Dear Alumnae, Parents, and Friends of Smith,

For more than a thousand years pilgrims have walked the Camino de Santiago, the “Way of Saint James,” to the shrine of the Apostle at Santiago de Compostela in northwestern Spain. We invite you to join Smith next fall to follow in these peregrinos’ footsteps, on selective hikes along the celebrated Camino de Santiago.

Admire spectacular monuments, enjoy fine cuisine, and spend your nights in deluxe hotels and historic paradores. In Santiago de Compostela, attend the Pilgrims’ Mass at the Cathedral, with its famous Botafumeiro ceremony. The average distance covered is 3.5 miles per day, with one day’s mileage being just under 5.5 miles.

We hope you will join us to experience the history, legends, and legacy of Europe’s most famous walking trail. This journey is co-sponsored by Dartmouth College. Space is limited on this educational adventure, so we recommend that you reserve your place soon.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director of Travel and Education,
Office of Alumnae Relations
Smith College
alumnae.smith.edu/travel

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TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

BEGIN a series of walks along the Camino in Roncesvalles, one of the main entrances to the famous pilgrimage trail, and end in Santiago de Compostela, the capital of Galicia and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as has been done for centuries

ADMIRE awe-inspiring cathedrals and monasteries in Nájera, Burgos, León, and other pilgrimage cities along the way, and enjoy leisure time to explore Spain’s lovely Galicia region

SAVOR regional wines and cuisine including a special lunch at Bodegas Baigorri, where Rioja Alavesa wine is produced, and stay in historic paradores

SEE the artistic treasures of the 15th-century Cartuja de Miraflores monastery in Burgos, which is still occupied by a cloistered group of monks who observe silence, on an after-hours visit

HEAR Gregorian chants performed by the world-famous monks of the monastery of Santo Domingo de Silos, whose two-story cloister is considered a masterpiece of Romanesque art

EXPERIENCE midday Mass at the magnificent Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, one of the most important religious structures in Spain, where a highlight will be the Botafumeiro ceremony

WATCH the sun set over Cape Finisterre, a rock-bound peninsula once thought to be “the end of the Earth,” where some pilgrims now come to burn their boots or clothes at the conclusion of their journeys

