Caminhos de Santiago
CAMINHO PORTUGUÊS DA COSTA

Portuguese Coastal Way

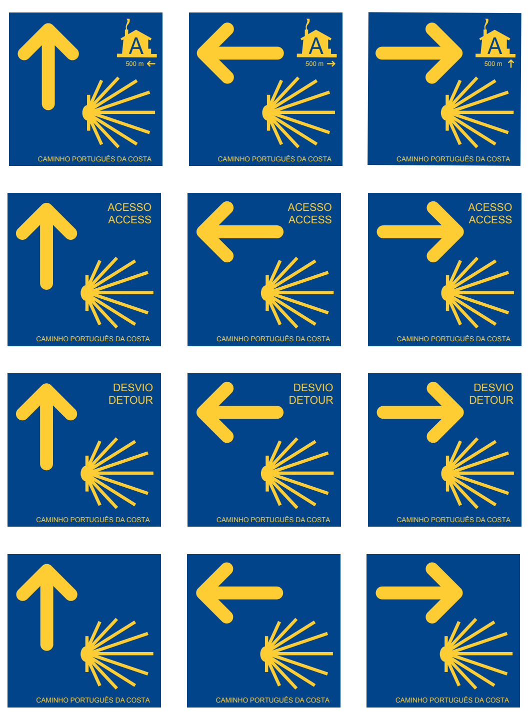
Matosinhos

A route brimming with culture and history

Signs found on the Saint James trails

Two different types of signs can be found along the Portuguese Coastal Way to help guide pilgrims and other walkers. One of them, **the direction signs**, replaces the well-known yellow arrows.

In addition to providing a direction, these may also include other information relating to **albergues**, **access** or **detours**. When not located on the actual Camino, they serve to indicate the way that leads to the Camino de Santiago.



Types of Signs

The extension of the Camino travels through rural and urban areas, and travellers may come across classified monuments and/or protected areas. As such, two specific signs were designed for the purpose: one is a more generic sign which can be found in **rural areas**. It is a simple wood pole with a direction sign in phenolic resin; the other, **the urban sign**, indicates the location of monuments and protected areas, and is made in cor-ten steel.

Information panel

Urban sign

Rural sign

Once a pilgrim, always a pilgrim...

The simplicity of the people found along the Portuguese Coastal Way dignifies the historical sites on route that embellish the natural landscape. Each step of the way is accompanied by a light sea breeze that invigorates the mind, challenging the body as you make your way to your planned destination.

Each day there are moments to be relished and seized. The vastness of the ocean contrasts against the mountains that border the Way, instilling emotions that will make you hold your breath. The kind-hearted people of the sea greet all walkers in a friendly manner, never refusing to provide aid to pilgrims in their quest to reach the next milestone. The Coastal Way has its own specific spirituality, experienced in a different way by each pilgrim, and this transforms each trip through nature into a journey that is as much serene as it is emotional.

The gentle slopes of the mountains cross the valleys which reflect the shimmering waters of the rivers and streams, invigorating each step of the way. At each bend, a new idyllic scenery accompanies the sea. It is only here that one is able to admire the contrast between the tranquil beaches and the strong Atlantic waves. The sea breeze has a characteristic smell of seaweed which has been washed up on shore and taken out to sea by the waves only to return and dry on the sand. It is the perfect setting for a painting.

Along the way, the landscape personifies many moments of our lives and helps us make sense of many things. In each town centre local folk tell the tales of pilgrims who have travelled through to reach their destination. The admiration and seduction of each moment is remembered, calling us to return to this Camino.

The Santiago de Compostela cult is evident in the spirit of the ten municipalities that are connected by the Coastal Way. Different landscapes are encompassed in one sole route, evoking serenity in pilgrims. This is the ideal trail for all those who seek new sensations which go beyond the body to provide clarity to the mind. A spiritual journey complemented with culture heritage sites and sceneries that will take your breath away.

