

Stanford **TRAVEL/STUDY**

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO WALK

June 8 to 21, 2022

The Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route is as revered today by its walkers as it was by pilgrims in the Middle Ages. Join religious studies senior lecturer Barbara Pitkin and trail expert Peter Watson to traverse northern Spain on foot, following the Way of Saint James to Santiago de Compostela, where we walk through medieval streets to the shrine of Saint James. Throughout our journey, indulge in local delicacies—olives, hams, cheeses, regional wines—during gourmet picnics. Rest and unwind after our daily walks in paradors and other characterful accommodations—lodging in renovated historic buildings, convents and medieval pilgrim hospitals.

FACULTY LEADER

Barbara Pitkin

Barbara Pitkin, who joined Stanford's department of religious studies in 1996, specializes in the study of Christianity, with an emphasis on the religious thought and culture of late medieval and early modern Europe. She teaches courses on the European reformations, medieval Christian religious devotion, women and Christianity, and Christianity in 21st-century America. She also teaches a course on religion around the globe, for which she was awarded an innovation grant from Stanford's Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning in 2017 to head up a faculty team to redesign the course. Having led several previous Travel/Study programs, Barbara is particularly excited to return to the Camino de Santiago. She is eager to revisit the Charterhouse of Miraflores and the Basilica of San Isidoro, with its marvelous 12th-century frescoes, museum and tombs of the early kings of León. When asked what she enjoys most about traveling with Stanford Travel/Study, Barbara replied, "I love the enthusiastic conversations I have with travelers about the things we experience together. Preparing for the previous [trips], I learned so much about the unique history of Spain, and it was so meaningful to see places out of the past and to share my new passions with Stanford alums and friends." Her lectures during our walk will bring to life the historic religious practices and beliefs of medieval pilgrims, sin and redemption in late medieval religion, and the role played by Jews, Christians and Muslims in medieval Spain.

- Senior lecturer in religious studies
- Resident fellow in Lantana Hall, 2005–2008
- *Calvin, the Bible, and History: Exegesis and Historical Reflection in the Era of Reform* (2020)
- Co-editor, *The Formation of Clerical and Confessional Identities in Early Modern Europe* (2006)
- BA, German language and literature, Carleton College
- MA, religious studies, 1987, and PhD, theology, 1994—both University of Chicago

ITINERARY

Wednesday, June 8

Bilbao, Spain

Upon arrival in Bilbao, transfer to our hotel. This evening join fellow walkers at a welcome reception at our hotel followed by dinner at leisure. HOTEL CARLTON

Thursday, June 9

Bilbao / Ainhoa, France

This morning stroll through Bilbao to admire its contrasting old and modern buildings. Then drive to the town of Ainhoa in France to get your fill of typical Basque architecture. Dine tonight at the hotel's excellent restaurant. HÔTEL ITHURRIA (B,D)

Friday, June 10

St.-Jean Pied de Port / Pamplona, Spain

Travel the short distance to the ancient town of St.-Jean Pied de Port, the traditional meeting point of the three northern pilgrimage routes through France. From here pilgrims began their trek through the Pyrenees into Spain. Leave town by the Gate of Spain along the old Roman road. Cross the Ports de Cize and the border into Spain. After a picnic lunch, descend to the hamlet of Roncesvalles, the scene of countless historical events, from the death of Roland in 778 to Saint Francis of Assisi's entrance into Spain. Visit the hamlet's monastery and church before heading off to Pamplona. GRAN HOTEL LA PERLA (B,L,D)

Saturday, June 11

Pamplona

Our walking tour of Pamplona reveals the treasures of this ancient capital of Navarre. Sights include the cathedral, medieval fortifications and the route of the famous running of the bulls during the festival of San Fermín each July. Set out on a trail among rolling green hills and end the day back in Pamplona. GRAN HOTEL LA PERLA (B,L)

Sunday, June 12

Pamplona / Santo Domingo de la Calzada

Start the morning at the octagonal Romanesque church of Santa María de Eunate, the thousand-year-old pilgrim bridge at Puente la Reina and the medieval town of Estella. Continue to the extraordinary Pantheon of the Kings of Navarre at Nájera and then on to the pilgrimage center of Santo Domingo de la Calzada. Spend the night in an ancient pilgrims' hospital, now a four-star parador. PARADOR DE SANTO DOMINGO DE LA CALZADA (B,L,D)

