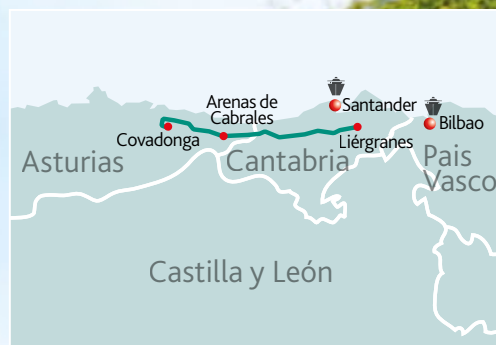


# Hiking & Nature in Green Spain

5 night tour - B&B

## Your itinerary

The following pages contain general information about your car or motorcycle tour and the locations where you will stay. The order in which they appear on these pages may not be the order your hotels have been confirmed for you - for your individual itinerary please refer to your holiday documentation.





**Maps and guide books** Included with your travel documents you will find an excellent map of Spain to help you plan your journeys - the map also includes south-west France. For route planning you may wish to go to

one of the travel websites such as Google maps, viamichelin.com\* or www.theaa.co.uk.

\*Motorway tolls, where applicable, are indicated on this site.

**Hotel directions** With your travel documents you will find an information sheet for each hotel which has been booked for you giving directions together with some further details.

**Arrival** Unless stated, you will be expected to arrive at each of the hotels pre-booked for you by 6pm each day. This should allow you time to have a fairly leisurely drive between hotel stops but if you find you will be arriving later than this please ring and advise the hotelier so that your room is held for you.

**Extra charges** This tour includes breakfast - all additional meals, drinks, phone calls etc must be paid for prior to departure from the hotel.

Green Spain is known for its incredible scenery and this tour takes you to some of the best places to experience it for yourself. It's recommended to have warm clothing and good walking shoes even in summer as the weather can be changeable in the mountains.

## Lierganes



This small town is set in a pretty river valley between two hills and makes a lovely starting point for walks. There is a wonderful museum of contemporary art near here, at the Palacio de Elsedo, a short drive away via the CA-160 and CA-405. Also in this area (14k west) is the Cabárceno nature park where you can see animals including bears, lions, tigers, wolves, elephants, camels etc living in partial freedom. This is a nice place to take a picnic and can be



visited with or without a car if you prefer to walk.

## Arenas de Cabrales

Here you are in the heart of the Picos de Europa with some of Europe's best hiking areas such as the Ruta del Cares (Cares Gorge, also called the Divine Gorge) and the mountain village of Bulnes. The Cares Gorge footpath is between Poncebos, 6k south of Arenas, and Cain taking in a spectacular, breathtaking landscape of limestone cliffs and at some points the path takes you high above the river. Around 12k altogether, on average the walk takes 3-3½ hours and being very popular it can be busy so it's a good idea to set off early. Also from



Poncebos is another famous route which goes to the mountain village of Bulnes which nestles in a deep valley - we suggest taking the funicular railway there and walking back along the riverside footpath (this takes around 1½ hours). Bulnes has a small selection of cafes and bars.



## Covadonga

One of the main attractions here is the Basilica of Santa Maria, which is an inspiring sight when you see your first glimpse of it from the road in its beautiful mountain setting - you can see why this is a stop off point for tourists.



For walkers, not to be missed are routes around the glacial lakes of Covadonga - Enol and Ercina. There is a circular gentle walk of around 5k which allows you to appreciate the stunning peaceful surroundings and breathe in the clear mountain air. In addition there are numerous other walks taking you past little chapels, old sheepfolds and tumbledown shelters used by shepherds in centuries gone by.

9k northwest of Covadonga is another great centre for Picos walks - the ancient town of Cangas de Onis, where there is a distinctive Roman bridge with 5 arches.

