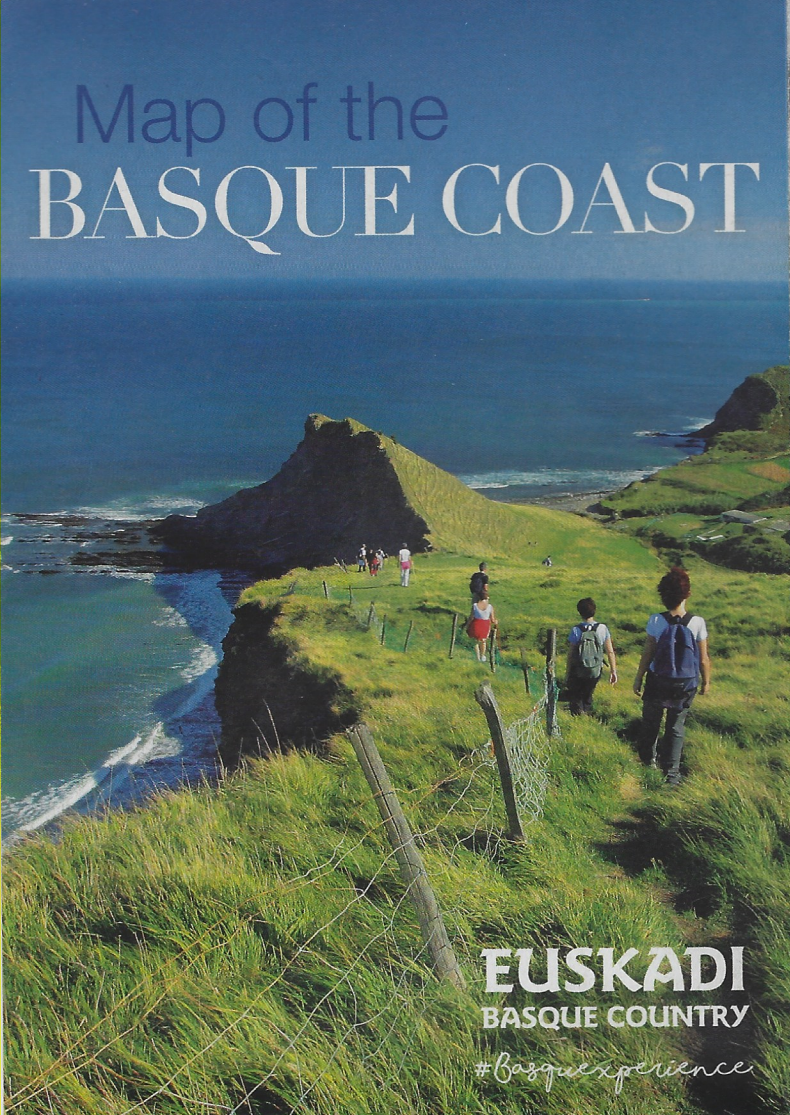
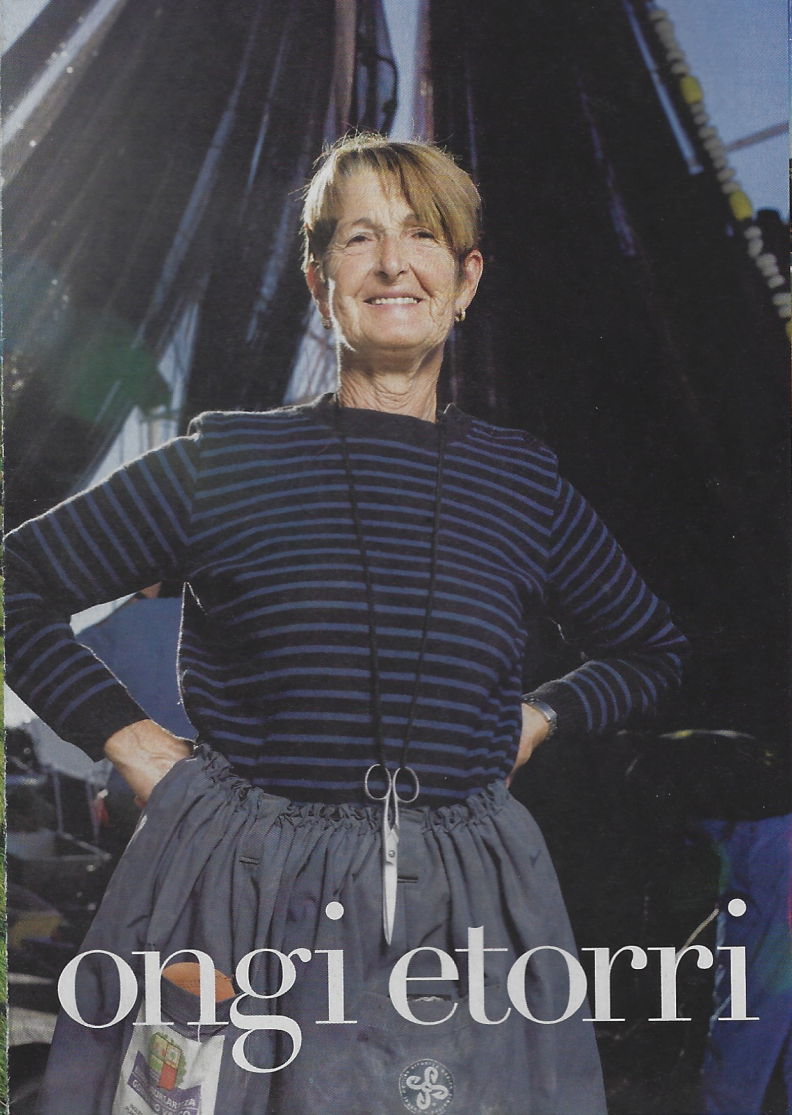


