

Cycling Safaris

France – Basque Country Land & Coast 2025

Self-guided Tour

Approx 200 km | 7 days / 6 nights



Close your eyes and imagine a perfect day on the bike, and it will match very closely to riding in the Basque Country. Discover the many faces of the region which will surprise you. Our tour combines both **inland and beautiful coastal scenery**: towering cliffs, rugged rocks, sandy bays and an ocean as far as the eye can see...

Your trip starts in **Biarritz** with the beautiful sea salt spray rising from the ocean then you will ride off the Basque coast where you will enjoy the magnificent ocean view! Your itinerary will continue inland over lush, green hills and unforgettable landscapes dotted with white timber frame houses built centuries ago, discovering many villages like **Sare, Ainhoa** or **Saint Jean Pied de Port**. If there is something else the Basques are serious about besides cycling, its food. Be tempted by the typical local dishes... the Espelette Pepper is the emblematic spice!

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 Biarritz

Arrival at your accommodation in Biarritz (3 or 4* hotel).

Biarritz is one of the most famous seaside resorts of France and Europe. Its magnificent ocean beaches and surfing, its thalassotherapy and many golf courses are popular worldwide. At night, its restaurants, bars and squares will delight every senses.

Day 2 **Biarritz to Hondarribia**

32 km / 300m elevation

You'll discover the wealth of natural areas that make up the Corniche Basque: valleys, ridges, cliffs, farmland and mountains. Along the way, you'll enjoy visiting the many typical villages of this region: Saint-Jean-de-Luz and its famous bay, Hendaye and the Abbadia estate. Then you'll cross the Bidassoa river and plunge into the Spanish atmosphere! A river shuttle from Hendaye will take you to Hondarribia, a fortified town with many historical treasures.

Fontarabie (Hondarribia) is famous for its tapas and nightlife. It's a coastal fishing town, with colorful Basque houses and balconies bursting with flowers. Discovering Hondarribia is a real pleasure! Its fortified old town is teeming with seigniorial buildings and has been classified as a historic and artistic monument. Clinging to the hillside, it is surrounded by imposing 16th-century walls, and dominated by Charles V's castle. (night and breakfast in 3* hotel)



Day 3 **Hondarribia to Ainhoa(inland)**

43 km / 650m elevation

From Hondarribia you'll board the shuttle again to reach Hendaye and continue on to Ascain. Here, you'll discover the famous Roman bridge and a wealth of cultural attractions. 4 km further on, the little Rhune train will be waiting to take you to the highest point in the Basque Country! After a stroll through the picturesque streets of Sare, you're off to discover the village of witches... Legend has it that their spirits still haunt the area! You'll finish your tour in the typical village of Ainhoa, with its half-timbered houses, pigeon-houses and meadows full of sheep.

Between the medieval village and the elegant bastide, 800 years of history are traced through the streets of Ainhoa. You'll discover the village church, but also the ancient steles in the cemetery, the pediment, the wash-house... Admire the imposing mansions lining the main street and learn all about their particular features. Soon, Ainhoa will hold no secrets for you!

Dinner, night and breakfast in hotel 3 or 4* in Ainhoa or Espelette.



Day 4 Ainhoa to Saint Jean Pied de Port

40-46 km / 780m elevation

After crossing the Pinodiéta pass, you'll pass through the market town of Espelette, famous for the trade in these little wild horses called Pottocks, and for its famous Espelette pepper, which will surprise your taste buds! You'll then descend along the River Nive, winding your way to Saint Jean Pied-de-Port, a typical village world-famous for its UNESCO-listed Porte Saint Jacques, which attracts increasing numbers of pilgrims every year. Night and breakfast in charming guesthouse or charming hotel 2*



Day 5 Saint Jean Pied de Port to Itxassou or Cambo-les-Bains 41 km / 680m elevation

There's something for everyone on this stage. You can continue your tour by bike, or, if the previous day's route has exhausted you, take a train to the next stage! (A train in the morning and/or early afternoon). You'll have plenty of time to explore the surrounding area on a route specially designed for you. Dinner, night and breakfast in hotel 3* or equivalent

Day 6 Back to Biarritz

45 km / 230m elevation

After the first 15 kilometers you continue on a cycle track that leads to Bayonne. You will have plenty of time to enjoy this city famous for its local festivals and its gastronomic food. Then you can cycle along the coast of Anglet and end your journey in Biarritz.

Night and breakfast in hotel 3 or 4*



Day 7 Departure day

Departure after breakfast

2025 TOUR DATES

Arrival daily from 1 April to 31 October

2025 TOUR PRICE

High Season (July & August)

€1135 per person sharing

+€470 single room (if traveling with others)

+€160 person travelling alone

Low Season (April, May, June, September, October)

€1080 per person sharing

+€390 single room supplement (if traveling with others)

+€160 person travelling alone

Bike rental:

€120 Regular bike

€215 Electric - bike

€215 Road Bike

WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- 6 nights in 3* and 4* hotels and 1 B&B with breakfast (in double/twin room)
- 2 dinners / day 3 and 5 (excluding drinks)
- Route book (map and directions)
- 1 GPS application
- Luggage transfer at each stage
- The bay crossing by boat (return ticket) from Hendaye to Hondarribia
- Telephone Hotline (7 days, 7.30am - 8pm)

Not included:

- Journey to/from starting/finish point
- Assistance repatriation
- Travel insurance
- Drinks

Additional nights:

- Extra night in Biarritz:
Double €120 – July and August €150
Single €205 - July and August €270
- Extra night in Bordeaux:
Double €100 – July and August €100
Single €160 - July and August €160



BIKE RENTAL



We use (mens/ladies) Hybrid 24 speed touring bike with aluminium frame and Shimano gear system.

E-Bike



Level of difficulty: 2- Moderate level of fitness required.
Distances are no more than 30 miles/49km a day, but hilly terrain.

Average daily distance 25 miles/40km

Maximum daily distance 28.5 miles/46km

Bike equipment:

- Lock
- Repair kit
- Rear bag
- Handle bar bag
- Assistance for bike problems (for big problems, other than puncture)
- Helm (on request)

TRAVEL INFORMATION

The arrival and departure point is easily accessible from Biarritz Airport which is accessible from many international locations

Getting from Biarritz to your accommodation >

Taxi from Biarritz airport to first hotel is approx €35

Alternatively, there is an airport shuttle bus to the centre of Biarritz (No 14) every 30 minutes, approx €1-3 per person