



St James and St John Church of England Primary School



The scallop shell of St James



Scenes from the village of Montaut in the Lot et Garonne region of France. The church in Montaut was on the pilgrimage route.

On the pilgrimage route known as the Camino Santiago de Compostela, if a traveller were to see a scallop shell carved above a doorway, that would indicate they were welcome to rest on their journey. Here they would be able to take a scoop of food, enough to fill a scallop shell.

Further information

Santiago de Compostela is the capital of northwest Spain's Galicia region. It's known as the culmination of the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route, and the alleged burial site of the Biblical apostle St. James. His remains reputedly lie within the Catedral de Santiago de Compostela, consecrated in 1211, whose elaborately carved stone facades open onto grand plazas within the medieval walls of the old town.

The Eagle of St John

The picture of an eagle is a powerful and encouraging image of trust and security in God. It is particularly relevant for Western culture, where the eagle is a prominent symbol of power and strength.

Eagles also represent honesty, truth, majesty, strength, courage, wisdom, power and freedom. As they roam the sky, they are believed to have a special connection to God.