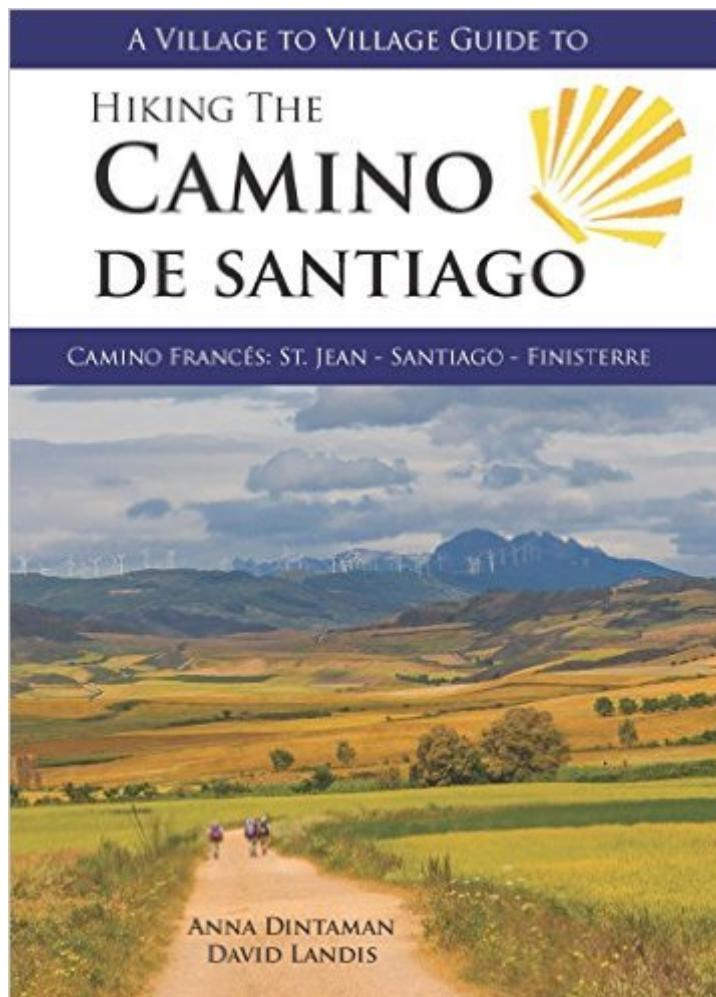


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A Village To Village Guide To Hiking The Camino De Santiago: Camino Frances : St Jean - Santiago - Finisterre



Synopsis

Fully updated April 2016, and now lighter than ever! A Village to Village Guide to Hiking the Camino de Santiago is a comprehensive guidebook to walking the Camino de Santiago, or Way of Saint James, from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port to Santiago de Compostela (the Camino Francés), and also the Camino Finisterre to Muxía and Finisterre. This Camino guidebook includes: - Full-color detailed to-scale topographical stage maps of each day's walk with free GPS files online. - The entire 800km Camino Francés and 90km Camino Finisterre. - 135 detailed stage, city and town maps. - Essential practical information on transport, accommodations and services. - Detailed listings of pilgrim hostels (albergues) and private accommodations in each town, including prices, amenities, number of beds, contact information, open seasons, and more. - Regional introductions to the different areas along the Camino including information about traditional foods, flora and fauna, and local culture. - Overviews of dozens of medieval pilgrim sites, with information about the historical context of the pilgrimage. - Expert advice on hiking gear, packing and daily Camino life. - A list of recommended reading and films about the Camino de Santiago. - A Spanish phrasebook and mini Basque (Euskara) phrasebook. - A timeline of the history of Spain with emphasis on the Camino history.

Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Village to Village Press; 3rd edition (May 15, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0984353364

ISBN-13: 978-0984353361

Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 0.6 x 5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (100 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #19,612 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in Books > Travel > Europe >

Spain > General #36 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hiking & Camping > Excursion Guides

#42 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Exercise & Fitness > Running & Jogging

Customer Reviews

I may be one of the first people to use this new book, because it was released just days before my wife and I started our own Camino. We did the first 11 days of the Camino de Santiago starting in Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port, France, and ending in Nájera, Spain. We'll continue from there next year.

