### HILLWALK TOURS

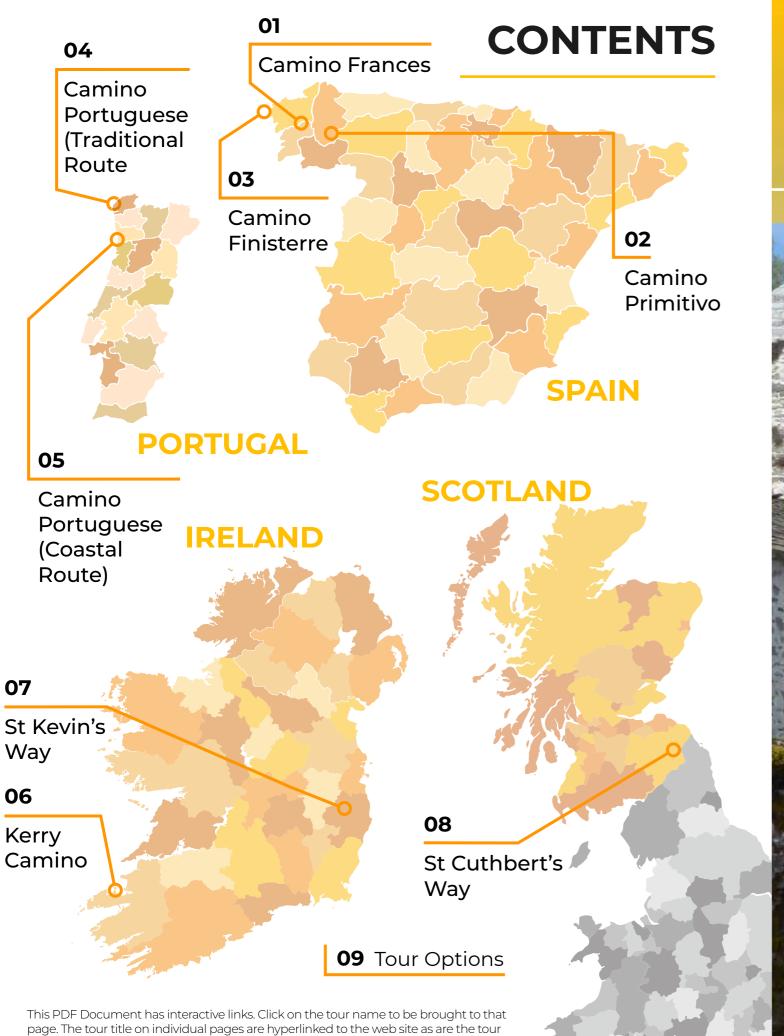
# PILGRIM PATHS

**SELF-GUIDED HIKING TOURS** 



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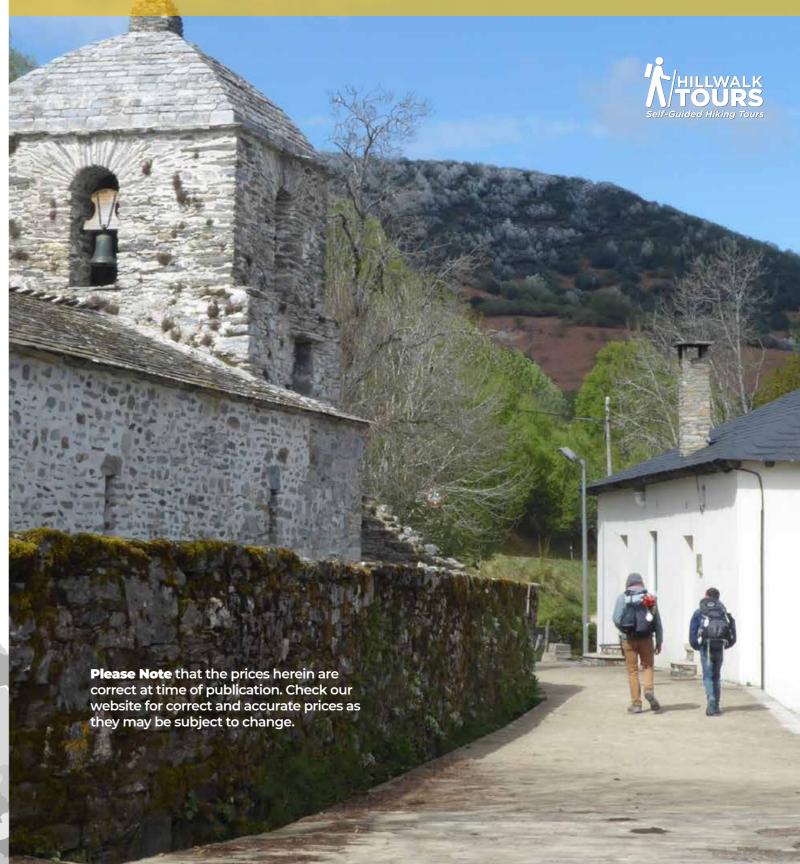


titles in the Tour Options section.

