

EXPEDITIONS



SIGNATURE: WALKING SPAIN'S CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

9 days, Bilbao to Santiago de Compostela

Trip code ESBSNS

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group, Bilbao
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Meeting at Guruzu, Bilbao
- Your Foodie Moment: Private Wine Tasting and Lunch at CVNE Winery, Haro
- Signature Moment: Private After Hours Tour of Santiago Cathedral, Santiago de Compostela
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Orientation Walk of Bilbao
- Guided Tour of Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao
- Hike Itero de la Vega - Frómista
- Hike Sahagún to Bercianos del Real Camino
- Guided Tour of Leon
- Hike Hospital de Órbigo to Crucero de Santo Toribio
- Lunch at La Peseta in Crucero
- Guided Tour of Villafranca del Bierzo
- Hike Las Herrerias to O Cebreiro
- Guided Visit Monastery of Samos
- Hike San Paio to Santiago de Compostela
- Visit to Muros
- Visit to Muxia
- Walk to Lighthouse Fisterra
- Engaging Discussions with the National Geographic Expedition Expert Throughout
- Porterage at hotels and when getting on and off of vehicles
- Tips are included for all activities, meals and porterage, except for your Expedition Leader
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing February 5th, 2026 and onwards

ITINERARY



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

BILBAO

Welcome to the Basque Country. Your expedition begins in Bilbao, a city that seamlessly blends avant-garde design with deep-rooted tradition. You are met and transferred to your hotel to settle in before heading to a local community social enterprise. Here, join your National Geographic Expedition Leader, National Geographic Expedition Expert for a presentation illuminating the history and cultural significance of the pilgrimage ahead. After, gather with your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner, marking the start of your Spanish exploration with a celebration of vibrant Basque flavours and local hospitality.



Meals included

Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Carlton Bilbao (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Arrival Transfer

Bilbao

30m-30m

10km

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel to start your adventure.

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your Expedition Leader and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

ACTIVITY

Enjoy a welcome reception at Guruzu. This venue demonstrates how a high-end restaurant can function as a tool for labor insertion and community cohesion. By the end of the session, you understand Guruzu not as a soup kitchen, but as a professional, sustainable business where "every story counts" and where the simple act of sharing a table becomes a political and social act of equality.

Day 2

BILBAO/BURGOS

Begin the morning with an orientation walk through Bilbao's main highlights, culminating at the iconic Guggenheim Museum for a private guided tour of its contemporary masterpieces. Later, leave the city behind and travel into the heart of the La Rioja wine region. In the charming town of Haro, inhale the scent of aging oak as you visit a renowned winery for a guided tour of its historic vineyards and cellars. Enjoy a curated wine tasting followed by a delicious local lunch before continuing your journey to the historic city of Burgos, where the evening is yours to explore at your own pace.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Burgos (NH Palacio de Burgos) (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Orientation Walk of Bilbao Bilbao 2h

This Expedition Leader led walking tour is a narrative of survival and metamorphosis. By connecting the aristocratic Gran Vía to the medieval Siete Calles and finally the futuristic Guggenheim, you witness how Bilbao successfully pivoted from a gritty industrial port to a global cultural capital without losing its soul. It is a walk through time where every bridge and cathedral stone tells a story of Basque resilience.

Guided Tour of Guggenheim Museum Bilbao 1h-1h 1km

Discover the icon that transformed the art world with a curated guided tour of the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. This architectural deep-dive explores Frank Gehry's titanium-clad genius, from the monumental outdoor sculptures to the soaring, light-filled atrium.

Private Vehicle Bilbao - Haro 1h-1h15m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

A private wine tasting and family-style lunch at CVNE (Compañía Vinícola del Norte de España) is widely considered the "holy grail" of Riojan wine tourism. The whole experience is an immersion into a

winemaking dynasty. By dining in one of their historic rooms, you are stepping out of the modern world and into a space where time is measured in decades, not minutes.

Private Vehicle

Haro - Burgos

1h15m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 3

BURGOS/CARRIÓN DE LOS CONDES

The Camino begins in Itero de la Vega and continues onto Frómista, where the rhythm of the trail asserts itself almost immediately – a steady, meditative pace across la Meseta, the vast central plateau that has tested and transformed pilgrims for centuries. The landscape here is austere and quietly beautiful, the horizon impossibly wide. Pass the ancient Roman fountain at Boadilla del Campo and follow the serene waters of the Canal of Castile, an 18th-century feat of engineering that still carries boats through the breadth of the plateau. The day's walking spans four hours of ancestral path before arriving in Carrión de los Condes, where a night within the thick stone walls of a historic monastery provides a shelter as old as the pilgrimage itself.

