

### **Holy Smoke - The Botafumeiro**

The Botafumeiro is the world's largest thurible weighing 80 kgs. Some say it was used as a medieval deodorant when the cathedral was full of pilgrims who hadn't washed for the duration of their journey. Others say that the billows of incense it produces symbolise the prayers of the pilgrims.

Nowadays the Botafumeiro is swung at the end of some of the pilgrim masses when a team of eight "tiraboleiros" operate a huge medieval mechanism to swing the Botafumeiro the height and length of the transept of the Cathedral.

### **Day is done**

During many months of the year there is an Evening Service in the Cathedral from 9 – 10pm only for pilgrims who have travelled to Santiago by foot, bicycle or on horse back.

THIS GUIDE IS ALSO GIVEN ON THE STRICT UNDERSTANDING THAT PILGRIMS USING IT WILL SEND COMMENTS HELPFUL TO FUTURE PILGRIMS TO [johnniewalker-santiago@hotmail.com](mailto:johnniewalker-santiago@hotmail.com)

## **Confraternity of Saint James**

### **Pilgrim Guides to Spain**

### **7. The Camino Inglés**



**John Walker**

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Company no 4096721  
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Website: [www.csj.org.uk](http://www.csj.org.uk)  
e-mail: [office@csj.org.uk](mailto:office@csj.org.uk)

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### **Seal of approval - The Compostela**

Pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela carry a Pilgrim Passport (Pilgrim record/*Credencial*) with them. They have these stamped everywhere they stop on the way. This document gives access to the network of refuges provided along the routes.

Beside the Cathedral is the Pilgrims' Office, at 1 Rúa do Vilar. It is just like Passport Control! There the Pilgrim Passport receives the final seal of the Cathedral of Santiago. Those pilgrims who have walked at least the final 100 kms or traveled by bicycle at least the final 200 kms with a spiritual or religious motive will have their name written in Latin on the Compostela, the certificate attesting to their pilgrimage.

Those travelling from Ferrol may receive the Compostela and those travelling from A Coruña will receive the stamp of the Cathedral.

### **Pilgrim Mass**

Each morning around 11 am everyone starts to make their way to the Cathedral. It fills quickly and by noon it is standing room only. Rucksack bearing pilgrims mingle with camera toting tourists.

At the stroke of Noon, the cantor intones an entrance antiphon such as: " Laudate Dominum, Omnes Gentes, Alleluia" and 1000 voices repeat "All people praise the Lord, Alleluia". The procession of priests enters, many still wearing their walking boots under their vestments. A long list is read detailing the countries from which pilgrims have arrived in the last 24 hours.

The Mass which follows is deeply moving, with different accents and languages contributing and from the Pilgrims a profound sense of thankful relief and celebration that the journey has ended.

For them perhaps... but even during Mass still they come...rising behind the altar and hugging the statue of St James.

You are now entering the old town of Santiago. For those who have not visited before the medieval city with all of its streets, plazas and lanes can be at first confusing. The final stages of the Camino Inglés are simple – you should keep straight on ahead all the way along the Rúa Santa Clara becoming the Rúa dos Loureiros, the Porta da Pena, the Rúa da Troia and when the road narrows with buildings on either side come to the end and turn right. KSO ignoring the left turn and pass down into the Plaza Immaculada with the Cathedral rising above you on the Left. KSO ahead down the steps under the arch in front of you and reach the monumental Plaza del Obradoiro in **Santiago de Compostela. 16 kms**

**Congratulations!!**  
You've arrived

#### **On arriving in Santiago:**

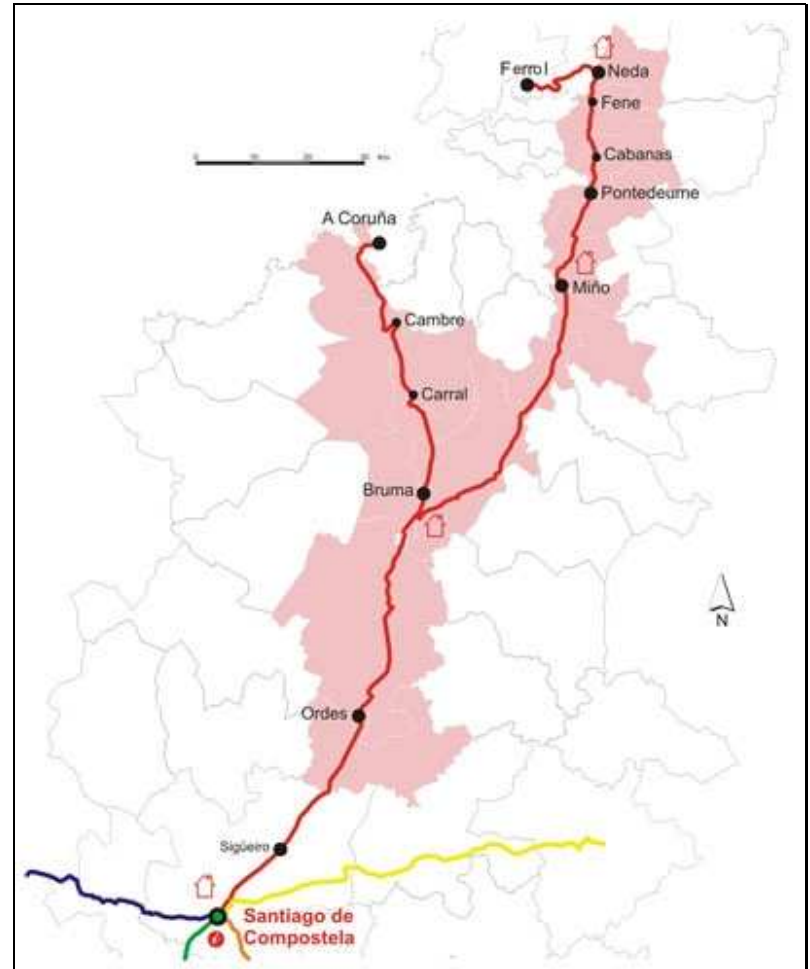
##### **The Pillar, the Hug and the Tomb**

Each day pilgrims arrive at the Cathedral Square but their journey is not at an end, they still have things to do.

Entering the Cathedral each pilgrim first touches the Pillar depicting the Tree of Jesse where now you can actually put your fingers into grooves marked by centuries of hands. (closed for restoration in 2008)

Then to the back of the high altar to rise behind the statue of St James to give him the traditional "abrazo" - a warm hug in gratitude for a journey well made.

Then descending to the tomb of the Saint to give thanks for all that has been encountered on the long journey here.



Source: [www.xacobeo.es](http://www.xacobeo.es)

## The Camino Inglés

In 2000 the Confraternity of Saint James published the first English language guide to the Camino Inglés prepared by Patricia Quaife and Francis Davey. Since then, like the other pilgrimage routes to Santiago de Compostela increasing numbers of pilgrims have travelled to Santiago on the Camino Inglés.

### The Confraternity of Saint James in the United Kingdom

The Confraternity of Saint James in the UK is the largest and oldest English speaking association of pilgrims.

The Confraternity promotes the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela and provides support and services to pilgrims.

Amongst these services are: Practical Pilgrim Days where around the country they provide an opportunity for potential pilgrims to learn more, a regular members' bulletin, and a bookshop and library. The Confraternity also promotes research and provides a bursary to young people undertaking research into the movement around St James and they also offer help to elderly, frail or disabled people who might otherwise be unable to undertake the pilgrimage.

The Confraternity publishes guides to many of the routes to Santiago and also runs two refuges for pilgrims at Gaucelmo (on the Camino Francés) and Miraz (on the Camino del Norte).

See more at [www.csj.org.uk](http://www.csj.org.uk)

The CSJ can also provide a Pilgrim Record for members - [www.csj.org.uk/how-to-get-a-credencial](http://www.csj.org.uk/how-to-get-a-credencial)

- 4 You are now in the industrial outskirts of Santiago and on the final stage of your journey. Unlike other routes to Santiago such as the Camino Francés and the Via de la Plata, the pilgrim's entrance into the city on the Camino Inglés, is not heralded with far off views of the spires of the Cathedral which get closer. You will not see the Cathedral until you are almost upon it. For those who have not walked into Santiago before that wonder has yet to come.

KSO passing the café bar Poligono on the Right. KSO across two roundabouts then pass to the Right of a large walled cemetery and leave the industrial estate behind and come to a house number 66 on the Left with a waymark tile. **13 kms**

KSO the road as it moves between houses. After 300 meters pass the Café Bar Nero on the Left. At stop sign immediately after the bar follow waymarks to the left and pass in front of the Café Bar Andega Bello. A little further on observe the yellow arrow on lamp post and pavement and follow the road Right passing the café bar José Rey – KSO until at house number 59 Rúa do Tambre in Meixofrio notice a waymarked turning to the right. **14 kms**

Follow the road downhill slightly passing a lavadero on your left then rising up to the top of the road to the trees with a waymark opposite indicating a Left turn.

KSO along this street passing on your left the Centro Libredón at number 94 with scallop shell decorations on the window grills. At house number 58 KSO ahead until you come to a left hand turning with a yellow arrow on the wall opposite. **15kms.** Turn left and follow the road round to the Left and at the Café Bar Garcia Lorca note the yellow arrow on the kerb opposite with a waymark and cross over and down into a small park taking the first Right path with arches on your Left. Walk up to the statue of Pablo Iglesias after whom the park is named and using the pedestrian crossings cross to the diagonal opposite of where you are now to the Rúa da Pastoriza. On the roundabout behind you there is a large modern sculpture of a pilgrim. Walk along the Rúa da Pastoriza away from the sculpture. You are now heading for the old town of Santiago and the Cathedral. Look for the towers of the Cathedral appearing above the rooftops.

Shortly at the Church on the Left the road becomes the Rúa dos Basquiños. KSO until you come to a government building dealing with emigration on the Left at which point cross over and proceed down a lower road on the right hand side the Rúa Santa Clara past the Convento del Carmen.

KSO uphill and at a junction with a house on your Left follow the waymark to the Left up a path through the trees. As you move up the incline realise that this is the last major cardio vascular exercise you will do for any sustained amount of time on the Camino Inglés! Another cause for celebration is that you are now less than 10 kms from Santiago.

At the top of the incline at the waymark turn Left onto another path. At the top follow this path up to a junction and veer left. There appear to be **NO** arrows at the start. Having turned Left KSO and eventually come upon an electricity pylon with a very faded but reassuring yellow arrow. KSO. As you pass a larger electricity pylon on your Right the path goes through an area shaded by trees and as you emerge out at the road with stone building to the Right happily there is a waymark indicating that you turn right.

Pass along the front of the house along the hard shoulder of the main road. Pass a white electricity junction station with a tiled roof. KSO passing house 52 on the other side of the road. And another brick house and at an 80 k speed limit sign turn Right passing house 30 Casa de Andrea on the Right. Go gently uphill then at an old factory or farm building follow the way mark to the left taking the path gently downhill.

