



Bilbao

Photo: LucVi/Shutterstock.com



Belyay/Shutterstock.com

The Basque city of Bilbao is a spellbinding capital of art, design and gastronomy. With one of the world's finest buildings - the Guggenheim - at its heart, Bilbao dazzles with style and energy, boasts a unique identity and speaks Europe's oldest and most enigmatic language - Euskara.



Pixachi/Shutterstock.com



Mimadeo/Shutterstock.com

QUIZ

*What Type of Traveller
Are You Based on
Your Travel IQ?*

TAKE THE QUIZ

Top 5



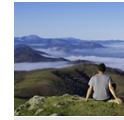
A Walk Along the River
From the ultra-modern Conference Centre and Concert Hall Palacio Euskalduna ...



Euskal Museoa - Basque Museum
The Museum of Basque Archaeology, Ethnography and



The Old Port - Algortako P...
Effectively a tiny fishing village in the midst of a city, the Old Port of A...



Climbing Pagasarri and Gan...
Take a sneak peek at a day in the life of a local by going on one of the mos...



Chillida Leku
Located in the city of Hernani, at a one-hour distance from Bilbao, Chillida...



THE CITY



Jon Chica/Shutterstock.com

Bilbao is the largest city in the Basque Country, as well as the capital of the province of Biscay or Bizkaia. Once a heavily industrialised city, Bilbao has taken itself through an extraordinary transformation. The banks of the Nervión river are home to numerous businesses and factories, which during the Industrial Revolution brought heightened prosperity to the region.

The Nervión divides the city in two: the old city and the new. To the east are the narrow streets of the Old Town, or Casco Viejo, centred around the Siete Calles, or Zazpi Kaleak, district. Chock-full of 'pintxo' bars, traditional restaurants and Basque cider houses or 'sagardotegis', Casco Viejo is home to historic sights such as St James' Cathedral or the vast Mercado de la Ribera food market.

Standing in stark contrast to the old part of town is the other half of the city, on the opposite side of the river. A section of this more modern half belongs to the late 19th century bourgeois expansion of Bilbao. Here you will find the Guggenheim Museum and other iconic buildings like the cutting edge Palacio Euskalduna on the banks of the river.

The Guggenheim, a building created by architect Frank Gehry, provides a surreal and very

particular beauty to Bilbao. Although it is an impressive landmark not to be missed, overlooking the rest of the city would be almost criminal.

DO & SEE



Belyay/Shutterstock.com

Bilbao has a great many interesting sites to visit, both historical and modern. Enjoy some contemporary art at the Guggenheim or go for a more traditional approach at the Museum of Fine Arts. Get lost amongst the streets of the lively Old Town, go on a pintxo bar or take a trip to the beautiful old fishing port of Algorta or the seaside town of Plentzia.

A Walk Along the River



From the ultra-modern Conference Centre and Concert Hall Palacio Euskalduna Jauregia, walk East along the riverbank, which is filled with beautiful sculptures and some very impressive modern architecture. You will pass the Guggenheim and Santiago Calatrava's stunning Zubi Zuri Footbridge, which spans the Nervión between the Guggenheim and the Ayuntamiento.

Photo: Jon Chica/Shutterstock.com

Euskal Museoa - Basque Museum



The Museum of Basque Archaeology, Ethnography and History is a cosy little museum in Plaza Unamuno, at the heart of the Old Town.

This is a great place to visit on a rainy day before or after an aperitif of pintxos and drinks in the nearby bars of Casco Viejo. Learn about the ins and outs of Basque history, culture and language in this three-storey museum and let yourself in for a journey from the Paleolithic to the present day. Most of the signs are in Basque and Spanish, although rooms have leaflets in English with translations of some of the signage.

Photo: Fernando Jiménez / Flickr (image cropped)

The Old Port - Algortako Portu Zaharra



Effectively a tiny fishing village in the midst of a city, the Old Port of Algorta in Getxo is made up of a handful of houses by the shore. It is one of

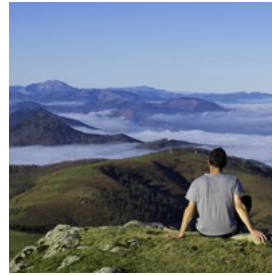
the main attractions in the area, only 20 minutes away from the centre of Bilbao by metro. The Old Port makes for a very pretty and charming setting on a summer's day. A stone's throw away from the beach, the charming white houses follow a downwards path to the water. Here is where, come the sunset, locals gather outside in the gentle summer breeze to enjoy a beer or two, along with a plate of green olives or crispy fried calamari from the nearby bars.

Photo: MARTIN RAVELO / Shutterstock.com

Address: Portu Zaharra, Ereaga Kaia, Getxo, Euskadi

Internet: www.getxo.eus/en/turismo/que-hacer/puerto-viejo

Climbing Pagasarri and Ganekogorta



Take a sneak peek at a day in the life of a local by going on one of the most typical and easily accessible hiking routes in the region. Reaching

some 673 metres (2,208 feet) in height, Pagasarri is one of the smaller mountains that surround Bilbao and most locals will have tried this hike at least once before. There are buses from the city centre, with a few different routes starting from the area of Zabalburu or from Peñascal, in the outskirts of the city. At the top of the mountain there is even a bar selling 'bokatas', the typical no-nonsense baguette rolls filled with your local delicacy of choice, from tortilla de patata to txistorra or chorizo. If you've reached the summit of Pagasarri you're already halfway to Ganekogorta, a summit at 998 metres (3,274 feet) which is a little further away.

Photo: poliki / Shutterstock.com

Address: Zabalburu Plaza, Bilbao

Public Transport: Metro station: Zabalburu

Chillida Leku



Located in the city of Hernani, at a one-hour distance from Bilbao, Chillida Leku is an open-air museum exposing the works of

Basque sculptor Eduardo Chillida. More than 40 of his pieces are now on display across 27 acres of land, even material that was previously not available to the public.

Photo: Fresco Tours/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Barrio Jauregui 66, Hernani

Opening hours: Wed-Mon 10am-8pm

Phone: +34 943 335 963

Internet: www.museochillidaleku.com/en

Gatzelugatxe (Bermeo)



Gatzelugatxe has become famous as a filming location for "Game of Thrones" where it is depicted as the castle of Dragonstone. The rough coast has shaped a rock, tunnels and caves which now form fascinating scenery. On top of the rock, there is a small church (dating back to 10th century), which can be reached via a narrow path. Gatzelugatxe belongs to the municipality of Bermeo and is only a 45-minute drive away from Bilbao.

Photo: Fotokon/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gatzelugatxe, Bermeo

The Guggenheim Museum



The Guggenheim Museum Bilbao only opened in 1997, but it has since become one of the most revered and celebrated buildings in the world. The museum's collection focuses primarily on 20th-century American and European art.

Just like the popular saying, it's not just the outside that counts - but it's pretty important for this museum. Architect Frank Gehry designed the building with the vision of "letting the randomness of the curves catch the light". After the opening of the museum, the building was said to be one of the masterpieces of the 20th century.

Photo: Iakov Filimonov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Abandoibarra Etorbidea 2, Bilbao

Public Transport: Bus: Museo 1- Henao (Bus 1,10,13,18,A7), Alda. Recalde 31 y 11 y Alda. Recalde 12 (Bus 13,27,38,48)

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 10am-8pm

Phone: +34 944 35 90 80

Internet: www.guggenheim-bilbao.eus

Email: informacion@guggenheim-bilbao.es

Museum of Fine Arts



The Museo de Bellas Artes has an exceptional collection of traditional works by well-known masters such as El Greco, Goya, Gauguin, Francis Bacon, Picasso and Velazquez. The era of the collection begins in the Middle Ages all down to the contemporary art of today.

The museum has been around since 1908 and started as one of the first Fine Art museums. The popularity of the museum caused the extension of the building with another part in which the rest of the art could be displayed.

Photo: rubiphoto/Shutterstock.com

Address: Museo Plaza 2, Bilbao

Public Transport: Bilbobus 1,10,13 and 18

Opening hours: Wed-Mon 10am-8pm

Phone: +34 944 39 60 60

Internet: www.museobilbao.com

Museum of Religious Art



This museum used to be a former convent, founded in 1515. It contains an intriguing selection of religious art and crafts dating back to the 12th century, including religious silverware, sculptures, paintings and ceramics by Basque artists. The permanent exhibition is divided into three large sections: sculptures and paintings, gold work, and garments and ornament.

Photo: Iakov Filimonov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plazuela de la Encarnación 9 B, Bilbao
Public Transport: Bus 11, 22, 40, 58, 75, 77, 85
Opening hours: Tue-Sat 10.30am-1.30pm/4pm-7pm, Sun 10.30am-1.30pm
Phone: +34 94 432 0125
Internet: www.eleizmuseoa.com
Email: eleizmuseoa@eleizmuseoa.com
More Info: Free admission on Tuesday

Bilbao Maritime Museum



The Ría de Bilbao Maritime Museum is a place to uncover Bilbao's past as a shipbuilding and seafaring hub. Outside there are striking floating exhibits with special exhibitions.

