

THE CAMINO DEL NORTE AND CAMINO PRIMITIVO

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THE CAMINO DEL NORTE AND CAMINO PRIMITIVO

TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA AND FINISTERRE
FROM IRÚN OR OVIEDO

by Laura Perazzoli and Dave Whitson

CICERONE

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Front cover: Pilgrims cross the medieval bridge through Ponte Maceira (Camino Finisterre, Stage 1)

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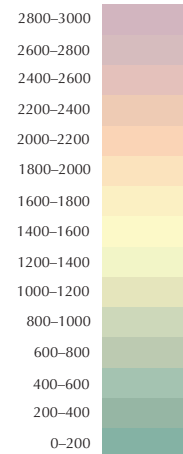
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Symbols used on route maps

	route
	alternative route
	direction of route
	start/alternative start point
	finish/alternative finish point
	woodland
	urban areas
	station/railway
	albergue/other accommodation
	campsite
	bar/café
	all facilities
	pharmacy
	building
	church or cathedral
	supermarket/grocery store
	bus station/bus stop
	rail station
	hospital
	pilgrim info/TIC
	fountain
	airport

Relief in metres



SCALE: 1:100,000

0 kilometres 1 2
0 miles 1

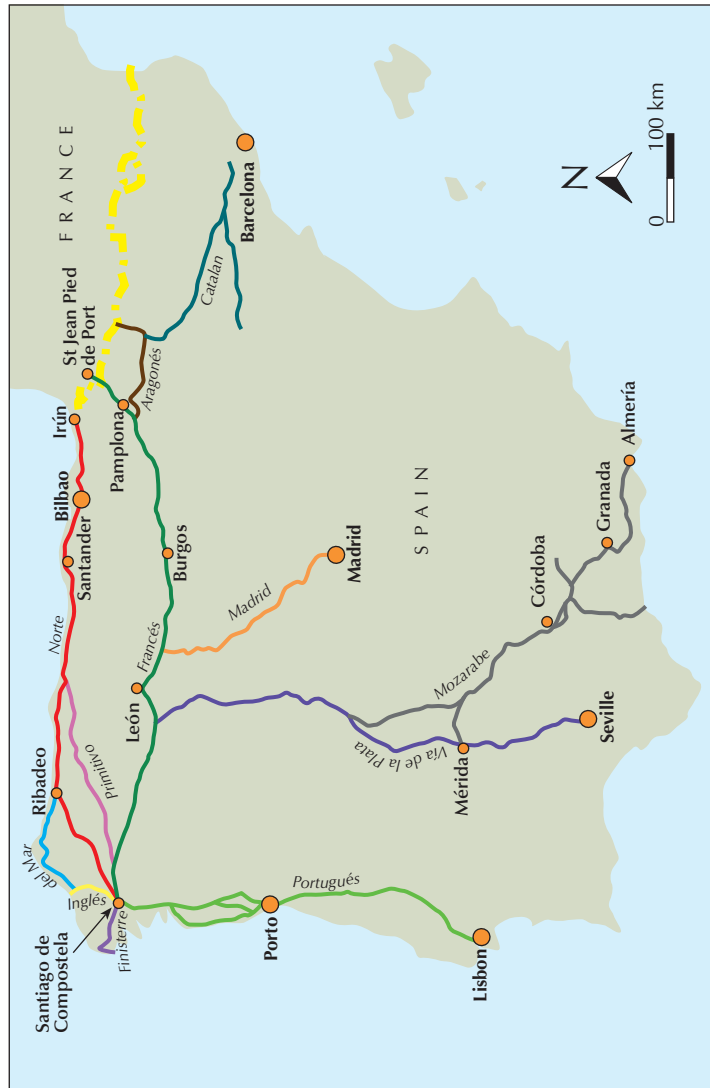
Town map scales vary –
see individual maps

Contour lines are
drawn at 50m intervals
and highlighted at
200m intervals.

GPX files

GPX files for all routes can be downloaded for free at www.cicerone.co.uk/1014/GPX





The Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela

ROUTE SUMMARY TABLES

CAMINO DEL NORTE					
Stage	Start	Distance (km)	Total ascent (m)	Total descent (m)	Page
1	Irún	24.8	882	875	45
2	San Sebastián	19.2	544	554	55
3	Zarautz	22.6	850	856	60
4	Deba	24.2	851	771	66
5	Markina-Xemein	24.7	702	780	70
6	Gemika	31.3	930	923	75
7	Bilbao	25.2	341	356	82
8	Pobeña	16.7	390	372	88
9	Castro-Urdiales	30.9	652	671	93
10	Laredo	28.5	426	350	98
11	Güemes	14.8	189	248	103
12	Santander	30.9	449	377	108
13	Santillana del Mar	22.5	448	499	116
14	Comillas	28.9	620	537	120
15	Colombres	25.2	423	519	130
16	Llanes	20.9	338	246	135
17	Piñeres de Pría	27.3	457	559	138
18	La Isla	22	446	445	145
19	Villaviciosa	31.2	810	808	153
20	Gijón	24.7	368	369	158
21	Avilés	23.5	613	490	162
22	Muros de Nalón	35.2	997	1039	166
23	Cadavedo	15.7	233	313	173
24	Luarca	30	587	540	176
25	La Caridad	24.1	301	338	181
26	Ribadeo	28.7	803	751	187
27	Lourenzá	24.3	853	449	192
28	Gontán	21.2	261	263	196
29	Vílalba	34.5	428	423	200
30	Miraz	25.5	408	352	205
31	Sobrado dos Monxes	22	230	344	208
32	Arzúa	38.8	685	790	213
Total	Santiago de Compostela	819.7	16,784	17,207	

