ALONG THE CAMINO

A VOYAGE FROM PORTSMOUTH TO VIGO ABOARD THE MS ISLAND SKY Combined with a three night stay in Santiago de Compostela With guest speaker the right reverend nick baines

 15^{TH} TO 22^{ND} SEPTEMBER 2025



Here is a unique opportunity to combine a leisurely passage from the UK to Spain aboard the all-suite MS Island Sky with time spent walking along various sections of the Camino de Santiago, the renowned pilgrimage route and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Follow in the footsteps of seafaring pilgrims from centuries past who would sail from the UK to Galicia to begin their pilgrimage to the tomb of St James. Our journey promises to be an enriching experience accompanied by fellow like-minded travellers and our Guest Speaker, the Right Reverend Nick Baines who will provide a series of fascinating talks. After four nights on board the MS Island Sky sailing from Portsmouth to Vigo by way of La Coruna, we will disembark for a three night stay in the beautiful Galician city of Santiago de Compostela where we will stay in the wonderful Parador de Santiago de Compostela.

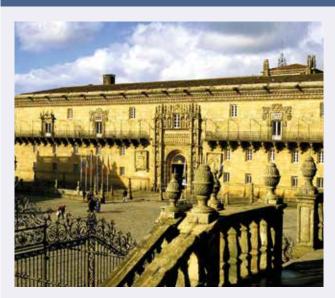
Established after the discovery of the relics of St James, the Camino de Santiago or the 'Way of James' is an extensive network of ancient pilgrim routes stretching across Europe and culminating at the magnificent cathedral in Santiago de Compostela. We have designed our itinerary to allow for the opportunity to walk along four sections of the Way of St James; the English Way, the French Way, the Portuguese Way and the Finisterre Way and the walks will be planned so that participants can walk as much or as little as they choose of the three sections on each of the days and, for those electing not to partake in the walks, there will be the option to instead join a guided excursion to the region's picturesque towns.

Guest Speaker - The Right Reverend Nick Baines



The Right Reverend Nick Baines has been the Bishop of Leeds since 2014. He was previously the Bishop of Bradford and the Bishop of Croydon. He read German and French at Bradford University and, before ordination, worked for four years as a Russian linguist at GCHQ. Nick has a particular expertise in communication. He is regularly heard on Radios 2 & 4, is often asked to comment nationally on topical issues, and has written seven books on Christian faith. Nick has been a member of the House of Lords since 2014, leading on Europe, Russia, Sudan, security & intelligence. He has represented the Archbishop of Canterbury at international faith conferences and for 11 years was the English Co-chair of the Meissen Commission which develops relationships between the Church of England and the EKD (Protestant Church in Germany). He also preaches frequently in Germany. He has a keen interest in music, literature, art, film, theatre and Liverpool FC.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION The Parador Hotel, Santiago de Compostela



The final three nights of our tour will be based at the Parador de Santiago de Compostela, one of the oldest hotels in Spain which was built in 1499 by order of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. Once a royal hospital, which provided lodging and shelter for many pilgrims who arrived in the city following the Camino de Santiago, the impressive building along with the Romanesque Cathedral beside it and the Plaza de Obradoiro have been named a UNESCO World Heritage Site and are proclaimed as historic jewels. The Parador itself combines Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque elements which can be seen throughout the luxurious public areas and bedrooms. The Parador features four impressive cloisters and has several lounge areas for guests to relax in. The hotel's two restaurants feature exposed stone walls and candelabras. The Dos Reis serves a range of Mediterranean cuisine, while the Enxebre specialises in seafood and traditional Galician dishes. Each of the spacious bedrooms spread over four floors offers classic decor with a private bathroom and modern comforts such as wooden, parqueted flooring, minibar, safe, satellite TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, hairdryer and telephone.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Portsmouth, England. Embark the MS Island Sky this afternoon. Transfers will be provided from Portsmouth Harbour Railway Station at a fixed time. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

Days 2 & 3 At Sea. Spend the next two days at sea sailing to the northern coast of Spain following in the footsteps of centuries of seafaring pilgrims from Britain and Northern Europe. During your time on board relax and perhaps take in a lecture or two by our Guest Speaker.

