

Camino del Norte NC1

Bilbao - Santiago

The Classic Northern Spain itinerary, from the Basque Country to Santiago via the coastal route.



by Casas Cantabricas

Summary

Follow close to one of the original pilgrimage routes of St James yet never far from the beautiful coastline of Northern Spain with the backdrop of the Cordillera de Cantabria mountains.

From start to finish you'll find great walking, spectacular scenery, historic towns and monumental cities.

One of the main attractions must be the superb food and wine. From Michelin stars to home cooked local market produce and wines of Rioja, Abariño and Ribera del Duero, to name but a few - there's just so much to discover...



Your Route

Tour Highlights:

- World class wines and gastronomy
- Spain's most beautiful beaches
- Breathtaking mountain scenery
- The 'Way of St James', steeped in history
- Magnificent cities, unspoilt villages
- Ancient architecture - to ultra-modern Guggenheim

Travel tips:

From Stansted:

Easyjet into Bilbao – Ryanair from Santiago

From Heathrow:

BA into Bilbao & Vueling from La Coruña

From Gatwick:

Vueling into Bilbao - Easyjet from Santiago

Ferry to Bilbao or Santander - trip can easily be converted into an out-and-back round tour.

Please consult for other travel options



Itinerary Overview

Stage	Itinerary	Region	Location	Hotel, Room	Travel/drive time
			Arriving Bilbao		
1	Day 1 & 2	Euskadi	Monte Artxanda, Bilbao	HBIL1 City hotel, balcony of Bilbao, Double room (2 sharing)	20mins from airport
2	Day 3 to 5	West Cantabria	Santillana del Mar	HSAN2 Historic town hotel with pool, Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 30mins
3	Day 6 & 7	Picos de Europa	Pesaguero	HPES1 Mountain posada with pool, Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 30mins
4	Day 8 & 9	West Asturias	Puerto de Vega	HPDV1 Coastal hotel in picturesque fishing port, Double room (2 sharing)	3hrs 10mins
5	Day 10 to 12	Costa Lucense	Senra	HSEN1 Country hotel, Costa Lucense, Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 10mins
6	Day 13 & 14	Santiago	Santiago de Compostela	HSAC1 City hotel with garden, Double room (2 sharing)	2hrs 20mins
			Departing Santiago		20mins to Santiago airport

* Double room (2 sharing) can be either double or twin bedded. If you have specific requirements, please let us know.

Your Quotation

What the cost includes:

- Two people in rooms as detailed, bed & breakfast accommodation in each of the hotels
- 4 door economy class car hire for the duration
- Regional roadmap
- Point-to-point directions
- Complementary map and Northern Spain Guidebook
- Our own restaurant guide and Vamoos travel app
- NB Flights not included

If you would like to book this itinerary please call us at your earliest convenience.

If, on the other hand, you require further help or information or wish to investigate alternatives please don't hesitate to contact us.

Stage 1



Region: Bilbao & the Basque Coast

Frank Gehry's Guggenheim museum & nearby Bellas Artes
World famous Basque cuisine - pintxos or something more substantial
Basque coast, lovely beaches, spectacular rock formations
Head for the hills - great walking not far from the city
San Sebastian, Belle Epoque elegance by the sea
Birdwatching & breathtaking scenery; Urdaibai biosphere reserve
Catch the tube to the waves & get surfing!

City hotel, balcony of Bilbao

Set high on Monte Artxanda, the "balcony of Bilbao", this small family-run hotel offers all the tranquility of a rural environment with fantastic views over and easy access to the city of Bilbao (a short drive or bus ride, or a half hour's walk). You can literally stay in the hills and walk to the Guggenheim! The hotel is an authentic Vizcayan "caserio", a large stone built country house, and its sixteen spacious rooms are comfortably furnishe...[Read More](#)



Stage 2



Region: Western Coastal Cantabria

Historic seaside towns of San Vicente de la Barquera, Comillas or Santillana del Mar.
Sweeping sandy beaches and craggy protected coves
Unspoilt Carmona, Cabezon, Barcena Mayor in the beautiful valleys.
Prehistoric cave paintings at Altamira and magnificent formations in El Soplao - the Cathedral of the cave world.
Wonderful walks along the coast or in the rolling hills just inland.

Historic town hotel with pool

Just outside the historic village of Santillana del Mar in a peaceful spot, this handsome building is set in attractive gardens, with a terrace and swimming pool, and views over red roofs and green hills. Decorated and furnished in the traditional period style of the region, and family run, it combines elegant simplicity with rustic charm - and with all modern comforts. There is a lounge and breakfast room/bar (Santillana del Mar, about 5...[Read More](#)



Stage 3



Region: Picos de Europa

Let the cable car at Fuente De whisk you up 1800m into the Picos de Europa
Make a pilgrimage to Santo Toribio, at the heart of the Valle de Liébana
Potes, Cangas de Onís and Ariondas historic yet full of life
Local mountain gastronomy - don't miss the local cider and Orujo.
Get canoeing on the Rio Sella or Deva, a great day out!
Walk the Ruta del Cares - breathtaking mountain scenery for all abilities.
Covadonga, geographical, spiritual and sporting heart of the Picos.

