

Weekly Camino de Santiago Weather Forecast & News

Report Date: Monday, January 26, 2026

Executive Summary

This weekly report provides current weather forecasts and relevant news for three primary Camino de Santiago routes. Conditions are typical for late January—cold and wet across all routes, with the Camino Portugués offering the warmest temperatures. Pilgrims should prepare for winter conditions with appropriate layering, waterproof gear, and sturdy footwear with good grip.

Camino Frances Weather Forecast (Week of Jan 27 - Feb 2)

Temperature & Conditions

- **High:** 4-11°C (39-52°F)
- **Low:** -2-4°C (28-39°F)
- **Precipitation:** Frequent light rain, drizzle; snow likely on Pyrenees and high passes
- **Wind:** Breezy to strong on exposed ridges and open country

Regional Breakdown

Over the Pyrenees:

- Overcast skies with frequent drizzle
- Periodic snowfall common
- Wind makes passes feel significantly colder

Basin & Meseta Region:

- Mix of grey skies and passing showers with brief sunny breaks
- Cold snaps may bring snow to lower ground
- Frosty or foggy starts common, lifting to cool intervals

Burgos Uplands & Meseta Plains:

- Persistent cloud cover
- Light snow or sleet at times
- Limited sunshine; frost and fog frequent
- Noticeable wind on open plains

Bierzo Basin:

- Rain more likely than snow
- Occasional heavier bursts

- Moderate conditions relative to higher elevations

Key Warnings for Pilgrims

- △ Ice and slippery sections common—sturdy boots with good grip essential
- △ Frosty dawns require slow warm-up to avoid injury
- △ Fog reduces visibility, especially in early morning
- △ Thermal layers and windproof jacket mandatory

Planning Notes

Many pilgrims report shirt-sleeve weather during midday despite cold mornings. The variability is significant—bring flexibility in layering.

Camino del Norte Weather Forecast (Week of Jan 27 - Feb 2)

Temperature & Conditions

- **High:** 6-9°C (43-48°F)
- **Low:** 2-6°C (36-43°F)
- **Precipitation:** Heavy rainfall—highest of all routes
- **Altitude:** Mountain passes with ice likely

Specific Conditions

Coastal Sections:

- Temperatures slightly higher than inland due to Atlantic proximity
- However, marine winds increase wind chill effect
- Persistent rain or clusters of showers separated by short, brighter breaks

Mountain Passes:

- Snow or sleet mixed with rain and low cloud
- Ice on trail sections extremely common
- Fog and mist reduce visibility

Key Warnings for Pilgrims

- △ **Least advisable Camino route for winter** — high precipitation and elevation create challenging conditions
- △ Ice on mountain sections requires extreme caution or alternate routing
- △ Highest rainfall of all routes—expect wet gear daily
- △ Altitude with frequent mist creates additional navigation challenges
- △ Cold can reach near/below freezing at dawn

Planning Notes

This route is generally recommended for spring, summer, or autumn. January hiking requires exceptional preparation and experience in winter trekking.

Camino Portugués Weather Forecast (Week of Jan 27 - Feb 2)

Temperature & Conditions

- **High:** 12-16°C (54-61°F)
- **Low:** 0-3°C (32-37°F)
- **Precipitation:** Periodic rain showers with clear sunny spells; some heavy downpours possible (50-74mm on wetter days)
- **Overall:** Most pleasant of the three routes

Regional Breakdown

Starting Stages (Tui, O Porriño):

- Moderate rain showers
- Cloudy and partly cloudy spells
- Highs: 11-15°C, lows: ~2°C

Mid-Route (Arcade, Pontevedra, Armenteira):

- Intermittent rainfall with dry spells and sunny patches
- Highs: 12-17°C, lows: 0-3°C
- Days with 40-50mm rainfall possible

Final Stages (Padrón, Santiago):

- Partly cloudy to sunny patterns interspersed with heavy showers
- Temperatures struggle to exceed 14°C
- Lows frequently at or just above freezing

Key Advantages

- ✓ Warmest of the three major routes (5-10°C warmer than Frances/del Norte)
- ✓ Mix of sunshine and rain makes the walk pleasant
- ✓ Coastal variant offers sea views (though adds wind chill)
- ✓ Manageable temperatures even at lowest points

Planning Notes

The Portugués is the most winter-friendly of major Camino routes. Expect rain but not snow; cold but not extreme. Layers and waterproof gear still essential.

