



LA RIOJA  
*Apetece*



The **Way**  
of St. James

**www.lariojaturismo.com**

**Tourist Information about La Rioja +34 941 29 12 60**

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## LOCAL TOURIST OFFICES

**Alfaro**  
+34 941 18 01 33  
[alfaro@lariojaturismo.com](mailto:alfaro@lariojaturismo.com)

**Arnedillo**  
+34 941 39 42 26  
[arnedillo@lariojaturismo.com](mailto:arnedillo@lariojaturismo.com)

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+34 941 38 39 88  
[arnedo@lariojaturismo.com](mailto:arnedo@lariojaturismo.com)

**Calahorra**  
+34 941 10 50 61  
[calahorra@lariojaturismo.com](mailto:calahorra@lariojaturismo.com)

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+34 941 46 21 51  
[cameros@lariojaturismo.com](mailto:cameros@lariojaturismo.com)

**Ezcaray**  
+34 941 35 46 79  
[ezcaray@lariojaturismo.com](mailto:ezcaray@lariojaturismo.com)

**Haro**  
+34 941 30 35 80  
[turismo@haro.org](mailto:turismo@haro.org)

**Nájera**  
+34 941 36 00 41  
[najera@lariojaturismo.com](mailto:najera@lariojaturismo.com)

**San Millán de la Cogolla**  
+34 941 37 32 59  
[sanmillan@lariojaturismo.com](mailto:sanmillan@lariojaturismo.com)

**Santo Domingo de la Calzada**  
+34 941 34 12 38  
[info@santodomingokm550.com](mailto:info@santodomingokm550.com)



## THE ROUTES/STAGES: IN LA RIOJA

### The French Way

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#### EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

-  Church
-  Chapel
-  Museum or Interpretation Centre
-  Ruins
-  Castle or Fortification

-  City Walls
-  Monastery / Convent
-  Historic Bridge
-  Picturesque views
-  Tourist Office

-  Pilgrim Information
-  Hotel
-  Hostel
-  Pension
-  Farmhouse

-  Tourist Hostel
-  Pilgrim Hostel
-  Parador (State-owned hotels)
-  Camping
-  Natural area

-  Birdwatching area
-  Restaurant
-  Wine tourism
-  Medical centre
-  Pharmacy



## The Way of St. James and La Rioja

When the pilgrim bound for Santiago de Compostela crosses the river Ebro, he enters the Old Town of the capital of the region of La Rioja. 600 kms separate him from the tomb of the Apostle in Galicia. The Riojan section of the Way of St. James appears short on maps, although it contains many of the symbols that explain why it was declared the **First European Culture Route** and also a **World Heritage Route**.

The presence on the route of the oldest and most renowned Jacobean pilgrim is documented in La Rioja. Here you will find the scene of the mythical **battle of Clavijo**, which served to justify the "Santiago Vote". At nowhere other than Navarrete is it possible to find the entrance and a floor of a 12th century pilgrim hospital of the time. In **Nájera** it is possible to rest between the walls of the headquarters of the Pamplona-Nájera Kingdom, home to the monarchs who most actively committed themselves to promoting pilgrimages to Santiago de Compostela. And what can we say about **Santo Domingo de la Calzada**, a town sprung near the tomb of the **French Way's** most famous saint and one of the key figures of 11th century Europe. There is no older evidence of social care than in the Brotherhood of the Saint, founded in the 12th century with the clear aim of aiding pilgrims. This is the site of the amazing **miracle of the Hanging Pilgrim**, the most well-known miracle of the Middle Ages.

But above all, you will discover the hospitality of people who have always been used to seeing pilgrims pass-by.



Market on the Way. Santo Domingo de la Calzada.

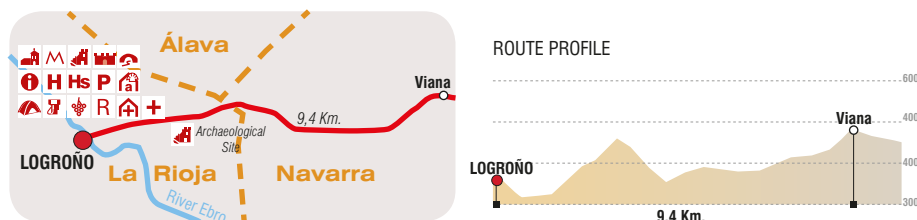


# Stage: Navarra - Logroño

Distance: 9.4 Km.

Time: 2 h 10'

Level: 1/3



Following the well-marked route from **Viana**, the **La Rioja - Navarre border** is reached. A confluence of roads is passed and the route, which is found between grain fields, reaches the house of Mrs Felisa, who waits for pilgrims at her door to offer them encouragement, hospitality, figs and fresh water. A short and brief descent leads us to the banks of the River Ebro, which is followed upstream until the famous **Stone Bridge** is reached, which is where pilgrims make their first major river crossing on the route.

