
Travel with The Met

June 26–July 5, 2019

**Basque Legacies:
Art, Gastronomy & Design From Bilbao to Biarritz**
with Inés Powell, Lecturer & Art Historian



THE
MET

Basque Legacies: Art, Gastronomy & Design From Bilbao to Biarritz

Dear Members and Friends of the Metropolitan Museum of Art,

The Basque Country (*Euskadi*), straddling the border between Spain and France, is unlike any other place on Earth. Growing up in Bilbao, I marveled at the fierce independence of the Basque people, who still speak their own language and maintain political autonomy, as well as the unique and inventive culture they have developed over millennia. Please join me next summer for a visit to the Basque region and discover a place where cutting-edge art, design, and gastronomy thrive alongside medieval fishing villages and soaring Gothic cathedrals.

We begin on the Spanish side in my hometown of Bilbao. Together, we will travel back in time to walk the ancient streets of the Old Town and admire masterworks by Goya, El Greco, and Zurbarán. Then, fast forward to the 20th century and beyond, with a visit to a vintage automobile museum, a morning at the Frank Gehry-designed Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, and meals at some of today's most innovative restaurants. San Sebastián is our base for exploring ancient churches, art from Renaissance to contemporary, and a nearby fishing village that is home to a museum celebrating the high fashion of Balenciaga.

As we journey to glamorous Biarritz on the French side, we stop to admire the largest Basque church in France, site of the 1660 wedding of Louis XIV, the "Sun King," and the Spanish princess Maria Teresa. We conclude in picturesque Bayonne, one of the prettiest villages in French Basque Country and home to charming shops, cobbled streets, and a museum of Basque ethnography.

An optional prelude in the Basque capital, Vitoria-Gasteiz, is also offered.

I look forward to traveling with you on this unforgettable journey.

Sincerely,

Inés Powell

Lecturer and Art Historian

The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Traveling with You

Inés Powell

Inés Powell was still in graduate school at the Institute of Fine Arts in 1981 when she conducted her first Gallery Talk at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Since then, she has developed a particular passion for teaching art history. A native of Spain, Inés has lectured for The Met for over 30 years. She frequently speaks about different areas of The Met's collection as well as special exhibitions, and her entertaining talks have gained a large following of regular attendees. Inés has led a dozen Travel with The Met programs, including trips to her Spanish homeland and to Cuba.

Trip Highlights

- Travel with art historian and popular lecturer Inés Powell, who is a native of the region
- Immerse yourself in Basque history and culture at the San Telmo Museum in San Sebastián and the Basque Museum in Bayonne
- Admire the astonishing art and architecture of the Guggenheim Bilbao, designed by Frank Gehry
- Discover hidden gems including the house and studio of painter Ignacio Zuloaga, which we will see on a private visit; the abstract sculptures of Eduardo Chillida; and a museum dedicated to fashion pioneer Cristóbal Balenciaga
- Visit a French village to see the Renaissance church where Louis XIV, the "Sun King," married the Spanish princess Maria Teresa
- Savor cutting-edge gastronomy with a lunch and a dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant and a special cocktail on a UNESCO-listed bridge
- Visit Torre Loizaga, the Museum of Antique & Classic Cars, opened exclusively for our group



San Sebastián beachfront



Photos clockwise from top right: map of the region; Chillida-Leku Museum, San Sebastián; Colorful houses in Bayonne; Bilbao. Vizcaya Bridge, Bilbao. Front cover: Guggenheim Bilbao, Yves Klein (Niza, 1928 – Paris, 1962) Fuente de fuego (Fire Fountain), 1961 (fabricada en 1997), photo courtesy of Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. Back cover: Getaria (top) and Biarritz (bottom).

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An optional prelude is offered in Vitoria-Gasteiz from June 24–27, 2019

Departure

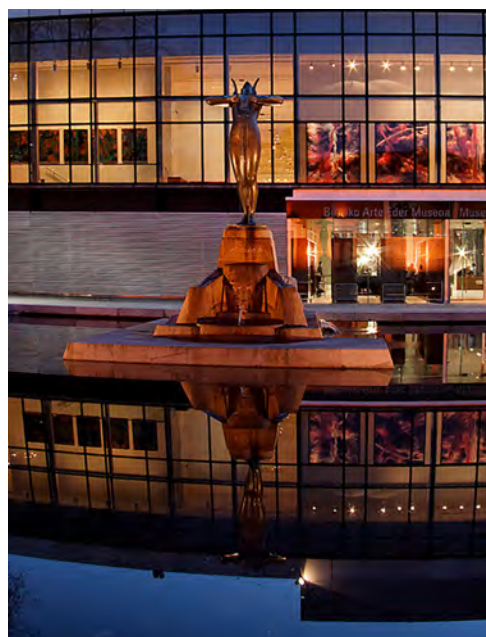
Wednesday, June 26

Depart by air for Bilbao on an overnight flight.

