

## Wine and Mountains Tour PC4

### Navarra - Huesca - Rioja - Basque Country

A ten day tour through the western Pyrenees to the southern deserts and the vineyards of Rioja, finishing in Bilbao and the Basque Country



by Casas Cantabricas



### Summary

From Northern Navarra, this route will take you into the high mountains of Huesca, the dramatic desert landscape of Las Bardenas, through Navarran wine-country to La Rioja and on to Bilbao.

Straddling the ancient kingdoms of Castile, Navarra and Aragon, here you'll find some of Spain's finest castles and Romanesque churches as well as some of its best modern architecture among the vines in La Rioja and, of course, in Bilbao's iconic Guggenheim Museum.

### Your Route

#### Tour Highlights:

- Baztan valley & Basque coast
- Las Bardenas Reales & Medieval Uncastillo & Sos
- Castillo de Loarre & Mallos de Riglo- Superb birdwatching & wild flowers
- National Parks Ordesa, Monte Perdido
- Hecho and Anso Valley
- Old-favourite wines of Rioja & Navarra
- Bilbao with the Guggenheim museum

#### Travel Tips:

Brittany Ferries to Bilbao or Santander from Plymouth & Portsmouth.

**Flights to Bilbao** from Manchester, BA from Heathrow or Vueling from Gatwick

**Flights to Biarritz** - Ryanair from Stansted or Dublin



### Itinerary Overview

Stage	Itinerary	Region	Location	Hotel, Room *	Travel/drive time
			Arriving Bilbao, Santander or Biarritz		
1	Day 1 & 2	West Navarra	Amaiur	HNAV5 Palace hotel in the Navarran Baztan Valley, 1 x Standard room (twin beds)	2hrs
2	Day 3 & 4	Valle de Tena	Tramacastilla	HTEN1 Mountain hotel with Spa, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	3hrs
3	Day 5 & 6	Zaragoza	Uncastillo	HUNC1 Historic posada in medieval setting, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	2hrs 20mins
4	Day 7 & 8	La Rioja	Sajazarra	HSAJ1 Historic hotel, La Rioja, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	2hrs 20mins
5	Day 9 & 10	Basque Country	Monte Artxanda, Bilbao	HBIL1 City hotel, balcony of Bilbao, 1 x Double room (2 sharing)	1hr 20mins
			Departing Bilbao, Santander or Biarritz		20mins to Bilbao airport

\* Double room (2 sharing) can be either double or twin bedded. If you have specific requirements, please let us know.

### Your Itinerary

What the cost includes:

- Two people in rooms as detailed, bed and breakfast accommodation in each hotel
- 4 door economy class car hire for the duration or ferry crossings to Spain
- Point-to-point directions
- Complementary map and North Spain guidebook
- Our own restaurant guide and Vamoos travel app
- NB Flights not included

If you would like to book this itinerary please call us at your earliest convenience.

If, on the other hand, you require further help or information or wish to investigate alternatives please don't hesitate to contact us.

### Stage 1



#### Region: North-west Navarra

Rolling green valleys of Baztan & Bidasoa near the coast in the west  
Explore the historic, pretty villages of Lesaka, Etxalar, Elizondo...  
Dip into the picture-postcard French Pais Basque  
Ride the train to the top of La Rhune for stunning views of the Bay of Biscay  
The delightful 39km Via Verde de Bidasoa – a Paradise for cyclists & walkers alike  
Pop to the coast at Hondarribia, Biarritz or San Sebastian

#### Palace hotel in the Navarran Baztan Valley

Set in a peaceful spot surrounded by lush, green mountain scenery with the pretty whitewashed houses of the village below, this small yet elegant hotel is located in historic Amaiur, one of the loveliest of the many delightful villages for which the valley of Baztán is justly famous. The village's strategic position, at the foot of the Otsondo mountain pass, has led to its being the scene of historic battles and nowadays makes it the perfe...[Read More](#)



### Stage 2



#### Region: Huesca, Valle de Tena

Walking, climbing and all mountain activities. Stunning scenery.  
Reindeer, bison, lynx amongst the woods in La Cuniacha Pyrenean Wildlife Park  
The unique monastery of San Juan de la Peña, set into the mountain rock  
Huesca capital, renowned for its gastronomy and Romanesque architecture.  
Spa baths at Panticosa - the height of luxury  
A treasure-trove of Romanesque churches in the Tena Valley and nearby

#### Mountain hotel with Spa

This truly delightful hotel offers a spot of pampering in stark yet delicious contrast to the rugged mountain terrain in which it is set. After a day's rugged hiking what better than to relax in the spa and enjoy the local gastronomic delights in the gourmet restaurant. Though parts of the building date back to the 15th century the hotel was built in 2003 using natural materials in keeping with the local architectural style whilst offering a v...[Read More](#)





### Stage 3



#### Region: Northern Zaragoza

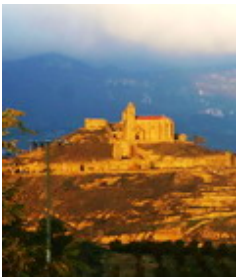
Uncastillo - Spain's best-kept 12th century Romanesque village.  
 'Spaghetti Western' landscapes in Las Bardenas Reales biosphere reserve  
 Sos del Rey Catolico - birthplace of Fernando the Catholic King  
 Walking, cycling, mountain biking, birdwatching, canoeing...  
 Imposing Castillo de Loarre and nearby stunning rock formations of Mallos de Riglos.  
 Olite, Javier, Leyre - a medieval smorgasbord  
 Dramatic gorges of Lumbier and Arbayun  
 Senda Viva park and zoo - a great day out for the kids.

