

PILGRIMAGE to SANTIAGO de COMPOSTELA.

SEPTEMBER 11th to 23rd. 2005.

A journey by coach and ferry to the shrine of St. James the Apostle at Santiago de Compostela in North West Spain, visiting important sites along the mediaeval pilgrimage route (the Camino), and returning via Avila - the birthplace of St. Teresa.

ITINERARY.

Sunday. Sept.11th. Late afternoon departure from Cottingham by coach to join the 19.00 ferry from Hull to Zeebrugge.

Monday. Sept.12th. Travel through Belgium, and then into France, with a lunchtime stop in **Reims.** (*Famous for champagne, and with a magnificent gothic cathedral, where the French kings were crowned.*) Then on into Burgundy to **Avallon** for overnight stop.

Tuesday. Sept. 13th. A short journey to **Vezelay** for our visit to the Basilica of Ste-Madeleine. (*Vezelay was one of the most famous starting points for mediaeval pilgrims bound for Santiago de Compostela, and was an important pilgrimage centre in its own right, due to the belief that relics of St. Mary Magdalen were buried in the basilica.*)

In the afternoon we head south for the Massif Central and our overnight stop at **Le Puy en Velay.**

Wednesday. Sept.14th. Spend the morning in **Le Puy** to visit the mediaeval "Holy City" and the cathedral of Notre Dame, with its famous Black Madonna. (*Le Puy became a pilgrimage centre after its Bishop Goteschalk made one of the first recorded pilgrimages to Santiago in 962, and built the Chapelle St Michel on its volcanic outcrop on his return.*)

In the afternoon we continue our journey south towards the Pyrenees, and our overnight stop in **Pau.**

Thursday. Sept. 15th. We cross the Pyrenees at **Roncesvalles** and then on via Pamplona to **Burgos** for our overnight stop.

Friday. Sept.16th. Spend the morning in **Burgos** and visit its famous cathedral. (*Burgos was the old capital of the kingdom of Castile and Leon, and an important staging post on the pilgrimage route. Its cathedral is the third largest in Spain and contains the tomb of El Cid.*)

In the afternoon we continue our journey through Northern Spain, and reach the province of Galicia for our overnight stop in **Lugo.**

Saturday. Sept.17th. Only a short drive now before we reach **Santiago de Compostela** for our three night stay. (*Those who wish can walk the last section of the Camino.*)

Sunday. Sept.18th. In Compostela.

Monday. Sept.19th. In Compostela. There will be an excursion to the Galician coast.

Tuesday. Sept.20th. Leave on our journey home, travelling to **Avila** for our overnight stay.

Wednesday. Sept 21st. Spend the morning in **Avila.** (*A city whose centre is encircled by the finest preserved mediaeval walls in Europe, and which is better known as the birthplace of St. Teresa.*)

*In the afternoon drive north to **Vitoria-Gasteiz** in the Basque country for our overnight stay.*

Thursday. Sept.22nd. A short drive to **Bilbao** to catch the 13.15 ferry to Portsmouth.. (The coach will go via Bilbao airport, so that anyone wishing to fly back - to Stansted - can leave the tour at this point.)
Overnight on the ferry.

Friday. Sept.23rd. Arrive in Portsmouth at 17.15 and drive back to Cottingham.

What is included:

Travel to and from Cottingham by Applebys executive coach.
Accommodation for 12 nights in twin bedded rooms or cabins. 10 breakfasts and 7 dinners.

(Hotels range from 2* - 4* and are on a half-board basis, except for the 3 nights in Santiago which are B&B.

The two ferry crossings are accomodation only.)

Gratuities.

Extras:

Meals on the ferries.

Dinners whilst in Santiago de Compostela.

Lunches.

Air fare, and transport from Stansted to Cottingham. (if flying back from Bilbao, there will be a reduction for not using the Bilbao to Portsmouth ferry.)

Travel insurance, **which is compulsory**. (Applebys can offer this at £25 per person.)

Single occupancy of rooms/cabins.

For further information contact Peter O'Reilly. Tel. (01482) 845 459.

PILGRIMAGE to SANTIAGO de COMPOSTELA

SEPTEMBER 11th to 23rd, 2005

BOOKING FORM

Please reserve me () places @ £659 per person.

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

Tel. No.

A deposit of £75 per person is required, with the balance due no later than July 11th.

Single supplement (£150) if required: { }

Travel insurance @ £25 per person: { }

(If arranging own travel insurance, details of company, policy no. and contact no. will be required.)

Name and tel no. of next of kin (in event of emergency):

.....

Any special dietary requirements:

.....

Do you wish to make your own arrangements to return home by air from Bilbao? { }

=====

For further information contact Peter O'Reilly. Tel. (01482) 845 459.

Please return this form, along with a cheque for the deposit (£75 per person), to:

*Peter O'Reilly
11 Crofters Drive
Cottingham
East Yorks
HU16 4SD*