

Basque Country

SPAIN | FRANCE



SMALL GROUP
MAXIMUM OF
28 TRAVELERS



JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

April 25 – May 3, 2020



A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

Dedicate your next travel chapter to immersing yourself in captivating Basque Country! You'll encounter an ancient, proud culture with a dual identity in a region brimming with heartfelt traditions, vibrant communities and enticing natural beauty.

Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Discover what it means to be Basque in **its Spanish and French regions.**
- ▶ Marvel at the shimmering **Guggenheim Museum Bilbao**, Frank Gehry's wondrous masterpiece.
- ▶ Savor the shared love of food and drink at a *txoko*, a **private Basque dining club.**
- ▶ Bask in the idyllic beauty of La Concha Bay in **San Sebastián.**
- ▶ Delight in picturesque **Espelette**, where flame-red strands of peppers adorn whitewashed homes.
- ▶ Fill your glass right from the cask in a rustic *cidrerie*, a **Basque cider house.**



JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

Dear Johns Hopkins Alumni and Friends,

Come along for an immersive exploration of Basque Country, a fascinating and beautiful region that stretches across northern Spain and southwest France along the Bay of Biscay. One of Europe's oldest people, the Basques maintained their individuality and unique language over thousands of years due to the mountainous terrain which surrounded and isolated them.

Delve into today's thriving, exuberant Basque culture on this seven-night, first-class journey! From your well-situated base in Hondarribia, a lovely, laidback Spanish town near the French border, explore Basque villages, Bayonne's Gothic cathedral and the renowned seaside towns of San Sebastián and Biarritz. Learn about Basque cuisine at a private dining club, journey to Hemingway's Pamplona, visit the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, and more.

In addition to engaging excursions, you'll come away with a deeper understanding of this ancient culture, thanks to enriching insights shared by expert local guides and lecturers. Plus, with an experienced Travel Director seamlessly handling all the details, you'll be able to relax and appreciate your surroundings. When you factor in the camaraderie of a small group, it all adds up to a remarkable adventure that's not to be missed. Reserve today to share in this amazing Basque Country experience!

Sincerely,

Marguerite Jones

Marguerite I. Jones, A&S '74, Bus '88
Travel Program Director,
Office of Alumni Relations
The Johns Hopkins University

AHI: 800-323-7373

www.alumni.jhu.edu

Terrace view, Parador de Hondarribia





Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Bilbao, Spain. 🌍

Day 2 | Bilbao, Spain | Hondarribia

Arrive and transfer 🚗 to the Parador de Hondarribia, housed in the Castle of Carlos V, a 10th-century hilltop fortress set above this charming fishing town.

Meet your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner this evening.

Day 3 | Hondarribia | San Sebastián

Enrichment: A History of Northern Spain. For thousands of years, the Basque people have inhabited this mountainous region and preserved their distinctive culture and language, Euskara, one of Europe's oldest. Delve into the story of this alluring corner of Spain, known as Euskadi, or Basque Country.

Discovery: Hondarribia. Get more familiar with your home base on a guided walk in the beautifully conserved, medieval walled old town. Then, visit the tranquil Santuario de Guadalupe chapel, which offers sweeping vistas over Txingudi Bay. Break for lunch in the area before leaving for San Sebastián.

Discovery: San Sebastián. Known as Donostia in Basque, this sophisticated resort town dazzles with gorgeous beaches and bays and a world-class food culture. See the Old Town highlights, including the Buen Pastor Cathedral, and the many grand Belle Epoque buildings. Stroll along the boardwalk that hugs La Concha Bay and its postcard-perfect beach for incredible waterside views.



Above: Sainte-Marie Cathedral and its cloisters, Bayonne | Inset: Rocher de la Vierge, Biarritz

Free Time: Check out Hondarribia's *pintxos* (tapas) bars tonight! Have a drink and a few *pintxos* at one place, then head to the next.

Day 4 | Bayonne, France | Biarritz

Discovery: Bayonne. This lovely gem at the confluence of the Adour and Nive rivers is France's Basque capital. Visit the elegant Sainte-Marie Cathedral, a stop on The Way of St. James, and its 13th-century cloisters on an Old Town walk. At a cozy cider house, relax over a lunch of classic dishes and pour yourself a glass right from the cask!

Discovery: Biarritz. This chic seaside town has been a beloved resort since the 1850s. Start at St. Eugénie Church on the waterfront and walk to the outcrop, Rocher de la Vierge, to admire the majestic scenery. Visit the old fishing port and the medieval watch tower.

