

STAGE 1

FERROL-SANTIAGO

From Ferrol to Neda

 DISTANCE **15,467** Km  DIFFICULTY **LOW**  TIME **4:00** h

The first stage is a short one. And it should be, because the body will hold out better if it warms up gradually and unnecessary strains are avoided, which in the long run will end up paying off. So the first day starts from Curuxeiras dock, a landmark in Ferrol, and after crossing the entire city, the pilgrim borders the estuary on its right bank to cross it at the bottom - the mouth of the Xubia river - and runs along a small stretch along the left bank. In addition to the monuments that the pilgrim will find inside the city, the points of interest are located in the church of Caranza, the monastery of San Martirio do Couto [with its two transepts and its medieval tomb], the tide mill, Xubia bridge, the monument to bread, the church of Santa María and the Clock tower, these last three in Neda.



The co-cathedral of San Julián, in Ferrol. The English Way passes very close to it [it is to the right of calle Real]. It is a neoclassical work with a very austere design, and replaces another one placed under the invocation of the same saint and built in the port area in Romanesque times. On the outside of this temple, which was built at the end of the 18th century, stand out its two towers, and on the inside, its enormous dome.

Next to the monument to bread, the memory of a heroic action of the women of Neda.

THE HOSTEL. Check all accommodations at www.caminoinglesgal



There are no public hostels in Ferrol (the construction of one has been recently approved) nor private, although the city has a very wide offer of establishments, and for all budgets. Indeed, there are from pensions, hostels and hotels to a Parador with three stars A public hostel opens its doors in Neda, very close to the shore. Offers 28 seats in two bedrooms. It has hot water, central heating, kitchen with no utensils, dining room and showers.

Web:
www.caminoinglesgal
Facebook Group:
Camino Inglés Oficial
Facebook Fan Page:
Camino Inglés
Instagram:
@caminoinglesoficial



AGENDA

Civil protection: 112

Health emergencies: 061

Guardia Civil: 065

Weather forecast:
www.meteogalicia.gal

Ferrol Tourist Office and Pilgrim Service
Paseo Mariña, 6. Tel.: 981 944 252

Ferrol Tourist Office
Plaza de España s/n. Tel.: 981 944 251

Xunta de Galicia Tourist Office (Ferrol)
Plaza Camilo José Cela s/n. Tel.: 981 337 131

Ferrol Town Hall
Praza de Armas. 15402
www.ferrol.gal. Tel.: 981 944 000

Narón Town Hall
Praza de Galicia, s/n. 15570
naron.es. Tel.: 981 337 700

Neda Town Hall
Avda. de Algeciras, 34. 15510
www.neda.es. Tel.: 981 380 039





Ferrol dock

■ **Curuxeiras quay**, a little more than 113 km from Santiago, is the beginning of the English Way in the branch that departs from Ferrol. There we find Ferrol Vello, the neighbourhood from which the city was founded, with its houses situated on a prehistoric castro. A neighbourhood that had its own church, which in Baroque times ended up being demolished in view of its poor condition, while the current co-cathedral of San Julian was built. From there, the pilgrim then sets off, and after a few metres begins to ascend and finds the first surprise: the church of San Francisco.

■ The **church of San Francisco** is neoclassical, and dates from 1757. It was built on the site of a former 14th century convent. From this point onwards, one walks through the 18th century district of La Magdalena, with its long streets, crossing the Cantón de Molins.

■ **Caranza** is a new neighbourhood. A peninsula of fishermen and farm-labourers that gradually ceased to be so. In the 1960s it was completely urbanised. The English Way will go around this peninsula, close to the sea, with very pleasant spots and great panoramic views over the estuary (110.939 km). The old church should be highlighted in this section, which is in very good condition and very linked to the local history. It is a simple church with a single nave and masonry walls plastered in white except for the corners.

■ The pilgrim reaches a monastery after bordering an industrial area, with a stupendous view of the estuary on the other side. It is that of **San Martiño de O Couto** (103.093 km). It is a large building with two elements that draw one's attention: the façade of the church together with the apses. While the former was built in the 18th century, the latter were built in Romanesque times. It has an interesting open-air sarcophagus in the entrance.

■ Two frames appear at a specific point. One of them invites us to take a complementary path. A deviation that leads to a large building and the corresponding auxiliary construction that housed a **tide mill** called O Ponto or As Aceñas. That is to say, facilities that took advantage of the force of the sea in its comings and goings. In any case, the English Way will continue through a park next to the riverbank. Cross Xubia bridge and enter the municipality of Neda (99.153 km).

■ **Neda** is a jewel. Famous for its bread, the town welcomes pilgrims by showing them a large church, Santa María, next to the river Belelle, which is crossed by a beautiful footbridge (97.663 km) to enter Rúa Real, a street with a lot of history as evidenced by the houses, the Clock Tower and an inscription attached to it, which belonged to the old hospital of the Holy Spirit.

