

FOOD AND HOTEL GUIDE



**CUSTOMIZED LUXURY TOUR
OF THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO with**

ANNIE O'NEIL

**SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2017
AND
OCTOBER 1-9, 2017**

Gastronomy and Enology

We specialize in exquisite gastronomy and enology in our journeys. We have personally selected restaurants in each town where we stay that have quality ingredients and freshly prepared meals. Some of these restaurants may be quite small and family owned.

Obviously, the north of Spain's culinary traditions rely on the quality of their meat and fish, as well as the locally grown vegetables and fruits – and you will walk by the farms where many of the animals and vegetables are raised. In addition, each region in the Camino has its own distinct cuisine and specialties, like seafood, soup, braised fish, stew...

The Cuisine from Spain is not well known in North America, as opposed to Italian or Chinese or even French food. But especially in recent years, Spanish haute cuisine is considered some of the best food in the world thanks to chefs like Ferran Adrià, Arzak, David Muñoz, José Andrés, and the Roca brothers, whose restaurants are always vying for number one among the best restaurants in the world.

The food in the north of Spain, where the Camino de Santiago passes, is a mix of Spanish, Celtic, and European dishes, mainly based on rural culture.



HOTEL PALACIO DEL RETIRO AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION (MADRID) *****



Palatial home built in the beginning of the 20th century converted into a discreet 50 room luxury hotel. Unique building protected by National Heritage status where you can enjoy the pleasure of resting in one of the historic buildings of the center of the city, located in front of the famous *Retiro Park* and close to the *Paseo de Recoletos*. It occupies the center of the magical Art Triangle, *Prado Museum*, the *Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection* and *Reina Sofía National Art Museum*.

Overlooking the beautiful Retiro Park, our hotel is located in the epicenter of Madrid, next to Prado Museum, the shops of Serrano, and Atocha station

The Palacio Del Retiro still has its original structures and details, such as wrought iron doors, stained windows, and marble doorways, as to provide guests with a feeling of European luxury redefined. The Grand Staircase contains the original tapestry from the beginning of XX century that was hand-crafted by the "Real Fábrica de Tapices." The stained windows and marble stairs provide unmistakable luxury. The patio at the AC hotel Palacio Del Retiro in Madrid preserves this traditional Spanish ceramic fountain from the beginning of the XX century.

PALACIO DE CANEDO WINERY (VILLAFRANCA DEL BIERZO)

Two men had a dream for this mansion: one of them built it almost three centuries ago and the other returned to it when it was abandoned because he understood that these walls were made for restoration and the land was waiting to be worked once again. You are also part of history every time you pass through its walls.

Today, Canedo is a vision for the eyes, an experience for the palate and unforgettable accommodation, all for a memorable experience.

If you stay in any of the 14 rooms, you will be surprised. The rooms are totally different from each other, each has its own history, although they are all decorated in the same style in absolute resonance with the main building and ambience. Some of these rooms refer to the former Lords and Ladies of Canedo; others have more suggestive and evocative names. They all have magnificent views of the vineyards and Bierzo during any season of the year. They are fitted with everything you need for a comfortable and unforgettable stay.

The finest details that have to be seen and enjoyed to be believed... A real treat.

