

France/Spain – Bordeaux to San Sebastian



Trip Summary

Indulge yourself with an unforgettable wine at a vineyard in Bordeaux. Take in the sweeping views on a hike through Spain in the Pyrenees. Become enchanted with the Bahia de la Concha in San Sebastian, a gem along Spain's Basque Atlantic coastline. Whether it's cycling on the Piste Cyclable Roger Lapébie through charming villages in France, or keeping your eyes open for rampaging while exploring Pamplona Spain, you're sure to make long lasting memories on this epic journey through two of the most romantic countries in Europe.

Itinerary

Day 1: Saint Émilion

Our trip begins in the bustling city center of Bordeaux with a bicycle ride on the scenic Roger Lapébie cycling path • Peddle your way past chateau's, through enchanting forests, making sure to stop along the way at an enticing winery or two • Recharge in Lignan de Bordeaux in an old train station turned café, along this unforgettable rails to trails route • Take a break from the biking to explore the ruins of the Abbaye de La Sauve-Majeure • Tonight we'll dine in the quaint village of Saint Émilion • *Chateau Hotel & Spa Grand Barrail (L, D)*

Day 2: Saint Émilion

Today we'll paddle along the beautiful Dordogne river, through pastoral landscapes the have looked the same for centuries • Picnic along the river with some local wine, cheese, and baguettes... how very French of you! • In the afternoon an optional bike ride or free time to climb the tower of Saint Émilion for the most stunning views of village life • Enjoy free time walking the stone streets in St. Émilion before a wonderful dinner • *Chateau Hotel & Spa Grand Barrail (B, L, D)*

Day 3: San Sebastian

We transfer to the beautiful French city of Bayonne for a walking tour of the small city an it's Botanical gardens, Cathedral, and monuments • After lunch we head to the coast of Spain for an magical walk along a wild coastline with crashing waves and unforgettable viewpoints • Bask in the glory of the symmetrical Bahia de la Concha as we arrive to our home in the Basque region for the next 3 nights • *Overnight at Hotel Mercure San Sebastian Monte Igueldo (B, D)*

Day 4: San Sebastian

This morning you're whisked off to the historical city center of Pamplona, the home of the famous running of the bulls, for a tour of the famed streets • Learn about the pilgrimage route "Camino de Santiago" that makes its way through the impressive city • Savor a memorable tapas lunch, (more Bull anyone?), before heading off on a hike of your own through the Pyrenees in the Parque Natural Urbasa Andia • Tonight you'll have a chance to explore the amazing food scene of San Sebastian on your own • *Overnight at Hotel Mercure San Sebastian Monte Igueldo (B, L)*

Day 5: San Sebastian

This morning we'll have a chance to kayak through the picturesque bay of San Sebastian, enjoying a mesmerizing perspective on the picturesque coastal town • Find yourself on a perfect beach, wind your way through the old town, or check out the cities world class aquarium along the coast during



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some free time this afternoon • Tonight we end in style with a delicious final dinner together
• *Overnight at Hotel Mercure San Sebastian Monte Igueldo (B, D)*

Day 6: Bilbao

Enjoy a hot breakfast before being transferred to a Bilbao airport or train station for your departure •
No overnight (B)

***Trip itineraries are subject to change without notice due to road, weather and other factors outside of our control, for the safety and enjoyment of our guests, as deemed necessary and appropriate by Austin Adventures.*

Activities

Cycling:

Day 1 bicycle mileage options: 24 / 32 mi

Day 2 bicycle mileage options: 8 / 16 mi

Hiking:

Day 3 Hiking mileage options: 5 / 6 mi

Day 4 Hiking mileage options: 6 / 8

Kayaking/Canoeing:

Day 2 mileage options: 6 / 8 mi

Day 5 options: 3 / 6

Discovery: Perched between peaks of the Spanish Pyrenees and the picture-perfect playground of French winemakers, lies the often under visited, but never underappreciated Bordeaux and the Basque countries of Spain and France. Delight in the warm textures of two incredible regional cuisines, which are home to a few of the world's most influential chefs and some of the most undeniably mouth-watering flavors. Paired with a perfect regional wine from two of the most prestigious vine growing regions in both France and Spain, connoisseurs cannot help but feel indulgent. Explore a complex crossroads of cultures in Pamplona where the famous pilgrim trail of El Camino de Santiago intersects with the same streets the bulls roam each year in June. All set on the backdrop of stunning Coastal scenery, fresh mountain air, and expansive wine chateaus this region is sure to capture your heart and imagination.

Austin Adventures guides are experienced facilitators and regional experts. They take the time to explain the local history and daily sightseeing and route options. Each route has been carefully planned to include options to please each traveler's interests. Austin Adventures guides are available to help you select the distance that's right for you and to offer advice and assistance as you desire.

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Distinctive Accommodation

Night 1 & 2: Chateau Hotel & Spa Grand Barrail

Located within a 7-acre park with a lake, this 19th-century chateau hotel sits nestled between the charming village of Saint-Émilion and downtown Libourne on the banks of the Dordogne river. Featuring a spa with swimming pool, sauna, hot tub, and Turkish baths, you might not want to leave the property. A refined gourmet restaurant with stained-glass windows offers outside dining with views of scenic wineries, a bar and a cigar smoking room, and fitness center complete this gorgeous property.

