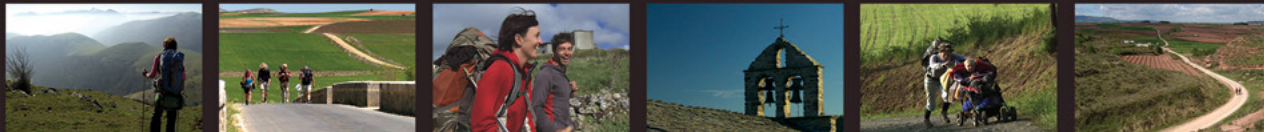


Walking the Camino



☼ Six Ways to Santiago ☼

A 500 mile journey to yourself



Sold out!
2013
Official Selection
ashland independent
film festival



SOLD OUT!
Galway Film Fleadh
2013



SOLD OUT!
La Costa Film Festival
October
2013



LYDIA B. SMITH IN ASSOCIATION WITH FUTURE EDUCATIONAL FILMS PRESENTS WALKING THE CAMINO: SIX WAYS TO SANTIAGO PRODUCER SALLY BENTLEY
SENIOR PRODUCER THERESA COLEMAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JACOBA ATLAS & KYRA THOMPSON CO-PRODUCER ANNIE O'NEIL DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY PEDRO VALENZUELA EDITOR BETH K. SEGAL ORIGINAL SCORE J.J. MCGEEHAN
PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY LYDIA B. SMITH



WWW.CAMINODOCUMENTARY.ORG



ONE LINERS

"The Camino is pure medicine. It makes it possible to heal the many hurts that are in the heart and soul."

-Fr. Paco, Catholic priest in *Walking the Camino*

"If you go to Santiago to look for 'him' there, you will not find 'him' unless you take 'him' with you."

-Jack, featured pilgrim in *Walking the Camino*

"You can lead a solitary life. You can do the Camino all alone, but it's just not the same thing. Happiness is meant to be shared."

-William, featured pilgrim in *Walking the Camino*

"The Camino de Santiago is an internal Camino, something you do with your heart."

-Marina, hospitalera in *Walking the Camino*

"Every day is a journey and the road itself is home."

-Wayne, featured pilgrim in *Walking the Camino*

"A bad day for the ego is a good day for the soul."

-Annie, featured pilgrim in *Walking the Camino*

"When you do the Camino, the mask disappears and you transform into yourself."

-Ana Maria, hospitalera in *Walking the Camino*

"No one ever made it to Santiago without the help of another."

-Pilgrim saying along the Camino de Santiago

"This is just a huge opportunity, this road, this Camino, to dig into who you are and what you bring to life, and what you're looking for."

-Misa, featured pilgrim in *Walking the Camino*

SYNOPSSES

Log line – 51 words

What is it about Spain's 1200 year-old Camino de Santiago trail that lures people from all over the world to spend a month or more walking the 500 miles with little more than a backpack and a pair of boots? Experience part of this life-changing journey yourself with this award-winning documentary.

Short Synopsis – 120 words

Since the ninth century, millions of world travelers have embarked on an epic pilgrimage across northern Spain that is known to be profoundly enlightening, spiritually nourishing, and physically challenging. Today, several hundred thousand people a year embark on this mostly unpaved path with little more than a backpack and a pair of boots.

Through *Walking the Camino: Six Ways to Santiago*, we are able to journey into the hearts and minds of six modern-day pilgrims as they cope with blisters, exhaustion, loneliness, and self-doubt to triumph over fears and prejudices that have become roadblocks to living a fulfilled life. Find out why audiences everywhere are raving about the film that Marin Sheen, star of *The Way*, calls a "brilliant documentary."



Medium Synopsis – 200 words

Walking the Camino: Six Ways to Santiago is an up-close look at the ancient spiritual pilgrimage known as the Camino de Santiago, or Way of St. James. Since the ninth century, millions have embarked on this pilgrimage across northern Spain.

There are many routes to Santiago, and *Walking the Camino* focuses on the most well traveled: the Camino Francés, which begins in St. Jean Pied de Port and ends in Santiago de Compostela. This 500 mile long journey leads each pilgrim to Santiago and most importantly, it ultimately leads them to their true selves.

