

FAQ for the Camino de Phoenix inaugural walk on Feb 8, 2025

What is the route, exactly?

The map and lots of other info can be found at caminodephoenix.com



What about parking and getting back to our cars?

Before you arrive, plan for getting back to the start after the pilgrimage. We will leave that up to you. You may carpool with others (leaving a car at Canaan in the Desert on 40th Street – the end point of the Camino), take an Uber or Waymo back to the starting line, etc. *see below for info about the start of the “short” Camino

When and where is the start?

The walk will start at 8:00am in the parking lot at CrossRoads United Methodist Church on Northern/Central. You will receive a map, etc. We will pray together and then launch people out from there. You will see several “staff” people who have walked the route several times and can answer questions as you walk (they will be wearing gold t-shirts). We will also have some tailing the last walkers on a bike to make sure that any needs are promptly addressed.

What about parking?

We have arranged with the church for our cars to be there for the morning. If you are planning to leave a car at Canaan, be aware that the gate does not open until sunrise. You can park on a side street if it is not yet open.

Will there be water on the trail?

During the walk, you are encouraged to bring a water bottle and any snacks you might desire. At the midway point (Dreamy Draw Park), there are water fountains. We will also have water at the end.

Bathrooms?

There are bathrooms at Dreamy Draw Park as well as Canaan in the Desert.

Are we walking in a group?

Yes, we will walk together but there is freedom to walk quietly by yourself or with another so you can pace things to be close to the group. We do encourage you to stay within a certain distance of those leading the walk – especially in finding the entry to the Mountain Preserve which goes under the 51. The entrance is just off the Dreamy Draw Parkway. See map. Also, when walking in the preserve, stay close!

How do I “do” the pilgrimage?

First, it is important to remember that it is not a race. The goal is to walk at the speed of God (which some have suggested is 3 miles an hour – the average walking speed of a human not in a hurry). Walking at the speed of God is also an invitation to do the pilgrimage with God. Open your heart to Him and what He will bring to your awareness during the walk. Praying as you go along, asking Him questions, reflecting on things He brings to you, etc... As you are walking with others, you may consider inviting reflection and sharing through questions and then giving space for prayerful thought and responses. The invitation is for more than “normal” conversation but prayerful ones.

What are some suggestions for praying or questions for reflecting on the Camino?

[See the document – Prayers for Pilgrimage](#)

What do we do at the end?

As you enter Canaan in the Desert on 40th Street, walk to the “Father” fountain that is in the middle of the property. The fountain has descriptions of God the Father with water spouts of drinkable water. Notice the one that expresses your experience of God on your Camino, perhaps offering a silent prayer of thanks. Receive a drink from that part of the fountain with the cups provided.

There, you will be greeted by members of our team who will give you a compostela (certificate of completion), pray a blessing over you, and take your picture.

*Short Camino ... this walk starts at the midway point of the full Camino. If you are planning to walk the short camino, plan on being at Dreamy Draw Park at 9:30am. You will be greeted by several people from our SFSAZ team who will point you in the right direction and give you a map. You will find them wearing gold t-shirts at the top of the stairs near the bathrooms.