

## Bicycle Tours in Spain: Cycling the Camino de Santiago - Roncesvalles to Santiago

### OVERVIEW

Selected by [National Geographic Traveler](#) magazine as one of "50 Tours of a Lifetime, this is truly an experience not to miss.



"A pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela is the finest journey in Spain," wrote James Michener in his book *Iberia*. Join our bicycle tour across northern Spain and you too will discover the magic of the Camino de Santiago. Though we use paved roads instead of the traditional dirt path our tour follows the original guide for the Camino written by a monk in the 12th century. Along the way you'll explore Gothic cathedrals, visit medieval monasteries, pedal through one of Spain's premier wine growing regions - the Rioja - and encounter adventurous travelers from around the world. More than just a bicycle tour, this is an adventure of a lifetime.


If this sounds great but you don't have time for the full 15 days, check out our shorter [Cycling the Camino de Santiago - León to Santiago](#) tour.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Follows the route of the Codex Calixtinus , 1000 years of history in along the Camino de Santiago, Coordination to obtain your Pilgrim's Passport, Guided tour of León, Option to hike one day, Burgos

### TOUR FACTS

<b>Tour Style</b>	 Classic: Learn more about our Classic tours at <a href="https://www.experienceplus.com/tours/bike-tour-styles/classic-tours">https://www.experienceplus.com/tours/bike-tour-styles/classic-tours</a>
<b>Includes</b>	15 days, 14 nights accommodation; meals as noted in itinerary; winery visit and tasting; guided walk in León; group shuttle from Pamplona to Roncesvalles; and the usual (see below).
<b>Countries</b>	Spain
<b>Begin/End</b>	Pamplona/Santiago de Compostela
<b>Arrive/Depart</b>	Madrid-Barajas Airport (MAD) to Pamplona Airport (PNA) / Santiago de Compostela Airport (SCQ) to Madrid-Barajas Airport (MAD)
<b>Total Distance</b>	875 km (544 miles)
<b>Avg. Daily Distance</b>	73 km (45 miles) per riding day
<b>Tour Level</b>	
<b>Keep in Mind</b>	We work hard to maintain consistency across all of our tours, but some trips have unique differences. Here are some things to keep in mind about this tour. Though we try and arrange dinners together as early as possible in Spain this means 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. There are times when we will divert from the traditional Camino route because it is gravel, or because we've chosen a more scenic way with less traffic.

**Please Note:** We may have small itinerary changes to this trip after you download this PDF document. If you have booked this trip and there are major changes, including changes to towns or activities, we'll email you directly. However, you should always be sure to refer to the  [online itinerary](#) for the most up-to-date trip information including arrival and departure tips before you depart for your trip:

<https://www.experienceplus.com/guided-bike-tours/spain/cycling-camino-de-santiago-roncesvalles-santiago>

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### DATES & PRICES

Dates	Price	Single Supplement*
☑ May 19-Jun 2, 2023	☑ USD\$5825	☑ USD\$650
☑ Jun 9-23, 2023	☑ USD\$5825	☑ USD\$650
☑ Aug 18-Sep 1, 2023	☑ USD\$5825	☑ USD\$650

\*We are happy to match solo travelers who would like to share a room with someone of the same gender. If no match exists, due to hotel pricing, we will charge 50% of the single supplement rate. This fee will be collected at the time of the final payment. If a roommate assignment is available this fee will be refunded at the conclusion of the tour.