Following the journeys of six modern-day pilgrims as they cope with blisters, exhaustion, and loneliness, *Walking the Camino* explores the universal themes of this physically challenging, spiritually nourishing, and profoundly enlightening journey. While each of the six pilgrims walks the Camino for different reasons and with varied backgrounds, they each experience personal triumphs over their own doubts and fears. There is no single right way to live life, nor is there a single right way to walk the Camino. *Walking the Camino* not only illustrates the importance that we must each follow our own path in life, it encourages and inspires us to do so wholeheartedly.



Long Synopsis – 501 words

Bunk-beds. Blisters. Stunning landscapes. World-class snorers. Hot searing sun, freezing cold rain. Kindness from strangers. Debilitating injury. Unexpected romance. No toilet paper when you really need it. Profound grief and deep doubt. Hunger. Laughing with new friends. Total exhaustion. One is guaranteed to experience all of these emotions and moments, amongst others, while walking Spain's ancient pilgrimage path, the Camino de Santiago.

Since the 9th century, millions of people, from spiritual seeking or devoutly religious pilgrims to adventure-driven travelers, have embarked on an epic pilgrimage across northern Spain that is known to be profoundly enlightening, spiritually nourishing, and physically challenging. Today, several hundred thousand people a year walk on this mostly unpaved path with little more than a backpack and a pair of boots.

Across Spain, this sacred path stretches westward to the city of Santiago de Compostela where the bones of the apostle St. James are said to be buried. The Camino is world-renowned; UNESCO named it a World Heritage Site and the Council of Europe declared it the first European Cultural Itinerary. Millions of people from all over the world have traveled this trail for over 1,000 years – in 2010 alone, over 270,000 people attempted the arduous trek – each one a seeker of something.

Walking the Camino is a total immersion experience that captures the trials and tribulations associated with a group of modern pilgrims who decide to walk the Camino de Santiago. The cast of people featured in the film run the gamut of ages (from age 3 to 73), as well as nationalities, religious backgrounds and motivations for coming to the Camino.

Through the stories of these six pilgrims and the priests, hospitaleros, and others featured along the way, *Walking the Camino* presents universal themes that highlight the communal and individual components of the Camino de Santiago. Solitude and community are inseparably intertwined as pilgrims seek to redefine the way they live their lives, deepen their relationships with themselves, and rediscover their connection with the world in which they live and in doing so, pilgrims become more self-aware. Out of that self-awareness inevitably emerges open-mindedness and selflessness as pilgrims, both in *Walking the Camino* and the thousands of others who have walked the journey, help each other through their trials and struggles to reach the finish line.

The star of the film, the Camino itself, is showcased with elegant cinematography that captures and depicts the gorgeous scenery and breathtaking vistas, from the raindrops on leaves to the fields of grass, mist covered mountains, colorful sunsets and truly inviting local people and historic surroundings. The documentary truly captures the personalities and inner challenges of the pilgrims and their transformations along the journey. The audience experiences the drive, questions, pains, joys, and revelations that these modern day pilgrims encounter along the way. *Walking the Camino* is guaranteed at the very least to inspire the audience to examine their own life's journeys, if not pick up a backpack, strap on a pair of boots and set out for Santiago themselves.

CREW LIST

Producer/Director: **Lydia B. Smith**

Producer: **Sally Bentley**

Editor: **Beth K. Segal**

Director of Photography: **Pedro Valenzuela**

Senior Producer: **Theresa Tollini-Coleman**

Supervising Producer: **Kyra Thompson**

Executive Producer: **Jacoba "Coby" Atlas**

Original Score: **JJ McGeehan**

Co-Producer: **Annie O'Neil**

Associate Producers: **Evan Gandy, Chad Westbrook, KC Englander**





SHORT BIO

Lydia began her career in the film business 30 years ago and has produced for CNN, PBS, and foreign television. She has worked in both production and in the camera department on major motion pictures, commercials, and music videos all over the world. In 2008, Lydia walked the Camino and has a deep understanding of the power of the pilgrimage and of the captivating stories waiting to be told.

LONG BIO

DIRECTOR BIO

Lydia B. Smith

It's hard to imagine another filmmaker better suited to capturing the Camino's unique experience than Lydia, who makes her feature film directorial debut with *Walking the Camino: Six Ways to Santiago*.

She lived in Barcelona for over six years and speaks flawless Spanish, in addition to Italian and Catalan. Her deep understanding of the Camino comes from Lydia's avid passion for the outdoors, hiking, and nature along with her deep spiritual practice; she is a licensed spiritual practitioner from the Agape International Spiritual Center and from the United Centers for Spiritual Living. During the spring of 2008, Lydia walked the entire 500 miles of the Camino de Santiago, and has a deep understanding of the power of pilgrimage and of the captivating stories along the way that are waiting to be told.