We are now in **Logroño**, the second large city on the French Way. The pilgrim hostel is located very near the bridge on **La Rúa Vieja**, the original street of the hamlet of Logroño.

**La Rúa Vieja**, is the oldest recorded street name in Logroño. The large baroque house at number 32 is the **pilgrim hostel**. It is located next to the church of **Santa Maria de Palacio**. Its narrow pyramid-shaped octagonal tower is popularly known as "the needle".

## St. James' Church

The current building dates from the 16th century and was built upon a 12th century church that disappeared. This church was chosen by city representatives to hold council meetings and to guard the Municipal Archive.



Stone Bridge, Logroño. In the background, the churches of San Bartolomé, Santa Maria de Palacio and the twin spires of the La Redonda Cathedral.



Pilgrim's Fountain, next to St. James' Church.

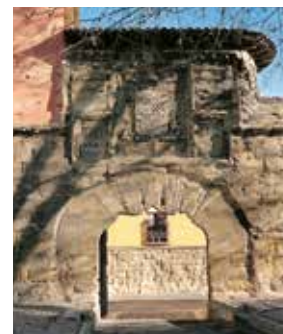
**La Rúa Vieja** leads us to the square next to **St. James' Church**, which is full of Jacobean references: an eponymously named **Pilgrim's Fountain**, a giant mosaic and possibly the largest version of the Goose Game in the world. All of them boast Jacobean symbolism along with the huge baroque image of St. James on the façade of the church that depicts him as the impulsive "St James the Moor-Slayer". On the main altarpiece inside the church there is another sculpture of the Apostle depicted as a pilgrim.



Game of the Goose Plaza with Jacobean motifs in Logroño.

**La Rúa Vieja** leads to another street, **Barriocepo**, which is where pilgrims reach the edge of the Old Town and the city's **Gate of the Way**. Pilgrims leave Logroño through this city gate, which points towards Finisterre.

After leaving Logroño, a tree-lined path leads us to the walls of the reservoir of **la Grajera**. The **Parque de la Grajera** boasts an excellent rest area which pilgrims can enjoy.



The Revellín City Gate, historical exit point of Logroño.

## PILGRIM HOSTELS

### LOGROÑO Main Hostel

Address: Ruavieja, 32  
Telephone: +34 941 24 86 86  
Capacity: 68 Open all-year-round  
[www.asantiago.org](http://www.asantiago.org)



### LOGROÑO Albas Hostel

Address: Plaza Mtnes. Flamarique, 4 Bajo  
Telephone: +34 941 700 832  
Capacity: 22 Open all-year-round  
[www.alberguealbas.es](http://www.alberguealbas.es) [albergue@alberguealbas.es](mailto:albergue@alberguealbas.es)



### LOGROÑO Pilgrim welcome service Santiago El Real

Address: Barriocepo, 8  
Telephone: +34 941 209 501  
Capacity: 30 Open all-year-round



### LOGROÑO Santiago Apóstol Hostel

Address: Rua Vieja, 42  
Telephone: +34 941 256 976 / 670 993 560  
Capacity: 90 Open all-year-round  
[ruavieja42@gmail.com](mailto:ruavieja42@gmail.com)



### LOGROÑO Hostel Logroño

Address: Capitán Gallarza Nº10 1 y 2 Izq.  
Telephone: +34 941 254 226 / 608 234 723  
Capacity: 48 Open all-year-round  
[www.alberguelogrono.es](http://www.alberguelogrono.es)  
[info@alberguelogrono.es](mailto:info@alberguelogrono.es)



## TOURIST HOSTELS

### LOGROÑO Check In Rioja Hostel

Address: Los Baños, 2  
Telephone: +34 941 272 329  
Capacity: 30  
From 1 March to 15 October  
[www.checkinrioja.com](http://www.checkinrioja.com)

