

Technical Sheet | Guided Hike | Level 2/5   | 5,5 Days of hiking

The Basque Coast: where Ocean and Mountain merge

Your tour briefly

- Guided hike with a BE AMM from the Basque Country who loves and knows his country
- Fairly easy hiking, **in small groups of 8 people**
- Comfortable accommodations selected for their welcome and conviviality
- Easy access and return to Hendaye
- Duration: 7 days / 6 nights

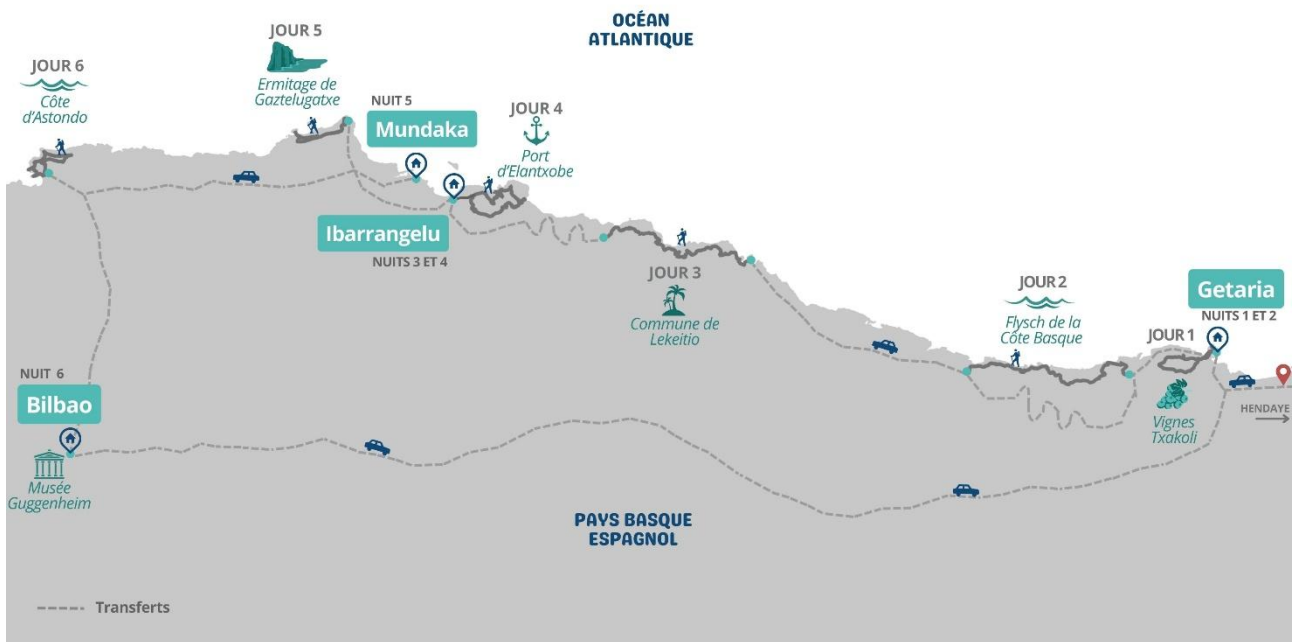
Highlights

- Coastal hikes with lots of opportunities for swimming
- Discover the Spanish Basque Coast, its typical atmosphere, its ports and seaside resorts
- Tapas evenings in Mundaka
- Diverse coastal landscapes some of which were used as sets for the famous series 'Game of Thrones'
- Discover the rich and varied gastronomy of the Basque Country
- Major cultural attractions: Gaztelugatxe and the famous Guggenheim museum



The coasts of the Basque Country are shaped by the last foothills of the Pyrenees, revealing stunning beaches framed by cliffs. The sea here is clear, sometimes stirred by beautiful waves. While swimming and sunbathing are popular, hiking along the Atlantic Ocean is the true highlight. Here, there's no need to choose: the sea and the mountains blend together perfectly. To discover this magnificent union of elements, we offer a comfortable exploration, staying in family-run hotels and in the wildest areas, far from towns and seaside resorts. With the ocean as your backdrop, you'll journey from hills to coves, from cliffs to beaches, from meadows to forests... Gastronomy is also an essential part of this journey, as the region boasts an exceptional culinary and cultural heritage. you'll savor Basque specialties: tapas, Txakoli wine, fresh seafood, and more. Finally, for a touch of culture, you'll visit the famous Guggenheim Museum, as well as the superb Gaztelugatxe Hermitage, a fascinating surprise awaits!

LA CÔTÉ BASQUE : OÙ OCÉAN ET MONTAGNE SE CONFONDENT



•PROGRAM

Day 1 : Start of the trip in Hendaye, followed by a half-day hike

Meet at 2.30 PM at Hendaye station, wearing hiking gear.