KSO this path through the woods following waymarks and as you emerge at the end of the forest path to a small road running parallel to the N550 follow the waymark to the Right.

KSO this minor road parallel to the main road for 1km eventually veering right at the top and coming out onto to a small road with a waymark. Turn Right.

KSO downhill passing factory units on the Left and head uphill on a dirt track into the trees. Follow this path and a waymark turning to the Left. KSO ahead. At the end of this section at a factory follow the waymark on the wall and turn slightly downhill to the Right. Then reach a modern office building occupied by Telsís on your left with a waymark in front of you. Turn Left. **12 kms**

## Introduction

“The pilgrimage way to Compostela enjoyed widespread fame throughout medieval Europe. Land and sea alike were furrowed with routes rich in spirituality leading to Santiago de Compostela. The maritime routes drew pilgrims from Scandinavia, Flanders, England, Scotland and Ireland on their way to destinations such as Ribadeo, Viveiro, Ferrol and A Coruña. Blessed by an exceptionally strategic location, the latter two coastal enclaves are the starting points for the two alternative itineraries that make up the English Way.”

(Source: The Xacobeo guide to the Camino Inglés)

## 2009 Edition of the Guide

Routes change with time. New road networks can severely disrupt previously established ways and accommodation and other facilities for pilgrims may close or open. Waymarking too can change and in some parts of the route new sections have been opened.

Over the eight years since the first edition was published various pilgrims who walked the route submitted up-dated information to the CSJ which they helpfully published on their website.

This Guide is a substantial revision of the first edition. It provides a list of current resources available to pilgrims on the internet, information on current accommodation on the route and a detailed description of the stages of the route itself. It also provides the distances involved both between and within stages.

The 2000 edition described the background to the route with information about towns and villages along the way and helpful hints and tips. This edition incorporates much of this.

### Statistics – Pilgrims walking or cycling the Camino Inglés

2000	98
2001	131
2002	181
2003	260
2004	3,096 (Holy Year)
2005	651
2006	804
2007	1,085
2008	1,451

(Source: La Oficina de Acogida al Peregrino of Santiago de Compostela)

### Internet resources

The Xacobeo Guide to the Camino Inglés. Available from Tourist Offices and also downloadable at:

[http://www.xacobeo.es/2006/adjuntos/descargas/25\\_The\\_English\\_Way.pdf](http://www.xacobeo.es/2006/adjuntos/descargas/25_The_English_Way.pdf)

A number of Camino related internet sites offer useful information about the Camino Inglés. The following list is not exhaustive:

<http://www.csj.org.uk/route-camino-ingles.htm>

The Confraternity of Saint James is worth joining to support this, the oldest English language association run by pilgrims for pilgrims. It is the principal source of information on Camino related matters.

- [www.pilgrimage-to-santiago.com](http://www.pilgrimage-to-santiago.com)

With the largest English speaking interactive pilgrims' forum.

- [http://www.santiago-compostela.net/ingles/index\\_ci\\_en.html](http://www.santiago-compostela.net/ingles/index_ci_en.html)

For photographs of the route

- [http://www.xacobeo.es/2006/adjuntos/descargas/25\\_The\\_English\\_Way.pdf](http://www.xacobeo.es/2006/adjuntos/descargas/25_The_English_Way.pdf)

For a very well presented downloadable general guide to the route in English – not worth printing if calling at the Tourist Office in Ferrol – see below.

Shortly after the tunnel follow the waymark sign and turn left. Soon at a junction on the road carry on straight ahead and follow the arrows along a wide path between trees. Follow the path as it wends its way eventually down to the road but shortly before then follow the waymark sign and turn Left. KSO gently downhill and straight ahead at the next crossroads. KSO at the next crossroads see the waymark sign on the wall of a pink house on the left. Shortly after which is a Cruceiro with picnic area and children's play area to the Left. **5 kms**

KSO passing a church on your left and KSO to the end of the road between the houses and turn Left at the waymark. Shortly follow the yellow arrows and walk along the Left hand hard shoulder of the N 550 keeping close to the barrier. Then veer left and pass over a gravel path in front of a house and cross the road and go downhill to turn right into a tunnel below the N550. Pass under the road and shortly afterwards walking up a gentle incline follow the waymark to the Left along a path. At the end of this section as you reach a minor road at a farm building follow the waymark left.

Follow this road up to the STOP sign at the main road and turn right at the waymark to pass a building on your Left with a picnic area to the side. KSO the lane in front of you.

After turning to the left KSO following the yellow arrow on the wall. Keep on this small road veering to the Left at the waymark at the stone house on the Right. At the STOP sign at the end of this section turn hard Right onto a small road which passes alongside but below the main road. Pass on your Left a large Camino de Santiago sign.

At the end of this section go up a small path to the left passing behind the crash barrier then cross a concrete bridge over a small river and KSO to the bus stop. At the bus stop move out Left to walk beside the crash barrier on the Right hand side of the road alongside the bus lane. Very shortly pass a hórreo and a building on the other side of the road with the sign "Ferreteria Cruz". At the next junction turning to the right you will see the yellow arrow on the ground and on the lamp post opposite. Follow this road to the Right. Just past house number 4 opposite a small Telefónica building turn up Left.

Proceed through a concrete tunnel under the **railway. 8 kms**

### Mass and sello:

Both available at the Church of Barciela dedicated to St Andrew. Mass at 7.30 pm. Sello available in the sacristy. The Church is just across the bridge from the Hostal Miras and is on the route to Santiago.

### Sigüeiro – Santiago de Compostela approximately 16 kms

Cross the bridge over the River Tambre and at the end of the bridge follow the waymark to the Left. There is a slight discrepancy between the mileage on the waymarks from here and those given in this Guide. This is due to changes to the route. The overall difference is only around .5 km. Go up the lane and veer to the Right passing the Church on one side and a bandstand on the other.

There is a water tap on the wall behind the church, next to the cemetery gate. If your bottles are not full, this is your last chance until the outskirts of Santiago.

Go up the incline in front of you with the parish cemetery to your Left. KSO a forest path. After approximately **1 km** the path emerges onto a minor road. Turn Right following the waymark. Follow this road to the STOP sign and cross the main road taking up a forest path opposite with the waymark sign on the Right hand side. Ignore the immediate Left turn at a house KSO up the path going steadily uphill.

Stay on this path on a fairly long straight stretch to a T junction at the end with a waymark indicating a Left turn.

Keep on this path downhill a short distance to a cross roads and follow the waymark turning Right. After a short distance rising gently on this path follow the waymark and turn Right. Follow this path along and then gently downhill close to and parallel to the motorway. Veering gently left to a staggered cross roads carry on straight ahead following the waymark.

Follow this path round as it skirts to the left hand side of a large field with trees on your left. As you pass the field on your Right avoid the left turn following the waymark straight ahead. Proceed downhill on the path and KSO through a tunnel under the motorway. **3.5 kms**

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- <http://www.caminoingles.com>

For strip maps, photographs and general information

- <http://www.mundicamino.com/>

With much information and graphic profiles

- [www.turgalicia.es](http://www.turgalicia.es)

Go to publications – Mapas de Galicia – Mapas Camiños de Santiago

For a map of the routes in Galicia

Go to publications – and then Aloxamentos 2008 for a list of registered hotels and hostales – the index covers the main points on the route

- [http://www.ign.es/ign/en/IGN/cartoteca\\_MapTopo.jsp](http://www.ign.es/ign/en/IGN/cartoteca_MapTopo.jsp)

For map enthusiasts there is a complete set of IGN 1:50,000 maps of Spain are available for download as PDF files.

### Albergues

On the Ferrol arm of the route there are currently albergues in Neda, Miño and Hospital de Bruma - these have been established through the enthusiasm of local Amigos Associations rather than an overall plan of accommodation needs on this route. This is only now emerging. Therefore most modern pilgrims use the following stages using **hostal or hotel accommodation** at each stage or either hostel accommodation or the excellent albergue at Hospital de Bruma:

Ferrol – Pontedeume	25 kms
Pontedeume – Betanzos	20 kms
Betanzos – Hospital de Bruma	29 kms
Hospital de Bruma – Sigüeiro	24 kms
Sigüeiro – Santiago de Compostela	16 kms

For those wishing to use **albergues**:

Ferrol – Neda	11kms
Neda – Miño	27 kms
Betanzos	9 kms from Miño - from 2010
Miño – Hospital de Bruma	38 kms

New albergues planned:

Local authorities in the area have started meeting to discuss extending the network of municipal albergues along the Camino Inglés. New albergues are planned for Betanzos, Sigüeiro and Carral, the latter being on the A Coruña arm.

The new albergue in Betanzos will hopefully be ready in 2010 and will provide 40 places. It is situated at 1 Rua Cervantes in the town centre.  
The new albergue in Sigüeiro is planned to open for 2010 – more details to follow.

### How to get there

Fly to A Coruña with Clickair from London and walk from there to Santiago or take a bus to Ferrol:

<http://www.clickair.com>

<http://www.coruna-ya.com/transporte-interurbano/marina-lucense/ferrol.html>

The airport bus from A Coruña costs around 1 euro. It stops at the bus station if you wish immediate onward travel to Ferrol.

Or

Fly to Santiago with Ryanair and get a bus to Ferrol or A Coruña:

<http://www.ryanair.com>

Regular bus service from Santiago to Ferrol and A Coruña from the **Estación Central de Autobuses**.

From Oviedo and Asturias: Getting to Ferrol from Oviedo: The narrow-gauge FEVE train leaves Oviedo at 07.47 or 14.47; the scenic journey takes 7 hrs. see

[www.feve.es](http://www.feve.es)

For the more adventurous:

Follow in the footsteps of medieval pilgrims and sail from Ireland to A Coruña:

<http://www.jeaniejohnston.ie/>

KSO past the bus stop passing on your Right a series of industrial buildings dominated by the Televés building. KSO down this road and at the bottom ignore the road to the left and follow the road round Right. KSO until you come to a waymark leading you off to the Left through a very well waymarked path until you emerge at the local swimming pool. Pass around the swimming pool Left and pass the final waymark pointing the way over waste ground into **Sigüeiro**.

At a modern sculpture dedicated to the Camino Inglés opposite the Centro Cultural turn Right following the Rúa Lengüelle and take the second turn on the Left see a waymark tile high on a column at this turning. Proceed up this street, the Rúa do Tambre, to the main road with a Farmacia at the top. At the top on the street turn Right and walk down to the bottom. On your right is the Hostal Miras and on your left is the bridge over the Río Tambre. **24 kms**

### Where to stay?

There are two options in Sigüeiro:

- 1 By permission of the Ayuntamiento it is possible for pilgrims to sleep in the local sports centre or polideportivo but you may only arrive after 5pm and by arrangement – tel: 981691478 or 616 408 598 or 659975171 or check with the hospitalera in Bruma. There are mattresses and showers. The polideportivo is close by the swimming pool you pass on your way into Sigüeiro - you go up out of the waste land to the left towards some flats and then turn left into a lane. Very basic.
- 2 The Hostal Miras – Tele: 981 69 45 08. 15 Euros for a room – very basic but with excellent and reasonably priced home made food.

