

Walking the Camino



A Pilgrimage out of the Machine

**with Peco and Ruth Gaskovski,
and Seth Haines**

11 Days – June 14-24, 2025



For More Information Contact:

Select International Tours

800-842-4842 rebecca@select-intl.com

selectinternationaltours.com



WHAT'S THE COST?

Land Only

\$3945.00

Solo Traveler

(Additional Cost)

\$895.00

Prices are per person

Group air pricing will be available in July, 2024

Group Air Price based on a minimum of 10 passengers

Prices are valid only if the deposit is received no later than March 2, 2025

Final payment due April 15, 2025

Trip Code: 25RS06SPRG



Cathedral of St. James



Cape Finisterre

Activity Level: This is an Active Pilgrimage. Travelers should be fit, in good overall health, and capable of walking or hiking for several hours on uneven, unpaved roads and elevated trails. Travelers can expect 5-15 miles of hiking or walking on most days.



For more than a thousand years, pilgrims have walked across northern Spain on what is known as the "French Camino", a World Heritage Site, to pray at the tomb of St. James the Apostle in Santiago de Compostela. Over the centuries, villages and churches have been built to support the pilgrims, creating a unique culture with enduring traditions like no other experience. You will be led by an experienced guide and accompanied by a private vehicle which will transport your luggage to the next destination.

Daily Itinerary

Saturday, June 14, Day 1: DEPART USA

This evening, we depart on an overnight flight to Madrid. Dinner and breakfast are served on the plane. Quotes for add-on flights from most major airports, as well as for optional Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are available upon request.

Sunday, June 15, Day 2: ARRIVE IN MADRID

Upon arrival in Madrid, we are greeted by our English-speaking guides, who will assist us with boarding our motorcoach and transferring to the hotel. En route, we enjoy a panoramic city tour. The rest of the day is at leisure to relax and stretch our legs after the flight while exploring the city. Tonight we gather for a welcome dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Madrid. (D)

Monday, June 16, Day 3: WELCOME TO LEÓN!

This morning we depart early by coach or train to Leon. Upon arrival, our guides accompany us to Leon's old quarter to help us decide where we might want to enjoy lunch at leisure. Following lunch, we have a guided city tour, including the spectacular Cathedral. Today is an easy day as we prepare for our walking journey. The evening and dinner are at leisure to discover more of Leon. (B)

Tuesday, June 17, Day 4: LEON TO IRON CROSS TO SARRIA (5 Miles)

Today we begin walking the Camino. First we drive through the countryside to the Palacio de Canedo, a rustic 18th-century palace with a winery, where wines have been produced since 1730. After lunch with local wine pairings, travel to Villafranca del Bierzo. Here, we stop at the 12th-century Romanesque Iglesia de Santiago, the only church on the route where pilgrims who are not physically able to continue to Santiago de Compostela can receive their blessing. Next drive into the mountains of Galicia, ascending to the ancient mountaintop village of O Cebreiro. Inside Santa María la Real, a 9th-century church considered the oldest on the Camino Francés, see the famous Galician Holy Grail and the Eucharistic Miracle. Continue to the charming town of Sarria for an orientation walk and an evening at leisure. (B.L)

Wednesday, June 18, Day 5: SESMONDE – PORTOMARIN – SARRIA (5 Miles)

As we journey through this stage of the Camino, we come across many little villages and towns. This morning we transfer to Sesmonde, hiking along forest trails and country roads, finally crossing the River Miño into Portomarín. Enjoy time to explore and have lunch. Historical monuments such as the Romanesque Church of San Pedro and the fortress Church of San Nicolás were rescued and rebuilt stone by stone after a historic flood. When the water levels are low, the arches of a 2nd-century Roman bridge appear, rising out of the river. Drive back to Sarria and enjoy free time to discover more of the town before meeting the group for dinner. (B.D)

Thursday, June 19, Day 6: PORTOMARÍN – PALAS DE REI (15.4 Miles)