After a short transfer, we set off on a gentle hike through the green hills and Txakoli vineyards above Getaria, a town proud of its famous sons, such as the navigator Elcano and the fashion designer Cristóbal Balenciaga.

- **Distance : 9km, duration : 3h30, ascent : +280m, descent : -280m. Transfer : 30 min.**

Day 2 : From Zumaia to Deba, geological sanctuary



This stage takes us through one of the most breathtaking and geologically significant parts of the Basque Coast, the "Geopark of the Basque Coast." This area, recently declared a protected biotope, showcases uninterrupted layers of rock formations spanning over 50 million years of Earth's history. It is one of the world's most important geological sanctuaries.

- **Distance : 14km, duration : 4h45, ascent : +600m, descent : -600m. Transfer : 20min return journey.**

Day 3 : Between Ea and Lekeitio, in the heart of Biscay



During a beautiful and rugged coastal journey from cove to cove, we will discover two iconic spots on the Bay of Biscay coast: Ea, a magnificent little coastal harbour and its fjord; and then Lekeitio, proud and culturally vibrant, whose bay is home to a lively harbour and a fascinating sight: an island that people have connected to the mainland via a causeway accessible only at low tide!

A truly lovely day...

- **Distance : 14km, duration : 5h30, ascent : +650m, descent : -650m. Transfer : 1h.**

Day 4 : Elantxobe harbour and Laga beach



Start on foot from the hotel for a varied circular hike, taking in forests, a fishing village and an idyllic beach, all offering views of the magnificent and impressive Ria de Mundaka.

- **Distance : 13km, duration : 5h30, ascent : +650m, descent : -650m. No transfer.**

Day 5 : The famous hermitage of Gaztelugatxe



Nestled on its own little island, battered by the winds and tides, the Gaztelugatxe Hermitage is both surprising and fascinating. We'll visit it at the end of a fairly easy hike overlooking the ocean, the hermitage itself, and the lovely Matxitxako lighthouse. This will give us plenty of time to enjoy the spectacular setting of the hermitage.

After the hike, we'll head to Gernika for a cultural and historical interlude: a visit to the highly symbolic Tree of Gernika and the Parliament.

In the evening, a tapas night in Gernika.

- **Distance : 10km, duration : 4h, ascent : +380m, descent : -380m. Transfer 30min return journey.**

Day 6 : The rugged coast of Astondo, followed by a visit to the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao



Get ready for one last hike in the stunning, wild landscape of Biscay. Today we're setting off from the beautiful beach at Astondo, where we'll explore the petrified dunes, a unique geological feature on the Basque coast. We'll follow the coastline, from cliffs to coves, for one last taste of everything that makes the Basque coast so special: where the mountains meet the sea!

- **Distance : 10km, duration : 4h, ascent : +500m, descent : -500m. Transfer : 50min one way, 35min for the return journey to Bilbao.**



The **Guggenheim**, a museum of modern and contemporary art, opened to the public in 1997. The building's innovative structure is the result of a unique combination of stone, glass and titanium, a magnificent example of 20th-century avant-garde architecture, designed by Frank Gehry.

The museum has quickly become one of the world's best-known and most popular contemporary buildings (attracting over a million visitors a year), which has contributed to the city's revitalisation and increased its profile. Researchers have dubbed this phenomenon the "Bilbao Effect".

Day 7 : End of the trip

The trip ends after breakfast. Transfer from Bilbao to Hendaye station (1 hour 30), arriving at 10.40 AM.

This itinerary has been designed based on the latest available information. However, unforeseen circumstances may arise, and changes beyond our control may be necessary. Our local guides are experienced and may adjust the itinerary if needed for safety reasons or due to weather conditions.

•MEETING POINT AND END OF STAY

Meeting point:

On Day 1 at 2:30 PM at Hendaye train station.

For those arriving by car: Paid parking is available at Hendaye train station:

<https://www.effia.com/parking/parking-gare-dhendaye-longue-duree-effia>

End of the stay:

The trip ends after breakfast on day 7. For those who arrived by train, a transfer to Hendaye train station is scheduled, arriving at 10.40 AM.

•DATES AND PRICES

Number of participants

Group of 4 to 8 people.

Departures :

Guaranteed departure from 4 participants.