🌍 **AHI Connects: Local Dining Club.**

Food is essential to Basque culture, and meals are cherished as a time to catch up with family



and friends. Experience the unique tradition of *txokos*, private gastronomical societies where members cook meals for each other and bond over food and drink. Relish an exclusive dining event at one of Hondarribia's clubs tonight.

Day 5 | Bilbao, Spain

Discovery: Bilbao and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. Designed by U.S. architect Frank Gehry, this stunning, curvy museum clad in thin sheets of titanium is regarded as one of the 20th century's most important buildings. View the modern art within, then see Bilbao's landmarks on a panoramic tour with lunch afterward.



Above: Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao | Inset: Txoko, a private Basque dinner society, Hondarribia

Day 6 | Sare, France | Espelette | Saint-Jean-de-Luz

Discovery: French Basque Traditions and Espelette. Step back in time at Maison Ortilloplitz, a restored, 16th-century farmhouse in Sare, and learn about the everyday customs of French Basque families. Next, stroll with your guide through quaint Espelette, famed for its red peppers, and have lunch in town. First brought to the area in 1650 by a local sailor, the peppers are integral to Basque cooking and officially protected as a regional product under the name, Piment d'Espelette.

Enrichment: Basque Strength Games. Learn about *herri kirolak*, rural games based on old farming tasks, such as chopping wood, lifting heavy stones and sawing.

Discovery: Saint-Jean-de-Luz. In the 17th and 18th centuries, fishermen in this pretty beachfront town traded their nets for swords and cannons to become feared pirates.

Delve into its intriguing past on a walking tour.

Enrichment: The Romance of Hemingway and Spain. Appreciate Ernest Hemingway's passion for Spanish culture, which greatly influenced his writing.

Day 7 | Pamplona, Spain

Discovery: Pamplona. Hemingway brought worldwide attention to Pamplona's signature event, the chaotic Running of the Bulls, in his novel, "The Sun Also Rises." Meander down the town's atmospheric streets, where crowds throng each July during the weeklong festival of San Fermín. See the bullfighting ring and the Gothic Santa Maria Cathedral.

Free Time: Make your own plans for lunch.

Enrichment: The Way of St. James. Europe's oldest pilgrimage route, with several stops in Basque Country, leads to the shrine of St. James in Santiago de Compostela in

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

(with baggage handling)

- **7 nights** in Hondarribia, Spain, at the first-class Parador de Hondarribia.

Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history:

SPAIN

- Enjoy Hondarribia's charming ambience and dine at a private *txoko* in town.
- Revel in San Sebastián's beautiful scenery from the bayside promenade.
- Admire the groundbreaking design of the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao.
- Walk along Pamplona's famed streets.

FRANCE

- Tour Bayonne's Gothic cathedral and taste crisp cider in a Basque *cidrerie*.
- See spectacular views of Biarritz along the French Atlantic coast.
- Gain insights into French Basque culture at a traditional farmhouse and on the colorful streets of Espelette.
- Stroll through lively Saint-Jean-de-Luz known for its buccaneering past.

- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Below: Harvesting Espelette peppers



UNESCO World Heritage Routes of Santiago de Compostela

northwestern Spain. Understand more about its enduring spiritual and cultural appeal.

Day 8 | Hondarribia

Free Time: Plan a fun agenda in town today or choose to join the Elective Activity.

ELECTIVE | Wines of the French Basque Country. Explore the walled old town of St. Jean Pied de Port, then sample the outstanding wines of the tiny Irouléguay wine region in the breathtaking countryside.

Celebrate your wonderful Basque journey at tonight's Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 9 | In Transit

Transfer to the Bilbao airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Flights and transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Elective experiences available at an additional cost.

A Note About Activity Levels

We want you to have a comfortable and enjoyable experience. That's why we have rated all of our excursions with activity levels to help you assess this program's physical expectations. Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available. Please call or visit our website to review the itinerary for full details about our activity levels.

Excursions on this program require:

- ▶ walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces
- ▶ getting on/off motor coaches and boats



AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

- ▶ **Travel Consultants** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **Passenger Service Representative** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **Travel Information** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

Once you arrive:

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ▶ **Travel Director** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **Expert Guides** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ▶ **Lecturers** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.



PARADOR DE HONDARRIBIA | HONDARRIBIA



Our travel experts have carefully selected this first-class parador, rich in history and character, for its prime location within walking distance of Hondarribia's city center and restaurants. At the end of each exciting day, take in remarkable panoramic views of the bay from its hillside terrace. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.

Reserve your Basque Country trip today!