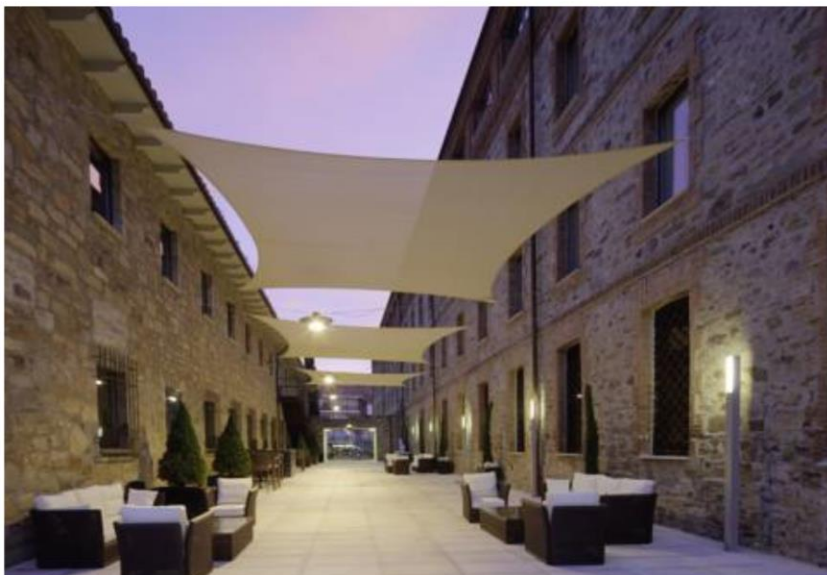


HOTEL SPA VIA DE LA PLATA ****

On the stones of the convent of San Francisco, in 2011, this modern hotel was built. Its design gave priority to the space in the rooms, their equipment and the welcoming and contemporary decoration. Equipped with a complete Spa built in the same hotel. The banquet rooms, in a separate building, are connected to the hotel by means of a walkway with double doors so nothing disturbs the rest.

Monumental city, historic crossroads, near and close, linked to rich regions, with a traditional and characteristic gastronomy and perfectly located to tour the province. All this and more is what you will find if you visit our town. Astorga keeps a valuable historic heritage, since its Roman foundation. A very important town in that time, it was the capital of the Hispanic north-west and one of the biggest mining exploitations of its time. The presence of gold in these lands marked the history of our city, which preserves this glorious past underground.

In Astorga we find from a Cathedral, renovated several times until the one we see nowadays, a big number of churches and convents spreading over the town, to an episcopal palace designed by Gaudí at the end of the 19th century, singular building within the town and the author's work



CASA GRANDE DE FERVENZA NOBILITY HOUSE (PORTOMARIN-LUGO)

Deep in the forest A Fervenza, with fraga majestic oaks over 300 years old, this is a rural house, which also has an interesting ethnographic ensemble . In front of an old seventeenth-century mill on the banks of the Miño, Casa Grande, former home of a miller in 1752, was founded. This historic event faithfully illustrates the origin of this Casa Grande, which has been restored preserving the essence of ancient Galician village.

Fervenza is a true reflection of an ancient way of life, which remained intact until the second half of last century.

The site has been preserved from generation to generation for your enjoyment, there will live an unforgettable experience in a majestic forest, light for walking, resting among the trees and at the end of the day savoring a carefully renovated Galician cuisine. Each guest receives a key to the mill, the door leads to an idyllic river setting, compared to an island home ownership.



HOTEL PALACIO DEL CARMEN AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION (SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA)



This hotel in Santiago de Compostela, *AC Palacio del Carmen*, is located in the center. This former Monastery reconverted into a 5-star hotel adapted its structure to offer current facilities and professional and high quality service. It is the perfect place to stay at the end of the Saint James' Pilgrimage or just to visit the area for business or leisure.

AC Palacio del Carmen hotel retains all the characteristic details of the ancient building, giving us a historic air. The *AC Palacio del Carmen* hotel in Santiago de Compostela is decorated with high quality wood and beautiful simple details following the warm Galician design, which make it a cozy place to stay for our guests. The terrace affords magnificent view of Santiago de Compostela Cathedral and its Surroundings, the perfect place to forget the stress of the day enjoying a drink and a delicious appetizer in a special spot at *AC Palacio del Carmen*.

Enjoy the views in the courtyard terrace of this hotel in Santiago de Compostela while drinking a cocktail or eating a snack from our AC Lounge menu with friends and be surrounded by the Galician Nature in a quite spot located just five minutes from the center of this heritage city.

I or one of my fantastic guides lead every tour. I have been walking the Camino for over 25 years. I have hand-picked the best hotels and inns near the Camino; selected the most beautiful miles for each day's walk; picked the most exquisite menus and wines to introduce you to the very best gastronomy and enology of Spain, including many foods and wines you cannot find outside Spain.

So rest assured, you will have a fabulous trip.

Juan Carlos Duperier, CEO Duperier's Authentic Journeys.

Buen Camino!



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