The exhibitions are structured around three main themes: physical environment of the estuary, the evolution of trade in Bilbao, and the development of shipbuilding in the Bilbao estuary. One of the most striking features are the many mini-ships made entirely out of wood, with incredible attention to detail.

Photo: Ondacaracola/Shutterstock.com
Address: Muelle Ramón de la Sota Kaia 1, Bilbao
Opening hours: Winter opening hours Tue-Friday 10am-6pm, Sat-Sun 10am-8pm. Summer opening hours Tue-Sun 10am-8pm
Phone: +34 946 08 55 00
Internet: www.museomaritimobilbao.org
Email: info@museomaritimobilbao.org
More Info: Free admission on Tuesday from September-June

Arriaga Theatre



The original theatre, created by Joaquin Rucoba (also known as the Spanish Mozart), burned down in 1914 and a second one was built, resembling the Opera House in Paris. Today, it

remains the major cultural venue of Bilbao.

Beautifully located on the banks of the Nervión, the theatre is host to world-class opera, classical music concerts and ballet. Besides shows, you can also take a guided tour behind the scenes and see the opera costume collection and the stunning stalls.

Photo: Santiago Rubio Marcos/Shutterstock.com
Address: Arriaga Plaza 1, Bilbao
Phone: +34 944 79 20 36
Internet: www.teatroarriaga.com
Email: informacion@teatroarriaga.com

The Bizkaia Bridge



Just outside Bilbao, in the province of Bizkaia is one of the city's main attractions: Puente Bizkaia, also known as Puente Colgante or

Hanging Bridge. There are two ways of crossing it, both with equally dramatic views: the first is by gondola cable car and the second, walking along the pedestrian path.

If you are still not convinced, the bridge has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, for being the 'perfect combination of beauty and functionality'.

Photo: dvoevnore/Shutterstock.com
Address: Kale Barria 3, Las Arenas
Phone: +34 94 480 10 12
Internet: www.puente-colgante.com
Email: promocion@puente-colgante.com

Plaza Nueva - Plaza Barria



There are 64 arches around this enclosed square, which is the oldest surviving square in town. Built in 1849, it's a perfect place to stop and sip a cup of coffee while you watch the world go by. This plaza is home to some of the best and most up-market pintxos in the area. One of the cafés that you can try is the famous Café Bar Bilbao. Sure, the name is not very original, but it is known for its finger-licking pintxos. Look out for the squid pintxo, as well as the ham and onion one. These the two specialties of the house.

Photo: Jarno Gonzalez Zarraonandia/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza Barria 6, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7am-11pm, Sat 8.30am-10.30pm,

Sun 8.30am-3pm

Phone: +34 944 151671

Internet: www.bilbao-cafebar.com

Email: info@bilbao-cafebar.com

Artxanda Viewpoint



If you want to escape the city streets, this is the right place for you to take in a breath of fresh air and look down at Bilbao from above. At the Artxanda viewpoint, you can enjoy a magnificent panoramic view of the city and the beautiful mountains that surround it. There is a small funicular railway that functions as a fast mode of transportation to reach the top of the hill.

Photo: Barnes Ian/Shutterstock.com

Address: Funicular Plaza, Bilbao

Public Transport: Bilbobus 72,26,11,22,71

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 07.15am-10pm

Phone: +34 944 45 49 66

Internet: www.bilbao.eus

Email: funicular@funicularartxanda.bilbao.eus

More Info: The funicular departs every 15 minutes from Plaza Funicular

Plentzia



Plentzia is a happening resort just outside Bilbao, in the province of Bizkaia. Located atop a hill, its streets pour down the hillside leading to lovely sandy beaches. Plentzia is a popular weekend destination from Bilbao, as it takes a short 30 minutes to get there on the overground metro service from the centre of Bilbao. In the town of Plentzia there are plenty of bars and cafés which serve locally caught fresh seafood.

The town also has an indoor court for the sport of Basque pelota. Here you can watch this traditional game which involves two teams of players who hurl a small hard white ball at a wall swinging at it with the full force of the palms of their bare hands.

Photo: Mimadeo/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plentzia

Public Transport: Metro station: Plentzia

Internet:

www.plentzia.org/en-US/Tourism/Pages/default.aspx

Day Trip to Donostia - San Sebastián



This is a city set between two hills around the beautiful bay of La Concha. San Sebastian, or Donosti as it is known by the locals, makes for an unforgettable day trip, where you can take in the glorious Belle Epoque balustrades and visit the world-famous restaurants.

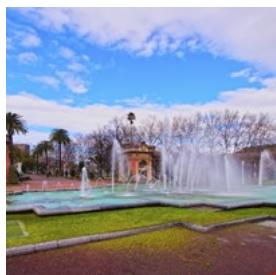
There are four areas that you should visit. The first one is Parte Vieja, the old town, where you can find the popular pintxo bars and eat til you drop. South of Parte Vieja you'll find the shopping district and heading towards the coast you will come across three beaches: Zurriola, the preferred spot for local surfers, La Concha and Ondarreta, where the posh neighbourhood is.

Photo: Botond Horvath/Shutterstock.com

Address: Donostia, Gipuzkoa, Euskadi

More Info: Take the train from the central station of Abando in Bilbao. Alternatively, for a faster journey you can take the bus from Termibus Station to San Sebastián and arrive in 2 hours.

Doña Casilda Iturrizar Park



The Doña Casilda Park is located by Paseo Don Jose Anselmo Clavé, next to the Museum of Fine Arts. The park was built in 1907 by an architect called Ricardo Bastida. Strolling through this park you will come to a water fountain, basketball and a pavilion for live performances.

If the directions are unclear, you can always try asking a local after 'el parque de los patos', or the park with the ducks, as it is affectionately nicknamed.

Photo: Karol Kozlowski/Shutterstock.com

Address: Casilda Iturrizar Parkea, Bilbao

Opening hours: 24/7

City Sightseeing By Bike



Explore the city by bike either by yourselves or as part of a guided bike tour. This is a different way to get to know Bilbao and to learn more about

its culture.

One of the more popular bike tours is the tour provided by the international Baja Bikes. The bike tour will provide you with a local English speaking guide and take you to all the highlights of Bilbao, such as the Guggenheim museum. It even includes a variety of pintxo's and a drink, a nice way to refresh after cycling your way through the city.

Photo: Jose Javier Miguel de la Huerta / Unsplash

Address: Villarias Kalea 1, Bilbao

Phone: +34646252199

Internet: www.bajabikes.eu

Email: info@bajabikes.eu

Basilica of Begoña



You will find Basilica of Begoña at Calle Virgen de Begoña on the top of a hill. The church construction started in 1511 and it is widely held that the virgin Mary appeared at that exact spot. You can see that the church is still important to the sailors of Bilbao. There are still ships which are named after the church, Virgen de Begoña or just Begoña. Experience history first-hand when you walk through the doors of the Basilica of Begoña.

Photo: Karol Kozlowski/Shutterstock.com

Address: Begoñako Andra Maria Kalea 38, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 8am-1.30pm / 2.15pm-9pm

Phone: +34 944 12 70 91

Email: sacristia@basilicadebegona.com

Zubizuri Bridge



The white structure of the impressive pedestrian bridge over Nervion River can be seen from far away on a sunny summer's day in Bilbao.

It's extra special since the bridge is designed to look like a sailboat, ten metres above the river.

Zubizuri connects Campo Volantín Boulevard with Uribitarte, and from the bridge you have a stunning view of the Guggenheim Museum. There used to be a glass floor, but after complaints the city decided to place a non-slip mat. So even when it's a rainy day, you can walk there safely.

Photo: Naoki Kakuta/Shutterstock.com
Address: Campo de Volantín Pasealekua 22, Bilbao
Phone: +34 944 20 42 00
More Info: Free Admission

St. James' Cathedral



St. James is the patron of Bilbao, and this cathedral is dedicated to the saint. The Gothic architecture dates back to the 15th century, which makes it the oldest church of Bilbao. It has been renewed several times throughout the years.

There are several reasons why this is such a peculiar church. For instance, it's not built in one style, but a combination of three. There is a Gothic cloister, a Renaissance portico, and a neo-Gothic spire.

Photo: Madrugada Verde/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plaza de Santiago, Bilbao
Public Transport: Metro Casco Viejo
Opening hours: Mon-Sun 9am-10pm

Phone: +34 944 15 36 27

Internet: www.catedraldebilbao.blogspot.com

Email: catedraldebilbao@gmail.com

More Info: For a guided tour a reservation via phone is suggested

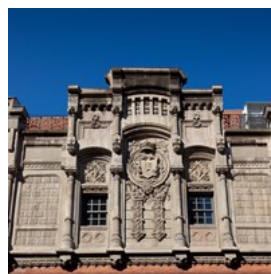
Iberdrola Tower



This modern building holds a luxury hotel as well as several offices. The Iberdrola Tower was built in 2009, and at 165 meters is one of the highest buildings in Bilbao. The plans to create a building at that exact spot were already being developed in the early 90s.