I liked this book so much that I decided to take it with us as our only guide book, and I was glad I did. First impression: it's beautiful! Stunning photos, great maps, and directions that make sense. I especially like the detailed list of albergues in each town, complete with prices and icons showing their amenities. The book covers the entire route all the way to Finisterre and Muxia, with daily stages of around 25km (15.5mi) per day. You can, of course, finish your day anywhere you like, but the stages often end in the larger towns with more options for places to stay and eat, as well as resources such as pharmacies, ATM machines, etc. Each stage begins with an overview including the distance, difficulty, average number of hours, and a breakdown of the percentage of time you'll spend on paved vs. unpaved pathways. It then includes a description of what you'll be facing that day, along with an elevation chart and a map showing all towns and the amenities you can expect to find there (albergues, food, shopping, etc.) It then walks you through each town you'll be visiting, and describes points of interest as well as warnings for things to watch out for (like the lack of water between Valcarlos and Roncesvalles). Each town has a sidebar with a listing of places to stay, each with its price, contact details, and amenities (food, washer, dryer, kitchen, WiFi, number of beds, etc.) Maps are also included for the larger towns, with all places to stay marked on the map.

Taken from a review I did on my website, RenegadePilgrim: There's a new kid on the block and I'm excited to share this new resource for pilgrims planning to walk the Camino de Santiago in Spain. In the past, guidebooks in English have been limited to two options. Neither are perfect and to be honest, I've yet to find a guidebook for anything travel-related that meets my needs. The newly released guide, "Hiking the Camino de Santiago: Camino Frances" by Anna Dintaman and David Landis is a refreshing and exceptional example of what a guidebook for the Camino should look like. I've been combing through the book over the past few days, comparing it to another guidebook everyone else in the English world worships and adores. This review will NOT be a comparison. It will be a list of pros and cons so pilgrims can make their own decisions about what works best for them. Without further ado, here we go! Pros: 1) Each region of Spain has two pages devoted to the region with yearly temperature ranges, as well as average rainfall. Both of these are important to the pilgrim. They also include information about food, language, and history. 2) All of the maps and elevation charts are to scale. Each stage has an elevation chart that goes from 0m to 2000m for elevation, and every 5km for distance so you can get an accurate portrayal of the day's highs and lows. Each stage has a map with topographical lines, which assists in giving you an accurate look at what your day of walking will be. For those of you who do a lot of hiking or backpacking, you will understand how important it is to have accurate information. I love maps and the fact these ones are

to scale and with topo lines makes me happy!

The long distance walker is a peculiar kind of traveller: independent-minded and self-organized, moving around in small groups, if not walking alone, and often seeking both a physical and mental journey. The guidebooks that help them on these journeys exist in as many formats and styles as there are long distance walkers: from deeply spiritual or thematically dense guides with little practical handholds to help travellers find their way to and from places on the one hand, to dry technical descriptions of walks, climbs and places to stay on the other. The former appeals little to people who do not want to be told "what" their journey is supposed to be like; the latter often pushes away people who want to start walking but are not familiar with the lingo of ardent long-distance hikers, and who would actually go if only they knew a tiny bit more about what to expect and how to prepare. Hiking the Camino de Santiago sets a whole new standard in the world of long distance walking. Few guides on the Camino have this wide an appeal to both pilgrims and more secular-type walkers, to first-timers and people who have walked the world's most famous walking route several times. The full-color book contains over 130 detailed maps of stages and towns on the route and a wealth of information on the famous albergues along the way, but also more comfortable and more pricey lodging options. The 35 stages that are described in detail (including the usual walkers' addition of 90 km to Finisterre) allow brisk and slow walkers to easily plan their day ahead. Beginners will benefit from two extensive introductory chapters on the culture and history of the Camino as well as on practical preparations, health advice and fitness levels.

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