

## Castilla y León - Grand Tour IC2

### Spain's historic interior

World-class heritage from Romas, Moors & Catholic Kings. Wonderful wines, majestic landscapes & rugged high moutin terrains. Discover the secrets of Spain's interior.



### Summary

Discover Castilla y León, Spain's largest community, the size of Scotland and Wales together spread out on the high plains of the Spanish Meseta and the rugged Sierras that encircle it.

You'll find magnificent cathedral cities & ancient universities, immense mountain wildernesses and rolling vineyards fed by the Rio Dueroas it cuts the region in two on its way to Portugal and the Atlantic.

Wherever you go you'll find local cultures and gastronomic traditions unaffected by tourism, and a hearty warm welcome.



### Your Route

#### Tour highlights

- 8 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Segovia, Ávila, Salamanca, Burgos & León
- 13 wine denominations including Ribera de Duero, Toro, Rueda...
- The "Way of St James" & Via de Plata
- Prehistoric Atapuerca & Siega Verde
- Las Medulas, Sierra de Gredos
- Sierra de Francia & Guadarrama

#### Travel Tips:

- From Gatwick to Oviedo or Bilbao with Vueling
  - From Stansted to Santander with Ryanair or Bilbao with Easyjet
  - From Manchester to Bilbao with Easyjet
  - From Bristol to Bilbao with Easyjet
  - From Edinburgh to Santander with Ryanair or Bilbao with Easyjet
  - From Dublin to Santander with Ryanair or Bilbao with Aer Lingus
- Please consult for other travel options*



### Itinerary Overview

Stage	Itinerary	Region	Location	Hotel, Room*	Travel/drive time
			Arriving Madrid / Santander / Bilbao		
1	Day 1 & 2	Burgos	Burgos	HBUR2 Palace at the heart of Burgos, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 50mins
2	Day 3 & 4	León	León	HLEO1 Historic hotel in the heart of Leon, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 50mins
3	Day 5 & 6	El Bierzo	San Esteban de Valdueza	HLEO4 Country hotel among the mountains , 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 30mins
4	Day 7 & 8	Salamanca	Salamanca	HSAL5 Historic convent hotel with views to Salamanca Cathedral, 1 x Double room (two sharing)	2hrs 50mins
5	Day 9 & 10	Sierra de Gredos	Hoyos del Espino	HHDE1 Astronomy & Gastronomy in the Sierra de Gredos, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 50mins
6	Day 11 & 12	Segovia	Segovia	HSEG4 Charming 5-star hotel in Segovia, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 50mins
7	Day 13 & 14	Ribera del Duero	Peñafiel	HPEN1 Hotel Spa Convento Las Claras, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 10mins
			Departing Madrid / Santander / Bilbao		3hrs to Santander/Bilbao 2hrs to Madrid

\* 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 or 4dr economy class hire car
- Point-to-point directions
- Complementary touring map and regional guidebook
- Our own travel application & document manager
- 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: 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 lined 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 at the heart of Burgos

A genuine medieval palace right in the centre of historic Burgos, just a short walk to the magnificent cathedral and the myriad tapas bars, restaurants and asadores for which the city is also famous. Built by the Counts of Berberana in the 16th Century, a golden age in Burgos which grew wealthy from the rich wool trade with England and the Low Countries, the Palace has recently been restored to a very high standard. All rooms are exceptional...[Read More](#)



### Stage 2



#### 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 3



#### Region: El Bierzo y Las Médulas

Las Médulas - extraordinary red-rock landscape formed by Roman mining  
Historic El Bierzo, a land seemingly lost in time.  
Full bodied local wines, delicious peppers, botila, cecina....  
Visit the Knights Templar castle at Ponferrada – straight from a fairytale  
Historic Villafranca del Bierzo, right on the Camino

A typical 'Bierzano' stone building recently converted into a comfortable, charming small hotel by the owners who also run the village's popular 'Mesón' restaurant. In an idyllic situation at the entrance to the Valle del Silencio the hotel is the perfect base to discover the main highlights of El Bierzo; Las Medulas, Villafranca, Ponferrada with its Knights Templar castle, Peñalba de Santiago and the Camino de Santiago - but you might just ...[Read More](#)



### Stage 4



#### Region: Salamanca

Magnificent Salamanca Spain's foremost university town  
Walking in the Sierra de Francia  
Gijuelo ham, one of the best in Spain  
Site of Wellington's famous victory at the Battle of Salamanca and nearby Ciudad Rodrigo  
Via de la Plata - ancient Roman route linking Sevilla with Gijón on the north coast  
Arribes del Duero Nature Park - breathtaking catamaran journey on Duero river  
Wines of Sierra de Salamanca and nearby Toro and Rueda

