



## The Camino: A Journey of the Spirit

By Shirley MacLaine

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### The Camino: A Journey of the Spirit By Shirley MacLaine

It has been nearly three decades since Shirley MacLaine commenced her brave and public commitment to chronicling her personal quest for spiritual understanding. In testament to the endurance and vitality of her message, each of her eight legendary bestsellers -- from *Don't Fall Off the Mountain* to *My Lucky Stars* -- continues today to attract, dazzle, and transform countless new readers. Now Shirley is back -- with her most breathtakingly powerful and unique book yet.

This is the story of a journey. It is the eagerly anticipated and altogether startling culmination of Shirley MacLaine's extraordinary -- and ultimately rewarding -- road through life. The riveting odyssey began with a pair of anonymous handwritten letters imploring Shirley to make a difficult pilgrimage along the Santiago de Compostela Camino in Spain. Throughout history, countless illustrious pilgrims from all over Europe have taken up the trail. It is an ancient -- and allegedly enchanted -- pilgrimage. People from St. Francis of Assisi and Charlemagne to Ferdinand and Isabella to Dante and Chaucer have taken the journey, which comprises a nearly 500-mile trek across highways, mountains and valleys, cities and towns, and fields. Now it would be Shirley's turn.

For Shirley, the Camino was both an intense spiritual and physical challenge. A woman in her sixth decade completing such a grueling trip on foot in thirty days at twenty miles per day was nothing short of remarkable. But even more astounding was the route she took spiritually: back thousands of years, through past lives to the very origin of the universe. Immensely gifted with intelligence, curiosity, warmth, and a profound openness to people and places outside her own experience, Shirley MacLaine is truly an American treasure. And once again, she brings her inimitable qualities of mind and heart to her writing. Balancing and negotiating the revelations inspired by the mysterious energy of the Camino, she endured her exhausting journey to Compostela until it gradually gave way to a far more universal voyage: that of the soul. Through a range of astonishing and liberating visions and revelations, Shirley saw into the meaning of the cosmos, including the secrets of the ancient civilizations of Atlantis and Lemuria, insights into human genesis, the essence of gender and sexuality, and the true path to higher love.

With rich insight, humility, and her trademark grace, Shirley MacLaine gently leads us on a sacred adventure toward an inexpressibly transcendent climax. *The Camino* promises readers the journey of a thousand lifetimes.

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## The Camino: A Journey of the Spirit By Shirley MacLaine Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

### Amazon.com Review

Known as the Camino, the Santiago de Compostela Camino is a famous pilgrimage that has been undertaken by people for centuries across northern Spain. It is said that this 500-mile path lies directly under the Milky Way and that it reflects the energy of the star systems above it. Facing her sixth decade of life on earth, writer and actor Shirley MacLaine decided to go on this trek. She wasn't sure why, she only knew that the Camino had been traveled for thousands of years by "saints, sinners, generals, misfits, kings and queens. It is done by the intent to find one's deepest spiritual meaning and resolutions regarding conflicts in Self."

Typical of MacLaine, this is a personal story with enormous adventure, a smattering of flashbacks, and a hefty serving of cosmic revelations. Like a true pilgrim, MacLaine travels solo, willing to strip herself down to the backpacking essentials and find deeper meaning in all the bizarre, frightening, and coincidental events she encounters along the way. It is no small feat that this sixtysomething woman walked the grueling path in 30 days. Readers can expect vivid stories of stalking paparazzi, icy showers, bouts of hunger, lost paths, a worshipping young man, a deranged woman screaming in a roadside shelter, saintly truck drivers, a fellow pilgrim in a wheelchair, bouts of constipation and diarrhea, and a cosmic crescendo that will knock the socks of MacLaine's fans. --*Gail Hudson*

### From Publishers Weekly

Following a centuries-old tradition, entertainer MacLaine walked nearly 500 miles across northern Spain's Camino Santiago de Compostela. This memoir of her formidable journey, like her other books, is a likely candidate for bestsellerdom as well as for ridicule in some quarters. An effort to "feel human again," her physical feat was daunting: she hiked for 10 hours a day on her own, often in intense heat, and slept in refugios--crowded, dirty shelters. Though she observes the small villages, historic cathedrals and other trekkers along the way, MacLaine is most interested in her interior journey. The actress, who has written before about her numerous past lives in such books as *Out on a Limb* and *Dancing in the Light*, senses that she's walked the Camino before as a coffee-colored, dark-haired woman of Charlemagne's time. Visited in dreams by a spiritual guide, she connects her various lives and soul mates, revealing that her former lover (in this life) was Olaf Palme, the assassinated Swedish Prime Minister. As the journey progresses, she revisits the origins of the human race in the edenic Lemuria, then the dawn of Atlantis and on to ADAMic civilization. On the earthly plane, MacLaine seems to enjoy evading the press, which she compares to fearsome dogs, and whose pursuit escalates as she gets closer to the end of the journey. Though she completed the Camino in 30 days instead of the planned 40, her arrival in Santiago lacks a Hollywood finale. Instead, she slips into the famous cathedral and leaves immediately for Madrid. Major ad/promo; author tour; 20-city TV satellite tour; 20-city radio satellite tour. (May)  
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### From Library Journal

MacLaine, an award-winning actress and the author of eight best sellers, shares her 30-day pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain. The "camino" (the road that all pilgrims must take) gives her time to reflect on the values in her life. She suggests ideas along the way, e.g., "Tune in to the experience and drop your orientation of accomplishing a goal. The goal is the path." One comes to know MacLaineDwhat has happened in her 60 years, what she considers important, how her father influenced her, how she views life philosophically, and what she has to work on as she spends ten hours every day walking the almost 500 miles. She relates many everyday happenings, from getting lost or trying to avoid a group who recognize her as a celebrity, to her dreams (from which she draws some parallels). Readers of her previous works will enjoy this account of her journey; libraries carrying her earlier titles will do well to add this title for patron requests.

*-DLeroy Hommerding, Fort Myers Beach P.L., FL*  
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## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Corine Ramirez:**

Have you spare time for the day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open as well as read a book called The Camino: A Journey of the Spirit? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have other opinion?

#### **Mildred Duncan:**

The particular book The Camino: A Journey of the Spirit will bring you to the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book you just read, this book very suited to you. The book The Camino: A Journey of the Spirit is much recommended to you to study. You can also get the e-book from the official web site, so you can more readily to read the book.

#### **Arthur Reaves:**

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your moment to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book compared to can satisfy your short space of time to read it because this time you only find book that need more time to be study. The Camino: A Journey of the Spirit can be your answer as it can be read by you actually who have those short free time problems.

#### **Ruth Snider:**

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