Bilbao, Spain

Thursday, June 27

Arrive in the morning and transfer to the Hotel Carlton for early check-in. Gather in the late afternoon for a walking tour of the *Casco Viejo* (Old Town). Explore the seven original streets of Bilbao and visit the 14th-century cathedral, which features a splendid portico and cloister. This evening, enjoy a welcome reception and dinner at the hotel. R, D



Museum of Fine Arts, Bilbao

Bilbao

Friday, June 28

Spend the morning at Mercado de la Ribera, Europe's largest covered market. Lunch is at leisure. In the afternoon, visit the Museum of Fine Arts, featuring works by Goya, Zurbarán, El Greco, and others. Tonight, enjoy spectacular panoramic views of the city with a special cocktail on the Vizcaya Bridge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site built by one of Gustave Eiffel's pupils, followed by dinner at a nearby restaurant. B, D

Bilbao

Saturday, June 29

Rise early for a visit to the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. Admire Frank Gehry's astonishing architectural design and peruse the current exhibits. Following lunch, discover the fascinating Museum of Antique & Classic Cars, housed in a majestic 14th-century tower, which will be opened exclusively for us. Its collection of forty-five vintage Rolls-Royces is one of the best in the world. Dinner and the evening are at leisure, perhaps to attend a game of *cesta punta* (also known as *jai alai*). B, L

Bilbao / San Sebastián

Sunday, June 30

Depart this morning for San Sebastián, stopping en route at Zumaia for a visit to the museum dedicated to Ignacio Zuloaga, the Spanish Basque painter who dazzled Belle Époque Paris and collected works by Goya and other masters. Lunch is in the fishing village of Getaria, followed by a tour of the Cristóbal Balenciaga Museum, showcasing designs that reflect the couturier's Basque roots. Upon arrival in San Sebastián, check into the hotel and enjoy an evening and dinner at leisure, perhaps to sample some of the region's *pintxos* (the Basque equivalent of tapas) at a local restaurant. B, L

San Sebastián

Monday, July 1

Explore the open-air Chillida-Leku Museum, with its abstract sculptures by Basque artist Eduardo Chillida. Continue to the village of Hondarribia, known for its stellar cuisine, for lunch at an acclaimed restaurant. Afterwards, stroll through the well-preserved Old Town,

whose colorful houses are surrounded by a fortified wall. Return to San Sebastián for dinner. B, L, D

San Sebastián

Tuesday, July 2

At the San Telmo Museum, housed in a former convent, admire its collection of works by El Greco, Miró, and other great artists, and see the famed Sert Canvases depicting important events in Basque history. After lunch, the remainder of the day is at leisure; you may wish to sample one of the Michelin-starred eateries (San Sebastián has 10), browse the fish market, or discover the 16th-century Iglesia de San Vicente. B, L



Cristóbal Balenciaga Museum, Getaria

More Travels with The Met

Colombia: Land of El Dorado March 9–16, 2019

Waterways of the Tsars: Moscow to St. Petersburg Aboard *Volga Dream* June 5–15, 2019

The Legacy of Alexander: Northern Greece & Athens June 7–17, 2019

Castles & Collections of the Celtic Isles Aboard *Sea Cloud II* July 6–17, 2019

For details please go to metmuseum.org/travel



Bayonne

San Sebastián / Biarritz, France

Wednesday, July 3

Cross the French border to Biarritz. En route, stop at the fishing village of Saint Jean-de-Luz to visit the church of Saint-Jean-Baptiste, site of the 1660 royal wedding of Louis XIV to the Spanish princess Maria Teresa. After lunch, continue to Biarritz to check in at the grand Hôtel du Palais, built by Napoléon III for his beloved wife, Eugénie. Dinner is at leisure. B, L

Biarritz

Thursday, July 4

Drive to the nearby riverside town of Bayonne, whose old ramparts are still visible. Stroll its cobbled streets, lined with half-timbered houses, shops, and restaurants; admire the Gothic cathedral, and visit the Basque Museum, showcasing the region's complex culture and history. Following lunch at leisure, return to Biarritz. Our farewell dinner is tonight. B, D

Biarritz / Return

Friday, July 5

Transfer to the airport for flights home. B

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

Program Rate

\$9,999 per person, double occupancy

\$12,499 single occupancy

Rate Includes

- Eight nights accommodations including early check-in in Bilbao as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at included lunches and dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Taxes, service, and portage charges

Not included in rate

International airfare; passport fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; trip insurance; baggage in excess of one suitcase; optional prelude in Vitoria-Gasteiz; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



Hôtel du Palais, Biarritz

Accommodations

Hôtel du Palais, Biarritz

A member of The Leading Hotels of the World, the Hôtel du Palais was originally constructed as a summer villa for the Empress Eugénie, wife of Napoleon III. Some of its illustrious guests have included England's King Edward VII, Coco Chanel, Ava Gardner, and Frank Sinatra. Rooms are decorated in a period style, and there are several restaurants, a bar, and a pool on the property.

Hotel Carlton, Bilbao

Located in the heart of Bilbao, this French Empire-style hotel is a short walk from the Guggenheim and numerous other attractions.

Hotel Maria Cristina, San Sebastián

Built in 1912, this hotel is located on the Urumea River and is steps from the beaches of San Sebastián.

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Reservation Form

To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638), or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Names in full as on passports. Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

Accommodations

Hotel room preference One bed Two beds Single

I wish to share a room with _____

Optional Prelude

I/We wish to join the optional prelude in Vitoria-Gasteiz

Hotel Room Preference One bed Two beds Single

Form of payment

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in program documents. I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

For additional information, please call 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638) or to opt out from receiving mail, email travelwiththemet@metmuseum.org



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The Metropolitan
Museum of Art

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