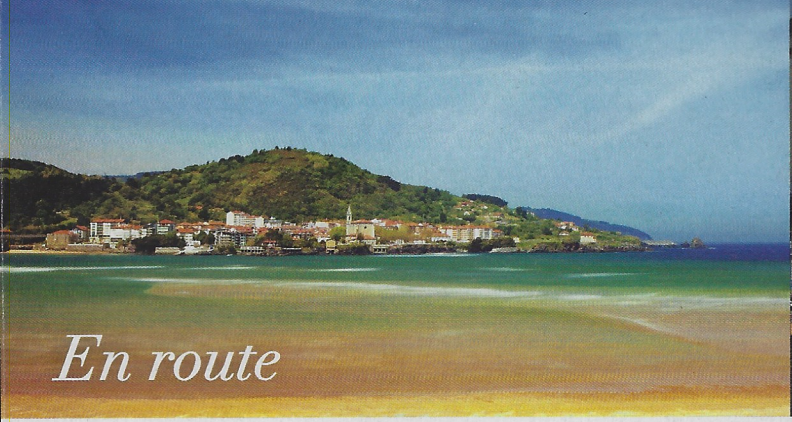
# Map of the BASQUE COAST



**EUSKADI**  
BASQUE COUNTRY  
#BasqueExperience



**ongi etorri**



## En route

222 kilometres from Muskiz, bordering Cantabria, to Hondarribia, on the border with France. Routes along coastal roads between Bilbao and San Sebastián, or for excursions from your accommodation to some of the must-see places. Along the way, lookouts on cliffs, exceptional natural spaces, villages with seafaring traditions, beaches... Around every bend, a reason to stop: a farmhouse, a vineyard... So many options and surprises that will interrupt your planned route.