#### Historic convent hotel with views to Salamanca Cathedral

Housed in a Dominican convent dating back to the 16th-century this magnificent, 5-star hotel is right in the centre of Salamanca. The Plaza Mayor, Cathedrals, Old & New and all the other main sights are a short walk from the door. The lobby, the library, the bar and some of the more select rooms are located in the original 16th century building, with thick walls, stone arches and a distinctive, Plateresque-style, golden sandstone façade typic...[Read More](#)





### Stage 5



#### Region: Ávila & the Sierra de Gredos

Walking and climbing in the Gredos range  
 Birdwatching - many rare species  
 Astronomy & stargazing - the village is a Dark-Sky location  
 Spa treatments with pure mountain water in the Aguas de Gredos balneario  
 Visit Ávila with its magnificent walls or Barco de Avila  
 Walk the Puerto del Pico Roman way at one time linking Ávila and Mérida.

#### Astronomy & Gastronomy in the Sierra de Gredos

At the entrance to the Sierra de Gredos Natural park with stunning views to the rugged granite peaks including Pico Almanzor at 2600m right from the breakfast table, this hotel is the perfect base for those wanting to combine some serious mountain scenery with equally serious pampering! The owners, American and Spanish, are true enthusiasts with a passion for the area, its flora and fauna and its rich gastronomy. Testimony to this is the exten...[Read More](#)



### Stage 6



#### Region: Segovia

Segovia - Roman Aquaduct, Moorish Alcazar, Cathedral and large Jewish Quarter. Beautiful landscapes  
 Local lamb and suckling pig  
 Medieval Pedraza - castle owned by Basque artist Zuloaga  
 Sepulveda, entrance to Hoces de Duraton, fine Romanesque churches  
 Sierra de Guadarrama National Park  
 Hoces del Duratón nature Park - canoe or hike through this breathtaking landscape of steep gorges carved out by the Duraton river  
 Hermitage of San Frutos - patron of Segovia  
 La Granja de San Ildelfonso - the Spanish Versailles

#### Charming 5-star hotel in Segovia

In a truly privileged position high up in Segovia's monumental Old-town, with beautiful panoramic views over the Eresma Valley, the Oblatas Convent, originally occupied by Capuccino monks, has been recently converted into a luxurious five star hotel. The imposing building, which occupies the largest plot in the historic quarter, is just a short walk from the Plaza Mayor, the Cathedral, the Church of San Esteban, and the Antonio Machado H...[Read More](#)



### Stage 7



#### Region: Ribera del Duero

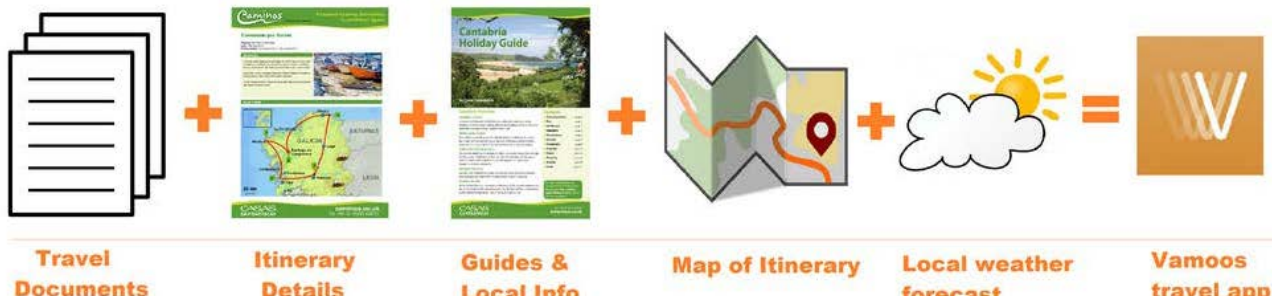
The 'Golden Mile' - legendary wine trail with Vega Sicilia and many more.  
Peñafiel's magnificent castle cum wine museum and unique square 'el Viejo Coso'.  
Richard Rogers' modernista bodega at Protos  
Valladolid at the hub of five wine regions. Lovely Old-town with great tapas!  
Fine Roman remains at Clunia, vestiges of Moorish struggles in Peñafiel  
Cycle or stroll along the banks of the Duero river

#### Hotel Spa Convento Las Claras

A former convent located next to the river in the lovely village of Peñafiel, this spa hotel offers splendid views of the imposing castle, just 15mins walk. With a seasonal outdoor pool, spa, ample gardens and covered cloister, it is the perfect base to relax and discover the Ribera de Duero wine region. The hotel organises trips to wineries and vineyards. The Convento Las Claras spa features a sauna, Turkish bath and an indoor pool with...[Read More](#)



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- 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...

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"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