There are regular buses into Santiago and there is a taxi stand opposite the bar of the Hostal Miras.

Follow the waymarks through the hamlets of **Carreira, Mámoas** and **Carballeira** and eventually reach the village of **Buscas. 8 kms**

The Bar Novo is on the Left and provides sandwiches. Opposite is the Casa Rural, Dona Maria Telephone 981 681 430. The church of San Paio is close to the road on the Right and a Cruceiro. The church has a small 18<sup>th</sup> Century statue of San Paio, a child martyr, on the outer wall. There is another bar on the Right, the Bar La Rúa.

Proceed out of **Buscas** following the waymarks. After 2.5 kms after leaving Buscas when the route passes under the road, cross the road and pass a house on the Left. Follow the route to the Left signed by a waymark and on your Right is a Casa Rural, the Antón Veiras Telephone 981 682 302. Shortly after this you will see the Parish Church of San Xulian de Poulo off to your Right.

KSO into Calle de Poulo. **13 kms** At the Cruceiro on the Left is the Café-Bar O Cruceiro. This is the last stop for food and drink before Sigüeiro. Carolina the owner is happy to fill water bottles with fresh, cold spring water.

At the junction there is a road off to the Right with a sign Ordes 3 kms where there is a good selection of accommodation etc. The Hostal Louro is recommended: down the steps from the main square at José Antonio 19. Tele: 981680831.

If going on to Sigüeiro from the Cruceiro at the Bar follow the arrows past the Church, Capilla de NS de la Mercedes and follow signs to Pereira. Having followed the arrows for approximately 2 kms following a forest path section come to a junction and KSO following a kerb of granite blocks on the left of the path and after a short distance you will see the next waymark. Further on at a left turn at a waymarked crossroads on the forest track there is an information board about the Camiño Real. A little further on cross a main road with a bus stop which is useful for a rest on a hot day this is opposite a sign Husquarnh and a road sign to A Burata. **18kms**

Cross over, passing the bus stop on your Right, and proceed down and under the motorway follow the arrows and shortly turn on to a long straight broad track and KSO for approximately 4 kms until you come to another bus stop. **22 kms**

### How to find a place to stay

The internet is now a rich source of information on accommodation. So too is the local Tourist Office which will have a list of accommodation of different prices and they may also express an opinion on the most suitable. Whilst many pilgrims want to book in advance to be sure of a bed and to avoid trailing around hostales with a rucksack at the end of a hard day's walking, there are bargains to be had arranging at the last moment. If you are going to do this however make sure you avoid any local fiestas.

You should check out in advance how to get to the Tourist Office or town centre from your point of arrival at the airport/bus station.

### Travelling by bus or taxi on the Camino

All of the bars along the route have telephone numbers for local taxis and information about buses.

Throughout the A Coruña arm and from Bruma/Meson do Vento on the joint route, it is not too difficult to leave the Camino and walk to the parallel main N550 road (A Coruña to Santiago) where there are buses in both directions. These are at hourly and sometimes 2 hourly intervals with the last bus being at 7pm except on a Friday.

There are hotels and hostales along the road at Meson do Vento, Ordenes and Sigüeiro that provide useful and inexpensive alternatives for meals and lodgings.

### Language

Spanish and Galician (Gallego), which is closer to Portuguese in many ways, have equal status in Galicia. Most people in towns speak both languages but in the countryside Galician is more commonly used. Place-names on sign-posts may be in either language, for example Ordenes (Spanish) or Ordes (Gallego) although Gallego is now more common.

Whilst along the Camino Inglés you will not encounter many local people who can speak English they are becoming more used to pilgrims from outside Spain. If you make an effort to talk to them they will go out of their way to be helpful. Those who do not speak Spanish can still make this journey but could take a phrase book and/or learn some phrases such as how to ask directions or book a room.

### Definitions for this guide:

KSO – keep straight on

Fuente – a drinking water fountain

Lavadero – a communal place for washing clothes

Cruceiro – a stone cross, usually with figures carved on each side, often placed at parish boundaries

### Departure points

This Guide describes the routes from A Coruña and Ferrol. The route from A Coruña to Santiago de Compostela is approximately 72 kms in length and therefore those travelling this arm of the Camino Inglés are not entitled to receive a Compostela for which a journey of 100 kms is required. The route from Ferrol is approximately 114 kms.

Both routes meet at Hospital de Bruma – 32 kms from A Coruña and 74 kms from Ferrol.

For an overall map of routes in Galicia:

[http://www.turgalicia.es/mapasgalicia/mapasgcs.asp?cidi=G&menu=12&subMenu\\_1=3](http://www.turgalicia.es/mapasgalicia/mapasgcs.asp?cidi=G&menu=12&subMenu_1=3)

### For those staying at the albergue

On entering Bruma follow the waymark tile opposite to the Left and walk down into the village. The albergue with 25 beds is at the bottom with a most helpful hospitalera and her husband, Carmen and Benino. They live nearby in the village.

Tele: 981692921

There is a small cooker and pots for cooking in the albergue and there is the option to walk to Meson do Vento to one of the bars – a round trip of 4 kms.

Often the hospitalero will drive pilgrims to a supermarket for provisions and there is also a delivery service to the albergue:

Menu del Día + sandwiches etc delivered to the albergue from:

La Bar Ruta Tele: 981 692 754.

**Hospital de Bruma** as mentioned in the introduction was an important junction of the two arms of the Camino Inglés and has many interesting buildings still. The medieval church of San Lourenzo (normally closed) is at the far end of the village on the Left. The original nave is now the village church. The arch between the original nave and chancel has been filled in to form the east wall of the present church. On the outer side of this blocked arch the former chancel has been taken down to shoulder height. Part of the medieval hospice is incorporated in the farm cottage next door to the church.

For those leaving the albergue there is a helpful notice: "Bar Novo 8 kms". Also note that the Bar Cruceiro 13 kms from Bruma serves sandwiches and will prepare lunch if you telephone ahead. Tel: 626 311 199. Carolina the owner, and her father speak English fluently.

### Hospital de Bruma – Sigüeiro approximately 24 kms

The route today is very straightforward and well waymarked.

Follow the arrows out of Bruma and KSO for 1 km to **Seixo**. KSO to Cabeza de Lobo with the church of San Pedro and a Cruceiro. A little further on there is a Café/Bar Porto and the current owners speak English having worked in London for some years. However it seems to keep irregular opening hours. **3 kms**

### For those staying in Meson do Vento:

1. Turn Right and go up to the top of the road taking the Left hand fork then proceeding Left along the main road walking on the hard shoulder. KSO until you approach a roundabout at a TV Mast see the sign for the Hotel Canaima Restaurante in front of you.

OR

2. Turn Left on entering Bruma and follow the waymark sign to the left and walk down to the albergue. Just before the albergue turn Right at a children's play area and KSO this quieter road to Meson do Vento following RED arrows painted by the hospitalero. These are somewhat faded now. After the children's play area the road becomes a dirt track – KSO left at the first two junctions then turn Right at the Stop sign where a tarmac road runs across the track left to right. After 2 kms turn Right for the hostales and garage.

Turn left to go into Meson do Vento. There are at least four or five cafe-bars, two grocery stores, and two ATMs, a farmacia and the local parish church of St Andrew.

At Meson do Vento you have a choice of accommodation on each side of the road:

**Hotel Canaima** – Tele: 981681401 28 euros for individuals, 56 euros for 2 people sharing and 40 euros for a room with a double bed.  
Comedor with Menu del Día opening 9pm or 9.30pm. Not always open for breakfast.

**Pension\*\* O Meson Novo** - Tele: 981692776 or 981696808 18 euros per person whether in a single room or sharing. This hostel is cleaner, newer and better appointed than the Hotel Canaima although cheaper. The staff are very welcoming. No Menu del Día but excellent tapas and raciones available all the time. Possible to phone ahead and ask for meals to be prepared.  
Breakfast from 7 am

### A Coruña

#### Where to stay

As a coastal resort popular with the Spanish there is a full range of hotels and hostales at all prices.

All accommodation is listed here:

[www.turgalicia.es](http://www.turgalicia.es)

Go to publications – and then Aloxamentos 2008 for a list of registered hotels and hostales – the index covers the main points on the route

#### Tourist Office

##### Oficina de Turismo de A Coruña

Dársena de La Marina, s/n

Postcode: 15001

E-mail: [oficina.turismo.coruna@xunta.es](mailto:oficina.turismo.coruna@xunta.es)

Telephone: 981221822 | Fax: 981221822

A Coruña Tourist Office, dependent on La Xunta de Galicia, keeps opened all year with the following working hours:

Monday to Friday: from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Saturdays: from 11:00 am to 14:00 pm.

Sundays and bank holidays: from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

#### Credenciales and information about the local Amigos Association

Available for 0.5 € from the Church of Santiago in the Rúa Santiago, the starting point of the route. The church is the oldest in A Coruña and has been restored.

Masses: Daily at 12 noon and 8pm

Sundays and Feasts at 10.30, 11.30, 12.30 and 8pm

**A Coruña – Hospital de Bruma (Albergue) 32 kms or +2 kms to Meson do Vento (Hostales)**

Option 1 – Walk 32 kms to Hospital de Bruma in one stage

Option 2 - Day 1 walk to either the Train Station at O Burgo (8kms) or Hostal Alba (13.5 kms) and walk, take a bus or taxi back to A Coruña returning next day to start again.

Option 3 – Day 1 walk to Hostal Alba (13.5kms) Day 2 Walk to Hospital de Bruma (18.5kms)

There are reports that a new Albergue is planned for Carral, 17kms from A Coruña.

**A Coruña – Hospital de Bruma approximately 32 kms (+2 kms to Meson do Vento)**



KSO passing farm buildings to the Right hand side and after 800 meters there is a yellow arrow pointing straight ahead and immediately see a waymark with path going off to the Left. Follow this dirt track watching out for arrows and on a small power pylon ahead there is an arrow pointing to the Right. When this track joins a minor road follow the waymark and turn Right.

Follow arrows through a small hamlet – pass a red house number 1, A Rivela, and at the junction immediately following the house follow the waymark and turn Right.

Come to the end of this road at a junction with a larger road and straight across the road to the left is a waymark. This is point where the route from A Coruña coming from the Left joins the route from Ferrol.

Follow along the track straight ahead turning when waymarked. Having gone downhill gradually at the bottom of the grassy path you are now on you will find a large path or road being formed on the left. Continue downhill to the Right. At this time there are no yellow arrows immediately after the Right turn. Continue on downhill taking stepping stones over a small brook and continue straight ahead on the other side. Eventually spot a faint yellow arrow on the ground.

