

## Pilgrim Passport (Credential)

Your pilgrim passport identifies you as a pilgrim, and provides proof that you have walked, cycled or ridden on horseback, the required distance to gain your Compostela. It allows you to sleep in albergues and hostals. Your passport will end up being a collector's item and will be a great reminder of all the places where you stopped and stayed overnight.

You will receive your first stamp (sello) when you receive your Pilgrim Passport. You can decide where that should be....either at the pilgrim's office or at the albergue you are staying at. Once you arrive at your accommodation, you can receive a sello for your passport to prove that you stayed the night in a town.



If you are walking from St Jean Pied de Port on the Camino Frances, or early on any of the Camino routes, you need to have one stamp per day. If you are walking the last 100km, or cycling the last 200km, you will need 2 stamps per day. Otherwise, the Pilgrims office in Santiago de Compostela may decline you a Compostela. Personally, I like to receive as many stamps as possible regardless of where I start walking and usually have a full pilgrim passport by the time I return home. And in Galicia there are many bars and restaurants that offer many varied sellos for your passport.

You can obtain a credential at the Pilgrim's Office at the start of your Camino. However, if you are not starting your Camino at St. Jean Pied de Port, you can obtain a credential at the local church, or at one of the municipal albergues. Alternatively, before you leave, you can obtain a pilgrim's passport from the Camino associations and

confraternities in your country. The Irish pilgrim passport (picture above) is beautifully designed and can be bought online at <a href="https://www.caminosociety.ie/shop">www.caminosociety.ie/shop</a>.

For other countries, there are other links:

American Pilgrims on the Camino

**Canadian Company of Pilgrims** 

Confraternity of Saint James

Australian Friends of the Camino