Lydia B. Smith has a long history of collaboration with the producers on this project and began her work in documentaries 30 years ago. She directed, produced, and wrote: *They're Just Kids*, a 26-minute educational documentary showing how children with disabilities can have a positive affect on our lives, *A Legacy Revealed*, a 40-minute historical documentary, *Infiniti: Behind the Scenes*, and a 20-minute biography, *Bill Lansing: A Tribute*

Additionally, she was Senior Producer on CNN's *Soldiers of Peace: A Children's Crusade*, Co-Producer and 2nd unit DP on the CNN Documentary, *The Mystery of the Arctic Rose*, 2nd unit DP on the PBS show, *Stand Up*, American Producer for Chilean TV's, *The Route to the Beringia*, DP for *Anthony Hopkins Teaches* and more.

In addition to her producing and directing career, Lydia has worked as a camera assistant and operator on commercials, top music videos, and on major motion pictures including *Ed Wood* with Johnny Depp, *Dangerous Minds* with Michelle Pfeiffer, and *Matilda* with Danny DeVito, to name just a few.

PILGRIMS



Annie O'Neil

Annie from Los Angeles, who, with a typical can-do attitude, was called to do the Camino for spiritual reasons. She soon comes face-to-face with her own innate competitiveness, especially when the Camino's intense physical challenge starts to take its toll on her.



Jack Greenhalgh and Wayne Emde

Jack and Wayne are two well-traveled Canadian retirees. Wayne, 65, is a recent widower who walks to honor his wife, and Jack, 73, is an Episcopal priest who performed the funeral for Wayne's wife. Jack always wanted to walk the Camino due to his interest in history. Wayne loves the "one-way" nature of the Camino, which represents leaving his past and walking toward his future.



Anna-Marie "Misa" Misser

Misa is a health and sports student from Denmark who considers herself to be spiritual but not religious. She sets out to travel alone to become more connected with herself, but when she meets William, the only other pilgrim that can keep up with her notoriously fast pace, her intentions get pushed aside.



Samantha Gilbert

Sam is a Brazilian woman in her thirties who was desperate for some force to turn her unhappy life around. Sam left behind everything she knew in Rio de Janeiro, purged her life of nearly all possessions, and fled with a one-way ticket to Spain. Even though she suffered from clinical depression, she decides to throw away all of her prescribed medication, trusting that the Camino – the meditative act of walking, the nature, and the people met along the way – will restore balance to her body's chemistry.



Tomás Moreno

Tomás, 30-something, athletic and very charming, was torn between kite boarding on the coast or "hiking" the Camino. He chose the Camino because it was more of a physical challenge. He gets what he asks for, as his biggest challenge becomes the immense physical pain that he experiences. He must learn to persevere as the struggle to complete the Camino becomes more painful with every step.



Tatiana Jacquot

Tatiana is a French 26 year old single mother who sets out for the Camino because of her devotion to God. She brings her brother Alexis and three-year-old son along with her on the* trek. Originally, Tatiana was delighted to have her brother with her on the Camino, especially for sharing the responsibility of her son. Things quickly become challenging for her, however, as Tatiana and Alexis begin to argue at every turn. Her quest to seek a richer relationship with God is tested as she is forced to face the problems in the relationships with her brother.

WHAT THE PRESS IS SAYING

"Top Ten Heartwarming Films of 2014"

Huffington Post

"As travelogue, this is a persuasive introduction. Viewer beware: The impulse to take a hike is strong. Wear sturdy shoes."

New York Times

"Inspiring.

Top Four Documentaries of 2014 for Teens."

Washington Post

"*Walking the Camino* is easy on the ears as well as the eyes and inspiring to the soul. It may even prompt you to skip the subway and walk home from the theatre — the whole way."

Toronto Star

"Driving both the filmmaker and her subjects is wonder and wanderlust. Their enthusiasm for the Camino is contagious..."

Village Voice

"The struggles on and off the trail are profoundly moving and even if you can't get to Spain, one sentence still rings true: 'I will walk this day the best I can.'"

Washington Post Express

"A journey of beauty, personal discovery."

Seattle Times

88% positive rating.