Day 4 La Coruna & The English Way. This morning we arrive into La Coruna. From here we will walk part of the English Way which has two starting points, La Coruna and Ferrol, La Coruna being the preferred route for British Pilgrims. Pilgrims started walking the English Way or the 'Seafaring Way' in the 12th century and it was popular with Medieval pilgrims from Scandinavia, Flanders, England, Scotland and Wales. It played host to Crusaders on their way to the Holy Land, Icelandic monks, and during the Hundred Years War pilgrims from Britain sailed as we did to the coast rather than passing through France. Vessels chartered for the purpose of pilgrimage had to receive permission from the Crown before they could set sail. The pilgrimages are well documented by ceramic pieces and coins found during excavations of the Santiago de Compostela Cathedral. The walk today will pass through Pontedeume, before walking through villages and woodlands ending in Mino. The walking today will be split into sections so that you can choose to walk as much or as little as you wish, and we will break for a picnic lunch. For those who prefer a more leisurely day there will be a morning tour of La Coruna followed by an afternoon at leisure.

Day 5 Vigo, The Portuguese Way & Santiago de Compostela. We will disembark this morning and set out to walk some of the Portuguese Way. The Camino Portugues which starts in Lisbon has been in use since the 10th century, but it was in the 12th century after the independence of Portugal that it became more prominent. The pilgrimage of Queen Isabel of Portugal in the 14th century solidified the routes for pilgrims. The walk today will be two parts, the first will be the section that crosses from Portugal into Spain starting in Valanca and walking to the Medieval town of Tui. After lunch in a local restaurant we will drive to the next section which will start in Caldas de Reis taking you through countryside, woodland and villages to Magarinos. On finishing the walk we will transfer to Santiago de Compostela. For those choosing not to walk today, there will be a guided visit to the Pazo de Faramello, an early 18th century building with strong Italian influences that convey the Genoese origin of its founder, the Marquis of Piombino. This pazo was the location of the first paper factory in Galicia and the old mills and corresponding tools can still be seen. Admire the perfectly kept French



19th century gardens spread across more than two hectares leaning out in terraces over a tiny canyon whilst we enjoy lunch. After lunch we will drive to Santiago de Compostela where we will check into the Parador Hotel for three nights. We will meet this evening for dinner at the hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 6 The French Way & Santiago de Compostela. Today we will head to Melide to walk a section of the French Way, perhaps the most famous of the nine major Camino routes. Its 800 kilometres of trails have inspired many artists, writers and filmmakers. Melide is the only town where two Camino routes meet, the French Way and the Camino Primitivo (Original Way). From the 10th century, Melide grew in popularity as the Camino de Santiago did, as the number of pilgrims passing through increased so did the traders and innkeepers, allowing the town to grow in prosperity. The town has a number of impressive chapels and beautiful Medieval architecture. The route today will take us through forests and over streams passing quaint villages and farms. For those not wishing to walk today, there will be the option of a tour to the elegant and historic town of Ponteverde where we will see the Peregrina Chapel, the city's most emblematic building. This Baroque church has an unusual, rounded facade and was built in the late 18th century in honour of the Virgin guiding pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela. There will also be a visit to Pazo de Rubianes, an elegant country estate dating back to the late 17th century and surrounded by extensive vineyards en route back to Santiago de Compostela. (B, L)

Day 7 Santiago de Compostela. For those choosing to walk today, we will depart the hotel after breakfast to walk the final section of the Finisterre way. This is a unique route as it takes pilgrims from Santiago de Compostela to Cape Finsterra, once believed to be the 'Edge of the World'. The Camino Finisterre predates Christianity, as pagans would walk to the mythical Cape as they believed this was where the sun died. We will walk the last section of the Way into the city of Santiago de Compostela finishing at the beautiful Cathedral. On arrival at the Cathedral we will meet with our fellow passengers and enjoy a guided tour of the city of Santiago de Compostela. Visit the Conventual de San Francisco, the Faculty of Medicine and the world-famous Plaza del Obradoiro. Inside the impressive cathedral, we will visit the Romanic crypt and see the facade of Platerias, the Quintana Plaza, House of Parra, the facade of Azabacheria and the facade of San Martin Pinario. This afternoon will be at leisure before our farewell dinner this evening. (B, D)