Photo: trabantos / Shutterstock.com
Address: Euskadi Plaza 5, Bilbao
Phone: +34 944 35 43 49
Internet: www.torreiberdrola.es

Alhóndiga Bilbao



This old warehouse has been renovated to become one of Bilbao's most vibrant cultural places. There are activities for everyone, from exhibitions to cinemas, kids' activities, concerts, lectures and a library - the 43,000 square meter space has it all. If you get hungry during your visit, it provides several opportunities for a refreshment to your liking.

In 2015, the building was renamed to Azkuna Zentroa in tribute to the late mayor of Bilbao Iñaki Azkuna, who changed the industrial Bilbao into a cultural masterpiece.

Photo: Francisco Javier Gil/Shutterstock.com
Address: Azkuna Zentroa, Arriquirar Plaza, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 7am-11pm, Fri 7am-0.00am, Sat

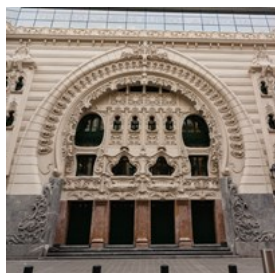
8.30am-0.00am, Sun 8.30am-11pm

Phone: +34 944 01 40 14

Internet: www.azkunazentroa.com

Email: info@azkunazentroa.com

Campos Eliseos Theatre



This stunning Art Nouveau theatre is worth a moment of your time. It was established in 1901, reopened in 2010 after renovation. You can get a

free guided tour through the highlights of the building, and the theatre's program is very interesting. Campos Eliseos hosts national and international artists and performers, which promise to provide a spectacular evening and will leave you breathless with amazement.

Photo: Santiago Rubio Marcos/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bertendona Kalea 3 Bis, Bilbao

Public Transport: Metro Stop: Moyuna

Opening hours: Mon-Tue 5pm-7.30pm, Wed 11.30am-1pm, Thu 11.30am-1pm/5pm-8pm, Fri 11.30am-1pm/5pm-8pm, Sat 5pm-8pm, Sun 6pm-8pm

Phone: +34 944 43 86 10

Internet: www.teatrocampos.com

Email: taquillacampos@arteria.com

More Info: Guided tours: Monday - Friday: 08.00-17.00

DINING



Olena Mykhaylova/Shutterstock.com

Bilbao is the home of Basque cuisine--considered as the most inventive cuisine in both Spain and France. The city is famous for a lot of dishes and for its delicious tapas-like appetizers called pintxos. Seafood forms the heart of Basque cooking, thanks to its strong 'arrantzale' fishing tradition. Bacalao dishes, based on cod, are very popular as is hake.

Despite this, Bilbao offers many other types of traditional food too, making it equally delicious for those who tend to favour meat-based dishes or even for vegetarians. Many visitors to Bilbao have returned again and again just for the food alone.

Restaurante Bermeo



Bermeo is one of the finest restaurants in Bilbao, popular with the great and the good of Basque society, from politicians to artists.

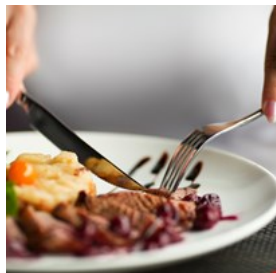
Enjoy classical Basque dishes, such as fresh thistles sautéed with ham or partridge with glazed shallots; dessert of truffle figs is simply divine.

Photo: Nadya Lukic/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ercilla Kalea 37-39, Bilbao

Opening hours: Daily 9am-1am
Phone: +34 94 470 57 00
Internet: www.hotelercilla.es
Email: cce@ercillahoteles.com
More Info: Located at Hotel Ercilla

Guggenheim Bilbao



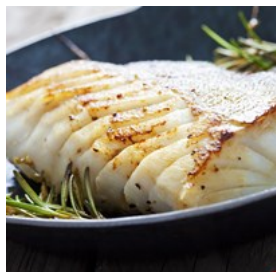
For a slightly less expensive taste of Martin Berasategui's new Basque cuisine, head to his restaurant at the Guggenheim Museum.

The menu includes some real gems like tempura hake with sautéed mange-touts and Biscay cheese.

It's not possible to order one dish at the restaurant, but you'll pick a menu which consists of a traditional starter, main dish and a dessert or pintxo's. All the more fun, now you can choose from dishes that you are unfamiliar with.

Photo: [wrangler/Shutterstock.com](#)
Address: Abandoibarra Etorbidea 2, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sun 1pm-3.30pm / 8pm-10.30pm
Phone: +34 94 423 93 33
Internet: www.bistroguggenheimbilbao.com
Email: info@bistroguggenheimbilbao.com

El Viejo Zortzi



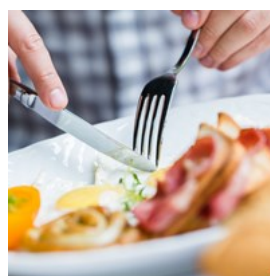
El Viejo Zortzi is the little brother of Zortziko. The difference between the restaurants is that El Viejo Zortzi is more informal and the prices are significantly lower than Zortziko; the quality remains, of course, the same.

El Viejo Zortzi has a modern take on traditional Basque food, such as fillet of cod in pil-pil sauce and fresh hake in garlic sauce. The choice of

wine here is exceptional. While you're there, you can also take a quick peak at the bar. They have an infinite amount of wine and other alcoholic beverages.

Photo: [TunedIn by Westend61/Shutterstock.com](#)
Address: Licenciado Poza, 54, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sat Noon-11pm
Phone: +34 944 41 92 49
Internet: www.viejozortzi.es
Email: viejozortzi@zortziko.es

Etzanobe



This post-modern restaurant has a great view of the Guggenheim. The view adds to the fantastic Basque cuisine and creative dishes such as chocolate oxtail crêpinettes and cold anchovy lasagna in tomato soup.

One of the most popular dishes was not created by the chef himself, but is actually a recipe of his grandmother. He paid respects to her by giving the dish her name, 'Grandmother's Cake'.

Photo: [Billion Photos/Shutterstock.com](#)
Address: Abandoibarra Etorbidea 4, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 1pm-4pm / 7.45pm-Midnight
Phone: +34 944 42 10 71
Internet: www.etzanobe.com
Email: etzanobe@etzanobe.com

Gaminiz



Located in Zamudio, slightly out of the centre of town is one of Bilbao's most famous restaurants. It's about 10 km from the city centre and a bit tricky to find, but the trip is well worth it.

Cod is the main menu item on the menu, but don't forget to try other dishes, like the squab with peach puree. You can also have a three course set menu, which allows you to share tapas before you dive into the main course.

Photo: Amarita/Shutterstock.com
Address: Ibaizabal 212, Parque Tecnológico, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Tue 1.30pm-3.30pm, Wed-Sat 1.30pm-3.30pm / 8.30pm-10.45pm, Sun 1.30pm-3.30pm
Phone: +34 944 31 70 25
Internet: www.gaminiz.com
Email: asier@gaminiz.com
More Info: In Zamudio, 10 km from Bilbao City Centre

Gure Toki



At this small bar you can relish fantastic pintxos, which are wonderfully executed with a creative touch. Some dishes you can find on the menu are beef ribs with seaweed, crab tempura and mushroom risotto. This is a popular place, so it might be crowded but definitely worth the wait.

Photo: Sergey Mironov/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plaza Barria 12, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Tue 9am-11.30pm, Thu-Sat 9am-11.30pm, Sun 9.30am-4pm
Phone: +34 944 15 80 37
Internet: www.guretoki.com
Email: info@guretoki.com

Porrue

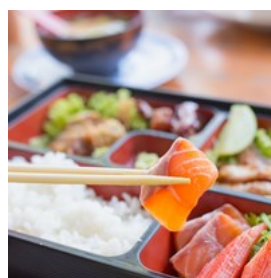


Enjoy well-prepared Spanish food at this cool, modern restaurant. The fresh food is inventive and tasty, and served by attentive staff. The ingredients are mostly from local farmers or fishermen, to support the local community.

Try the 8-dish course with lots of different exciting flavors, accompanied with a good Spanish wine, and afterwards - a strong cup of Spanish coffee.