# HIKING OUR PILGRIM PATHS

People are drawn towards hiking for a number of different reasons. One such reason is to uncover the sense of spirituality and pilgrimage that certain trails have to offer. From the most famous in the world - The Camino de Santiago - to the lesser-known

significance of these treks is sure to remain in your heart. Notice as you disconnect from outside influences and reconnect with your inner self, admire the relics and share the path with pilgrims



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# A PATH WELL TRAVELLED

**FOR 1,000 YEARS** 

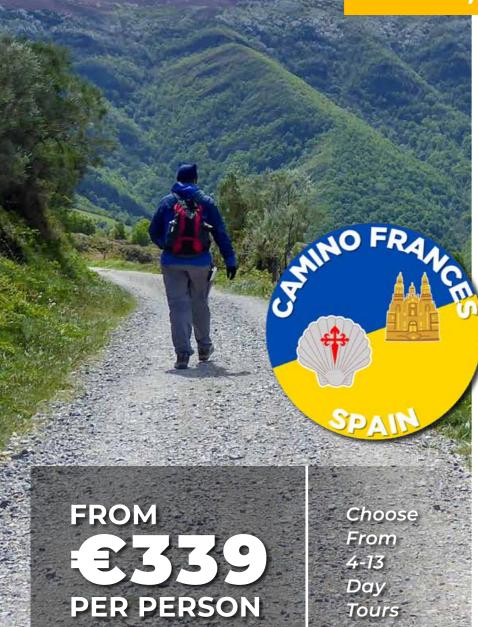
Join the growing band of pilgrims who have walked the Camino since the 9th century in search of peace, solitude and relaxation.

Swap stories and share a glass

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. Afterwards, relax in comfortable accommodation and tuck into some delicious Galician cuisine in surprisingly reasonable eateries and restaurants along the way.



THE ROUTE

ARZUA

A RÚA

MELIDE

PALAS DE REI

PORTOMARIN

GONZAR

SARRIA TRIACASTELA

FERREIROS

O CEBREIRO

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

on my own was

intimidating at first, but

Hillwalk tours took the

stress away.