Today's journey takes us through beautiful oak and eucalyptus forests, passing the villages of Gonzar, Ventas de Narón, Ligonde, and Airexe on our way to Palas de Rei. At the end of this stage, we admire the Romanesque portico of San Tirso's Church. Tonight the group will be staying in two different accommodations, as there is not one large enough in the area to accommodate the entire group. (B.D)

Friday, June 20, Day 7: PALAS DE REI – RIBADISO (16 Miles)

In today's stage, we cross the border of the provinces of Lugo and A Coruña via an ancient



Peco and Ruth Gaskovski write together on the popular newsletters *School of the Unconformed* and *Pilgrims in the Machine*, where they share practical inspiration for staying human in the digital age. Peco is the author of the science fiction novel *Exogenesis* (Ignatius Press), and Ruth is a multi-lingual home educator with a passion for bringing people together. Peco and Ruth make their home in Canada with their three children on the borders of Mennonite country. They would love you to join them on the ancient Camino pilgrimage!



Seth Haines is a writer, photographer, and attorney living in the heart of the Ozark Mountains. He has written three books—*Coming Clean*, *The Book of Waking Up*, and *The Deep Down Things* (co-written with Amber Haines). Seth combines words and images to share stories about God's sacramental nature in the world around us. For years, Seth has dreamed of walking the Camino with a group of like-minded pilgrims. He's looking forward to sharing the experience with you.

Roman road. Once in A Coruña, marvel at the true jewels of the Camino, such as the Church of La Virgen de Las Nieves. We see the ancient Roman bridge in the town of Furelos. Melide is a town famous for its octopus, typically served on wooden plates, which you can sample in one of its many “Pulperías” during lunch on your own. Stroll through the historic quarter to visit the lovely Romanesque Iglesia de Santa María de Melide. We walk by several rivers before arriving in Ribadiso. (B.D)

Saturday, June 21, Day 8: RIBADISO – O PEDROUZO (15 Miles)

Today's walk will be mainly on natural pathways with good shade, thanks to the eucalyptus trees everywhere. We have a slight uphill walk to Arzúa, passing by charming, remote small towns until we arrive at O Pedrouzo. At the end of this stage, we transfer back to Pazo Sedor and Pazo Santa Maria. Dinner will be in Pazo Sedor. Overnight in Arzúa. (B.D)

Sunday, June 22, Day 9: O PEDROUZO – LAVACOLLA – SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (12.4 Miles)

Today is our journey's most exciting day as we arrive at our final destination - Santiago's Cathedral of St. James! This last stage will take us through wooded areas and forests until we reach Lavacolla, where the purification ritual needed to arrive in Santiago was performed in ancient times. The road winds up to Monte do Gozo (Mount of Joy), from where we enjoy a marvelous panoramic view of Santiago. This afternoon we arrive at the end of our walk on the Camino to the Cathedral of St. James! Dinner is at leisure. Overnight in Santiago. (B.L)

Monday, June 23, Day 10: SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA – CAPE FINISTERRE

Today we explore the holy city of Santiago de Compostela, an essential part of the pilgrim experience. First, we visit Santiago Cathedral to complete the traditional pilgrim rituals of hugging the statue of St. James and praying at the crypt in front of the saint's remains. Next, we travel to Cape Finisterre, where we hike on the rugged Atlantic coast, finishing at the Cape's historic lighthouse and the final point of our pilgrimage, also known as the end of the world. We visit the fishing village of Fisterra for a seafood and wine lunch before returning to Santiago. In the evening, we enjoy a wonderful farewell dinner where we receive our well-deserved Compostela Pilgrim certificates. (B.L. Special Dinner)

Tuesday, June 24, Day 11: DEPART FOR THE USA

This morning following breakfast, we transfer to the airport for our flights home. (B)

Now our Camino through life begins!

Enroll online to guarantee your spot immediately. You can manage your trip, see your documents and itinerary, and view or pay your invoice, from any computer or mobile device.

