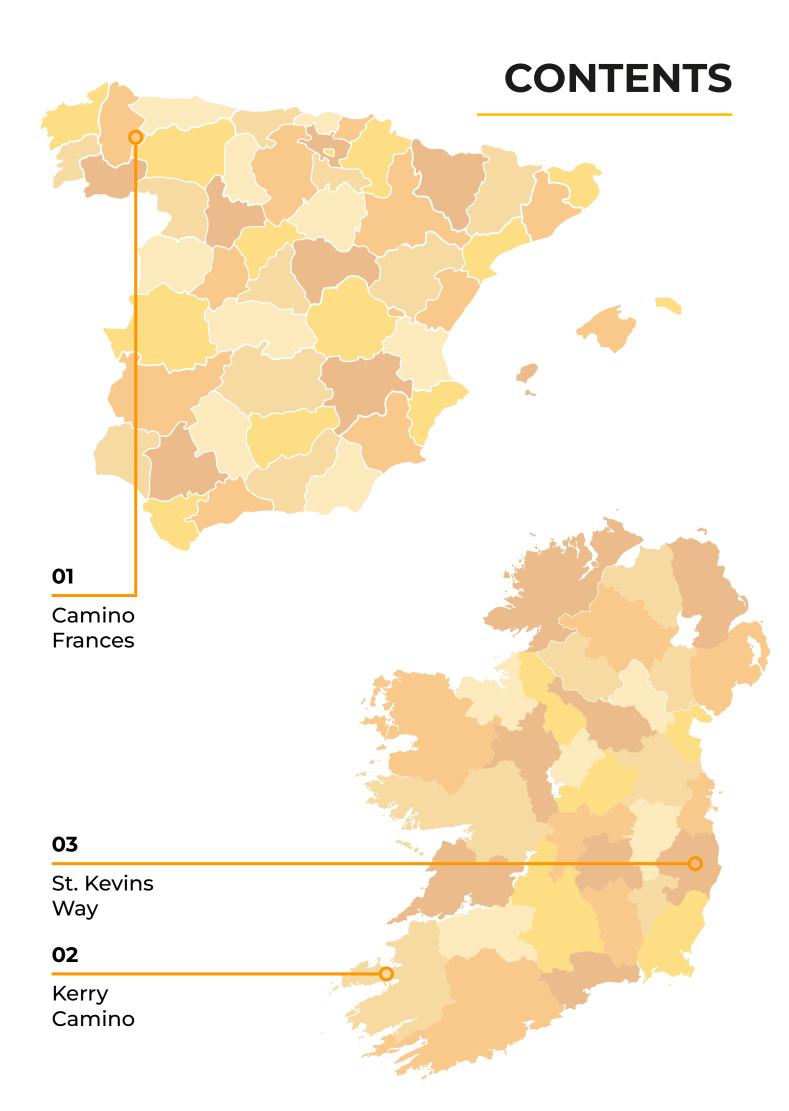




PIERKELMA

galicia

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# HIKING OUR PILGRIM PATHS

People are often drawn towards hiking for a number of different reasons. One such reason is to uncover the sense of spirtiuality and pilgrimage that certain trails have to offer. From the most famous in the world — The Camino de Santiago — to the lesser-known St. Kevin's Way, the spiritual significance of these treks is sure to remain in your heart. Notice as you disconnect from outside influences and reconnect with your inner self, as you admire the relics and remains of times gone by.

# CAMINO FRANCES CAMINO

Choose

From

4-13

Day

our

# FRANCES

Join the band of pilgrims who have walked the Camino for over a thousand years in search of peace, solitude, and relaxation.

Swap stories and share a glass of wine with fellow pilgrims or spend quality time with friends and family.

Say a prayer at the wonderful Santiago de Compostela Cathedral where the remains of the apostle St. James are believed to be buried.

Discover the beautiful landscapes, charming little towns, and authentic culture that make walking the Camino the adventure of a lifetime. Afterward, relax in comfortable accommodation and tuck into some delectable Galician cuisine along the Camino Frances.

FROM

**PER PERSON** 

### THE ROUTE



The Camino Frances — also known as the French Way — begins on the French side of the Pyrenees, in Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port. From there, it runs through the Pyrenees, continuing through the north of Spain and all the way to Santiago de Compostela, creating a walk that is almost 800km in length.