Come out at some farm buildings at a T junction and follow the arrows to the Right. After a little at a waymark turn Left.

Follow this track with farm buildings to the Right and at the end veer Left. Follow this path turning right at the waymark then crossing a small stream with stepping stones continuing straight ahead pass a sign saying 1 Km to the Albergue. A little after the stream three paths converge keep on the right hand path following the waymark straight ahead. On passing a hórreo at a house on the corner emerge into **Hospital de Bruma. 29 kms (38 kms from Albergue in Miño)**

Proceed up the hill rising steadily (400 meters in 3kms) until you pass the modern church of San Tomé de Vilacoba follow the road round until a waymark indicates a hard left turn and you move more steeply uphill. At the end of the tarmac road at a house there is an opportunity to look back at vistas across the valley. Continue up a forest path all the way until it turns Right at the top at the waymark. **21 kms**

At the top of the steep section follow the path to the Right. KSO and after a short distance come out between farm building with pasture to the Right. Turn Left up a short incline and enter the small hamlet of **Fontela**. KSO ignoring turns to the left passing a pink house, Vila Fatima, on the corner. KSO the road ahead. Pass a very well placed shaded seated area with fuente and an information board indicating you have now reached **Vizoño**.

KSO the road and after a little way see a sign indicating that there is a Bar 100 meters to the Left. **22 kms** This is the Café Bar Vizoño which may also prove to be a helpful place to stop.

Follow the waymarks ahead and carry straight on up the path. Follow this path as it meanders gently uphill between trees and shortly encounter a waymark, turn Left and keep going gently uphill. Pass a Cruceiro in a clearing with a forest path coming from the left. Follow the direction of the arrow on the Cruceiro and take the Right hand path.

Follow the path round as it moves parallel to the motorway below on the Right hand side and at then follow the path down to the left away from the motorway. Follow the path down to join a road waymarked opposite. Turn Right, effectively doubling back heading back towards to the motorway. Shortly after follow the waymark to turn up Right at the sign which says As Travesas and after a short distance cross the motorway over a bridge.

After the bridge follow the road as it winds its way uphill and then follow a waymark to a left hand turn. See farm building to the Right but keep on the road you are on veering to the left. The road levels out at farm buildings.

From the West door of the Church of Santiago walk down the Rúa de Santiago. Note a yellow arrow and waymark tile on the wall of house number 15. These are almost non-existent for the next 14 kms.

Take the first Right at the bottom of the short hill and turn into the Calle de Maria Barbeito which immediately brings you into the impressive Plaza de María Pita with the Ayuntamiento building dominating the far side. To your Left is one of two **tourist offices** in the City.

Cross the square diagonally to the Left corner and leave to the Left passing the Church of San Jorge (St George) on your right. Proceed along the Calle San Agustin passing on your left the Plaza del Humor with its amusing sculptured figures. KSO until you reach the Church of San Nicolás on your left. Turn Left down the Rúa San Nicolás which shortly becomes Bailen after a junction. KSO this short street and at the bottom turn Right into the Calle Real. KSO past the Obelisk on your Left and into the area known as Cantones with its wide streets. Cross over to the side with gardens, benches and trees but stay on the pavement keeping straight on in the direction you were walking when passing the Obelisk. Cross a road at traffic lights and pass a government building on your Left. There is another Tourist Information office just opposite on your Right. KSO and shortly reach the gates of the **Puerto de A Coruña. 1 km**

Passing the gates of the Puerto de A Coruña on your Left keep in a dead straight line on the pavement and follow it up over the overpass into the area called Santa Lucia. Pass the Avenida de Fernandez Latorre on your Left and take the next Left into the Rúa Santa Lucia. As you move along the Rúa Santa Lucia it becomes the Calle Castiñeiras de Abajo and at the bottom you will be facing an overpass and just beyond it the modern parish church of San Pedro de Begonzo. Cross over the road at the crossing to the park and cross the park bearing left uphill. Cross the Paseo de Alexandre Bóveda keeping the motorway overpass to your immediate Right. Pass gardens and the Plaza de Cuatro Caminos on your Left. Cross the Calle Castro Chane and it becomes clear that the road you are on is the Calle de los Caballeros with a road sign at a walkway to your Right over the motorway. KSO ahead at the next junction with the Calle Perpetuo Socorro. KSO passing the **bus station** over to your left. **2.5 kms**

KSO past the bus station on your Left and shortly after this pass under a bridge and at the crossing immediately thereafter cross to the other side of the road. KSO the Rúa dos Caballeros. Veer left and come to a fairly major junction and cross over keeping straight ahead up the Avenida de Molenos with blocks of flats on either side. There is no street sign immediately obvious but keep going straight up hill. As you cross the Calle Rafael Dieste look to your Left and see the Church of **Santa María de Oza**.

KSO at the junction with the Calle de Vicente Aleixandre and also cross the next junction on your Left. Keep on the pavement veering left at a large junction with a roundabout and shortly cross over the junction with the Calle Jerónimo Vázquez Franco and KSO uphill the Avenida Molenos. Near the top of the hill at House number 11 on your Left, a small house built on rock see a waymark and a yellow arrow taking you off to the Right at house number 8 on your Right. **4 kms**

*This is the first of two waymarked diversions from the main road. The second comes as the route passes through Portazgo. The first of these is a pleasant walk along lanes behind and between houses. The second diversion, a waymarked Left turn, as you pass through Portazgo is not recommended. Indeed if you take these diversions locals may direct you back to the road explaining that the arrows are bad. This is an indication that a number of pilgrims have got lost!*

At House Number 8 either KSO the road passing on your Right the Centro Oncológico. KSO until you cross over the motorway to enter Portazgo passing on your Right the Centro Commercial Alcampo, then a petrol station and the sign for **Portazgo**.

*Or turn Right opposite house number 8 at house number 11 and follow the pleasant lanes until you come out onto the road where you turn Right to cross the bridge over the motorway to reach the Centro Commercial Alcampo on your Right as in the previous paragraph.*

KSO through Portazgo, ignoring any yellow arrows taking you left, as they are misleading. Stick to the main roads until the railway station. So, KSO until you reach the AC-215 which goes off downhill to the left, being the Calle del Acaide Electo Carballo, probably signposted El Burgo. KSO until where the road forks. Take the left fork i.e. continuing along the Acaide Electo, until a roundabout where you bear right along the main road.

Follow this path going gently then more steadily meandering uphill through the trees for 300 meters emerging at some buildings onto a small road. KSO crossing a minor road taking up the path on the other side again at the waymark. After a very short section at another waymark at a fork in the path turn Right. Keep on this level section until it meets a minor road coming from the Right – there is an arrow on a stone to the Left marking – turn Left. KSO this road to a small ruined cottage covered in vegetation and at the end turn Left with a yellow arrow on a fence post opposite.

KSO to the end of the road at the waymark turn Right continuing up hill to the shelter at the end of the road and turn Left. As you turn Left you can see the next waymark indicating a Right turn at a small brick building. Follow the path through the trees turning Left onto a minor road at a waymark. KSO passing on your left an information board indicating you have arrived at **Leiro** at a large covered seated recreation area useful in wet weather. Pass the parish church of Leiro with a Cruceiro. Cross the road to the waymark taking turns Left and Right following the directions of the waymarks. Follow the path round a large field to the bottom where there is a waymark indicating a Right turn. Follow this lovely forest path all the way until it rises gently emerging beside a house and shortly thereafter a minor road – turn Left.

Follow the road and at the end follow the waymark Left turning. As the road turns to the Left cross carefully and turn Right at the waymark onto a grassy path. Follow the path along a quiet section with the river bubbling to the Left below. Follow this path until it rises away from the river with a yellow arrow on a tree indicating that you fork up to the Right. Emerge out onto another path turning Right at a house which you pass on your left hand side...shortly along this road keep your eyes open for a yellow arrow on the ground indicating a Left turn. Take the path to the Left immediately passing a house on the Right hand side and turning Right downhill at this house. Almost immediately join the road with yellow arrows on the ground and a way mark opposite. Follow the road down and shortly you will see the **Casa Julia/Bar Julia** on the right hand side. **18 kms**

The opening hours are erratic but if open this is a useful stopping point for food. If closed, the next bar is in 4 kms at Vizoño. Shortly after the Bar Julia at the bottom of the road is a fountain with fresh clean and very cold water – another ideal place to stop for a break before the ascent up the hill.

Just past the church follow the waymarks turning to the Right passing the Centro Social de Cos and at the end of this short road at the STOP sign with a bus stop opposite follow the yellow arrow on the ground and turn Left. Cross the road to the pavement and KSO. After a little come to the first turning on the Right with a waymark.

After a little follow the waymark to turn Left at house Number 2 with a sign Carballal. At the end of this short road at the STOP sign follow the yellow arrows on the ground and turn Left. Cross the road beyond the bend and take the first turning on the Right which is waymarked at the corner. The road sign indicated this is in the direction of Cesuras. Follow this road gently uphill into the trees.

Follow the path into the trees and after a few steps take the right hand fork which is waymarked. Follow this shaded forest path to the bottom crossing a small brook and then rise up turning Left at the waymark onto a minor road. Follow this road to the top at T junction and following the yellow arrow on the ground turn Right onto another minor road. Shortly after take a waymarked turn Left. Follow this road round to the Right at the next T junction and continue uphill following the waymark to the next junction at house number 2 and follow the road and yellow arrows to the Left. This section remains well waymarked and look out for yellow arrows also on the ground at junctions. Pass a red house to your left hand side moving gradually uphill. After a waymarked turn to the Right the road moves downhill and at the bottom at a STOP sign turn Right and a few short steps turn Left. At the end of this road at house Number 4 on your Left KSO a country path as waymarked. Follow the path round passing through a tree lined section. KSO path with faint yellow arrows on the trees and at the end turn Left to join a minor road as indicated by the waymark. At the bottom of the road at the STOP sign turn Right onto a more major road at a sign **Presedo. 12 kms**

Cross the Presedo bridge. Proceed uphill on this main road being vigilant for occasional but fast traffic. As the road turns see the waymark sign taking a path off to the Left.

KSO the Avenida de Acea de Ama over the river with a ruined tidal mill to your immediate left. The façade of this mill has been restored and three arches are visible. The railway is also on your left. You will then come to the Café Bar O' Muíño and shortly after this the Renfe buildings of the **train station** with the sign O Burgo – Santiago. **8 kms**

KSO passing the Renfe station on your left and go up to the top of the slight hill in front of you. Veer Left walking along parallel to the railway. Straight ahead you have a view of the bell tower of the Church at O Burgo. KSO and turn Left to cross the railway and then immediately Right into the Rúa Mosteiro de Carraxepo. Pass on your left the parish church of Santiago de O Burgo with gates in the shape of a scallop shell. 8pm Mass. Sello available. If you are on the side of the Church cross the road and KSO down to the old bridge now restored with a fuente adjacent. Cross the river. There is a granite waymark showing the distance to Santiago of 64.295 kms. Having crossed the bridge KSO to your Right.

