

## A walk in the city (approx. 2h 30m)



- Walk through the Alameda, main park of Santiago:

**1.- Pilar Virgin Church and central walk**→ the "Alameda" was built in the XVIII century around the church of Saint Susan and the central walk of the park was the most important part of it. It was created as a place for social meetings for all the social classes of the city: clergy, students and bourgeoisie, with the same functions as the main squares of the cities of Castille. The parties of the Apostle, now, and of the Ascension, in May, are celebrated here too.



**2.- South campus**→ the South Campus was created in the first decades of the XX century in order to build the faculties of the University of Santiago de Compostela, founded in 1495. The first buildings of the campus were the three residences for students and the former Sciences Faculty (nowadays Chemistry Faculty).



**3.- Rosalía de Castro Memorial**→ Rosalía de Castro is the most important poetess of Galician Literature. She lived in the XIX century and she was a member of the Rexurdimento movement (Galician name for Romanticism). Her topics are sadness, "saudade" (homesickness) and, mainly, Galicia. She wrote in Spanish too.

**4.- Ferradura walk**→ It was built in the XIX century as a balcony over the old city of Santiago. From this place we can see the Cathedral, most churches of Santiago (Saint Francisco, Saint Martín, Saint Agustin, Saint Salomé...), the Palace of Raxoi (city hall nowadays) and the Palace of Fonseca (rectorate of the University today). These oak trees were planted by neighbors of some villages around Santiago in the XV century when Altamira Counts gave to the city this place.



**5.- Dos Marías Figure**→ These women were two extravagant old sisters. They always went to the same places as the students to flirt with boys and attack those girls that laughed at them.

- Walk through the Franco, from Porta Faxeira to the Cathedral:

We go into the old town through the Porta Faxeira, the southern door of the former wall of Santiago. It is the entrance of the Portuguese Walk of Saint James and of the Maritime Walk.

**6.- Franco Street**→ It is the most typical street of Santiago, full of restaurants and bars that offer galician products (wine, desserts, seafood and fish, mainly). Most experts say that this name was given by Bertenaldus Francus, a french man that, in the X century gave his lands to the Cathedral to build this street. Other say that its name was given because a lot of french men lived here in the Middle Ages.

**7.- Fonseca Palace**→ It was built as the seat of the University of Santiago between 1550 and 1640 when Alonso III of Fonseca was the bishop of the city. We can see his coat of arms in the middle of the facade. Nowadays, it is the central library of the University.

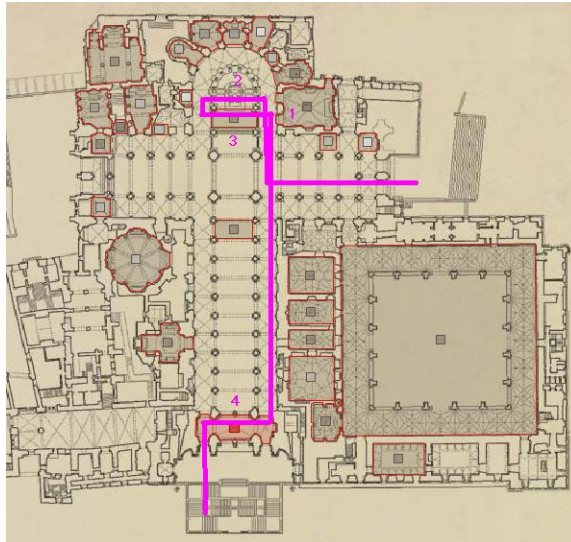


**8.- Platerias Square**→ It is one of the four squares around the cathedral. The name comes from the silversmiths that in the Middle Ages worked here. We can see the Casa do Cabildo, a house of only two meters wide created to close the southern side of the square in 1750. Only nine years later, the Horses Fountain was built. It represents the city of Santiago. In the northern side of the square we can see the Platerias door. It is the only Romanic façade that is conserved nowadays of the primitive cathedral. It was built exactly 800 years ago. We can see over it a lot of statues built by, at least, three sculptors; most of the figures were set here when the other façades of the cathedral were demolished, specially, Paradise door, the northern façade of the cathedral, that was destroyed in the XVII century.





- Inside the cathedral (9):



**1. - Chapels**→ there are about fifteen chapels in the cathedral. The biggest and maybe the most monumental of them is the Pilar chapel. It was built in 1700 by Fernando de Casas y Novoa. We have to point our attention in the baroque dome and in the altarpiece. Other relevant chapels are the Salvador Chapel, the oldest of them, and the Prima Chapel, with renaissance tombs.