The entire Camino Frances route can be completed within four to five weeks, passing through the major cities of Pamplona, Logrono, Burgos, and Leon. Our most extended Camino tours start at the hamlet of O Cebreiro, which is one of the highest points on the Camino Frances. From here you can appreciate the stunning mountain views as you descend along the tracks to the village of Triacastela. There is a choice of routes from Triacastela to Sarria; the northern route, through forests with woodland paths, or the southern route via the beautiful Samos Monastery. Leaving Sarria, your walk to Portomarin will take you through many traditional Galician towns and villages on quiet rural roads and paths. The Camino then crosses the river Miño, passes through more hamlets and towns, and continues on country roads to Palas de Rei. In the subsequent stage, you will find yourself in the market town of Melide before following tracks and forest paths to Arzúa. The Camino Frances trail continues through woodlands and villages, and on country roads and forest tracks, to A Rua. The final stage of the route brings you to your destination, Santiago de Compostela, a UNESCO World Heritage site and home to many sights and attractions.

Daniella V. – USA

Going on the Camino











# KERRY AMINO

# **KERRY**

# CAMINO

Walk the Kerry Camino pilgrim path in the famous Kingdom of Kerry in Ireland, traveling from St. John's Church in Tralee to St. James' Church in Dingle. Follow in the footsteps of St. Brendan The Navigator, whom many beliveve is the original founder of America. Experience the landscape and culture of the Dingle Peninsula, voted by The National Geographic Traveller magazine to be "the most beautiful place on Earth".

Pass along rugged mountainsides & coastline, and through towns and villages, all while collecting stamps in your Pilgrim Logbook in order to achieve the official Kerry Camino Certificate of Completion.



## THE ROUTE

The Kerry Camino is a linear route that traditionally begins in Tralee and ends in Dingle. The route primarily follows the North Kerry Way / Dingle Way and, after leaving Tralee, heads west along the northern slopes of the Slieve Mish Mountains.

The route then branches south at the tiny village of Camp and crosses the peninsula towards Inch Beach. From there it reaches the village of Annascaul, where you can find the distinguished South Pole Inn.

The trail briefly returns to the coast at Minard Castle, before making its way once more along the slopes of the Slieve Mish Mountains — this time on its southern side, to guide you into the bustling, colourful town of Dingle.













# ST. KEVIN'S V COLENDALO

# ST. KEVIN'S

Choose From 4-5 Day Tours

# WAY

Follow in the footsteps of Saint Kevin and the medieval pilgrims through the hills of Wicklow to arrive in the beautiful valley of Glendalough. Explore Glendalough, 'the valley of the two lakes', complete with its spectacular scenery, rich archaeological history, and abundant wildlife. Wander alongside the peaceful Avonmore River and follow it through the ancient forest of the Clara Vale Nature Reserve for an impressive photography session.



FROM

PER PERSON





## THE ROUTES

#### St. Kevin's Way (Ballinagee Bridge)

Our St Kevin's Way trail start from Ballinagee Bridge where the Wicklow Uplands begin.

The linear route ventures to Glendalough with the trail first climbing gradually towards the spectacular Wicklow Gap, adorned with its reservoir and hydroelectricity plant. Here, fleeting reminders of a rich mining heritage greet you.

The peaceful river walk leads into the Valley of Glendalough, offering up a treasure trove of wonderful photo opportunities. The route is well-waymarked and takes you through a wide variety of landscapes on forest trails and mountain paths for the aesthetically-inclined walker.