Notice across the road Left the Church of Santa María do Temple with a cemetery. Veer round to the Right and KSO the Rúa Temple gently uphill.

KSO passing under the motorway and at approximately **10 kms** pass on your left hand side the 2 star hotel A' Marisqueira with individual rooms from 30 Euros. <http://www.hotelamarisqueira.com>

KSO the main road which veers Left just after the hotel and enter the Parroquia de Cambre. Pass a garage and the Brico King store on your Right. KSO gently uphill on the Caretera Cambre – Temple.

KSO eventually downhill into **Cambre** proper and at a small roundabout KSO ahead. Shortly after the roundabout pass the Banco Banesto on your Left and cross the road to turn Right passing a group of trees on your Right and turn Left at the top with the offices of the town hall the Casa Concello de Cambre where during opening hours it is possible to get a sello.

Pass a children's play area on your left and then the impressive Romanesque Church of Santa María de Cambre. **12kms**

Pass the church on your Left. KSO following the road round to the right. KSO to the bottom of this tree lined street passing on your left the old Renfe station of Cambre. Follow the road up veering to the Left.

Cross the railway line and KSO. Cross a bridge over the Río Mero.

KSO until you reach the Pensión Residencia Alba on your Left with a café bar and restaurante. **13.5kms**

Pensión Residencia Alba – Tel 981 67 63 14 and 981 67 48 62 with individual rooms at 25 Euros with higher prices in August. Book in advance.

### Detour to the Church of Santiago de Sigras



Just before the Hostal Alba, turn sharp right (4 o'clock position as you walk up the hill). Take the second turning on the left, 325m from the junction, and proceed up a hill on a minor road. At the top of the hill reach a grass mound in the centre of a minor road junction. It has a cruceiro on it and it is also the point where it joins the "official" route from A Xira and waymarking becomes more plentiful. At the grassy mound, take the left road and continue up the hill passing a shrine to St. Anthony on your Left. The shrine is dated 1815 with the legend round the edge, "Si buscas milagros, mira" i.e. "If you are looking for miracles, look!" KSO for another 125m up the hill and on the Right is the church of **Santiago de Sigras** which is nearly always closed. To the left of the church is a dilapidated pilgrim hospital. There is a fine 18<sup>th</sup> century Calvary nearby. The west front of the church has a stone inset saying *Re-edifase el año de 1500*. From the outside a stained glass roundel depicting Santiago Matamoros can be seen.

At this time the arrows are few and faded on this stretch. Shortly after passing the small wooden building cross the bridge over the railway line. KSO gently uphill.

After a little the road levels out and you come to a junction with a road coming from the Right – turn left following waymarks. KSO to cross the bridge passing over the motorway.

At the other side of the bridge turn hard Right at the waymark and the sign Xanrozo. Proceed downhill and after a little way take the second waymark turn on the Left and then pass a house on the Right marked Juan Rozo. Just past Juan Rozo there is a lavadero down on the Right hand side. Just past the lavadero KSO at 2 waymarked junctions one shortly after the other. KSO crossing another road coming round a bend from the Right and follow the waymark at the junction. KSO up this road past a house on the Left forking Right as indicated by the waymark.

Follow this road to the top and at the STOP sign turn Left onto a more major road – there is a yellow arrow nailed to a lamp post across the road.

Immediately pass a house on the right called Rex Urdir. Shortly after passing this house there are two waymarks and a yellow arrow indicating a turn to the Right onto a more minor road with a bench on the Left hand side.

Follow the road gradually downhill following the waymarks and avoiding Left or Right turns until you reach the football pitch at Limiñón. Cross over to the first information board about the Camino Inglés placed at junctions in this area. KSO on a country path going downhill with the football pitch to your Left. KSO, the path is well waymarked at all junctions. At a waymarked junction at the bottom turn Right onto a minor road. Almost immediately cross a bridge over the river and proceed into **Cos. 6 kms**

After the sign for Cos follow the waymark taking the road gently downhill to the left. KSO on this road wooded on each side passing on the Left an Engas installation. **7 kms** KSO ahead following the road uphill to the church of San Estéban de Cos with a small cemetery and a Cruceiro in front. **NB** there is a working tap on the left hand wall of the church.

**Betanzos – Hospital de Bruma approximately 29 kms (+2kms to hostel at Meson do Vento)**

There are sections of the stage today which some may find demanding. There are opportunities to top up on water on the way but in very hot weather it may be advisable to carry more than usual. Food may be available at the Bar Julia if it is open some 18 kms from Betanzos or in Vizoño 4kms later, but you may wish to carry some with you. You should also carry some energy food such as dried fruit and nuts or energy bars.

Whilst there are stretches walking uphill the rewards of this stage are many and you will encounter beautiful scenes and vistas.

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Leave the main plaza of Betanzos by taking the Rúa de Rollo on the left of the far side of the plaza. In this stretch there are Bars open from 7.30am.

At the top of the hill where there is a small roundabout. KSO observing the first yellow arrow on the ground.

Follow the road downhill and at the bottom pass on the Right El Bar Rincon (closed at this time). Cross a small bridge then KSO across the main road passing in front of a shop and follow the Left turning at house number 38 indicated by the yellow arrow on the wall.

Follow this minor road steadily up hill turning Right at the tile on the wall and a sign O Coto. KSO at a junction with a house named Picheira climbing steadily out of Betanzos. At a fork in the road take the left hand fork indicated by the waymark. KSO heading uphill on this pleasant road through trees. When it levels out at a junction KSO ahead passing a modern small wooden building to the left.

From the graveyard behind the church there are good views of the surrounding hills. Many of the graves are surrounded by low clipped box hedges.

After the church, continue up the narrow road. There are houses on either side. At a V junction bear left and 40m later turn Right. The road continues for 600m until a cross roads with houses on each corner. Continue straight across and follow the road for a further 400m until you eventually come out on the main road at a junction. A yellow arrow on the road directs you to bear left and cross the junction following the signpost to Anceis. You have now returned to the "direct" route up the hill from the Hostal Alba. Cross over the motorway by a bridge and take the slight left towards Anceis.

**From the Pensión Residencia Alba** on your Left KSO uphill. There is a panaderia across the road and on your Right a very useful fruit and grocery shop.

KSO uphill passing on your right a Tabac which also sells fruit and vegetables!

Pass the Restaurante Olarpeiro on your Right. KSO and as the road levels out the main road N550 goes off to the Right. KSO Left following the sign to Anceis.

Follow the road across the motorway. You will see remnants of faded yellow arrows in this section. Keep your eyes peeled for them.

Follow the road round passing house La Rocha with a very clear yellow arrow opposite. KSO ahead on a minor road. The route is now much more clearly waymarked and the route becomes more scenic and pastoral.

Pass through the square in **Anceis** with the first of a series of Information Boards for the Camiño Ingés and a handsome fuente with a statue of St Anthony. Many of these boards have English translations giving historical information.



Follow the waymarks out of the square and follow the road round Left ignoring the turning on your right. A little further on at house 12 A Eira follow the yellow arrow and the waymark and turn Right. Pass a Cruceiro on your Left.

KSO on the road veering left shortly at a cross roads. There are yellow arrows and a waymark in front of you indicating that almost immediately you veer Right at house number 25. Shortly leave the minor road at a waymark with the distance 57.027. KSO this leafy track at the end of which come out onto a minor road turning Right with a yellow arrow and waymark. KSO on this road rising up a little and at a junction at house 115 KSO ahead. Very shortly at the junction at the top of the road where waymarks might be confusing turn **LEFT** at the sign board Right Alta Mira and Left to Sigrás.

Shortly after turning Left there are more yellow arrows and approximately 0.5 kms further on an Information Board welcoming the pilgrim to **Carral**.

Come off the country path onto a minor road at a junction and KSO ahead. Pass a panaderia on your Left immediately after the junction and KSO downhill passing house Lameira on your Right and a rest area for pilgrims with picnic tables, fuente, shelter and Information Board. **17 kms**

Shortly after the rest area at a junction KSO gently uphill. At the next junction at a bus stop turn left with a yellow arrow and waymark. KSO this undulating road passing on your Right an outdoor sports area with football and basket ball nets in **Sergude**.

## Hostales

Name	Address	Telephone	No of rooms	Price
<b>Betanzos chocolateria</b>	<b>Pintor Seijo Rubio, 1</b>	<b>(+34) 981 77 44 95</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>30 euros</b>
<b>Cheíño</b>	<b>Rúa Venezuela</b>	<b>(+34) 981 77 31 28</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15 euros</b>
<b>Universal</b>	<b>Linares Rivas, 18</b>	<b>(+34) 981 77 00 55</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25 euros</b>

These hostales are given in the order in which they were recommended – the rooms in the Betanzos Chocolateria are in an apartment in a separate building to the bar which may be an issue for lone pilgrims.

## Mass and sellos

The Church of Santiago appears only to have a 1pm mass on Festivos but the Church of San Francisco easily found in the Old Town and served by Franciscan Nuns and Friars who are pilgrim friendly has a 6.30 pm Mass each day – there is a sign in each Church listing Mass times in Betanzos. The list is also available in the Tourist Office.

Sello available at other times from the convent office at Church of San Francisco, the sacristy of the Church of Santiago, with a picture of Santiago on horseback and from the Ayuntamiento next-door to the Tourist Office.

## Visits

The main churches of Santa Maria, Santiago and San Francisco.

The O Pasatempo. A sort of rural Spanish Victorian theme park erected in 1893 by a couple of local men who made their fortune in South America and came home to share the wealth and cultural excitement with the home town. It is built into a hillside, with mosaic grottoes *a la* Gaudi, a greenhouse of exotic plants, sculptures of wonders like airplanes, lions, pyramids, and a monumental relief map of the Panama Canal. It is still very well-used and beloved of the townspeople, now incorporated into a park with a topiary labyrinth and playgrounds. It is wonderfully weird and old-fashioned, and it is free!

## Betanzos

### Where to stay

Oficina de Turismo Betanzos

Praza de Galicia

Tele 981776666

<http://www.betanzos.es>

[turismo@betanzos.dicoruna.es](mailto:turismo@betanzos.dicoruna.es)

Winter opening:

Monday to Friday: 10:00 to 14:00 and 16:30 to 19:30 h.

Saturdays: 10:30 to 13:00 h.

Summer opening:

Monday to Friday: 10:00 to 14:00 and 17:00 to 20:00 h.

