

## STAGE 4

FERROL-SANTIAGO

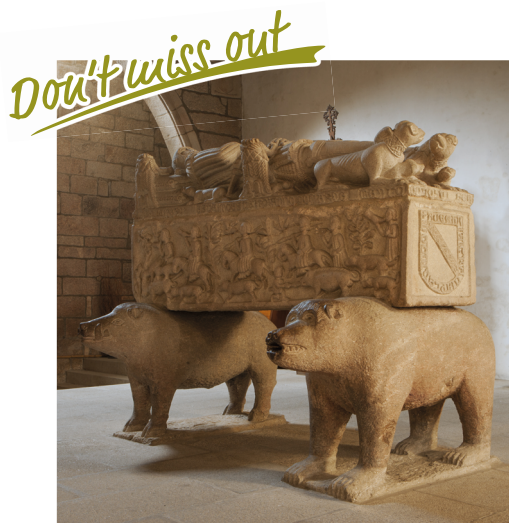
# From Miño to Betanzos

DISTANCE **10,175** Km

DIFFICULTY **LOW**

TIME **3:15** h

If anything characterises the fourth stage, which is 10.175 km long, it is the variety of landscape. Even the locations of its start and finish have nothing in common from an aesthetic point of view: one stretches along the seashore and the other spreads out from the top of a hill. The pilgrim will first see the mouth of a river, then he will follow the stream, go through rural areas with small forests and end up descending through vineyards. From a topographical point of view, the first part is flat, then it climbs, there is another flat area and then a descent-short ascent-another descent and a final ascent. On his way, the pilgrim passes through the municipalities of Miño, Paderne and Betanzos.



The cenotaph of the powerful medieval knight Fernán Pérez de Andrade, known as "O Boo" ["The Good"]. It is considered the best in Galicia, and is located inside the church of San Francisco, in Betanzos.

The monument to this same Fernán Pérez de Andrade in Ponte do Porco, a work from the 1960s that is very appreciated in the region.

### THE HOSTEL. Check all accommodations at [www.caminoingles.gal](http://www.caminoingles.gal)



Betanzos. Known as Casa da Pescadería, it is located at number 4 of the street that gives it its name. It has three bedrooms with a total of 35 beds. In Betanzos the pilgrim will also find a private hostel, a two-star hotel, pensions, apartments and a tourist house.

## AGENDA

**Civil protection:** 112

**Health emergencies:** 061

**Guardia Civil:** 065

**Weather forecast:**  
[www.meteogalicia.gal](http://www.meteogalicia.gal)

**Miño Tourist Office**  
Estrada Praia. Tel.: 607 803 569

**Betanzos Tourist Office**  
Cantón San Roque, 4. Tel.: 981 776 666

**Miño Town Hall**  
Rúa Carreira, 38. 15630  
[www.concellodemino.gal](http://www.concellodemino.gal)  
Tel.: 981 782 058

**Paderne Town Hall**  
Consistorio, s/n. 15314  
[www.concellodepaderne.com](http://www.concellodepaderne.com)  
Tel.: 981 797 001

**Betanzos Town Hall**  
Praza Galicia, 1. 15300  
[www.betanzos.es](http://www.betanzos.es)  
Tel.: 981 770 011



Web:  
[www.caminoingles.gal](http://www.caminoingles.gal)  
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Church of Santa María

■ The exit from Miño, with the kilometre marker 74,159 as a sign that you are leaving the town centre, is carried out by descending to cross the railway line over a safe footbridge. This leads to a flat area that is very easy to walk on, close to the mouth of the river Lambre, which rises 15 km upstream. If the tide is very low it is possible to see the **remains of a ship** that in its day, many decades ago, was run aground in this place.

■ The pilgrim arrives at Ponte do Porco (km 72,965) and its simple **church of Santiago** after only 1,200 m. The beauty of the place, included in the Red Natura, will encourage him to stop for a few minutes. In addition to the motorway bridge, there is another 19th-century bridge -which he will not cross-, inaugurated on the occasion of the Isabel II's visit to Ferrol.

■ The river Lambre will be the pilgrim's companion for the next half hour. The journey is upstream along a narrow track without any possibility of getting lost, and at the frame 71,637 he will encounter another

**bridge**, this one Gothic and with only one arch, where taking a photo is a must.

■ After crossing it and ascending, the final stretch of the Betanzos estuary stands out spectacularly. Small tracks, always well signposted, lead to a church with an outstanding Romanesque style. It is that of **Tiobre**, 5 km from the Gothic bridge, and on that slope there are some houses that made up the so-called Betanzos Vello (Old Betanzos). And indeed, that was the old Betanzos, until the present Betanzos was built on top of a prehistoric village in the Middle Ages.

■ The famous vineyards of Betanzos appear before arriving at the sanctuary of **Nosa Señora do Camiño**, just a kilometre after Tiobre, a neoclassical example that suffered the wrath of Napoleon's soldiers. This is the entrance to the city, which was once the capital of the province.

■ The whole of the historic centre is full of authentic monuments, among which should be highlighted the **churches of Santiago, Santa Maria do Azougue and San Francisco**, and they are not the only ones. The social life takes place in the lower part, in García Irmáns square. There

is another temple there, that of **Santo Domingo** and among the civil buildings that close the space is the 18th century neoclassical building that was built for the Archive of the Kingdom of Galicia. The small streets and arcades, as well as the fountain of Diana Cazadora and the Museo das Mariñas (Museum of the Mariñas) are worth mentioning. By the way, the first, made of iron, is a replica of the Diana in the Louvre and was inaugurated in 1867. It was not made in Galicia, but in Paris. The main attractions are two mermaids and, of course, the goddess with a deer.

■ At one end of the old provincial capital lies O Pasatempo, a place much visited by pilgrims. It is an encyclopedic park unique of its kind, the idea of one of the García Naveira brothers, an emigrant in South America who spent part of his fortune on public works in Betanzos. Building the park took 21 years, and was later expanded on successive occasions. It occupies nine hectares and the two enormous lions at the door that the newcomer meets already anticipate the monumental nature of what he is going to see. The park has been declared a Place of Cultural Interest.

