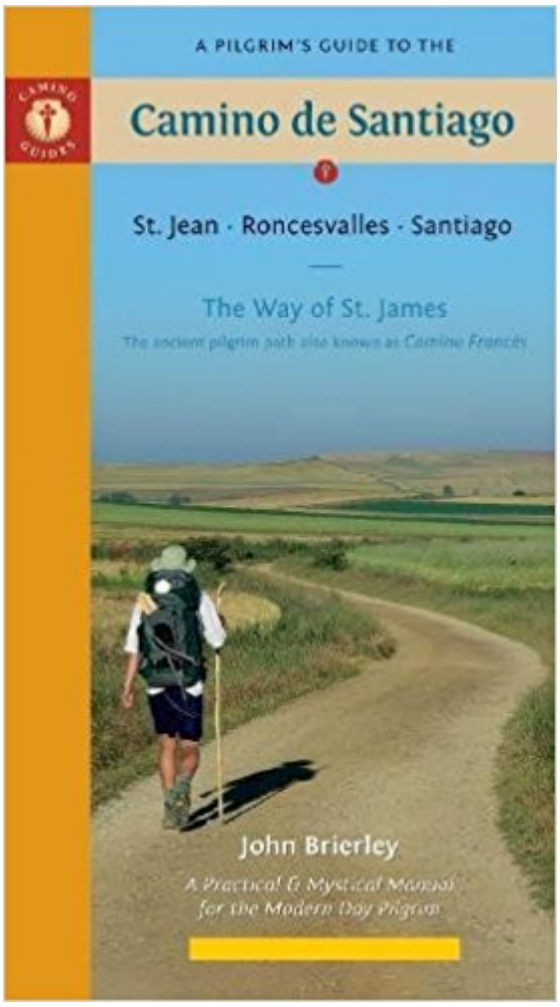
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A Pilgrim's Guide To The Camino De Santiago: St. Jean • Roncesvalles • Santiago (Camino Guides)



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Synopsis

Now updated to include newer maps and photos—and lighter in weight to support carefree traveling—this comprehensive guidebook to the Camino de Santiago and its offshoots contains all the information needed by modern-day pilgrims wishing to walk the sacred Way of St. James. Overview route planners plus daily stage maps and detailed town plans help sojourners with all the advance preparation they need. The maps feature contour guides to help distinguish the terrain that will be crossed each day, while full information on all pilgrim hostels, as well as details for alternative accommodation, allow travelers to plot adequate nightly stopping points. All reference information is accompanied by helpful spiritual guidelines to support the seeker’s inner journey as well as the outer pilgrimage. Otherwise known as the Camino FrancÃƒÂ©s, the main route covered in this volume is the most popular sacred route through Spain, from St. Jean Pied de Port to Santiago.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John Brierley is a former chartered surveyor whoÃ Â promotes business sabbaticals and pilgrimages as a way to reappraise life’s purpose. He is the author of several collections of maps and guides to the Camino de Santiago and the Camino PortuguÃƒÂ©s.

When I decided to walk the Camino, one of the first bits of advice I got from two veterans pilgrims, who didn’t know each other, was, "Get yourself a copy of Brierley now."I’m finally leaving tomorrow! I was going to hold off on writing a review until after I came back, but I’ve been reading and referring

back to "Brierley" for the last three months and can’t imagine preparing without the book. My copy is already marked up and dog-eared. I’ve photocopied the map on the back inside cover and the 33 Stage Summary on page 43 for family and friends.The only possibly negative thing I’ve heard about the book came from a pilgrim who walked the Camino last fall. She and her husband said it was indispensable but that so many people carried Brierley that those towns and villages he suggested for spending the night were often heavily crowded in the evenings.As a Spanish teacher, I recommend Brierley’s bilingual checklist and basic phrases for anyone who isn’t fluent in the language. I like his attention to outer and inner preparation. His invites the reader to introspective/spiritual reflection in a general way that almost anyone can be open to.I expect my "Brierley" is going to come home in six weeks considerably worn.

My husband and I hiked the Camino this Spring, using this book as our guide. First, its too heavy to be carried for 485 miles. My husband looked forward to his daily ritual of tearing out the pages for that day and discarding them. Second, there were too many times that information was missing and/or incorrect, including some routing information, water font locations, and accommodation information. Brierley’s ratings for accommodations often seemed to be slanted in ways that won’t make a difference to a normal pilgrim, like raving about the Auberge in a town where the mayor was particularly "friendly to the Camino". Finally, pilgrims shouldn’t even follow his recommendations as to the towns in which to stay (i.e., the towns at the end of each stage), as that leads to over-crowding of the accommodations and missing some great stops. This book needs some serious editing.

I did not realize how good of a book this was until I was walking across Spain. I would not take the journey without it. It adds to the experience and was worth its weight. Maps are not necessarily to scale and some of the inclines seem to have been left out. It seemed that most every one on the trail was carrying this guid book. It is a good book. The descriptions of the alburgues and hostels were not as good as the German guid book- which has been translated into broken english. So we used this one to plan our daily hikes and descriptions of the city and then we used the other one to help us decide where to sleep that night. This book also did an excellent job explaining the history, and the whys and hows of what you will be seeing along your way. (This enriches the trip.) He takes some time to address the personal or spiritual journey as well. (Just so you know, the spiritual side of the journey can get crowded out.) So it is nice to have a reminder and a re-entry point to the spiritual journey.

Great book. great reading. Very philosophical as well as practical and useful. Plan on doing the Camino this autumn. Thanks!

Clear, concise, & informative. This book gives a brief historical perspective of the Camino Frances in Spain. It gives just enough information to make it interesting without making it look like a history book.I appreciated the listing of all the albergues and/or hotels where you can stay as well as distances between them.So you can carry the book with you, it marks which pages can be removed to save backpack weight.If you are doing the Camino de Santiago de Compostela, I recommend this book.

I enjoyed the book and found it helpful. It was well illustrated and concise.I'm not bringing it along however because I needed to shed pack weight and I found an equally acceptable iPhone app.

This book is a must for anyone walking the Camino. I read all the lead up before I left home and also a number of pages for each days walk. The majority of Pilgrims on the Camino have this book. It was in my pocket everyday on the Camino and I would refer to it many times throughout the day. I think it is the only book you need. But by all means buy other books, but definitely buy this one. If you are going tyo walk the Camino don't go without this book!

The Camino bible as most call it is the best and most comprehensive guide to the trail. I will say that I had no clue that I wouldn't be able to stay on the Brierley schedule and took on a bit of shame that I couln't do it. Best advice is to use the book for the details of the trail and if you can't or don't want to adhere to the author's schedule, then do it your way. He give great descriptions of lodging and cities along with current contact info. When I do the Camino again in a few years I'll buy the newest version!

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