Trip #:3-25633W

Send to Basque Country
The Johns Hopkins University
c/o AHI Travel
International Tower-Suite 600
8550 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631

Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this tour. For questions regarding Johns Hopkins, please call **800-JHU-JHU1(548-5481)** or Email: **travel@jhu.edu**.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately)

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the round-trip AHI FlexAir to Bilbao, Spain, to depart from:

Departure City

Land Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$495 (limited availability).

I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **February 10, 2020** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Note: A small portion of the cost of your trip supports the Johns Hopkins Alumni Travel Program.

Eligibility: At least one member of the traveling party is required to make a sustaining financial contribution of \$50 or more to the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association within the fiscal year. Please visit alumni.jhu.edu/support.

I understand the conditions stated in this brochure and submit my reservation as indicated.

Signature _____ Date _____

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 pp required) to reserve _____ place(s).

Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.

Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

PROGRAM DATES

Air Program dates: April 25 – May 3, 2020

Land Program dates: April 26 – May 3, 2020

LAND PROGRAM

Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
\$3,545	\$250	\$3,295

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$495 (limited availability).

Let us arrange your flights!

AHI FlexAir | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase.
- ▶ arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates.
- ▶ **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights.
- ▶ **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays.
- ▶ **flight insurance** worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms.

Travel stress-free with AHI FlexAir.



Espelette, France

ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY-The AHI Travel Passenger Protection Plan offers an **Any Reason Cancellation** feature. Don't worry! Travel happy!

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas; entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; airport transfer costs for those not participating in AHI's FlexAir; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline, to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare.

VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for arrival and departure transfers, and any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

RESPONSIBILITY-AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

CANCELLATION-All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. The credit will be applied to the final billing and may not be used as part of the initial deposit. It is non-transferable and is not valid toward the purchase of an AHI Cruises independent cruise. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 15% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS**-Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

AHI: 800-323-7373

www.alumni.jhu.edu

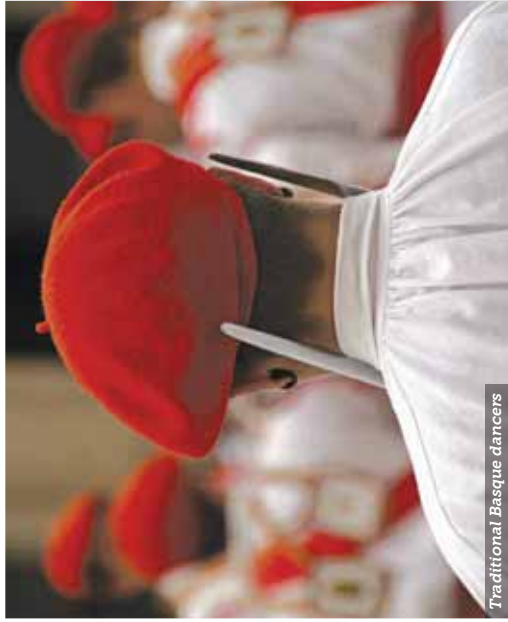


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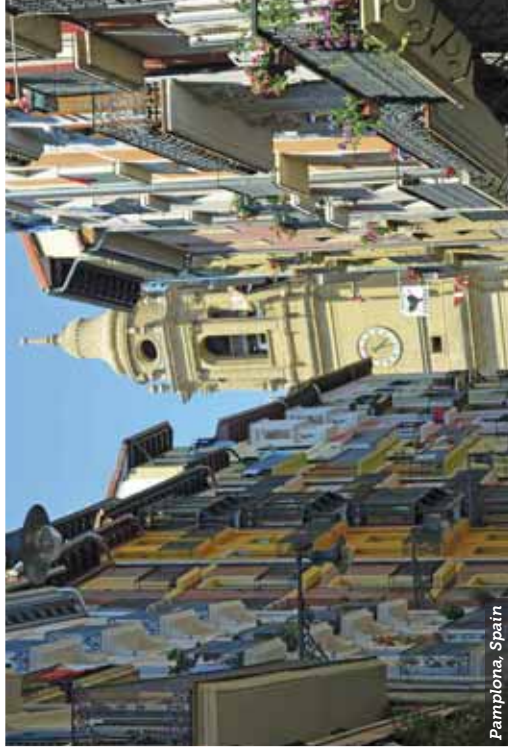
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San Martin Center, 2nd Floor
3400 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

SPABAS020 102

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www.alumni.jhu.edu



Traditional Basque dancers



Pamplona, Spain

Explore across Spain and France in the beautiful, culturally rich Basque region!

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.

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