Tip: if you're in a rush to get to the restaurant or the hotel, you can take a shortcut via the AP-8 motorway, which crosses the entire coast, though this may mean missing some of the most beautiful places in the world. Would you dare miss out? :)



## Seafaring people and towns

Few cultures have had a relationship as special, lasting and committed to the sea as the Basques. Villages with a seafaring soul that tell stories of brave and daring women and men. People with a special way of understanding life who transmit the unmistakable rhythm of living with the sea to everyone who visits the Basque coast.



And museums that care for and display the legacy of the Basque coast, [www.losmuseosdelacostavasca.eus](http://www.losmuseosdelacostavasca.eus)

There are romantics who rebuild old ships. Houses that keep the memory of fishermen alive. A World Heritage "hanging" bridge. Lighthouses that shed light on history from inside. Museums that make you feel good. Sharks, turtles, fish and forests full of colours. Maritime, naval, Roman, and even txakoli wine museums!



## Activities on land and sea

The sort of places that remain in the mind's eye forever (and on your mobile). Lookouts, watchtowers, lighthouses and hermitages up high. World-renowned biosphere reserves, national parks, bird paradises and cliffs.

Over a hundred companies of active and nautical tourism with a varied and full range of activities: boat trips to see San Sebastián or the flysch between Zumaia, Deba and Mutriku, or to visit picturesque ports, rowing past the Guggenheim, in San Juan de Gaztelugatxe or in Urdaibai, dolphin and whale watching etc.



**SURFING** here is the real thing. Practicing it or watching it from the beach, the Basque coast offers unbeatable options for combining surfing and tourism.

And in addition, Surfing Euskadi [www.surfingeuskadi.eus](http://www.surfingeuskadi.eus), with 70 schools, accommodation and institutions committed to offering the best surfing tourism experience.



## Coastal gastronomy

Seafood dishes which have become emblematic of Basque cuisine: cod, hake, marmitako, kokotxas, baby squid in their own ink... The best fish, grilled: turbot, sole, sea bream, mackerel.

Bars specialising in pintxos, terraces overlooking the sea and restaurants featuring world-renowned chefs.

And of course, canned goods: longfin tuna belly and fillets, anchovies, marinated white anchovies... paired with a glass of txakoli, the unique Basque white wine made with local grapes.



The Euskadi Gastronomika seal guarantees the quality of the establishment and the food and wine activities.



**1**

### Bizkaia Bridge

An architectural marvel declared a World Heritage Site, in operation since 1893. It has an impressive panoramic walkway. Once off the bridge, options on land and sea in Getxo, Portugalete and Santurtzi.

**2**

### Bay of Plentzia and Gorliz

Places to rest, a medieval village, a fantastic active tourism offer for all ages (hiking along cliffs, surfing, kayaking...) even an underwater winery! Also accessible by metro from Bilbao.

**3**

### San Juan de Gaztelugatxe Chapel

The most emblematic place on the Basque Coast. Number 1 on the list of natural wonders of Spain. The sailors climbed to the chapel to ask for protection before setting sail, a tradition that is still maintained today. The bell also has its own history...

**4**

### Urdaibai Nature Reserve

The most important natural environment on the coast, together with the nature reserves of Aiako Harria and Pagoeta. Biosphere Reserve since 1984. The area with the greatest landscape and ecological diversity of the Basque Coast and which brings together some of the most visited places in the Basque Country.

**5**

### Santa Catalina Lighthouse

It is one of the coastal "sentinels" with the best views. It houses an interpretation centre where you can make an exciting (virtual) boat voyage and learn the secrets of navigation. To round off this "seafaring" plan: the ports of Lekeitio and Ondarroa.

**6**

### Basque Coast Geopark

A spectacular landscape marked by flysch (geological formations millions or years old) on the cliffs of Mutriku, Deba and Zumaia, which can be visited on foot or by boat. This can also be seen from Getxo, Sopela and Barrika.

**7**

### Getaria: Elcarano and Balenciaga

The beautiful birthplace of Elcano, the first sailor to circumnavigate the Earth, and Balenciaga, the great couturier, is also known for its grilled fish, txakakoli vineyards that reach as far as Zarautz and Orrio, and... a "mouse"!

