TOURISM IN SPAIN:
CULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
IN THE WAY OF SAINT JAMES

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THE WAY OF SAINT JAMES

- **Pilgrimage route since medieval times.** Key role in promoting cultural exchange between the Iberian Peninsula and the rest of Europe, leading to the cultural and economic development of the areas along its path and leaving a significant artistic and cultural legacy through the centuries.


- **262,515 “pilgrims” registered by the Office of the Pilgrim in 2015,** 10,3% increase compared to previous year (+24,532 ).
Network of “routes” to Saint James’ Cathedral in Santiago de Compostela city

- The French Way: 780 km
- The Silver Way
- The Primitive Way
- The North Way
- The Aragonese Way
- The Basque Way
- The Portuguese Way
CHALLENGES (1)

- Protection & safeguarding of natural/cultural resources (example: touch of statues in Saint James’ Cathedral Door of Glory; drinking water fountains).
• Signals on the way (rural/urban areas).

• Collaboration public/private sectors (civil/religious authorities; local, regional and national level).

• Civil society involvement. Interaction pilgrims/residents.

Safe & seamless travel any time of the year under any weather conditions.

Special services for peak periods (Easter; summer months; Holy Year / Año Xacobeo; next one: 2021)
Accomodation (food & lodging) to cater for all tastes & needs: “Albergues” (Hostels for pilgrims), Hotels & Paradores (Five Star H. San Marcos, H. Reyes Católicos in Santiago...).
http://www.spain.info/en/que-quieres/rutas/grandes-rutas/camino-santiago/
Thank you!

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