Photo: andrecaastro/Shutterstock.com
Address: Rekalde Zumarkalea 4, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 1pm-11pm, Sun 1pm-4pm
Phone: +34 944 23 13 13
Internet: www.porrue.com
Email: reservas@porrue.com

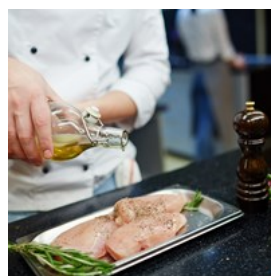
Mao



If you want to tickle your taste buds with Japanese food of the highest quality, you definitely have to visit Mao. The chefs use excellent raw products, and the food is prepared before guests' eyes. A few dishes served at the restaurant are the salmon tart, teppanyaki rice with lotus leaf and sushi sahimori aware. On the wine list you will find more than 150 different labels.

Photo: Prajak Poonyawatpornkul/Shutterstock.com
Address: Ibanez De Bilbao 11, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sun 1pm-4pm / 8.30pm-Midnight
Phone: +34 944 23 68 18
Internet: www.restaurantemao.com
Email: mao@restaurantemao.com

Restaurante Mina



Mina is a gastronomic restaurant with only 8 tables for 25-30 guests. The menu reflects each season, and the chefs use local produce from the market and nearest farms. You can also sit at the "barra", an oak counter in front of the chef, and take a peek to see how your food is being prepared in front of your very eyes. Restaurante

Mina is located in the heart of Bilbao. It's essential to make a reservation because of the limited amount of seats.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com
Address: Muelle Marzana Kaia, Bilbao
Opening hours: Wed-Sat 2pm-3.30pm / 9pm-10.30pm, Sun 2pm-3.30pm
Phone: +34 944 79 59 38
Internet: www.restaurantemina.es
Email: mina@restaurantemina.es

Irrintzi



This is a place where you can have interesting, well-presented pinxtos. The ambience is modern, with a minimalist design dominated by orange and white colours. Irrintzi attracts a younger clientele and is situated in one of the most tranquil streets of the Old Quarter of Bilbao.

Customers can help themselves by picking the pintxos and pay for them before leaving the restaurant.

Photo: Yulia Grigoryeva/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Santa Maria 8, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 9.30am-11pm, Fri 9.30am-1am, Sat Noon-1am, Sun Noon-5pm
Phone: +34 944 16 76 16
Internet: www.irrintzi.es
Email: irrintzi@irrintzi.es

Restaurante Yandiola



Restaurante Yandiola is housed in a beautiful old building. The building alone is worth a visit. Here you can enjoy your dinner at the lovely rooftop terrace with an amazing view over Bilbao.

The chefs create traditional, yet modern Spanish food with the best ingredients from the earth and the sea, and do so with a passionate dedication. One of the recommended dishes is the red tuna.

Photo: asife/Shutterstock.com
Address: Azkuna Zentroa, Arriquirar Plaza 4, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sun 1pm-4pm / 8.30pm-11pm
Phone: +34 944 13 36 36
Internet: www.yandiola.com
Email: maitre@yandiola.com

Restaurante Lar



Restaurante Lar is a small family-run restaurant that serves traditional Spanish food. Their focus is on seafood and seasonal products, which are carefully prepared. This charming restaurant has a simple decor with family photos adorning the walls.

Photo: Anna Ewa Bieniek/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Amistad 3, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 8.30am-11.45pm, Fri, Sat 11am-11.45pm
Phone: +34 944 24 48 02
Internet: www.restaurantelar.com
Email: miguel@restaurantelar.com

Kasko



At this restaurant you can indulge in modern Basque cuisine. Kasko is located in the Old Quarter of Bilbao, and offers a great mix of traditional and modern food. The atmosphere of the restaurant is special, with decor planned out by the famous Vicente and Fernando Roscubas.

The portions are huge, so make sure to come here with an empty stomach or bring a friend to share your dishes with. As bonus, from Sunday to Tuesday Rafa Aceves plays a jazz piano session just for the guests of Kasko.

Photo: Jan Faulkner/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Santa Maria, 16, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Fri Noon-Midnight, Sat-Sun 11am-1am

Phone: +34 944 16 03 11

Internet: www.restaurantekasko.com

Email: info@restaurantekasko.com

Restaurante Zortziko



At this classy restaurant, a meal is like a work of art. The chefs aim to reflect the flavor and culture of a country in their dishes and pay close attention to even the tiniest of details. At Zortziko, you get the best of Basque cuisine in an authentic setting.

The Menú Tradición is highly recommended, with specialties such as rabbit with rice and Idiazaba cheese cream, and wakame scallop salad with a terriyaki glaze.

Photo: nioloxs/Shutterstock.com

Address: Alameda Mazarredo 17, Bilbao

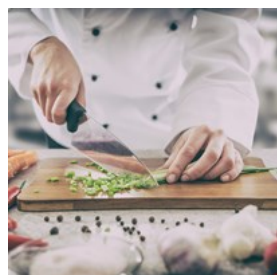
Opening hours: Tue-Sat 1pm-3.30pm / 8.30pm-11pm

Phone: +34 944 23 97 43

Internet: www.zortziko.es

Email: zorortziko@zortziko.es

Andra Mari



Surrounded by nature, this charming restaurant is your place for a perfectly Basque experience. The wood building fuses elegance

and comfort in a homey atmosphere, and the genuine local cuisine is made with some of the best ingredients in the region. Andra Mari is the kind of hidden gem you would recommend to good friends.

Photo: REDPIXEL.PL/Shutterstock.com

Address: Barrio Elexalde 22, Bizkaia

Opening hours: Mon 1pm-4pm, Wed-Thu 1pm-4pm, Fri-Sat 1pm-4pm / 8.30am-11pm, Sun 1pm-4pm

Phone: +34 94 456 00 05

Internet: www.andra-mari.com

Email: andramari@andra-mari.com

Arzak



Located in San Sebastian, this family-run business is one of the most high-class restaurants in the area. It has been distinguished for its cuisine and ambience several times in the past, and offers classic dishes that will appeal to international guests. The choice of wine is splendid and you can combine your dinner with a visit to the great area of San Sebastian.

Photo: Endla/Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Alcalde José Elosegui 273, Donostia, Euskadi

Public Transport: Take the train from Bilbao's central Atxuri station and you will arrive in 2 hours. You can also take the bus to San Sebastián.

Opening hours: Tue-Sat 1:30-3:5pm, 9-10:30pm

Phone: +34 94 327 8465

Internet: www.arzak.info

Email: informacion@arzak.es

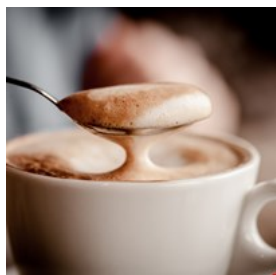
CAFES



Everything/Shutterstock.com

Bilbao has an enviable coffee culture, people take every chance they get to sit down, hang out, and catch up. After a long day of sightseeing, do as the locals do and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea at one of the many cafes this city has to offer.

Restaurante Guggenheim Bilbao



After a long visit to the Guggenheim Museum, why not rest your feet at their in-house Bistro? The Bistró believes that a free style of cuisine linked to the roots of the product, is a respectful gesture to the part of the culture from which it originates.

The kitchen offers small local bites for a quick refreshment, and if you want to linger over your coffee, check out their outside terrace. If you're looking for a savoury and healthy food, this is just the place for you.

Photo: Alexandra Lande/Shutterstock.com
Address: Abandoibarra Etorbidea 2, Bilbao
Opening hours: Tue-Sun 1-3pm, 8-10pm
Phone: +34 944 23 93 33
Internet: www.bistroguggenheimbilbao.com
Email: info@bistroguggenheimbilbao.com

Cafe Lago



If you are in doubt whether it is savoury or sweet treats you're yearning for, look no further. At Cafe Lago you have the option to choose from a wide variety. They are known among the local community for making the best churros with chocolate, but they are also popular when it comes to traditional pintxos and the best wines of the Basque area.

Photo: Shebeko/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Correo 13, Bilbao
Opening hours: Tue-Fri 7am-10pm, Sat 7am-10.30pm, Sun 8.30am-10pm
Phone: +34 944 79 22 39
Internet: www.cafelagobilbao.com
Email: info@cafelagobilbao.com

Cafe Bar Las Torres



Cafe Bar Las Torres serves some of the best coffee in Bilbao. You can enjoy the cosy interior or catch some sunlight while sitting outside on the terrace. They specialise in serving the best traditional pintxos of Bilbao, with the freshest ingredients out there.

Photo: Ekaterina Pokrovsky/Shutterstock.com
Address: Simón Bolívar Kalea 27, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 7am-11pm, Fri 7am-1.30am, Sat 8am-1.30am, Sun 4pm-11pm
Phone: +34 944 418 982
Internet: cafebarlastorres.wordpress.com
Email: felipe.lastorres@gmail.com

Bihotz Cafe



As soon as you walk through the door, you will instantly feel at home in the cafe's casual interior. They don't just serve coffee, so if you are in the

mood for a cold beer, you can certainly get that in Bihotz as well. They serve only the best of the best beers from local brewers.