**8**

### San Sebastián

A cultural, dynamic city by the sea, which as well as offering an unrivalled setting, holds the world record for the most Michelin Stars per inhabitant. It shares with Bilbao, at the other end of the Basque coast, an extensive maritime history.

**9**

### Pasaia and Alabaola sea factory

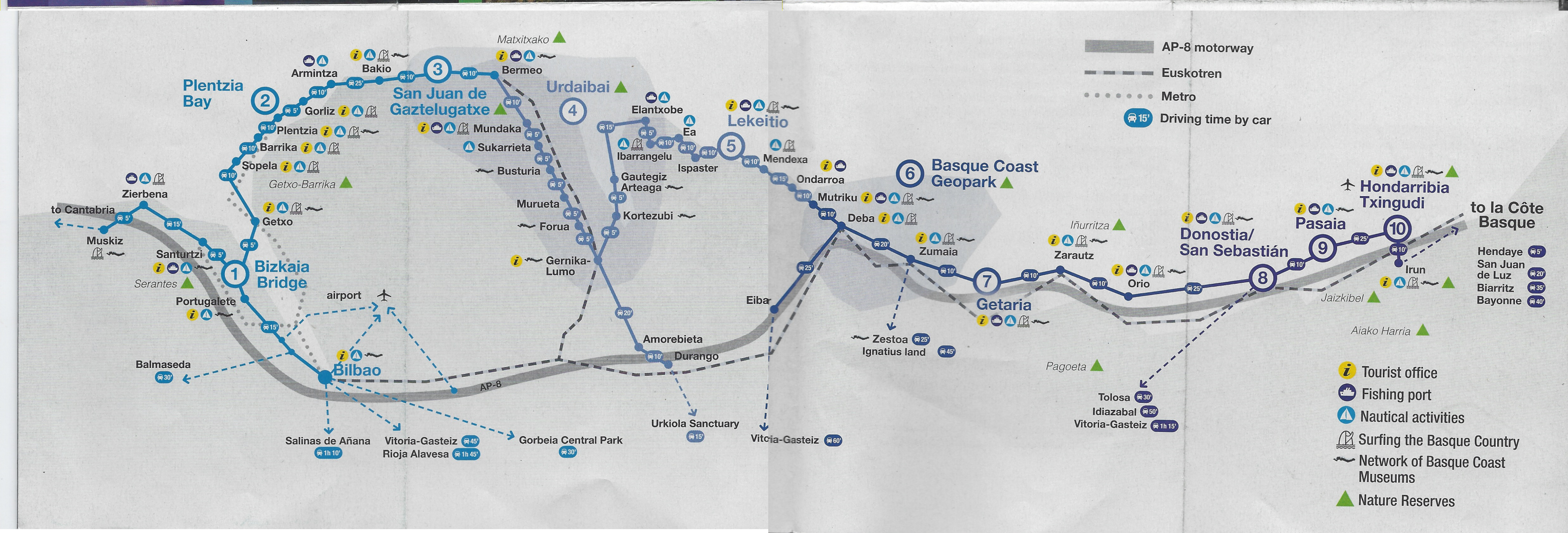
Alabaola, a shipyard converted into a living museum, is building a 16th-century whaling ship in a unique bay where you can also visit a tuna boat and enjoy some of the world's best seafood.

**10**

### Txingudi Bay and Hondarribia

An ornithological paradise and an ideal environment for water sports and activities between Hendaye and Hondarribia, a medieval city that conserves its maritime, gastronomic and scenic heritage with care.