CAMINO DEL NORTE (cont)					
Stage	Start	Distance (km)	Total ascent (m)	Total descent (m)	Page
Prologue	Bayonne	47.3	717	723	40
	Lebaniego detour	55	2133	1636	126
	Covadonga detour	51.9	1395	1154	149

CAMINO PRIMITIVO					
Stage	Start	Distance (km)	Total ascent (m)	Total descent (m)	Page
1	Villaviciosa	27.6	592	381	222
2	Pola de Siero	16.9	164	155	227
3	Oviedo	25.8	469	621	232
4	Grado	22.8	652	495	237
5	Salas	33.6	1132	752	241
6	Campiello	27.2	1014	707	246
7	Berducedo	20.7	874	1228	252
8	Grandas de Salime	25.7	829	443	256
9	A Fonsagrada	32.4	882	1253	260
10	Castroverde	22.3	336	455	266
11	Lugo	32.7	662	533	270
12	As Seixas	28.9	480	680	275
Norte 32	Arzúa	38.8	685	790	279
Total	Santiago de Compostela	355.4	8771	8493	

Primitivo–Norte Link (Oviedo to Avilés)

	Oviedo	29	370	593	280
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Primitivo–Norte Link via Friol (Lugo to Sobrado dos Monxes)

	Lugo	51.2	679	634	285
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CAMINO FINISTERRE					
Stage	Start	Distance (km)	Total ascent (m)	Total descent (m)	Page
1	Santiago de Compostela	21	501	592	292
2	Negreira	34.1	601	492	295
3	Olveiroa	32.2	468	728	297
Total	Finisterre	87.3	1570	1872	
	Muxía extension	52.7	991	1334	300



A pilgrim on the camino after Celorio (Norte, Stage 9)

INTRODUCTION

The stunning diversity of Spain's Northern Caminos makes them as challenging to classify as they are memorable to walk. While most holidays involve a choice between trekking through mountains, lying in the sun on the beach, or engaging in a more meaningful sort of project, the Northern Caminos allow for all three. Those hungry for mountains may not find a high-level route here, but they will encounter challenging coastal ascents in the Basque Country and rugged rural tracks through Asturias. Beachcombers will find some of Europe's most popular sandy spots, such as San Sebastián, along with more isolated hideaways, accessible in some cases only to walkers. And, all who make the trek will be joined in the great human tradition of pilgrimage, unified in common cause and shared soreness, as they follow these historic pathways to sacred Santiago de Compostela.

Santiago de Compostela, whose cathedral houses the relics of Saint James, was one of three major centers of Catholic pilgrimage in the Middle Ages, along with Rome and Jerusalem. Inspired by religious zeal – and particularly the desire to connect more deeply with God through relics, such as the bones of deceased saints – pilgrims from all over the Christian world made the dangerous journey to these celebrated sites. There was no single route to Santiago: the trail began at one's doorstep. But as pilgrims approached Spain, many converged on a handful of particularly popular routes,

known historically as the Caminos de Santiago or 'Ways of Saint James'.

Today those pilgrim roads have experienced a popular resurgence and are walked not just by traditional pilgrims, but by people from highly varied backgrounds. In particular, the Camino Francés, which passes through Pamplona, Burgos, and León, draws crowds from all over the world – to the point where it is often referred to as 'the' Camino de Santiago. However, other pilgrim routes, such as the Northern Caminos, have also been rediscovered, and they have a great deal to offer.

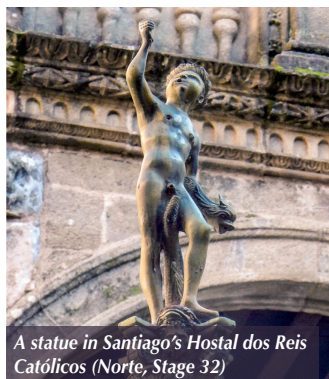
The two Northern Caminos included in this book – the Camino del Norte and the Camino Primitivo – are located north of the Camino Francés and pass through the Spanish regions of the Basque Country, Cantabria, Asturias, and Galicia. While the Camino Francés has in some ways become a victim of its own success, with huge crowds taking to its trails every year, the Northern Caminos enjoy an ideal situation. They are popular enough to offer sufficient facilities, clear routes, and a community of pilgrims, without the race for beds and lack of privacy that sometimes plagues the Francés, especially outside the busier summer months.

The Camino del Norte spans 822km, following the coast from Irún, on the French border, to Ribadeo, before cutting inland towards Santiago; the full route takes about five weeks to complete. The Camino Primitivo splits off from the Camino del Norte near

With three different languages spoken along the Northern Caminos – Castilian, Euskera (Basque), and Gallego (and Asturian making strides of its own!) – it is challenging to achieve a single, consistent approach to place names. In this guidebook, place names have been dealt with as follows. In the Basque Country, both the Castilian and Euskeran versions of town names are included when they are significantly different. In Galicia, names generally follow the Gallego spelling to reflect what is seen on street signs and maps. The similarity between Gallego and Castilian in most cases makes it easy to draw connections (for example, ‘Palas do Rei’ and ‘Palas de Rey’). Geographical features and other vernacular terms are often presented in both Spanish and English to facilitate not only their identification but their use as directional aids.

