

The Camino Guide – Camino Aragonés

How to calculate distances

Places with pilgrim accommodation have a heading like this:

22 Zubiri

The number on the left is the distances in kilometres from the last place with pilgrim accommodation. Use these numbers when calculating the length of stages. Other distances given in the text are only indicative.

Distances are hostel to hostel if there is only one hostel listed. Otherwise they're an approximation on the midpoint between hostels in a given place.

When two branches of the Camino rejoin the heading will be without a distance because this will vary depending on which branch you took. In these cases the distance will be given like this:

12km to Los Arcos

Guide format

Information is presented in the following text formats:

Information about the route and things you will meet between hostels are given in this format. Distances given in this format should be ignored when calculating distances between hostels.

Other information is in this format.

The following information is given about hostels: **whether it is private, religious, etc. (how many people it sleeps, the cost, opening dates – if none given then it's open all the time) its name**, location. Any other relevant information about the hostel.

eg.

Private hostel (24, 10€, March to October) Albergue Zaldiko, on the right after you cross the bridge to enter the village.

Waymarkings

In France standard *Grande Randonnée* markings are used. These are two horizontal lines, one white and one red, on signs or painted on a tree, a wall, etc. GRs are marked so they can be walked in both directions however from the positioning of the marking it is usually obvious which direction it indicates. Turns are indicated by the white line being bent at a right angle in the direction of the turn. In the Val d'Aspe there are also direction signs with walking times and village names given in French and Occitan.

In Spain the route is marked by the usual yellow arrows, however, in less abundance than on the Camino Francés.

In recent years some towns and cities have introduced "official" waymarkings – and obliterated the yellow arrows. These are usually (but not always) in the form of metal shells set into the ground.

Assumptions

Some of the hostels on this Camino are basic. However, unless otherwise stated, all of them have the following:

- Beds with mattresses
- Toilets
- Showers with hot water
- Drinking water
- Basic washing facilities

If they have a kitchen or washing facilities it will be mentioned. Washing facilities means a washer and dryer.

If it doesn't say that there's a shop/restaurant/café in the town/village then assume there isn't. Likewise, always assume there is no place to buy food or drinks between hostels. Even if there are shops and cafés never assume they'll be open (especially outside of peak season). Bear in mind that shops in rural Spain usually open from 0900 until 1200 and again from 1700 until 2000 and that these times vary. They are also usually closed, or have greatly reduced opening times, on Sunday and Monday.

Measurement units

All distances are given in the metric system (kilometres and metres) and all times are given in the 24 hour clock (0900 = 9am, 1800 = 6pm). Most people walk an average of 4km an hour.

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Version Control:

July 2010: Ruesta, Sangüesa, Izco, Tiebas. Change price format to style used in Spain (ie. 10€)

Getting there...

There are trains to Oloron from Pau and from there there are connections to Toulouse and Batonne where there are airports and onward connections. From Oloron there's a *Ter* bus service up the Val d'Aspe stopping in all the villages and at the border at Somport and terminating in Canfranc Estación.

If you're coming from the Spanish side there's a train service from Jaca to Canfranc Estación.

Oloron Sainte Mairie

Municipal hostel (20, 12,50€) *Relais du Bastet* on *Place de la Resistance*, which is up *Justice* on your right. Kitchen. There's a phone number to call on the door. They'll give you a code to open the door and tell you to leave your money behind reception and write your name in the book.

Hôtel le Bristol has cheap rooms and an excellent restaurant. It's on *rue Carrerot* near the *Jardin Public*. There's a supermarket on one side of the *Jardin Public* and a bakery / café which is open early.

9km Eysus café and two restaurants

22 Sarrance

Monastery hostel (35, 8€) just beside the church. You should phone in advance to reserve a place 05 59 34 47 78 – although in low season this may not be necessary. Kitchen. Large garden.

There's a café / restaurant at the entrance to the village which does a menu in the evening and opens in the morning at 0730. Next door is a grocery shop *épicerie*.

8km Bedous, cafés / restaurants, bank, Office de Tourisme / Tourist Office – reserve here for French Municipal Hostel at Col de Somport.

Parts of this stage are along a busy main road – great care necessary. Remember to walk facing on-coming traffic, ie. On the left.

22 Borce

Municipal hostel (6, 11€) on the left at the entrance to the village. Someone comes to take the money around 1800 – check notices in hostel. Kitchen.

Private hostel (12, 12€) attached to the town café.

The café also serves as a shop, there's a restaurant in the village of Etsaut 1km away which opens at 2100.

Parts of this stage are along a busy main road – again great care. Walk on the left!

5km Urdos cafés, restaurants, shop, hotels.

1,150m ascent during this stage. 18km may not sound like much but don't underestimate to effect of the steep ascent.

No supplies of any sort after Urdos.

The signposted route before Urdos goes to the right of the river Aspe however, it is also possible to walk along the main road. A lot easier despite the traffic.