Find your Way...

Porto

Albergue de Peregrinos do Porto
R. do Barão de Forrester, 954
Tel. + 351 912 591 321

Albergue do Peregrino Nossa Senhora do Rosário de Vilar
Casa Diocesana de Vilar
Tel. +351 226 056 084

Bombeiros Voluntários do Porto
Rua de Rodrigues Sampaio, 145
Tel. +351 222 055 845

Pousada da Juventude
Rua de Paulo da Gama, 551
Tel. +351 226 163 059

Matosinhos

Refugio de Peregrinos Via Portuscale
Matosinhos - Senhora da Hora
Tel. +351 960 227 134

Vila do Conde

Albergue de S. Tiago
Rua de Labruge, 1720
Tel. +351 229 284 686 | 961 180 256

Albergue de S. Mamede
Travessa do Sol
4485-743 Vila Chã | Vila do Conde
Tel. +351 229 285 607

Albergue de Santa Clara
Rua 5 de Outubro, 221
4480-630 Vila do Conde
Tel. +351 252 104 717

Póvoa de Varzim

Albergue de Peregrinos de São Pedro de Rates
Rua de Santo António, 189
4570-503 Rates

Albergue de Peregrino de S. José de Ribamar
Av. Mouzinho de Albuquerque, 32
4490-440 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel. +351 252 622 314

Esposende

Albergue de São Miguel de Marinhas
Av. de São Sebastião - Marinhas
Tel. +351 253 964 720

Pousada da Juventude de Ofir
Alameda do Bom Jesus
Fão - Esposende
Tel. +351 253 981 790

Viana do Castelo

Pousada da Juventude de Viana do Castelo
Rua de Limia
Tel. +315 258 838 458

Albergue "São João da Cruz dos Caminhos"
Padres Carmelitas Descalços, Igreja do Carmo
Tel. +351 258 822 264
Fax +351 258 829 132

Caminha

Albergue de Peregrinos de Caminha
Av. Padre Pinheiro | Caminha
Tel. +351 914 290 431

Vila Nova de Cerveira

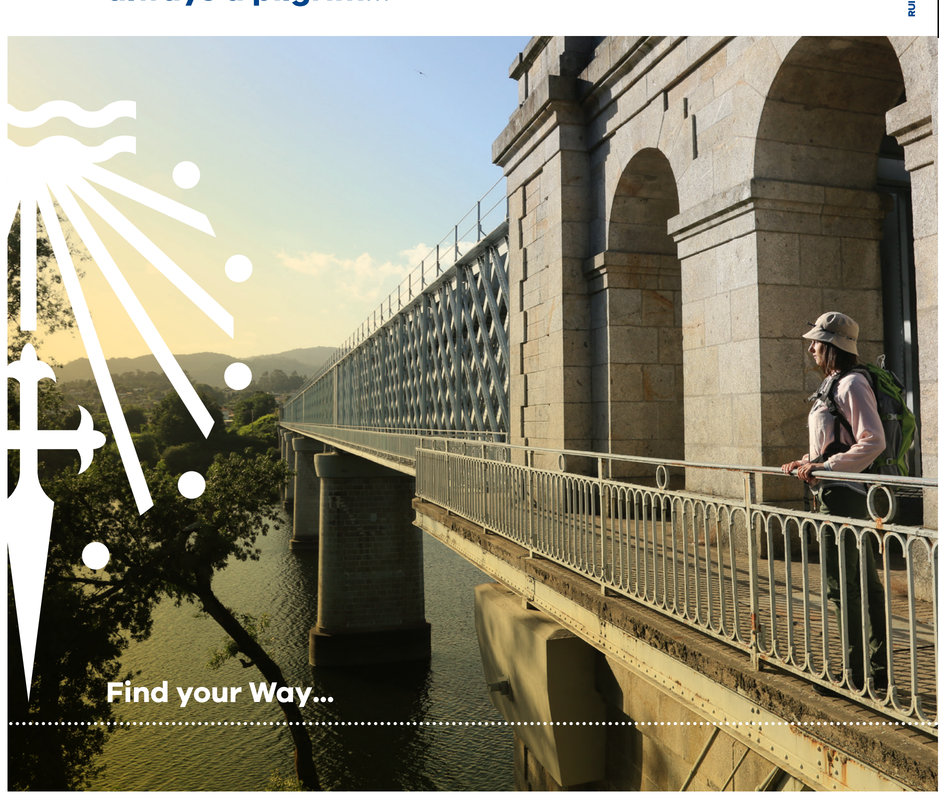
Casa da Mota
Rua Cais da Mota, s/n
Tel. +351 934 440 779 / +351 916 531 313