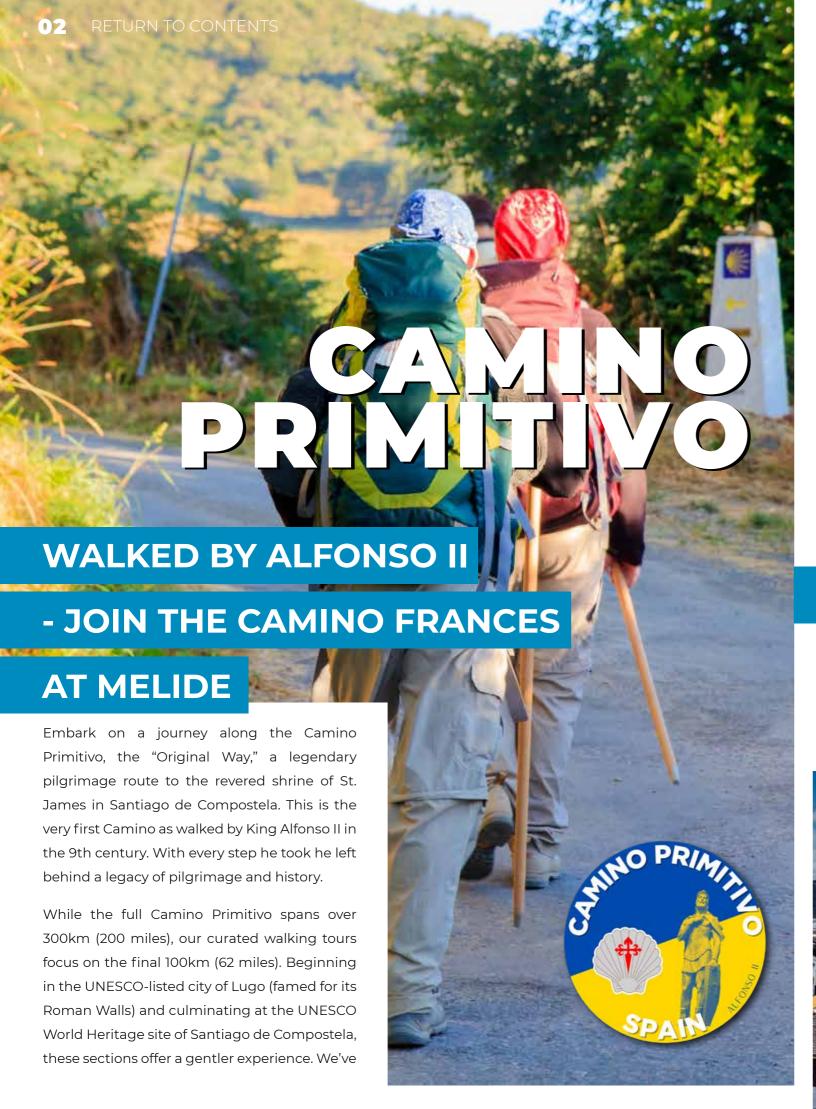














descents, ensuring a more relaxed walk through enchanting forests, picturesque rolling farmland and charming villages. Along the way, you'll find ample opportunities for delicious food, rejuvenating rest and peaceful reflection.

# THE ROUTE

The route merges with the Camino Frances in the town of Melide, giving walkers a chance to experience both the solitude of the Primitivo and the lively final stages of the more popular route into Santiago. These tours are perfect for those wishing to obtain the Compostela, the official Camino de Santiago Pilgrimage Certificate, which requires a minimum walk of 100kms. The trail is well-marked with yellow arrows and scallop shell symbols.

If you're looking to avoid crowds after Melide, consider walking during the shoulder seasons—from March to May or September to October—when the trails are cooler, greener, and less busy. The Camino Primitivo is a wonderful choice for those seeking a deeper connection with nature, history and the true spirit of pilgrimage.



















The Camino doesn't end in Santiago. Take a little extra time to walk the only way that starts there by exploring the Camino Finisterre. This path, steeped in Celtic and Roman history has hidden chapels and quiet places for relection. And every part of the journey—from the fresh Galician seafood to the shared stories in cozy cafes—is a celebration of life and human connection. Upon reaching Fisterra, be sure to collect your 'Fisterra' or 'Finisterrana' certificate, marking the end of your tranquil coastal journey, where the expansive Atlantic sky serves as a fitting final chapter to your Camino.

# THE ROUTE

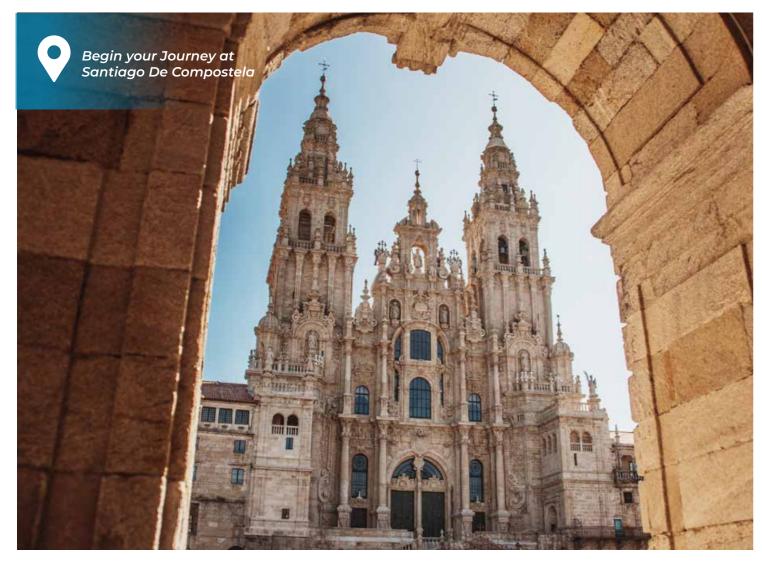
The Camino Finisterre begins at the steps of Santiago de Compostela's iconic cathedral and stretches 90km (56 miles) west to the dramatic coastline of Cape Finisterre on the Costa da Morte.

Leaving Santiago, the trail descends into the leafy Sarela valley before climbing steadily through chestnut and eucalyptus groves to reach the hamlet of Augapesada. From here, the route continues through gently rolling farmland and woodland paths, before arriving at the medieval bridge of Ponte Maceira, a picturesque crossing over the Río Tambre on the way to Negreira.