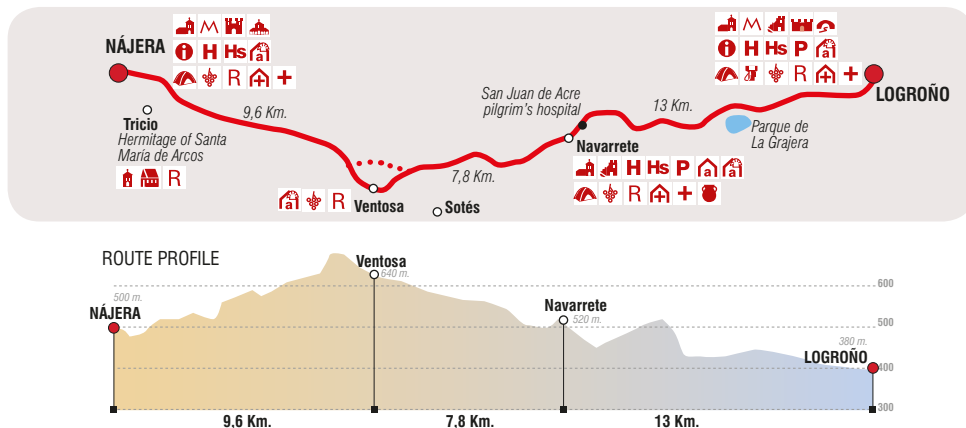
### LOGROÑO Entresueños Hostel

Address: Portales, 12 bajo y 1º  
Telephone: +34 941 271 334 and 941 271 335  
Capacity: 67  
[www.hostellogrono.com](http://www.hostellogrono.com)

### LOGROÑO La Playa Hostel

Address: Avda. La Playa  
Telephone: +34 941 252 253 and 941 258 661  
Capacity: 72  
[www.campinglaplaya.com](http://www.campinglaplaya.com)

# Stage: Logroño - Nájera

Distance: **30.4 Km.**Time: **7 h 30'**Level: **2/3**

From **Logroño** we go through the **Parque de la Grajera** and climb a hill of the same name. On the other side of the hill **Navarrete** can be seen, which is reached by crossing the N-120 main road and the A-68 motorway. The route then climbs again up the hill named San Antón, which starts in the village of **Ventosa**. This leaves 10 kms on the final section until you reach **Nájera**. To reach the Old Town, descend San Fernando street until you get to the River Najerilla, then cross the bridge (said to be the work of San Juan de Ortega).



Procession of the Hundred Maidens.



Clavijo Castle.



Views of Navarrete.



Entrance of Navarrete cemetery.

As you enter **Navarrete** you come across the ruins the late 12th century **San Juan de Acre pilgrim's hospital**. Its windows and façade have been conserved as they were used for the entrance of the town's cemetery. The town's urban outlay maintains that of a walled city. The first street that pilgrims come across is La Cruz. The **parish church** dates from the 16th century and its main baroque altarpiece is one of the finest examples in La Rioja. Industrial and artisan pottery is the most common source of commercial activity in Navarrete.

An isolated hill in the town stands out from the rest: the mythical **"Poyo Roldán"**, which was the scene of a legend about medieval knights, typical of the places along the Way where the influence of the religious **Order of Cluny** was greatest: Pamplona, Estella, Logroño and Nájera. It's about the narrated tale of the fight between the giant, Ferragut, and Roldán, a Charlemagne knight. The stage finishes in **Nájera**, the birthplace of the kings of the Kingdom of Pamplona between 918 and 1076.

## PILGRIM HOSTELS

### SOTÉS

#### Sotés Hostel

Address: San Miguel, 67

Telephone: +34 941 441 768 / 650 962 625

Capacity: 18 March to October

[alberguesotes@gmail.com](mailto:alberguesotes@gmail.com)

### VENTOSA

#### Pilgrim's Hostel

Address: Calle Mayor, 33

Telephone: +34 941 441 899

Capacity: 42 February to November

[ventosa@jacobeos.net](mailto:ventosa@jacobeos.net)

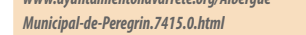
### NAVARRETE

#### Pilgrim's Hostel

Address: San Juan, s/n.

Telephone: +34 941 440 722

Capacity: 40 March to October

[info@asantiago.org](mailto:info@asantiago.org)[www.ayuntamientonavarrete.org/Albergue-Municipal-de-Peregrin.7415.0.html](http://www.ayuntamientonavarrete.org/Albergue-Municipal-de-Peregrin.7415.0.html)

### NAVARRETE

#### La Casa del Peregrino Hostel

Address: C. las Huertas, 3

Telephone: +34 630 982 928

Capacity: 20

[alberguenavarrete@gmail.com](mailto:alberguenavarrete@gmail.com)[www.alberguenavarrete.wordpress.com](http://www.alberguenavarrete.wordpress.com)

## TOURIST HOSTELS

### NAVARRETE

#### El Cántaro Tourist Hostel

Address: C. Herrerías, 16-1

Telephone: +34 941 441 180

Capacity: 16 Open all-year-round

[info@albergueelcantaro.com](mailto:info@albergueelcantaro.com)[www.albergueelcantaro.com](http://www.albergueelcantaro.com)

### NAVARRETE

#### A la Sombra del Laurel Tourist Hostel

Address: Carretera de Burgos, 52

Telephone: +34 639 861 110

Capacity: 30

[info@alasombradellaurel.com](mailto:info@alasombradellaurel.com)[www.alasombradellaurel.com](http://www.alasombradellaurel.com)



# Secondary pilgrimage route to San Millán de la Cogolla



Monastery of Yuso.