Pousada da Juventude de Vila Nova de Cerveira
Rua Alto das Veigas, EN 13
Antiga Escola Primária
Tel. +351 251 709 933 / +351 925 665 092

Valença

Albergue S. Teotónio
Av. José Maria Gonçalves
Tel. +351 251 826 286 / +351 961 168 501

Once a pilgrim, always a pilgrim...



Financing

Promotor

RUI CARVALHO_DESIGN

The Way...

As with any of the other routes leading to Santiago, strictly speaking it is impossible to only mention one route when we are talking about the Portuguese Way. The Portuguese Coastal Way, connecting Porto to other coastal regions, allows pilgrims to cross over into Galicia via the Minho river to La Guardia (opposite Caminha), Goian (opposite Vila Nova de Cerveira) or Tui (via Valença do Minho). It was considered by many historians as one of the most important roads leading to the apostle's house in Santiago de Compostela. This coastal route that starts in Porto and passes through Matosinhos, Maia, Vila do Conde, Póvoa de Varzim, Esposende, Viana do Castelo, Caminha, Vila Nova de Cerveira and Valença was only really acknowledged in the modern era, as of the 15th century. Until then it was mainly used by locals and those who disembarked in the seaports.

The project "Appreciation of the Saint James trails – the Portuguese Coastal Way" was the result of a joint-application made by 10 municipalities to Norte 2020, with the aim of officially acknowledging and making this alternative Camino known as a pilgrimage route leading to Santiago. This inter-city network presents a unique brand image and integrated marketing communication to enhance the inherent values of the Portuguese Coastal Way.

Bom Caminho...

WEB PORTAL AND SMARTPHONE APP

Camino route

Learn more about the cities that are part of the project, their history, heritage sites and points of interest as well as amenities found along the way.

Backpack

Pack your backpack with the right gear. We have a list of things you should take and some practical advice.

Stages

Define your stages and daily distances depending on what there is to see and visit and available accommodation. Plan, share and print your itinerary.

Find your Way...

The Portuguese Coastal Way portal will help you discover heritage sites, prepare your backpack and plan your way, stage by stage.

Planning the Camino is part of the journey. Knowing what awaits you each day of your adventure is part of the preparations.

The app for smartphones (iOS & Android) works like an interactive guide. It allows you to download the route defined on the web platform, including all the sites you want to visit, so that nothing is left to chance...

WORKS OFFLINE

SAVES YOUR POINTS OF INTEREST

CAMINO GUIDE

Plan your trip and don't miss out on anything.

An interactive guide for your smartphone that will accompany you along the Portuguese Coastal Way.

