

THE CAMINO OF MARYLAND



STEP BY STEP DAY BY DAY GUIDE

The Ark and the Dove

Sonnet I

By Joseph W. McPherson (1948 - 2019)

O, sing, Calliope, of that brave band Who crossed
Atlantic's broad and wat'ry scope
To found a venture known as Maryland
Inspired by faith and fed by fervent hope.
Tell of the woes they faced before they sailed.
Tell of the dangers they met on the sea.
Tell of the toils that settlement entailed.
Tell how they longed and worked for harmony. O,
warrn our souls from out our slothful frost
Make Calvert's noble vision like a sun,
Say never can a cause be truly lost
For never is a cause completely won.
But first, go back to when the strife began,
From whence would come the birth of Maryland.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, patron of Catholic schools, pray for us!

“Let your **chief study**
be to **acquaint**
yourself with God
because there is
nothing greater than
God, and because it
is the **only**
knowledge which
can fill the heart
with a **peace and**
joy, which nothing
can disturb.”

— ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON



DAY 1: Monday, June 9, 2025 (8.3 miles)

12:00PM- Camino begins - Point Lookout Tip (near light house)

Start

Left on Point Lookout Rd.

Right on Three Notch Rd.

Waypoint 1:

St. Michael's Church

16566 Three Notch Rd.

Ridge, Md 20680

Mass at 4PM

Left on Bennett Drive

Right on Point Lookout Rd.

Left of St. Peter Claver Rd.

End of Day 1:

St. Peter Claver Church

16922 St. Peter Claver Rd.

Ridge, MD 20604

Optional Evening Excursion

8:00pm Rosary

Travel by van to:

St. Inigoes Church

17617 St. Inigoes Rd.

St. Inigoes, MD 20684

Return to St. Peter Claver Church

DAY 2: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 (20.5 miles)

St. Peter Claver Church
16922 St. Peter Claver Rd.
Ridge, MD 20604

Mass at 7:30am

Start

Right on St. Peter Claver Rd
Left on Point Lookout Rd.

Waypoint 1:

Historic St. Mary's Chapel
18751 Hogaboom Lane
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

Left on Point Lookout Rd.

Optional Evening Excursion:

8:00PM Rosary

Travel by van to :

St. John Francis Regis Church
43950 St. John's Rd.
Hollywood, MD 20636

Waypoint 2:

Holy Face Church
20408 Point Lookout Rd.
Great Mills, MD 20604

Return to:

St. Mary's Ryken High School

Right on Point Lookout Rd
Left on Rte. 5 Bypass (Fenwick St.)
Left on Camp Calvert Rd.

End of Day 2:

St. Mary's Ryken High School
22600 Camp Calvert Rd.
Leonardtown, MD 20650

DAY 3: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 (22.0 miles)

St. Mary's Ryken High School
22600 Camp Calvert Rd.
Leonardtown, MD 20650
Mass at 8:00am

Start:

Right on Camp Calvert Rd.
Left on Fenwick St.
Right on Washington St.

Waypoint 1:

St. Aloysius Church
22800 Washington St.
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Right on Washington St.
Left on Point Lookout Rd.
Left on Newtowne Neck Rd.

Waypoint 2:

St. Francis Xavier Church
21370 Newtowne Neck Rd.
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Right on Newtowne Neck Rd.
Left on Bayside Rd.
Left on Budds Creek Rd.
Left on Colton Point Rd.

Waypoint 3:

Holy Angels Church
12340 Colton Point Rd.
Avenue, MD 20609

Right on Colton Point Rd.C
Left on Point Breeze Rd.

End of Day 3:

20545 Colton's Point Rd.
Colton's Point, MD 20626

DAY 4: Thursday, June 12, 2025 (9.7 miles)

Starting Point for the Purist's Camino

20545 Colton's Point Rd.
Colton's Point, MD 20626
(depart 8:00 am)

Take boats to St. Clement's Island

(boats available starting at 9:00 am)

(Mass at 11:30 am)

Take boats back to the mainland.

Start:

Left on Point Breeze Rd.
Right on Colton Point Rd.

Waypoint 1:

Holy Angels Church
12340 Colton Point Rd.
Avenue, MD 20609

Right on Colton Point Rd.
Left on Maddox Rd.

End of Day 4:

Sacred Heart Bushwood Church
23080 Maddox Rd.
Chaptico, MD 20618

DAY 5: Friday, June 13, 2025 (15.0 miles)

Sacred Heart Bushwood Church
23080 Maddox Rd.
Chaptico, MD 20618
(Mass at 8:00 am)

Start:

Right on Maddox Rd.
At circle continue straight on to Chaptico Rd.