TRAVELING WITH YOU

Jane L. Carroll is senior lecturer in art history at Dartmouth College, specializing in the art of Northern Europe from late medieval times to the Early Modern period. Her taught courses range from Introduction to Art History to Gothic Art and Architecture to Northern Renaissance Art. She has researched and written on Dutch and German art, focusing on how artworks argue for selected religious ideology, both during the reform of the religious Orders and in the Reformation. Her other academic interests include early prints, the role of women in the arts, and depictions of marriage. Jane has led nearly a dozen alumni travel trips over more than two decades, and she frequently lectures at Dartmouth on Location events, where she most recently captivated audiences at the MET during a special exhibition of the drawings and prints Leonardo da Vinci. Jane is an alumna of Smith College (BA) and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (PhD).
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2: DEPARTURE
Depart on an overnight flight to Pamplona via Madrid.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3: MADRID, SPAIN / PAMPLONA
Arrive in Pamplona in the late afternoon. Transfer to the Hotel Maisonnave, centrally located near Castillo Square. This evening, meet fellow travelers and your study leader for a welcome drink, followed by dinner.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4: PAMPLONA
Attend a morning lecture before a walking tour of Pamplona’s Old Quarter. After lunch, drive to Roncesvalles, one of the main entrances in Spain for the St. James Way, and where each traveler will receive a credencial (pilgrim passport) to mark their route. Enroute stop in the town of Burguete, mentioned in Ernest Hemingway’s The Sun Also Rises, for a typical lunch. Our first walk on the trail is from Albergue to Espinal across the fertile plans of the Rio Ebro. Return to Pamplona, where the remainder of the day is at leisure. Approximate walking distance: 4 miles.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5: PAMPLONA / LAGUARDIA
Travel by coach to the Romanesque Church of Santa María de Eunate, one of the jewels of the Camino. From there, walk a short distance on the Camino to Puente La Reina, a medieval town where the two main pilgrim routes converge. There will be time to explore the town and enjoy lunch on your own. Then, drive to Estella to see the Palace of the Kings of Navarre and San Pedro de la Rúa, with its beautiful 12th-century cloister. Continue to Laguardia, the historic capital of the famous Rioja Alavesa wine region, and check in to the Hotel Villa de Laguardia. Dinner, featuring regional cuisine and wines, is at a local restaurant. Approximate walking distance: 2.75 miles.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6: LAGUARDIA
Following a morning lecture, drive to the lively university city of Logroño to see its lovely Old Quarter and the cathedral, with a painting by Michelangelo. Lunch is at Bodegas Baigorri, where Rioja Alavesa is produced. Return to Laguardia to visit Santa María de los Reyes. Conclude at the hotel, where the remainder of the day is at leisure. Rest day (only sightseeing walking).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7: LAGUARDIA / BURGOS
Depart for Nájera, the former capital of the Kingdom of Navarre. Visits include the Monasterio Santa María de la Real, the burial place of many of the kings, queens, and knights of Navarre. Continue on the Camino to Azofra, then drive to Santo Domingo de la Calzada, stopping at the hilltop monastery of Santa María de la Canal de Botafumeiro. Then, drive to the monastery of Santo Domingo de Silos, a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture. The evening is at leisure.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8: BURGOS
This evening, head to the impressive Royal Basilica of San Isidoro. Return to Burgos for dinner at a local restaurant.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9: BURGOS / LEÓN
A walking tour includes the highlights of this historic town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Admire Antoni Gaudí’s Bishop’s Palace before lunch. Then, drive to Astorga, whose historic legacy is the result of its location at the crossroads of several major pilgrimage routes. Admire the edifice of the Cartuja de Miraflores, which will be opened especially for our group. Check in at Hotel NH Palacio de la Mercé.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10: LEÓN
Your morning journey on the Camino leads from León into the glorious open countryside of the northwestern Iberian Peninsula. Enjoy the sunset from the Cape with a glass of Cava.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11: LEÓN / VILLAFRANCA DEL BIERZO
A morning walking tour includes the highlights of this historic town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The spires of the magnificent Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela will be visible as you end of the Earth” at Cape Finisterre, once thought to be the westernmost point on the Atlantic Ocean.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12: VILLAFRANCA DEL BIERZO / SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
Your morning walk is from Vilafranca do Bierzo to the Cotobade, with a stop at the ancient abbey of San Xoán de Caaveiro. At the end of the Camino, attend an afternoon 특별 기념식 수여식.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8: BURGOS

This morning, discover the sumptuous Burgos Cathedral, the largest church in Spain and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. View its richly decorated chapels and the cloister. Then, drive to the monastery of Santo Domingo de Silos, a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture, and experience a Gregorian chant performed by the world-famous monks of Silos. After a picnic lunch, drive to San Juan de Ortega for the start of one of the most popular Camino walks, passing by the village of Ages and the beautiful Church of Santa Eulalia to the village of Atapuerca. Return to Burgos for dinner at leisure.

Approximate walking distance: 3.8 miles.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9: BURGOS / LEÓN

Drive this morning to the village of Calzada del Coto to start a beautiful hike along this stretch of the Camino to Calzadilla de los Hermanillos. After a tapas buffet lunch at a popular pilgrim restaurant, continue to León. Check in at the Hotel Eurostars. The afternoon is at leisure before dinner at a local restaurant.

