



HORSETRAIL



From O Cebreiro to French Way

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adriana-real@horsetrailmexicotours.tv www.horsetrailmexicotours.com.mx

+52 (777) 3237799 +52 (777) 1104320





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Santiago, an apostle of Christ, known for Baanerges (Son of Thunder), preached in Spain following the mandates, (It is said that during his stay there, he had appeared the Virgin on the banks of the Ebro River).

Then he returned to Palestine where he was beheaded by Herod Agrippa (42 AD) being the first apostle martyred because of their faith.

His disciples embarked his body and sailed to Galicia, burying him in a place where later the Cathedral of Santiago, which became a place of worship and pilgrimage for Christianity was built.



In 859 (during the Arab occupation Spain) a small Christian army was entrusted to the Holy before going into battle and defeated a large Arab army formed by thousands of men. Since then St. James became the protector of the Christian forces in the Reconquest against the Arabs.

This reunification after fighting Islam shall the Kingdom of Spain, of which Santiago Apostle is its patron Mayor.

He was later Euplius network of roads from Scandinavia to the north and the Slavic countries lift, leading to the basilica of the apostle. Saints, kings, knights, burghers, craftsmen and farmers, with or without cortege on foot or horseback approached Compostela. Paths of piety and culture, the various itineraries that make up the Jacobean routes,

were a decisive element in shaping the European spirit, by sharing ways of life, thinking, languages and techniques.

The Council of Europe gave the Camino de Santiago in 1987, the title of First European Cultural Itinerary, and later Cultural Heritage of Humanity.



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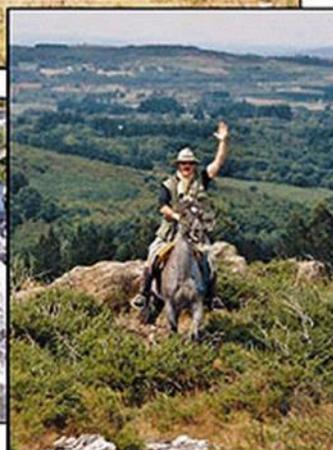
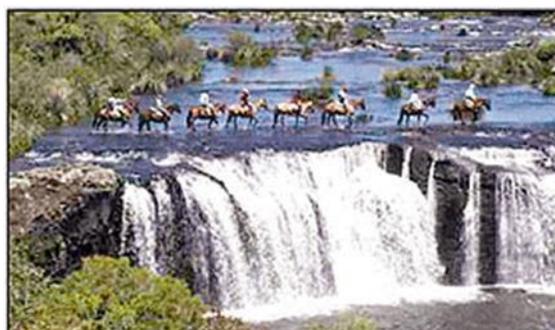
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The French Way.

There was a traveler, Aymerico Picaud, French monk who left us in the twelfth century. chronicling his pilgrimage. This route has come to distinguish as the "French Way", the pilgrimage route par excellence, the best known and busy. Enter Spain by Roncesvalles, through lands of Navarre, La Rioja, Castilla y Leon, for following the stars, starting in Galicia through the sierras of Ancares and "green cathedral" of the Caurel, carrying pilgrims to the end of the known world (where the earth died at sea and was the last star in the Milky way as the Celts, also called path of the Rainbow).



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Route 6 days

Get on horseback to Santiago is the "promised trip" the first and most important European cultural route, where the reasons for coming are still alive after more than a thousand years.

As pilgrims on horseback, we will be protagonists for a few days, the living history of an ancient road where you will experience new sensations.

Around him are some of the best protected reserves in Southern Europe, speaking worlds stone villages where it seems time has not passed, animals spaces, river basins, ponds etc., as we knew the first pilgrims .



ITINERARY

Day 1. Airport Pick-up from Santiago to 15 hours. Transfer and meeting participants about 18 hours in El Cebreiro (Lugo) in the house of rural tourism Valiña (a Romanesque church side). The owner, Maria Pilar, make us feel at home from the start. Welcome dinner and overnight at the house of village-inn.

Day 2. Visit El Cebreiro, where we find the pallozas, old houses reminiscent of the Celtic forts and other buildings and landscapes of great interest. Around 10 am we will leave pilgrims on horseback. By impressive mountain massifs, and countless small towns through a road full of trees like chestnut, oak and walnut trees thousands of years, we will come to eat at Triacastela, very old village with a Romanesque church of interest. Afternoon through the valley of the river

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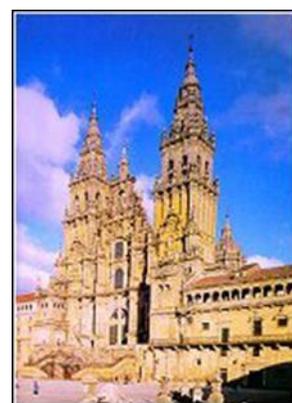
Oribio arrive to Samos, where we visit its Romanesque monastery and chapel with ancient cypress. Current monks pray their Matins and herbal liqueurs made with recipes maintained. Dinner and overnight at the Benedictine monastery of Samos.

