



Trip description

Basque country bike tour in 4 days, with stopover on the coast

This Basque country tour lets you slow down and take in the variety of landscapes and attractions, with the help of your E-bike. Several short routes on the coast allow you to visit Saint-Jean-de-Luz as well as any other place you want to explore.



Type of stay
loop trip



Destination	France
Location	Basque country
Duration	4 days
Difficulty Level	Moderate
Validity	From April to October
Minimum age	14 years
Reference	BPB0401

Itinerary



This self-guided tour between the Atlantic Ocean and the Pyrenees lets you fully enjoy the highlights of Basque Country. You have four days to ride on peaceful country roads or on dedicated bike paths. The schedule gives you time to savor time on the coast, visiting Saint-Jean-de-Luz to many other sandy beaches. The route also travels through the green hills of the hinterland, with sweeping landscapes filled with churches and grazing cows. You'll delight in pedaling by half-timbered villages such as Ainhoa, Espelette or Sare. After passing Guethary, end the day breathing fresh ocean air in Biarritz.

Day 1

Biarritz - Itxassou

Bike
44km

Altitude
 **±245m**

E-bike (touring bike available)

Start your tour by passing the stately mansions and half-timbered houses of Biarritz seaside resort and heading towards the coastline. Pedal at your own pace along the Adour River while discovering the colorful houses of Bayonne. Most houses are white with deep red or dark green shutters. Be sure to sample the town's famous chocolate and the Bayonne ham! The path will take you to the Basque hinterland. You'll ride the bike path along the Nive River until coming to Ustaritz, the center of Basque culture.

The day's route continues on small, country roads until you reach the spa town of Camboles-Bains. Stop and visit the beautiful Arnaga, home of Edmond Rostand, author of *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Soon you'll reach Ixtassou, a typical Basque village where you'll probably see Basque pelota players entertaining on the town square.

Day 2

Itxassou - Sare

Bike
25km

Altitude
 **±420m**

E-bike (touring bike available)

This morning you'll leave Ixtassou and head towards the charming village of Espelette, where houses are colorfully decorated with dried peppers. Along the way, stop at local farms to buy fresh fruits or tasty treats. After crossing Pinodieta Pass, you're rewarded with time to visit Ainhoa, designated as one of France's prettiest villages.

You are now close to the French-Spanish border. Pass the old Customs House before cycling on Spanish roads. The village of Zugarramurdi is worth a stop to see its well-known caves and "Witches Museum". Here you have a choice to ride directly to Sare or take an 8km detour and visit the impressive Caves of Sare. The 45-minute guided tour takes you 900meters deep into the cave.

Day 3

Sare - Saint-Jean-de-Luz

Bike
14km

Altitude
 **±170m**

E-bike (touring bike available)

Today's short ride lets you fully enjoy the mountains before biking down the road to the ocean. Start by pedaling over the Saint-Ignace Pass. Then take the Rhune Tourist train to get to where you see wonderful views of both the mountain and the ocean. Take a break in Ascaïn, a charming village with narrow, quaint alleys and picturesque town square. The day ends as you reach your hotel in the seaside town of Saint-Jean-de-Luz. Enjoy looking at the sumptuous neo-Basque style houses close to sandy beaches.

Day 4

Saint-Jean-de-Luz - Biarritz

Bike
18km

Altitude
 **±200m**

E-bike (touring bike available)

Today's ride takes you on the 1,200km Velodysee Bike route. Don't worry. You are not doing the entire route! The path goes along the Atlantic Coast where you'll see beaches, cliffs and waves perfect for surfing. The short itinerary gives you time to stop along the way when something catches your attention. Before you reach Biarritz, explore the town of Guethary, known for its sumptuous villas. Maybe take a surfing lesson or try another water sport. Your mini-vacation comes to an end as you return to Biarritz.

Accommodation

Category A

You'll enjoy staying in these clean and cozy 2-3 Star hotels that give you a pleasant rest after your day of biking. Breakfast is included when you spend the night in these friendly and family-run hotels.



* Example of the type of accommodation

Practical information

To get to departure point :

By plane: flight to Biarritz.

By train: Direct TGV (fast trains) from Paris Montparnasse. The duration of the trip is about 4h10. Then, take a bus to reach the city center (20-25min). To plan your trip, www.raileurope.com.

Parking:

It is very difficult to park in downtown Biarritz, especially in high season. If you wish, you can park your car in the secure car park at Biarritz SNCF station (~4km from the city center). The price is 45€/7days. You must then, take the bus to reach the city center (20-25min).

Otherwise, you can also park in Anglet (~4km from Biarritz). Parking is usually much easier. Our bike partner has a shop in Anglet, so you can pick up your bikes directly and cycle to Biarritz (30min).

Meeting time:

You pick up your bikes in the morning between 9.30am and 12.30pm. We recommend you to arrive at around 10am to enjoy your day fully without rushing and be able to do the visits on the way.

If you chose luggage transport, you must arrive before 10am to drop off your luggage. Bikes pick up point and luggage drop off point are located in the city center and will be given in your travel documents.

Price description

Category A

Double room fare

405 €/pers

3 nights in **/**** hotels

3 breakfasts

4-day rental of a fully-equipped **electric bike** (front pack, locks, toolkit)

a road book with maps and descriptions of the routes

local visitors' taxes

sending charge of the travel documents in France

7/7 hotline

High season (*)

20 €/pers

Half-board	25 €/dinner
Extra for a single room	41 €/night
Extra night in Biarritz	60 €/pers
Extra night in Biarritz - High season (from 01/07 to 15/09)	85 €/pers

Options

Luggage transport (4-person basis)	48 €/pers
Luggage transport (2- to 3-person basis)	96 €/pers
Discount if you ride your own bicycle	- 118 €/pers

(*) High season :

- from 01.07.2019 to 15.09.2019

The package doesn't include:

- the journey to the tour location
- the drinks
- the meals which are not included
- the entrance fee to sites
- insurances (optional)

Children discount (in the same room as 2 full rate participants):

- 0-4 year : -70%
- 5-11 year : -50%
- 12-17 year : -30%

For more information or booking : www.levelovoyageur.com
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