**2. - Apostle's tomb**→ the crypt is the newest part of the cathedral because it was built in 1900. Its style imitates the Visigoth style. We can also see parts of the original Apostle's marble tomb. The urn that contains Apostle's bones is made of silver and it is in Renaissance style.

**3. - Apostle's chamber**→ the statue of the apostle was sculpted in the Middle Ages and recovered by silver and gemstones. The tradition of embracing the figure was instituted by French and German pilgrims in the XVI century.

**4. - Portico de la Gloria**→ it was sculpted in the XII century by the Master Mateo for the Western door of the Cathedral. Nowadays is protected by the Obradoiro baroque façade by Fernando de Casas. It represents the Final Judgement. Nowadays it's in restoration and the original polichromy will be recovered.



- **Obradoiro square:**

If we can we will exit from the cathedral through the Obradoiro stairs or we can exit through the Azabachería door and go to the Obradoiro square.

**10.- Azabachería or Inmaculada square**→ The name of the square comes from the black amber, a typical stone of Santiago. It is imported from Asturias and Wales and it is shaped here. There are two important buildings in this square: the cathedral and the monastery of St Martin. The Azabachería façade was built in the XVIII century instead of the Paradise façade that was demolished because it was ruined. We can see a typical Neoclassical work full of sobriety. The monastery of Saint Martin is the biggest religious building of Spain and it become more influential and powerful than the cathedral.

**11.- Archbishop arch**→ it is part of the Gelmirez Palace, built in the XII and one of the best Gothic civil buildings in Europe. We will see the inside when we go up on the deck of the Cathedral.

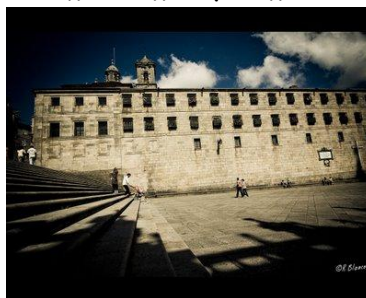


**12, 13, 14, 15.- Obradoiro square**→ it is the biggest square of Santiago. Its name comes from the place when the stones for the walls of the Cathedral were carved. In the northern side of the square is the Hostal dos Reis Católicos, former Hospital; founded in 1500 by the Catholic Kings. The door is made in Plateresque style. The western side of the square is closed by the Pazo of Raxoi, seat of the city hall and the regional government of Galicia. It was built in 1800 imitating a Roman Temple as a seminary. The Pazo de San Xerome is in the southern side of the square. It is a Renaissance building and today is the rectory of the University. And in the eastern side of the square we can see the Cathedral. The Obradoiro façade was built in the XVII century by Fernando de Casas in Baroque style to protect the Portico da Gloria. It is the most famous picture of the city.



- Back to the Hotel:

**17.- Quintana square**→ this square was the graveyard of the city until the XVII century. Infact, the square is divided in two places: the Quintana de Vivos upstairs and Quintana de Mortos downstairs. The façade of the cathedral was built in the XVI century. The most important is the Holy Door, which is opened only during Holy Years, those years when July 25 is Sunday. The last Holy Year was last year and the next Holy Year will be 2021. In front of the cathedral we can see San Pelayo de Antealtares monastery, one of the powerest monasteries in Galicia. And, next to this monastery we can see the house of the vine. That name comes from the vine in its façade.



**18.- Saint Martin and Casa de la Troya**→ Saint Martin Pinatrio's church was built in the XV century. It pretended to be taller than

the cathedral, but the priests of the cathedral didn't allowed it. Next to the church we can see the Casa de la Troya, a typical Students Hostel of the XIX century. It is the location of a very popular novel, *La Casa de la Troya*, by Perez Lugin, a Galician writer of the XIX century who wrote, among other books, that novel and another called *Currito de la Cruz*.



**19.- Cervantes square**→ it was the market of Santiago in the Middle Ages. It belonged to the church of Saint Benito. The statue of the fountain was sculpted in the XIX century.

**20.- Rua do Vilar and Toural Square**→ it was the most chic street of Santiago until the XX century, where all the notable families of the city lived. We can see various large houses as Palace of Vaamonde, Casa das Pombas... At the end of the street we arrive to Toural Square, its name comes from the livestock market, celebrated here until 1950. It is the end of our visit to Santiago.