### DAILY RIDE SUMMARY

Day	Distance/Gain	Terrain	Day Level	Notes
1	Test ride			
2	75km / 647m (47mi / 2122ft)	Hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
3	85km / 1346m (53mi / 4415ft)	Hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
4	57km / 675m (36mi / 2214ft)	Rolling hills	▶▶▶▶▶	
5	92km / 929m (57mi / 3047ft)	Hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
6	98km / 682m (61mi / 2237ft)	Rolling hills	▶▶▶▶▶	
7	108km / 550m (67mi / 1804ft)	Gentle	▶▶▶▶▶	
8	Rest day			
9	61km / 390m (38mi / 1279ft)	Gentle	▶▶▶▶▶	
10	76km / 880m (47mi / 2886ft)	Very hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
11	60km / 1328m (38mi / 4356ft)	Mountainous	▶▶▶▶▶	
12	51km / 729m (32mi / 2391ft)	Mountainous	▶▶▶▶▶	
13	77km / 1326m (48mi / 4349ft)	Very hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
14	40km / 759m (25mi / 2490ft)	Hilly	▶▶▶▶▶	
15	Last day			

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### ARRIVAL INFO

**On Day 1, meet the complimentary ExperiencePlus! Shuttle at the Meeting Hotel in Pamplona (your spot is already reserved on this shuttle):**

- Meeting Time: 2:00 p.m.
- Meeting Hotel: [Hotel Albret](#)

**Note:**

As you are planning, remember that the hotels listed in our itineraries are our primary hotels and are - in rare cases - subject to change. Before you make arrangements, [check with us](#) if your tour departure is guaranteed. If your tour departure is out further than 6 months, please also check with us as there might be slight changes to the itinerary.

The below information will help you plan your arrival. For more tips or other routes, you might like [Rome2Rio](#). The fare and timing information listed below is approximate.

The closest airport to the tour start is Pamplona (PNA). Most flights to Pamplona connect through Madrid (MAD)

- You can also take a train or bus from Madrid to Pamplona (3-4 hours)
- You can also take a train from Barcelona - 3.5 to 4 hours by train

**Getting to the Meeting Hotel in Pamplona:**

- Taxi from airport or train station (20 min/EUR 15-20)

**Spanish Train Schedules:**

Look up Spanish train schedules at [Renfe.com](#) or [Trainline.eu](#). Questions? See our information on taking trains in Europe [here](#) or [ask us](#).

For more travel planning tips, including our packing lists, visit our [Travel Planning Pages](#).

### DEPARTURE INFO

**The tour ends on the final day after a tour of Santiago this morning. You may also want to stick around for the Pilgrim's Mass at noon. If you would like to participate in these activities, schedule flights after 3:30 p.m.**

The below information will help you plan your departure. For more tips or other routes, you might like [Rome2Rio](#).

**We recommend flying out of the Santiago de Compostela Airport (SCQ).**

- A train or bus to Madrid or Barcelona is at least a 9-hour trip.
- Iberia airlines provides one-way flights to numerous destinations from Santiago.

**Flying out of SQL**

- Taxi from the Ending Hotel to the airport (20 min/EUR 21)

### **Bicycle Tours in Spain: Cycling the Camino de Santiago - Roncesvalles to Santiago**

Look up Spanish train schedules at [Renfe.com](http://Renfe.com) or [Trainline.eu](http://Trainline.eu). Questions? See our information on taking trains in Europe [here](#) or ask us.

## Bicycle Tours in Spain: Cycling the Camino de Santiago - Roncesvalles to Santiago

### Tour begins in Pamplona - Shuttle to Roncesvalles

**Highlights** Pilgrim's Passports, introductory dinner, bike fitting

Meet mid-afternoon today in Pamplona, then we'll shuttle as a group to Roncesvalles. There, we'll fit bicycles, visit the 13th-century monastery that is the traditional starting point for the Camino, and pick up our pilgrims' passports. This evening we'll celebrate with a welcome dinner at our hotel.

### DAY 1: Fri, Jun 9th

**Distance** 10 km (6 mi)

**Meals** Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel Roncesvalles  
Casa de Beneficiados

### Roncesvalles to Puente la Reina

**Highlights** Church of Santa María Eunate, historic Puente la Reina

Our journey begins with a downhill ride from Roncesvalles following the Iratí River. Along the way, we'll visit the 12th-century Church of Santa María Eunate. Our hotel tonight is in Puente la Reina, where all the pilgrim's routes from France become one.