#### Historic posada in medieval setting

Walk out of the door of this lovingly restored 18th century town house and step straight back in time into 12th century medieval Uncastillo, Spain's finest Romanesque site. Here you'll find no 'Old Town' just a living museum, untouched by the passing of time. Near the once-strategic border of Navarre and Aragón the local area boasts an architectural heritage of immense importance, including the castles of Javier, Olite and the colossal Loarre...[Read More](#)



### Stage 4



#### Region: La Rioja wine region

La Rioja Alavesa, where the mountains give shelter to the best wineries  
 Riojan cuisine- excellent local ingredients with a touch of Basque flair  
 A history of architecture from cave-dweller to Gehry  
 Medieval towns such as Laguardia, thriving centers of the wine trade  
 Dinastia Vivanco Museum of Wine Culture, one of the finest private collections in the world.  
 Izki Golf, two courses in the midst of the beautiful Nature Park of Izki

#### Historic hotel, La Rioja

At one time an inn, this 19th century mansion in the medieval village of Sajazarra (meaning Lake of Flowers) in the Rioja Alta region, has been lovingly and carefully restored by its owners to make a comfortable and relaxing small hotel. Great attention has been paid to maintaining its original features and objets d'art and other curiosities from the region blend in with antique furniture. There is even an old barber's chair in the entrada! ...[Read More](#)



### Stage 5



#### Region: Bilbao & the Basque Coast

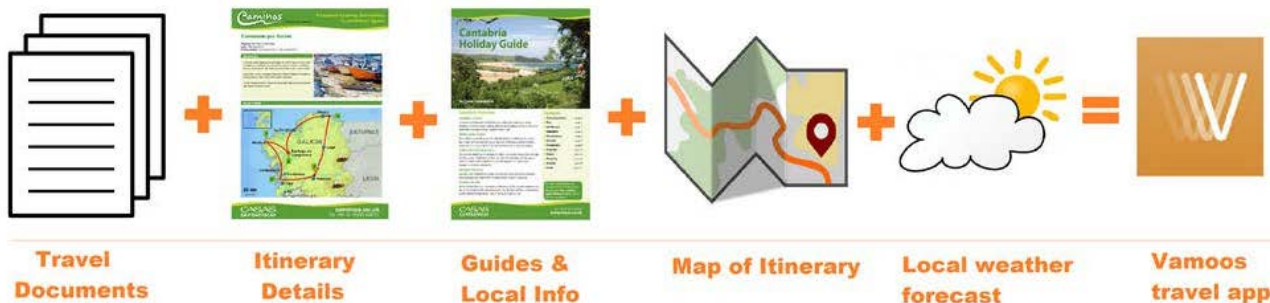
Frank Gehry's Guggenheim museum & nearby Bellas Artes  
World famous Basque cuisine - pintxos or something more substantial  
Basque coast, lovely beaches, spectacular rock formations  
Head for the hills - great walking not far from the city  
San Sebastian, Belle Epoque elegance by the sea  
Birdwatching & breathtaking scenery; Urdaibai biosphere reserve  
Catch the tube to the waves & get surfing!

#### City hotel, balcony of Bilbao

Set high on Monte Artxanda, the "balcony of Bilbao", this small family-run hotel offers all the tranquility of a rural environment with fantastic views over and easy access to the city of Bilbao (a short drive or bus ride, or a half hour's walk). You can literally stay in the hills and walk to the Guggenheim! The hotel is an authentic Vizcayan "caserio", a large stone built country house, and its sixteen spacious rooms are comfortably furnishe...[Read More](#)



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- point to point directions
- regional guides to the areas you will be visiting
- a general food and vocab guide
- a map with each hotel geo located
- directions to find each hotel (embedded within the map)
- local weather forecast

Also, if you have any other travel documents that you'd like to load to the application you can send them to us and we'll load them on there for you.

#### What our clients say...

*"We loved your Vamoos app - it really enhanced our pre-holiday planning and meant we had everything at our fingertips without having to have WiFi during the trip. The detail provided was exceptional. Everyone should use it!"* ..... Client 2018

*"I particularly liked the use of Vamoos app to provide all the holiday information including off-line maps & travelling directions so we always had this to hand."* ..... Client 2018

*"We particularly liked the Vamoos app which placed all our holiday information - and more at our fingertips"* ..... Client 2018