Monday, June 13

Santo Domingo de la Calzada / Burgos

After marveling at the town's cathedral, explore Villafranca Montes de Oca and the shrine of San Juan de Ortega, one of the most revered saints of the pilgrimage road. Following a picnic lunch, drive to the handsome city of Burgos, capital of the former kingdom of Castile and Franco's headquarters during the Spanish Civil War. Pause at the Charterhouse of Miraflores, a Carthusian monastery that contains exquisite alabaster carvings, then check in to our hotel, a former convent. PALACIO DE BURGOS (B,L,D)

Tuesday, June 14

Burgos

Spend the day getting to know Burgos. Visit the impressive Gothic cathedral and the center of the city before strolling out along the Arlanzón River, where El Cid, Spain's celebrated Castilian knight, camped before leaving the city. After our picnic lunch, enjoy a free afternoon in this delightful city. PALACIO DE BURGOS (B)

Wednesday, June 15

Burgos / León

The pilgrimage continues as we journey through the Meseta Central, the flat interior plateau of the Iberian peninsula. After a picnic lunch, hop in our motor coach to cross the plateau, pausing at one of the great pilgrimage churches in Spain. This evening we arrive in León, capital of the ancient kingdom and current province of the same name. Stay tonight in the refurbished five-star parador. PARADOR DE LEÓN (B,L,D)

Thursday, June 16

León

A morning excursion in León introduces us to this magnificent city. Delight in León's cathedral; its stained glass windows rival those found at Chartres in France. Also admire the Romanesque Basilica of San Isidoro and its adjoining Pantheon of the Kings of León, famous for its 12th-century ceiling frescoes, and the Casa Botines, designed by the iconoclastic 20th-century Catalán architect Antoni Gaudí. There is free time this afternoon to explore the old center of town. PARADOR DE LEÓN (B)

Friday, June 17

León / Villafranca del Bierzo

Venture to Hospital de Órbigo to stride across the magnificent medieval stone bridge, scene of the joust that inspired Cervantes's novel *Don Quixote*. In Astorga view the Episcopal Palace, a Gaudí creation, and the baroque cathedral. Travel to the edge of the León Mountains and hike from the summit to the village of Molinaseca through some of the wildest natural scenery of our trip. Board the motor coach to Ponferrada, home of the Knights Templar and, according to some, the resting place of the Holy Grail. Motor on to Villafranca del Bierzo and stay the night at a lovely vine-covered parador. PARADOR DE VILLAFRANCA DEL BIERZO (B,L,D)

Saturday, June 18

Villafranca del Bierzo / Portomarín

Our walk today leads us from Villafranca del Bierzo to the village of O Cebreiro at the border of Galicia and another possible secret repository of the Holy Grail. Following a picnic lunch, drive to the monastery at Samos, one of the oldest Benedictine abbeys in Spain. Proceed to the river port of Portomarín for the night. This town was moved, stone by stone, to its present site when the river valley below was flooded by a dam constructed across the Minho River in 1956. POUSADA DE PORTOMARÍN (B,L,D)

Sunday, June 19

Portomarín / Santiago de Compostela

Our goal is near as we navigate the most interesting sections of the ancient road to Santiago de Compostela. We stop first at the church of Vilar de Donas in Palas de Rei to pay tribute to the Knights of Saint James buried there. Continue to the center of Santiago de Compostela and walk the final section through the medieval streets to the shrine of Saint James. We spend our last two nights at perhaps the most beautiful hotel in Spain; this five-star parador was built at the end of the 15th century as a pilgrim hospital. PARADOR DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (B,L)

Monday, June 20

Santiago de Compostela

Enjoy a day at leisure in Santiago, with plenty of time to explore this lovely medieval city. Start with the cathedral, one of the finest examples of Romanesque and baroque architecture in Spain, then head to

the bishop's palace, the Pazo de Xelmírez, on the grounds of the cathedral. Other highlights include the Pilgrimages Museum and the Galician parliament building. Tonight attend a special farewell reception and dinner at our hotel. PARADOR DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA (B,D)

Tuesday, June 21

Santiago de Compostela / Home

Transfer independently to the airport for flights home. (B)

INFORMATION

Covid-19 and Travel

Due to the fluid nature of travel requirements and local Covid-19 conditions, travel protocols for our program will be shared closer to departure. To read more about Travel/Study's general approach to ensuring traveler health and safety, visit <https://alumni.stanford.edu/get/page/covidtravel>.