Available on the iPhone App Store

ANDROID APP ON Google play

+info **www.caminhoportuguesdacosta.com**

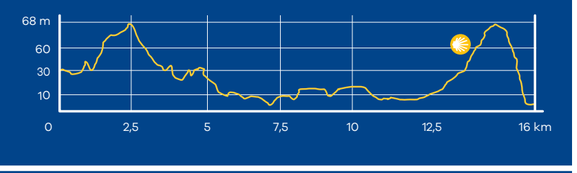
Share your experience on instagram **#caminhoportuguesdacosta**

Tourism office of Valença
Portas do Sol
4930-702 Valença
Tel. +351 251 823 329
42° 1'40.12"N 8°38'46.36"W

10 Valença

Trail outline RURAL/URBAN

Total length 16 Km
Time 04H00
Highest point 68 m
Difficulty Average



Tourism office of V.N. de Cerveira
Praça do Município
4920-284 Vila Nova de Cerveira
Tel. +351 251 70 80 23
41°56'20.35"N 8°44'38.86"W

9 V. N. Cerveira

Trail outline RURAL

Total length 14,6 km
Time 04H00
Highest point 91 m
Difficulty Easy

Tourism office of V. P. de Âncora
Av. Dr. Ramos Pereira
4910-457 Vila Praia de Âncora
Monday to saturday:
09h30 - 13h00 / 14h00 - 17h30
Tel. +351 258 911 384
41°48'44.02"N 8°51'47.12"W

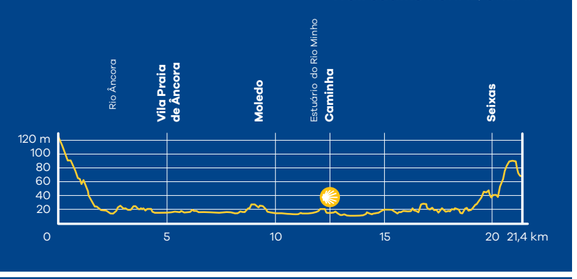
Tourism office of Caminha
Praça Conselheiro Silva Torres
4910-122 Caminha
Monday to saturday:
09h30 - 13h00 / 14h00 - 17h30
Tel. +351 258 921 952
41°52'33.89"N 8°50'18.91"W

Ferry-Boat Santa Rita de Cássia
Tel. +351 258 092 564

8 Caminha

Trail outline RURAL/URBAN

Total length 21,4 km
Time 05H00
Highest point 120 m
Difficulty Average

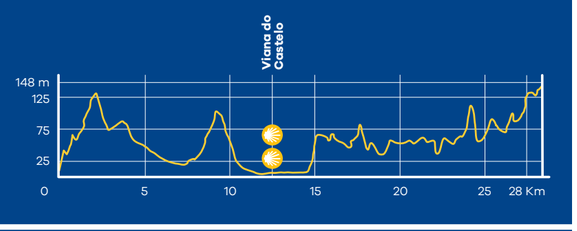


Tourism office
Viana Welcome Center
Praça da Liberdade
4900 Viana do Castelo
Tel. +315 258 098 415
41°41'27.92"N 8°49'42.72"W

7 Viana do Castelo

Trail outline RURAL/URBAN

Total length 28 km
Time 08H40
Highest point 148 m
Difficulty Average



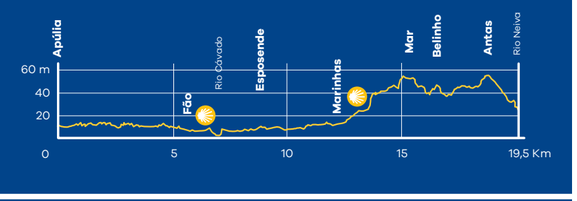
Tourism office of Esposende
Av. Eng. Eduardo de Arantes e Oliveira, 62
4740-204 Esposende
Tel. +351 253 961 354
41°31'51.69"N 8°46'56.65"W

Proriver / Ferry
Passagem Fluvial - Barca do Lago
Tel. +351 962 767 720

6 Esposende

Trail outline RURAL/URBAN

Total length 19,5 km
Time 04H30
Highest point 60 m
Difficulty Average

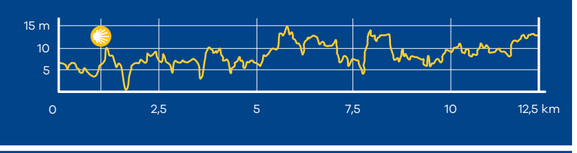


Tourism office of Póvoa de Vazrim
Praça Marquês de Pombal
4490-442 Póvoa de Varzim
Tel. +351 252 298 120
41°22'47,727"N -8°45'42,856"W