Existing historical references state that from Nájera, pilgrims veered off the French Way in order to visit the **monasteries of San Millán de la Cogolla**. A San Millán "Moor-Slayer" tradition exists, in which it is said that the Riojan hermit fought alongside St. James at the battle of Simancas, thus becoming the defender of Navarre and Castilla against Islam. It is for this reason that on the entrance of the monastery at Yuso, San Millán is depicted on horseback among the bodies of the Muslim soldiers.

In San Millán de la Cogolla, visiting the monasteries is a must. The upper monastery, known as the **Monastery of Suso**, originates from cave monasteries in which **San Millán** lived and died. He was a 6th century hermit, who, through his fame, attracted a select group of monks who converted the monastery into an important cultural centre. Those monastic scribes created a great collection of **codexes** and manuscripts which today are the jewels of prestigious archives. It was here, towards the second half of the 10th



Route Markers.



Sepulchral Cave.

*In the interior, excavated in the stone of the Suso Monastery, the carved tomb of St. Millan from the 12th century is preserved.*



Monastery of Suso, inside.



Monastery of Suso.

century, where a monk **first noted lines in Castilian (Spanish)**, in Codex 46 and in Basque in Codex 60. In the monastery at Suso, it is possible to see austere cave hermitages, Visigoth arches, pre-Romanesque extensions and Arab renovations...all of which are found in a setting of tranquil beauty.



Carved ivory outer surfaces.

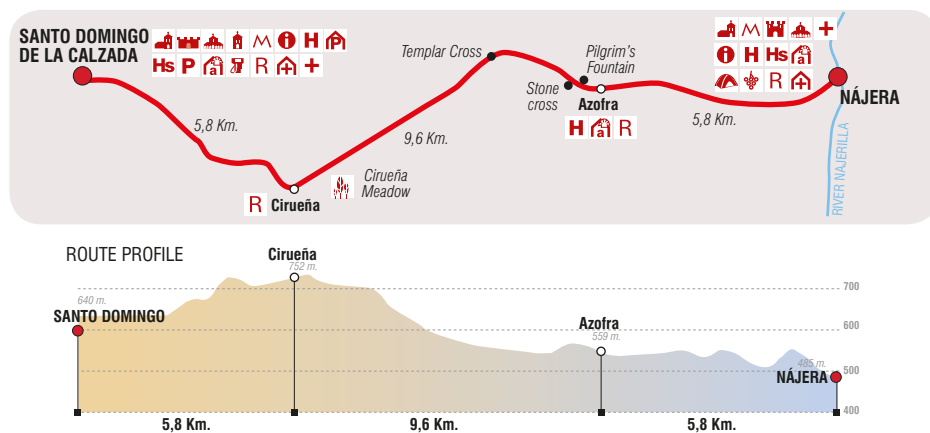
The other monastery, **Yuso**, is of grand proportions. Today, the architecture that we see is work from the 16th and 17th centuries. Inside, it is highly recommended to see the reconstructions of the **coffers of San Felices and San Millán**, both of which have carved ivory outer surfaces that have survived the numerous outrages the monastery has been subjected to. The library and archive still house some ten thousand volumes along with all the charm and mystery of a monastic book collection.



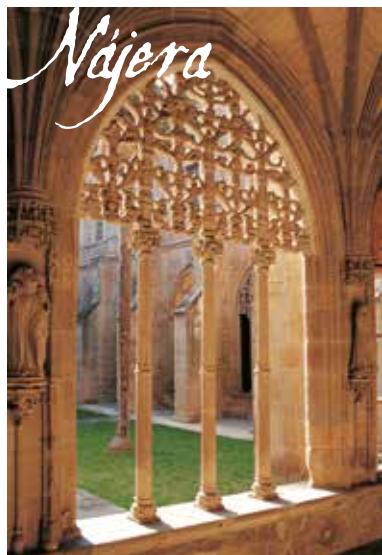
Cloister of Yuso.



# Stage: Nájera - Santo Domingo

Distance: **21,2 Km.**Time: **5 h. 15'**Level: **1/3**

In **Nájera**, we take the extremely steep street named *Costanilla* and follow the route through a pine forest. We pass through vineyards and farm tracks until we reach **Azofra**. As we leave Azofra, we head right on the road that leads to Alesanco, passing the Pilgrim's Fountain and turning left onto a path. We see a 16th century Judicial Pillory before reaching **Cirueña**. From this locality, we go 300 m down the road until we take a left turn onto a farm track. A little further on, the Jacobean city of **Santo Domingo de la Calzada** is seen from a hill.



Santa Maria la Real.



Royal Pantheon of the Kings of Navarre.