Rotten Tomatoes

"Smith and her adept, compact filmmaking team demonstrate that the rigors of the Camino are really about engaging a conversation between pilgrims' personal experiences and the majestic landscape that transforms so many lives."

Hollywood Reporter

"A beautiful travelogue and a meditation on the spirituality of endurance."

Salt Lake City Tribune



AWARDS & ACCOLADES

Total festivals: 26

***Total awards: 8**

***American Documentary Film Festival**

Art & Tur International Film Festival (Portugal)

Ashland International Film Festival

Awakened World International Film Festival

Belleville Downtown DocFest (Canada)

***Festival Cine y Televisión Camino de Santiago (Spain)**

Film by the Sea Film Festival (The Netherlands)

***Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival**

Frozen River Film Festival

Galway Film Fleadh (Ireland)

Green Mountain Film Festival

Heartland Film Festival

***Hollywood Film Festival**

LaCosta Film Festival

Mendocino Film Festival

***Mt. Hood Independent Film Festival**

***Rainier Independent Film Festival**

***Newport Beach Film Festival**

***Prescott International Film Festival**

Topanga Film Festival

We Love Documentary Film Festival

Windsor Film Festival (Canada)

Wine Country Film Festival

Visions of the Wild Film Festival

Young at Heart Seniors Film Festival (Australia)

Film Festivals

Walking the Camino has either won an award, sold out, or both at the majority of film festivals it has been in.

Theatrical Achievements

Theatrical grosses in first week:

Seattle, WA - \$19,100

Portland, OR - \$13,205

New York, NY - \$11,800

Denver, CO - \$11,100

Ottawa, ON - \$14,000 in three screenings!

Toronto, ON - \$25,000 CAD in first week

\$59,800 CAD in total

Notable Theatrical Runs

Toronto, ON - Nearly 4 consecutive months between: Bloor Hot Docs Cinema, Kingsway Theatre, Carleton Cinemas, Fox Theatre, and The Revue Cinema

Portland, OR - 20 weeks - Hollywood Theatre(11) and Living Room Theaters(9)

San Rafael, CA - 11 weeks - CFI Rafael Theater

Seattle, WA - 7 weeks - SIFF Uptown Cinema

Denver, CO - 4 weeks - Landmark Chez Artiste

New York, NY - Four wall screening extended for a second week - Quad Cinema

DISTRIBUTION AT A GLANCE



\$500,000: The amount of money raised between 2008-2013 through private donations to produce the documentary

2/2014: When the documentary started its independent theatrical US and Canada film tour WITHOUT a distributor

27 feet: The length of the RV, or "Camino Mobile," used as the main mode of transportation on the tour

50+: The number of cities on the 2014 cross-country theatrical tour

140+: The number of cities the film has screened in theaters in the US and Canada

\$612,717+: Total US/Canada theatrical gross to date (10/21/2015)

\$1.6+ million: Total worldwide gross to date (10/21/2015)

TOUR MAP



DOTS: Cities where the film has screened

LINES: The RV's tour route



¡Buen Camino!

SEIS PEREGRINOS, UN DESTINO



Un viaje interior



LYDIA B. SMITH IN ASSOCIATION WITH FUTURE EDUCATIONAL FILMS PRESENTS ¡BUEN CAMINO! SEIS PEREGRINOS, UN DESTINO PRODUCED BY SALLY BENTLEY
SENIOR PRODUCER THERESA COLEMAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JACOBA ATLAS, KYRA THOMPSON & DAVE DAVIS CO PRODUCER ANNIE O'NEIL DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY PEDRO VALENZUELA EDITOR BETH SEGAL ORIGINAL SCORE J.J. MCGEEHAN

PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY LYDIA B. SMITH



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JAVA FILMS

INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION

Australia

Distributor: Umbrella Films
Release Date: June 2015
DVD Release Date: October 2015
#4 Documentary in Australia (2015)
\$630,000+ box office gross

Germany

Distributor: Vertrieb
DVD distribution only

New Zealand

Distributor: Umbrella Films
Release date: August 2015
#5 Documentary in New Zealand (2015)
\$263,000+ box office gross

UK

Independent distribution through
Our Screen and Discover the Camino
10+ screenings to date and another 10 scheduled

Italy

Distributor: Cineama
Release Date: May 2015
Played in 50+ cities
Still in select theaters
€110,000+ box office gross

Spain

Distributor: Olwyn Films
Release date: Winter 2015

France

Distributor: Jupiter Films
Release date: October 2015
Will be playing in 25+ theaters

Denmark

Independent distribution through
Danish Pilgrim Association
5 screenings to date- more to follow

Additionally the film has been screened in Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, Norway and was on national television in both Sweden and Brazil. It played on five different airlines.