The Tourist Office can provide maps of the city and a list of hotels and hostales near the centre. These are as follows in 2008:

### Hotels

#### Complejo San Roque 3\*, Avda de Castilla 38

Tel (+34) 981 77 55 55

Fax: (+34) 981 77 52 71

[www.complejosanroque.es](http://www.complejosanroque.es)

[reservas@complejosanroque.es](mailto:reservas@complejosanroque.es)

**30 rooms, 80 – 90 euros**

#### Hotel Garelos 2\*, Rua Alfonso IX, 8

Tel (+34) 981 77 59 22

Tel: (+34) 981 77 59 30

Fax (+34) 981 77 59 33

[www.hotelgarelos.com](http://www.hotelgarelos.com)

[reception@hotelgarelos.com](mailto:reception@hotelgarelos.com)

**22 rooms, 70 euros**

KSO downhill, passing another Information Board marking the Parish of San Julian de Sergude.

Passing through Sergude there is a very useful shop/bar with sandwiches and groceries on the Right. KSO downhill to leave Sergude passing House 54 with a lavadero opposite. **19 kms**

KSO downhill crossing a small stream and then at a junction follow the waymarks and turn Right uphill. Pass a lavadero on your Left and shortly at a junction follow the road round to the Left at house 12. Shortly at a junction follow the road Right and KSO passing a waymark. KSO until reaching the main road at the end.

KSO across the road onto another minor road passing on your left another information board announcing your entry into the Parish of Santa Baia de Cañas. Shortly after this crossing follow the road round Right and just a little later at a waymark follow the road which now becomes a path veering left. KSO gently downhill through trees then eventually through a small group of houses coming out at a junction with a minor road. Turn Left. Pass downhill between houses and come out at the Café/Bar Centro (which does not provide food) in **Sarandones. 21 kms**

Turn Left. Across the road is an Information Board and the Capilla de San Juan. Cross the River Barcia. On the far side pass to your Right a house No14 with two Escudos where Felipe II stayed on his way to A Coruña to sail to England to marry Mary on 25 July 1554 in Winchester Cathedral..



KSO through the village slightly uphill and at the end of the village where the road veers Left there is an unmarked bar on your Right. As the road veers Left the route goes off to the Right up a minor road. Shortly pass house number 7 Orueiro and KSO ignoring the turn to the Right. KSO gently uphill veering Right at house number 23. Pass a house with a small factory building adjacent on your Left and shortly a modern terracotta painted house on your right. KSO gently uphill and after a further 1 km pass house 38 on your Left.

KSO uphill and in approximately 1 km more reach the top of this section of the ascent. There is bus stop on your Left and follow the road round to a junction at **Cruz de Veira. 24 kms**

The arrows indicate that the route continues across the road but if you turn Left almost immediately you will find a very handy bar.

Veer right on the road if you are not going to the Bar and almost immediately Left at an Information Board and a waymark. KSO uphill on this minor road for a further 0.5 kms and at a stone house number 2 KSO the road you are on veering to the Right. KSO uphill and the road shortly becomes a wide track. After 2kms the path levels out and you pass farm buildings on your Right and off to the Left a telecommunications mast.

KSO following the track as it winds round passing the mast on your Left. Come onto a road at an Information Board at **As Travesas. 27 kms**

This is the highest point on the route at over 450 metres above sea level.

At this point especially in inclement weather you could simply turn Right onto the road and KSO until you reach Meson Do Vento before which there are yellow arrows off to the Left indicating a road turning to Hospital de Bruma.

To follow the waymarked route turn Right onto the road then immediately Left and then immediately Right to pass behind houses on a path parallel to the road.

KSO on the path with very faded yellow arrows on telegraph poles on your left. After 250 metres turn Right at a waymark with the distance 45.074. Follow the shady grassy track straight ahead through the trees. This may be heavy going in wet conditions. After approximately 800 meters come out on to the road and turn Left.

KSO and just beyond the hamlet at the bottom of the hill there are steps on the Right down to another fuente. Continue up this road passing a house to the Left and continue 400 meters more to the end at the Church of San Martiño do Tiobre.

At the end of the wall at the church take a left and then an immediate Right following the waymarks. Pass a children's play area on your Left and continue downhill passing through O Barrall. At this point Betanzos is clearly in sight in front of you.

At the junction at the bottom of the hill follow the arrows and the waymark taking the road to the right. Near the bottom of the hill pass a lavadero on the Left and a few meters ahead KSO (**DO NOT** turn Right) down past a modern red house. Continue on this road more steeply downhill. At the bottom cross a small bridge over a stream and turn Left.

Follow the waymarks Right slightly uphill and at the main road cross over and KSO the track ahead.

At the end of the road entering Betanzos at house number 34 turn Right. Shortly at the end of the road go Left and continue down to cross the Río Mandeo into **Betanzos. 20 kms**

You can pass through the arch in front of you turning left and right to make your way up to the main square with the Tourist Office on the right hand side of the square.

At the end of the village turn Left passing along beside the school on your Left. To the Right a view of the beach.

At house number 19 KSO following the arrow and waymarks. Continue on following road down to the Right with a road joining from the Left. KSO ignoring Right turn. A little later look carefully for arrows (faint at this time) indicating a Right turn at the second road on the Right. Pass House number 17 close to a hórreo. Come out between houses at the end of this road and turn Right. There is a road sign pointing to Porto.

Pass on the Left a house with a sign O Barreiro.

Follow the road with arrows as it winds its way downhill. At the end of the road at the bottom with the Café Navedo (closed) opposite turn immediate Left with a waymark on the opposite side of the road and arrows on the left hand side of the road. Just before the sign leaving Viñas follow the waymarked Left turn. Follow the arrows round at the side of a house with a tile on the wall. Follow this road as it winds its way uphill.

KSO uphill past house 76 A Canteira. Keep a look out at the Y junction for the yellow arrow pointing to the Right. Follow this road round to the bus shelter – a good stopping place on a hot afternoon.

From the bus shelter follow the waymarks up a grassy path to the Right. At the top turn Left onto a minor road and almost immediately turn Right following the waymarks. Follow this undulating road until approximately 1km further on find a fuente at the side of the road marked 1884.

A little after the fuente pass a house to your Right with the word Gas on a tile on the wall. Follow the yellow arrows to the Right and KSO until the sign for Arua and at the waymark with a well placed bench in the shade turn right.

Follow the road downhill ignoring right turns – follow the arrows straight ahead and then uphill continuing on to enter **San Paio. 17 kms**

KSO the road and at house number 22 with the road to the Right signposted Herves. Then at the Casa Avelina which is a useful bar on your Right there are temporary arrows indicating a Left turn.

**NB** It is sensible to follow these temporary arrows as they will lead to a junction where you join the route from Ferrol. If you do not and decide at this point to follow the road to Meson do Vento or Hospital de Bruma ignore yellow arrows to the left until you are past the large electricity station on your Right. There are earlier arrows but these take you on a path which goes nowhere. KSO and there is a left turning into Hospital de Bruma. The name is painted on the road in yellow.

Turn Left at Casa Avelina and almost immediately pass a Cruceiro, the community centre of Trasvesas on the Right and a small chapel on the Left, the Ermida San Roque. KSO until you reach a minor road and turn Left.

KSO along this road passing a lavadero on your left and shortly after on your Right a sign for Vizoño. KSO and after 250 meters just as the road veers to the right with an electricity pylon on your left there is a waymark indicating that you turn Right. **29 kms**

This is the point where the routes from Ferrol and A Coruña meet shortly before Hospital de Bruma.

KSO this track and at a junction with a waymark take the grassy track Left. You will reach a junction where there is a large path cutaway to your Left follow the route Right.

At this time there are no yellow arrows immediately after the Right turn. Continue on downhill taking stepping stones over a small brook and continue straight ahead on the other side. Eventually spot a faint yellow arrow on the ground. Come out at some farm buildings at a T junction and follow the arrows to the Right. After a little at a waymark turn Left.

Follow this track with farm buildings to the Right and at the end veer Left. Follow this path turning right at the waymark then crossing a small stream with stepping stones continuing straight ahead pass a sign saying 1 Km to the Albergue. A little after the stream three paths converge keep on the right hand path following the waymark straight ahead. On passing a hórreo at a house on the corner emerge into **Hospital de Bruma**.

Turn Left to pass down the road to reach the albergue or Right to go to Meson do Vento. **32 kms**

The description of the route from Hospital de Bruma to Santiago starts on Page 43.

Continue up this street past the Bar Vidal on the Left and through the buildings on your Right catch a glimpse of the water.

KSO ahead along the Rúa a Barrosa passing at Number 13 the Edificio Camiño de Santiago.

At a pedestrian crossing with the sign leaving Miño there is a sign down to the Right. Cross over and walk downhill Right to the bridge over the railway in front of you.

Follow the waymark over the bridge and at the end turn sharp Right and follow this road right to the bottom to walk along it parallel to the beach. Shortly at an area with car parking and showers for bathers.

Towards the end of the road pass the Bar Restaurant Almeda which serves meals. Just under the motorway it is clearly marked that the former Camino along the riverbank to the left is no longer in use.

Follow the waymarks and arrows to the Right. Cross the bridge over the river and turn Left at House Number 2 following waymark. Follow this road uphill to the top, gradually rising level with and then above the motorway you could see from the bottom high above. The climb is approximately 700 meters.

At the top fortunately there is a children's play area with picnic tables and seats for a well earned rest. **13 kms**

At the end of the picnic area take a sharp Left turn and go downhill following the waymark.

Follow this minor road twisting and turning gradually going downhill. 700 meters further on reach the end of this peaceful and shaded road – there is a yellow arrow on the ground and a granite waymark opposite with the tile missing indicating a Right turn.

Continue uphill passing a lavadero on the Left marked Año 1933. **14 kms** Shortly beyond turn Left at the building in front of you with a yellow arrow and tile. KSO following the arrows into Viñas passing the cemetery and the Iglesia San Pantaleón das Viñas.

At the bottom of the Rúa Telle pass a children's play area on the Right hand side and follow the road round with the motorway flyover on your right. KSO to the albergue 1 km from the turning at the Rúa Pardiñeira and **12 kms** from Pontedeume.



Albergue de Miño – Opened 1999

Tel 981 784 254

Hours: 1pm – 3pm and 4pm – 9pm

Closes at 11pm – Pilgrims must leave by 10 am

Cost 3 euros

#### **To continue on the Camino Inglés out of Miño:**

Pilgrims staying at the albergue retrace their steps to the point where the Camino crosses the main road at the junction with the Rúa Pardiñeira and turn right at the waymark sign.

Others – simply cross the road KSO ahead slightly left – see the waymark on the wall.

KSO between buildings and immediately come to a useful supermarket on your Right. Miño has a good selection of pharmacies, banks, restaurants and shops.

