

Synopsis for Women of the Way: Embracing the Camino

2-line Summary:

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Short Synopsis:

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Medium Synopsis:

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Though the book is about Jane's journey and the discussions with women she meets on the pilgrimage, it is not a "chic" book. It is about embracing the Camino, the personal changes, and the beauty and appeal of the most popular of all pilgrimages to Santiago de Compostela, the Camino Francés.

Long Synopsis:

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- Discover why people from around the world walk the Camino.
- Learn how to prepare for the Camino, about the daily rituals in long-distance walking, and the camaraderie shared among these modern-day pilgrims.
- Visualize the beauty of northern Spain through Jane's vivid descriptions.

- Understand why so many people embrace the Camino.

Jane first heard about the pilgrimage from Shirley MacLaine's *The Camino: A Journey of the Spirit*. After reading the book she wondered why a 60-year old woman would want to take such an arduous journey. Twenty years later and at age 60, Jane set out to do the same. Returning from the life-changing event, Jane was moved to write the book as a tribute to the women she met on the Way.

Though the Camino was Jane's first long walk, she was not a novice hiker. While living in New England, she climbed twenty of the forty 4,000 ft peaks in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and hike many of the lower trails. Jane was also physically fit, but had to learn to pace herself for walking long distances each day. The book is filled with lessons she learned and what the Camino taught her.

From readers:

"An articulate, well-observed and thoughtful look at walking the Camino." ~ Adam Nathan

["If you want to walk the Way, you will learn a lot from this book."](#) J.F.Penn

"I felt as though I, too, were a pilgrim as I saw the beautiful landscapes Jane described, felt the tiredness she experienced, enjoyed the food along with her, laughed and cried with her." ~ Elizabeth Chandler

"My husband, John (62), and I are reading your book while we prepare to walk the Camino in May of 2013. We are loving it! I like your honesty and factual approach. Your descriptions have caused us to laugh and almost cry at times. Thank you! We are reading a little each day and John reminds me to bring the book in the car or to bed. The spirit of the Camino is already appearing in our relationship as we prepare. I can see a change and it is wonderful!" ~ Kim Todaro

["Ms. Blanchard takes you on her journey and offers not only her viewpoint, but the perspectives of fellow women she meets along the way."](#) ~ Liz

["I also suspect I'll never get to walk the Camino myself, so I am grateful that I was able to walk it vicariously through Jane's book."](#) ~ Thedogwogmom

5 Points of Interest about the Camino de Santiago:

1. One of the oldest and most popular Catholic pilgrimage is the Camino de Santiago (The Way of St. James); the other two more famous treks are to Rome and to Jerusalem.
2. In 2013, 215,880 pilgrims received the compostela (certificate of completion) at the Pilgrims Office in Santiago.
3. In 2013, 45.4% of the pilgrims are female, aged between 30 and 60
4. Modern-day pilgrims come from all over the world. In 2013, 9.21% were American

5. The Camino de Santiago was the first route proclaimed a European Cultural itinerary by the Council of Europe in 1987.

Book Details and Purchase Information

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