This guide includes all pilgrim albergues in operation at the time of writing (late 2018), and a range of selected hotels, hostels, and other viable options. All accommodation listings include price, phone numbers, and (when needed) address. Additional information includes the number of beds available, meals served, and the presence of cooking facilities, washer/dryer (W/D), and internet (@). Opening hours are included if they are notable. Please note that prices can change quickly or by season, and are often higher when booked through an online service; always confirm in advance.

Each stage of the route in this guide is accompanied by a map at 1:100,000 scale with the exception of the detour tracks on the Camino Covadonga and the Camino Lebaniego. The maps use a



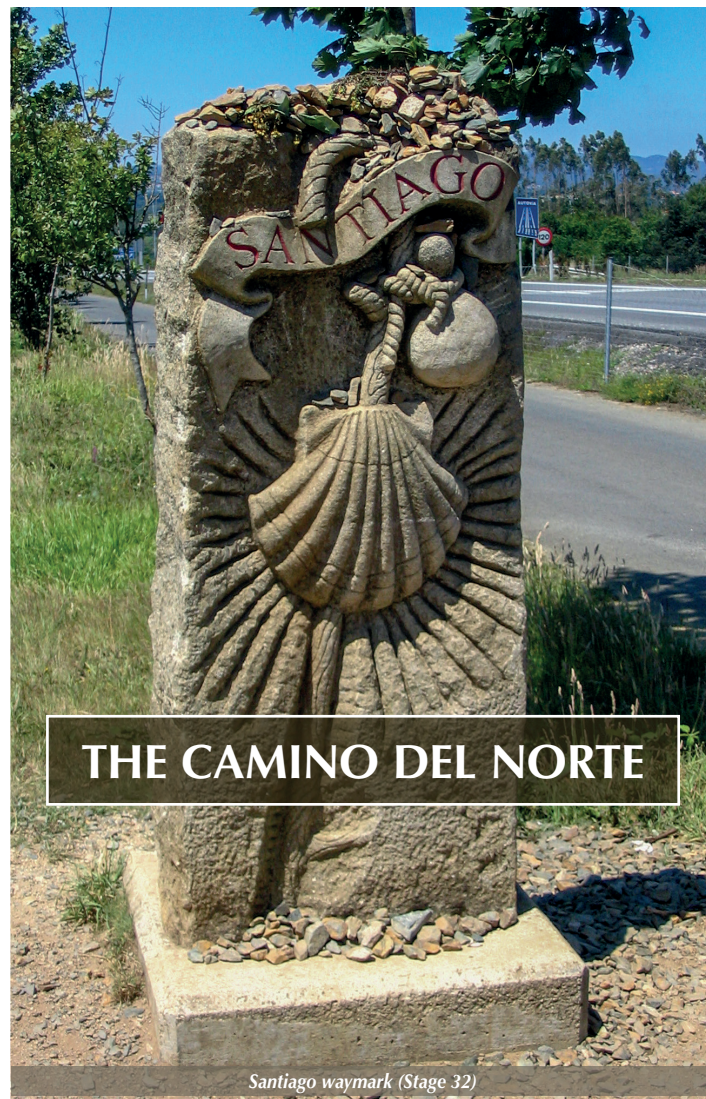
A statue in Santiago's Hostal dos Reis Católicos (Norte, Stage 32)

red line for the main route description and a red dashed line for any alternative routes described. All place names in **bold** in the text are also included on the maps. Where a distance appears in brackets, that figure relates to the distance from the previous town/village that is highlighted in brackets.

N followed by a number (eg N-634) denotes a major Spanish highway, while regional roads are often identified by the first two letters of the province followed by a number (eg AS-235).

Sources of useful information on transport and other practicalities are listed in Appendix A. There is also a glossary of key terms in Spanish and Euskera (Appendix B), and some recommended further reading (Appendix C).

Finally, please keep in mind that despite the authors' best efforts, some information in this guide will go out-of-date almost as quickly as it's printed. Please check www.northerncaminos.com for route updates and book corrections. We are grateful to all readers for updates from the trail.



THE CAMINO DEL NORTE

Santiago waymark (Stage 32)

INTRODUCTION

The Camino del Norte is the longest route in this guidebook. From the city of Irún, located on the French border, the Norte follows the coast for the better part of 620km. Upon reaching Galicia, it turns inland, with 150km of trails bringing pilgrims to the Camino Francés in Arzúa, 40km before Santiago de Compostela. The highlights are strikingly diverse – hilltop bluffs overlooking the ocean; waymarked walks on sandy beaches; albergues in medieval monasteries; cosmopolitan cities with dramatic cathedrals and stunning art museums... the list goes on, but you'll just have to walk it to see it all. For added variety, pilgrims can divert from the Camino del Norte in Villaviciosa (Stage 19), complementing the coastal walk with the Camino Primitivo's mountainous terrain.