Camino News & Updates (January 2026)

Recent Developments

Special Significance: 2026 Holy Year Approaching

- 2027 will be a Holy Year (Santiago Day falls on Sunday), bringing significantly increased pilgrim numbers
- Current 2026 timing offers a quieter walk before the 2027 surge
- Perfect opportunity for solo pilgrims seeking solitude

Winter Pilgrims Currently on Trail

- Daily live reports being shared from Camino Francés starting January 10, 2026
- Winter hostels and refugios remain open with adequate capacity for January pilgrims
- Reports indicate successful winter walking with careful preparation

Camino Community Updates

- Multiple church organizations organizing 2026-2027 group pilgrimages
- Insider's Camino partnering with Episcopal/Anglican churches
- Anglican Pilgrims Centre in Santiago active with pastoral support

Sad Passing

- Tomás Martínez de Paz (Tomás de Manjarín), legendary Camino figure, passed away January 14-15, 2026
- Known for his hospitality at high mountain refugio on Camino Primitivo
- The Camino community mourns the loss of this beloved pilgrim

Packing Recommendations by Route

Essential Year-Round

- ✓ Waterproof jacket (2-3 layer breathable)
- ✓ Rain cover for backpack
- ✓ Multiple pairs merino wool socks
- ✓ Sturdy walking boots with aggressive tread
- ✓ Hat and gloves

Specific to January Winter Walking

Camino Francés & del Norte:

- Thermal base layers (merino wool or synthetic)
- Insulating mid-layer (fleece or down)
- Wind-resistant pants
- Neck gaiter or balaclava
- Hand warmers (optional but helpful)
- Ice cleats for boots (consider bringing)

Camino Portugués:

- Lighter thermal base layer (may need less bulk)
- Fleece mid-layer
- Good quality rain jacket (more rain than cold)
- One pair warm pants
- Hat (sun and wind protection)

Summary Table

Route	Best For	Winter Suitability	Avg Temp	Rain Risk	Overall Assessment
Camino Francés	Classic experience	Moderate	5°C	High	Doable with preparation; manageable hostels
Camino del Norte	Coastal scenery	Poor	7°C	Very High	Challenging; only for experienced winter hikers
Camino Portugués	Quieter alternative	Good	10-14°C	Moderate	Best winter option; pleasant weather

Additional Resources

- [CaminoWeather.com](#) — Detailed daily forecasts by town and section
 - [FollowTheCamino.com](#) — Monthly climate condition maps
 - [Caminotellers.com](#) — Current community reports and advice
 - [WAW.travel](#) — Comprehensive weather and preparation guides
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Notes & Recommendations

1. **Book Accommodations Early** — Even in low season, January fills up in popular towns on weekends
2. **Weather Can Vary** — These are averages; individual days may be warmer, colder, wetter, or drier
3. **Ice Risk is Real** — Don't underestimate winter hazards; turn back if conditions become unsafe
4. **Pace Yourself** — Winter weather reduces daylight and energy; walk shorter daily distances
5. **Stay Connected** — Share your itinerary with family; check in daily via WhatsApp or email
6. **Enjoy the Solitude** — January offers peaceful, reflective Camino walks with fewer crowds

7. **Support Local** — Pilgrim hostels depend on winter business; staying in family-run refugios helps communities

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Valid through: February 2, 2026

Next update: February 3, 2026

For personalized coaching and Camino preparation guidance, visit preparedpilgrim.com