Nights 3 – 5: Hotel Mercure San Sebastian Monte Igueldo

Perched on Mount Igueldo and overlooking the scenic bay of La Concha, this upscale hotel has one of the best vantage points of the magical coastline. Polished rooms with balconies that overlook the mountain and sea, there's also an outdoor pool and a playground, plus a casual restaurant and bar with panoramic ocean views.

Meals

The hallmark of an Austin Adventures vacation is our exceptional dining. All meals: breakfasts, lunches, snacks, dinners, refreshments and receptions are included as indicated by itinerary. (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner). Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities are not included in the trip price.



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Arrival & Departures

Prior to the trip, arrive at your own convenience in Bordeaux via the airport of TGV station. On Day 1, we will meet you in the lobby of the Hôtel De Sèze at 8:30 am where after a briefing, the bike riding begins. After breakfast on Day 6, we take you to the airport, train station, or the hotel of your choice in Bilbao or San Sebastian (1.5-hour transfer).

Trip Price

\$3,498 (\$680 single supplement)

Trip Length

6 days / 5 nights

2020 Dates

June 7 - 12

July 12 - 17

August 23 - 28

Host City

Begin: Bordeaux, France (Airport Code: BOD)

End: Bilbao, Spain (Airport Code: BIO)

Reservations & Availability

1-800-575-1540

*From Bordeaux to Basque country,
enjoy chateaux, coastline, culture
and much more*

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Trip Reservations

Reservations, Deposits and Balances Due

To make a reservation, contact Austin Adventures with your choice of trip and dates. A \$500 per person deposit is required to confirm your reservation. **Some Custom and International programs may require additional deposits.** Full payment is required at the time of booking if your trip departs within 90 days. Choose one of the following contact methods:

Toll free: 800-575-1540

Phone: 406-655-4591

Online: austinadventures.com

Email: reservations@austinadventures.com

Mail: Austin Adventures, P.O. Box 81025, Billings, MT 59108

* You may also book your Austin Adventure with your preferred travel professional.

** We accept most major credit cards and personal checks (U.S. funds made payable to Austin Adventures). Please do not send cash.

Included in the Trip Price

- Double occupancy rooms with private baths.
- Meals as listed in detailed daily itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner).
- Fully trained, first-aid certified professional guides and knowledgeable local partners.
- Any necessary equipment – all safe and well maintained.
- Vehicle support and land transportation during the trip.
- Austin Adventures T-shirt, water bottle, luggage tags and luggage service.
- Pre-departure and packing information.
- Incidental expenses such as taxes, dining and housekeeping gratuities, local partner and expert gratuities and national park entrance and permit fees.

Not Included in the Trip Price

- Gratuities to Austin Adventures guides.
- Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities.
- Pre-and post-trip accommodations and associated expenses.
- Air and land transportation to/from host cities.
- All types of personal insurance.
- Personal expenses.

Pre-departure Information

After receiving your reservation and deposit, we'll send you a pre-trip planner with general information about the area you'll be visiting, a packing list, exercise guidelines, a guest information questionnaire and a liability release agreement for you to sign and return within 10 days.



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Private Custom Trips

Maybe your vacation schedule doesn't fit our list of trips and dates. Or perhaps you'd prefer a slightly different itinerary or level of luxury and activity. A Custom Adventure is the perfect answer. You pick the date and destination and brief us on the size of your group, what activities you want, your "must haves" and just how you like to relax and unwind. No detail is too small, no idea too outrageous. Our staff of experts will help create a tailor-made vacation that's just right for you and your group. In short, if you can dream it, we can make it happen.

Room Occupancy, Single Supplements, and Shared Room Assignments

All trip prices are based on double occupancy. Single rooms are available for an additional charge, referred to as a "single supplement." If you're traveling alone and wish to share a room, make the request at the time of booking. Austin Adventures will attempt to find a suitable roommate for you. If you book 90 days before the trip and we cannot find you a suitable roommate, we will take care of the single supplement. **some restrictions may apply*

Minimum Age

The minimum age on our non-family designated adult and teen adventures is sixteen years old.

Cancellations and Refunds

The following cancellation policies and cancellation fees are in effect:

***As with deposits on some international and custom programs, refund schedule may vary, speak with your Adventure Consultant for details.

Cancellation 91 days or more before trip departure – Full trip payment refunded less a \$300 per person administration fee

Cancellation 61-90 days before trip departure – Full trip payment less 25% per person is refunded

Cancellation 31-60 days before trip departure – 50% of the trip payment is refunded

Cancellation 0-30 days before trip departure – No refund is given

Our Guarantee

Exceeding your expectations is our number one priority. In the unlikely event that you are dissatisfied with something during your trip, immediately notify your guide(s). If he or she is unable to resolve the issue, call our main office and give us the details of the problem, and a chance to correct it. We will do our best to find a resolution. If we are unable to do so during your trip, we will work with you upon your return home to arrive at a fair and equitable solution, including up to a full refund.