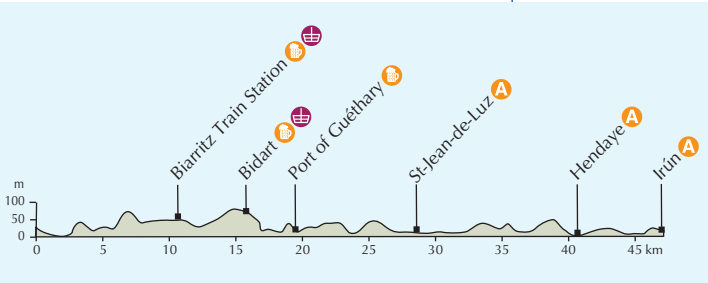
PROLOGUE: THE VOIE LITTORALE

Bayonne to Irún/Hondarribia

Start	Bayonne cathedral
Finish	Albergue de Peregrinos, Irún
Distance	47.3km
% unpaved	28.7%
Total ascent	717m
Total descent	723m
Terrain	2
Route-finding	3
Pilgrim accommodation	Bayonne, Guéthary, Ciboure, Hendaye, Irún

While the Camino del Norte begins in Irún, pilgrims would have joined it from much farther afield, and some coming on foot from France would have followed the Voie Littorale along the coast to Spain. Some of today's pilgrims are also drawn to the idea of starting in French territory, for a few reasons. First, it aligns nicely with budget flights arriving in Biarritz – you could even walk out the airport's front door and begin your journey. Second, while the Norte's initial stages are quite strenuous, this is an easier walk, helping you to get your legs under you. Finally, it's quite lovely! However, plan for some high prices; even a coffee may cost three times what it would in Spain.

As this is a skeletal route summary, we do not include accommodation suggestions here, but the most up-to-date list of pilgrim-specific options can be found on www.xacobeo.fr. St-Jean-de-Luz provides a fantastic place to break the walk, though it lacks pilgrim-specific accommodation.



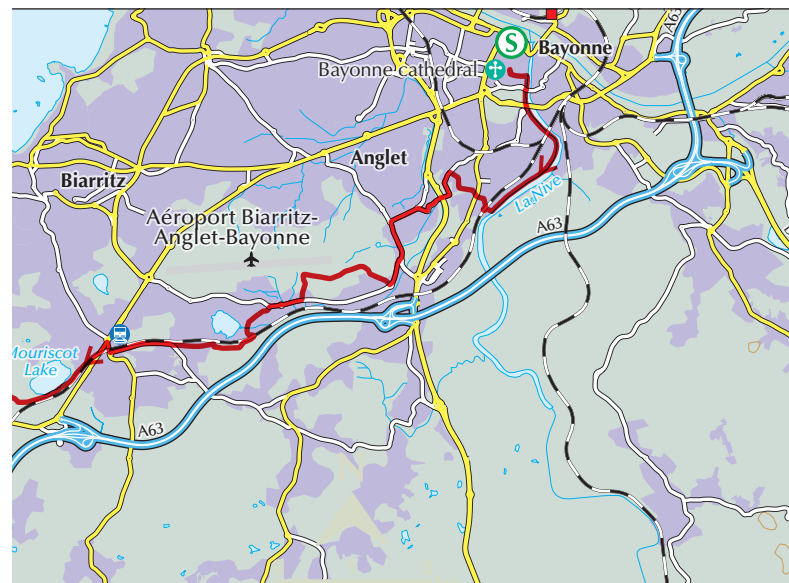
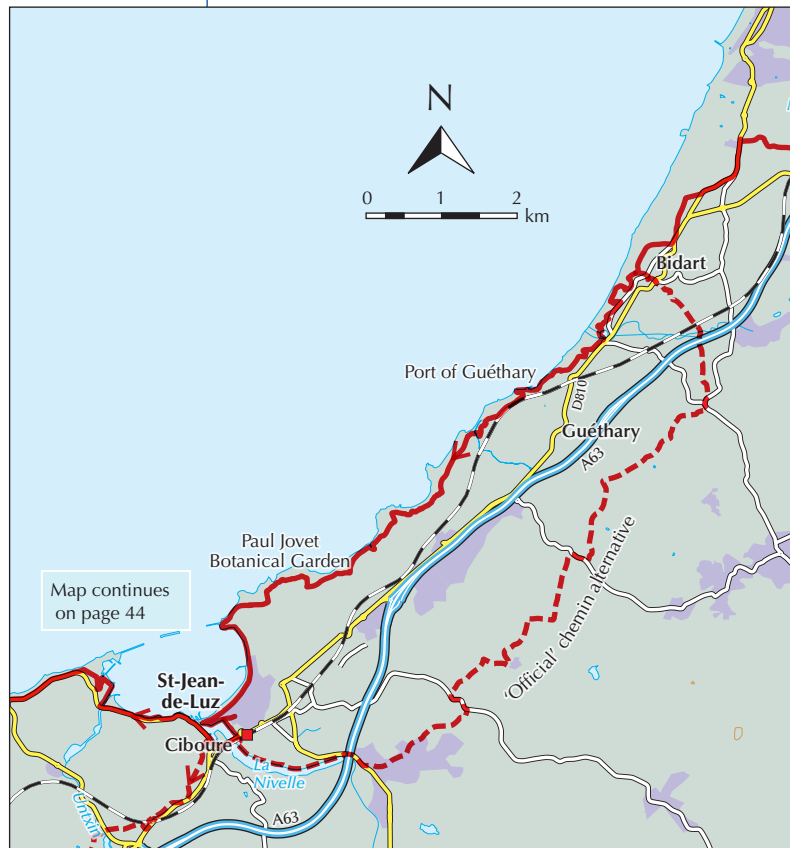
Leaving Bayonne's cathedral (pilgrim information desk Mon–Sat 0900–1145, 1500–1800), proceed eastward to the River Nive. Soon after, the riverside walkway diverges from the main road; near that point, you'll encounter your first camino (chemin) waymark. 2.8km from the cathedral, turn right, away from the river (two other chemins continue straight, so don't be confused by conflicting waymarks). Skirt the edge of Anglet (1.5km) and then loop around **Biarritz Airport**, arriving at **Biarritz train station** (6.3km) (bars, grocery, bakery). ▶ Proceed past **Mouriscot Lake** (marked turn to Biarritz youth hostel) and then follow a series of busier roads to the coast, arriving in **Bidart** (5.7km) (bars, grocery, bakery, turismo) soon after.

