



## Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain

By Nancy Louise Frey

Download now

Read Online →

### **Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain** By Nancy Louise Frey

Each year thousands of men and women from more than sixty countries journey by foot and bicycle across northern Spain, following the medieval pilgrimage road known as the Camino de Santiago. Their destination is Santiago de Compostela, where the remains of the apostle James are said to be buried. These modern-day pilgrims and the role of the pilgrimage in their lives are the subject of Nancy Louise Frey's fascinating book.

Unlike the religiously-oriented pilgrims who visit Marian shrines such as Lourdes, the modern Road of St. James attracts an ecumenical mix of largely well-educated, urban middle-class participants. Eschewing comfortable methods of travel, they choose physically demanding journeys, some as long as four months, in order to experience nature, enjoy cultural and historical patrimony, renew faith, or cope with personal trauma.

Frey's anthropological study focuses on the remarkable reanimation of the Road that has gained momentum since the 1980s. Her intensive fieldwork (including making the pilgrimage several times herself) provides a colorful portrayal of the pilgrimage while revealing a spectrum of hopes, discontents, and desires among its participants, many of whom feel estranged from society. The Camino's physical and mental journey offers them closer community, greater personal knowledge, and links to the past and to nature.

But what happens when pilgrims return home? Exploring this crucial question Frey finds that pilgrims often reflect deeply on their lives and some make significant changes: an artistic voice is discovered, a marriage is ended, meaningful work is found. Other pilgrims repeat the pilgrimage or join a pilgrims' association to keep their connection to the Camino alive. And some only remain pilgrims while on the road. In all, *Pilgrim Stories* is an exceptional prism through which to understand the desires and dissatisfactions of contemporary Western life at the end of the millennium.

"Feet are touched, discussed, massaged, [and] become signs of a journey well

traveled: 'I did it all on foot!' . . . Pilgrims give feet a power and importance not recognized in daily life, as a causeway and direct channel to the road, the past, meaningful relations, nature, and the self."

 [Download Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago ...pdf](#)

# Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain

By Nancy Louise Frey

## **Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain**

By Nancy Louise Frey

Each year thousands of men and women from more than sixty countries journey by foot and bicycle across northern Spain, following the medieval pilgrimage road known as the Camino de Santiago. Their destination is Santiago de Compostela, where the remains of the apostle James are said to be buried. These modern-day pilgrims and the role of the pilgrimage in their lives are the subject of Nancy Louise Frey's fascinating book.

Unlike the religiously-oriented pilgrims who visit Marian shrines such as Lourdes, the modern Road of St. James attracts an ecumenical mix of largely well-educated, urban middle-class participants. Eschewing comfortable methods of travel, they choose physically demanding journeys, some as long as four months, in order to experience nature, enjoy cultural and historical patrimony, renew faith, or cope with personal trauma.

Frey's anthropological study focuses on the remarkable reanimation of the Road that has gained momentum since the 1980s. Her intensive fieldwork (including making the pilgrimage several times herself) provides a colorful portrayal of the pilgrimage while revealing a spectrum of hopes, discontents, and desires among its participants, many of whom feel estranged from society. The Camino's physical and mental journey offers them closer community, greater personal knowledge, and links to the past and to nature.

But what happens when pilgrims return home? Exploring this crucial question Frey finds that pilgrims often reflect deeply on their lives and some make significant changes: an artistic voice is discovered, a marriage is ended, meaningful work is found. Other pilgrims repeat the pilgrimage or join a pilgrims' association to keep their connection to the Camino alive. And some only remain pilgrims while on the road. In all, *Pilgrim Stories* is an exceptional prism through which to understand the desires and dissatisfactions of contemporary Western life at the end of the millennium.

"Feet are touched, discussed, massaged, [and] become signs of a journey well traveled: 'I did it all on foot!' . . . Pilgrims give feet a power and importance not recognized in daily life, as a causeway and direct channel to the road, the past, meaningful relations, nature, and the self."

## **Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain**

**By Nancy Louise Frey Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #277760 in Books
- Published on: 1998-12-30
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.06" h x .89" w x 6.09" l, 1.17 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 298 pages

 [Download Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey

---

### Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

"Reading *Pilgrim Stories* is as close as one will ever get to the sights, sounds, anxieties, pains and deeper meanings of the Santiago pilgrimage, short of making the pilgrimage oneself. This is probably the most comprehensive as well as the most vivid account of the pilgrimage ever written. . . . A triumph of anthropological fieldwork unraveling a fine web of cultural and spiritual meanings."—Robert Bellah, author of *Habits of the Heart*

"The best thing about this book is the author's ear and attentiveness. She takes her often confused and disoriented subjects seriously, and in her reporting allows us to glimpse the dissatisfactions and frustrations of the contemporary West."—William A. Christian, Jr., author of *Visionaries*

From the Back Cover

"Reading *Pilgrim Stories* is as close as one will ever get to the sights, sounds, anxieties, pains and deeper meanings of the Santiago pilgrimage, short of making the pilgrimage oneself. This is probably the most comprehensive as well as the most vivid account of the pilgrimage ever written. . . . A triumph of anthropological fieldwork unraveling a fine web of cultural and spiritual meanings."--Robert Bellah, author of *Habits of the Heart*

"The best thing about this book is the author's ear and attentiveness. She takes her often confused and disoriented subjects seriously, and in her reporting allows us to glimpse the dissatisfactions and frustrations of the contemporary West."--William A. Christian, Jr., author of *Visionaries*

About the Author

**Nancy Louise Frey** is an anthropologist and writer. She lives on the Galician coast in Spain.

### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Mark Ames:**

The book *Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Why must we leave the great thing like a book *Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain*? A number of you have a different opinion about reserve. But one aim that book can give many details for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer with the book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, you can give for each other; it is possible to share all of these. Book *Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain* has simple shape but you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can seem the enormous world by open up and read a publication. So it is very wonderful.

**Jack Unger:**

This Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain book is simply not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is actually information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain without we comprehend teach the one who reading it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't be worry Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain can bring any time you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even cellphone. This Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain having excellent arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not truly feel uninterested in reading.

**Martin Hanson:**

Now a day people who Living in the era just where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources included can be true or not demand people to be aware of each information they get. How people have to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Examining a book can help people out of this uncertainty Information particularly this Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain book as this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it everybody knows.

**Gerard Armstrong:**

In this era which is the greater man or who has ability to do something more are more special than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you should do is just spending your time not much but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of several books in the top collection in your reading list is Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking upwards and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

**Download and Read Online Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey #GAPTUCDY8VH**

## **Read Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey for online ebook**

Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey Free PDF download, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey books to read online.

### **Online Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey ebook PDF download**

**Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey Doc**

**Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey Mobipocket**

**Pilgrim Stories: On and Off the Road to Santiago, Journeys Along an Ancient Way in Modern Spain By Nancy Louise Frey EPub**