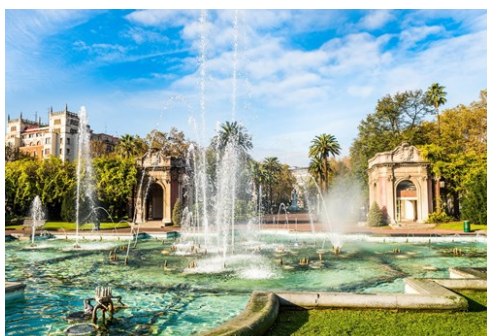




# Bilbao

Photo: LucVi/Shutterstock.com



Belyay/Shutterstock.com



Pixachi/Shutterstock.com



Mimadeo/Shutterstock.com

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

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## Top 5



### A Walk Along the River

From the ultra-modern Conference Centre and Concert Hall Palacio Euskalduna ...



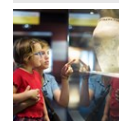
### The Guggenheim Museum

The Guggenheim Museum Bilbao only opened in 1997, but it has since become on...



### Museum of Fine Arts

The Museo de Bellas Artes has an exceptional collection of traditional works...



### Museum of Religious Art

This museum used to be a former convent, founded in 1515. It contains an int...



### Bilbao Maritime Museum

The Ría de Bilbao Maritime Museum is a place to uncover Bilbao's past as a s...





## THE CITY



*Jon Chica/Shutterstock.com*

Bilbao is the largest city in the Basque Country, in the North of Spain, and the capital of the province of Biscay. Once a city of industry and football, Bilbao has had an extraordinary transformation. The Nervión River banks are home to numerous businesses and factories, which during the Industrial Revolution brought heightened prosperity to the region. A ship building centre is now an industrial and cultural feast for the eyes and senses.

The Nervión River divides the city decisively between the old and new. To the east are the narrow streets of the Old Town, the Casco Viejo, which centres around the Siete Calles district - full of bars and restaurants and near the old sights such as the vast, cathedral-like Mercado de la Ribera food market, the largest of its kind in Spain.

On the opposite side of the river, you will find the city's stunning modern "other half," which is a total contrast. It is here you will find the Guggenheim and other iconic buildings like the state of the art Palacio Euskalduna.

There is no doubt that Frank O. Gehry's Guggenheim Museum provides a surreal physical and spiritual focus to Bilbao, but you would be immensely foolish to overlook the rest of this

magical city. The Guggenheim provides your first taste of Bilbao, an enigmatic starter before the delights that spin off from it.

## DO & SEE



*Belyay/Shutterstock.com*

Bilbao has many interesting sites to visit, both historical and modern, and there is something for everyone. In addition to museums, such as the Guggenheim, or the lively Old Town, Bilbao's many pedestrian streets make it easy to discover the city on foot. All you need to do is find your favourite sites.

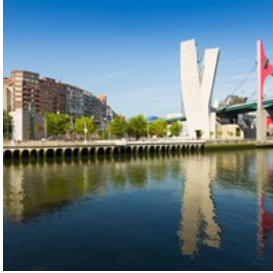
### A Walk Along the River



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*

## 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: Avenida Abandoibarra 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](http://www.guggenheim-bilbao.eus)

Email: [informacion@guggenheim-bilbao.es](mailto: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: Plaza del Museo 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](http://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](http://www.eleizmuseoa.com)

Email: [eleizmuseoa@eleizmuseoa.com](mailto: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 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](http://www.museomaritimobilbao.org)

Email: [info@museomaritimobilbao.org](mailto: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: Plaza Arriaga 1, Bilbao

Phone: +34 944 79 20 36

Internet: [www.teatroarriaga.com](http://www.teatroarriaga.com)

Email: [informacion@teatroarriaga.com](mailto:informacion@teatroarriaga.com)

### The Vizcaya Bridge



Just outside Bilbao, between Getxo (Las Arenas) and Portugalete in the Region of Bizkaia, is one of Bilbao's main attractions: Puente

Colgante, also known as the "Hanging Bridge." There are two dramatic ways of crossing it: by gondola or along the crosswalk itself.