Photo: Fotyma/Shutterstock.com

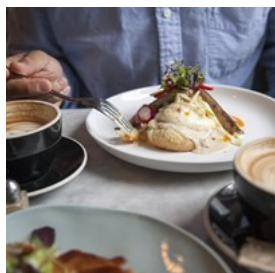
Address: Calle Arechaga 6, Bilbao

Opening hours: Tue-Thu 3pm-10pm, Fri 3pm-11pm, Sat 11am-11pm, Sun 11am-10pm

Phone: +34 679 06 03 12

Email: bihotzcafe@gmail.com

Cafe Obrador Okapi



Okapi is not only focused on Basque cuisine, but also draws inspiration from the entire Mediterranean and the products it has to offer.

There are many vegetarian options, falafel being a treat many seem to enjoy. They also have a wide variety of alcoholic beverages, such as the traditional piña colada and the mojito. If you have a sweet tooth, try the chocolate mousse.

Photo: Diana Daley/Shutterstock.com

Address: Belostikalle 26, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 10.30am-10.30pm, Fri 10.30am-11.30pm, Sat 11am-11.30pm, Sun 11am-6pm

Phone: +34 944 16 44 49

Internet: www.cafeokapi.com

Email: cafeokapi@gmail.com

Restaurante Cafeteria Pentxo



Take a look at the menu of Pentxo, and all you'll see are traditional pintxos ready for you to order. The restaurant made the decision to only focus on

traditional dishes. You can choose between several menus and pick several carefully made pintxos, such as home-made croquettes and baked Iberian cod, for example.

Photo: javifuentess/Shutterstock.com

Address: Belostikalle 20, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-9pm

Phone: +34 944 16 94 72

Internet: www.restaurantepentxo.com

Email: cafeteriapentxo@hotmail.es

Café Iruña



This is a classic coffee house that dates back to 1903 with Arabesque motifs, carved columns and medieval ceramics. Café Iruña has a wide

variety of snacks, sandwiches, pintxos and other mouthwatering refreshments. If you are craving a delicious cup of coffee, this is the place for you. The café received a prize for the Best Coffee of Spain in 2000 by the Café Crème Guide to the Cafés of Europe, and they are still going strong.

Photo: kichigin/Shutterstock.com

Address: Jardines de Albia Lorategia, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 7am-1am, Sat 9am-2am, Sun 10am-1am

Phone: +34 94 423 7021

Internet: www.cafeirunabilbao.net

Email: info@grupoiruna.net

Pasteleria Don Manuel

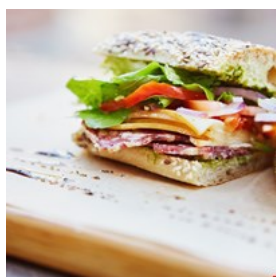


A pasteleria is a Spanish pastry shop, and this one in particular has an excellent assortment of traditional croissants, chocolates, cookies and

pastries. Some of the most popular pastries are the carolinitas and cubitos, and the Cream chuchitos. There is also a chocolate section which provides you with a wide variety of bonbons. You can find a hearty breakfast for a good price here.

Photo: Ditty_about_summer/Shutterstock.com
Address: Alameda Urquijo Zumarkalea 39, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sun 9am-9pm
Phone: +34 944 438 672
Internet: www.pasteleriadonmanuel.com
Email: contacto@pasteleriadonmanuel.com

Cafe Del Arenal

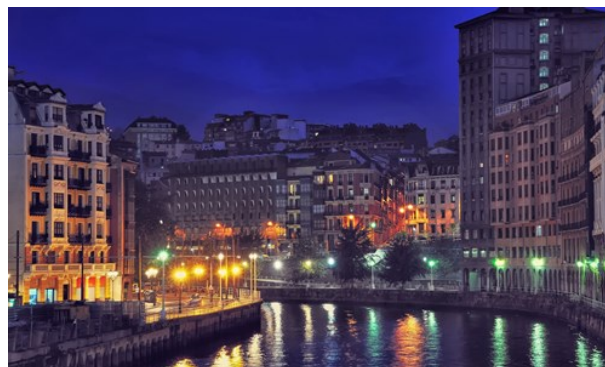


A typical place in Bilbao, and one always full of people. Cafe Del Arenal is famous far and wide for its sandwiches. But they are not only known for a

typical Spanish sandwich, but also for their churros. A lot of customers combine their breakfast with a fried egg, some churros with chocolate sauce on the side and, of course, a Café con leche.

Photo: mavo/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Arenal 5, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 6.30am-11.30pm, Sat-Sun 7.30am-Midnight
Phone: +34 94 416 64 67

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Madrugada Verde/Shutterstock.com

The Basque Country is known for its large number of bars, and Bilbao is no exception to the norm, with more than 3.15 bars per thousand inhabitants. Casco Viejo is the best area to head to for bars, particularly around Plaza Nueva. In central Bilbao it's Calle Ledesma and Licenciado Poza that are the main areas to go bar hopping and drinking local favourites. Most young locals favour beer but traditional choices include red Rioja wine, 'txakoli', a very dry white wine, and 'kalimotxo' the cheap and cheerful but popular combination of cola and red wine. For a unique night out, visit a typically Basque cider tavern or 'sagardotegi'. Here you can fill yourself up with char-grilled meat and drink copious amounts of cider.

Bilborock



This interesting venue is a repurposed church dating back to 17th century. Accomodating music concerts of all kinds, cinema screenings, poetry evenings, theatre plays, dance shows, workshops and other cultural events, Bilborock is a space for creativity in the city. Check the event calendar on their website to see what's on.

Photo: Bilbao Kolektibo Elektronikoa / Shutterstock.com

(image cropped)

Address: Mesedeetako Kaia, Bilbao

Internet: www.bilbaogazte.bilbao.eus/es/agenda/

Licenciado Poza



Licenciado Poza is a street commonly known by young locals simply as 'Pozas'. It is one of the most popular places for an evening out on the

town. Located in the area of Indautxu, there isn't anything more central than Pozas. Bars and restaurants line this road from end to end, making it an incredibly popular spot for the local pastime of bar-hopping, especially on Thursdays and at the weekend. On matchdays, when the city's football team Athletic Club Bilbao is playing either home or away, the street fills up with passionate fans donned in red and white and known for their liveliness and friendly demeanour. They will very happily occupy the bars, terraces, pavements, and even pour out into the middle of the road to pass the time before heading to the stadium at the end of the street to watch their beloved team play.

Photo: [bastian.] / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Licenciado Poza, Bilbao

Café Bar Bilbao



This is a great bar for a late night drink off the Plaza Nueva. Café Bar Bilbao never seems to shut off its lights, so it is perfect for taking in the

spirit(s) of the city. While you're at it, why don't you have some traditional yet modern pintxos alongside your drink? One of the public's favourites is the calamares with a cold glass of beer.

Photo: Pamela R/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza Nueva 6, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-11pm, Sun 9am-3pm

Phone: +34 944 151671

Internet: www.bilbao-cafebar.com

Email: info@bilbao-cafebar.com

Bar El Globo



Great place for a wide variety of pintxos, good wine, and finding new friends among the locals of Bilbao. They also have special pintxos and an

entire section of the menu dedicated to vegetarian dishes. El Globo is located right by the metro beside the Palacio de la Diputación, which makes it a short walk right to the cafe.

Photo: JuanSalvador/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Diputación 8, Bilbao

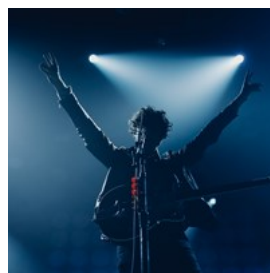
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, Sat 11am-8pm

Phone: +34 94 415 42 21

Internet: barelglobo.es

Email: barelglobo@gmail.com

Kafe Antzokia



Kafe Antzokia used to be an old theatre, but got refurbished and turned into a multi-purpose venue. It is known as a live music stage with a

vibrant atmosphere, where both local and international artists put on their performances.

Every weekend the place becomes a popular night club with DJs mixing their beats until late. If you want to feel what it's like to be on stage, every day of the week you can have lunch on the actual stage where the band or artist has performed. Who doesn't want to feel like a rock star?

Photo: kondrukhov/Shutterstock.com

Address: San Vicente 2, Bilbao

Phone: +34 944 24 46 25

Internet: www.kafeantzokia.com

Email: bulegoa@kafeantzokia.com

Fever



Bring your dancing shoes because Fever will make you move like you have never moved before. This nightclub is a local favourite and features

well-known DJs and live acts on a regular basis.

Look out for the Art After Dark Parties in the atrium of the Guggenheim Museum, also presented by Fever.

