

## **Camiño de Santiago**

*Hope*

Catholicism

Galicia, Spain

January to June 2021

Manuel Valcárcel (46 years old)

After all these experiences in space and time, after more than four years since I began to think about this project, I had to take one final step in order to end a cycle, to move forward and to leave behind all I have lived.

As destiny has been my guide all this time, it brought me to a friend who talked to me about an ancient pilgrimage route that passed the Courel mountain range towards Santa María do Mao (O Incio, Lugo). This town is close to the French Route, and it was a place of pilgrimage since the close of the Middle Ages because Saint Euphrasius of Illiturgis, one of Seven Apostolic Men, lies here. In the same way as the Camino is not an end in itself, but a means to reach the saint's tomb in Santiago, I decided to continue my path throughout the ancient route, visiting my home in Monforte de Lemos and following Winter Way and reaching Santiago de Compostela and O Acoradoiro (Louro, Muros).

My journey is full of shared and lived experiences, of joys and woes, of doubts and fears, with the health problems I faced, and now everything is part of a path in which facts have been reordering ideas constantly.

Life goes on, here or elsewhere.