Once in **Nájera**, a visit to the **monastery of Santa Maria la Real**, where kings and noblemen of the Kingdom of Pamplona-Nájera are buried, is a must. There exists a legend about the origin of this sanctuary: **King Don García** was concerned because the Moors controlled Calahorra. He went out hunting with his falcon and entered a cave when chasing a partridge. Once inside, he found a **picture of the Virgin** and Child, a lit lamp, a jug of white lilies, a bell and two birds perched peacefully. Don García interpreted the find as an omen of victory and when he reconquered Calahorra, he ordered the construction of a monastery in honour of Santa María upon the same cave. The monastery was consecrated in 1056.



Pilgrim's on horseback on the journey through La Rioja.

The Way of St. James leaves Nájera via *Costanilla* street towards **Azofra**, where the streets Real and Sol form a further stretch of the route. In the village church there is a picture of St. James depicted as a pilgrim. A kilometre further along the road, you come across the imposing **pillory** of Azofra.

Passing **Cirueña** and its impressive meadow of oak trees, we head towards the resting place of the remains of one of the most emblematic saints on the Way: **Santo Domingo de la Calzada**.



Pilgrim's in the vineyards.



Street in Santo Domingo.

## PILGRIM HOSTELS

### NÁJERA Main Hostel

Address: Plaza de Santiago s/n.  
Capacity: 90

Availability: Open all-year-round



### NÁJERA Sancho III - The Jewish Quarter Hostel

Address: C. San Marcial, 6  
Telephone: +34 941 361 138  
Capacity: 10 April to October 30  
[alberguejuderia@yahoo.es](mailto:alberguejuderia@yahoo.es)



### AZOFRA Main Hostel

Address: Las Parras, 7  
Telephone: +34 941 379 325 / 638 261 432  
Capacity: 100 April to October  
[www.azofra.org/Albergue-Municipal.5823.0.html](http://www.azofra.org/Albergue-Municipal.5823.0.html)



## TOURIST HOSTELS

### NÁJERA Puerta de Nájera Hostel

Address: C/Carmen nº 4  
Telephone: +34 941 362 317 / 683 616 894  
Capacity: 30  
[albergue@alberguedenajera.com](mailto:albergue@alberguedenajera.com)  
[www.alberguedenajera.com](http://www.alberguedenajera.com)



# Stage: Santo Domingo - Grañón

Distance: **10,2 Km.**Time: **2 h. 35'**Level: **1/3**

## ROUTE PROFILE



You leave **Santo Domingo de la Calzada** via the bridge that crosses the River Oja, built by the saint himself, and follow the roads westwards. The route continues towards a conical shaped hill called "Mirabel", which looks over the whole region. You soon reach **Grañón**, a paradigmatic example of a Jacobean settlement. To leave the village, we take a wide dirt track which leads us, between grain fields, into Castillian territory. Now is the time to turn back and say goodbye to the last Rioja village on the Way of St. James.

It was an impenetrable forest of oak trees on the banks of a river where a **hermit named Domingo** settled down and decided to make the journey of those who travelled to Santiago de Compostela easier. He built a bridge over the River Oja, opened an accessible road and constructed a hospital and a church in order to offer spiritual and material aid to pilgrims. The death of Santo Domingo has not interrupted his work, given that **the**

### Chapel of Carrasquedo

Located 2 kms south of the centre of Grañón and found within a leafy oak forest, is the chapel of Our Lady of Carrasquedo. It is a baroque building from the end of the 17th century and houses the largest collection of surviving pictorial votive offerings in La Rioja.



Street in Santo Domingo.



Cathedral chevet.



The main altarpiece



Market on the Way in Santo Domingo.

**Brotherhood** of Santo Domingo stills exists. The **saint's house**, which is the hostel run by the Brotherhood, is a must see.

The **Old Town** reflects the medieval road system, with the authentic pilgrim's route, La Calle Mayor, being the area's hub. The **Plaza del Santo** is the heart of the Old Town. The **cathedral** is laid-out in three naves, much like a typical pilgrim's church. The **main altarpiece**, work of **Damián Forment**, is a jewel of Spanish renaissance sculpture. The **hen house** draws special attention and permanently houses a white hen and rooster that commemorate the **miracle of the hanging pilgrim**, the most well-known of the Middle Ages.

Following the route, we pass close by to a simple wooden cross known as the "**Cross of the Brave**" on the way to **Grañón**. Its urban layout is very similar to that of Santo Domingo de la Calzada.



Cathedral hen house.

## PILGRIM HOSTELS

### CIRUEÑA

#### Virgen de Guadalupe Hostel

Address: C. Barrio alto, 1.