Approximate walking distance: 5.4 miles.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10: LEÓN

Depart this morning for a tour of León’s important sites. Visit the soaring 13th-century cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the Basilica of San Isidoro, called the “Sistine Chapel of Romanesque” because of its beautiful frescoes. Lunch is at a famous restaurant. Afterwards follow the Camino within the walls of León to discover Gaudí’s architectural masterpiece, the neo-Gothic palace Casa de Botines. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Approximate walking distance: 1.3 miles.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11: LEÓN / VILLAFRANCA DEL BIERZO

Your morning journey on the Camino leads from León into the glorious open countryside of the páramo (treeless grassland). From Oncina de la Valdoncina, walk to Chozas de Abajo. Then, drive to Astorga, whose historic legacy is the result of its location at the crossroads of several major pilgrimage routes. Admire Antoni Gaudí’s Bishop’s Palace before lunch. Continue to the medieval town of Ponferrada and its magnificent 12th-century Templar castle. Stroll on the Camino as it winds within the medieval section of Ponferrada. Dinner and overnight are at the Parador of Villafranca del Bierzo.

Approximate walking distance: 3.6 miles.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12: VILLAFRANCA DEL BIERZO / SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

See the historic sights of Villafranca del Bierzo before driving to Monte Do Gozo for lunch. The spires of the magnificent Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela will be visible as you join other pilgrims walking the last few miles of the Camino into Santiago. Check into the
Hotel Compostela in the heart of the city. Later, an optional excursion is arranged to “the end of the Earth” at Cape Finisterre, once thought to be the westernmost point on the Iberian Peninsula. Enjoy the sunset from the Cape with a glass of Cava.  
Approximate walking distance: 2.9 miles.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13: SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
A morning walking tour includes the highlights of this historic town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Complete the pilgrim experience at noon Mass, where the famous Botafumeiro ritual will be performed specifically for our group. Lunch and the afternoon are at leisure. Gather tonight for our farewell dinner.  
B,D

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14: SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA / RETURN
Depart the hotel early this morning for flights home.  
B

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Smith Travel and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

ACCOMMODATIONS

HOTEL MAISONNAVE, PAMPLONA 
HOTEL VILLA DE LAGUARDIA, LAGUARDIA 
HOTEL NH PALACIO DE LA MERCED, BURGOS 
HOTEL EUROSTARS, LEÓN 
PARADOR DE VILLAFRANCA DEL BIERZO, VILLAFRANCA DEL BIERZO 
HOTEL COMPOSTELA, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

PROGRAM RATE (per person)
DOUBLE RATE $6,799
SINGLE RATE $7,599

RATE INCLUDES

- Eleven nights accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach and entrance fees for included visits
- Taxes, service, and porterage charges
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE
International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; any other items note specifically mentioned as included.
Depart on an overnight flight to Pamplona via Madrid. Travel by coach to the Romanesque Church of Santa María de Eunate, one of the jewels of several major pilgrimage routes. Admire Antoni Gaudí’s Bishop’s Palace before lunch. Afterwards follow the Camino within the walls of León to discover Gaudí’s “Sistine Chapel of Romanesque” because of its beautiful frescoes. Lunch is at a famous local restaurant. Then, drive to the monastery of Santo Domingo de Silos, a masterpiece of Romanesque architecture. Afternoon is at leisure before dinner at a local restaurant. Check into the Hotel Eurostars. The spires of the magnificent Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela will be visible as you arrive in Santiago. A morning walking tour includes the highlights of this historic town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A ritual will be performed specifically for our group. Lunch and the afternoon are at a popular pilgrim restaurant. Check into the Hotel Compostela in the heart of the city. Later, an optional excursion is arranged to “the Cape” on the Bay of Biscay. The spires of the magnificent Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela will be visible as you arrive in Santiago. A morning walking tour includes the highlights of this historic town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A special ritual will be performed specifically for our group. Lunch and the afternoon are at a popular pilgrim restaurant. Check into the Hotel Compostela in the heart of the city. Later, an optional excursion is arranged to “the Cape” on the Bay of Biscay.
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El Camino de Santiago
A Walking Tour in Northern Spain
October 2–14, 2020