# Via Francigena from Vercelli to Piacenza





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# YOUR CAMINO JOURNEY STARTS HERE

This travel plan provides a day-by-day outline of a sample trip, giving you a clear idea of what to expect. Keep in mind that this package can be fully tailored to your preferences. As a 2024 Traveler's Choice Award winner on TripAdvisor, we're proud to be trusted by hundreds of travelers who praise our seamless **service**, expert **guidance**, and unforgettable **experiences**. Before you set off, take a moment to read some of their stories.



**Follow The Camino** 











\*There is a Camino for everyone! Photos are for inspiration and may differ from your selected itinerary.

#### LIZ F.

### Walking the french camino is one of the best experiences of my life.

I was a bit anxious before starting my Camino walk but once I was into it , I had a brilliant time. Follow the Camino planned my trip and everything went seamlessly , so all I had to do was concentrate on walking! Il be back for sure.

#### RANDY R.



#### **Follow the Camino Frances**

The Camino Frances was the best vacation experience I've ever had. Fitness, new friends, and fantastic country. Highly recommended.

#### LARA K.



#### Wonderful all round experience

Follow The Camino delivered on everything they promised with accomodation selection great and transfer of luggage seamless. The actual walk was wonderful and matched or exceeded my expectations. Wouldn't hesitate to use them again for my next Camino. Loved it!!!!

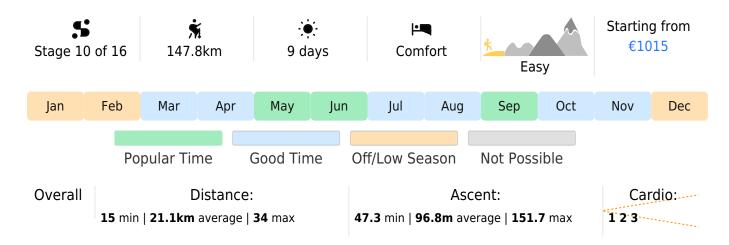
#### GRETA O.



#### Follow the Camino with an eighty year old

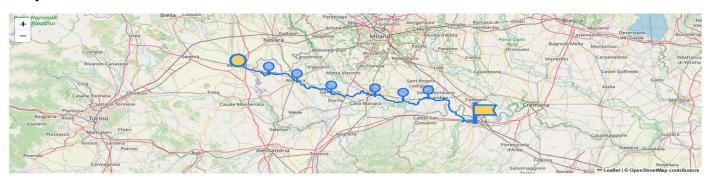
Follow the Camino was excellent. Hotels included dinner and breakfast. Clean and good food. Luggage transfer seamless. Well done.

## **ITINERARY**



An easier, more relaxed walk than the previous leg, the tenth section of the Via Francigena visits the Church of San Croce in Mortara, which contains a cast of the footprint of Christ. The walk consists mostly of walking along roadsides, over bridges, and railways and across numerous dirt tracks around fields. Through quiet towns you pass through you'll get a sense of the region.

#### Map



#### **Services**

#### Included in this package

- Specially Hand-Picked Accommodation
- Our Holiday or Pilgrim Pack
- ✓ Virtual Face-to-Face Pre-Departure Briefing

#### Add-On

- Premium Accommodation
- Airport Pick-Up
- Additional Nights
- ① Dinners
- Luggage Transfers from Hotel to Hotel
- Day Tours to Local Sites of Interest

Not included: Flights/trains, Insurance, Drinks/Lunch

Day 1

km

**VERCELLI** 

In Vercelli, you can rest before the day's walk to Robbio or do some sightseeing and sample the culture of the town. If you decide to explore the town, the Cathedral of Vercelli is a great place to start. Inside it are wonderful paintings from local artists. The city is also famous for its rice products, so we recommend trying out some dishes before leaving for Robbio.

Day

2

18 km

#### **VERCELLI -> ROBBIO**

Today's walk is gentle going, through flat farmland with little incline. You will stroll along dirt tracks moving from Piedmont to Lombardy. Lombardy is famous not only for its lakes (Garda, Como, and Maggiore) but also its wine and rice production. You will pass by the small village of Palestra before heading into Robbio for the night.

Day 3

15 km

#### **ROBBIO -> MORTARA**

Pass by the town's sports stadium and walk through pleasant farmland and fields. Halfway through, you will cross the Torrente Agogna River after which you will pass Madona del Campo and its 12th Century church, Santa Maria de Pertica. Today's walk is short, giving you the chance to enjoy free time and visit the Church of San Croce in Mortara, containing a cast of a footprint of Christ.