The highest point is 1,640m so in winter there will probably be snow and violent weather changes are possible at all times. Take local advice.

18 Col de Somport

Municipal hostel (10, 12.50€) *Gîte d'Etape du Somport* just beside the main road about 500m on the French side of the border. Kitchen. Unattended, so you'll need a code to get in and cleanliness isn't the best.

Entering Spain

Private hostel (40, 13€ or 18€ with breakfast) *Albergue Aysa* is straight in front of you when you cross the border. Reception in the café. The café does meals in the evening and is open in the morning.

6 Canfranc Estación

Private hostel (40, 14€ or 19€ with breakfast) *Albergue Pepito Grillo* on your left just after crossing the railway tracks. Open most of the year, according to demand. If you're travelling in low-season you can check in advance if they're open by emailing

albergue@pepitogrillo.com Website www.pepitogrillo.com

Canfranc Estación has lots of cafés, restaurants, banks and shops.

5 Canfranc

Private hostel (74, 13,70€, January to August) *Refugio de Canfranc* on the right on *Calle Albareda*. They do meals.

4km Villanúa, cafés, shops, bank. There is a hostel in Villanúa but it seems to be closed a lot of the time.

16 Jaca

Municipal hostel (32, 9€) *Albergue de Peregrinos de Jaca*. Follow the signs continuing straight past the cathedral down *Calle Bellido* and right on to *Puerta Hospital* and *Calle Conde Aznar*. Kitchen, free Internet.

Jaca is a large town and has all facilities. Leaving town along *Avenida de la Victoria* there's a *Diá* supermarket with bakery which opens at 0900.

About 9km from Jaca there's a sign pointing left indicates the path to the Monastery of San Juan de la Peña. 2½ hours each way.

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16 Santa Cilia

Municipal hostel (18, 12€) *Refugio de Santa Cilia de Jaca* on *Calle del Sol*. Washing facilities, kitchen.

A nearby café has a small shop. There's also a baker.

6km Puente la Reina de Jaca, a little off the Camino.

10 Arrés

Municipal hostel (16, donativo) *Hospital de Peregrinos de Arrés* on the Camino. Run by volunteers, communal evening meal and breakfast. The café in the village does sandwiches and other snacks.

16 Artieda

Municipal hostel (21, 9€) *Albergue de Artieda* on *Calle Luis Buñuel*. Now under new management. Washing facilities. They do an evening meal.

This hostel is about 600m off the Camino. Signposted.

9 Ruesta

Trade Union Hostel (64, 10€ or 23€ with evening meal and breakfast) *Albergue de Ruesta* in a village which was abandoned when the reservoir flooded most of its farmland. Run by the CGT Trade Union (*Confederación del Trabajo de Aragón*) as part of a scheme by the waterworks company to bring life back to villages abandoned due to dam building. Café and restaurant.

10 Undués de Lerda

Private hostel (50, 9€, March until Christmas) *Albergue de Undués de Lerda* above a café near the church. They do an evening meal and breakfast from 0900.

11 Sangüesa

Municipal hostel (14, 4€) *Albergue del Convento de las Hijas de la Caridad* on the left as you follow the Camino through town. Kitchen. Fill in the form and put your money in the box on the door. Somebody comes in the evening to check everything's OK.

Private hostel (10, 10€) *Sangüesa Hostal Rural* in front of you after you cross the bridge.

The town has all facilities. On the way in there's a supermarket on your left a few minutes before you get to the Municipal Hostel. The Tourist Information is just before crossing the bridge. The Library has free Internet including printing.

Road works have cut parts of the Camino between here and Izco. Check with the Tourist Office for updates. They may have a notice in their window if they're closed.

18 Izco

Municipal hostel (14, 8€) *Albergue de Peregrinos Sociedad San Martín* walk up the hill and it's on the right (ignore misleading sign). Doesn't open until 1900 but if you call the number on the door sometimes they can open it earlier. The hostel includes a café and shop. Mixed reports.

9 Monreal

Municipal hostel (20, 8€) *Albergue de Peregrinos de Monreal* up the hill in a steep street to the left. Kitchen. There's a café with a shop which opens at 0730. The *Centro Parroquial* does a good evening meal for 11€.

14 Tiebas

Municipal hostel (6 + mattresses, donativo) towards the end of the village behind the *ayuntamiento* enter through the playground. For the key ask in Bar Centro which also does food. In summer the bar at the swimming pool also does food.

■ **9km Enériz cafés and shop**

3 Eunate

Religious Hostel (12, donativo, January to November) *Santa María de Eunate*. Right beside the church. Also evening meal and breakfast. Strong religious vibe.

The church at Eunate is open:

January, February and November 1030 to 1430;

March, April, May, June and October 1030 to 1330 and 1600 to 1900;

July, August and September 1030 to 1330 and 1700 to 2000;

December closed. Monday closed.

This is the point where the Camino Aragonés joins the Camino Francés.

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