

DO YOU ONLY HAVE 1 DAY?

- **Go around the Cathedral and get lost in the old town:** Wonder at the Praza do Obradoiro: the Cathedral's Baroque façade, the Hostal dos Reis Católicos (formerly the pilgrims' hospital and now a luxury state-run hotel or Parador); the Pazo de Raxoi, currently the town hall; and the University. Take a peek round the corner of the square and you will see the street called "das Hortas" and the Church of "las 4 sotas", with the four sculptures that give it its name. Look for the horses' hoofs in the fountain of Praterías and follow the nightly shadows of pilgrims in the Praza da Quintana, where you can also find the Puerta Santa. Go into the Cathedral, embrace Saint James and enjoy the wonderful Pórtico da Gloria. Take a look at the timings to see the Botafumeiro in action and, if possible, stay to see it. You will never forget it. Have some coffee in the sunshine at Cervantes square or join the locals for the "vermú" (a light drink before lunch, which is not necessarily vermouth!) at the Plaza de la Pescadería Vella. Discover the work of the silversmiths and jet carvers in the workshops and shops around the old town
- **Discover the charm of the Mercado de Abastos:** This is the second most visited spot in the city, after the Cathedral. Eight beautiful granite buildings showcase the best of Galician food: its high-quality raw materials. Fruits, vegetables, cheese, fish, meat... all sold by vendors and farmers; this is a traditional "supermarket" where the essence and love for good food is displayed. If you wish, you may buy some of these products and there is a stand where they will cook them for you so you can taste whatever you choose to.
- **Go to the Alameda and take some pictures:** Even if you do not do the full walk, you can take a picture with the Dos Mariás. The sisters Maruxa and Coralia Fandiño are one of the city's symbols. Both of them were active in left-wing political movements before the Spanish Civil War, and the dictatorship severely punished them in the most gruesome of ways: by impoverishing them (seizing their goods, hindering work). They were "represaliadas". But they rebelled against all this by dressing in a colourful fashion and parading their colours every day around this park. At the end of the Paseo de los Leones is the so-called "Eucalipto del Amor" (Eucalyptus of love) surrounded by a wooden bench with spectacular views over the Cathedral and the old town.
- **Have a glass of wine... or two:** From the famous rúa do Franco, going up to A Raíña until the Praza do Toural and the Porta Faxeira, you can enjoy the best of food and wine in the city. Wine, tapas, octopus, empanada, Galician caldo (broth)... There are so many places and all sorts of prices to enjoy good food and toast with the many pilgrims and locals who meet there every day.

Enjoy Santiago baggage-free. Leave your backpack **at our pilgrim service point** at Rúa do Franco, 4 (150m from Cathedral).

IF YOU HAVE TWO DAYS:

- **Go to some of our museums: The Cathedral Museum, the Pilgrimage Museum,** with exhibitions related to the history of the city and the Camino. You can also visit the modern architecture of the **Centro Gallego de Arte Contemporánea (CGAC)**, the Modern Art Museum, while there are other interesting museums all over the city. You can get to know the basics of Galician culture and history at the **Museo do Pobo Galego** and also visit the **Panteón dos Galegos Ilustres**, at the monastery of **San Domingos de Bonaval**, or visit the **Museo Granell** at the Pazo de Bendaña, at the Praza do Toural.
- **Bask in the sun in Bonaval:** This is one of the most beloved green areas for the citizens of Santiago: the former Cemetery of Bonaval, belonging to the convent in the past, offers some delightful views over the city skyline.
- **Visit San Martín Pinario,** To see its staircase and the Plateresque façade of the Monastery, and San Francisco to check its church and the old monastery, currently a hotel. On your way there, you will see the Faculty of Medicine, the gargoyles of the Seminario Mayor and of the side of the Hostal dos Reis Católicos.
- **Visit the University's main building,** With its cloister and garden. If you love libraries, do not miss the one at the Faculty of History in the area of Mazarelos. This square still preserves the only extant gate in the old city wall: the arch of Mazarelos.
- **Take a rest on the stairs or on the wall bench of the Plaza da Quintana, a site enjoyed by locals and pilgrims alike.** From there you can have a good look at the beauty of the square, see the Casa da Parra, the Casa da Conga and the great monastery of San Paio de Antealtares, today a monastery of cloistered nuns, while the great bell in the Torre da Berenguela tolls the quarters and the hours.

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AND THE THIRD DAY...

- **Be amazed at the Cidade da Cultura:** From the street of Senra there is a bus line taking you to the Cidade da Cultura, an architectural ensemble on Mount Gaiás. It was designed by Peter Eisenman and it includes different buildings for cultural activities and leisure.
- **Walk on the Cathedral roofs.** There are organised visits to the Cathedral roofs. You can have a different view of the city from up there.
- **Walk around the Alameda:** Take a peaceful walk around one of the most important parks in the city. It is not only a botanical garden, it also takes you around the **Paseo de la Herradura** and the churches of **Santa Susana** and **El Pilar**. If you complete a walk around it, you can take a look at the University Campus with its faculties and student residences.
- **Get to know the neighbourhoods of San Pedro and San Lorenzo:** Their charm increases with time – just walking around these neighbourhoods gives you a taste of the local shops and houses in Santiago de Compostela, with their stone walls, their small vegetable gardens and the shutters on their windows.
- **Climb Mount Pedroso:** This is the natural viewpoint overlooking Santiago de Compostela and a place to enjoy nature and rest, very close to the old town. From the Obradoiro, it is a 20-minute walk through the rúa das Hortas, the neighbourhood of Galeras and then up Monte Pío.

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