

# Porto to Vigo: Silence, Solitude, and Interior Stillness

June 5th through 14th, 2025

(Continuing: Vigo to Santiago June 15- 22nd)

## An Invitation to Furthering Our Contemplative Practice

**Qualification:** Must register for the Vigo to Santiago pilgrimage in order to participate in the extended pilgrimage of Porto to Vigo.

**Description:** For those wishing to extend their pilgrimage we invite you to join us as *we journey the Atlantic Coastline of Portugal and Spain in Silence, Solitude, and Stillness.*

- This extension features 7 days of coastal walking and two days of rest in the beautiful seaside city of Vigo before meeting the rest of the group and continuing together on to Santiago, Spain.
- This “Extended Pilgrimage” will be *unguided* - allowing each participant to hold a posture of openness to what the Spirit has for them for each day.
- Our (Renee and Dan Huie) role, as hosts, will be to make the initial arrangements and be in prayer for you as you make your own journey with the Lord. We will not be “guiding” the pilgrimage. Rather, we will be fellow pilgrims - walking in silence on our own, using this week for our own spiritual renewal through silence, solitude, and stillness.
- *Pilgrims are invited to journey independently, or in groups in Solitude and Silence*, allowing for an inner Stillness. Your/our paths may meet up and diverge during the day, but the assumption is that on this leg of the journey most will want to maintain a contemplative space and eagerly return to silence and solitude.
- This is “your camino”. If you prefer to accompany someone from our group or someone you meet along the way, you should feel free to do so. You are welcome to ask others from our group, but please know that you *may* have better success in finding conversation partners on the second leg of the pilgrimage, as the afternoons between Vigo and Santiago will be open to conversation for those who prefer that type of companionship.
- Reaching the end of each stage (day), we invite you to gather with us, with each other or with those you have met along the way for dinner, drinks, or exploring and sharing about your days. We also invite participants to grant freedom to those who wish to continue in solitude.

- For details on the Camino Portugues - Porto to Vigo and Vigo to Santiago, you will need a copy of “Camino Portugues” by John Brierley - this will be required for navigation and planning your daily logistics for food, etc.

**Included:** lodging, breakfast, baggage transfer for each date in the itinerary below

**Not Included:** All meals (other than hotel breakfast), hotel nights prior to or after the dates in the itinerary below, transportation, ferry (see day 5), and other discretionary spending.

**Itinerary:**

- **June 5th: Gather in Porto, Portugal** (optional no- host dinner, drinks, and prayer as we launch our pilgrimage)
  - *Start your Camino de Santiago journey in gorgeous and colorful Porto, with its UNESCO- (World Heritage Site) listed old town, picturesque river front and home to Port wine. Discover the best of Portuguese hospitality before your walk on the Portuguese Coastal Way!*
- **Day 1 - June 6th: Porto to Povoia de Varzim, 15.5 miles**
  - *You will walk following the coastline, passing fishing villages, forts and chapels, the prehistoric ruins of the 10th century monastery Castro of San Paio and of course, beautiful sandy beaches.*
- **Day 2 - June 7th: Povoia de Varzim to Esposende, 13.7 miles**
  - *Enjoy a stroll along the pretty Póvoa de Varzim harbour and explore its medieval district before you continue your Camino. Walk up to the Convento de Santa Clara to discover the best views of the town and the surrounding coast. On your way to Esposende you will pass the popular seaside town of Póvoa de Varzim with its sandy beachfront and cross the Coastal Natural Park, Parque Natural do Litoral Norte.*
- **Day 3 - June 8th: Esposende to Viana do Castelo, 15 miles**
  - *Today you will continue your Camino coastal walk from Esposende, across the Coastal Natural Park, on your way to Viana do Castelo. Take the opportunity to taste the local cuisine, explore the historic center of town and take the funicular to the Basilica de Santa Luzia for great views. Legend has it that the Romans were so impressed by Viana’s beauty when they reached the town in the first century BC that they thought they had reached the paradise.*
- **Day 4 - June 9th: Viana do Castelo to Vila Praia de Ancora, 12 miles**
  - *Today you will leave Viana do Castelo and continue along the beautiful Atlantic coastline heading North. Today is quite an easy day, giving you plenty of time to enjoy a relaxed pace and have enough time to make the most of the seaside villages and towns along the way. You will stay in the coastal town Vila Praia de Ancora.*
- **Day 5 - June 10th: Vila Praia de Ancora to A Guarda, 8 miles**
  - *From Vila Praia de Ancora you will continue on your coastal Camino towards Caminha, right by the Minho estuary, where the River meets the Atlantic. From Caminha, you will take the*

*ferry-boat Santa Rita de Cássia across the river Minho to Galicia. There are about 10 crossings per day from Caminha to A Guarda (schedule varies depending on the season). Ticket fare not included in the holiday package. From the ferry to can continue straight to A Guarda or take a detour along the estuary for great coastal views (4km longer). If you have time, once you reach A Guarda, take a visit to its famous hilltop 'castro', celtic settlement.*

- **Day 6 - June 11th: A Guarda to Baiona, 18.6 miles**
  - *From the fishing village of A Guarda, your path continues northwards where you will be afforded some more breathtaking views of the ocean on your left. Tonight you will reach the busy seaside town of Baiona with its gorgeous marina. While in Baiona, visit one of the towns attractions such as the Museo de la Carabela Pinta and the Monumento Encuentro entre dos Mundos.*
- **Day 7 - June 12th: Baiona to Vigo, 16 miles**
  - *Today you will follow the coast from Baiona to Nigrán and finally to the city of Vigo. You will enjoy fantastic views of the Bay of Vigo, with the magnificent Illas Cíes and its Natural Park in the horizon. On a hot day, stop at the blue flag beach Praia América in Nigrán for a quick swim.*
- **Day 8 - June 13th: Rest Day (Hotel Included)**
- **Day 9 - June 14th: Rest Day and Evening Gathering (Hotel & Dinner included)**
- **Day 10 - June 15th: Begin Vigo to Santiago**

**Costs for Extended Portion:**

**\*Single Occupancy: \$1,677.00**

**\*Double Occupancy: \$1,355.00**

\*These prices include:

- 9 nights of hotel accommodations (including the extra night in Vigo)
- Breakfast at each hotel
- Baggage carry