Interview Questions for Jane V. Blanchard author of Women of the Way: Embracing the Camino

Q: What is the Camino de Santiago?

JVB: For more that a millennium, pilgrims have walked five-hundred miles across northern Spain to pay homage to the remains of St. James, the Greater, apostle of Jesus at the cathedral in Santiago de Compostela. During the middle ages this pilgrimage was listed among the top three destinations of the times along with Rome and Jerusalem.

Q: Why did you want to walk the Camino?

JVB: I first heard about the Camino in Shirley MacLaine's *The Camino, a Journey of the Spirit*. Recently, a friend described his Camino experience and I decided that this would be my first long walk.

Q: How long does it take to walk?

JVB: Many people can walk it in thirty days. It took me forty-three days. I wish I had taken longer.

Q: How did you get to the Camino?

JVB: I flew from Miami to Barcelona. There I took a train to Pamplona and then a bus to Roncesvalles, near the French border.

Q: Where did you stay?

JVB: in hostels called albergues, inns, and in a tent. The most common and most fun place to stay are in the albergues.

Q: Was the language a problem?

JVB: I speak Spanish and French; therefore, I had no trouble communicating.

Q: How much does it cost?

JVB: About 25 to 30 Euros (\$30 to \$40) per day.

Q: Where can we buy the book?

JVB: You can order an autographed copy from the website: womenoftheway2011.com or from most bookstores and ebook stores

Other potential questions for an interview:

- Can you describe what a day on the Camino is like?
- Was it difficult?

- What was your favorite place? your least favorite place?
- What was the food like on the Camino?
- Were you scared?
- What do you do if you get hurt or get sick?
- What is the title of your book?
- Why did you decide to write the book?
- Can you tell us about some of the women you met?
- What did you learn on the Camino?
- Would you do it again?

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About the author:

Jane V. Blanchard, author of the *Woman on Her Way* series, promotes writing as a business and blogs to help indie authors become successful. Her books describe hiking and biking adventures on the back roads and trails of the world. Her blog, <u>My Musings</u> provides strategies and support for indie authors.

Jane retired from technical writing in 2011 to walked 500 miles on the Camino de Santiago in Spain, and continues to travel by foot or bike.

Jane blogs about her author's journey and the importance for writers to treat their career as a business. Contact her at janewblanchard.com.

Book Facts: Publish June 25, 2011, Createspace, 3rd edition.

Print: ISBN-10: 1475247419, ISBN-13: 978-1475247411

eBooK

Nook (BN): 2940015682236

Kobo ISBN: 123000003114

Smashword ISBN: 9781476287676 (e-pub ISBN can be used on Apple)

Kindle ASIN: B008G1VA2W

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