### DAY 2: Sat, Jun 10th

**Distance** 75 km (47 mi)

**Gain** 647 m (2122 ft)

**Terrain** Hilly

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel Jakue

### Puente la Reina to Laguardia

**Highlights** Scenic cycling, winery visit, wine tasting

This morning we'll head across the Rio Salado before reaching medieval Estella. From there, we'll head through farmlands and vineyards on the way to our hotel in the walled town of Laguardia. There we'll visit one of the oldest and smallest wineries in Spain, where we'll enjoy a wine tasting, before dinner together.

### DAY 3: Sun, Jun 11th


**Distance** 85 km (53 mi)

**Gain** 1346 m (4415 ft)

**Terrain** Hilly

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel Castillo El  
Collado

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### Bicycle Laguardia to Santo Domingo

**Highlights** Cycling in Rioja Alta wine region, winery visits

A short detour today leads us to one of Spain's most important wine-producing areas, the Rioja Alta. Along the way, our route passes through the 16th-century town of Haro. Then, it's back to the Camino and on to Santo Domingo de la Calzada, where we'll spend the night.

### DAY 4: Mon, Jun 12th

**Distance** 57 km (36 mi)

**Gain** 675 m (2214 ft)

**Terrain** Rolling hills

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast

**Lodging**  Hotel Parador de Santo Domingo Bernardo de Fresneda

### Santo Domingo to Burgos

**Highlights** Ancient Burgos, Gothic cathedral

You will enjoy a beautiful ride today as we cross the Oca Hills to the ancient city of Burgos, home of Spain's favorite son, El Cid. Our hotel is in front of the city's famous cathedral - one of the most impressive in Europe - and the tomb of El Cid.

### DAY 5: Tue, Jun 13th

**Distance** 92 km (57 mi)

**Gain** 929 m (3047 ft)

**Terrain** Hilly

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast

**Lodging**  Hotel Meson del Cid

### Burgos to Carrión de los Condes

**Highlights** Historic Church of St. Anton, overnight in refurbished monastery

This morning we head across the rolling plains of the meseta to Castrojeriz, where the Camino runs right through the ruins of the Church of St. Anton. We'll finish today's ride in Carrión de los Condes where we'll spend the night in a refurbished monastery.

### DAY 6: Wed, Jun 14th

**Distance** 98 km (61 mi)

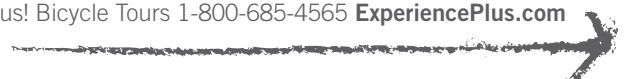
**Gain** 682 m (2237 ft)

**Terrain** Rolling hills

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel Monasterio San Zoilo



**Bicycle Tours in Spain: Cycling the Camino de Santiago - Roncesvalles to Santiago****Sahagún to León**

**Highlights** Sahagún, Basílica de San Isidoro

Passing through one of the most famous stops on the Camino, in Sahagún, we'll pedal our way to León today. A former capital of Spain, León is famous for its cathedral and the Basílica de San Isidoro. Since we'll be spending the next two nights there, you'll have plenty of time to explore both.

**DAY 7: Thu, Jun 15th**

**Distance** 108 km (67 mi)

**Gain** 550 m (1804 ft)

**Terrain** Gentle

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast

**Lodging**  Hotel NH Plaza Mayor

**Rest day in León**

**Highlights** Guided walking tour of León museums, shops

Sleep in this morning, as this is a rest day in León. A local historian will lead us on a guided walking tour of the city, then you're free to spend the day as you wish. Explore the local shops and museums. Catch up on your reading. Or just relax in one of the local cafés. It's your choice. Dinner together tonight, we'll meet anyone joining us on the last part of our trip.

**DAY 8: Fri, Jun 16th**

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel NH Plaza Mayor

**León to Astorga**

**Highlights** Visit to cathedral and palace designed by Antonio Gaudí

On your way to Astorga you will cross the Puente de Orbigo, one of the oldest and longest bridges on the Camino. Astorga is home to the 15th-century cathedral and neo-Gothic palace designed by the famous Catalan architect Antonio Gaudí.