Trail Detail: 14 km (9 mi) | 4h | + 45 m (148 ft) / - 45 m (148 ft) ascent/descent | Moderate



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Carrión de los Condes (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Burgos - Frómista 1h15m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Hike Itero de la Vega - Frómista Itero de la Vega - Frómista 4h-4h

The hike from Puente Fitero to Frómista is a low-impact, high-reward stage. With a negligible elevation gain of only 45 meters, it is a day defined by horizontal beauty. By trading the wide-open, silent horizons of the wheat fields for the cool, shaded corridor of the 18th-century canal, you experience a literal and metaphorical "flow" that serves as a perfect physical recovery after the previous days of climbing.

Private Vehicle Villalcázar de Sirga - Carrión de los Condes 15m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 4

CARRIÓN DE LOS CONDES/LEON

Set off from the medieval city of Sahagún, heading west through the quiet village of Bercianos del Real Camino. After a three-hour hike, drive to the elegant city of León. After lunch in town, spend the afternoon with a local guide discovering the city's historic treasures, standing in awe before the remarkable cathedral and its gallery of over 100 luminous stained-glass windows. The city's pulse is vibrant yet grounded in antiquity. This evening, enjoy time on your own before retreating to a spectacular Renaissance convent, where the grand architecture provides a serene backdrop for your overnight stay.

Trail Detail: 10.2 km (6.3 mi) | 2.30h | + 100 m (330 ft) / - 100 m (330 ft) ascent/descent | Moderate



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Hotel León (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Carrión de los Condes - Sahagún 30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Hike Sahagún to Bercianos del Real Camino Sahagún - Bercianos del Real Camino 3h-3h

The hike from Sahagún to Bercianos is a symbolic milestone on the Camino Francés. Stop at the Santuario de la Virgen Peregrina, a 13th-century Mudéjar-style former Franciscan convent. The 2.5-hour walk is gentle, rhythmic, and shaded by plane trees, allowing you to arrive in the historic village of Bercianos with plenty of energy.

Private Vehicle Bercianos del Real Camino - Leon 1h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Guided Tour of Leon Leon 1h-1h

This walking tour is a narrative of the "Kingdom of Light." By pairing the Romanesque depth of San Isidoro with the Gothic weightlessness of the Cathedral, you visit the two pillars of Leonese identity. Afterwards, walk to the Barrio Húmedo (the old tavern district), just steps from the Cathedral, for an included traditional lunch.

Day 5

LEON/VILAFRANCA DEL BIERZO

Your morning hike begins at a storied Roman bridge in Hospital de Órbigo. Follow winding country roads to El Crucero de Santo Toribio, a stone cross that has guided pilgrims for centuries, offering sweeping views of the trail. In Astorga, enjoy a well-deserved lunch at a local institution before exploring the town's eclectic architecture, from Gothic churches to a palace designed by Antoni Gaudí. Continue west into the lush landscapes of Villafranca del Bierzo. Meet a local guide for an afternoon walk through the town's historic streets before gathering for a group dinner to share stories of the day's five-hour trek.

Trail Detail: 12 km (8 mi) | 3.30h | + 195 m (640 ft) / - 100 m (330 ft) ascent/descent | Moderate



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Parador de Villafranca del Bierzo (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Leon - Hospital de Órbigo 45m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Hike Hospital de Órbigo to Crucero de Santo Toribio Hospital de Órbigo - Crucero 4h-4h

The hike replaces the flat horizons of the previous days with a series of "mini-peaks" and valleys that test your climbing legs. By starting at the monumental bridge of Hospital de Órbigo and finishing at the vantage point of Santo Toribio, you experience the Camino's transition from medieval history to the rugged natural beauty of the Leonine mountains.

Private Vehicle Crucero - Astorga 15m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Lunch at La Peseta in Crucero Crucero 1h30m

Lunch at La Peseta is not just a meal; it is a culinary rite of passage for anyone arriving in Astorga. After the dusty, undulating "rollers" from the Crucero de Santo Toribio, stepping into this wood-paneled institution feels like being welcomed into the dining room of a very wealthy, very talented Spanish grandmother.

Private Vehicle

Astorga - Villafranca del Bierzo

1h15m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Guided Tour of Villafranca del Bierzo

Villafranca del Bierzo

1h30m-1h30m

Enjoy a locally guided walk through Villafranca del Bierzo. This is an exploration of what locals proudly call "Little Santiago." The town is the final major stop in the province of León before pilgrims face the grueling climb into Galicia, and its architecture reflects its historical role as a sanctuary of both physical and spiritual refuge.