Telephone: +34 638 924 069

Capacity: 35 From 15 March to 2 November

virgendeguadalupe1@gmail.com

albergue-virgendeguadalupe.webnode.es



### SANTO DOMINGO DE LA CALZADA

#### Casa del Santo Hostel

Address: Mayor, 42 bajo

Telephone: +34 941 343 390

Capacity: 10 Open all-year-round

www.alberguecofradielsanto.com



### SANTO DOMINGO DE LA CALZADA

#### Abadía Cisterciense Ntra. Sra. de la Anunciación Hostel

Address: Mayor, 31

Telephone: +34 941 340 700

Capacity: 33 From July to September

hospederia@cister-lacalzada.com

www.cister-lacalzada.com



### GRAÑÓN

#### Pilgrim's Hostel

Address: Plaza de la Iglesia, s/n

Telephone: +34 941 420 818

Capacity: 16 Open all-year-round

granon@iglesiaenlarioja.org



## TOURIST HOSTELS

### CIRUEÑA

#### Victoria Tourist Hostel

Address: Prado San Andrés

Telephone: +34 941 426 105

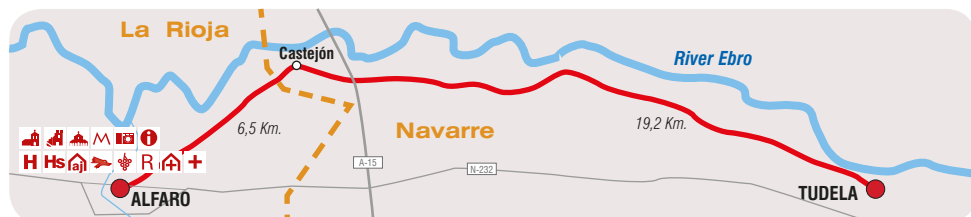
Capacity: 14

albergue-virgendeguadalupe.webnode.es

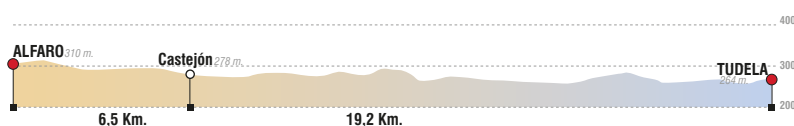


## Stage: Tudela - Alfaro

Distance: **25,7 Km.** Time: **6 h. 40'** Level: **1/3**



ROUTE PROFILE



In recent years the respective associations of the Way of St. James in Catalonia, Aragon, Navarre and La Rioja have been promoting the Jacobean route that pilgrims used when hoping to **reach Santiago de Compostela from the Mediterranean**. As such, a new pilgrimage route is going to be established, starting in San Carlos de la Rápita and joining the French Way in Logroño. In real terms, we are talking about a Roman road that has connected Tarraco with Astorga for over two thousand years, passing through Gracuris, Calagurris and Vareia.

This Jacobean route enters La Rioja through **Alfaro**. In the San Francisco convent that is located here, there is a large baroque canvas that depicts St. James in battle at Clavijo. The church of San Miguel, also located in Alfaro, is famous for housing the largest colony of urban storks in Europe on its roof and also contains a picture of the Virgin Pilgrim from the 17th century.



Church of San Miguel, Alfaro.

### ALFARO Pilgrim Hostel

Address: Pº La Florida, 23  
Telephone: +34 941 18 01 33  
Disponibilidad: Abierto todo el año.  
Capacity: 10  
[turismo@aytoalfaro.org](mailto:turismo@aytoalfaro.org)  
Procedure: Go to the municipal tourism office of Alfaro to get the key. It is necessary to present credentials and an ID card or passport. In the event that it is closed, go to the municipal police station located next to the pilgrim hostel.  
Nearby services:

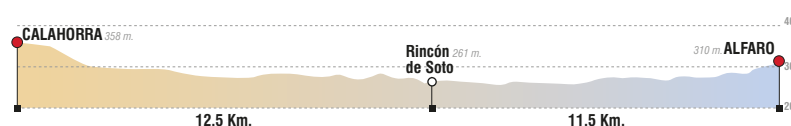


## Stage: Alfaro - Calahorra

Distance: **26,8 Km.** Time: **7 h. 5'** Level: **1/3**



ROUTE PROFILE

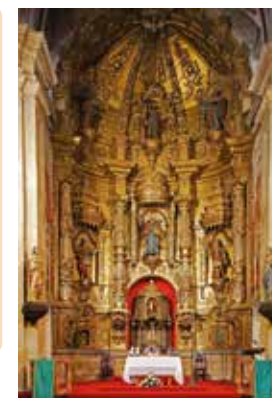


The next village that the route passes through is **Rincón de Soto**. Its parish church contains a tomb with an inscription stating that Juan Jiménez, who died in 1516 after founding a chapel honouring St. James, is buried there.