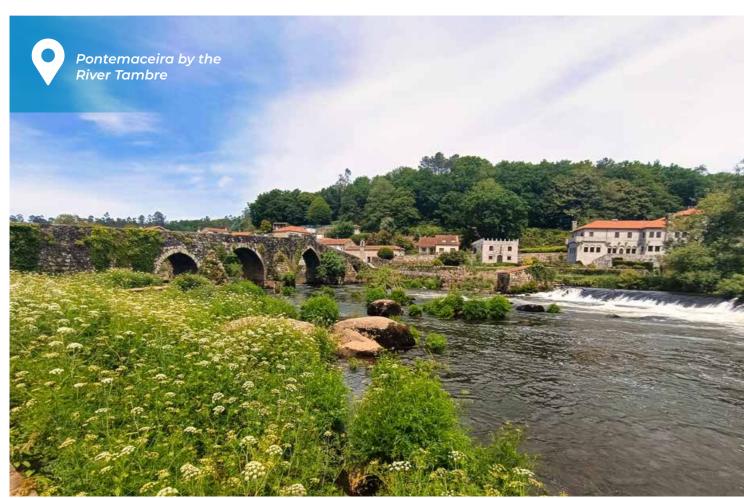
Beyond Negreira, you will pass through quiet lanes and traditional Galician villages such as Vilaserío and Cornado. At Monte Aro—the highest point of the route at 556 metres (1,824 ft)—you will see sweeping views of the surrounding Terra de Xallas and the Castrelo reservoir before descending through Olveiroa, followed by a scenic climb to the historic pilgrim hamlet of Hospital.

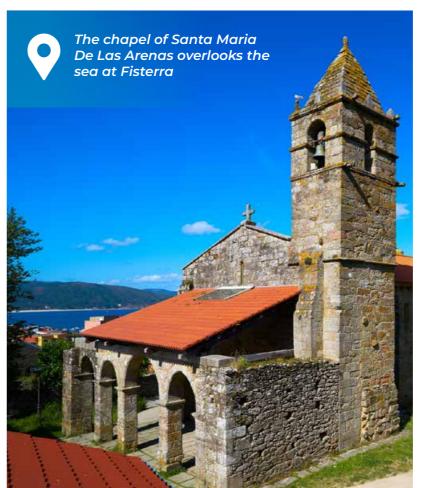
At Hospital, the route continues west toward through winding pine-scented moorland and descending toward the coast. The Atlantic Ocean soon appears on the horizon as you approach the town of Cee. From here, the final stretch of the trail follows the coastline, skirting the white sands of Langosteira Beach and passing through the fishing village of Fisterra.

The journey ends at the lighthouse on Cape Finisterre, marked by the "Km 0" milestone—a traditional place for pilgrims to reflect, watch the sun set over the ocean, and bring their Camino to a memorable close.