Those walking or arriving by taxi directly from the airport would come in from the right at this point.



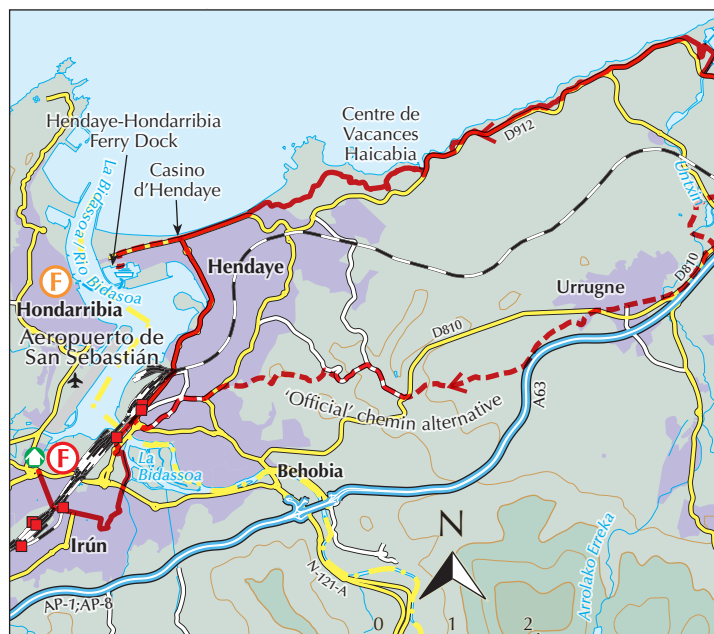
The Voie Littorale near Bidart

From Bidart, you have two options. The 'official' chemin veers inland, passing Bidart's church and then following a series of mostly minor, paved roads to St-Jean-de-Luz. This approach spans 12.8km (500 meters more than the coastal route). We prefer the coastal approach, following yellow markings indicating the 'Sentiere Littorale.' Pass through the port of **Guéthary** (3.1km) (additional **bars/restaurants, turismo** uphill) and around the **Paul Jovet Botanical Garden** (5.2km).



Finally, join an elevated promenade past St-Jean's spectacular beaches, before turning inland at the lighthouse and proceeding into the center of **St-Jean-de-Luz** (4km) (**all facilities**).

Once again, you have two options from St-Jean-de-Luz to Hendaye, with the 'official' chemin veering inland once more and the 'Sentiere Littorale' remaining on the coast. The routes diverge on the other side of the Nivelle River in St-Jean, with the 'official' chemin turning left just before the Église Saint-Vincent, while the coastal alternative continues along the riverside. The 'official' route spans 17km, largely bypassing Hendaye. As before, we prefer the coast. After passing through the neighboring village of **Ciboure** (3km), the route generally follows a footpath running parallel to (and sometimes directly alongside) the **D912** highway. After passing through the grounds of the **Centre de Vacances Haicabia** (5.1km), the route leaves the highway behind and has a lovely final approach to **Hendaye** (**all facilities**). At the **Casino d'Hendaye** (4.2km), you can decide to walk into Irún or catch the ferry to Hondarribia.



Ferry bypassing Irún

It is an option to continue straight from the casino, turning left six blocks later on Place du Port and proceeding to the passenger ferry dock (1.1km), which provides regular transport to **Hondarribia**. Yellow arrows start at the dock, leading 900 meters into the center, where it is possible to continue directly to join the Camino del Norte after Irún. Alternately, one could walk into Irún (4.4km) or even take a local bus.

