



**SMALL GROUP**  
Maximum of  
28 Travelers

**LAND  
JOURNEY**

# Basque Country

Spain & France

## Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Discover what it means to be Basque in **its Spanish and French regions**.
- ▶ Marvel at the shimmering, titanium-clad **Guggenheim Museum Bilbao**, Frank Gehry's wondrous masterpiece.
- ▶ Savor the shared love of food and drink at a *txoko*, a **private Basque dining club**.
- ▶ Bask in the idyllic beauty of La Concha Bay in **San Sebastián**.
- ▶ Delight in picturesque **Espelette**, where flame-red strands of peppers adorn whitewashed homes.
- ▶ Fill your cider glass right from the cask in a rustic *cidrerie*, a **Basque cider house**.
- ▶ Learn about the **Routes of Santiago de Compostela** as you visit sites on these famed pilgrimage paths.

## INCLUDED FEATURES

### Accommodations

(with baggage handling)

- **7 nights** in Hondarribia, Spain, at the first-class Parador de Hondarribia.

### Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history.
- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

### Itinerary

- Day 1** Depart gateway city†
- Day 2** Arrive in Bilbao | Transfer† to Hondarribia
- Day 3** Hondarribia | San Sebastian
- Day 4** Bayonne | Biarritz
- Day 5** Bilbao
- Day 6** Sare | Espelette | St-Jean-de-Luz
- Day 7** Pamplona
- Day 8** Hondarribia
- Day 9** Transfer to Bilbao airport and depart for gateway city†

†Transfers and flights included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions.



San Sebastián



Alumni Campus Abroad®



## Discovery

**AHI Connects: Local Dining Club.** Relish a private dinner at a Basque gastronomical society, where members socialize and bond over food and drink.

**San Sebastián.** This lovely resort town is the 2016 European Capital of Culture, noted for its stellar fine dining scene. See its Old Town highlights, including the Neo-Gothic Buen Pastor Cathedral. Stroll on the waterfront promenade for views of beautiful La Concha Bay.

**Bayonne.** This charming gem, which sits at the confluence of the Adour and Nive rivers, is France's Basque capital. Visit the Gothic Sainte-Marie Cathedral and its cloisters during a walking tour of the Old Town. Relax over lunch at a traditional *cidrerie*, or cider house.

**Biarritz.** Delight in this chic seaside resort on the Bay of Biscay. Soak up expansive coastal views from above at the city's lighthouse. See the Church of St. Eugenie and walk down to the Rocher del La Vierge, an outcrop that stretches into the Bay.

**Bilbao and the Guggenheim Museum.** View the exciting modern art at this visually stunning museum, designed by Frank Gehry. Afterward, see the city's landmarks on a panoramic tour and enjoy lunch in Bilbao.

**French Basque Traditions and Espelette.** Step back in time at Maison Ortillopitz, a 16th-century country home, and learn about Basque family traditions. Continue to Espelette, a picture-perfect town where strands of red peppers adorn whitewashed homes, the traditional method of drying the peppers. Admire its charm on a guided stroll, then relax over lunch.

**St-Jean-de-Luz.** Journey to this pretty waterfront town with a swashbuckling past. In the 17th and 18th centuries, fishermen traded their nets for swords and cannons to become feared corsairs. Learn about its exciting history on a walking tour that takes you past the Church of St. Jean the Baptist.

**Pamplona.** With a guide, meander down the town's atmospheric streets, where the chaotic Running of the Bulls occurs each July during the festival of San Fermín. See the bullfighting ring and the Gothic cathedral.

## Enrichment

**A History of Northern Spain.** Understand the important events that have shaped Spanish Basque culture.

**Basque Strength Games.** Learn about these rural competitions, which feature games based on farming tasks, such as chopping, lifting and sawing.

**The Romance of Hemingway and Spain.** Appreciate the author's passion for Spain, which influenced his writing.

**The Way of St. James.** This legendary pilgrimage, with several stops in Basque Country, is both a spiritual and cultural journey. Delve into its lasting popularity.



Bilbao

## AHI Travel Expertise

**Passenger Service Representative |** Helps with everything from arranging flights to fulfilling special requests.

**Travel Director |** Manages all details to ensure a memorable trip.

**Travel information |** Prepares you fully for your journey.

**Expert local guides |** Provide friendly, knowledgeable service.

**Lecturers |** Share their knowledge of and passion for their country.

## Accommodations

**Parador de Hondarribia |**  
Hondarribia



<http://bit.ly/paradordehondarribia>



The information in this flier is correct at the time of printing. Please visit our website to ensure that you receive the most current information.

## Elective Experiences

 We have designed an optional activity to allow you to craft your individual trip.

**Wines of the French Basque Country.** Explore within the walled old town of St. Jean Pied de Port, a traditional starting point on the Way of St. James, near the foothills of the Pyrenees. Then savor Irouléguay wines at a tasting in the French countryside.

 Elective experiences available at an additional cost.



Espelette

## UNESCO World Heritage

Routes of Santiago de Compostela

## Let us arrange your flights!

✈ **AHI FlexAir |** Our personalized air program offers incredible advantages:

- **price guarantee**
- arrival and departure **transfers**
- **flexibility** to change or cancel
- **assistance** with changes or delays
- **flight insurance**

## 2020 DATES & PRICES

April – June | Oct. - Nov.

From \$3,545

Special Savings \$250

**Special Price** **\$3,295**

VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$495 (limited availability).