Size

This trip is limited to 32 participants. Single accommodations are limited.

Cost*

\$8,995 per person, double occupancy

\$10,795 per person, single occupancy

*Stanford Alumni Association nonmembers add \$300 per person.

Included

- Educational program with lecture series and predeparture materials, including an education resource list and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
- Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities
- 13 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
- 13 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 8 dinners
- Welcome and farewell receptions
- Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- On-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- General medical, accident and evacuation insurance

Not Included

- Your personal flights to and from the program
- Passport and visa fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- Baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges

- Personal items such as internet access, telephone calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

Air Arrangements

You are responsible for booking and purchasing airfare to the start location and from the end location of the program. These air purchases are NOT included in the program cost. To assist you in making these independent arrangements, we will send you details with your confirmation materials on when to arrive and depart.

What to Expect

We consider this to be a moderately strenuous and physically demanding program. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health and must be able to navigate walking routes that are often rugged, uneven and steep without assistance. Our walks range in length from five to 10 miles per day, with a daily average of about six miles and no more than 800 feet of elevation gain or loss. The terrain of northern Spain includes mountain ridges, rolling hills and valleys, with some open farmland and small paths. Some of the trails may be uneven, rocky or muddy and may involve significant uphill or downhill grades. Sturdy, well-fitting, waterproof, broken-in hiking boots with ankle support are essential. Participants will need to bring a daypack with rain gear, extra layers, sunscreen and a water supply. Nature is often the only restroom facility available, and one must be comfortable using it and carrying out paper waste.

Although this program is called a walk, several of the daily excursions might be described more as a hike. All such terms are subjective: A walk to one person may seem like a hike to another. You should plan to walk with your group for the entire day and be able to walk a minimum of three miles an hour on level ground and be able to navigate rocky and uneven slopes. We make every effort, however, not to schedule any walks that are beyond the ability of the average walker in the group. If you are in reasonably good shape and active, you should have no problem keeping up with the group. Past walkers have commented that a pre-trip training regimen working up to several five- to eight-mile walks a week over uneven terrain with an elevation gain or loss of at least 1,000 feet in the boots you will wear during the trip greatly increases your enjoyment of the walk.

A typical day begins with a full buffet breakfast before we set out on our day's walk, armed with a daypack to carry water, a camera and any extra clothing needed during the day. We stop along the way to enjoy a picnic lunch prepared for us by our staff. After lunch and a short period of relaxation, we start the afternoon segment of our day's walk. Upon arrival at our hotel, we have time for a shower and some rest, then perhaps a lecture before dinner. Because our motor coach is too wide for many of the narrow streets, we will need to walk 5 to 10 minutes carrying our own daypacks and carry-on bags to and from our coach to many of our hotels and paradors. (Hotels are often in castles, palaces, fortresses, convents, monasteries and other historic buildings.)

To get the most out of this walk, it helps to be intellectually curious and ready to participate in an intense academic experience. It is also good to be enthusiastic about outdoor adventure and comfortable traveling as part of a group. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Eligibility

We encourage membership in the Stanford Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is \$300 more than the members' price. The nonmember fee is waived for anyone traveling as a paid guest of a current member, as well as for emerita or emeritus faculty and staff. To purchase a membership, call (650) 725-0692 or visit <http://alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership>.

Deposits, Payments and Cancellations

A \$1,000-per-person deposit is required to reserve space on this program. Final payment is due 120 days prior to program start. Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a \$500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to program start. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and we resell your place(s), in which case a \$1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance

Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian residents with general medical, accident and evacuation coverage, as well as on-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage, under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage and/or baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be included in your confirmation materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your insurance within 14 days of receiving your welcome email.

Responsibility

The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motor coach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates include arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. We reserve the right to cancel any program prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. We also reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. Neither the Stanford Alumni Association, nor Stanford University, nor our operators accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect at the time the brochure is published and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign an Assumption of Risk.

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50