



“Walk This Way” Project General Information

El Camino de Santiago

2010
JUNE 15-24
160KM



What Is The Camino De Santiago?

The Camino de Santiago (or The Way of St James) is a collection of ancient pilgrimage routes that wind their way throughout Europe, all of them converging on Santiago de Compostela, an enchanting town in northwestern Spain. For more than 1000 years, pilgrims have traveled the many routes of the Camino de Santiago. Today it is the only long-distance footpath to receive United Nations recognition. And it has been awarded World Heritage status because of its historical and spiritual significance. The Camino de Santiago is for everyone: young and old, fit and unfit, spiritual or not. Countless millions have walked this path in search of deeper meaning for their lives.

What Does This Project Entail?

From 15-24 June, 2010 a group of approximately 30 of us will journey 160km (99miles) through the beautiful countryside of Northwestern Spain. It will be an authentic pilgrim's experience! We will fly from Dublin to Santiago de Compostela, Spain, and bus from there to our starting point: O Cebreiro. From O Cebreiro, we will walk an average 23km (14miles) a day over seven days, winding our way through breathtaking landscapes that will take us back to the medieval Spain of folklore.



We will walk together, eat together, and make many friends along the way. In the evenings we will share our experiences with each other during discussion times, and at night we will camp out in tents. Your capable guide will be veteran, twelve-time pilgrim and camino expert, Kelly Mulholland.

After we arrive, we will spend the afternoon enjoying the charming town of Santiago de Compostela. The following day we'll take a day-trip out to the Spanish coastal town of Finisterre (literally: 'the end of the earth') to celebrate our accomplishment. On our final day we will have all morning to enjoy Santiago de Compostela and buy those last-minute souvenirs. After lunch we will catch our flight back to Dublin.

And What Will This Cost?

The cost to participate in the project is 395 euro, if you get in before the registration deadline of March 1st, 2010. This will cover all expenses except travel from Dublin and back (see flight information below). It is recommended that you also carry some spending cash to treat yourself to goodies along the way.

To Travel with the group, book the following Aer Lingus flights:

Flight Info.	Departing	Arriving
EI742 non-stop	Dublin 13:00 Tue 15 Jun 2010	Santiago de Compostela 16:10 Tue 15 Jun 2010
EI743 non-stop	Santiago de Compostela 16:45 Thu 24 Jun 2010	Dublin 17:55 Thu 24 Jun 2010

One additional aspect of this project is that there will be an opportunity to raise funds for the Dublin chapter of Serve the City. Raising these funds will be optional for each participant, but can also be a means of reducing the cost of your trip.

- Exercise your body... (lots of walking)
- Broaden your mind... (new cultural experiences)
- Nourish your heart... (get away from the busyness)
- Deepen your soul... (dialogue about your journey)





As a volunteer-led community initiative, the aim of Serve the City is simply to meet the practical needs of people in our community and to promote community-wide volunteerism. By painting a house, clearing an overgrown garden, or sitting down for a visit with the elderly, we are making Dublin a better place to live – one act of kindness at a time.

Most people are living busy lives and don't have a lot of time, experience, or resources available to help their neighbours. However, volunteers working together with Serve the City can simply roll up their sleeves and get involved in a range of "easy-entry," low-level service projects. Professional skills or experience are not necessary. We do our best to match time availability and personal preferences of our volunteers to form project teams.

The Vision

The vision of Serve the City is to inspire and create opportunity for ordinary, everyday people to do extraordinary things by serving the needs of others. We liken it to a water ripple effect: People in our community catching the vision to serve the community and passing that vision on to others as they serve. Little-by-little, one-by-one, lives are changed in small ways which ripple throughout the community.

There's something powerful in direct, hands-on involvement. When we help an elderly man with basic household chores that he can no longer do himself, we experience firsthand the eager reward of a grateful heart. When we paint a room or a fence for a single mother struggling with illness, we experience the subsequent joy in a smiling face, knowing that we've touched the life of another. With the spreading of this kind of neighbourly compassion in action comes an incremental improvement in quality of life throughout our communities.



There's an old African saying that we are only fully human through the humanity of others. We in Serve the City believe that the more we invest in the health and well-being of our communities (i.e., the people in our communities), the more we invest in the health and wellbeing of our own families and of our own lives.



How We're Getting Involved

We feel that walking the Way of Saint James comes with its own rewards, and is well worth the cost. It promises to be a great adventure, full of unforgettable experiences! However, rather than just simply approaching it as consumers, we also want to give something back, and in our own small way make the world a slightly better place wherever we can. It is because of their local work meeting the practical needs of people in Dublin that we've chosen to support the work of Serve the City, Dublin. Our desire is to bless the ongoing work of Serve the City in demonstrating care to those in need within the community. We will have opportunities to raise funds for Serve the City in Dublin, and as a group project, will also have the opportunity to serve hands-on in April and May, prior to going to the Camino Project in Spain.

Therefore, each participant will be encouraged to ask friends and family to sponsor them to walk 150km for Serve the City. This is completely voluntary on the part of the participant. Sponsors may choose to pledge a per-km-amount (eg. € .20/km = € 30, € .50/km = € 75, € 1/km = € 150) or any singular amount toward your pilgrimage. In turn we will dedicate half of that pledge directly toward the Serve The City general fund and apply the other half to the participant's costs on the project. Essentially, sponsors will be giving both to the work of Serve The City and to the participant's pilgrimage... Thus, if for example one manages to fund raise € 500, we will apply € 250 to their trip cost and the other € 250 will go to Serve The City. Then the remaining balance of the cost for the trip would be € 145 (€ 395 less € 250 = € 145).