Day 6

VILAFRANCA DEL BIERZO/LUGO

Galicia announces itself with hills rolling in deep, saturated green. The walking trail narrows into forest paths and ancient switchbacks, past thatched stone houses and villages seemingly unchanged for centuries. The ascent to O Cebreiro rewards with one of the Camino's most affecting sights: the oldest intact church on the route, its interior worn smooth by generations of pilgrims. Descend toward the 6th-century Samos Monastery – one of the oldest in the western world – its vast, silent cloister a reminder of the spiritual ambition that has shaped this landscape for fifteen centuries. The night is spent within the walls of a Benedictine monastery in Monforte de Lemos.

Trail Detail: 8.2 km (5.3 mi) | 3h | + 630 m (2,000 ft) / - 0 m (0 ft) ascent/descent | Challenging



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Parador de Monforte de Lemos (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle **Villafranca del Bierzo - Las Herrerias** 30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Hike Las Herrerias to O Cebreiro **Las Herrerias - Cebreiro** 3h-3h

The hike from Las Herrerías to O Cebreiro is the stuff of Camino legend. It is the shortest but most vertically challenging day on the French Way—a literal "stairway to heaven" that takes you from the deep green valleys of El Bierzo into the misty, Celtic peaks of Galicia.

Private Vehicle **Cebreiro - Samos** 45m-1h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Guided Visit Monastery of Samos **Samos** 1h-1h

A visit to Samos is a plunge into deep time. From the 9th-century Mozarabic roots of the Cypress Chapel to the Gothic and Baroque grandeur of the cloisters, the monastery serves as a physical record of Galician resilience.

Private Vehicle

Samos - Monforte de Lemos

1h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 7

LUGO/SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Travel to San Paio to begin the final leg of your journey toward Santiago. From the heights of Monte del Gozo, catch your first emotional glimpse of the cathedral's striking towers on the horizon. Walk into the heart of the city to Plaza do Obradoiro, the triumphant endpoint of the pilgrimage route. After an eight-mile hike, celebrate with a well-deserved local lunch in the bustling city centre. Check into your beautiful hotel to rest your legs and soak in the atmosphere of this holy city. The afternoon is yours to wander the medieval streets or simply watch the modern pilgrims arrive at the journey's end.

Trail Detail: 12.5 km (8 mi) | 3.30h | + 202 m (663 ft) / - 276 m (906 ft) ascent/descent | Moderate



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Parador de Santiago de Compostela (or similar) Hotel

The Parador de Santiago de Compostela is one of the oldest and most luxurious hotels in Spain. It is in the Plaza del Obradoiro next to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, one of the most visited cathedrals in the world, and has witnessed the passage of pilgrims over the centuries. It began as a Royal Hospital with the Catholic Monarchs to offer them shelter and today it's known as Hostal dos Reis Católicos. The historic building preserves the Plateresque façade on the outside, four cloisters, elegant corridors and hallways, spectacular rooms, and a museum in its interior. The Hotel has the largest collection of Madrid School paintings in the Paradors collection. In Santiago de Compostela alone, more than 140 works by artists including Martínez Novillo, Álvaro Delgado and Menchu Gal are on display. What's more, the Parador has a business centre with large-capacity, spacious rooms for holding corporate and private events and celebrations of all kinds; it is equipped with the best technology and services to guarantee their success.

Beyond the Camino de Santiago, the city offers visitors a multitude of options, such as walking routes to discover the monuments in its streets and squares, walks through its parks and gardens and, if you have time, excursions to explore the Galician estuaries.



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Lugo - San Paio

2h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Hike San Paio to Santiago de Compostela

San Paio - Santiago de Compostela

3h30m-4h

The hike from San Paio to Santiago is a victory walk. It replaces the rugged nature of the previous days with a choreographed urban arrival. With a modest 12.5 km distance and a final descent into the city, it is a stage defined not by the miles on your feet, but by the weight lifted from your shoulders as you finally set your pack down in the center of the Obradoiro.

Day 8

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Journey to the dramatic Atlantic coast to visit Cabo Fisterra and Muxia, the westernmost tip of Spain. For many, this "end of the world" is the true spiritual conclusion of the Camino. Walk to the lighthouse, feeling the ocean spray and the powerful energy of the cliffs before a local lunch in town. Return to Santiago for a calm afternoon of reflection. After a farewell dinner, experience a private night visit to the Cathedral of Santiago. Led by an art historian, explore the hushed, moonlit nave and learn the deep secrets of this Galician masterpiece in near-total silence.

Trail Detail: 2.4 km (1.3 mi) | 1.30h | + 0 m (0 ft) / - 100 m (300 ft) ascent/descent | Easy



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Parador de Santiago de Compostela (or similar) **Hotel**

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TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Santiago de Compostela - Fisterra

1h15m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Walk to Lighthouse Fisterra **Fisterra** 1h-1h

Enjoy a leisurely walk to the Lighthouse of Finisterre, known in Galician as Faro de Fisterra. This is an iconic 19th-century lighthouse located on Cape Finisterre in Galicia, Spain. Its name derives from the Latin finis terrae, meaning "end of the earth," as Romans believed it was the westernmost point of the known world.