The 10 must-see places on the Basque Coast



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**EUSKO JAURLARITZA**  
GOBIERNO VASCO

EUSKO GOBERNUA  
Ministry of Economy, Industry and Commerce

Eusko Jaurlaritzaren Argitalpen Zerbitzu Nagusia  
Servicio Central de Publicaciones del Gobierno Vasco

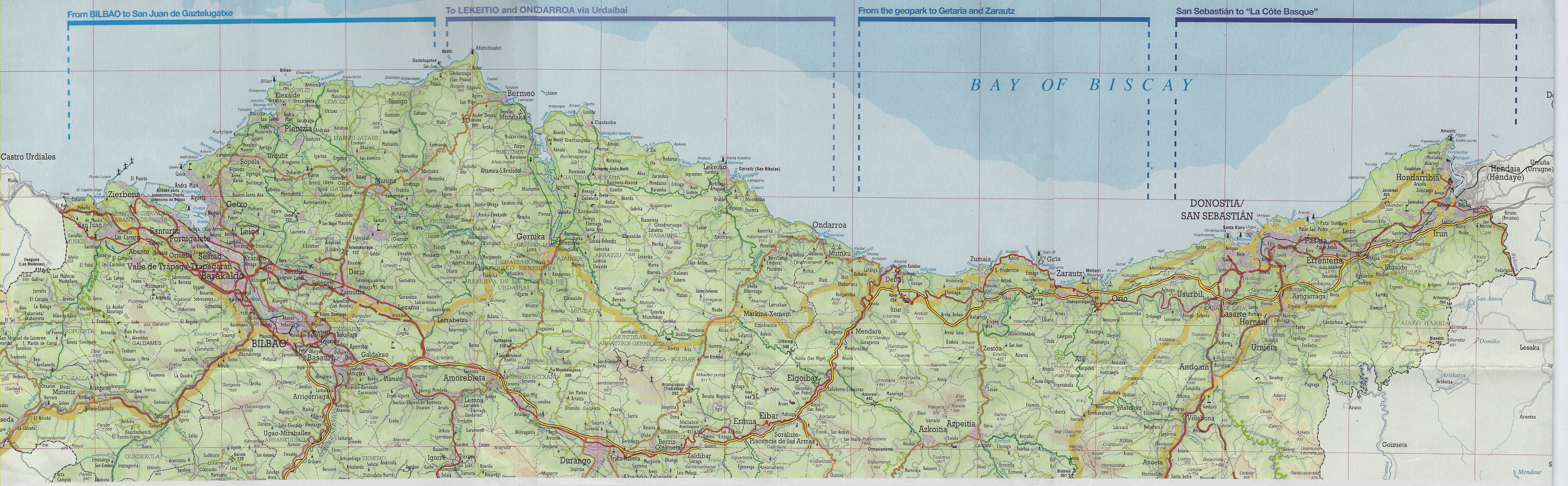
### The 10 essentials

There are many reasons that make the Basque Country an unmissable destination. You'll find this out when you get to know its people, its history and its varied heritage, and even more so when you discuss it over a great meal.

[tourism.euskadi.eus/en/](http://tourism.euskadi.eus/en/)

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## From Bilbao to San Juan de Gaztelugatxe

Approx. route distance in km: 73 km

Approx. driving time: 2h 10'

Direct routes:

- Bilbao-San Juan de Gaztelugatxe: 35 km (45')
- San Sebastián-San Juan de Gaztelugatxe: 122 km (1h 45')

**By private vehicle:**

From Bilbao you can get to the coast along fast roads or along the road that follows the estuary which allows you to observe the area's industrial heritage. Once on the coast, you have to travel along secondary roads which cut through mountains and cliffs, offering views of the sea, like the one that leads to Gaztelugatxe.