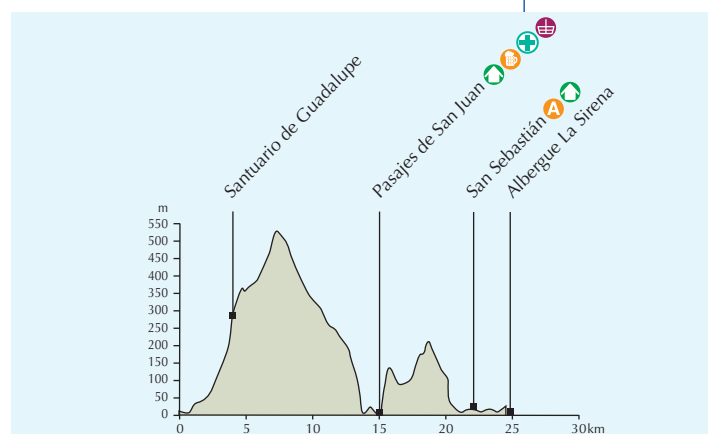
To proceed into Irún on foot, turn left and follow D912 (or, more enjoyably, veer one block to the right and follow the riverside walkway). There are no waymarks on this stretch, but the highway leads past Hendaye's train and metro stations. Soon after, fork right to cross the old Pont Saint Jacques. Yellow arrows begin on the bridge, leading you through Irún to the **Albergue de Peregrinos** (6km).

STAGE 1

Irún to San Sebastián

Start	Albergue de Peregrinos, Irún
Finish	Albergue La Sirena, San Sebastián
Distance	24.8km
% unpaved	43.9%
Total ascent	882m
Total descent	875m
Terrain	5
Route-finding	3
Pilgrim accommodation	Irún, Pasajes de San Juan, San Sebastián

The Camino del Norte's first stage may also be its most spectacular, offering incredible views of both land and sea. Leaving Irún, a short riverside walk transitions to an ascent to the Guadalupe Sanctuary. From there, pilgrims are advised to take the high-level route, which follows a ridgeline high above the Bay of Biscay, passing Neolithic dolmens, medieval towers, and castle ruins before descending to Pasajes de San Juan. A small passenger boat shuttles you across the port. More uphill awaits, leading over another ridge before ultimately – and impressively – San Sebastián appears below. However, many route options exist so be sure to find the best fit; alternative approaches from Hondarribia are included at the end.





IR N

All facilities, RENFE station. **Albergue de Peregrinos Jakobi** (donativo, 60 beds, kitchen, breakfast, open Mar–Oct, credenciales, c/Lesaka 1, tel 640 361 640).

Albergue Juvenil Martindozenea remains closed in 2019 ( 17–22, includes breakfast, meals available, kitchen, @, Avda Elizaxto 18, tel 943 621 042), **Pensi n Bowling** (singles  30–50, doubles  40–60, c/Mourlane Michelena 2, tel 943 611 452), **Pensi n Lizaso** (doubles  30–50, @, c/Aduana 5, tel 943 611 600).

Ir n lies across the R o Bidasoa from French Hendaye. As a border town, it has been a frequent site of diplomatic wrangling. Franco and Hitler met across the river at Hendaye rail station. In exchange for Spanish support, Franco demanded significant territorial promises, none of which Hitler was willing to concede. Hitler was bored by the general and skeptical of Spanish military capability; Spain thus remained neutral throughout World War II. However, the dissolution of Franco and Hitler’s relationship came too late for Ir n, which had seen its historic core obliterated by German bombers (at Franco’s behest) during the Spanish Civil War. Because of this, most of Ir n today is modern.

► From the albergue return to the adjacent roundabout and take the second right. After crossing the Amuteko Canal, turn left and join a pedestrian track. A series of minor paved roads leads you past the Ermita de Santiago (fountain), where the route from Hondarribia joins from the right, before transitioning to a dirt track uphill to

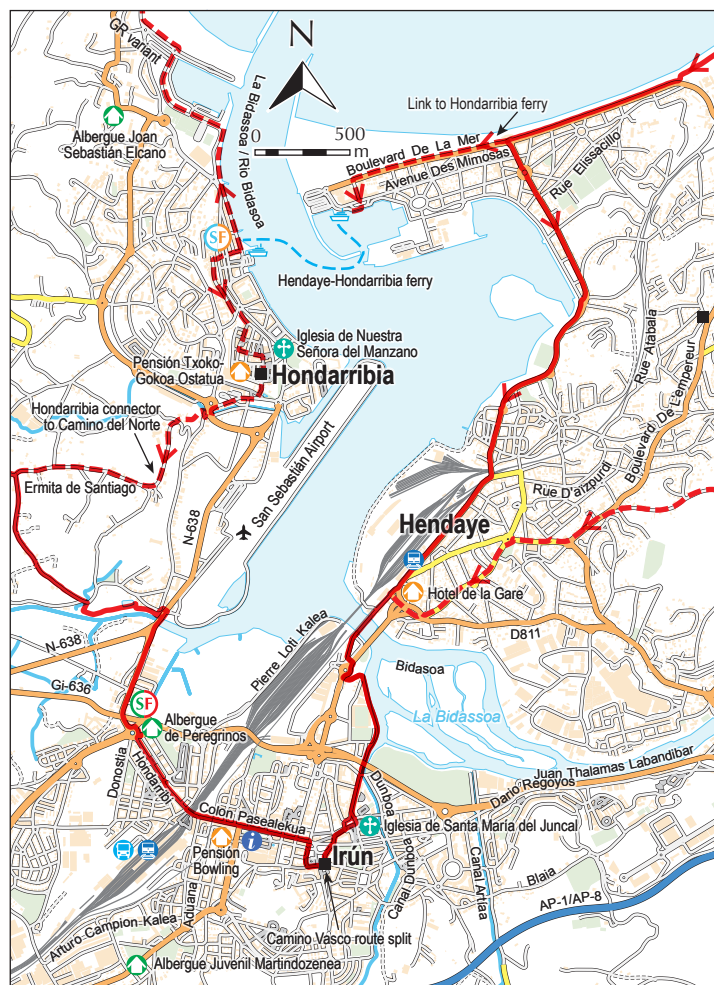
To reach Ir n’s Albergue de Peregrinos from the train/bus station, follow Estaci n Kalea to Zubiaurre Kalea and turn left. Proceed downhill to a major roundabout and take the first right. The albergue is on your left.