International Sales Agent: **JAVA FILMS**



ABOUT THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

AT A GLANCE

ROUTE: Camino Frances

LENGTH: 500 miles

STARTING POINT: St. Jean Pied de Port, France

ENDING POINT: Santiago de Compostela, Spain

REGIONS: Pyrenees Mountains, Navarra, La Rioja, Castilla y León, Galicia

WHEN PEOPLE WALK: Year-round, most popular times: May-October

HOW MANY PEOPLE WALK: 215,880*

HOW TO TRAVEL: on foot (87.17%), by bike (12.34%),
by horse (0.45%), in a wheelchair (0.03%)*

WHERE TO STAY: Special pilgrim hostels, called “albergues”

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF TIME: 4-6 weeks

PILGRIM: any participant who travels along part of the Camino

SPECIFICS

ROUTE

Officially, the Camino de Santiago is any passage in Europe that leads to the city of Santiago de Compostela. The Camino Frances – the 500-mile route seen in the film – starts in St. Jean Pied de Port, France.

SANTIAGO, OR SAINT JAMES

The Camino de Santiago is named for Saint James, or San Tiago/Sant Iago, one of the 12 Apostles and rumored brother of Jesus Christ.

According to legend, his body was found in a boat that washed ashore in Northern Spain thousands of years ago. His remains were transported inland and were buried under what is now the grand Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, which marks the end of the Camino. His bones were rediscovered in the 9th century, when a hermit saw a field of stars that led him to the ancient, forgotten tomb.

*percentages based on pilgrims who received their compostela at the Pilgrim Office in 2013

ABOUT THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

CATHOLIC TRADITION

As ancient Catholic tradition upholds, if you faithfully completed the arduous trek, your sins will be forgiven. If one completes the pilgrimage during a holy year—a rare occasion when St. James Day, July 25, falls on a Sunday—a plenary indulgence will be granted, allowing one to bypass purgatory and enter straight into heaven.

REHABILITATION ON THE CAMINO

Historically, many countries have provided criminals with the choice to either serve prison time or do the Camino. Even today, Belgium will sometimes allow minor crimes to be pardoned by completing the pilgrimage. While in these cases the Camino was used as a form of punishment, its impact upon a pilgrim's connection with themselves and their community could instead be regarded as an unconventional form of rehabilitation.

MODERN-DAY PILGRIMS

Although originally known as a Christian pilgrimage, the Camino now attracts people of all faiths and backgrounds, from atheists to Buddhists, adventurers to mourners, and college students to retired friends.

UNESCO & THE EUROPEAN UNION

UNESCO has declared the Camino de Santiago a Universal Patrimony of Humanity and a World Heritage Site. In 1987, the European Union declared the Camino de Santiago to be the first European Cultural Itinerary.



AMERICAN PILGRIMS ON THE CAMINO

American Pilgrims on the Camino (APOC) is a non-profit organization whose objective is to facilitate communication within the community of the North American Pilgrims, particularly those in the United States.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF *Walking the Camino*

When Smith was raising money to finish the post-production of the documentary, APOC gave two grants to the project to help it on its way to its final product. Hundreds of pilgrims across the country also gave individual donations as Smith was crowdsourcing to raise the funds to finish the film.

MISSION

The mission of APOC is to foster the enduring tradition of the Camino by supporting its infrastructure, gathering pilgrims together, and providing information and encouragement to past and future pilgrims.

Total number of pilgrim chapters: 31

OUTREACH SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION

Individual chapter coordinators and chapter members alike played a crucial role spreading the word about the film.

Walking the Camino's outreach team collaborated with APOC chapters to help get the word out into the communities where the film screened. Pilgrims took flyers and postcards to different locations around their city, they shared the word with their families, friends, and coworkers, helped sell merchandise at screenings, and made sure to spread the magic of the Camino.

american
PILGRIMS^{on} THE
CAMINO

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TECHNICAL DETAILS

Feature-Length Documentary

Running Time: 84 minutes

Country of Origin: United States of America

16:9 1080p 23.98 fps

5.1 Surround