**By public transport:**

Metro Bilbao's line 1 takes you to Plentzia stopping at all the coastal towns in between, and Line 2 takes you through Portugalete and ends at Santurtzi, [www.metrobilbao.eus](http://www.metrobilbao.eus). The Renfe local train service runs the entire left bank to Muskiz, [www.renfe.com](http://www.renfe.com). Bizkaibus provides services to all municipalities on the coast, with more frequency during the summer season, [www.bizkaia.eus/bizkaibus](http://www.bizkaia.eus/bizkaibus) and the [Bizkaibus app](http://www.bizkaibus.com). The Bizkaia Bridge is a unique option for crossing the estuary both on foot and by car, [www.puente-colgante.com](http://www.puente-colgante.com). There is also a ferry service that connects both banks. The boarding points are located very close to the bridge, [www.turismoriabilbao.com](http://www.turismoriabilbao.com).



### Plans

- Itsasur panoramic walk from Muskiz towards Cantabria
- Between Santurce and Bilbao by boat along the estuary
- Vertigo on the panoramic walkway of Bizkaia Bridge
- Sailboat trips from Getxo
- Surf in Bakio, Muskiz, Sopela, Plentzia and Gorliz
- Boat trip to Gaztelugatxe, from Bermeo

### To see/visit

- BILBAO**  
Ría de Bilbao Maritime Museum
- PORTUGALETE**  
Historic quarter, seafront promenade and Bizkaia bridge
- SANTURTZI**  
Fishermen's Association and the Agurtza fishing boat
- ZIERBENA / MUSKIZ**  
La Arena beach and El Pobal Smithy
- GETXO**  
Old port, Aquarium and Bizkaia Bridge
- SOPELA / BARRIKA**  
Beaches, surfing and cliffs
- PLENTZIA**  
Historic quarter, bay and underwater winery
- GORLIZ**  
Beach, lighthouse and Astondo dunes
- LEMOIZ**  
Armitza fishing district
- BAKIO**  
Beach and txakoli museum and wineries
- BERMEO**  
San Juan de Gaztelugatxe

### Tourist information

- MUSKIZ / ZIERBENA**  
946 802 976 · [www.visitkarterri.com](http://www.visitkarterri.com)
- SANTURTZI**   
944 839 494 · [www.turismo.santurtzi.eus](http://www.turismo.santurtzi.eus)
- PORTUGALETE**   
944 729 314 · [www.portugalete.com](http://www.portugalete.com)
- BILBAO AIRPORT (LOIU)**  
944 031 444 · [www.euskaditurismo.eus](http://www.euskaditurismo.eus)
- BILBAO TOURISM**   
944 795 760 · [www.bilbaoturismo.net](http://www.bilbaoturismo.net)
- GETXO**   
944 910 800 · [www.getxo.eus/turismo](http://www.getxo.eus/turismo)
- SOPELA**   
944 065 519 · [turismo.sopelaulda.org](http://turismo.sopelaulda.org)
- PLENTZIA**   
946 774 199 · [www.plentzia.org](http://www.plentzia.org)
- GORLIZ**   
946 774 348 · [www.visitgorliz.com](http://www.visitgorliz.com)
- BAKIO**   
946 193 395 · [www.bakio.org](http://www.bakio.org)

## To Lekeitio and Ondarroa via Urdaibai

Approx. route distance in km: 67 km

Approx. driving time: 2h

Direct routes:

- Bilbao-Bermeo: 34 km (35')
- Bilbao-Ondarroa: 62 km (55')
- San Sebastián-Lekeitio: 72 km (1h 20')
- San Sebastián-Bermeo: 121 km (1h 30')

**By private vehicle:**

This route runs along the coast or between forests and meadows, with some winding sections but always offering wonderful views. You can return to the starting point by taking the A8 motorway.

**By public transport:**

Bizkaibus provides services to all municipalities on the coast, with more frequency during the summer season. From Bilbao there are lines to Bermeo, Lekeitio and Ondarroa. Gernika is the connection hub for this area of Bizkaia, [www.bizkaia.eus/bizkaibus](http://www.bizkaia.eus/bizkaibus) and the [Bizkaibus app](http://www.bizkaibus.com). Lurraldebus connects San Sebastián and Lekeitio via Ondarroa, [www.lurraldebus.eus](http://www.lurraldebus.eus). You can also get to Bermeo by train. The section between Gernika and Bermeo on the left bank of the Urdaibai estuary is well worth it, [www.euskotren.eus](http://www.euskotren.eus).