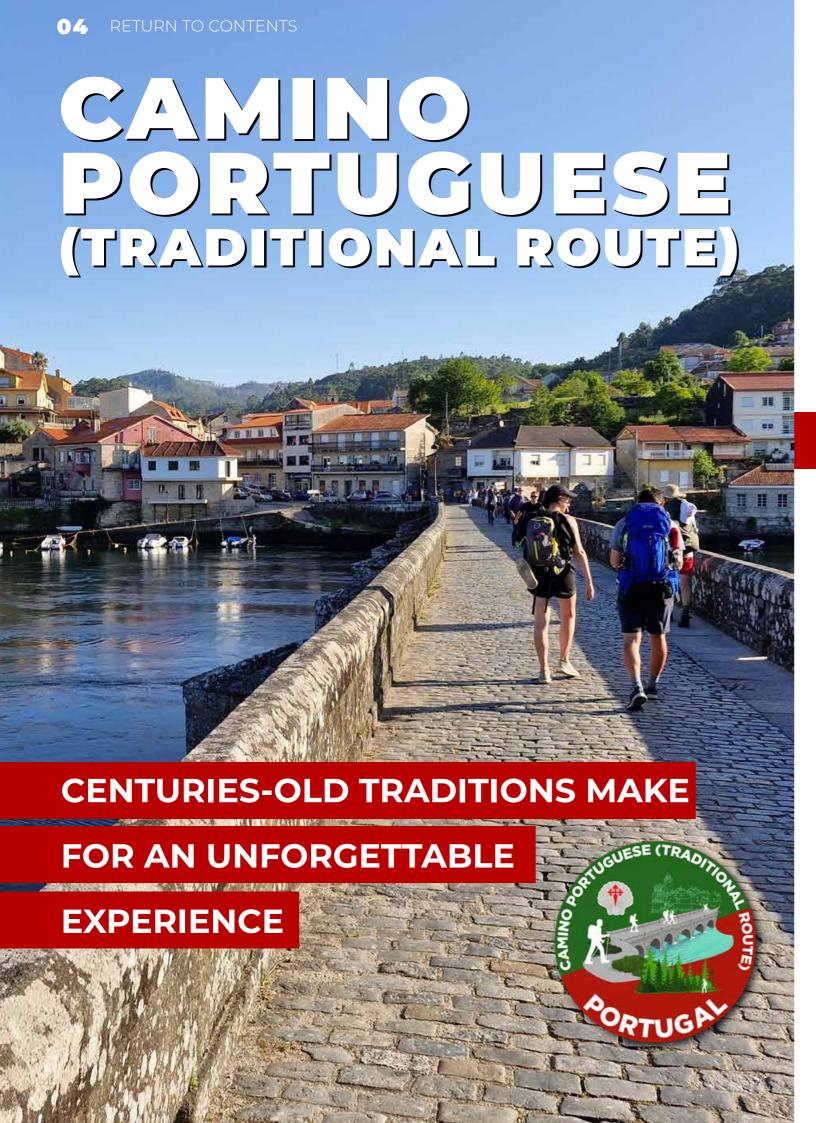












Camino Portuguese (Traditional Route) holds a its deep historical spiritual significance. Begin near the Portuguese-Spanish border and follow this peaceful route from your startpoint of Tui and walk through Galicia's quiet forest paths and charming villages to Santiago. Centuries traditions make this Camino soulful and а unforgettable experience This inland path is immersed

in wooded trails, Roman roads and quiet stone villages that echo the footsteps of countless pilgrims before. Trace the ancient trail through tranquil countryside and many vibrant towns like O Porriño Redondela. Pontevedra and Padrón. The trail is often shaded, so it is cool and pleasant, even in the middle of the day during the summertime. Galicia is famed for its green, wooded landscape and old walled lanes.

# THE ROUTE

The Camino Portuguese is a popular pilgrimage route to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Starting in Lisbon, the full path splits in Porto into two main options: the Coastal Route and the Traditional Route, or "Camino Central."

Our Traditional Route begins at Tui, Spain, making it a shorter 120 km (75-mile) journey. This well-marked path offers pleasant walking, scenic views, and ample services. Some itineraries add a scenic hike from Portugal into Spain, crossing the International Bridge at Valença to reach Tui, a charming Galician town with medieval architecture and Roman roots.

From Tui, the route follows the River Louro to O Porriño, then ascends to Mos and continues through wooded hills. At Redondela, it converges with the Coastal Route, a clear sign that Santiago is nearing. The path then leads to the coastal town of Arcade, followed by a river walk into Pontevedra, a beautifully preserved city.

Heading through the quiet countryside, reach Caldas de Reis, a peaceful spa town known for its thermal springs. The journey continues through tranquil villages, arriving at Padrón, famous for its legend of the Pedrón stone. The final stage transitions from countryside to the suburbs and streets of Santiago, culminating at the cathedral where you can celebrate the end of your pilgrimage.















# CAMINO PORTUGUESE (COASTAL ROUTE)



The Camino Portuguese Coastal Route is a spectacular path and has long been a favorite for pilgrims with its stunning scenery and vibrant towns.

The route splits in two near the border with Spain where pilgrims can tailor their experience by selecting either the scenic coastal path through Galicia and past Vigo, or they can stay in Portugal on the serene inland route via Tui. This route meanders along a river through verdant landscapes and past historic towns.

Highlights of the route include Porto, the endless beaches of Portugal's northern coast, views of the Cíes Islands, the energy of Vigo, historic Viana de Castelo, Pontevedra and Padrón.

The terrain from Porto is well-suited for walking and generally flat, thereafter Galicia offers tree lined shelter from the sun with generally gentle ascents and descents before reaching Santiago de Compostela.

# 

# THE ROUTE

The Camino Portuguese is a popular pilgrimage route to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Starting in Lisbon, the full path splits in Porto into two main options: the inland Camino Central and the coastal Camino da Costa.

The Coastal Route, which begins in Porto, follows the coastline, passing endless beaches and historic towns. At the border town of Caminha, the route splits again.

