

# Joining ST. JAMES' WAY (‘Camino de Santiago’) at IAE 2023



27 October 2023

JOINING ST. JAMES' WAY (‘Camino de Santiago’) AT THE INTERREG ANNUAL EVENT  
2023

Santiago de Compostela | Spain

CAMINO DE  
SANTIAGO



## Why joining us to do St James Way?

The St. James' Way, also known as the Camino de Santiago, holds significant historical and cultural importance as a pilgrimage route stretching across Europe, leading to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. This ancient trail has fostered [connections and exchanges among people from different countries and cultures, promoting unity and understanding](#). In recent years, the St. James Way has also become an emblematic example of European cooperation.

By traversing various regions and countries, this pilgrimage route has sparked collaboration between local communities, authorities, and stakeholders, transcending national borders. The EU has recognised the potential of the St. James Way to foster regional development, cultural preservation, and sustainable tourism. The trail serves as a living testament to the power of cooperation and shared heritage, exemplifying the spirit of unity and cohesion that the European Union strives to achieve.

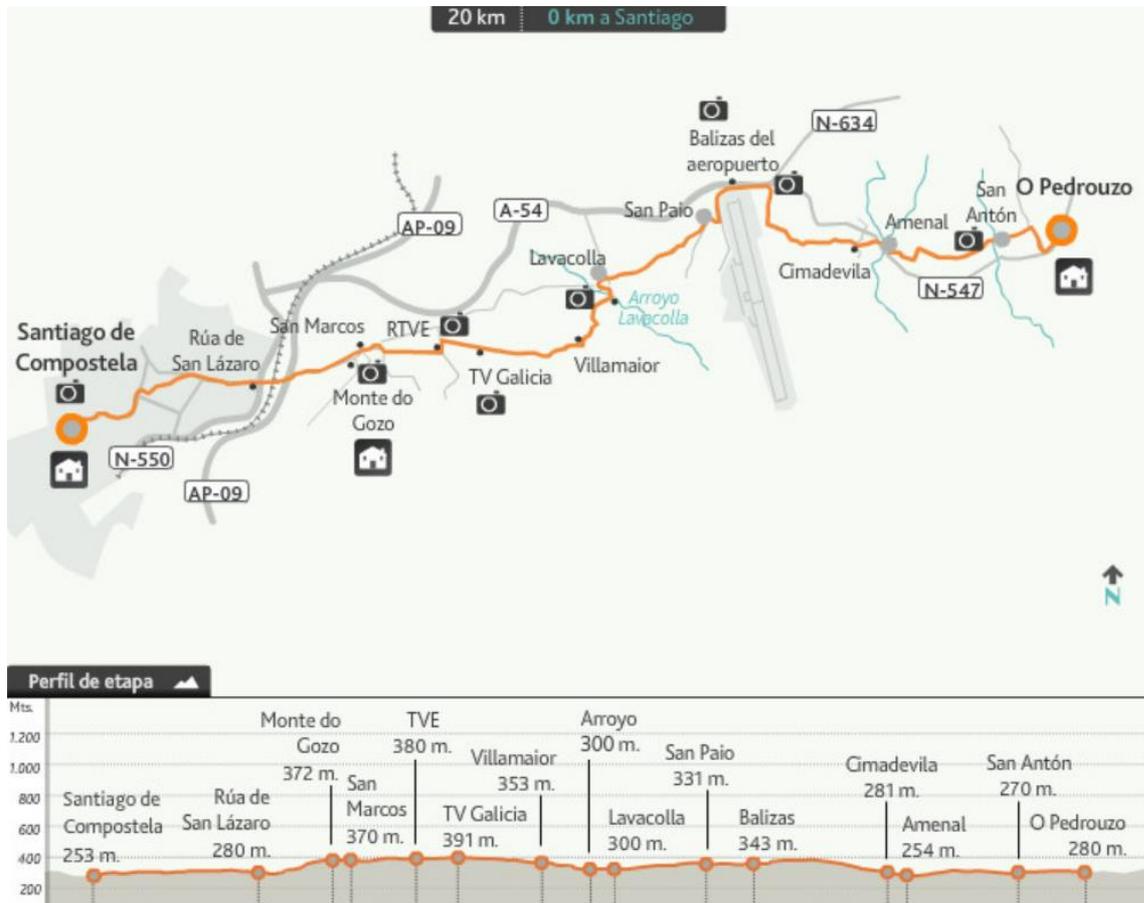
[Territorial Cooperation beneficiaries and decision-makers from local, regional, and European institutions will walk together](#), acknowledging St. James Way as a historical trail of exchanges across people and cultures, as Interreg is. We are sending an impressive message.