### Plans

- Surf in Mundaka, one of the best waves in the world, and Laga
- Travel along the Urdaibai estuary, by boat, canoe or paddle surf
- Elantxobe and its rotating square
- Sail with Antolin at the Lekeitio lighthouse
- See the fish being unloaded at the port of Ondarroa

### To see/visit

- BERMEO**  
Port, Fishermen's Museum and canneries
- MUNDAKA**  
Surfing, port and Ermita de Santa Catalina
- SUKARRIETA**  
Txatxarramendi Island
- BUSTURIA**  
Urdaibai Ekoetxea Interpretation Centre
- GERNIKA**  
Meeting House and Museum of Peace
- KORTEZUBI**  
Oma Forest and the Sartimamiñe caves
- GAUTEGIZ ARTEAGA**  
Urdaibai Bird Centre
- IBARRANGELU**  
Laida and Laga beaches, and San Pedro de Atxara lookout
- ELANTXOBE**  
Village and fishing port
- EA**  
Beach and seaport
- ISPASTER**  
Ogeña beach
- LEKEITIO**  
Santa Catalina lighthouse, port and basilica
- MEINDEXA**  
Karraspio beach and the Marietrotta mill
- ONDARROA**  
Historic quarter, port and canneries

### Tourist information

- BERMEO**  
946 179 154 · [www.visitbermeo.eus](http://www.visitbermeo.eus)
- MUNDAKA**   
946 177 201 · [www.mundakatourismo.com](http://www.mundakatourismo.com)
- GERNIKA - LUMO**   
946 255 892 · [www.gernika-lumo.eus](http://www.gernika-lumo.eus)
- LEKEITIO**   
946 844 017 · [www.lekeitio.org](http://www.lekeitio.org)
- ONDARROA**   
946 831 951 · [www.ondarroa.eus](http://www.ondarroa.eus)
- EA**  
649 354 834 · [www.eaturismo.com](http://www.eaturismo.com)

## From the Geopark to Getaria and Zarautz

Approx. route distance in km: 38 km

Approx. driving time: 1h

Direct routes:

- Bilbao-Mutriku: 69 km (1h)
- Bilbao-Orio: 88.5 km (1h 10')
- San Sebastián-Mutriku: 48 km (50')
- San Sebastián-Orio: 17 km (25')

**By private vehicle:**

Route that combines secondary roads overlooking the sea and motorway for getting to the start of the route and/or return to the point of origin.

**By public transport:**

Euskotren offers a train service between San Sebastián and Deba, and then a bus as far as Mutriku, with stops in all the towns along the way. Lurraldebus offers a San Sebastián-Mutriku line via the motorway. By combining both means of transport you can enjoy wonderful views over cliffs and beaches along the route, [www.lurraldebus.eus](http://www.lurraldebus.eus), [www.euskotren.eus](http://www.euskotren.eus).



### Plans

- Routes on foot or by boat through the Geopark
- A dip in the natural pools of Mutriku
- Privileged view of the sunset from the Ermita de San Telmo in Zumaia
- Eat grilled fish accompanied by txakoli
- With family, your partner, or alone. Surf in Zarautz
- Row along the Orío estuary

### To see/visit

- MUTRIKU**  
Urban palaces, Nautilus Geological Centre and Geopark
- DEBA**  
Beach, Church of Santa Maria and Geopark
- ZESTOA**  
Ekainberri Cave
- ZUMAIA**  
Itzurri beach, historic quarter and Geopark
- GETARIA**  
Elcano, historic quarter overlooking the sea, Balenciaga Museum
- ZARAUTZ**  
The longest beach in the Basque Country, the Mollari docks and the Photomuseum
- ORIO**  
Historic quarter crossed by the Camino de Santiago and the Arraunetxe rowing center

