

northern way / Camino del Norte Section 1



▶ BOOK NOW!

Walk From San Sebastian to Bilbao - 133km

8 Days/7 Nights



Half Board

hotels en-suite

year round

From €560

This Walking Holiday explores the first section of the Camino Norte / Northern Way, following the iconic Camino de Santiago de Compostela; the famous Way of Saint James.

Beginning in the beautiful town of San Sebastian & finishing in Bilbao, famous for its Guggenheim museum, you will travel through the lush and mountainous landscape of the Basque coast & pass historic Gernika.

Everyday, during the walk, you are guaranteed a high level of comfort and gastronomy. This section requires a reasonable level of fitness. However, it's a highly rewarding walk that includes numerous cultural highlights.

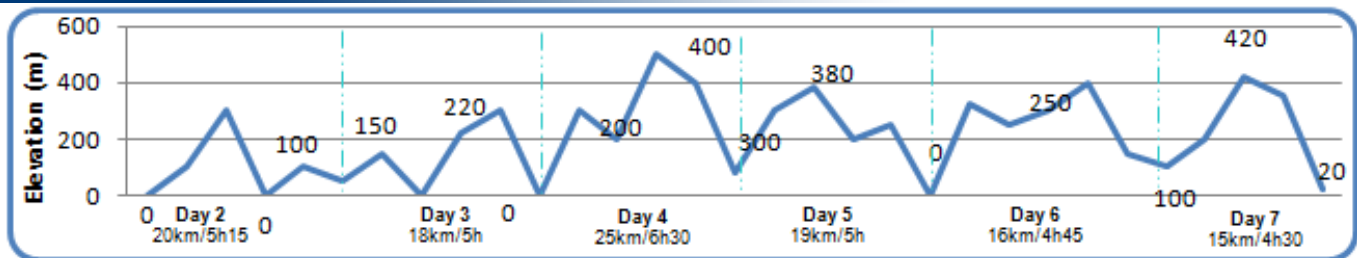


maps

Northern Way in Blue

Use the navigation tools on the left to zoom-in

Day By day



» Day 1 - San Sebastian

You will be booked in a hotel in the heart of the town. The rooms are en-suite.

Town: Internet, ATM, shops, all facilities.

Accommodation: 3* hotel, en-suite.

Meal: B&B

» DAY 2 – From San Sebastian to Getaria (27km 7h30 +380m -480m)

Leaving San Sebastian and the magnificent Bay of Biscay, the Camino follows the beautiful coastline along grassy fields on rolling hills. First, we find the Roman Church of San Martin de Tours, then we pass through ancient whale-fishing villages. Finally, we arrive in the picturesque village of Getaria, perched on a rock above a small harbour.

» DAY 5 – From Markina to Gernika (28km 7h30 +300m -400m)

Leaving Markina, the Camino follows a country road and crosses the river in Bolivar (28 km). It ascends to the medieval monastery of Cenarruza. Leaving the monastery, we take a path into a dense forest, to the top of Gontzegarai, and onwards to the village of Gerikaitz. At the Hermitage of Santiago, a steep footpath leads downhill to a creek and finally, to Gernika.

Town: Shops, restaurants.

Accommodation: 2* hotel, en-suite.

Meal: Half Board

» DAY 6 – From Gernika to Lezama (21km 6h30 +320m -220m)

The Camino leaves Gernika by the hermitage of Santa Luzia Zallo. Shortly after, we start a climb to

Town: Internet, ATM, shops, all facilities.

Accommodation: 1* hotel, en-suite.

Meal: Half Board

» **DAY 3 – From Getaria to Deba (22km 6h30 +400m -400m)**

The Camino starts on a small countryside road, following the coast. Arriving in Zarautz, we take a small footpath into farmlands. Passing the church of Santa Maria la Real and the village of Juan Sebastian Elcano, we continue our stroll to the coast. The last stop is the pleasant coastal resort of Deba.

Town: Internet, ATM, shops, all facilities.

Accommodation: 3* hotel, en-suite.

Meal: Half Board

» **DAY 4 – From Deba to Markina (20km 5h +- 640m)**

Today we abandon the sea for more mountainous landscapes and we won't see it again until Bilbao. The Camino crosses a river and starts climbing steeply into dense vegetation, until it reaches the Hermitage of El Calvario. From here, we will follow a narrow footpath (GR-121) passing through many hamlets. Finally, the Camino goes steeply downhill to Markina; a village with strong Basque traditions.

Town: Shops, restaurants.

Accommodation: 1* hotel, en-suite.

Meal: Half Board

reach a road (PR-173), and then a cobbled path leads to the the top of the village of Morga. Here, we leave the farmlands and enter a forest, following a steep descent to the traditional villages of Goikoletxea, Larrabetzu and finally, Lezama.

Town: Shops, restaurants.

Accommodation: 1* hotel, en-suite.

Meal: Half Board

» **DAY 7 – From Lezama to Bilbao (15km 3h30 +150m -110m)**

This is a relatively short stage across the farmlands. First we pass Zamudio and the interesting Roman church of San Maarten. The Tower of Malpica is visible above us. Slowly climbing to reach the summit of Mount Avril, we are rewarded with spectacular views of Bilbao and the valley below. On arrival in the suburbs of Bilbao, don't forget to visit the beautiful Basilica of Our Lady of Begoñ. Finally, we come to Place de Unamuno, in the old quarter of Bilbao.