If that hasn't convinced you yet, the bridge has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, for being 'a perfect combination of beauty and functionality'.

Photo: dvoevnore/Shutterstock.com

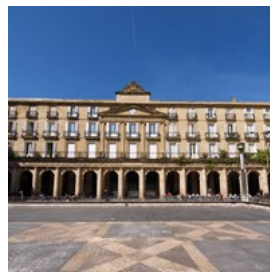
Address: Barria 3, Las Arenas

Phone: +34 94 480 10 12

Internet: [www.puente-colgante.com](http://www.puente-colgante.com)

Email: [promocion@puente-colgante.com](mailto:promocion@puente-colgante.com)

### Plaza Nueva



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,

drink coffee and watch the world and the people go by. One of the cafes that you can try is the famous Cafe Bar Bilbao. Sure, the name is not very original, but they are known for their pintxos, especially the squid pintxo and the ham and onion one.

Photo: Jarno Gonzalez Zarraonandia/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza Nueva 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](http://www.bilbao-cafebar.com)

Email: [info@bilbao-cafebar.com](mailto:info@bilbao-cafebar.com)



## The Artxanda Viewpoint



If you want to escape the city streets, this is the right place for you to catch your breath and look at Bilbao from a high elevation. At the Artxanda

viewpoint, you can enjoy a magnificent panoramic view of the city and the beautiful mountains. There is an elevator available to reach the top.

Photo: Barnes Ian/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza Funicular, 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](http://www.bilbao.eus)

Email: [funicular@funicularartxanda.bilbao.eus](mailto: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 Region of Bizkaia, on a hilltop centre that leads to lovely sandy beaches. Plentzia is a

popular weekend destination and there are bars and cafés of which many serve fresh seafood.

The town even has an indoor front where you can watch the traditional sport of the Basque: pelota. What exactly is Basque pelota? It's almost impossible to explain, so head over to the indoor front and find out.

Photo: Mimadeo/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plentzia

## Day Trip to San Sebastian



This town is set between two hills around the beautiful La Concha Bay. San Sebastian makes for an unforgettable day trip, where you can take in the

glorious Belle Epoque balustrades and visit its world famous restaurants.

There are four areas that you definitely must visit. The first one is Parte Vieja, old town, here you can find the popular pintxo bars and eat your heart out. South of Parte Vieja is the place to be for the shopaholic, the commercial shopping centre. On the East you can be welcomed by the beach. The final one, Playa de Ondarreta is the 'posh' neighbourhood of San Sebastian.

Photo: Botond Horvath/Shutterstock.com

Address: San Sebastian

More Info: 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.

## Doña Casilda Park



Doña Casilda Park is situated at Paseo Don Jose Anselmo Clave, next to Museo de Bellas Artes. The park was built in 1907 by an architect

called Ricardo Bastida. When you stroll around at this park, you will see a dancing water fountain, basketball pitches and a pavilion for live performances.

If the directions are not clear, you can ask a local where the 'Parque de los Patos', or the duck park, is. Why, you might ask? In the centre of the park you can find a huge duck pond known for the variety of waterfowl.

Photo: Karol Kozlowski/Shutterstock.com

Address: Doña Casilda Park, Bilbao

### City Sightseeing By Bike



its culture.

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

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: Akhenaton Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Villarias Kalea 1, Bilbao

Phone: +34646252199

Internet: [www.bajabikes.eu](http://www.bajabikes.eu)

Email: [info@bajabikes.eu](mailto: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: Calle Virgen de Begoña 38, Bilbao

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

Phone: +34 944 12 70 91

Email: [sacristia@basilicadebegona.com](mailto:sacristia@basilicadebegona.com)

### Zubizuri



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, Spain

Public Transport: Metro Casco Viejo

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 9am-10pm

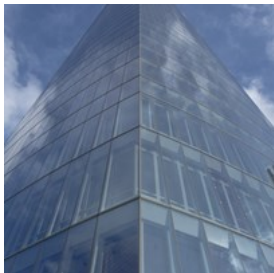
Phone: +34 944 15 36 27

Internet: [www.catedraldebilbao.blogspot.com](http://www.catedraldebilbao.blogspot.com)

Email: [catedraldebilbao@gmail.com](mailto: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.