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE TOUR INCLUDES

- For pilgrims interested in purchasing group air (not included in this pricing), we are happy to quote prices after August 1
- 1 night in a four-star hotel in Madrid with airport transfers & panoramic city tour
- Accommodations in hotels with a private bath
- Welcome dinner with wine in Madrid
- Transfer from Madrid to Leon
- Guided city tour in Leon
- Private bus for transportation plus private van support
- All breakfasts, water and snacks for the Camino walk
- Three lunches
- Four hotel dinners (beverages may be purchased at an additional cost)
- Farewell dinner with wine in a restaurant in Santiago
- Mobile phones with a Spanish line
- Pilgrims' Kit and walking sticks
- English-speaking guide per 20-25 pax
- Informational program and route map
- Local Taxes

TIPPING

- **For the convenience of the pilgrims \$190.00 tip fund will be invoiced and collected in advance. Tip fund covers gratuities for the guide, driver, baggage handling, and restaurants for included meals**

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

- Any items not explicitly mentioned in the listed inclusions
- Beverages at meals unless otherwise noted
- Meals not specifically listed at the end of each day (B. L. D.)
- Church donations (budget \$2.00 - \$5.00 per Mass)
- Airport transfers for land-only passengers unless at the airport at the same time as the group
- Airline baggage charges
- Baggage handling at the airports trains citations or more than one suitcase per person
- Excess luggage charges
- Personal expenses
- ETIAS European Travel Authorization

BAGGAGE CHARGES NOT INCLUDED

IN TRIP COST:

- Any airline baggage charges
- Baggage handling at train stations, airports, and hotels in excess of one suitcase per person
- Any charges incurred due to excessive luggage including the cost of an additional baggage vehicle or portage charges

DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT: A deposit of \$500.00 per person by check should accompany the enrollment form and a copy of your passport picture page by **March 2, 2025. Final payment is due by April 15, 2025. A late payment fee of \$100 will be charged per person for all payments received after the final payment date.** Please mail your payment to: **Select International Tours, 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 Attn: Rebecca Stoker, 800-842-4842, rebecca@select-intl.com.**

Your passport must be valid through December 24, 2025. Reservations will not be processed until we have passport copies. Prices quoted are based on payments by check. Prices: **\$3,945.00** for land only (air not included); group air will be available in July, 2024; **\$895.00** for solo traveler, additional cost, (in room by yourself); For credit card prices add 4%

PILGRIMAGE PRICES: Prices are based on minimum 20 passengers. Prices may be adjusted in the event of fewer than 20 passengers, changes in currency conversion rates, or amendments in local government taxes and/or fuel surcharges. Prices are in US dollars. For European travel an exchange rate of US \$1.16 per Euro is assumed.

SOLO TRAVEL: A limited number of single rooms are available. Prices are based on two people per room. We do not guarantee roommates but will do our best to connect you with a someone willing to share.

LAND ONLY OPTION: Land only services start and end at the hotels and do not include any airfare. You are welcome to transfer from the airport with the group if you arrive at the same time, otherwise, transfers are not included.

TOUR CANCELLATION POLICY: Individual deposits are refundable except for a **\$350.00 per person handling fee for cancellations made 91 days or more before departure. A \$500.00 non-refundable fee will be assessed if the reservation is canceled between 90 and 60 days prior to departure. Within 60 days of departure all payments are non-refundable regardless of reason for cancellations. All airline tickets are non-refundable once issued. All cancellations must be in writing. Unused portions of the trip are not refundable. If a roommate cancels, the cost of a solo supplement will be added to your invoice. You may be eligible for a refund through your travel protection. Refer to the U.S. Policy by State on our website.**

TRIP CANCELLATION PROTECTION: We strongly encourage you to purchase a **Travel Protection Plan**, for the protection of your travel investment. Please consider purchasing this plan at the time of initial deposit in order to be covered for pre-existing conditions.

Visit portal.trawickinternational.com/affiliate/home/18184 or call **888-681-6272** for details and costs for the Select International Travel Protection Plan with optional Cancel for any reason (CFAR). Please note that CFAR is not available in NY and WA State. The plans contain insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. The plans also contain non-insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization.

