

*So you've signed up... Now what, pilgrim?*

## *SUPER DETAILED DETAILS FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO PLAN:*

### *Sim Card Information*

Why use a SIM card?

- cheaper than using most US based providers (Verizon charges \$10/day)
- to make calls home or to others on the camino (We will need ways to check in with each other along the way, to ask questions, make suggestions or to ensure that no one was unintentionally left behind the rest of us!)

What is a SIM card?

- These are small chips that are inserted into your smartphone. It must be unlocked (most are, but if not, call your data provider and have them unlock it). Not a lot of data is required. We can use the internet in our hotels, so save browsing or non-urgent emails until then. Most Camino maps can be downloaded for use offline. Martha plans to buy the Orange Holiday Europe. 8 GB, 30 minutes calls to US or Spain. 200 texts. (\$27.39)
- To note in your choosing: **Make sure it is compatible with your phone.** I-phones work on all (Martha thinks) and most on Android (but not all). Cards offer instructions on how to set up your phone, before leaving the US, so you can test it. Cards are also available in country, but most people won't have time to shop at the Madrid airport, Santiago airport may or may not have them. Sarria unlikely to have them.

### *Covid Testing in Spain*

Here is what we know so far... These details will shift so check in with the group regularly!

- Tests are certainly available at the airport. More are becoming available in town, we think, but the two labs websites are not working as of 6/1/2022. Let's assume we have to go to the airport, so... logistics:
  - APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED. We can sign up 2 months ahead, as of now. Everyone should book his/her own. Hours are every twenty minutes between 10 and 1pm. (This seems like there are only ten slots per day... so we will need to work together to figure out the best testing locations and timing) 12 hr turnaround from time reaches lab (not time of appointment, necessarily. depends on demand). See website for full info and share what you learn or know with Martha Whitney please:  
<https://flycovidtestcenter.com/en/book-appointment/?airport=19&testtype=PCR&post=206657&date=2022-07-29&time=1000>

## *Travel Insurance*

Strongly suggested by Follow the Camino. Shop carefully as coverages vary. Here is a link to one website that compares some policies: <https://www.travelinsurance.com>. There are other sites. Follow The Camino may suggest some companies. There is no necessity to choose one of them but they are probably good companies if recommended.

Fill in the information for your situation - total cost of prepaid trip [travel agent, flights], dates, date of first payment, etc. You will get a list of companies with a quote for basic coverage. If you want CFAR, Cancel for Any Reason, you should check that box in the filter list on the left hand side of the page. There is an additional premium.

*Read carefully the coverage* for trip cancellation and trip interruption, illness, medical evacuation, and so forth. Prior to Covid-19, many did not opt for the insurance. It covers what happens if you become ill before departure or become ill and have to return home. CFAR will cover your expenses if you decide that you do not want to take the trip for non-covered reasons. For example, if one were uneasy about conditions at the destination or wanted to cancel to attend a special event. Most policies are adequate without it, but it can bring peace of mind. NB: for pre-existing conditions coverage, for most policies it is necessary to purchase within 7 days of initial deposit. CFAR can be added for 20 days, often; check each policy.

Martha Whitney has purchased this insurance twice, during Covid-19 pandemic and, gratefully has not had to use it. It brought peace of mind. Contact Martha with questions.