**DAY 9: Sat, Jun 17th**

**Distance** 61 km (38 mi)

**Gain** 390 m (1279 ft)

**Terrain** Gentle

**Level** 

**Meals** Breakfast

**Lodging**  Hotel Via de la Plata

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**Astorga to Canedo**

**Highlights** Scenic cycling through the Spanish countryside, Cruz de Ferro (don't forget to bring your pebble from home!)

Leaving Astorga today, we head toward the hills that separate the provinces of León and Galicia. As we pass through tiny hamlets and monuments untouched since early Christianity, it's easy to imagine the awe that original pilgrims making this trek must have felt. By mid-afternoon, we'll arrive at our destination.

**DAY 10: Sun, Jun 18th**

**Distance** 76 km (47 mi)  
**Gain** 880 m (2886 ft)  
**Terrain** Very Hilly  
**Level** >>>>>  
**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner  
**Lodging** 🏠 Palacio de Canedo

**Cacabelos to Triacastela**

**Highlights** Countryside of Galicia, historic Villafranca del Bierzo, optional hiking opportunity

We head into the green fields of Galicia today. On the way, you'll pass through the old Camino town of Villafranca del Bierzo, founded by French pilgrims as a place of absolution for those too weak to continue their pilgrimage. There is the opportunity to cut the ride short and do an optional 8km (5 miles) hike so be sure to pack sneakers or light hikers if you are interested as the trail is fairly steep.

**DAY 11: Mon, Jun 19th**

**Distance** 60 km (38 mi)  
**Gain** 1328 m (4356 ft)  
**Terrain** Mountainous  
**Level** >>>>>  
**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner  
**Lodging** 🏠 Casa Pacios

**Triacastela to Portomarín**

**Highlights** Galician culture, visit Samos monastery

You will get a real taste of Galicia today - a region with a culture and musical style reminiscent of Ireland - as we pedal our way to Portomarín, where our hotel overlooks the Minho River.

**DAY 12: Tue, Jun 20th**

**Distance** 51 km (32 mi)  
**Gain** 729 m (2391 ft)  
**Terrain** Mountainous  
**Level** >>>>>  
**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner  
**Lodging** 🏠 Hotel Santa Marina





**Bicycle Tours in Spain: Cycling the Camino de Santiago - Roncesvalles to Santiago****Portomarín to Touro**

**Highlights** Quiet & scenic roads, stay in a country manor

One of the prettiest rides on the tour awaits you today as we meander along forgotten country roads through the beautiful Galician countryside. Rolling hills and green pastures lead us to our destination for the evening near Touro, where we'll stay in one of the traditional country houses (similar to B&Bs) that dot the landscape.

**DAY 13: Wed, Jun 21st**

**Distance** 77 km (48 mi)

**Gain** 1326 m (4349 ft)

**Terrain** Very Hilly

**Level** >>>>>

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel Pazo de Andeade

**Arrive in Santiago de Compostela**

**Highlights** Arrival in Santiago, Cathedral of St. James, farewell dinner

Today's ride is a fitting end to the Camino, as we pedal along rural roads through woodlands and pastures to Santiago. Once in town, you'll have plenty of time to look around the famous Cathedral of St. James that forms the city's heart. Tonight, we'll celebrate our journey's end with a great farewell dinner together.

**DAY 14: Thu, Jun 22nd**

**Distance** 40 km (25 mi)

**Gain** 759 m (2490 ft)

**Terrain** Hilly

**Level** >>>>>

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel San Francisco

**Tour ends in Santiago de Compostela, Spain**

**Highlights** Pilgrim's Mass at Noon

Remember that we will offer a tour of the roof of the Santiago cathedral this morning. You will also want to stick around for the Pilgrim's Mass at noon because you may not arrive in time to take part on Day 14. If you would like to participate in these activities, schedule flights after 3:30 p.m. Buen viaje!