## **Ferrol**

### **Where to stay:**

Name	Rating	Address	Telephone/fax	E mail
Barceló Almirante	H ****	Maria 2	981333073 981333962	<a href="mailto:almirante@barcelo.com">almirante@barcelo.com</a>
Hesperia Ferrol	H*****	Estrada de Castela 75	981330226 981330228	<a href="mailto:hotel@hesperia-ferrol.com">hotel@hesperia-ferrol.com</a>
Parador de Ferrol	H****	Almirante Fernández Martín s/n	981356720 981356721	<a href="mailto:ferrol@parados.es">ferrol@parados.es</a>
El Suizo	HR***	Dolores 67	981300400 981300306	<a href="mailto:hotelsuizo@telefonica.net">hotelsuizo@telefonica.net</a>
Valencia	HR**	Estrada de Catabois, 390	981370312 981318011	<a href="mailto:hotelvalencia@terra.es">hotelvalencia@terra.es</a>
Almendra	HR*	Almendra 4 - 6	981358190 981358192	
America	HR*	Sánchez Calviño 70-76	981370206 981370246	
Real	HR*	Dolores	981369255 981369256	<a href="mailto:reservas@hotelrealferrol.com">reservas@hotelrealferrol.com</a>
Silva	H*	Rio Castro	981310552 981320409	<a href="mailto:hotelsilva@hsilva.com">hotelsilva@hsilva.com</a>
Serantes	PR***	Lugar de Serantellos, 280	981318980	
Magallenes	PR**	Estrada de Castela, 401	981311648 981333012	
Porta Nova II	PR**	Naturalista López Seoane 33-35	981359772 981354835	<a href="mailto:hostalvaldovino@valdovino.com">hostalvaldovino@valdovino.com</a>
Zahara	PR**	Pardo Bajo 28	981351231 981350052	
El Cairo	PR*	Dolores 32	981353266	

Casa Ángel	PR *	Rúa Magdalena	981351060	
O Choyo II	PR *	Carolos III 70	981948908	
El Ferrol	PR *	Sanchez Calviño 48	981371314	
Hostal da Magdalena	PR *	Magdalena 98	981355615	<a href="mailto:magdalenahostal@wanadoo.es">magdalenahostal@wanadoo.es</a>
Portanova	PR *	Fontemoura, 26	981370684	<a href="mailto:hostalvaldovino@valdovino.com">hostalvaldovino@valdovino.com</a>
El Eden	PR **	San Andrés 4	981359135 981364006	

### Tourist Office:

**Edificio Administrativo da Xunta de Galicia**

**Praza Camilo José Cela s/n**

**Tele - +34 981 311179**

[oficina.turismo.ferrol@xunta.es](mailto:oficina.turismo.ferrol@xunta.es)

### Open

July and August:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 to 14:00 and 17:30 to 19:30 h.

Saturday: 10:00 to 12:30 and 17:30 to 19:30 h.

Sunday: 10:00 to 12:30 h.

Other months of the year:

Monday to Friday 9:00 to 14:00 and 16:00 a 18:00 h.

Saturday: 10:00 to 12:30 h.

The Tourist Office is on the first floor of a modern office block tucked into the left hand side of the Plaza España (if facing the direction of the port).

They provide pilgrims with:

- Credencial
- Sello
- Map out the route (showing 2 alternatives) from the city to the outskirts
- A copy of the Xunta Guide in English
- A schematic of the distances and elevations on the route (which isn't terribly accurate!)

A Gallego phrasebook (which is perhaps too heavy to carry).

Leave picnic area across the Ponte Baxoi and turn Right along the track with the river on your Right. Pass under the bridge following the yellow arrows and at a Y junction at the end of the track follow the arrows marked on the tree to the right. Pass under the motorway high above following the path. KSO following the path under three then the fourth motorway flyover. Follow the track up passing a toll building on your Left and walk parallel to the motorway (motorway 60 sign on your left ) for a little. Follow the path to the end and turn Right as indicated by the tile and yellow arrow on the wall opposite. Follow this minor road downhill and enter **Miño** following the tile waymark along the Rúa Fonte. **11 kms (27 kms from albergue at Neda)**

Keep on the Rúa Fonte passing on your Right a modern building of flats named the "Edificio Camino Inglés". Come out onto the main plaza and immediately opposite is a sign to the Albergue de Peregrinos 1 km with an arrow to the Left. Pass through the square to the far Left hand corner and follow the yellow arrows out of the plaza.

At the top of the street at Number 5 is a shop selling snacks and ice creams which may be very welcome on a hot day.

This street out of the plaza is the Rúa Pardiñeira. At the top the Camino Inglés continues ahead opposite. For those going to the albergue there is a sign pointing to the Right.

### If going to the Albergue in Miño

Turn Right at the top of the Rúa Pardiñeira and continue downhill on the main road passing a modern block of flats on the Left hand side with gardens and front followed by a children's play area. Pass 3 restaurants on the Right hand side which may also be useful for both those continuing on the Camino Inglés and those going to the albergue.

Cross the road bridge over the railway line and follow the sign at the end turning immediately right. Follow this round reaching the Rúa Telle. Turn Left following the sign for the albergue.

Shortly after the picnic area at House No 5 Euiña follow waymark to the Right onto a country track. Go straight ahead under the vine-covered pergola. Follow the track through open countryside – this stretch can be very boggy in wet weather. Then follow the track as it veers left through trees. KSO following the track until after 1 km emerge at a main road and take a Left turn and then immediately Right following the waymarks.

After a rough start this path becomes quite pleasant passing through trees on either side, after 300 meters or so passing a small seating area on the Left with a fuente (not working at this time). KSO following the waymarks to the end and after approximately 1 km come out to a main road with a roundabout on the right facing the golf course straight ahead.

Cross the road and follow the waymarked path to the left with a green of the golf course on your Right. Follow the path with the golf course on either side. KSO without turning Right or Left passing across a small wooden bridge over a brook. Continue on the dirt track through the trees. Follow this path and at a waymark turn left to cross the motorway over the bridge.

At the end of the bridge follow the waymark taking the path to the Right. Follow this track generally uphill with the motorway on your Right. KSO with a waymark to the Left. KSO uphill for approximately 500 meters and turn Right and immediately Left following waymarks and KSO on this track through the trees.

At the end of the track where it meets a road follow waymarks to the Left. At the junction with a STOP sign turn Right into **Viadeiro. 7 kms** KSO through the village following the waymarks. At the end of the village follow the waymarked fork to the Left. Follow the road downhill to a STOP sign and follow waymarks and yellow arrows to the Right onto another minor road continuing gently downhill.

At the next junction follow the waymark and turn Left again continuing downhill. At the bottom of the road turn Right and on the Left approximately **9 kms** from Pontedeume at the village of **Bañobre** is the Guntín concrete works with a picnic area opposite beside the river with a fuente. This is a most welcome place to rest.

And...they have good toilets if setting off immediately from there!

**NB It is important that you obtain a sello in Ferrol to demonstrate to the Pilgrims' Office in Santiago that you have walked more than 100 kms in order to qualify for the Compostela. There is no requirement for that sello to be from the Tourist Office and you may have your Credencial stamped in your hostel etc.**

### **Ferrol – Pontedeume approximately 25kms**



Imagine yourself getting off of the boat from England...pick a set of harbour steps and the route begins!

Leave the Port of Ferrol passing the Tourist Booth which opens at 10am. See the naval building in front of you and cross at the pedestrian crossing. In front of the Farmacia on the waterfront a stone marks the start of the Camino Inglés. Go through the arch into Calle de Carmen Cruxeiras, noting the first waymark on the wall on your Right. Follow the road to the end and turn Left to enter the Calle del Espiritu Santo and sticking to the left hand side KSO uphill. This street leads to a plaza and small children's' play area on your right.

The first tile waymark is on your right (on the wall of the corner building just past the play area).

Continue straight on past the Plaza del Cardinal de Arriba with the Church of San Francisco on your right and pass onto the Calle San Francisco. You will then pass the Parador on your right with a Cruceiro and an Obelisk.

Move on to the Rúa Real past the row of 12 palm trees at the Praza de Amboxe. KSO to the Praza de Armas with the Casa de Concello dominating the left side. At the first corner with a waymark tile on the wall take the first right into the Rúa Terra– the rays of the arrow pointing to the direction of travel.

At the bottom of the Rúa Terra turn left passing the Praza do Constitucion. Cross the road and observe the next waymark pointing through the small tree lined avenue – pass a children’s play area to the right. Keep on moving through the Praza das Angustias with gardens, seats and a fuente.

At the main road cross over to the helpfully named Café Bar Taxonera and move up the Rúa Taxonera. There are many bars open early on this stretch – ideal for pilgrims leaving early in the morning.

The Rúa Taxonera becomes Rúa McMahon and at this point you will see the first yellow arrows on lamp posts. The signs indicate that across the road to your right is a Zona Militar.

KSO following the Avenida Mc Mahon. Pass a football pitch to your right and follow the road to the left as indicated by the waymark tile on the column of the wall on your right hand side. Follow the road down Estrada de Caranza following it right where it joins the Avenida Esteiro and proceed to the roundabout (you have now travelled approximately 3 kms). Turn right following the arrows and KSO until you reach a roundabout with a sculpture and a sign indicating the Avenida do Mar to your right.

As the map provided by the Tourist Office indicates, one choice would be to continue straight ahead on the Rúa Marques de Santa Cruz turning right and left at the end to join Canaval then right onto the Avenida Nicasio Perez to join the other route at the Lidl Shop.



### **Pontedeume – Betanzos approximately 20 kms**

Proceed up the Calle Real almost opposite the bridge. The first waymark tile is immediately on the Left hand side. Pass the Plaza Real going steadily uphill towards the Church of Santiago. Turn Left and either take the steps up to the Church (for sello at the Rectory) or pass along turning right at the fuente and Cruceiro in the Calle de San Augustin. In the Plaza de San Roque there is a very useful Supermercado with all provisions including much fresh fruit.

KSO steadily uphill following waymarks and veering left onto Souto da Vila continuing uphill and looking back at very nice views of Pontedeume. At approximately **1 km** or so from the Church of Santiago there is a Right hand turn with a road sign to the “Igrexa San Miguel de Breamo 3 Kms” .

Continue straight ahead following yellow arrows. At the sign “Tabacos” on the left there is a shop with a bar behind.

Just a few steps beyond the shop at House No 70 take a Right following the yellow arrow on the ground uphill between buildings. KSO steadily uphill veering Left with yellow arrow on the ground. A farm track meets from the Right. Almost immediately at a waymark turn Right onto a slightly larger road. Then turn Left approximately 100 yards later at a house called Cermuzo. KSO and after approximately 1 km follow the waymark to the Left downhill. Shortly after on the Right is a picnic area with a working fuente and lavadero - useful after the climb out of Pontedeume. **3 kms**

### Mass and sellos

There is a Mass at 8pm in the Church of Santiago and the sello is available in the Priest's house "the Rectory" immediately opposite. A sello is available also at the Confradia de Pescadores, fifty meters on your Right as you come off the bridge on arrival in Pontedeume.

