



Spectacular Spanish Northern Coast

The Tour

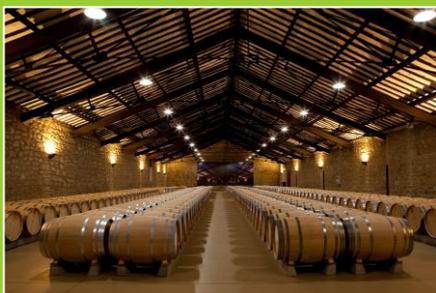
Spain's northern coast and its hinterland are home to some of the most dramatic scenery in the country and its cities are full of history and culture. Our tour starts in San Sebastian, Spain's culinary capital on the Bay of Biscay and continues through the coastal regions of the Basque country, Cantabria, Asturias and Galicia, passing great cities like Bilbao, Vitoria/Gasteiz and Burgos ending in Santiago de Compostela, probably the most famous destination in Northern Spain. We also travel inland and drive through the famous Rioja wine region, where we will enjoy a wine tasting with typical local appetizers in a traditional Spanish wine cellar and will visit the spectacular Picos de Europa mountains and take a cable car to the top where you will see landscapes that take your breath away.

For tour dates and prices visit our website



Highlights:

- Cable Car Ride to the top of the Picos de Europa, the first sight of Europe for ships arriving from the Americas
- Wine tasting with a guided tour of a wine cellar in the Rioja wine region
- Hidden beaches surrounded by cliffs and the end of the world: Finisterre
- Visits of the cities of San Sebastian, Bilbao, Burgos, La Coruna and the sacred city Santiago de Compostela



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Tour information

Start: San Sebastian
 End: Santiago de Compostela
 Tour days: 14
 Non-Driving days: 3
 Max. daily mileage: 131 miles
 Total mileage: 698 miles
 Santander-San Sebastian: 129 miles
 Pets allowed

Travel services

- Welcome Dinner
- Cable Car Ride to the top of the Picos de Europa
- Wine tasting with a guided tour of a wine cellar in the Rioja wine region
- All campsites / motorhome parks with electricity (where available)
- Assistance of a multi-lingual motorhome guide during the whole tour
- Travel pack containing maps, a detailed road book with directions to the campsites, suggestions for sightseeing and general advice on motorhoming in Europe
- Secured Payment Certificate



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Day 1 – Day 2: Donostia/San Sebastian

We start our tour in the city of San Sebastian close to the French border. Donostia, as it is called in the Basque language, is one of the most charming cities along the northern Spanish coast. In the evening of the first day we will have a group dinner with typical regional food in order for everyone to get to know each other. Use the second day to relax at the campsite, venture into the city's old town centre or stroll along the shell-shaped beach.

Day 3: Donostia/San Sebastian – La Rioja

Now we will leave the coast and drive south into the famous Rioja wine region, where in the afternoon the group will have a wine tasting and a visit of the wine cellar. On the way you can stop in Bilbao, which has changed drastically from an industrial city to a centre of arts ignited through the inauguration of the Guggenheim museum in 1997. On your way south visit Vitoria-Gasteiz, the capital of the Basque country, a lovely city with a delightful old quarter and great pintxo bars!

Day 4: La Rioja – Burgos

Today you can explore the Rioja region. For example enjoy the historic medieval fortress town of Laguardia, or visit the cathedral in Santo Domingo de la Calzada where there is always a rooster and hen living in a cage to commemorate one of Santo Domingo's miracles. In the afternoon visit Burgos and the World Heritage-listed cathedral and see the tomb of El Cid, the Spanish national hero.

Day 5: Burgos – Cantabria

We now head back towards the North and will stay at a campsite west of Santander. Visit the medieval town of Santillana del Mar with its bright cobbled streets, flower-filled balconies and tanned stone buildings, go for a "Safari" in a large open-air zoo or visit the replica of the cave of Altamira, renowned for its paintings.

Day 6: Cantabria

After yesterday's longer drive, today you can relax at the campsite, go to the beach or visit some of the places, you did not have time yet to visit. If you would like to see a real cave, do not miss the Cueva El Pindal which in addition to the Stone Age paintings also has a spectacular entrance in a cliff above the sea.

Day 7: Cantabria – Picos de Europa

Now we drive further south into the mountains of Los Picos de Europa. Here the group will go on a cable car ride to a height of 1,823m above sea level into the heart of the Picos de Europa. At the top you can go hiking, or just sit in the restaurant, which seems to be "hanging in the sky", have lunch and enjoy the incredible views.

Day 8: Picos de Europa – Ribadesella

Now we return to the coast, driving either directly north or through the mountains. When taking the coastal roads, you can sometimes see "Los Bufones". These are holes in the cliffs and when a wave crashes hard into the hole, the water rises up under pressure and forms a type of geyser. This route has also several beaches ideal for a short break. If you choose to take the mountain roads, you can stop at viewpoints along the route, or visit a picturesque pilgrim basilica and a chapel built inside a cave.

Day 9: Ribadesella – Asturias

Today we drive along the coast with its sheer cliffs and fine beaches, and through "cider country", the region east of Gijón, Asturias' largest city. Before arriving at the campsite, stop in Cudillero the most picturesque fishing village on the Asturian coast, or visit the Cabo Busto lighthouse.

Day 10: Asturias – Ribadeo

Today we leave Asturias and drive into Galicia. On our journey we will pass several beaches; the most famous one is Praia das Catedrais, where the sea has created cathedral like formations in the rocks, which can be explored by walking along the beach during low tide. Our campsite is directly located on the beach ideal for relaxing or going for a swim.

Day 11: Ribadeo – A Coruña

Today you have the possibility to either visit A Coruña, a bustling port city filled with history, interesting museums and a renowned aquarium, or to take a drive along the most northerly stretch of our route passing the beaches of las Rias Altas stopping in Ferrol to visit the naval museum.

Day 12: A Coruña – Santiago de Compostela

During the last two days of the tour you can visit Santiago de Compostela, the spiritual, cultural and official capital of Galicia and the destination of thousands of pilgrims who set out every year on the famous Camino de Santiago. Wander through the arcaded streets, eat a few tapas and of course visit the Cathedral.

Day 13 Santiago de Compostela / Finisterre

During the last two days of the tour you also have the possibility to visit Finisterre, the beautiful windswept cape with the prominent lighthouse, which in Roman times was believed to be the end of the world. Leave some time though to relax at the campsite or at the beach before your long journey home.

Day 14: Departure and end of tour