Waypoint 1:

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
37575 Chaptico Rd.
Chaptico, MD 20659

Left on Chaptico Rd.
Right on Budds Creek Rd.
Right on Stine's Store Rd.
Slight right on Newport Church
Rd.
Right on St. Mary's Church Rd.

End of Day 5:

St. Mary's Newport Church
11555 St. Mary's Church Rd.
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

DAY 6: Saturday, June 14, 2025 (16.3 miles)

St. Mary's Church Newport
11555 St. Mary's Church Rd.
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
(Mass at 8:00 am)

Start:

On to St. Mary's Church Rd.
Right on Newport Church Rd.
Left on Penn's Hill Rd.
Right on Budds Creek Rd.
Right on Glasva School Rd.
Right on Robert Crain Hwy
Left on Irving Rd.
Turns into Chapel Point Rd.

Waypoint 1:

St. Ignatius Church - Chapel Point
8855 Chapel Point Rd.
Point Tobacco, MD 20646

Left on Chapel Point Rd.
Right on Locust Grove Rd.
Right on Old Stagecoach Rd.
Left on St. Mary's Ave.

End of Day 6:

Sacred Heart Church
201 St. Mary's Ave.
La Plata, MD 20646

DAY 7: Sunday, June 15, 2025 (10.5 miles)

Sacred Heart Church
201 St. Mary's Ave.
La Plata, MD 20646
(Mass at 7:00 am)

Start:

Left on St. Mary's Ave.
Left on E. Charles St.
Turns into Port Tobacco Rd.
Right on Quailwood Pkwy
Left on Hawthorne Rd.
Right on Mitchell Rd.
Right on Mt. Carmel Rd.

Waypoint 1:

Mount Carmel Monastery
5678 Mount Carmel Rd.
La Plata, MD 20696

Go out Mt. Carmel Rd.
Left on Mitchell St.
Right on Hawthorne Rd.
Right on Marshall Corner Rd
Left on St. Joseph's Way

End of Day 7:

St. Joseph's Pomfret Catholic
Church
4590 St. Joseph's Way
Pomfret, MD 20675

DAY 8: Monday, June 16, 2025 (16.3 miles)

St. Joseph's Pomfret Catholic Church
4590 St. Joseph's Way
Pomfret, MD 20675
(Mass at 9:00 am)

Start:

Go out St. Joseph's Way
Left on Marshall Corner Rd.
Left on Bensville Rd.
Left on Berry Rd.
Right on Bealle Hill Rd.
Turns into Livingston Rd
Left on Piscataway Rd

Waypoint 1:

St. Mary's of Piscataway Church
13401 Piscataway Rd.
Clinton, MD 20735

Left on Piscataway Rd.
Left on Old Branch Ave.

End of Day 8:

End of the Southern Camino Route

St. John the Evangelist Church
8908 Old Branch Ave.
Clinton, MD 20735

DAY 9: Tuesday, June 17, 2025 (16.5 miles)

St. John the Evangelist Church
8908 Old Branch Ave.
Clinton, MD 20735
(Mass at 8:30 am)

Start:

Right on Old Branch Ave.
Right on Allentown Rd.
Left on Forestville Rd.
Left on Pennsylvania Ave. (Rte. 4)
Right on Second St. NE

Waypoint 1:

St. Francis Xavier Church
2800 Pennsylvania Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20020

Right on Pennsylvania Ave
Right on 2nd St.

Waypoint 2:

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church
313 2nd St. NE
Washington, DC 20002

Right on 2 nd St. NE
Left on K St.
Left on North Capitol St.

Waypoint 3:

Gonzaga High School
St. Aloysius Church
19 Eye St. NW
Washington, DC 20001

Left on North Capitol St.
Veer Right on Lincoln Rd, NE
Left on Fourth St.

End of Day 9:

Basilica of the National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception
400 Michigan Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20017

DAY 10: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 (10.4 miles)

Basilica of the National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception
400 Michigan Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20017
(Mass at 8:00 am)

Start:

Right on Harewood Rd.

Waypoint 1:

Saint John Paul II National Shrine
3900 Harewood Rd. NE
Washington, DC 20017

2pm Rosary

Waypoint 2:

Little Sisters of the Poor
4200 Harewood RD NE
Washington, DC 20017

Left on North Capitol St.

Waypoint 3:

John Paul II Seminary
145 Taylor St, NE
Washington, DC 20017

Left on Taylor St.
Right on N Capitol St.
Turns into Blair Drive
Right on Georgia Ave.
Left on Forest Glen
Right on Rosensteel Ave.