Photo: ben bryant/Shutterstock.com

Address: 27 Polígono Industrial Santa Ana, Bilbao

Phone: + 34 944 598 617

Internet: www.fever.es

Email: info@fever.es

Molly Malone



Stopping at Molly Malone will give you the feeling of coming home. It's the most Irish bar that you will find in Spain. From the beer to the food, to

even the music, it's all about Ireland. The rustic décor and the warm atmosphere welcome each guest, and the next Guinness is always within arm's reach. If you are not in the mood for Irish dishes, you can, also enjoy traditional pintxo while you're there.

Photo: Nejrion Photo/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Particular de Estraunza, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Wed 8am-11pm, Thu 8am-0.30am,

Fri-Sat 8am-3am, Sun 4pm-11pm

Phone: +34 944423108

Internet: www.mollymaloneirishpub.com

Email: bilbao@mollymaloneirishpub.com

Bihotz



Located close to the river and next to the Old Town, Bihotz offers everything you need for a relaxed evening. Let the friendly staff take care of you and

have some pinxtos with your beer or wine. The lovely décor and the light music make this place a nice one to hang out at.

Photo: lenetstan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Arechaga 6, Bilbao

Opening hours: Tue-Thu 3pm-10pm, Fri 3pm-11pm, Sat 11am-11pm, Sun 11am-10pm

Phone: +34 679 06 03 12

Email: bihotzcafe@gmail.com

Pub Witch



Find good music, cool cocktails and a little bit of magic at Pub Witch.

Usually, the doors open at 10pm sharp and there are regular beer and wine specials on the menu. Look for the DJ sets and Dance Nights, which are guaranteed to provide you with a great night out.

Photo: William Perugini/Shutterstock.com

Address: Cosme Echevarrieta 4, Bilbao

Opening hours: From 10pm

Phone: +34 606 54 47 26

Bar Luzea



This bar and eatery is perfect for the busy party crowd. While it's not a bar for an extended dinner, the excellent pintxos provide an ideal

quick refreshment. Just pop in and have a bite with your beer before you take off and walk off into the vibrating nightlife of Bilbao.

Photo: Evgeny Starkov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Maestro Garcia Rivero 8, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 9.30am-10.30pm, Fri

9.30am-11.30pm, Sat 11.30am-10.30pm, Sun

11.30am-10.30pm

Phone: +34 944 053 479

Internet: www.barluzea.com

Email: barluzea@yahoo.es

Kubrick Bar Bilbao



As the name suggests, this place is dedicated to the great director Stanley Kubrick. Posters and screens recall memorable scenes from his movies, and you will find yourself in a very cinematic setting. While the bar mainly serves evening guests, it also offers breakfast and meals at any time of day. Stop by to experience one of their shows, outdoor live music, cabarets or parties.

Photo: Ivan Mateev/Shutterstock.com

Address: Villarías Kalea 2, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Wed 10am-11pm, Fri 10am-2am, Sat

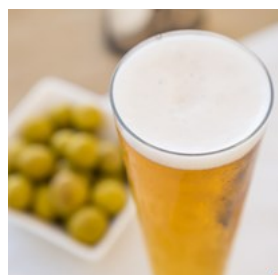
Noon-2am, Sun 11.30am-11pm

Phone: +34 669 44 72 36

Internet: www.kubrickbilbao.es

Email: hola@kubrickbilbao.es

Baobab Bar Tetería



Baobab is a popular and trendy spot by the river near the old town. It is a small and charming teahouse that serves some of the best teas from across the world, but you can also just come in for a beer. The cosy vintage decor will make you want to stay for a little while longer. If

you fancy a cup of tea it is best to arrive during the afternoon because by night the place becomes more of a bar, serving beers for the price of one euro on Thursdays. You can also come back after a long night out to buy some nice hot drinks in the morning. Baobab is a popular and trendy spot by the river, near the old town.

Photo: aleg baranau/Shutterstock.com

Address: Printzipe Kalea 1, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon 5pm-11pm, Tue-Wed 11am-11pm, Thu

11am-Midnight, Fri 11am-2am, Sat Noon-2am, Sun

Noon-10pm

Phone: +34 946 53 41 15

Internet: www.baobabteteria.com

Email: info@baobabteteria.com

Nervion Cafe Bar



A mix of cafe and bar, this upbeat location is popular with the young urban crowd. Vintage furniture meets modern lifestyle here, and you can have a great time being in the artistic student neighbourhood. Nervion offers an amazing view of the river.

Photo: Uber Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Najan 7, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 10.30am-12.15am, Fri

10.30am-2am, Sat 12.45pm-2am, Sun 12.45pm-11.30pm

Phone: +34 944 16 91 89

Karaoke Rendez Vous



Karaoke Rendez Vous offers you with a stage instead of you just singing your heart out in the shower. Rendez Vous has been around for over 15 years and provides the ideal location for

stepping out of your comfort zone. Take the microphone, choose your favourite classic 80s and 90s hits, such as Take On Me by A-ha, and show what you've got!

Photo: wavebreakmedia/Shutterstock.com
Address: Gardoqui Cardenal 11, Bilbao
Phone: +34 944 15 87 73

Yandiola



If you want to get a new perspective, check out La Terraza del Yandiola. The bar is located at the top of Alhóndiga, a historic building in the heart of Bilbao, and offers you one of the most beautiful views of the city. The lounge music and its upbeat décor make this place a classy and sophisticated chill out area.

Photo: archimede/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plaza Arrikibar 4, Bilbao
Opening hours: Monday-Sunday: 1pm-4pm / 8.30pm-11pm
Phone: +34 944 13 36 36
Internet: www.yandiola.com
Email: maitre@yandiola.com
More Info: Located on top floor of the Alhóndiga building

Bar Marzana



Besides a varied choice of bites and drinks, Marzana offers a great view of the river. The terrace is a favourite for tourists and locals alike, and will showcase Bilbao at its best at night. Marzana 16 has a cool and relaxing vibe, perfect after a warm day in sunny Spain. One of the favourite drinks of the locals is the amazing gin and tonic.

Photo: Markevich Maria/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle de Marzana 16, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 5pm-11pm, Fri 5pm-1am, Sat

Noon-1am, Sun Noon-11pm
Phone: +34 944 15 01 37

SHOPPING



Ivanko80/Shutterstock.com

Bilbao's main street, Gran Vía, is where you will find most of the department stores, boutiques and designer shops in the city, from Gucci to MaxMara. Handicrafts and local wine can be picked up at markets such as the Mercado de la Ribera. Typical little Basque souvenirs such as wood carvings and weaved goods can be found around Casco Viejo. Here, you will also find lots of independent shops as well as chains. Some of the best streets to go souvenir hunting are Calle Askao, Artekale, Bidebarrieta, Somera, Correo and La Cruz. Please keep in mind that most shops are closed on Sundays.

Mercado de la Ribera



Located in the centre of the old town are the impressive halls of Mercado de la Ribera. Dating back to the 1930s, this building is a meeting point for food lovers. The area is buzzing during the mornings, and you can get nearly any local product you can think of.

It was distinguished by the Guinness Book of Records in 1990 as being the largest food market

in all of Europe. It may not be the largest in Europe anymore, but it's still an extremely impressive building.

Photo: Karol Kozlowski/Shutterstock.com
Address: Erribera Kalea, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon 8am-3pm, Tue-Fri 8am-2.30pm, Sat 8am-3pm
Phone: +34 946 02 37 91
Internet: www.mercadodelaribera.net
Email: info@mercadodelaribera.net

Zubiarte

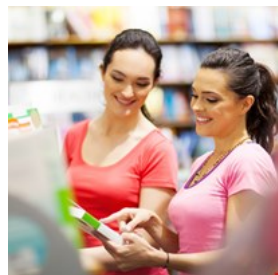


This is an upmarket shopping mall where you will find exclusive designers such as Tommy Hilfiger, Massimo Dutti, and Antonio Miró. There are currently more than 50 shops, a cinema, supermarket and restaurants.

Zubiarte is located near the Guggenheim and the Iberdrola Tower, which is right in the city centre. Here you can shop everything from clothing to accessories, electronics and interior design items.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com
Address: Lehendakari Leizaola 2, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-0.30am, Sun Noon-0.30am
Phone: +34 944 27 73 80
Internet: www.zubiarte.com
Email: comercialspain@sonaesierra.com

La Casa del Libro



La Casa del Libro is a bookshop with an extensive range of books and maps, including English language books. The shop has been celebrated for providing books that are

otherwise difficult to obtain, and because of the enormous variety of genres they sell. So, if you are in need of a book which explains the gardening techniques of the 15th century during the Tudor period, look no further.

Photo: michaeljung/Shutterstock.com
Address: Alameda de Urquijo 9, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9.30am-9pm
Phone: +34 902 02 64 08
Internet: www.casadellibro.com

Sombreros Gorostiaga



Many visitors like to return from Bilbao with a chic beret, which locals call txapelas. The txapelas looks a bit like a mix of fedora and a cowboy hat. But it's probably best to check it out yourself!