Day 3. We ride through a lush plains and fertile until Sarria, where we will visit the convent and the castle. Under the shade of abundant carballeiras, we continue towards the Minho river and see the original temple Barbadelo with an integrated tower on the ship. Mercado da Serra will eat next to a former mill. At dusk, on a hillock on the Belesar reservoir, Portomarín reach the village that retains its medieval style although it was flooded by the reservoir and reconstructed buildings, temples and colonnades more interesting by neighbors. Dinner and overnight at the national parador.

4th day. We will enter the Ulloa, the valley of the high Ulla river that fertilizes these regions. Across a wide range of Romanesque, reach the top of the Rosary and Vilar de Donas- valuable monastery and temple Romanesque national monument with paintings of the fourteenth century, home of the Knights of the Military Order of Santiago, characters that have profoundly struggled to clean up highwaymen the route of the pilgrims. Dinner and overnight in Palas de Rey.

Day 5. We will leave the region of the Ulla river, with steps immortalized by the Countess Pardo Bazan. Bridge crossing the river Furelos reach Melide for lunch. Before visiting Pambre Castle, medieval fortress called the river that bathes its foundation, where the mills and typical manors abound. In the afternoon we pass Castañeda, seat lime kilns for the construction of the Cathedral of Santiago, whose work contributed pilgrims carrying in his backpack a rock and thus increasing their penance. Who are encouraged to emulate dismounting must do so, as never heard penitent horse. Dinner and overnight in Arzua.

Day 6. From Arzúa, center of a region of delicious cheeses, depart for Labacolla, where we will eat. There the pilgrims washed in a stream and ascended, those who detracted forces, the Monxoi (Mount Joy) to be the first to see the cathedral. Riders descended from their mounts making the last stretch on foot and all gave and thank the Apostle happily conclude the pilgrimage, although this last stage of the day 6 we rode up Mount Joy. From that moment, time for pilgrims riders approach, either walking or on our support vehicle to the Plaza de Obradoiro in the cathedral of Santiago and get the COMPOSTELA, filled with road, field and millennia tradition.



EXTENSION OF THE ROUTE OF SANTIAGO.

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Route of Santiago to Finisterre (Way to the End of the World) Route 5 days



This route for us is born and starts, for the concerns and needs of many pilgrims in order to complete Los Caminos de Santiago until the end of the known world in medieval times. After investigate, we got down to work, resulting in a complete success and we decided to make you the offer.

We trust you enjoy the exhibition we do!

Finisterre known by the Romans Finis Terrae, the end of the known world, marked in the sky by the Milky Way where the last star died at sea.

The Jacobean pilgrimage as such ends in the city of Santiago de Compostela. However, almost since the discovery of the tomb of the apostle Santiago (s. IX) in what is now the compostelana city, certain pilgrims from both the Iberian Peninsula and in the rest of Europe, decided to extend his trip to the Costa da Morte, Costa de la Muerte, in the westernmost part of Galicia, facing the wild waters of the Atlantic ocean.

The Costa da Morte was to the ancients-and so until the end of the Middle Ages the last redoubt of the known world, the westernmost tip of continental Europe. It was loaded with all kinds of beliefs and pagan rituals in which the Romans (s. II BC) is startled at seeing the huge sun disappear place between the waters.

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ITINERARY

Day 1. MEETING POINT -In the afternoon, meeting at our house Rural Tourism or at the airport of Vigo. Dinner and overnight in Granja O Castelo.

Day 2. Santiago - Negreira

Farm transfer O Castelo in Ponte Caldelas to Santiago de Compostela to start the route.

Once in Santiago, we prepared to leave on horseback and start the 1st stage as we move away from Santiago warned the immensity of the Cathedral wishing us a good journey and intuiting see you soon. Upon arrival at Ames will make a short stop, to face a strong rise that leads to Trasmonte a small mountain village. From here we descend along a winding road that leads to Ponte Maceira Villa arranged on the banks of the river Tambre with a beautiful Roman bridge in perfect condition.



The houses and the remains of some ancient Roman mills, spread on both banks of the river Tambre, provided by the most significant bridge all the way. It is a beautiful building of the fourteenth century, which for centuries had great importance in communications between Santiago and Finisterre. In this singular people acquire forces to reach lunch at Negreira, along the banks of this river reach the nearby of this villa one of the most populated in this way. In the afternoon we will resume the stage for dinner and lodging in a beautiful spot just outside NEGREIRA.

Day 3. Negreira - Olveiroa

Negreira, villa with its medieval fortresses is the largest population before reaching the coast. In the morning we noticed a change in the landscape, green meadows with abundant cattle, the road passes through fields and villages sparsely populated, as Mazaricos with its impressive popular architecture and sets granaries, where the products were stored in the field. At one point in our walk we noticed a body of water on the horizon, which confuses the pilgrim, but getting to the vicinity of Mazaricos warned that a dam on the river Xallas. We arrived at Olveiroa. Accommodation and dinner.