Private Vehicle **Fisterra - Muxía** 45m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Visit and Hike in Muxia **Muxía** 3h

Muxía reveals itself through a lens of raw intensity, a village where the power of the Atlantic meets a sense of profound, ancient peace. Embark on a walk toward the Santuario Virxe da Barca, a sanctuary perched at the ragged, salt-sprayed edge of the European continent. While Fisterra is often cast as the 'End of the World,' it is here in Muxía where the Atlantic reveals its true power against the jagged shoreline. Returning to the village, take a moment to absorb a setting defined by granite, ancient miracles, and the relentless rhythm of the Costa da Morte: the Coast of Death.

Private Vehicle **Muxía - Santiago de Compostela** 1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

A private after-hours tour with an ecclesiastical historian is a total immersion into the "Sacred Dark." You begin with the humanity of the Pórtico, move to the divine gold of the Altar Mayor, and finally ascend to the architectural mystery of the Triforium. By seeing the "superior parts," you gain a perspective of the Cathedral that 99% of visitors never witness—a view that connects the dust of the pilgrim's path with the soaring light of the Gothic and Romanesque heavens. You aren't just seeing the Cathedral; you are inhabiting and absorbing its living history from the ground to the heavens.

After a final breakfast in the heart of Galicia, take a moment to reflect on the miles walked and the ancient history witnessed. Your expedition to the Camino concludes today. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home, carrying with you the spirit of the trail and the enduring memories of Spain's historic pilgrim path.



Meals included

Breakfast



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Departure Transfer **Santiago de Compostela - Santiago de Compostela Airport**

You will be met at your hotel and transferred to the airport at the end of your adventure.

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group, Bilbao
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- Signature Moment: Private After Hours Tour of Santiago Cathedral, Santiago de Compostela
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- Porterage at hotels and when getting on and off of vehicles
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What are the main highlights of this trip?

Experience the majesty of Santiago Cathedral during a private after-hours tour with an ecclesiastical historian, Journey to the rugged cliffs of Cabo Fisterra and Muxia where the ancient world once ended as Westernmost Tip of Spain, Explore a historic Rioja winery featuring designs by Gustave Eiffel, Visit the Guruzu Social Kitchen where every dish supports fair wages and training for marginalised communities.

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Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What is the group leader like?

All National Geographic Signature group trips are accompanied by one of our National Geographic Expedition Leaders throughout. The aim of the Expedition Leaders is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

How large will the group be?

Max. 22, Avg. 16.

What meals are included in this trip?

8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private Vehicle, Walking

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotel (8 nights)

What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Signature Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day. Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run.

If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details! If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. Included arrival transfers are provided from the nearest airport to your starting location. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER

G Adventures Berlin office: +441858378000

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 800 394 5416

Calls from UK: 0800 041 8146

Calls from Germany: 0800 181 9454

Calls from Australia: 1 800 204 905

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 424 389

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What information should I be aware of as the itinerary draws to a close?

You will be met at your hotel and transferred to the airport at the end of your adventure.

What should be on my packing list?

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

Smart Dress:

- Smart outfit (For evenings out)

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

For other nationalities, travelling in Europe has been simplified with the introduction of the Schengen visa. As a visitor to the Schengen area (Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland) you will enjoy the many advantages of this unified visa system. Generally speaking with a Schengen visa, you may enter one Schengen country and travel freely throughout the Schengen region during the validity of your visa. There are limited border controls at Schengen borders, if any at all.

Please note that the UK and Ireland are NOT part of the Schengen agreement.

A Schengen visa is applied for at the Embassy or Consulate of the Schengen country in which you will be spending the most nights on your trip to the Schengen space. If you are only visiting one country on your trip then you apply for your visa at the Consulate of this Schengen country.

As of 2025, various European countries are introducing ETIAS travel authorisation as an entry requirement for visa-exempt nationals.

We highly recommend you checking in advance how your nationality and country/s you are visiting may be affected.

Further details can be found [here](#)

Last updated: January 27th 2025

What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances. Visa cards are the most widely accepted cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work. Check with your bank. You should be aware when purchasing products or services on a credit card, that a fee usually applies. Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of Euros and cards is best. Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

Should I be tipping on my trip?

On our National Geographic Signature tours, tipping is included for all included activities and meals, and portage. Tipping is not included for the Expedition Leader. Should you want some basic guidelines on tipping for the activities you do on your own, please see below. At the end of each trip if you felt your National Geographic Signature Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline would be \$10-\$15 per person per day.

In addition, please note that tipping is not required or expected for the Expedition Expert.

What activities are optional on this trip?

- No optional activities

What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.