

## Premier Tour of Northern Spain

*Epecially suitable for groups*

### North coast, Picos de Europa & the interior

A premier tour full of contrasts; monumental cities, the coast, mountains and high plains, wonderful wine and food.



#### Summary

A premier circular route following the northern Spain's historic pilgrim paths around the Picos de Europa National Park.

You'll find surf washed beaches and high arid plains, Cathedral cities and tiny villages lost in time, lofty mountains and soft rolling hills - the stark contrasts which make northern Spain so exciting!

Constant throughout are a sense of tradition, superb food & wine and a friendly welcome wherever you go.

Bring your own vintage, collector's or classic car and cruise down to Spain in style for a superb driving holiday!



#### Your Route

#### Tour Highlights:

- The ways of St James, steeped in history
- Rolls Royce Museum at Torre Loizaga
- Monumental Leon; Cathedral & San Marcos
- Burgos with its awesome Cathedral, Atapuerca & the Museum of Human Evolution
- Spain's best surf-washed beaches
- Lofty peaks, high plains, verdant hills
- World class food & great wines, a tapestry of regional tastes

#### Travel Tips:

- Ferries from Portsmouth or Plymouth to Northern Spain: Santander or Bilbao - seven crossings a week
- Ferries from Cork in Ireland to Santander - two crossings a week
- For those who prefer to drive some more and spend less time on the boat Brittany Ferries' routes to France can be a good compromise.
- We can include the ferry crossings as part of the package.



### Itinerary Overview

| Stage | Itinerary  | Region            | Location                                 | Hotel, Room *   | Travel/drive time   |
|-------|------------|-------------------|--|---|---|
|       |            |                   | Arriving Santander or Bilbao (or other)  |   |   |
| 1     | Day 1 & 2  | Western Cantabria | Santillana del Mar                       | HPAR6 Parador de Santillana del Mar 3*, 1 x double room (2 sharing)<br>+ Evening meal for two, 1st night                  | 30mins from Santander ferry port<br>1hr 30mins from Bilbao ferry port |
| 2     | Day 3 & 4  | Central Asturias  | Cangas de Onis                           | HPAR1 Parador de Cangas de Onis, 1 x double room (2 sharing)<br>+ Evening meal for two, 1st night                         | 1hr 20mins  |
| 3     | Day 5 & 6  | León              | León                                     | HLEO1 Historic hotel in the heart of Leon, 1 x double room (2 sharing)<br>+ Evening meal for two, 1st night               | 2hrs 20mins   |
| 4     | Day 7 & 8  | Burgos            | Burgos                                   | HBUR3 Palace hotel in central Burgos, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)<br>+ Evening meal for two, 1st night                    | 1hr 50mins  |
| 5     | Day 9 & 10 | La Rioja          | Haro                                     | HCUX7 Historical convent hotel at the heart of La Rioja, 1 x double room (2 sharing)<br>+ Evening meal for two, 1st night | 1hr 20mins  |
|       |            |                   | Departing Santander or Bilbao (or other) |   | 2hrs to Santander ferry port<br>1hr 20mins to Bilbao ferry port       |

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

### Your Itinerary

#### What the cost includes:

- Two people in rooms as detailed, bed & breakfast accommodation in each of the hotels
- Ferry travel as detailed in accompanying email
- Point-to-point directions
- Complementary map and guidebook
- Our own restaurant guide and Vamoos travel app
- NB Flights not included
- + Holiday Extras as detailed above

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: 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

#### Parador de Santillana del Mar 3\*

Though relatively new the purpose-built mansion house which houses the Parador de Santillana integrates perfectly with its surroundings right in the centre of the medieval town of Santillana del Mar - itself a National Monument. Just off the main square the Parador is the perfect base to wander the cobbled, pedestrianised streets of this perfectly preserved medieval town and from which to discover the delights of coastal Cantabria. The beach i...[Read More](#)



### Stage 2



#### 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 Arriondas 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

#### Parador de Cangas de Onís

At the gateway to the Asturian Picos de Europa mountains on the banks of the Rio Sella, this historic Parador, housed in an monastery dating back to the 8th century, is the perfect base from which to discover the National Park – by foot straight from the hotel should the mood take you. Rooms are quite simple in keeping with the monastic heritage of the buildings but with no compromise in terms of comfort and facilities and the hotel restaura...[Read More](#)



