

Extend Your Cruise with 3 Nights in Bilbao & San Sebastián

Overview

Discover Spain's intriguing Basque Country, a picturesque region nestled between the Bay of Biscay and the Pyrenees. Explore the history and culture of the Basques in Bilbao and San Sebastián and learn the story behind Pablo Picasso's famous painting, *Guernica*, during your memorable 3-night journey.

ALL THIS IS INCLUDED:

- 3 nights in Bilbao (as shown or similar)
- 4 meals: 3 breakfasts (B) & 1 lunch (L)
- 3 guided tours: Highlights of the Biscay Coast & Guernica; Panoramic Bilbao & Guggenheim Museum; Scenic San Sebastián
- Fully escorted by your Viking Tour Director
- All transfers

Itinerary

Day 1 – Bilbao, Spain

Arrive in Bilbao and transfer to your hotel. After check-in, the remainder of your day is free to explore this vibrant city set among the green foothills of the Pyrenees at your leisure. Your Viking Tour Director is available to help you plan your time so you can make the most of your visit. This evening, enjoy a welcome briefing and drink with your fellow guests.

Day 2 – Bilbao, Spain

Today, drive through the scenic Basque countryside, pausing at a local winery for a tasting session before reaching Guernica. Here, gain insight into the town's cultural importance and the infamous events immortalized by Picasso's unsettling *Guernica*, then travel to the fishing village of Bermeo. After lunch, enjoy a guided walk and free time to explore, maybe visiting the striking Cloister of San Fransiscus. Admire the scenery at a picturesque viewpoint, then return to your hotel. (B, L)

Day 3 – Bilbao, Spain

After breakfast, enjoy a panoramic walk through Bilbao. With your guide, step inside the iconic Guggenheim Museum; its titanium-covered facade designed by Frank Gehry is as famous as its vast collection of artworks. Next, admire the eclectic mix of Gothic, art deco, art nouveau and contemporary architecture that permeates the cityscape, and soak up the lively atmosphere of its old town. After, choose to explore the city's sites and gastronomic scene independently or return to your hotel. (B)

Day 4 – Bilbao, Spain

This morning, check out of your hotel and transfer to San Sebastián, a renowned center of Basque gastronomy set along the shores of the Bay of Biscay. Follow your guide on a walk through this charming city, exploring the cobblestone streets of the lively Parte Vieja, or Old Town. Then, enjoy free time to savor a delicious lunch, maybe choosing to sample the region's famous *pintxos*, or small snacks. Appetite sated, set out on a picturesque drive to Bordeaux, where you will meet your ship. (B)

Hotels

Hotel Ercilla de Bilbao, Autograph Collection

The Ercilla opened its doors in 1972 and is a celebration of Bilbao's glamorous heyday, offering a blend of Basque culture and Anglo influences. Spacious rooms are modern with a retro flare and the hotel's on-site restaurants serve a range of cuisine, from local delicacies to American classics and Japanese haute cuisine.