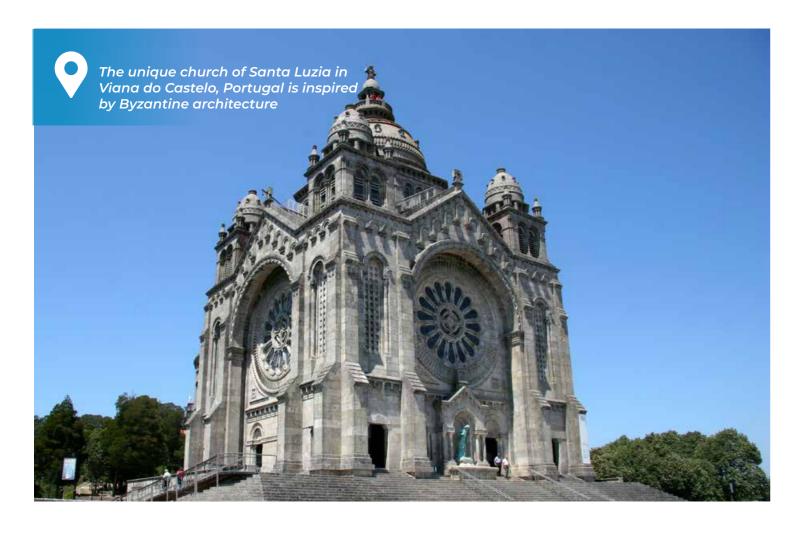
Pilgrims can either take a ferry across the Minho River to enter Spain and continue along the stunning Galician coast, passing through towns like A Guarda and Baiona. This route eventually meets the central path in Redondela.

Alternatively, from Caminha, pilgrims can follow the Minho River inland to join the Camino Central at Tui, continuing on that path for the final leg to Santiago.

All these routes are well-marked, offering pleasant walking with plenty of cafes and scenic views.

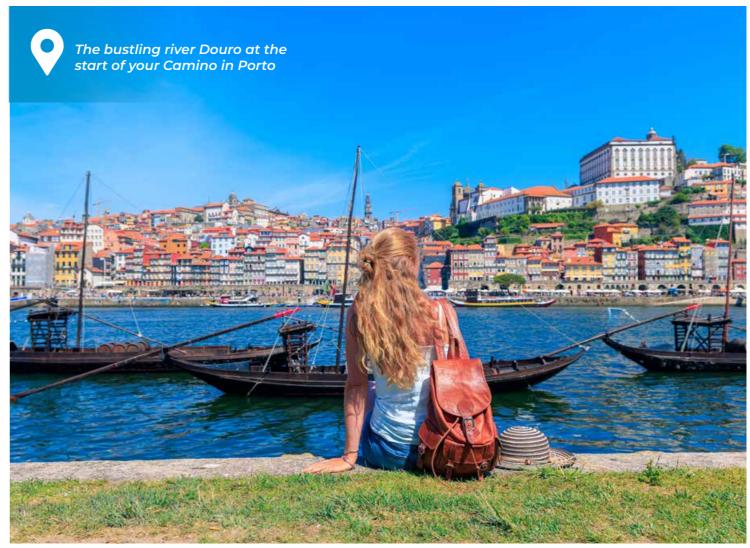
The final stages lead to significant Galician towns like Pontevedra and Padrón before reaching the journey's end at Santiago de Compostela, the spiritual heart of the Camino.













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 village of Camp and crosses the peninsula towards Inch Beach. From there it reaches the village of Annascaul where you can find the South Pole Inn made famous by Antartic explorer Tom Crean.

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





Walk the Kerry Camino pilgrim path in the Kingdom of Kerry, travelling from St John's Church in Tralee to St James' Church in Dingle. Follow in the footsteps of St Brendan The Navigator, whom many believe landed in America before Columbus. 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 and coastline through towns and villages, all while collecting stamps in your Pilgrim Logbook in order to achieve the official Kerry Camino Certificate of Completion.















Choose From 4-5 Day Tours

FROM **€ 519**PER PERSON

**CROSS THE WICKLOW GAP** 

& END AT THE MONASTERY

IN GLENDALOUGH

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 the largest semi-natural woods in County Wicklow.



### 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 offering up an iconic scene. 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.

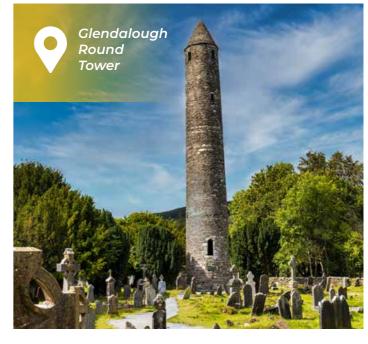
# Avonmore Way (Rathdrum – Laragh)

The Avonmore Way follows a mixture of minor road, forest road and track as it skirts around Trooperstown Hill. The trail then winds its way through the beautifull Clara Vale Nature Reserve, offering 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 views 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.