The *Camino de Santiago* offers a unique opportunity for both self-reflection and foster a sense of community. It encourages us to take the necessary time for these two aspects, [savouring every step of the journey and embracing moments of the camaraderie with fellow Interreg colleagues](#). As we walk the ancient trails, we allow our thoughts to wander freely, finding solace in the serenity of nature and the profound history that surrounds us. Along this remarkable path, time seems to stretch, granting us the chance to contemplate, grow, and appreciate the beauty of the present moment.

[Come along and let's enjoy the journey together!](#)

## General information about the journey

- **Day for St James Way Walk : Friday 27th**
- **Route and distance**
  - Last stretch of the French Way. This is the Jacobean itinerary with the most historical tradition and most recognised internationally.
  - Entire Length: 20.2 Km
  - Estimated duration for the entire walk: 5h 05min
- **Please read carefully the last section of this document “Practicalities and important information“ as it will give you all the answers to make sure you will have the best experience.**



## Two itineraries to join the journey.

### Itinerary 1: Pedrouzo-Arca (O Pino) – Monte do Gozo – Obradoiro Square.

**For the experienced walkers.** Last stretch of St James Way. From Arca (O Pino). See [here](#) for more information.

- Length: 15.6 Km
- Difficulty: Medium
- Estimated duration of the walk from Pedrouzo-Arca (O Pino) to Monte do Gozo: 4h approx. at a slow pace (3km/h)

This group will start the way before the second group.

### Itinerary 2: Monte do Gozo – Obradoiro Square

**Shorter option.** From Monte do Gozo, See [here](#) for more information.

- Length: 4.7 Km
- Difficulty: Medium
- Estimated Duration of the walk: 1h 10min approx. at a slow pace (3km/h)

**Group 1**      **Pedrouzo-Arca (O Pino) to Monte do Gozo: 4h approx. at a slow pace (3km/h)**

8.00           Meeting Point in Santiago City Centre.

8.15           Departure by bus from Santiago to O Pino

8.45           Arrival at Pedrouzo-Arca (O Pino) and departure on foot to Lavacolla - Monte do Gozo. Starting point of the walk.

13.00          Arrival at Monte do Gozo. . Meeting point of both groups.

**Group 2**      **Monte do Gozo – Obradoiro Square 1h 10min approx. at a slow pace (3km/h)**

12.15          Meeting Point in Santiago City Centre.

12.30          Departure by bus from Santiago to O Pino

13.00          Arrival at Monte do Gozo. Meeting point of both groups.

**Both groups**      **Monte do Gozo – Obradoiro Square 1h 10min approx. at a slow pace (3km/h)**

13.00          Arrival at Monte do Gozo. Meeting point of both groups.

13.30          Departure on foot from Monte do Gozo to Plaza Obradoiro (Santiago). Continuation of the walk.

14.45          Arrival in Santiago

15.00          Lunch in a Monastery

*For those having to leave to the airport, there will be a bus service at 15.00 and a lunch pack will be provided.*

## Practicalities and important information:

### Decalogue to ensure the best “St James’ Way” experience:

1. **Warning before choosing the group.** Please remember to listen to your body during the journey and adjust your pace accordingly. Choosing a longer route can be rewarding, but it's essential to be mindful of your health and safety throughout the entire experience.
2. A **bus transfer service from Santiago de Compostela city centre to the starting points** of the walk will be provided. The exact meeting point will be confirmed at a later stage.
3. There will be a **bus transfer from Santiago to the airport only at 15.00** for those of you having to take an afternoon flight. Please make sure you choose this option in the IAE registration form.  
*If you are going directly to the airport after Santiago’s Way, please bring your luggage with you and leave it in the bus.*
4. A **support vehicle and medical service** will be available along the walk.
5. **Water and a piece of fruit** will be provided along the way. However, bring your own water bottle to refill along the way, as well as other food or energy bars, as you may need.
6. **Lunch** will be offered to the participants. For those leaving at 15.00 with the bus transfer to the airport, a lunch bag will be provided.
7. **Local guides** (English spoken) will be at our disposal during the walk.
8. **Photos and videos** will be taken along the journey to keep the nice memories of the day.
9. **Light raincoats** will be provided by Interact as promo material for the activity.
10. **Enjoy the experience!**