**Calahorra** is where most Jacobean references are found. Archives conserve many documents that explain the presence of pilgrims and inns. The 16th century **Crucifix**, constructed at the entrance of the town, has been an obligatory location for pilgrims to pray. Various sculpted shells are visible on its construction. You will also be able to enjoy visits to the church named after St. James the Apostle, and, above all, the **Cathedral** which conserves the spectacular baptism font that is adorned with the most repeated Jacobean symbols: the scallop shell and the pumpkin.

### CALAHORRA Hostel - San Francisco of the Jacobean Way of the Ebro

Address: Rasillo de San Francisco, s/n.  
Telephone: +34 658 217 667  
Capacity: 18  
Disponibilidad: Open all year round from 2.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. except 22nd December to 8th January inclusive.  
[alberguecalahorra@gmail.com](mailto:alberguecalahorra@gmail.com)  
Nearby services:



Church of Saint James.



Calahorra Cathedral.

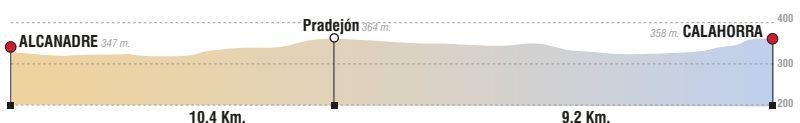


## Stage: Calahorra - Alcanadre

Distance: 19,6 Km. Time: 5 h. Level: 1/3

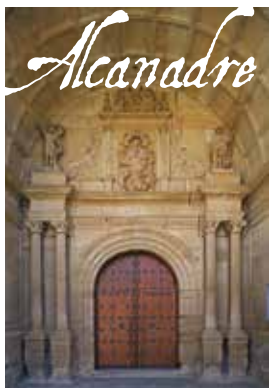


ROUTE PROFILE



Although the stage is not very long, it's a little dangerous and the terrain is very dry. **Pradejón** is reached half way along the route, a town famous for exporting mushrooms and where the spur tower of the Santa Maria church can be seen. The stage finishes in **Alcanadre**, next to the River Ebro. The 16th - 18th century Santa Maria church conserves a Romanic jewel from the 12nd century: the **seated Virgin of Aradón**, which evokes images of a holy enclave of yesteryear. The church only has one nave with chapels between buttresses, a cross and tower from the 17th century. Its stand out feature is the Roman altarpiece of the main 16th century altar.

Between Alcanadre and Lodosa lie the remains of an **aqueduct**, which was an important hydraulic work of the Roman era and made up of 13 arches and more than 30 buttresses spanning 25 metres.



Entrance of Santa Maria de Alcanadre.



Roman aqueduct.

### PILGRIMS HOSTEL

#### ALCANADRE Pilgrim's Hostel

Address: Located next to the railway station.  
A recently restored hostel.  
Telephone: 941 165 004  
Availability: Open all-year-round  
[www.alcanadre.es/servicios/albergue](http://www.alcanadre.es/servicios/albergue)  
Nearby services:

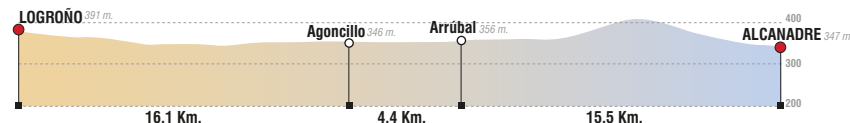


## Stage: Alcanadre - Logroño

Distance: 36 Km. Time: 8 h. 45' Level: 2/3



ROUTE PROFILE



The route leaves Alcanadre via the road towards Ausejo. A farmyard on our right, the train tracks and the San Martín de Berberana farm are all passed before our arrival in **Arrúbal**. Continuing along the route we arrive in **Agoncillo**, to be astounded by its impressive **Aguas Mansas castle**, emblazoned with the coat of arms of the Calatrava Cross on its entrance, and the church of Nuestra Señora de la Blanca, with its main altarpiece being one of the finest examples in La Rioja.

Leaving Agoncillo, we head for the capital along a flat path with the train tracks on our left at all times. Beforehand, you will have to cross the River Leza, and then walk along roads and among archaeological remains of the old Roman **Vareia**. All that remains from here is to cross the River Iregua and enter the city of **Logroño** through the Fuero gate. This is the point where the Jacobean Way meets the French Way.



Aguas Mansas castle, Agoncillo.



La Redonda Cathedral, Logroño.

# The "Ignatian Way" through La Rioja



The "Ignatian Way" leaves from Ignatius Loyola's family home (a palace-tower in **Azpeitia**, the Basque Country) until it reaches what is known as "Saint Ignatius' Cave" in the city of **Manresa** (near the monastery of Montserrat in Catalonia). The route follows the journey that the knight, **Ignatius Loyola**, took from Loyola to Manresa in 1522.