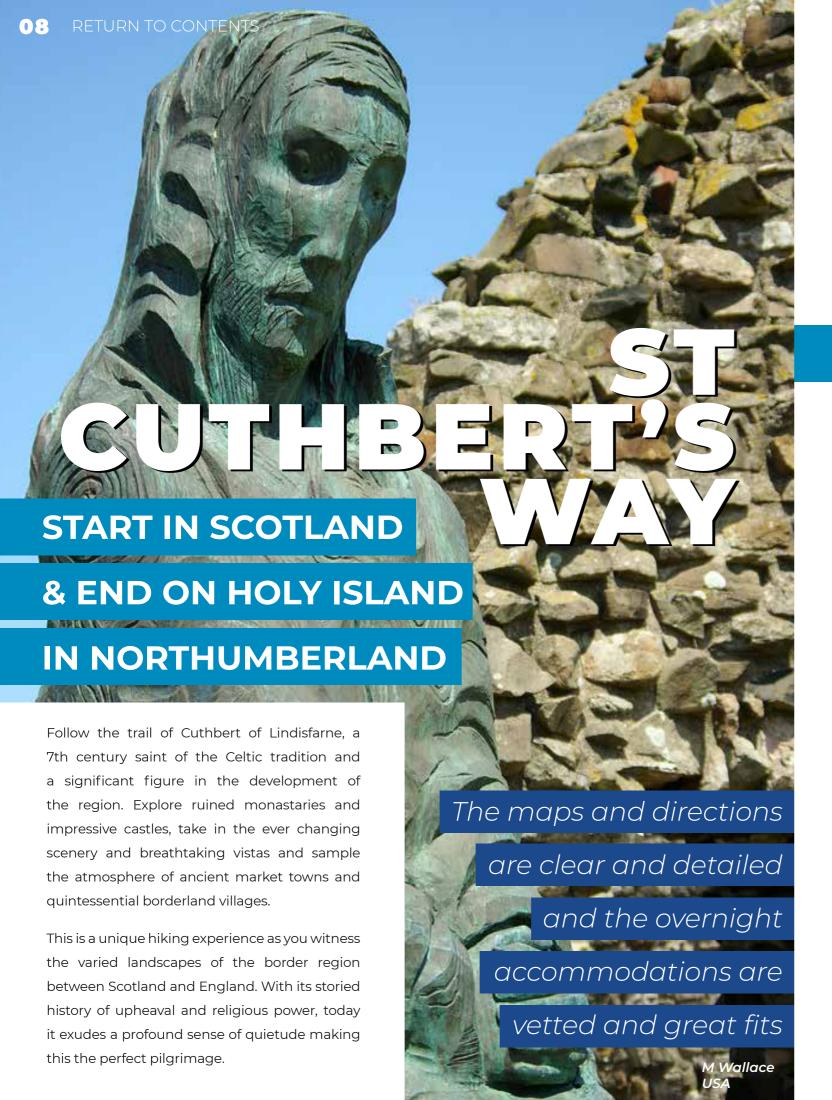














# THE ROUTE

St Cuthbert's Way begins in Melrose where the young novice started his religious life around 640 AD having seen a vision on the night the Irish monk Aidan of Lindisfane died. The trail climbs the Eildon Hills offering stunning views of the Scottish Borders before winding through woodlands and along the River Tweed. You'll see historic landmarks like Melrose Abbey and Dryburgh Abbey at St Boswells.

Following an old Roman road, the route cuts through farmland with wide-open views and passes through woodlands near Harestanes and Monteviot House. After crossing the River Teviot, the trail continues through fields and quiet woodlands leading past Cessford Castle and on to Morebattle. The climb over Wideopen Hill, the trail's highest point, offers beautiful panoramas.