**DAY 15: Fri, Jun 23rd**

**Meals** Breakfast

**INCLUDED****BEFORE YOU LEAVE**

- Tour planning tips on what to bring, what to leave home, and what you might like to read before your trip.
- Bicycle Tour Training program designed specifically for your tour rating by renowned cycling coach, Joe Friel.
- Assistance with flights, trains and booking extra nights at your starting and ending tour hotels.
- A complimentary gift of your choice

**ON YOUR BICYCLE TOUR**

- Superb tour leaders who are great fun and also bilingual, bicultural experts, and avid cyclists. They're experienced to help you navigate confidently on and off the road.
- Comfortable lodging in 3-4 star hotels located in or near the town square with easy access to your favorite café (bar, gelato, espresso) of the day, always with a private bath.
- All breakfasts & at least half of your dinners each featuring multi-courses, fresh, seasonal specialties and wine or beer. See specific tour information for details.
- On many tours we also have 1 or 2 lunches—see specific tour itineraries for details.
- Use of a high quality bike—a Titanium road bike, hybrid, or an aluminum tandem in Continental Europe. For tours in South America, Scotland and Ireland we have aluminum frames. All of our bikes are geared specifically to cruise the flats and help ease you over the mountain.
- Our bikes come with a computer so you can track your miles. They also have an expandable rear rack pack to carry your stuff, and a water bottle that's yours to keep.
- Full van support to carry luggage - and tired cyclists, too!

- Special events like wine tastings and cultural visits as described in the trip itinerary.
- All tips and gratuities at tour hotels and group meals.
- Unique routes, marked with our signature chalk dust arrows that ensure you won't get lost. They also give you the freedom to travel at your own pace.
- Daily mileage options—for those folks who just can't get enough cycling, we'll suggest optional routes off our marked course.
- Detailed route map, and arrows that will lead you to hidden wonders on your bicycle ride.
- All the fun (and more) that you expect from your vacation.

**WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED**

- Transportation to and from the bicycling tour including airfare, or train travel
- Helmets - we ask that you bring your own to ensure the best fit
- Meals not listed in the itinerary
- Tour Leader gratuity

**AFTER YOUR BICYCLE TOUR**

- Deeply discounted tours with our "Re-Cycle Program." Your fifth tour with us will be discounted by 50% of the average price of your previous four tours; your tenth tour will be discounted by 100% of the average price of your previous nine tours!

 **LEVEL RATINGS**

Our itinerary descriptions provide daily mileage to help you determine if a bicycle tour is suited to your physical capabilities and interest. You'll also find a note about the trip's terrain on the "Tour Facts" page of each tour. The purpose of this page is to offer a general explanation of our rating categories.

**BIKE TOURS 101**

Perfect for people looking for mostly flat terrain, or those newer to cycling. Also great for families traveling with younger children (8—14).

- **Average daily mileage:** 50—57km (30 to 35 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** 101 tours offer flat to gently rolling terrain. You'll find specific information on the "Tour Facts" page of each itinerary where you see the tour rating.

**BIKE TOURS 201**

For riders who prefer a combination of flat and rolling terrain with moderate climbs on one or two days. An excellent compromise for friends who have diverse riding abilities.

- **Average daily mileage:** 50—57km (30 to 35 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** 201 tours feature mostly flat and rolling terrain with moderate climbs on one or two days where you might gain up to 2,000 feet. Some 201 tours may have some longer mileage days of up to 85 kms (50 miles) over fairly flat terrain. While others may have days of 30 - 45 kms (18—25 miles) with steeper climbs. You'll find specific information on the "Tour Facts" page of each itinerary where you see the tour rating.

**BIKE TOURS 301**

For riders who enjoy some climbing every day. These tours are best suited to intermediate level recreational riders. Fit beginners will likely do well but may want to shuttle on days with steeper climbs.

- **Average daily mileage:** 50 to 75 km (35—45 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** For 301 tours expect cumulative daily climbs of 1,500—2,000 feet and several days of climbing in excess of 3,000 feet. You might encounter some longer mileage 80—90 km (50-60 miles) days with rolling terrain. You'll find specific information on the "Tour Facts" page of each itinerary where you see the tour rating.