5 Póvoa de Varzim

Trail outline RURAL/URBAN

Total length 12,5 km
Time 03H00
Highest point 15 m
Difficulty Easy

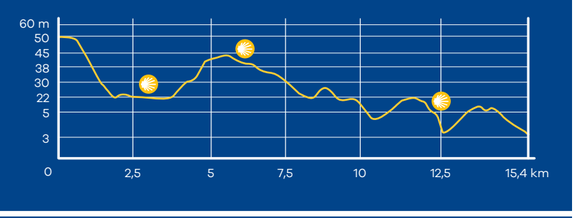


Tourism office of Via do Conde
Rua Cais das Lavandeiras
4480-789 Vila do Conde
Tel. +351 252 248 445
41°21'2.36"N 8°44'34.09"W

4 Vila do Conde

Trail outline RURAL/URBAN

Total length 15,4 km
Time 04H00
Highest point 50 m
Difficulty Easy

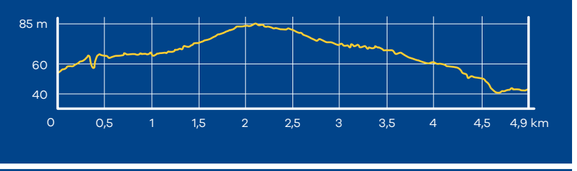


Maia Welcome Center
Parque Central da Maia
Rua Simão Bolívar, 1.º Piso - Loja 19
Maia
Tel. +351 229 444 732
41°14'2.96"N 8°37'30.92"W

3 Maia

Trail outline URBAN

Total length 4,9 km
Time 01H30
Highest point 85 m
Difficulty Easy

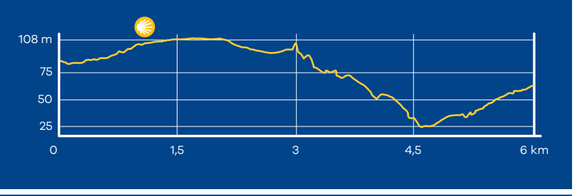


Tourism office of Matosinhos
Avenida General Norton de Matos
4450-208 Matosinhos
Monday: 13h00 - 19h00
Tuesday to saturday: 09h30 - 19h00
Sunday: 10h00 - 13h00
Tel. +351 229 392 412
41°10'49.037"N 8°41'38.458"W

2 Matosinhos

Trail outline URBAN

Total length 6 km
Time 02H00
Highest point 108 m
Difficulty Easy

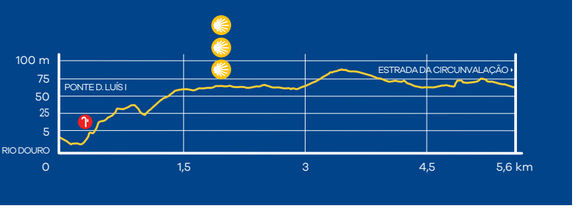


Tourism office of Porto
Terreiro da Sé
Calçada de Dom Pedro de Pitões, 15
4050-573 Porto
Tel. +351 300 501 920
41°8'35.09"N 8°36'41.87"W

The **stick** and the **pilgrim shell "vieira"** may be purchased in Porto, in the Arte Sacra Shop, Rua da Assunção, 36.
Tel. +351 222 016 021
41°8'30.08"N 8°36'41.08"W

The **credential** may be acquired in the Porto Cathedral, Terreiro da Sé.
Tel. + 351 222 059 028
41°8'35.09"N 8°36'41.87"W

1 Porto

Trail outline URBAN

Total length 5,6 km
Time 02H00
Highest point 87 m
Difficulty Average