Day 4

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23.2 km

#### **MORTARA -> GARLASCO**

Today, you will pass beautiful flowing rivers before walking under the underpass. You will then come across the magnificent Abbazia di San Alcuino which was founded in the 5th Century. Charlemagne rebuilt it in 774 AD. After passing through Tromello, you will reach the Santuario Basilica Madonna delle Bozzole, and hear the incredible story of how the sanctuary came to be. Walking through the field tracks after the sanctuary you will see where Garlasco is found with its very impressive castle, which you can't miss.

Day 5

24.9 km

#### **GARLASCO -> PAVIA**

The walk today is a little bit longer and a bit more challenging than the previous ones. Garlasco's main roads pass by its churches and out into the countryside. Canals here bring you to earth tracks, where you can take in the fresh air and observe the beautiful nature around you. Entering Gropello Cairoli, you can visit San Rocco Church with its incredible medallion hanging outside the front door. An easy stroll on a field track brings you by a tarmac road near a motorway. After going under the motorway, there are trees for some shade before going under two more bridges. Steps by a covered

bridge lead into Pavia, famous for its wine and rice products. The Certosa and the Castello Visconteo are the best places to see in this tranquil town.

Day

6

16 km

#### **PAVIA -> BELGIOIOSO**

Today's walk is filled with gorgeous churches to brighten up the day. Cross a canal from Pavia, following the road to San Lazzaro Church. A small hill nearby leads to a footpath by a nice park and then a small road after San Leonardo brings you to San Giacomo della Cerretta. A church here contains beautiful frescoes of James the Pilgrim. Meandering then down a minor road you will reach Santa Margherita before arriving into Belgioioso. Within the town, there is a mediaeval castle – Chiesa di San Michele Arcangelo. This is where Francis I of France was held after the Battle of Pavia.

Day

7

16.7 km

#### **BELGIOIOSO -> MIRADOLO TERME**

Follow a gravel track and cross the bridge over the Fiume Olona towards Corteolona. The track then becomes a paved road as you enter Santa Cristina e Bissone. Following the railway line alongside an embankment, you will arrive at a railway station and your stop for the night, Miradolo Terme. Here you can visit the Baths of Miradolo, a thermal spa and wellness centre, and relax before your final day of walking.

Day

8

34 km

#### **MIRADOLO TERME -> PIACENZA**

Today is the final leg to the last town – Piacenza. It is a long day, so remember to pace yourself. This route consists of a series of dirt tracks, roadsides, bridges, and railways. You can also take a boat ride across the River Po if you wish. Impressive churches are scattered throughout the day, as well as the magnificent Neomedieval Castello Cusani Visconti in Chignolo Po where you can take a break. Finally, you will arrive in the beautiful and charming town of Piacenza.

Day

9

km

#### **PIACENZA**

After breakfast, we bid you farewell. After your night's rest, you should be in good spirit's to visit the fantastic Palazzo Comunale (Gotico). Piacenza is also famous for its salted pork products, so it's well worth trying their pancetta, coppa, and salami dishes!

### **Elevation Chart**



# NOTES & QUESTIONS FOR MY CAMINO PLANNER

We know that planning your Camino is a personal journey, and we want to make sure everything is just right for you. Use this space to **jot down your thoughts, questions, and preferences.** Here are some ideas to discuss with your Camino planner:

- Are the daily distances suitable for me, or should I split them into shorter walking days?
- Where would you recommend taking a rest day?
- Would I like to add a tour or special experience along the way?
- Do I need transfers to and from the airport?
- Are there any accommodations I would like to upgrade?
- Would I like luggage transfers for lighter walking days?
- Are there any dietary preferences or special requests I should mention?

Feel free to write down any other thoughts or questions below:

Your Camino planner is here to help make your journey as smooth and enjoyable as possible!

# **ABOUT US**

At Follow the Camino, we are re not just a tour operator; we are **passionate Camino enthusiasts** who have been guiding pilgrims **since 2007** As the firs tour operator in Ireland to coordinate walks on the Camino de Santiago, we offer unrivaled expertise in designing **life-changing adventures.** 

Don't hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:info@followthecamino.com">info@followthecamino.com</a> to request your personalized itinerary. We can add rest days or split days to suit your pace, as well as include special day tours or unique activities to enhance your Camino experience Let us help you create the perfect journey tailored to your needs!

