

Stage 9 of Vigo's Portuguese Way of Saint James along the coast

Is one of the routes that cross Portugal towards Galicia, and one of the last to be recognized as official, despite historical evidence.

This coastal route was formerly used by pilgrims who arrived at the ports of **Portugal** in order to reach **Santiago de Compostela**. It was quite popular until the 16th Century but was lost in favor of other routes such as the "Classic Portuguese Way", regaining importance today.

As the official recognition of the Portuguese Way of Saint James along the coast is still recent, there is **no defined network of shelters, which forces the pilgrims to plan the accommodation in advance. Although on the other hand, being a less traveled road, it offers a greater feeling of recollection and adventure.**

The route starts in Oporto, goes through Póvoa de Varzim, Viana do Castelo and Caminha. Crosses Miño's river mouth in Spain, and continues through A Guarda, Bayona and **Vigo** to Redondela, where it joins the "Basque Way of Saint James". **There are almost 200 kilometers of route that run through an incomparable natural landscape.**

Although is the pilgrim himself who sets the pace, the Portuguese Way along the coast takes place in about 13 stages on foot between 16 and 29 kilometers. The route is generally flat and passable throughout the year due to the proximity of the ocean, although is important to add that spring and autumn are the best times to do the route.

Vigo is an exceptional starting point to enjoy the towns of **Ría de Vigo** and **the Cíes Islands**, integrated into the **National Park of the Atlantic Islands**. The Galician coastal gastronomy, based on fish and seafood, is another incentive to travel to this region.

The **port of Vigo** is one of the best natural harbors in the world. Its maritime characteristics have given rise to its current marinas, pier of transatlantic and fishing industry and canning. All this has influenced the urban development of Vigo, where the popular mariner village and important historical buildings are combined.

The Sercotel Hotel Bahía de Vigo**** is ideal to rest and recuperate in one of its elegantly decorated rooms equipped with whirlpool bathtub.

After visiting **Vigo**, strolling through its Old Town and its port, visiting O Castro and letting yourself be dazzled by the impressive historic buildings of Policarpo Sanz Street, the next stage begins in front of the church of Los Picos, in Calvario (Vigo) .

The section advances along the **water trail**, a path of high ecological and landscape value. The Pazo de Torrecedeira and the church of San Andrés in Cedeira welcome you to the town of Redondela, from where you link the Portuguese Way along the Coast with the Central Portuguese Way to Santiago de Compostela.



Stages of Vigo's Portuguese Way of Saint James along the coast

Stage 1: Oporto - Labruge (24 kilometers)

Stage 2: Labruge - Póvoa de Varzim (16 kilometers)

Stage 3: Póvoa de Varzim - Marinhãs (25 kilometers)

Stage 4: Marinhãs - Viana do Castelo (24 kilometers)

Stage 5: Viana do Castelo - Caminha (29 kilometers)

Stage 6: Caminha - Mougás (25 kilometers)

Stage 7: Mougás - A Ramallosa (16 kilometers)

Stage 8: A Ramallosa - Vigo (20 kilometers)

Stage 9: Vigo - Redondela (17 kilometers)

Stage 10: Redondela - Pontevedra (19 kilometers)

Stage 11: Pontevedra - Caldas de Reis (22 kilometers)

Stage 12: Caldas de Reis - Padrón (18 kilometers)

Stage 13: Padrón - Santiago de Compostela (25 kilometers)