### Tourist information

- MUTRIKU**   
943 603 378 · [www.mutriku.eus](http://www.mutriku.eus)
- DEBA**   
943 192 452 · [www.deba.eus](http://www.deba.eus)
- ZUMAIA**   
943 143 396 · [www.zumaia.eus](http://www.zumaia.eus)
- GETARIA**   
943 140 957 · [www.getariaturismo.eus](http://www.getariaturismo.eus)
- ZARAUTZ**   
943 830 990 · 943 890 377 (summer)  
[www.turismozarautz.eus](http://www.turismozarautz.eus)
- ORIO**   
943 835 565 · [www.turismo.orio.eus](http://www.turismo.orio.eus)

## San Sebastián to "La Côte Basque"

Approx. route distance in km: 24 km

Approx. driving time: 55'

Direct routes:

- San Sebastián-Irun: 22 km (30')
- San Sebastián-Biarritz: 50 km (55')
- San Sebastián-Bayonne: 54 km (1h)
- Bilbao-San Sebastián: 102 km (1h 10')

**By private vehicle:**

Route that combines national and secondary roads, with the option of returning by motorway. We recommend taking the secondary roads between towns, and in particular the local road Gi-3440 on Mount Jaizkibel between Pasaia and Hondarribia, short but with spectacular views.

**By public transport:**

The Ekialdebus lines are an easy way to travel between San Sebastián, Pasaia, Hondarribia and Irun, [www.ekialdebus.eus](http://www.ekialdebus.eus). Renfe's local train service connects San Sebastián and Irun, [www.renfe.com](http://www.renfe.com) and Euskotren, San Sebastián and Hendaye, [www.euskotren.eus](http://www.euskotren.eus). Another interesting option is to travel by boat. In summer there is a line between San Sebastián and Pasaia, and throughout the year in Pasaia there is a motorboat service that crosses the bay and connects San Pedro and Donibane, and in Hondarribia a maritime transport line to Hendaye, [www.ciudadansanbastian.com](http://www.ciudadansanbastian.com), [www.turismopasaia.com](http://www.turismopasaia.com), [www.jolaski.com](http://www.jolaski.com).



### Plans

- A boat trip through the bays of La Concha, Pasaia and Txingudi
- An unforgettable walk around the most beautiful bay in the world
- Views of Txingudi from the Tower of Jaizkibel
- Talaia coastal footpath between San Sebastian and Hendaye
- A workshop of traditional cuisine, pintxos or preserves

### To see/visit

- SAN SEBASTIÁN**  
The three beaches and el Peine del Viento, the fishing port, Aquarium, The Naval Museum and the San Telmo Museum, Tabakalera
- PASAIÁ**  
Albaola, The Sea Factory of the Basques, Old town, Victor Hugo's House Museum and Mater boat
- LEZO**  
Historic quarter and Towers of Jaizkibel
- HONDARRIBIA**  
Jaizkibel and the Ermita de Guadalupe, medieval quarter and La Marina district
- IRUN**  
Museum of Oiasso, Plaiaundi ecological park and Peñas de Aia national park

### Tourist information

- SAN SEBASTIÁN TOURISM**   
943481166  
[www.sansebastianturismo.com](http://www.sansebastianturismo.com)
- PASAIÁ**   
943 341 556 · [www.oarsoaldeaturismoa.eus](http://www.oarsoaldeaturismoa.eus)
- HONDARRIBIA**   
943 645 458 · [www.bidasaturismo.com](http://www.bidasaturismo.com)
- IRUN**  
943 020 732 · [www.bidasaturismo.com](http://www.bidasaturismo.com)

INFORMATION ON "LA CÔTE BASQUE" AT:  
[www.pays-basque.tourisme64.com](http://www.pays-basque.tourisme64.com)