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4th day. Olveiroa - Muxía

Step ups and downs are continuous and pass through villages with a certain smell sea. At this stage contemplate Pazos and granaries as large as beautiful and a monastery. But the most spectacular is to see and feel the crackle of the waves and the blue sea on an endless horizon. The trail leads to a payas white sands

few meters from Muxía, seaside town with many charms and traditions. This villa is remarkable church "A Virxen da Barca" situated at the foot of a cliff. Tradition has it that the Virgin Mary on a boat docked stone, to give encouragement to the Apostle James in his preaching to the northwest of the Iberian Peninsula.

The entrance to Muxía is spectacular, always on the side of the sea, riding for its beaches and dunes down to the seafront where we will be staying in a beautiful and unique hotel.

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Day 5. Muxia - Finistère

Muxía always part of the Jacobean tradition and history is full of miraculous, isotéricos and stories related to the Apostle facts. but the spiritual interest of this land to the world, even before Christianity and it was able to integrate its pagan elements in their traditions.

At the exit we notice as the breeze whips we face and wakes us with salty smell of the sea. From the top of the mountains we see the irregular "Costa Da Morte" with their capes and estuaries bathed by the Atlantic Ocean, as well as villages settled in their softer sides. And the afternoon we arrive at Finisterre, to return to border dune formations and several kilometers long beaches and after a beautiful climb, always on the edge of the sea, reaching the cape that gives it its name, symbol of the region and all kinds legends, with a coastline of great beauty, where alternating large and quiet beaches with rugged rock formations and rough sea like few others. In this mythical Cape Finisterre, with its old lighthouse,



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End of our services after should go to where the cars were in BRION - LOS ANGELES.



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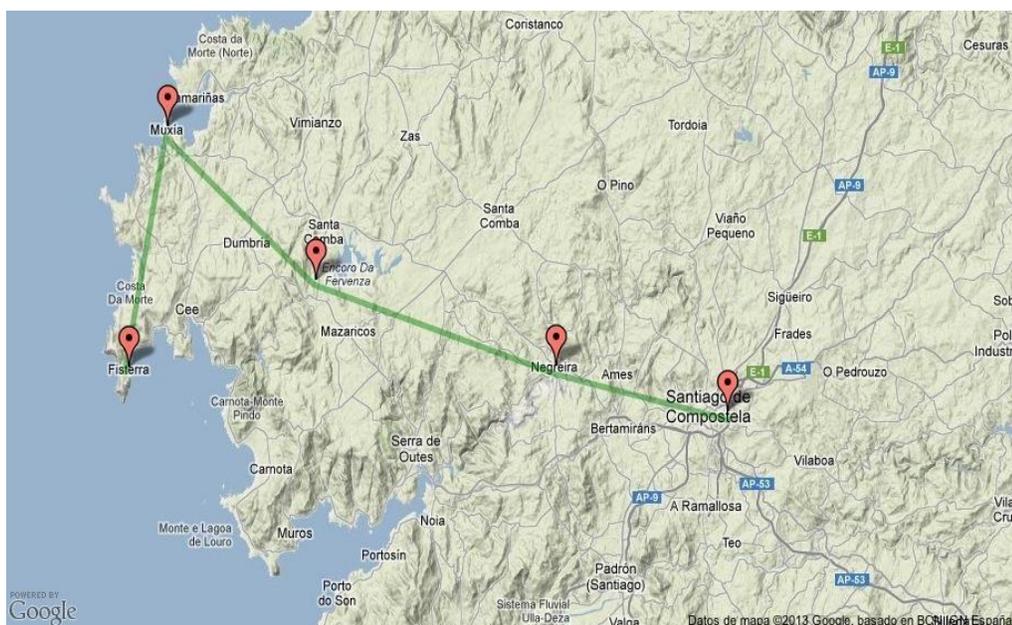
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Information and advice

Who is with us

Responsible and organizer of the route, which also goes to the front of the expedition as equestrian guide, Rafael Martinez. With an all-terrain vehicle support, carrying luggage and a trailer with everything you need, it's our monitor, always at our side with their "continuing care".

And who else

Your horse, of course. Horses are very well adapted to the terrain, mostly native breed. No need to be an expert rider, but if some horse riding experience is necessary. On routes recommend that each "adopt" his horse, seized, whenever you want, to brush and saddle.

Additional Information

The climate in Galicia is highly variable, but always benign, (you have to come prepared for rain and impermeable layers will be provided if needed). The output of the route is guaranteed at any time of the year or month, provided there is a minimum of 6 people to do it, the most suitable season which runs from March to October.

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RESERVATIONS

Equestrian Tour Operator www.horsetrailmexicotours.com.mx

Email: reservaciones@horsetrailmexicotours.com.mx

Phone + 777 52 3237799

Cel / Mobil 52+ 777 110 43 20

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