From Sunday 03/05/2026 to Saturday 09/05/2026

From Sunday 17/05/2026 to Saturday 23/05/2026

From Sunday 14/06/2026 to Saturday 20/06/2026

From Sunday 12/07/2026 to Saturday 18/07/2026

From Sunday 19/07/2026 to Saturday 25/07/2026

From Sunday 02/08/2026 to Saturday 08/08/2026

From Sunday 09/08/2026 to Saturday 15/08/2026

From Sunday 06/09/2026 to Saturday 12/09/2026

From Sunday 18/10/2026 to Saturday 24/10/2026

Price per person:

Price low season	1070 €
Price July-August-September	1130 €

Supplements:

- Single room supplement: 295€ per person
- Extra Night in Hendaye and/or Bilbao: Please contact us

The price includes:

- Full-board accommodation from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 7
- All transfers during the trip
- Guidance by a certified mountain leader (BE AMM) specializing in the Basque Country
- Visits to Gaztelugatxe et Guggenheim museum

The price does not include:

- Insurance
- Meals not specified in "Price Includes"
- Transfers not included in the program
- Visits not specified in "Price Includes"
- Drinks
- Booking fees: €15

• TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Terrain type

Hikes are fairly easy, on good trails, the terrain is varied but often rocky.

Level 2/5

These trips are designed for people looking for active holidays. A reasonable level of fitness is required. Hikes of 5 or 6 hours per day on average, with altitude gains of 400m-700m, on easy trails and paths.

Please note that the walking times are average estimates and only account for actual walking time, excluding rest breaks.

Guiding

Hike led by a BE (State-certified) Mountain Guide specializing in the Basque Country. **The RESPYRENEES guide team is 100% local. Based in the Basque Country or the Pyrenees, the landscapes, culture, and history of these regions hold no secrets for us!**

Luggage

During the hike, you will only carry your personal belongings for the day, your picnic, and enough water.

• ACCOMMODATION / FOOD

Accommodation

6 nights in a ** or *** hotel or bed and breakfast of equivalent standard, in a double room. Single room on request, with supplement and subject to availability.

Meals

- Continental breakfast (tea, coffee, milk, butter, jam)
- Dinner often based on Basque specialties, include a starter, main course and dessert
- Picnics included
- Drinks not included

• PRACTICAL INFORMATION

How to reach Hendaye:

- By plane: Biarritz Airport: daily flights to and from Paris, London, Lyon, Clermont-Ferrand, etc.
- By train: Numerous TER trains depart from major cities to Bayonne, then to Hendaye (<https://www.oui.sncf>)
- By car: From Bordeaux, take the A63 highway, 207 km. From Toulouse and Bayonne, take the A64 highway, 293km, then from Bayonne to Hendaye, take the A63 highway, 32 km.

Car parking in Hendaye:

All free and paid car parks on this page: <https://www.hendaye-tourisme.fr/fr/infos-pratiques/parkings-et-stationnement/>

If you are leaving your vehicle parked for the duration of your stay, please check with the tourist information office to find out whether any events (festivals, markets, etc.) are scheduled to take place at your parking spot.

• TO BRING IN YOUR LUGGAGE

Luggage

- A hiking backpack of about 35 liters capacity, which will be useful for carrying your personal belongings during the day.

Clothing

- 1 sun hat or cap
- T-shirts (1 for every 2 or 3 days of walking). Avoid cotton, as it takes a long time to dry; prefer short-sleeve t-shirts made of breathable materials like Capilene (Patagonia), Dryflo (Lowe Alpine), Light Effect (Odlo), etc.
- 1 base layer (same recommendations as above) or long-sleeve shirt
- 1 fleece jacket
- 1 pair of trekking pants
- 1 comfortable pair of pants for the evening
- 1 light, simple Gore-tex style jacket
- 1 swimsuit and a towel for access to the pool and spa
- Warm underwear
- Hiking socks (1 pair for every 2 to 3 days of walking). Avoid "tennis" socks (cotton), as they take a long time to dry and pose a high risk of blisters; prefer socks made of Coolmax, for example
- 1 pair of waterproof hiking shoes that provide ankle support (with Vibram soles)
- 1 pair of casual shoes for the evening

The clothing list should be adapted according to the season you choose.

Small equipment

- 1 pair of high-quality sunglasses
- 1 water bottle (minimum 1.5 liters)
- 1 pocket knife (to be placed in the checked luggage)
- Toiletries
- Toilet paper, sunscreen, and lip balm
- For the picnic: utensils (containers provided)

Personal pharmacy

- Your usual medications
- Vitamin C or multivitamins
- Pain relief medications: preferably paracetamol
- Elastic adhesive bandage (like Elastoplast, 6 cm wide)
- Adhesive bandages + disinfecting wipes
- Blister protection (such as Spenco Second Skin, available in sports stores, pharmacies, etc.)

Group pharmacy

- First aid kit under the responsibility of your guide.