



*An Ecumenical Pilgrimage with  
The Anglican &  
Eastern Churches Association to*  
**SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA**  
**17th - 22nd April 2017**



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*One of the remotest towns in Western Europe in the most westerly part of Spain, Santiago has been a goal of pilgrimage for over a thousand years. All this time people have travelled here by foot, by horse, by bicycle, and now by car and by coach following the historic trail that was finally recognised in 1987 by the council of Europe as its first European Cultural Route. The journey was long and often arduous - but century after century pilgrims have kept coming on a journey of discovery not only of this historic and beautiful region of Spain but also of themselves, seeking to allow God a space in which, amidst the very physical business of travelling, he may be able to reach out to us and we find new glimpses of him.*

*“Whoever goes to Saint James and not to the Saviour, visits the servant and misses the master”.*

*During our pilgrimage there will be daily acts of worship reflecting the different Christian traditions from which Pilgrims come.*

### **Day one – Monday 17th April 2017**

#### *Gatwick – Porto – Santiago de Compostela*

Scheduled flight departing at 11:50am from Gatwick to Porto. On arrival we transfer by private coach to our centrally-located hotel in Santiago for a five-night stay. Dinner will be in the hotel each night.

### **Day two – Tuesday 18th April**

#### *Santiago de Compostela*

Morning guided tour. Pilgrims' Mass at noon. It during this service that the great censor, the *Botafumeiro*, is often used. It is swung by six men until it practically touches the ceiling; an unforgettable sight! The rest of the afternoon will be at leisure. We make our own way back to our hotel.

### **Day three – Wednesday 19th April**

#### *Lugo and Monte del Gozo*

We start the day with a visit to the fortified town of Lugo where St Francis founded a monastery. We visit Lugo's remarkable cathedral. We continue from Lugo along the pilgrimage route to Lavacolla. For those who wish, there will be the opportunity to walk the last part of the pilgrimage route into Santiago from Lavacolla, where according to the Pilgrim's Guide of Aimery Picaud, pilgrims would “take off their

clothes and for the love of the Apostle, wash the dirt from their bodies". Afterwards, pilgrims raced each other to the Monte del Gozo (Mount of Joy), where pilgrims would catch their first glimpse of the towers of Santiago de Compostela. Many would complete the final part of the journey barefoot!

#### **Day four – Thursday 20th April**

##### **Noia & Finisterre**

We depart from Santiago on the final stage of our journey to "The end of the Earth". The town of Noia is our first stop, named after Noah, and where his dove is said to have found an olive branch. Continue to the town of Muros, once an important port serving Santiago de Compostela. Continue to the fishing village of Corcubion, with its strange statue of St Mark in the parish church - our final port of call is Cape Finisterre, where we can gaze out over the Dark Sea and the horizon beyond, to signify the end of our journey.

#### **Day five – Friday 21st April**

##### ***Santiago de Compostela***

Today will be free in Santiago de Compostela. Apart from browsing in the shops or strolling in the park, you may wish to visit the cathedral's various museums or the special churches of St Martin Pinario or Santa Maria del Sar. In the late afternoon, why not visit the five-star Hostel Los Reyes Catolicos, for a cup of tea or a drink?

#### **Day six – Saturday 22nd April**

##### ***Porto – Gatwick***

Transfer to Porto Airport for scheduled return flight, arriving at Gatwick Airport at 4:40pm.

*This tour involves a substantial amount of walking, some of which will be over irregular surfaces such as cobblestones and badly-maintained walking areas. If everyday walking is something you find difficult, this tour may be unsuitable for you.*

**This itinerary is subject to change without prior notification**

# PRICE = £729

## **Includes:**

- TAP Portugal scheduled flights: Gatwick - Porto - Gatwick.
- All airport departure taxes.
- 5-nights accommodation in shared twin-bedded rooms with private facilities:  
Hotel Gelmirez (3 stars), Santiago de Compostela.  
<http://www.hotelgelmirez.com/en/>
- Meal plan: 5 breakfasts and 5 dinners.
- All touring and transfers by air-conditioned coach.
- Entrance fees appropriate to the itinerary.
- Guided tours by fully licensed local English-speaking guides: half-day in Santiago on 18 April; full-day on 20 April.
- ATOL and ABTA financial protection.

## **Extras:**

- Travel insurance currently at £32 per person.
- Single rooms supplement at £120 for 5 nights (limited availability).
- Lunches and drinks.
- Gratuities.
- Fuel surcharges if passed on by the airline.
- U.K. transfers.

**To reserve your place on the tour you will need to complete a booking form and return it to Pax Travel Ltd with a deposit of £180 (plus the insurance premium if the cover we offer is required) per person.**

*The above price is guaranteed for the first 30 bookings Pax Travel receives before Friday 30th September 2016. Further bookings may be subject to a flight surcharge.*

The Anglican & Eastern Churches Association's website: [www.aeca.org.uk](http://www.aeca.org.uk)  
Chairman: The Rev'd Canon Dr William Taylor.

*All the flights in this brochure are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to: [www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate](http://www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate)*



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