**BIKE TOURS 401**

For cyclists who love to climb (and descend)! If you haven't trained or are an inexperienced rider you will find these trips very challenging and will very likely need to shuttle regularly.

- **Average daily mileage:** 50 to 75 km (35—45 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** 401 tours are challenging. Expect the possibility of longer mileage days of 80 - 120 kms (50 to 70 miles) with rolling terrain, or some sustained hills for considerable distances - think mountain passes, or steeper (+5%) climbs that come with regularity and could be as long as 10 km (6+ miles). You will have gains of 1000 meters (3000 feet) on a third of the days. You'll find specific information on the "Tour Facts" page of each itinerary where you see the tour rating.

**BIKE TOURS 501**

Our ExpeditionPlus! tours designed for strong riders looking for the challenge of riding across countries or continents. Long daily mileages means limited van support so we recommended these tours for riders who feel confident that they can ride every mile.

- **Average daily mileage:** 120 km (75 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** Expect and be prepared for any and everything.

**REMEMBER**

It is almost always possible to adapt the day's ride to how you are feeling either by taking advantage of the support van, or asking tour leaders for additional mileage.

**Need More Miles?** On just about every day of every tour it is possible to add miles to the day. Just talk to your tour leader about the options.

**Need Fewer Miles?** If you aren't sure about your abilities or how much you want to ride remember the support van is available to offer snacks, encouragement, a lift over the next hill, or to the next hotel. You are on vacation and we're here to help make it perfect for you.

**Chalk Dust Arrows.** Remember, no matter what level of tour you choose ExperiencePlus! uses chalk dust arrows to mark our routes so riders can take the day at their own pace! Whether you prefer to stop at every gelateria, take a hundred photos a day, or push to achieve a new personal best you'll be happy on our tours.

**WHAT TO EXPECT****BICYCLES**

Your bike comes with a pack for the rear rack, lock, cyclometer (bicycle computer), a spare tube and patch kit and pump. If you would like to bring your own pedals and shoes we recommend doing so—your tour leaders will install them during the bike fitting. We have flat pedals with or without cages and straps available. For safety and hygiene reasons you are responsible for bringing a helmet.

**Daily Routine (Procedures and Logistics)****DAYSHEETS**

Each day you'll receive a daysheet with information on the day's activities, meals and ride. These also include Tour Leader phone numbers, hotel information and interesting historical and cultural information about sites that you may want to stop and see along the route. Your Tour Leaders will also post daily announcements in the hotel lobby with information about sightseeing in town or restaurant recommendations for dinners on your own as well as important information about breakfast, luggage down and "arrows down" time.

**NAVIGATING ON TOUR**

At breakfast each day we will make the "Master Route Map" available so you can highlight your map for the day's ride. Of course, we also mark the route every day with our signature chalk dust arrows. Our arrows make navigating very easy—you may never need to look at the map! The arrows also allow you to ride at your own pace. There is no need to "keep up" with the group—this is your ride!

But what if it rains? What happens to the arrows? In a light rain, the arrows actually "set up" and become more permanent. In a heavy rain, they do wash away. If that happens, we'll re-group to cycle together for those who want to continue cycling while those who prefer to stay dry can shuttle.

**VAN SUPPORT**

The van carries luggage and supports cyclists. It also has water, fruit and snacks. Though the van has snacks, we encourage you to stop and enjoy markets and find your own favorite local specialty.

**HOTELS**

We have carefully chosen all of our accommodations for their charm and location. They are typically small, family run hotels that offer you a glimpse into the local culture.

We prefer hotels near interesting sites in the center of town located along the best cycling route in the area. Because many of the hotels are small not all of the rooms will be

exactly the same. We keep this in mind and do our best to distribute rooms fairly by the end of the tour. Our itinerary lists our primary hotels. On rare occasions, listed hotels are subject to change.