Day 8 Santiago de Compostela to London. This morning, we will visit Pazo de Oca, usually referred to as "Galician Versailles" is the final milestone of St James's way. Originally a fortress dating from the 12th century, it was during the 18th century when Fernando Gayoso, Marquis of Camarasa transformed it into its current appearance of golden granite stone wall that evokes a forgotten paradise full of romanticism. Above all, the gardens at Oca are what astonish the most. Recently restored to its 18th century glory, the beauty here is the fusion of formal garden with working farm. After lunch we will transfer to the airport for the scheduled flight to London. (**B**, **L**)

WALKING & EXPLORING

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking along sections of the Camino de Santiago. We will endeavour to accommodate varying levels of fitness by separating the group into different abilities, and excursions will include walking for between two to six hours a day at a steady pace. Walking will be over a mix of terrain and gradients so walking boots or shoes will be required. The walking routes and order are subject to weather and conditions. For those not wishing to walk, or those simply wishing to opt for a more leisurely day, alternative excursions are included exploring the culture and history of the area.

PRICES PER PERSON Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON PLUS NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£4095	£3795
Columbus	Superior	£4195	£3895
Marco Polo	Premium	£4295	£3995
Marco Polo	Corner	£4395	£4095
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£4795	£4495
Explorer	Owner's Balcony Suites	£4995	£4695
Explorer	Island Suite	£5295	£4995
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£4095	£3795
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£4195	£3895

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Four nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • Three nights hotel accommodation in Santiago de Compostela • Meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner) • House wine, beer and soft drinks with included lunches and dinners • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes. Not Included: Travel insurance.



MS ISLAND SKY

The much loved MS Island Sky is one of our two flag ships and sister vessel to the MS Hebridean Sky. With a maximum passenger capacity of only 118, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying many more but instead the MS Island Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks.

Your Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a seating area and some have private balconies, whilst those on the Marco Polo Deck feature tinted, sliding glass doors allowing greatly enhanced viewing opportunities and quick access to the deck. Each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, a large wardrobe, dressing table and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, television and telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries, air-conditioning and heating.

Your Dining

In keeping with the informal atmosphere on board, when dining you are able to choose your seating arrangements and choice of restaurants at your leisure; whether that be joining a table of four to six other passengers in the elegant à la carte Restaurant or outside buffet-style on the Lido Deck in the evening sunshine. In the main Restaurant, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order on request. Lunch and dinner menus offer plenty of choice, often reflecting the daily catch and local delicacies. The Welcome and Farewell dinners are a sumptuous five course affair. To enhance your dining experience further a selection of wines is included with both meals. Afternoon tea and predinner canapés take place in either the comfort of the Lounge or out on the Lido Deck when the weather is favourable.

Your Space

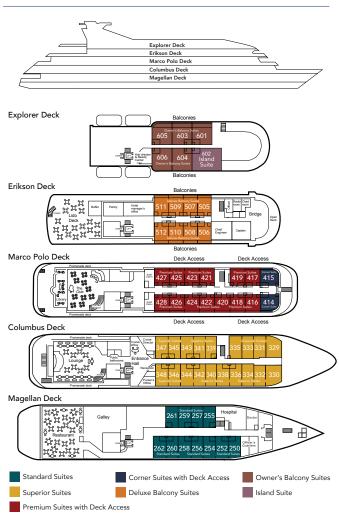
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Recommended Provider

OCEAN COULSES

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Columbus Deck featuring a selection of seating options from individual armchairs and sofas to side cushioned benches. Daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and expedition staff take place in the Lounge. In addition to the main Lounge, there is also The Club, located on the Marco Polo Deck which features the main bar. Towards the aft of the ship on the Columbus Deck is the Library. A collection of games as well as devices to access the internet via the ship's satellite can be found in the Library. Access to the ship's satellite Wi-Fi via your own device is complimentary on board (signal strength varies depending on location and demand).

MS ISLAND SKY DECK PLAN



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request. Cover image: Santiago de Compostela.