Waypoint 4:

St. John the Evangelist Historic
Church
(Our Lady Queen of Poland Church)
9700 Rosensteel Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Left on Rosensteel Ave.
Right on Holman Ave.
Left on Gardiner Ave.
Right on Evans Dr.
Left on Georgia Ave.
Bear Left on Veirs Mill Rd.

End of Day 10:

The Avalon School
St. Catherine Laboure Church
11801 Claridge Rd.
Wheaton, MD

DAY 11: Thursday, June 19, 2025 (22.0 miles)

Start of the Northern Camino Route

The Avalon School
St. Catherine Laboure Church
11801 Claridge Rd.
Wheaton, MD 20902
(Mass at 8:30 am)

Start: Right on Veirs Mill Rd.

Waypoint 1:

Shrine of St. Jude
12701 Veirs Mill Rd.
Rockville, MD 20853

Right on Veirs Mill Rd.

Waypoint 2:

St. Mary's Catholic Church
520 Veirs Mill Rd.
Rockville, MD 20852

Right on Hungerford Drive (Rte. 355)
Turns into Frederick Rd. (Rte. 355)

Waypoint 3:

St. Martin of Tours Church
201 S. Frederick Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Right on S. Frederick Ave. (Rte. 355)
Right on path (right after Fulk's Corner
Ave.)
Left on W. Diamond Ave.
Turns into Clopper Rd.

Waypoint 4:

St. Rose of Lima Church
11701 Clopper Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Right on Clopper Rd.
Right on Clarksburg Rd. (Go under
railroad bridge)
Immediate left on Barnesville Rd.

End of Day 11:

St. Mary's Catholic Church
and Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima
18230 Barnesville Rd.
Barnesville, MD 20838

DAY 12: Friday, June 20, 2025 (20.6 miles)

St. Mary's Catholic Church and
Shrine of Our lady of Fatima
18230 Barnesville Rd.
Barnesville, MD 20838
(Mass at 9:00 am)

Start:

W. Harris Rd.
Turns into Mt. Ephraim Rd.
Left on Bear Ranch Rd.
Left on Park Mills Rd.
Right on Lily Pons
Turns into Oland Rd.
Right on New Design Rd.
Left on Manor Woods Rd.

Waypoint 1:

St Joseph-on-Carrollton-Manor
5843 Manor Woods Rd.
Frederick, Maryland 21703

End of Day 12:

St. John the Evangelist Church
118 E. Second St.
Frederick, MD 21701

Right on Manor Woods Rd.
Left on New Design Rd.
Left on Stadium Drive
Left on S. Market St.
Right on Clarke Place
Left on S. Carroll St.
Left on E. Second St.

DAY 13: Saturday, June 21, 2025 (19.2 miles)

St. John the Evangelist Church
118 E. Second St.
Frederick, MD 21701
(Mass at 8:00 am)

Start:

Left on E. Second St.
Right on N. Market St.
Turns into Liberty St.
Left on Woodsboro Pike (Main St.)
Left on Creagerstown Rd (Main St.)
Turns into Moser Rd.
Right on Trolley Trail

End of Day 13:

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church
103 N Church St.
Thurmont, MD 21788

DAY 14: Sunday, June 22, 2025 (8.1 miles)

Start of the Final Leg Camino

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

103 N. Church St.

Thurmont, MD 21788

(Rosary at 8:30 am)

Start:

Left on N. Church St.

Turns into Sabillasville Rd.

Right on Kelbaugh Rd.

Left on St. Anthony Rd.

Waypoint 1:

St. Anthony Shrine

St. Anthony Rd.

Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Right on Grotto Rd.

End of the Camino of Maryland:

The National Shrine

of Elizabeth Ann Seton

339 South Seton Ave.

Emmitsburg, MD 21727

(Mass at 1:30 pm)

Waypoint 2:

National Shrine Grotto

of Our Lady of Lourdes

16330 Grotto Rd.

Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Go through Campus

Left on Old Emmitsburg Rd.

Left on South Seton Ave.



FAQ

Who is the main sponsor of this event?

The Avalon School (avalonschools.org) in Wheaton, Maryland and the

BrookewoodSchool(brookewoodschool.org) in Kensington, Maryland and the Shrine of St. Elizabeth

Ann Seton(setonshrine.org) in Emmitsburg, Maryland are the main sponsors. Both schools have been organizing pilgrimages of 15 - 23.5 miles for the past 17 years. Rich McPherson, the President of Avalon and Brookewood and the headmaster of Brookewood is the main organizer of the event..

Why is it called the Camino of Maryland?

We are imitating the Camino of Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Instead of walking across Spain (450 - 500 miles) we will be walking across Maryland (218 miles) and, instead of St. James' tomb, we will be walking to the tomb of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, the first person born in our country to be canonized. She lived in Maryland and is the patron saint of Catholic Schools and the patron saint of Maryland. This is the 50th anniversary of her canonization (September 14, 1975).