SANTUARIO DE GUADALUPE (4KM)

Bar behind church (unreliable hours). Fountain water is not potable.

This small 16th-century church offers sweeping views of the Bidasoa valley. When nearby Hondarribia was besieged in 1638, the Virgin of Guadalupe supposedly protected the town for 69 days. Every 8 September, locals visit this sanctuary to commemorate her.

Throughout the rest of this stage, camino-specific yellow arrows and GR-specific red/white stripes frequently overlap,



sometimes following the same trails and at other times splitting. Both lead to San Sebastián; the GR is often more spectacular and, not coincidentally, longer.

Shortly after the church, the camino splits, with a sign informing 'Alpinist pilgrims' to keep straight on, and all others to turn left.

Low-level variant

For an easier walk, turn left when the route splits after Santuario de Guadalupe onto the dirt road. Keep straight on, with views of the Spanish interior and frequent tree cover, for 5.1km. Turn right and proceed for 4.2km, ignoring the marked left to Leto. Soon after, join GI-3440 (and the higher route). This route is 1.4km longer than the high-level option.

We recommend the high-level route continuing straight on, up a very steep ascent. While the route is certainly challenging, this brutal first climb is not representative of the more undulating walk that follows. After 1km, reach the first of Mount Jaizkibel's five (formerly six) towers, built during the 19th-century Carlist Wars. Proceed along the ridge, passing additional towers and an ancient dolmen. After 3km, reach the ruined **Fort of San Enrique** atop the mountain. Follow the ridgeline around a radio tower before descending to the highway. ▶

From GI-3440, turn onto a single-lane road. After 2.7km, descend steps into **Pasajes de San Juan**. Arrows provide direct access to the albergue.

It is possible to turn right off of the highway soon after, following the GR: a more scenic – and strenuous – route which adds 1.6km to your approach to Pasajes. It is not recommended in poor weather or for people with fear of heights.

PASAJES DE SAN JUAN/PASAIA DONIBANE (10.6KM)

Bars, restaurants, pharmacy. An Eroski supermarket is located 400 meters to the left of the west dock. **Albergue de Peregrinos Santa Ana** (donativo, 14 beds, opens 1600, Apr–mid Oct, tel 618 939 666).

Originally two towns, Pasajes and San Juan were founded in 1180–1203, and unified in the 19th century. A long-prominent port, Pasajes hosted the Spanish naval fleet, the Escuadra Cantábrica, for 400 years and built part of the Spanish Armada. Victor Hugo lived at Donibane 63, near the plaza and currently home to the turismo. The 15th-century **Iglesia de San Juan Bautista** features a baroque altarpiece and the image of Santa Faustina Martir, a gift from Pope Leo XII.



Take the small pedestrian ferry across the port (70c/person). On the other side, the camino splits again. Our route turns right, along the coastal promenade. Near the end, turn left and ascend steep steps to the old lighthouse. Take a footpath until turning right onto Faro Pasealekua.

Shortly before another lighthouse, the Faro de la Plata, turn left onto a footpath and proceed 1.6km. Then, the route splits again. The camino turns left, for a direct approach that follows a paved road into a parking lot, crosses it, and then joins a footpath towards San Sebastián's outskirts. ▶ Merge with c/Zemoria and descend the steps – you're now in San Sebastián, but some 4km stand between you and Albergue La Sirena! Turn right on c/Nafarroa (seasonal Hospital Claret Ikastola on your right), and then left along the beach promenade. Cross the Puente de Zurriola and continue across the peninsula. Rejoin the promenade and proceed all the way to the beach's end. Turn left onto c/Satrutegi, then fork left on Paseo de Igeldo. Keep straight on to Albergue Juvenil La Sirena to end the stage in

Alternatively, follow the GR right for a longer, coastal approach that adds 1km and rejoins the camino before town.

SAN SEBASTIÁN/DONOSTIA (10.2KM)

All facilities, RENFE and EuskoTren stations, Central Bus Station located on Pio XII Square. **Hospital de Peregrinos Claret Ikastola** (donativo, 60–75 beds, open 1500, July–Aug only, credenciáles, Avda de Nafarroa 1), **Albergue Juvenil La Sirena** (€15–21, 100 beds, kitchen, @, W/D, Paseo de Igeldo 25, 943 310 268), **Albergue Juvenil Ullia**, located on-route before San Sebastián (€15–18.75, 54 beds, kitchen, meals available, @, W/D, tel 943 483 480), **Pensión Loinaz** (singles/doubles €50–80, triples €75–105, quads €90–120, W/D, @, c/San Lorenzo 17, tel 943 426 714), **Pensión La Perla** (singles €30–60, doubles €40–72, includes breakfast, tel 943 428 123), **Pensión Anne** (doubles €40–60, Esterlines Kalea 15, tel 943 421 438), **Hotel Niza** (singles €59–69, doubles €72–175, breakfast available, @, Zubietta Kalea 56, tel 943 426 663).