**MEALS AND RESTAURANTS**

Breakfasts: we work hard to arrange complete breakfasts but some hotels still serve continental style breakfasts; cycling is energy intensive so we do recommend you plan for a morning or mid-morning snack on the road at a local café or market.

Water is OK in almost all hotels and in country fountains; if there is a problem, we will advise you.

We'll recommend lunch locations en route and most itineraries include a few group picnics. We limit the number of picnics so you don't feel pressured to be at a certain place in the middle of your ride.

Dinners together are often pre-planned and pre-ordered. We'll ask you if you have special dietary requirements. Pre-planned meals allow us to provide a variety of regional specialties and facilitate efficient service. Water, wine and beer are included.

**TIPPING YOUR TOUR LEADER TEAM**

If you feel your tour leader team has demonstrated great expertise and service, common practice within the travel industry is to tip. Tipping is voluntary and greatly appreciated, and gratuity amounts vary widely. Should you decide to leave a tip, as a guideline, we suggest 5% of the tour cost per traveler – this for the entire tour leader team, not each Tour Leader. If you'd like to show your gratitude for your Tour Leaders' excellent service you can give the tip to any member of the tour leader team, as they share it evenly. In order to avoid social tensions, we encourage you to tip as individuals and not as a group. If you feel your Tour Leaders did not quite meet your expectations, then we would like to know about it. You will also have the opportunity to leave your comments in our evaluation survey which we email to you after your trip.

**PHOTOS**

We'll be taking photos throughout the tour and we encourage you to do the same. Please note that we may use these for promotional purposes. Please inform us if you prefer images of you not be used. We realize that many of our travelers are great photographers and often people want to share photos after the trip. We'd love to see and share your photos from the tour with the world so if you don't mind the possibility of being famous (at least in the ExperiencePlus! world) send us a link to your tour photo gallery, or upload your favorite 20 - 30 pictures to your tour departure gallery - we'll send you the link to that online photo gallery in your final email!

## CHECKLIST

### TO DO TODAY!

Read through your Reservation Confirmation Email, it has important information to help you plan your trip!

- Check the date on your passport. The expiration date should extend three months past your date of return to your home country
- Complete the Customer Information Form online at [www.experienceplus.com/travelinfo/tourcif](http://www.experienceplus.com/travelinfo/tourcif)
- Apply for trip cancellation/interruption insurance within 21 days of booking your tour. Find details at <http://www.experienceplus.com/assets/files/packingbicycle.pdf>
- Download the bicycle training program found on the Training Program Blog Page at [www.experienceplus.com/training](http://www.experienceplus.com/training)

### 3—6 MONTHS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

- Reserve your flights after you know you have a confirmed tour departure. Please check with our office if you do not know if your trip is confirmed. As you make your plans refer to the Getting To and Away sent to you in your booking confirmation email it provides meeting times and the starting and ending hotels and shuttle information when applicable.
- Book your pre and post-tour hotel nights. Please refer to the Getting To and Away sheet you received in your Reservation Confirmation Email.
- 12 weeks before your tour begin your training program [www.experienceplus.com/training](http://www.experienceplus.com/training).
- Final payment is due 90 days prior to the tour start. Please refer to your Deposit Payment Invoice and the Final Payment Reminder e-mail you have received for detailed instructions.

### 6 WEEKS—2 WEEKS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

- Start reading one of the books or watching one of the movies from our Suggested Reading and Movie List which you'll find on the country page linked from the [www.experienceplus.com/travelinfo](http://www.experienceplus.com/travelinfo) page.
- Plan what you are going to pack and start packing! Refer to the Packing List on our website at [www.experienceplus.com/assets/files/packingbicycle.pdf](http://www.experienceplus.com/assets/files/packingbicycle.pdf).
- We'll email your Hotel Itinerary information 30 days prior to departure.

### DAY OF YOUR FLIGHT

Get as much sleep on the plane as you can. Pack your Getting To and Away information and one day of cycling gear in your carry-on. See you soon!