

Updates PGS 4 (i) Irun to Villaviciosa

Please find below the small updates that I noted while walking The Camino Norte from Santander to Santiago de Compostela

Page 54 – Accommodation in Santander

We chose the recently renovated “** Pension Plaza” Cale Cadiz – Centrally located and close to the Cathedral and the Camino route – We paid 40e for a clean and comfortable en-suite twin room – Nice and quiet – 24 hour reception. Pilgrim Friendly <http://www.pension-plaza.com/>

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Line One – “The Bar / Restaurant Cantera”

We initially stopped here for a cold drink but found out that they now offer Peregrino Accommodation, so as we thought we had walked far enough for a first day we went to look at what was on offer – It’s a small apartment under the rear of the bar, it has one double bedroom, another room with 2 single beds as well as a small kitchen area and another room with a decent shower and toilet. The price was 15e each and the bar has a good selection of food available at reasonable cost – Very tasty food too !!

This makes a good alternative stop and it’s right on the Camino, The Bar closed early so there was no noise and we had a peaceful night – Telephone Number, 942577387

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Cobreces

There is now a new private Albergue, left hand side of the road as you enter the town – Called “El Pino”, it has 2 dorms each with 2 sets of bunk-beds, so 8 places in total. Nice bathroom with good showers upstairs and a good kitchen/dining room downstairs. The price is 10e per person including a simple breakfast (coffee, Juice and Magdalena cake) run by a friendly woman who is trying hard to promote her new establishment – We stayed and were happy with everything, even if the breakfast could have been a bit more substantial ;-)

www.alberguecobreces.com

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El Tejo – The bar is already mentioned in the guidebook, it’s pilgrim friendly, does excellent bocadillos and makes an ideal lunch stop

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San Vicente de la Barquera – Additional recommended accommodation

We first tried the Pension La Liebana as recommended in the CSJ guidebook, but alas it was full, so we had to look elsewhere – We eventually settled on “La Tapuca” Which has an excellent Hospedaje above – We took a spacious, well furnished and comfortable en-suite twin bedded room and were charged 35e – The bar downstairs opens at 8am for breakfast – Recommended www.latapuca.com

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La Franca

There is now excellent pilgrim friendly accommodation available at La Franca. Casa La Concha is situated on a small road behind the large car-park of the truck-stop bar. Casa La Concha is a large house with little to indicate that there is accommodation available there, it is pink with a white extension on a stone lower half. We were offered a nice twin bedded room with a bathroom next door and breakfast included for a very reasonable 13€ per head (10€ without breakfast) The Truck Stop Bar below offers excellent food in the evening at very fair prices. Katerine comes early morning to make breakfast, Toast, Jam, Coffee and Juice – So well worth the extra 3€ – Highly recommended

Telephone 619579969 / 695305186 or email katerine1970@hotmail.com

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Celorio – Accommodation – We tried the Pension Chiki as recommended in the CSJ Guidebook, but there was no answer either from knocking on the front door, nor from their telephone (number on front door) So after waiting for almost an hour we decided to look elsewhere and discovered The *** Hotel Moran near to the FEVE station. We were initially offered a large en-suite twin bedded room with balcony for 40€ including breakfast but as it was Sunday the next day, breakfast didn't start until 9am, as this was going to be too late for us, they charged us 35€ without it. We took our evening meal in the hotel restaurant and the food was excellent as well as being reasonably priced and served by very friendly staff, in fact our waitress went into the kitchen and gave us some jam and butter portions to have with the bread that we had saved from our dinner for breakfast – Highly Recommended <http://www.moranplaya.com>

Barro – After passing through the village of Barro, the route takes you over a bridge over the M-Way, just before this bridge, there is a slip road that goes down to a restaurant's car park on the M-Way – Opens early on Sundays and makes a good breakfast stop

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Cuerres - There is a useful and friendly bar on the roadside here

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Ribadesella – Accommodation – We chose The Pension Arbidel on Cale Oscura 1 which is on the Camino route through Ribadesella and isn't currently listed in the CSJ guidebook. The Pension Arbidel offers a special rate for Perigrino's, 38€ for a decent en-suite twin and 29€ for a decent en-suite single. It also has a renowned but expensive restaurant, alas this was beyond our budget.

<http://www.arbidelpension.com/en/>

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La Vega – The bar mentioned in the CSJ Guidebook as being useful for breakfast as long as you don't arrive too early was still closed at 11.30, there was another bar a little further down the beach (Opposite direction to the Camino) but that was also closed

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La Espasa – There are now two bars here, both overlooking the sea, the first one was closed when we walked by (early afternoon) but the second one was opened and served tasty reasonably priced bocadillos

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La Isla

There is a Bar in La Isla is in the centre of the village (Below Angelita's home) – It is a green metal structure (I didn't see a name) and offers an excellent Peregrino Menu in the evenings – Substantial and reasonably priced – Recommended

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Villaviciosa Accommodation

Hotel Carlos 1 (listed in CSJ Guidebook) now does an early Perigrino breakfast – Substantial, inexpensive and included in the incredibly reasonable price of 30e for a superior en-suite twin and 20e for a superior en-suit single in a beautiful old building and run by incredibly pilgrim friendly people - a **Highly recommended** place to stay <http://hotelcarlosprimerovillaviciosa.blogspot.co.uk/>