AIRLINE, SEATING AND SPECIAL REQUESTS: To best accommodate our pilgrims, we often utilize Group Air Reservations. These allow more predictable transfer and tour schedules. However, when booking Group Air, the airline (not

Select International Tours) controls seating assignments. If you require very specific seats, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options. You may communicate directly with the airline to request seating changes, provide mileage program information, or change passenger contact information once you receive ticket numbers—approximately three (3) weeks prior to departure. We work with instant purchase airline tickets and or group rates. If you switch from air and land to land only within 90 days from departure you will be charged a \$150 service fee in addition to any airline charges. All special needs and requests due to medical or dietary restrictions must be requested in writing at least 60 days prior to departure. Quotes for Business class and Premium Coach seats are available upon written request; as are add-ons from your hometown airport. If you require very specific airlines or schedules, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options.

WALKING: Our trips require daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, steps, and uneven terrain. We recommend preparing oneself, by walking before the trip. Anyone needing assistance is required to be accompanied by a qualified and physically-able travel companion. We are not responsible for any medical condition that occurs prior, during or after the trip.

SAFETY PROCEDURES: Select International Tours has undertaken a reasonable inquiry, with all the suppliers (including airlines, hotels, bus companies and other service providers) used on our trips to ensure they have instigated the best available procedures regarding the pandemic- protective policies advised by local government and health authorities. The client understands and agrees that the supplier(s) may not apply those policies as diligently as the policies suggest. In addition even if the supplier makes a good faith effort to enforce its good practices, some travelers may simply refuse to cooperate. Therefore the client agrees not to hold Select International Tours or group leaders responsible should they or anyone on the trip contract COVID-19 or any other illness during or after the trip

RESPONSIBILITY: By accepting this confirmation, you agree that the Group Leaders and Select International Tours, Inc. have no responsibility for any acts or omission of the travel suppliers in your itinerary and during your trip. We have no special knowledge regarding the financial conditions of the suppliers, unsafe travel conditions, health hazards, or weather hazards at locations traveled. We are not responsible for flight delays or cancellations or any charges incurred due to unforeseen circumstances. Unused portions of the trip are non-refundable. For information about destination climate, risks, and safety please consult the appropriate on-line resources. For health information consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. You are responsible for checking passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destinations. Itineraries are subject to change. We are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen articles. We are not responsible for any sickness, injury, or death during or after the trip. Travel documents will be mailed out approximately three (3) weeks before departure. Please review them carefully for any errors.

SHIPPING & HANDLING: \$15.00 per person—not included in package price—will be added to each invoice. Your invoice will confirm the trip registration.

Walking the Camino with Peco and Ruth Gaskovski and Seth Haines

Trip Code: 25RS06SPRG

June 14-24, 2025

THE BENEFITS OF REGISTERING ONLINE FOR YOUR PILGRIMAGE:

Over the last several years, our clients have requested more control over the trip booking process, payments, and, most importantly, communication about the trips. Our response to these comments and requests had taken two years to implement, but we are happy with the results. Select has committed to a major financial and time investment in building an online reservation system that is easy to navigate using your home computer, tablet, or smartphone. We have addressed most of the requests and suggestions provided by clients. The benefits of the new system to you are a simplified registration process, the ability to access your information at your convenience, review your payment history and get trip information while easily communicating with your Account Manager and group leader.

When you register online, you will receive regular email updates about your trip and useful tips and tricks for making your international travel more comfortable and enjoyable. And best of all, you can register online even if you prefer to pay by check or wire transfer; just choose that option upon checkout.

We understand that some people are not comfortable with technology and prefer to register via mail-in paper registration, regardless of the many benefits of registering online. To make that easy, we have created a generic registration form on our website at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>. You may download and print the form, fill it out and mail it with your check to Select International Tours. However, before you choose to register by mail, please know that we cannot communicate with people who do not register online as frequently and seamlessly. And you may miss some important communication regarding balances and trip preparation, as well as communication from your group leaders. We want you to be in charge and be comfortable with the registration process; our job is to inform you so you can choose the best system for you.

To learn how easy it is to register online, please view THIS SHORT 6-minute VIDEO that explains the process at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>.

Secure Your Spot!

Register online* ✓

Pay the deposit ✓

Complete the tasks in your online profile ✓

*See how easy it is to register online:



selectinternationaltours.com/easy/