This is one of Europe's most stunning beach cities. Probably founded by Basques, it later hosted a Roman fort and a monastery before becoming a Navarrese military stronghold. Frequent conflicts between France and Spain left a mark on San Sebastián. The most serious threat came in the Peninsular War, when Napoleon's forces took the town and the Duke of Wellington besieged it for months. The British finally broke through and celebrated by looting the town for a week. Ultimately, only two churches and 35 houses escaped this clash; the population



was halved. San Sebastián has been burned to the ground a dozen times over its history, and thus most buildings date from the 19th century. The oldest section of town, the Parte Vieja, can be found beneath Monte Urgull.

San Sebastián's most impressive sights are natural ones: two fantastic beaches flanked by prominent hills. The larger beach, **Playa de la Concha**, is capped on its west side by the Miramar Palace. Meanwhile, Monte Igeldo looms over the **Playa de la Zurriola**, with a great park on top (tired pilgrims can ride the funicular). The other hill, Monte Urgull, preserves a rich history, including the **Castillo de Santa Cruz de la Mota** (1530) and a British cemetery from the Peninsular War.

Human-made highlights include the 19th-century **Catedral del Buen Pastor**, a neo-Gothic structure modeled after Cologne's cathedral. Built out of sandstone, it has three large naves and a 75m tower (0800–1230 and 1700–2000). The **Iglesia San Vicente** (1507) is a fine Gothic structure with a striking altarpiece. The **Basilica de Santa María del Coro** has a long history, but its current exterior is more recent. A legend states that the Virgin del Coro's image was in the church's choir, but a lazy clergyman, tired of the uphill climb to reach it, decided to steal the image. However, he was immobilized as he tried to leave the building. The **Museo Naval (Untzi Museoa)** shares the history of Basque seafaring (c/Paseo del Muelle 24, Tue–Sat 1000–1400 and 1600–1900; Sun 1100–1400). Finally, the **Museo San Telmo** (€6, Tue–Sun 1000–2000), located in the 16th-century Dominican monastery of San Telmo, contains a number of golden murals documenting Basque history. It also includes three works by El Greco and Rubens.

San Sebastián and Monte Igeldo



Alternative routes from Hondarribia

Some pilgrims prefer to start from Hondarribia instead of Irún and this is easy to do. Yellow arrows originate from the pedestrian ferry dock (from Hendaye) and proceed inland to the c/de Santiago, where the route turns left. After a slightly tricky intersection, forking left across Harresilanda Kalea and then back to the right uphill, proceed into the center of the old town. The Arma Plaza, roughly 900m from the dock, offers excellent views, houses the turismo, and borders the cathedral. The route now departs the old town, crosses a roundabout, and then turns right on Zumardi Kalea. Cross another roundabout, navigating towards a small set of steps (easily missed) directly ahead on the other side. Once atop those stairs, quiet, well-marked roads lead to the **Ermita de Santiago** and the 'official' camino from Irún. This walk covers 2.8km.

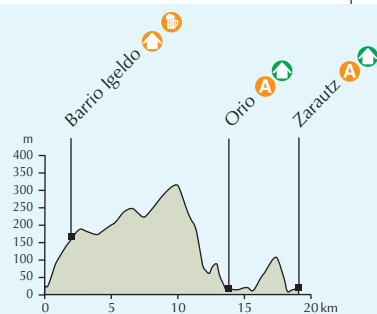
It is also possible to take an entirely different approach from Hondarribia, following a GR that hews closer to the coastline. From the dock, proceed north (with the river on your right), wrapping inland briefly around a large port, before returning to the coast. After a second port, the first red/white marks appear, calling for a left turn uphill. Roughly 4km from the dock, you arrive at a lighthouse with restaurants and **Camping Faro de Higer**. This is your last chance at water until Pasajes, so load up. The next 7km is a glorious stretch of coastal walking, passing the old **Port of Artzu**, which was used by Romans and once the site of a wheat and corn mill. Turn inland at **Cabo Bioznar**; the ascent is quite strenuous over the next 6km as you climb to intersect the camino, roughly 1km after the Fort of San Enrique. All told, this walk spans 17.1km between Hondarribia and the camino, with 5.4km still separating it from Pasajes.

STAGE 2

San Sebastián to Zarautz

Start	Albergue Juvenil La Sirena, San Sebastián
Finish	Albergue de Peregrinos, Zarautz
Distance	19.2km
% unpaved	31.3%
Total ascent	544m
Total descent	554m
Terrain	4
Route-finding	2
Pilgrim accommodation	Orio, Zarautz

After yesterday's brilliant walk, today might feel like a minor let down. Sea views are not as plentiful and beach access is limited to the start- and end-points, while facilities remain equally limited. However, the comparison is unfair; this remains an enjoyable walk, with long sections stretching across rolling green hills. Short ascents out of San Sebastián and Orio mark the major challenges. These are tamer than yesterday's climbs, but may feel harder given those exertions.



From the albergue on Paseo de Igeldo, head west on Marbil Bidea, shortly before the youth hostel. Proceed uphill, watching for waymarked shortcuts leading up stairs, including one off a hairpin turn, before passing right through a parking lot. After a stint on the old Carretera de Orio, fork right into