When does the Camino of Maryland take place?

The Camino begins at 12:00 pm on Monday, June 9, 2025, at the tip of Point Lookout where the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River meet. It ends on Sunday, June 22, 2025, at the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Md with Mass celebrated at 1:30 pm. In between we will stop at historic churches. A van will leave Avalon at 9:00 am on Monday, June 9 and transport you to the start at Point Lookout, if need be.

How long is the Camino?

It is approximately 218 miles. It will be an average of 15.6 miles a day. The longest leg is 22 miles from St. Catherine Laboure in Wheaton, Maryland to St. Mary's in Barnesville. The shortest legs are the first and last days. They are between 8 and 9 miles.

Do you have to walk the whole Camino?

Certainly not. You can walk one leg, walk our southern route, walk our northern route, or walk each of the two weekends or any combination. Look at our website for all the possibilities.

How do I get back to my starting point if I join for a leg?

If you can't make your own arrangements, then an Avalon or Brookewood van will take you back to your car.

Do we walk as a group or at our own pace?

We would like to stay together but we understand that some pilgrims will walk slower than others. Each person will have road by road directions so if you fall back, you will still be able to find your way to each church. Google Maps is good if all else fails. It would be good to have at least one partner.

Where do we stay?

Pilgrims must make their own arrangements. Most pilgrims will camp out at the last stop of the day. Churches and schools and Boy Scouts have allowed us to camp out on their property and use their bathroom facilities. Some pilgrims will go home at night and return in the morning. Others will stay in a motel or an Airbnb. Pilgrims must be 18 years or older or be accompanied by an adult to stay overnight at the Camino of Maryland host sites.

Where are the stops?

You can go to our website — Camino-MD.org to find the complete route.

What about tents and equipment?

You should bring your own tents and sleeping bags. If you are not in a group, we will provide vans to move your equipment from day to day. Groups should provide their own transport. Some pilgrims will carry their own equipment.

What is the cost?

If you stay at a school or church for the night, we ask for a \$10.00 goodwill offering which will be donated to the school or church. If you stay at Ryan Hall at Catholic University, the cost is \$20.00 (this includes dinner, a room, and a hot breakfast). It will be \$4.00 for the boat to get to St. Clement's Island. Also, there will be a small cost to get to Point Lookout.

How do we eat?

Like the Camino in Spain, you are responsible for your own food. We will pass many restaurants and food stores. For a few of the stops at the end of the day, we will provide food trucks. A few of the churches and schools have offered to feed us. Also, Avalon and Brookewood vans will provide water, snacks, band aids, rides, and other needs all along the way.

What will the surfaces be like that we walk on?

Mostly roads. In Southern Maryland (Route 5) there are wide breakdown lanes. From Clinton, Maryland to a few miles past Frederick it will be mostly sidewalks. The final legs are a mix of breakdown lanes and roads with little or no breakdown lanes. There are some roads with narrow breakdown lanes in Southern Maryland, also. Fortunately, they are not heavily traveled. Stay to the extreme left and be aware. There are a few hills, but the route is mostly flat. There will be someone walking in front of all the pilgrims so that cars will slow down. Wear a bright-colored shirt! Also, we will have large construction signs placed every few miles in front of us saying, Hikers Ahead, Caution." Some jurisdictions might provide police.

What are some of the things that will happen during the Camino?

We will have Mass at the beginning of each day except the first day, June 9, Mass will be at 4:00 pm at St. Mary's in Ridge, Maryland; Thursday, June 12, Mass will be at 11:15 am on St. Clement's Island; Wednesday, June 18 Mass will be at 12:15 at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception; and on the final day, Sunday, June 22, the Mass will be at 1:30 pm at the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. We will pray the joyful, luminous, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries of the rosary each day along the Camino. Confession will be available. Some pilgrims might want to do some sightseeing or explore restaurants and pubs. Some evenings we'll have a fire, sing songs, enjoy cigars, beer, and wine. Always, there will be good fellowship.

Any final advice?

Get in walking shape. Wear bright-colored shirts. Bring two pairs of shoes. 4 pairs of socks. Pack lightly. Offer up any inconveniences for special intentions. Pray hard. Grow closer to God. Invoke St. Elizabeth Ann Seton often. Enjoy being outdoors. Tell others!

Who can I talk to if I have more questions?

You can go to our website Camino-MD.org and leave a message, and someone will get in touch with you, or you can contact Rich McPherson at rmcpherson1@gmail.com or call him at 301 442-5463.

