

## Camino meeting notes 16.03.2026

### **Fundraising**

Please transfer the total sum of all funds raised (including GiftAid) to the National Bank Account.

If you have fundraised via JustGiving or GiveStar, it will come straight through to the National bank account. It would be best to transfer all funds raised as one lump sum so you may wish to wait until after the Camino to do so.

- Name: St Vincent de Paul Society | Sort code: 60-60-04 | Account no: 46073051.
- Reference: “**Camino + Your name**”.
- Please email [camino@svp.org.uk](mailto:camino@svp.org.uk) once you have done this too.

Advised to set a closing date on your JustGiving / GiveStar page to prevent donations being made after 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026.

### **Gift Aid**

- Gift Aid has to be claimed via the quarterly return. This will likely not occur until the end of the quarter (so end of June if donations are received after end of the March).

### **Ideas for promotion**

- Church handouts
- News article within your Diocese (eg: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/putting-their-best-foot-forward-to-raise-funds-for-the-svp>)

### **Packing**

#### **Luggage allowance**

- Your luggage, which will be transferred daily, must not exceed 20 kg in weight and should have maximum dimensions of 70 × 50 × 38 cm.
- Please also ensure this fits within your airline allowance.
- You should have a separate second bag to keep on you during the walk each day.

#### **Walking/hiking poles**

- These must be packed in check-in luggage; you cannot put these in your hand luggage.

## **Swimwear**

- Our hotel on our final night does have a swimming pool so you may wish to bring swimwear. The Portuguese route especially may have additional sea swimming opportunities en-route.

## **Cash**

- Walkers are responsible for purchasing their own lunch. Most places should accept card, but it is useful to carry some cash just in case.
- A recommended budget for lunch each day is 15 – 20 EUR.

## **Valuables**

- CaminoWays has advised that you “keep valuables (passports, cash) in your daypack”.

## **Phones**

- Some phone companies still have EU roaming so there is no additional charge for using your phone in Europe. It is worth checking with your own provider though.

## **Airport transfers**

- All transfers upon arrival have been arranged. A document will be sent shortly to all walkers confirming their transfer details.
- Walkers need to arrange their own travel to the airport for departure. They can ask the hotel on the Friday during check-in. Uber is also available.
- Walkers can share their departure details on the WhatsApp group or via email to [camino@svp.org.uk](mailto:camino@svp.org.uk). RM will share this information with all walkers, so shared taxis can be arranged.

## **Walking pace**

- The guide will assist throughout the day, including recommendations for lunch if needed.
- Walkers can walk at their own pace; the guide will explain all details upon arrival.
- Guides meet you at the hotel at 7 PM on your arrival day for a detailed briefing. They are experienced and used to accommodating each person’s individual needs.

## **Accommodation**

- An updated list has been shared via email for each route’s accommodation. Also included are the rooming arrangements.

## **Itinerary & Pilgrims Mass**

- A sample itinerary was shared. See PowerPoint for more detail.
- You will be transferred from the City Centre to the hotel at 4pm. Shuttle services will be arranged between the hotel and Cathedral for Pilgrims Mass at 7.30pm.
- The full Friday itinerary will be confirmed shortly re transfer to the hotel, Pilgrims Mass, dinner, etc.
- Large backpacks and walking sticks are not allowed inside the Cathedral for Mass. We recommend bringing only small personal items and arriving a bit early.

## **Photo consent**

- Throughout the Camino, everyone is encouraged to take photographs and, where appropriate, share them with the wider group.
- In addition, group photographs may be taken at various points. These images may be used in internal newsletters relating to the Camino, for the promotion of similar events or other fundraising events in the future, and on SVP social media channels.
- **If you do not consent to photographs of you being used for these purposes, please email [camino@svp.org.uk](mailto:camino@svp.org.uk).**

## **Will be given to you upon arrival**

- Camino passport
- SVP Pilgrims guidebook (includes daily reflections and prayers)
- SVP Camino T-shirt
- Luggage tag (for the daily transfer)

## **Suggested apps & maps**

- Buen Camino
- Wise Pilgrim
- PlotARoute

**Note:** The tour guide will ensure you do not get lost (as will all the clear signage!) so a map is not necessary. However, you can choose to bring one if you'd like to follow along.

## **Santiago sightseeing**

- If you want to do the rooftop tour of the Cathedral, RM recommended booking this soon as it does sell out.

## **Getting involved**

- Strava group - <https://www.strava.com/clubs/SVP-EandW>
- WhatsApp group - <https://chat.whatsapp.com/BBYol1SLmV44J0opsiFj2S>

### **Next meeting**

- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 6-7pm, Drop in session.
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87654863751>