#### Glenealo Valley & The Spinc (Loop Walk)

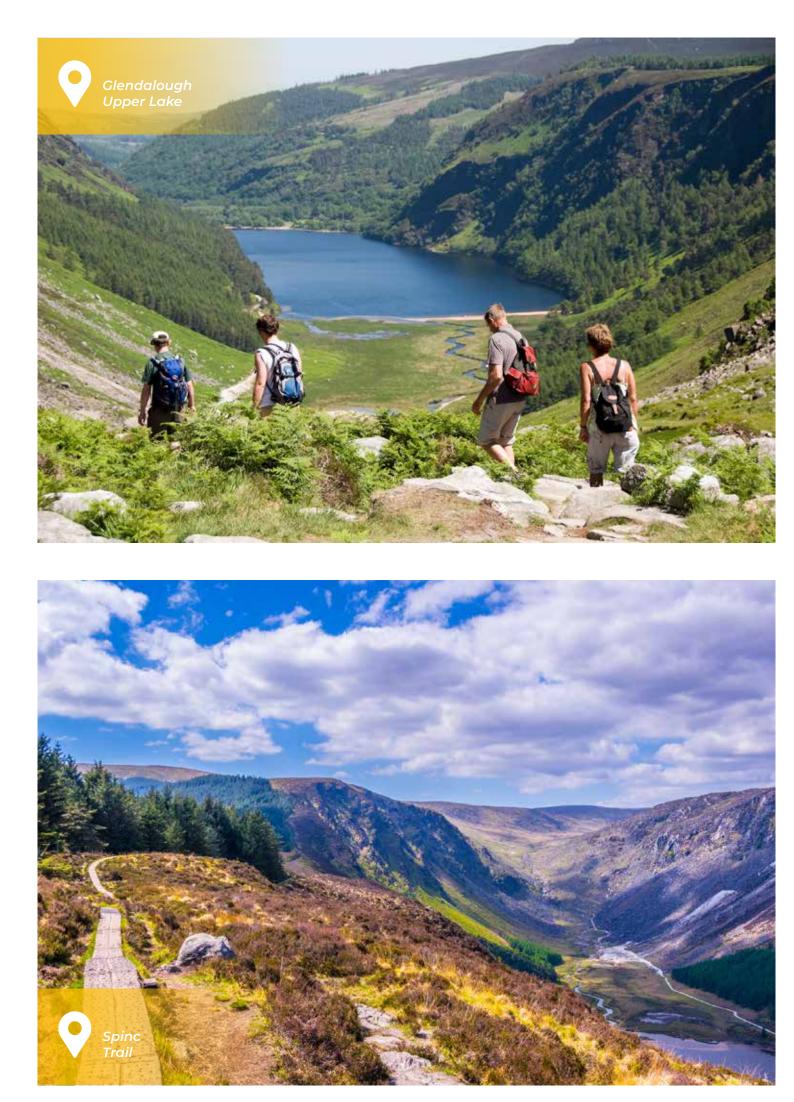
Glenealo Valley & The Spinc is a popular walk that gives way to some of the most spectacular scenery in Wicklow. After a visit to the peaceful valley of Glendasan, you will find yourself passing through a viewpoint for the cave, known locally as St Kevin's Bed. After, follow the Miner's Road in Glendalough to the old 'miner's village' where rocks and ruins lay in waiting.

An invigorating climb leads to a bridge at the top of the valley. Here, hundreds of wooden steps lead to a ridge above the lake with spectacular views spanning back toward Glendalough. Descend via the Poulanass Waterfall to the two lakes and the monastic village.

#### Avonmore Way (Rathdrum – Laragh)

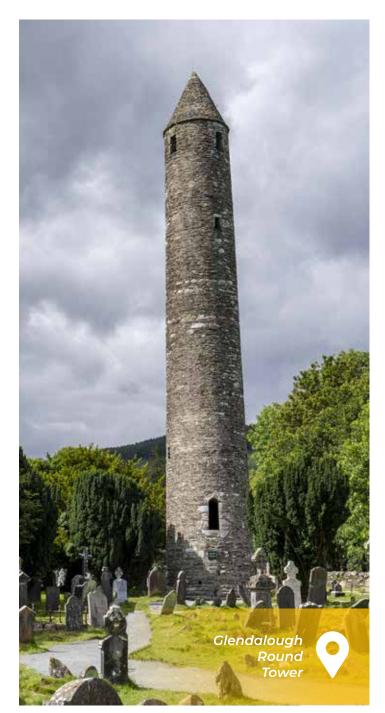
The Avonmore Way follows a mixture of minor road, forest road and track as it skirts around Trooperstown Hill and winds its way through the beautiful Clara Vale Nature Reserve, gifting some pleasant picnic spots on its banks. You will pass by the picturesque settlement of Clara Vale with its ancient bridge, before the trail climbs through forests to a road with dazzling valley view of the surrounding Wicklow Mountains.

You can choose to climb Trooperstown Hill before descending through more woodland areas. The trail involves a mixture of minor roads and forest roads or tracks.









# CONTRACTOR OF CO

It was the second tour we booked with you

and again everything was very professionally

organised. We enjoyed our vacation very much.

Scotland is a beautiful country.

Petra G. – Austria



# **YOUR STAY**

Stay in warm, friendly and welcoming guesthouses & hotels offering up a comfortable bed each night and a big breakfast to keep you going each day.

# LUGGAGE?

Don't worry, we'll organise your luggage to be transfered to your next accommodation while you're out enjoying the trail!

# NAVIGATION

Detailed maps and route note directions written and updated by Hillwalk Tours mean that you never get lost.

# **ALTERNATIVES**

Discover alternative route options devised from the local knowledge of Hillwalk Tours - routes which you may not find in guidebooks.

# **ESSENTIALS**

A waterproof map-case to keep your maps and documents dry, along with useful public transport information to help you plan your travel.

# CONTACT

If you need to contact us, we're here 24/7.

# **ENJOYMENT**

Explore local history and culture in our fascinating guides, while discovering the most interesting attractions on the trail along with tips on the best places to eat and drink.



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**EXPLORE PILGRIM PATHS WITH US**