### Stage 3



#### Region: Leon

Crossing point of the Camino de Santiago and Via de Plata.  
Cathedral of Santa Maria - beautiful stained glass Rose Window  
Tapas in la Zona Humeda, 'the wet zone', in the old-town  
See the true Holy Grail housed in the beautiful Colegiata de San Isidoro  
Take a trip to ovely Astorga with its Gaudi palace  
Visit Las Médulas & Ponferrada

#### Historic hotel in the heart of Leon

This very special hotel in a square in the Romantic Quarter in the heart of Leon, just a short walk to the magnificent Cathedral, is full of history and art. Forming part of the outstanding 11th century complex of the Real Colegiata de San Isidoro de Leon and the Panteon de Los Reyes with its amazingly vivid Romanesque frescos, amongst the best preserved anywhere, the hotel was at one time a monastery. The monastery houses the Caliz de Doña ...[Read More](#)



### Stage 4



#### Region: Burgos Province

Major staging point on the Camino de Santiago  
Burgos cathedral, a World Heritage Site, recently restored in all its glory  
The city of El Cid, also known as El Campeador  
Busy old town; lively squares lines with bars & restaurants  
Spain's best lamb & delicious black pudding – Ribera del Duero wines  
The excellent Museum of Human Evolution and nearby Atapuerca  
Medieval villages of Burgos Province - Frias, Oña, Medina de Pomar, Santo Domingo de Silos, Coverrubias....

#### Palace hotel in central Burgos

Set in an elegant 16th century palace on the southern bank of the Arlanzón river this delightful hotel is the perfect base to discover the charms of Burgos and the treasures of the province beyond. Cross the bridge and within a short walk you can visit the monumental Cathedral and Plaza Mayor, or go along the river to the Monastery of Las Huelgas and the Museum of Human Evolution, or take a stroll and enjoy lovely the parklands alongside the ...[Read More](#)



### Stage 5



#### Region: La Rioja wine region

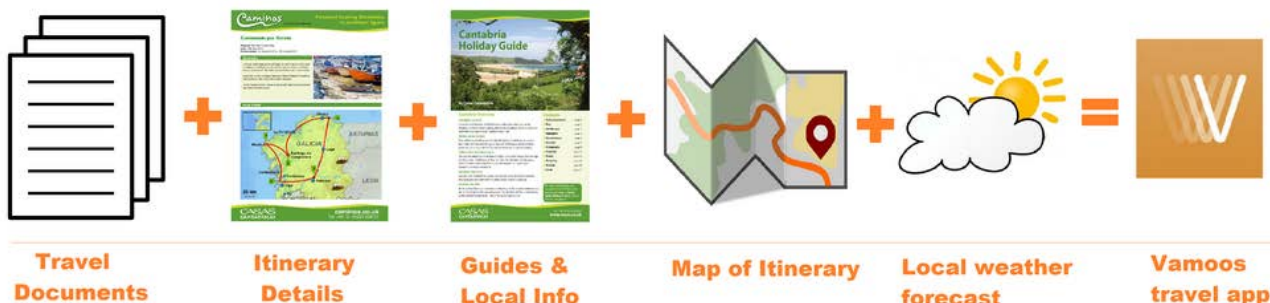
La Rioja Alavesa, where the mountains give shelter to the best wineries  
Riojan cuisine- excellent local ingredients with a touch of Basque flair  
A history of architecture from cave-dweller to Gehry  
Medieval towns such as Laguardia, thriving centers of the wine trade  
Dinastia Vivanco Museum of Wine Culture, one of the finest private collections in the world.  
Izki Golf, two courses in the midst of the beautiful Nature Park of Izki

#### Historical convent hotel at the heart of La Rioja

Set in a 14th-century convent, this historic four-star hotel, which has previously functioned as a military garrison, a jail and a hospital, offers a great base in Haro, at the heart of La Rioja. The star of the show is the magnificent cloister, a cool and shady haven of peace around which rooms are set and where guests can enjoy drinks and snacks. The hotel's position, a short walk from the town centre yet in a relatively quiet spot, m...[Read More](#)



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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 ferry voucher / car-hire voucher as applicable
- 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