Sombreros Gorostiaga is a family-owned business est. 1857, which makes it one of the oldest businesses of Bilbao, and has an extensive selection. The shop is so popular and known for their quality that even TV shows and film directors have requested hats from the shop.

Photo: Blend Images/Shutterstock.com
Address: Calle Victor 9, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-1.30pm / 4pm-8pm
Phone: +34 944 16 12 76
Email: sombrerosgorostiaga@gmail.com

El Corte Inglés



You are guaranteed to find what you're looking for at this Spanish institution, as it's the biggest department store group in Europe. From luxury to the everyday, El Corte Inglés is likely to

have it. A couple of the many designers that display their collection at El Corte Inglés are Calvin Klein, Dior and Ralph Lauren.

Photo: CandyBox Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gran Via 7-9, Bilbao

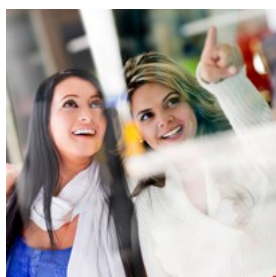
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9.30am-9pm

Phone: +34 944 25 35 00

Internet: www.elcorteingles.es

Email: clientes@elcorteingles.es

Gran Via



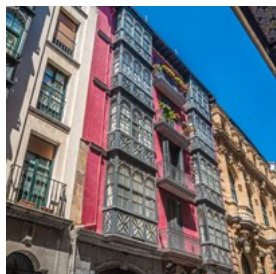
Framed by modernist buildings and lime trees, the main street and the adjoining streets of the El Ensanche neighbourhood holds a great variety of classy boutiques.

There are three main areas of this neighbourhood: the lower area surrounding Plaza Circular, the mid zone between Plaza Circular and Plaza Moyúa, and the upper zone between Plaza Moyúa and Plaza del Sagrado Corazón

Photo: ESB Professional/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gran Via, Bilbao

Casco Viejo



In the vibrant neighbourhood of Plaza Nueva you'll find everything from souvenir shops or traditional Basque stores to

high-class shopping plazas. Stroll through the old town, or Casco Viejo, and take in impressive buildings while you buy yourself something nice.

The cherry on top of your shopping tour might be a pintxo and a hot or cold drink in one of the

many small cafes around.

Photo: Pocholo Calapre/Shutterstock.com

Address: Casco Viejo, Bilbao

Sunday Markets



While the Old Town is a magnet for tourists, on the weekend you have yet another reason to come to Plaza Nueva. Sundays, the area turns into a lively market place where numerous vendors offer almost everything.

Browse through books, get some organic fruit and maybe take home a txistorras, one of the local sausage specialities. Lovers of street music and local hand-craft are advised to come early as there are always some performers and artists around.

Photo: Avatar_023/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza Nueva, Bilbao

More Info: Markets take place every Sunday

Indautxu



If you are looking for specialty shops and international brand-stores, make sure to visit Indautxu. This young neighborhood boast a large offer of custom-made clothing, exclusive hand craft and, of course, high-class shoes.

Next to Plaza Indautxu, Rodríguez Arias and Alameda de Urquijo are the most important streets for fashion hunters.

Photo: bikeriderlondon/Shutterstock.com

Address: Indautxu, Bilbao

Pastelerías Martina de Zuricalday



Glazed truffle pralines, soft butter buns and fruity cakes. That and much more is what you get at Martina de Zuricalday Pastry Shops.

The family business looks back on a long tradition of confectionery and offers delights for every occasion. With only the best products and freshest ingredients, a taste of this pastry shop will satisfy everyone's sweet tooth.

Photo: matka_Wariatka/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle de Ercilla 43, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am-9pm

Phone: +34 944 43 57 96

Internet: www.martinazuricalday.com

Email: martinazuricalday@gmail.com

Around Guggenheim Museum



As a tourist hot spot, the area around Guggenheim Museum is also an upbeat shopping district. Streets leading to Plaza Euskadi are filled with designer shoes, fashion and antique shops or book stores.

Moreover, if you're interested in local art or want to take home some regional wine, this is the place for you to shop. In the area, there is also a park, Paseo de la Memoria, which is filled with beautiful pieces of art.

Photo: Maridav/Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Abandoibarra 2, Bilbao

Little Store



Don't be deceived by its humble name, this petite boutique is much more than a usual children's store. Next to classy brands such as Scotch & Soda, Hunter or Levi's for kids aged 0-16, there is a wide range of activities for children's entertainment throughout rainy and sunny days.

Stop by for concerts, baking and crafting - the kids will love it and your holiday photos will be just adorable.

Photo: Kuligina Elena/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ledesma 32, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10.30am-8pm

Phone: +34 944 25 50 14

Internet: www.little-store.es

Email: info@little-store.es

Meridianoshoes



No shopping tour is complete without a new pair of shoes. If you want to be able to choose your fit in a laid-back setting with beautiful décor and

music, Meridiano is for you.

The helpful staff is always by your side and will even suggest a matching handbag. Whether you're looking for leather, high heels or comfy sightseeing sneakers, here you'll make a find.

Photo: didesign021/Shutterstock.com

Address: Iparragirre 33, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10.30am-2pm, 4.30pm-8pm

Phone: +34 946 79 41 13

Internet: www.meridianoshoes.com

Email: contacto@meridianoshoes.com

Euro Sport



You are an adventurous traveler and want to enjoy some sports during the holidays? Then Euro Sport is the place for you. From winter sports to in-line skating, water sports or golf, the well-equipped store has got everything you could wish for. Stop by for a new pair of sports socks or get a whole new snowboarding set, Euro Sport is always worth a visit.

Photo: lzf/Shutterstock.com

Address: Estraunza 1, Bilbao

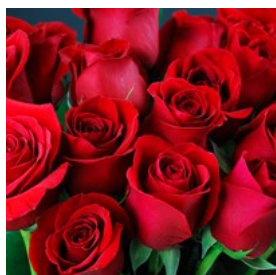
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10.30am-2pm / 4.30pm-8pm, Sat 10.30am-2pm / 5pm-8pm

Phone: +34 944 41 93 12

Internet: www.euro-sport.net

Email: info@euro-sport.net

Mil Rosas Bilbao



Mil Rosas has one of the best choices of fresh flowers in the city and you will find something for every occasion. They are decoration specialists and if you need something last minute you can even place your order in their online store.

Photo: ND700/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ercilla Kalea 25, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10am-2pm / 4.30pm-8pm, Sat 10am-2pm

Phone: +34 944 15 27 91

Internet: www.milrosasbilbao.com

Email: milrosas@milrosasbilbao.com

TOURIST INFORMATION



Jon Chica/Shutterstock.com

Passport/Visa



Spain can be visited visa-free for up to 90 days by citizens of Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Israel, UAE and

most countries in America. If you are unsure whether or not you need to apply for a visa, we recommend contacting the embassy or consulate in your country. International (non-Schengen) travellers need a passport that is valid for at least 3 months after the end of their intended trip in order to enter the Schengen zone. Citizens of Schengen countries can travel without a passport, but must have a valid ID with them during their stay.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

Airport



Bilbao Airport is located 6 miles (9,6 kilometres) northwest of the city. BizkaiBus A3247 departs from outside the main terminal to Plaza Moyua and Gran Vía (central Bilbao) every 30 minutes

from 06.15 to 00.00. The journey takes around 30 minutes.

Taxis from the airport to and from the centre of town can be hired easily.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Bilbao Airport, Bilbao

Phone: +34 91 321 10 00

Internet: www.aena.es

Best Time to Visit



The Basque Country can get chilly and rainy during the winter, so the prime time for visiting Bilbao is during the summer months. To avoid

the bulk of tourist masses, plan your trip for late April / May, or from September to early October, when temperatures are still pleasant and outdoor activities can be enjoyed.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

Public Transport



Bus Bilbobus covers all the districts in the city. Each line has its own timetable but the service starts between 06.00 and 07.00. The last service

departs between 22.00 and 23.00. The buses leave every 10 to 30 minutes depending on the lines.

You can buy your single ticket on the bus by using either a Creditrans pass or cash.

Tram

The tram is an efficient means of transport in Bilbao. The company Euskotran offers services

between the following destinations: Atxuri - Ribera - Arriaga - Abando - Pío Baroja - Uribitarte - Guggenheim - Abandoibarra - Euskalduna - Sabino Arana - San Mamés - Basurto.

There is a customer service centre at Atxuri station.

You can pay your journey by touching in with a Creditrans / BARIK card, or by cash for a single ride.

Metro

Bilbao has an excellent underground train network. The city's reputation for cutting edge design even extends to its means of transport. The sleek entrances to Bilbao's metro stations were designed by acclaimed architect Norman Foster.