Mountain posada with pool

Up in the mountains of the Picos de Europa, this attractive posada is built in traditional style and materials to combine rural charm with modern comforts. Situated in Barrio La Gloria, Pesaguero, a little village twelve kilometres from Potes, in the beautiful Liébana countryside, with views to the high peaks, it is well located for exploring the Picos Mountains, with walks straight from the door or further afield. The posada is centrally located...[Read More](#)



Stage 4



Region: Western Asturias

Picturesque fishing villages such as Cudillero & Lluarca
Beaches - world class surf at Tapia, breathtaking Silencio or family fun at San Pedro.
National Park of Somiedo - see the wild deer, and bears if you're lucky!
Celtic settlements on the Asturian coast.
Head inland to the genuine cowboy country

Coastal hotel in picturesque fishing port

Former fishermen's cottages where the nets were made and repaired, this gem of a hotel, right on the dramatic coastline of Western Asturias, in the picturesque port of Puerto de Vega, was converted with a loving and artistic eye by its owner, Milagros. With a nautical theme throughout and all its stylish, individually decorated bedrooms with sea views, her magic touch has created a museum piece almost, but with every modern comfort and detail ...[Read More](#)



Stage 5



Region: Costa Lucense, Galicia

Great seafood - famed throughout Spain

Playa de los Catedrales - just one of many fantastic beaches

Viveiro, lively seaside city with an atmospheric old town and lovely beaches.

Sargadelos pottery, hand made and traditional but with a modern look.

Fiesta! Some of Spain's most traditional, like Rapa das Bestas or Ortiguera Folk, well established the world music circuit.

Country hotel, Costa Lucense

In the same family for generations, this delightful house, standing in very well kept grounds, has been beautifully restored and furnished to make a very comfortable country hotel whilst maintaining many original features and artefacts. You will find total peace and quiet here, the hotel being set in deep countryside, yet you're only a short drive away from beautiful beaches, including the famous Playa de las Catedrales. The interesting fis...[Read More](#)



Stage 6



Region: Santiago & the interior

Santiago, journey's end, for centuries Europe's Nº 1 pilgrim destination.

Take a Catamaran trip down the magnificent Rio Sil

Ribeiro wines from vineyards on the steep river valleys of the Miño and Sil

Ourense, full of surprises, and Monforte de Lemos, both steeped in history

Take a trip around the monasteries of the Ribera Sacra Lugo, a thriving city with Roman walls

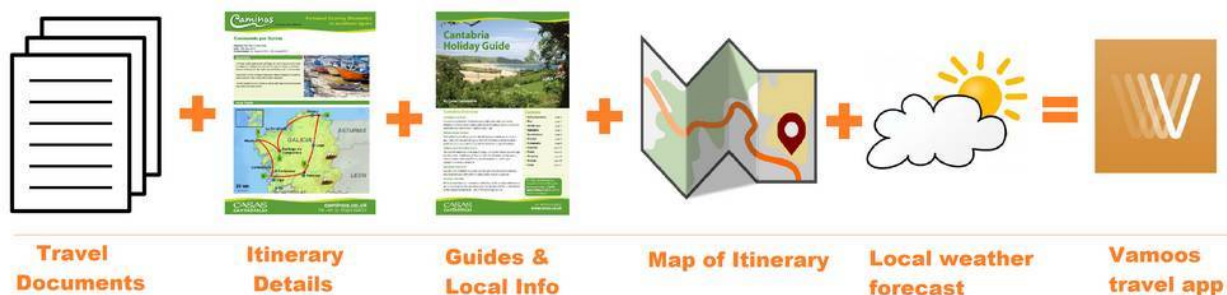
Los Ancares nature park, little discovered acres of native woodlands

City hotel with garden

In the heart of the medieval city of Santiago de Compostela, this charming and popular hotel combines traditional architectural features with modern comforts and has the added blessing of a lovely garden, where you can eat breakfast or enjoy an aperitif among the apple and lemon trees. There is also a "cristalera" - a glassed-in verandah - for breakfast and for sitting in, a coffee-shop/bar with old stone fireplace and a small library with an e...[Read More](#)



Vamoos - your personal travel App and e-Document manager



Travel paper-free with Vamoos

As a Caminos client you will receive your own personal Vamoos travel app and e-document manager for mobile devices.

This is a paperless system which allows you to keep all of your important travel documentation and key information in one place and carry it with you wherever you go.

Configured for iPhone and Android, for use on both tablets and mobile phones.

In the app you will find:

- your itinerary
- your letters and receipts
- your car-hire voucher
- point to point directions
- regional guides to the areas you will be visiting
- a general food and vocab guide
- a map with each hotel geo located
- directions to find each hotel (embedded within the map)
- local weather forecast

Also, if you have any other travel documents that you'd like to load to the application you can send them to us and we'll load them on there for you.

What our clients say...

"We loved your Vamoos app - it really enhanced our pre-holiday planning and meant we had everything at our fingertips without having to have WiFi during the trip. The detail provided was exceptional. Everyone should use it!" Client 2018

"I particularly liked the use of Vamoos app to provide all the holiday information including off-line maps & travelling directions so we always had this to hand." Client 2018

"We particularly liked the Vamoos app which placed all our holiday information - and more at our fingertips" Client 2018