Town: Internet, ATM, shops, all facilities.

Accommodation: 3* hotel, en-suite.

Meal: B&B

» **DAY 8 –Bilbao**

After breakfast we bid you farewell.

Meal: Breakfast

how to get there

Flight information

(It is best to fly to Bilbao and back from Bilbao)

1 - To France, Biarritz

Ryanair, easJet, Air France (via Orly)

Biarritz airports information: <http://www.biarritz.aeroport.fr/>

- **Paris**

Virtually all companies fly to paris

2 - To Bilbao

A large amount of the passenger traffic at Bilbao Airport is from internal destinations and you can fly from Bilbao to any of the following Spanish airports: A Coruna, Alicante, Barcelona, Badajoz, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Jerez, Lanzarote, Madrid, Malaga, Palma de Mallorca, Santiago de Compostela, Seville, Tenerife, Valencia and Vigo.

There are also European flights to Brussels, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Lisbon, Milan, Munich, Paris and Stuttgart.

At the moment [easyJet](#), [Iberia](#) and [AerLingus](#) fly from the UK and Ireland to Bilbao. [easyJet](#) offer daily flights to Bilbao from London Stansted Airport, Iberia flies from Gatwick or Heathrow via Madrid and AerLingus operate out of Dublin.

3 - To Santander

[Ryanair](#) is the only low-cost airline that currently offer direct flights to Santander. They offer flights from London Stansted and now Dublin, Frankfurt, Milan and Rome as well as Reus and Madrid in Spain.

[Iberia](#) offer a good selection of internal flights from Alicante, Barcelona, Gran Canaria, Malaga, Palma de Mallorca, Seville and Valencia.

More info see: <http://www.spanish-airport-guide.com/>

To start your walking holiday: San Sebastian

1 - From Bilbao airport

Bus to San Sebastian (takes 1hr15), several buses a day

2 - From Biarritz

Train to Handaye (45mins), several trains a day

Then bus to San Sebastian (45mins), several buses a day

3 - From Santander

Bus to Bilbao 1hr, several buses a day

Then take a bus to San Sebastian (1hr15), several buses a day

Back home

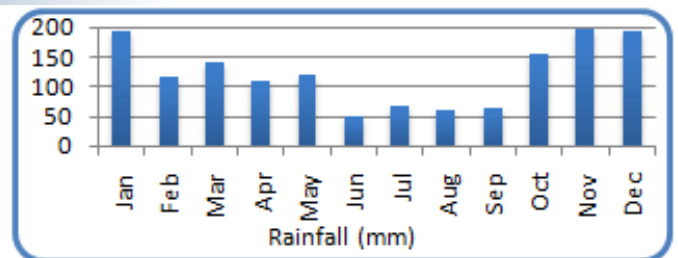
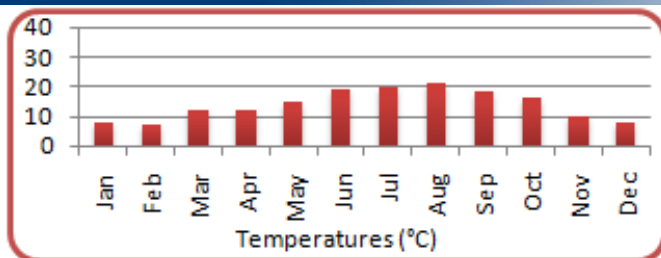
1 - From Bilbao airport

(see above)

2 - From Santander airport

Bus to Santander (1hr), several buses a day

WEATHER



about the walking holiday

hotels

Hotels have been carefully selected for their comfort, location, friendliness and character, and are subject to availability. If the hotel described is not available we provide an alternative with the same standard of comfort & price.

Luggage

We will transport your luggage from one hotel to the next. You only need to carry your backpack during the day!

Included

- Luggage transferred from hotel to hotel
- Rooms en-suite
- Half Board during the hike
- Detailed Walking Notes
- Map
- Pilgrim passport

Not Included

- Flights
- Insurance (recommended)
- Drinks
- Dinner first and last nights
- Transfer from/to airport

prices & Options

| Period | Price (€) | Single Room (€) | Solo departure (include single room) (€) |
|---|-----------|-----------------|--|
| High Season April, May, June, September | 750 | 159 | 296 |
| Mid Season July, August, October | 680 | 136 | 272 |
| Low Season January, February, March, November, December | 560 | 113 | 272 |

Options

| Transport To San Sebastian from Bilbao (€pp) | Extra Night in San Sebastian | | | | Extra Night in Bilbao | | | | Picnic lunches (€) |
|---|------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| | 3*Hotel B&B (€) | | 4*Hotel B&B (€) | | 3* Hotel B&B (€) | | 4*Hotel B&B (€) | | |
| | Single | Double (pps) | Single | Double (pps) | Single | Double (pps) | Single | Double (pps) | |
| For info on transfers for more passengers or from other airports, please ask us . | 95 | 65 | 175 | 100 | 95 | 65 | 175 | 100 | 60 |
| 2-8 people €50pp | | | or Upgrade first night +80 | or Upgrade first night +35 | | | or Upgrade last night +80 | or Upgrade last night +35 | |
| Special rates for groups of 6+ | | | | | | | | | |

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