Buy a Creditrans multi-journey travel ticket and you can travel on the metro, Feve trains, trams, buses and the Funicular.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Phone: +34 944 79 09 81

Internet: www.bilbao.net

Taxi



Radio Taxi Bilbao +34 94 444 88 88

www.taxibilbao.com

Radio Taxi-Nervi3n +34 94 426 90 26 www.radiotaxinervi3n.com Radio

Tele-Taxi

+34 94 410 21 21

www.teletaxibilbao.com

Photo: ArrivalGuides

Phone: +34 94 444 88 88
Internet: www.taxibilbao.com

Post



The Main Post Office is open Monday to Friday 08.30 to 20.30 and on Saturdays from 09.30 to 13.00. There is also a post office at Paseo de

Arenal.

Photo: Andy Fuchs
Address: Alameda Urquijo 19, Bilbao
Phone: +34 94 422 05 48

Pharmacy



Pharmacies can be identified by the lit up green crosses outside of them. All the pharmacies in the city operate on a rotating shift, taking it in

turns to open late at night. Every pharmacy in the city has a rota with information about which particular branch is open all night each day of the week.

A pharmacy on each side of the river:

Fika Kalea, 65, Bilbao

Alameda Urquijo, 60, Bilbao

Photo: Gemma Garner
Address: Fika Kalea 65, Bilbao
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-10pm, Sat 9am-1.30pm
Phone: +34 944 33 10 38
Internet: www.farmaciagarmendiapurroy.com
Email: info@farmaciagarmendiapurroy.com

Telephone



Country code: +34 Area
code for landlines: 94

Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity



220V/50Hz

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population

345,000

Currency

Euro (EUR), €1=100 cents

Opening hours

Most shops are open from 09.00–13.30 and 16.00–20.00 Monday to Friday.

Banks are open 08.30–14.00, Monday to Friday and 09.00–13.00 on Saturday.

Newspapers

El Correo (regional)
Deia (regional)
El País (national)

Emergency numbers

Police: 092
Fire brigade: 080
Emergencies: 112

Tourist information

Bilbao Turismo
Plaza Circular, 1
48001 Bilbao

Metro and train station: Abando
Opening hours: Every day 09.00 - 21.00
Phone: +34 944 795 760
E-mail address: informacion@bilbaoturismo.bilbao.net

Golfo de Vizcaya





Alameda de Manzarredo	B1 C1 C2	Calle Dos de Mayo	C3	Calle Maximo Aguirre	B2
Alameda de Recalde	B2	Calle Egaña	B3	Calle Medina de Pomar	B4
Alameda de Urquijo	A2 B2 B3 C3	Calle Elcano	B2 B3	Calle Mendipe	A4
Alameda Doctor Areliza	A2 A3	Calle Emilio Arrieta	B4	Calle Mina San Luis	C4
Alameda San Mames	B3	Calle Ercilla	B2 C2	Calle Miribilla	C4
Autopista Solución Sur	A4	Calle Eskurtze	B4	Calle Moncada	A4
Avenida Askatasuna et Orbidea	B4 C4 D4	Calle Esperanza	D2 D3	Calle Monte Aldamiz	D1
Avenida de Abandoibarra	A1 B1	Calle Estraunza	B2	Calle Monte Izaro	D1
Avenida de Bergara	B4	Calle Fernández del Campo	B3	Calle Mugica y Butron	C1
Avenida de las Universidades	B1 C1	Calle Fika	D3 D4	Calle Novia de Salcedo	A3
Avenida de Madariaga	A1	Calle General Concha	B3	Calle Olano	C4
Avenida de Sabino Arana	A2	Calle General Eguía	A3	Calle Ollerías Altas	D4
Avenida de Zumalacárregui	D2	Calle General Salazar	A3 B3	Calle Pablo de Alzola	A3
Avenida del Ferrocarril	A3	Calle Gipuzkoa	A1	Calle Pablo Picasso	B3
Avenida del Zumalacárregui	D2	Calle Gordóniz	A3 A4	Calle Padre Larramendi	A4 B4
Avenida Kirikiño	B3 B4	Calle Gorliz	D1	Calle Perro	C3 D3
Avenida Maurice Ravel	C1 D1	Calle Goya	A4	Calle Pintor Lecuona	A3
Avenida Miraflores	D4	Calle Gregorio de la Revilla	B3	Calle Poeta Blas de Otero	A1
Avenida Zuberoa	B3 B4	Calle Henao	B2 C2	Calle Prim	D3
Calle Agarre	C4	Calle Hermanos Aguirre	A1 B1	Calle Pérez Galdós	A3
Calle Alcalde Uragón	B3	Calle Hernani	C3	Calle Rodríguez Arias	A2 B2
Calle Amadeo Deprit	D3	Calle Heros	C1 C2	Calle San Francisco	C3
Calle Amistad	C2	Calle Huertas de la Villa	C1	Calle San Roque	C1 D1
Calle Anbotu	A4	Calle Hurtado de Amezaga	C2 C3	Calle Santa Maria	C3
Calle Andrés de Isasi	B4	Calle Ibañez de Bilbao	C2	Calle Santander	A1
Calle Araba	A1	Calle Iparaguerra	B2 B3	Calle Santiago Brouard	B3 B4
Calle Arane	B4	Calle Irala	B4	Calle Santiago de Compostela	C4
Calle Arbieto	B2 C2	Calle Isteta	C2	Calle Santutxu	D4
Calle Artekale	D3	Calle Iturrubide	D3	Calle Severo Unzué	A4 B4
Calle Atxurri	D3 D4	Calle Jardines	C3	Calle Simón Bolívar	A2 A3
Calle Autonomia	A3 B3	Calle Jaén	A4	Calle Solokoetxe	D3
Calle Ayala	C2	Calle Jon Arrospide	A1	Calle Sombrería	D3
Calle Bailén	C3	Calle José Maria Escuza	A2 A3	Calle Somera	D3
Calle Bakio	D1	Calle Juan Carlos de Gortazar	C4	Calle Sorkunde	D3
Calle Balona	B4	Calle Juan de Ajuriaguerra	B1 B2	Calle Tellagorri	A3
Calle Barraincúa	B1 C2	Calle Juan de Garay	B3 B4	Calle Tiboli	C1 C2
Calle Barroela Aldamar	C2	Calle La Ronda	D3	Calle Trauko	D1
Calle Biarritz	A4	Calle Labayru	B3	Calle Ugalde	B4
Calle Bruno Mauricio de Zabala	C3 C4	Calle Ledesma	C2	Calle Uribitarte	C1 C2
Calle Buenos Aires	C2 D2	Calle Lersundi	B1 C1	Calle Urizar	B3 B4
Calle Burgos	A1	Calle Licenciado Poza	A2 B2	Calle Victor	C3 D3
Calle Camilo Villabaso Urkiola	A4	Calle Logroño	A1	Calle Villarías	C2
Calle Castaños	C1	Calle Luis Briñas	A3	Calle Virgen de Begoña	D3
Calle Ciudadela	A4	Calle Machin	B3	Calle Vitoria Gasteiz	C4
Calle Colón de Larreátegui	B2 C2	Calle Mandobide	C1	Calle Viuda de Epalza	D2 D3
Calle Cortes	C3	Calle Manuel Allende	A2 A3	Calle Xenpelar	B4 C4
Calle Doctor Diaz Empananza	A4 B4	Calle Marcelino	D4	Calle Zabalbide	D3
Calle Don Claudio Gallastegui	C4 D4	Calle Maria Diaz de Haro	A2 A3	Calle Zumaia	D2
Calle Donostia - San Sebastián	C4	Calle Matiko	D1	Camino del Polvorín	D2 D3

Carretera de Errekalde a Larraskitu	A4 B4	Plaza de Campuzano	B2	Plaza Pedro Basterrechea	A2
Estrada San Agustin	D1 D2	Plaza de Federico Moyúa	B2	Plaza Reverendo Hno Santiago Lasalle	D4
Gran Vía de Don Diego López de Haro	A2 B2 C2	Plaza de Indautxu	B3	Plaza San Francisco Javier	A3 B3
Jardines de Albia	C2	Plaza de la Casilla	A3	Plaza Torres Quevedo	A2
La Ribera	C3	Plaza de Miguel de Unamuno	D3	Puente de Deusto	B1
Muelle de la Merced	C3	Plaza de San Nicolas	D3	Puente del Arenal	C3
Muelle del Arenal	C3 D2	Plaza de Zabálburu	B3	Ribera de Botica	A1
Navarra	C2 C3	Plaza del Ametzola	B3	Ribera de Deusto	A1
Paseo Campo de Volantin	C1 C2	Plaza del Bombero Echániz	B3	Travesia Ciudad Jardin	D1
Paseo de Uribitarte	C1 C2	Plaza Ensanche	C2	Travesia Montano	D1
Paseo José Anselmo Clavé	A2 B2	Plaza General Latorre	A3	Via Vieja de Lezama	D1
Plaza de Arriquibar	B3	Plaza Guardia Civil	A3 B3		