From Kirk Yetholm the walk enters the remote moorlands of the Cheviots, crossing the

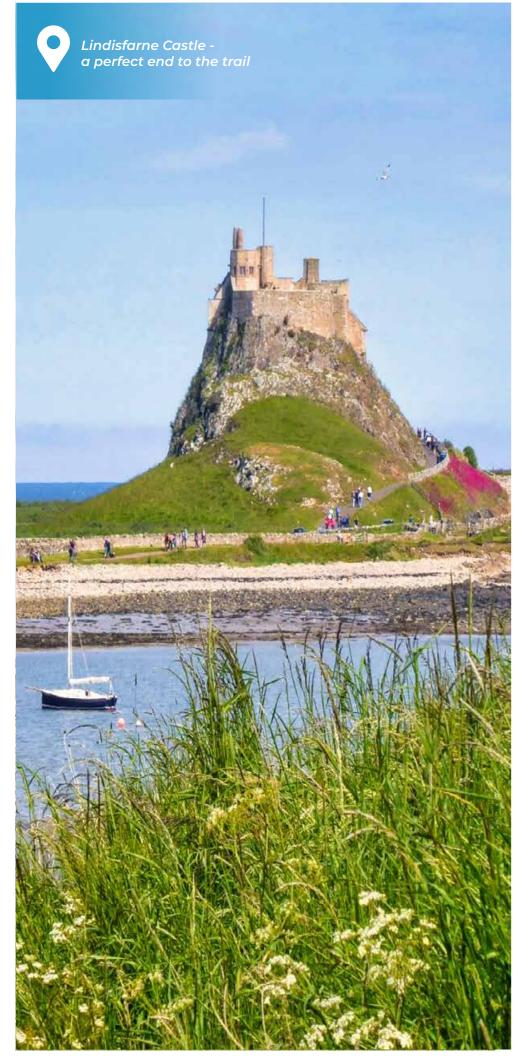
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border into England with expansive views.

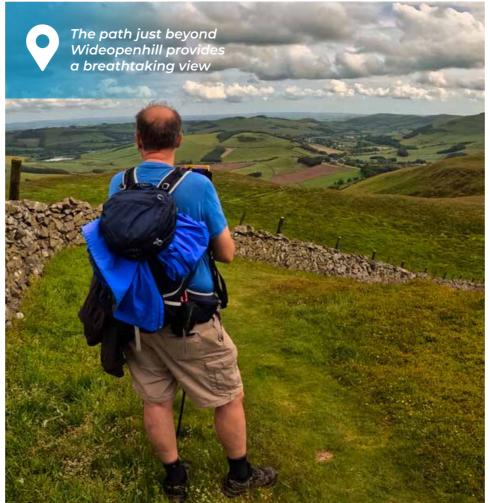
After passing through Wooler, the trail crosses Weetwood Bridge and St Cuthbert's Cave, where monks once sheltered with the saint's relics.

The final day is a highlight with a scenic walk leading to the coast and the tidal causeway to Lindisfarne. You can cross to Holy Island by road or via the Pilgrim's Way across the sands, a walk which echoes thousands of years of pilgrim history. Be sure to explore the island's medieval priory, castle and cafés.

Our St Cuthbert's Way itineraries are truly unique, especially our gentle tours. Contact us to enjoy a one-of-a-kind hiking experience.













PILGRIM PATHS	AVAILABLE GENTLE TOURS (DAYS)
CAMINO FRANCES	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
CAMINO PRIMITIVO	
CAMINO FINISTERRE	
CAMINO PORTUGUESE (TRADITIONAL ROUTE)	7 10 11
CAMINO PORTUGUESE (COASTAL ROUTE)	9 11 12 13 14
KERRY CAMINO	
ST KEVIN'S WAY & GLENDALOUGH	4 5
ST CUTHBERT'S WAY	4 5 6 7 8 9
PILGRIM PATHS	AVAILABLE MODERATE TOURS (DAYS)
CAMINO FRANCES	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
CAMINO PRIMITIVO	7
CAMINO FINISTERRE	7
CAMINO PORTUGUESE (TRADITIONAL ROUTE)	5 8 9
CAMINO PORTUGUESE (COASTAL ROUTE)	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14*
KERRY CAMINO	5
ST KEVIN'S WAY & GLENDALOUGH	
ST CUTHBERT'S WAY	4 5 6 7 8
* 2 OPTIONS AVAILABLE, VIA VIGO	OR VIA TUI.
PILGRIM PATHS	AVAILABLE CHALLENGING TOURS (DAYS)
CAMINO FRANCES	4 5 6 7 8
CAMINO PRIMITIVO	
CAMINO FINISTERRE	
CAMINO PORTUGUESE	
(TRADITIONAL ROUTE) CAMINO PORTUGUESE	
(COASTAL ROUTE)	



**KERRY CAMINO** 

ST CUTHBERT'S WAY

ST KEVIN'S WAY & GLENDALOUGH



# **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. We also supply a smartphone-based GPS App.

# **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.

# HILLWALK TOURS

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**EXPLORE PILGRIM PATHS WITH US**