After his spiritual conversion to Loyola, Ignatius felt the burning desire to follow Jesus Christ and leave behind the life that he had as the son of a noble family until then. Ignatius decided to go "upstream", and thus he left for Jerusalem, following the Original Way of St. James that would take him to Barcelona. From there he considered sailing by boat to continue his pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The "Ignatian Way" crosses La Rioja on five of its stages.

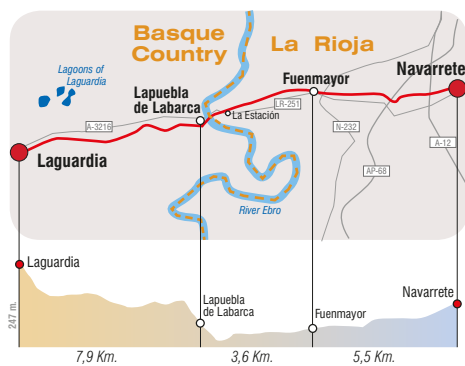


San Bartolomé Church, Logroño.

## Stage: 7 Laguardia - Navarrete

Distance: **17.9 Km.** Bikes: **Easy**  
Combined ascent: **134 m.** Combined descent: **259 m.**

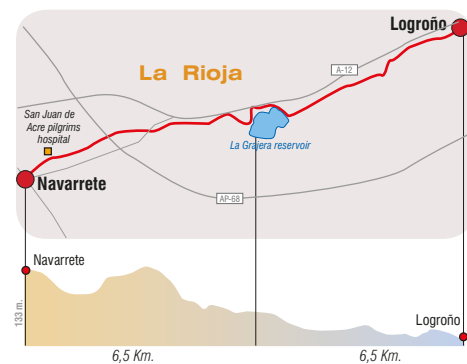
A very easy stage that draws us closer the River Ebro, our faithful partner on the route from now on and over many stages. As it's a short stage, it is possible to casually enjoy the beauty of the villages along the route.



## Stage: 8 Navarrete - Logroño

Distance: **13 Km.** Bikes: **Easy**  
Combined ascent: **47 m.** Combined descent: **175 m.**

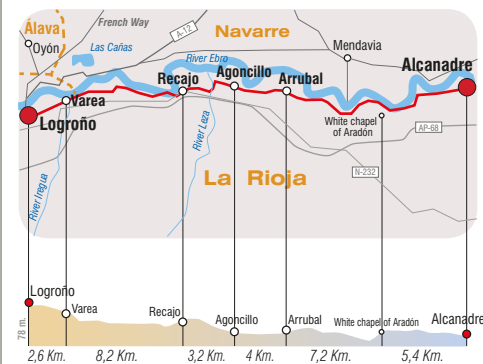
Follow the St. James' Way arrows in reverse. You arrive at the ruins of the old San Juan de Acre pilgrims hospital (1185). The next stop is in the Parque de la Grajera, from where a well-trodden path leads us to Logroño.



## Stage: 9 Logroño - Alcanadre

Distance: **30.6 Km.** Bikes: **Easy**  
Combined ascent: **67 m.** Combined descent: **126 m.**

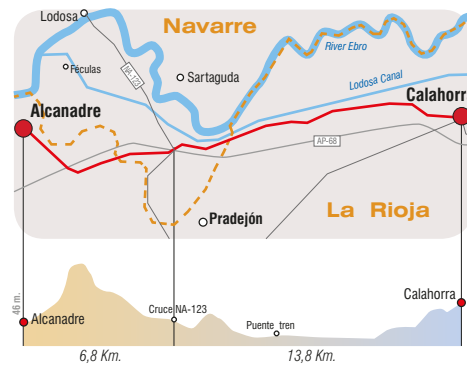
We veer off the French Way and we join the St. James' Way of the Ebro, always going "upstream". Follow the train tracks and the river until you reach the white chapel of Aradón, in Alcanadre.



## Stage: 10 Alcanadre - Calahorra

Distance: **20.6 Km.** Bikes: **Difficulty: medium**  
Combined ascent: **167 m.** Combined descent: **131 m.**

A stage that continuously runs parallel to the train tracks. Leaving Alcanadre, we pass the NA-123 junction and reach the Lodosa Canal. The route runs parallel to this water route until Calahorra.



## Stage: 11 Calahorra - Alfaro

Distance: **24 Km.** Bikes: **Easy**  
Combined ascent: **46 m.** Combined descent: **66 m.**

We leave the historical city of Calahorra. There is a long section of 13 kms until Rincón de Soto, and from there to Alfaro there is another 12 km section, both of which are completed on easy-level tracks. In Alfaro, a town of 10,000 inhabitants, there is an excellent council hostel for pilgrims.