### Detour to the Church of San Miguel de Breamo

High above Pontedeume lies the solitary Romanesque 12<sup>th</sup> Century Church of San Miguel de Breamo. It is rarely open.

There are two ways of visiting the church:

1. Go up to the church of Santiago behind which is a notice board illustrating the way to get there through the forest. It is advisable to sketch it on a piece of paper to take with you as waymarking has faded. Go up the steps behind the notice board and proceed up the Rúa de Fonta Nova to house number 8 turn right and continue up...up...up... then you reach the church. If you follow this all the way you will not have the clear vistas of the bay of A Coruña which you get on the road so it is possible after the first stretch up the steps through the trees to turn right onto the road and descend either by the road or the forest route.
2. Follow the yellow arrows up the Rúa Real for about 1k then follow the road sign marked 3k to the church of San Miguel de Breamo.

Some pilgrims may choose to leave their rucksacks in their room for safekeeping while they visit the church before setting out on the route to Betanzos.

### Alternative route - recommended

Another slightly longer but much more scenic route is to follow the Avenida do Mar keeping the sea to your right hand side all of the way to the end. At points you can move down to walk closer to the sea moving back up later. Also, in 2008 there was a public toilet on this stretch.

Towards the end pass a multicoloured sports centre and a football pitch on your left.

As you pass the road sign you will see a yellow arrow on the lamp post in front of you indicating a turn to the left – go under the motorway and straight across the road to the right hand side. Proceed down to the Lidl Shop and just before it turn right. **5.5 kms**

Follow the arrows down the right hand side of the Lidl store and turn right turning right again after a short distance at the waymark tile on the post opposite the Renault showroom. Carry straight on with the bay on your right hand side and factories on your left. There are seats and a fuente on this stretch.

In the following section, ignore red and white arrows, fluorescent yellow arrows mark the route accurately.

At the end of this track at the road turn Right and proceed to the roundabout and turn left. Go to the sign "A Faisca" and turn Right to cross the motorway and then the railway. Immediately thereafter turn hard Left and follow the road down to the railway line and KSO with the rail tracks to your right. Pass under the bridge follow the road as it bends left then take a right turn with the waymark Rúa de Pena.

At the Bar Meson A Copeteo (closed) approx 7 kms from Ferrol – **DO NOT** KSO as the road ahead is closed now. Rather at the Bar turn Left up the Avenida Souto Vizoso and shortly after at the top of the road turn Right. In this short stretch waymarking is poor at this time – as you move right you will see a faint arrow on the wall opposite – continue downhill and very shortly you will pass under the motorway and KSO to the Parish Church of San Martin de Xubia.

Turn left at the Cruceiro with a large modern statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and a few steps later follow waymarks to the right and follow the road until it branches right. Follow the arrows straight ahead on a forest path which you follow Right under the motorway. KSO until the track branches Right onto a tarmac road - ignore the Left turn under the road and KSO passing a large pedestrian bridge over the motorway. Do not cross – pass underneath following arrows to the right and KSO veering Right at pylons onto to a tarmac minor road. KSO and at the next pedestrian bridge turn hard Right to cross over it.

Turn Right at the end of the bridge and KSO this forest path. At the end of the path follow the arrows to the Right on a minor road turning Right at the end of the wall down to old mill buildings one with a sign, "Lugar do Outeiro de Xubia" .

Follow the path Left and cross the path on top of the wall:



At the end of the path on top of the wall, follow the arrow to the right, walking between the houses and the river.

KSO to the end of the path as it joins a walkway at a waymark. At this point you have a choice.

1. Turn left and go to the end of the road and turn right again to access the shops, restaurants and Town Hall on the right for a sello in Narón. Then proceed straight down the street. Cross the bridge which takes you over the Ría Xubia into **Neda**. After crossing you have a choice either turn right and go uphill. Continue to the junction marked Pontedeume, turn Right and KSO eventually reaching the Iglesia de Santa Maria on the Right. Or at the end of the bridge turn sharp Right to go along the river bank to the albergue and then follow the route below along the river.

## Pontedeume

### Where to stay

Ask at the local tourist office:

La Oficina de Turismo is situated on the first floor (1 planta) del Torreón de Los Andrade – the ground floor of the Andrade Tower, where is a museum upstairs and a fine view of the bridge and the town from the top of the tower. They will have a list of recommended hotels and hostales – or consult the website [www.turgalicia.es](http://www.turgalicia.es) Or just wander around until you find somewhere – on the front is the reasonably expensive Hotel Eumesa.



After the bridge at the roundabout take the first exit and then first right to the Calle San Augustin where there are three very reasonably priced establishments: The Hospedaje North Telephone: 981434527, the Bar Louis with rooms (12 Euros per person) Telephone: 981430235 and the Allegue 2 star Pension Telephone: 981430035. 1 Km outside of town on the road to A Coruña is a Retreat House - the Casa de Ejercicios de Pontedeume Tel 981430142 or 981430335. If all 30 rooms are not in use with retreats or courses they may be available to pilgrims. 20 Euros single including breakfast which is not served until 8.30 am.

Go straight across passing the Cafetería Lembranza with the Café Bar A Ponte on the Left and almost immediately pass the Casa do Concello of Fene on your right. Sello available on the first floor. **17.5 kms**

Go to the end of the road and turn Left. Almost immediately turn Right . Keep straight on Left at house 21 then KSO and bear Left at a lavadero. Then KSO on uphill. As the road veers Left take the waymarked forest path.

KSO uphill and veer left at fork keeping to the forest path. At the top, turn Right down a grassy path parallel to and slightly below the road. KSO following the path under the Viaduct Romariz, veer left after passing under the road, ignoring arrows on the pillars, and veer Right when you can see the sign for Fene Ferrol N-652 turnoff on adjacent motorway. At the end of the path turn Right onto a minor road. Keep straight on the road Right and at the end of the lane cross the road carefully and take up the path almost opposite to the Right. Follow this up to the main road at Cafetaria Vilar do Colo 3 kms from Fene. Do not walk towards the Cafeteria, instead, turn sharp left and at the roundabout follow Pontedeume/Betanzos N-651 sign – yellow arrow on the ground. **20 kms**

KSO keeping a sharp lookout for arrows on the ground indicating a Right turn before a bend in the road. Turn on to a grassy track through the trees. KSO crossing a minor road and take up the path opposite. KSO until reaching a minor road with an arrow indicating a Right turn. Almost immediately cross over the motorway. At the end of the bridge turn Left onto a track then turn Right following the arrows onto a forest path. KSO and at the end turn Left and immediately Right. Go downhill and turn Left at a sign for Lodeiro and at the end turn Left. Follow the road downhill looking for the Right turn at the bottom.

KSO following waymarks downhill. Pass to the left of a stream and then Left at the road. Continue downhill, cross the main road and go down the steps turning immediate left and going down and under the railway bridge. Then enter **Cabañas. 24kms.**

KSO with the beach to your Right and follow the road round Left at roundabout at waymarks to cross the bridge into Pontedeume.

This famous bridge at one time had 116 arches, with a chapel at arches 21 and 22. Take it to cross the River Eume and enter **Pontedeume. 25 kms**

2. Turn right along a promenade with seats and fuentes. This is a very good place to stop and rest and perhaps have lunch.

KSO for some time until the waymarks indicate a Right turn to a "Double Hoop" bridge over the river.

Facing you is the albergue:



There are 28 beds with parking for bicycles. There is a dormitory and bathroom facilities for the disabled. In 2008 there were 2 telephone numbers listed:

629 224 622  
981 390 233

This albergue is a short distance out of town and lone pilgrims should exercise caution. **12 kms**

At the end of the bridge turn Right and KSO along the walkway passing the albergue on your Left. KSO along the river bank. This was new in 2006 and there are no waymarks along its length. But the walk is very pleasant. After some time a yellow arrow will mark a Left turn taking the path you are on onto a minor road. KSO passing a cemetery on the Right and at the end of the small road turn Right onto the main Road.

Almost immediately turn right and go round the Iglesia de Santa Maria which has a plaque:

"Dedicated to the pilgrims who visit this site on their way to  
Saint James of Compostela".  
Asociación O Camiño Inglés Año Santo 2004 Holy Year

### 13 kms

The church is usually closed. If you find it open you will see in the upper register of the reredos behind the main altar a striking "English Gothic" statue of Christ in chains. It is believed that this statue was brought from England in the first part of the 16<sup>th</sup> century by an Englishman, John Dutton.

The Parish Office is across the car park beside the cemetery. If it is open it may be possible to get the key of the church. Sello available.

Moving round the church cross through a children's play area across a small bridge and between houses following the waymarks. KSO with a walled garden on your Left and follow the road ahead – the Rúa Real.

Pass a clock tower on your Left, an old pilgrim hospice, now the ayuntamiento or concello where in the past some pilgrims have obtained a sello. If it is not available here go up the stairs by the tower and turn right onto the main road. The Casa de Cultura is on the left a short way down the road, the office on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor will provide a sello. To get back to the Camino, walk down the alley between two houses opposite the Casa de Cultura (stone paved alley, house on the right is currently painted green) and turn left into the Calle Real.

Continue along the Calle Real with 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century houses, as far as Rúa do Castro. Notice house 66 on the right with the inscription "Año de 1786" above the window.

Divert briefly to the right to visit the interesting church of San Nicolás with its splendid Cruceiro, one of the oldest in Galicia. (If closed, the key to the church is always kept in the Bar next door Casa Rios, which is also a grocery shop.) Inside the church there is a fine monument to the Andrade family, the most powerful in the area in the Middle Ages. Then Neda was one of the minor ports of disembarkation for pilgrims. Go back to the Rúa Real to pick up yellow arrows again.

At number 84 is a useful shop for provisions. Opening hours are irregular. If you need supplies, go uphill to the main road which has bars and a shop.

At the junction beside house number 92 Rúa Real turn Left and KSO passing a cemetery on your Right. KSO then veer Left at building number 29 following the arrows.

Cross the main road and the KSO the Camino do Regueiro. At the main road at the end go right. Note the waymark across the road at the bus shelter and cross over. This is a good place to rest on a hot day before the climb ahead.

Shortly after the bus shelter turn Left and follow the arrows uphill. Soon two roads turn to the right. Take the second, larger road, and shortly cross the motorway. KSO.

There is a brief climb and at the top of the hill at Silva turn Right. KSO with beautiful views gradually going downhill until a waymarked Left turn at a sign for Conces. KSO following arrows and on the Left of the road at the corner just before Conces Arriba sign there is a lavadero with a shaded picnic area. The locals say the water is drinkable and it is deliciously cold.

From the lavadero KSO until the waymarked Left turn at house number 7. Go uphill into **Casanova** or follow new waymarks ahead. Both ways join shortly.

Leave Casanova downhill with lavadero marked 1957 on your Left. Proceed down to the main road.