

## Belorado - San Juan de Ortega

Once again pilgrims have to pay close attention to sections overlapping regular roads. This is a long section with some steep stretches, so try to take it easy. After leaving **Belorado**, the path leads to the small village of **Tosantos**, after 5 easy kilometres.

Very close by is **Villambistia**, with the parish church of San Esteban and its fountain with several pipes and the remains of the derelict Hospital de la Caridad. Another 2 kilometres away lies **Espinosa del Camino**, leading to the ruins of the monastery of San Félix, listed as Bien de Interés Cultural (a Spanish classification of historic buildings), where the remains of the founder of Burgos, Count Diego Rodríguez Porelos, are buried.

The next stop is **Villafranca Montes de Oca**, an ideal location for a break before the rest of the day's walk, which will be a steep hill overlooking the mountain ranges of Demanda and San Millán. From here, there are 8 kilometres of somewhat gentler walking left to **San Juan de Ortega**. This small town, beloved of pilgrims for its hospitality, is home to a monastery founded in the 12th century.

### El consejo del cartero

“Walking around the village of Villafranca Montes de Oca is highly advisable. One can enjoy a landscape of oak trees, holm oaks and pine trees. If you pay attention and you do not make much noise, you can even watch some of the animals who inhabit these forests: foxes, squirrels, and the like . . . Another interesting spot is the neighbourhood of La Revilla. From there you can take the road leading to the Ermita de la Virgen de Oca, 500 metres away from the village. If you still have the energy, you can continue to the dam on the river Oca. It's another 3 kilometres, but the place is really worth seeing”.

**Guendalina Rubio, Correos of Villafranca Montes de Oca.**

### Teléfonos de interés

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