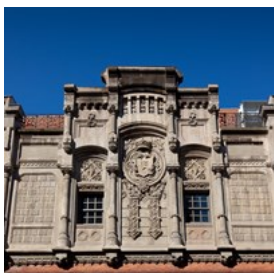
Photo: poliki/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plaza de Euskadi 5, Bilbao

Phone: +34 944 35 43 49

Internet: [www.torreiberdrola.es](http://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: Alhóndiga Bilbao, 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](http://www.azkunazentroa.com)

Email: [info@azkunazentroa.com](mailto:info@azkunazentroa.com)

### Campos Elíseos 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](http://www.teatrocampos.com)

Email: [taquillacampos@arteria.com](mailto: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 the most inventive cuisine in Spain. Bilbao is famous for a lot of dishes, such as delicious tapas-like appetisers called pintxos. Seafood forms the heart of Basque cooking. Bacalao dishes, based on cod, are very popular as is merluza, or hake. Many visitors to Bilbao return again and again for the food alone.

### 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: Calle Ercilla 37-39, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 9am-1am

Phone: +34 94 470 57 00

Internet: [www.hotelercilla.es](http://www.hotelercilla.es)

Email: [cce@ercillahoteles.com](mailto: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: Avenida Abandoibarra 2, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 1pm-3.30pm / 8pm-10.30pm

Phone: +34 94 423 93 33

Internet: [www.bistroguggenheimbilbao.com](http://www.bistroguggenheimbilbao.com)

Email: [info@bistroguggenheimbilbao.com](mailto: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: Calle Licenciado Poza, 54, Bilbao  
 Opening hours: Mon-Sat Noon-11pm  
 Phone: +34 944 41 92 49  
 Internet: [www.viejozortzi.es](http://www.viejozortzi.es)  
 Email: [viejozortzi@zortziko.es](mailto:viejozortzi@zortziko.es)

### Etxanobe



This post-modern restaurant has a great view of the Guggenheim. The view adds to the fantastic Basque cuisine and creative dishes such as chocolaty oxtail crépinettes 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: Avda. Abandoibarra 4, Bilbao  
 Opening hours: Mon-Sat 1pm-4pm / 7.45pm-Midnight  
 Phone: +34 944 42 10 71  
 Internet: [www.etxanobe.com](http://www.etxanobe.com)  
 Email: [etxanobe@etxanobe.com](mailto:etxanobe@etxanobe.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](http://www.gaminiz.com)  
 Email: [asier@gaminiz.com](mailto:asier@gaminiz.com)  
 More Info: In Zamudio, 10 km from Bilbao City Centre

### El Charro Loco



If you are craving Mexican food, head over to El Charro Loco. The ambience is friendly and the staff serves mouth-watering dishes with good value for money. In addition, there is a drink menu with delicious cocktails like strawberry margarita and caipirinha.

The dishes have a symbol next to the name, which suggest the spiciness of the products. This is a good indication for people who can't stand or prefer some heat.

Photo: Charles Place/Shutterstock.com  
 Address: Alameda Recalde 11, Bilbao  
 Opening hours: Tue-Thu 1pm-4pm / 8pm-11pm, Fri-Sat 1pm-4pm / 8pm-11.30pm, Sun 1pm-4pm  
 Phone: +34 944 24 90 89  
 Internet: [www.elcharroloco.com](http://www.elcharroloco.com)  
 Email: [info@elcharroloco.com](mailto:info@elcharroloco.com)

### 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 Nueva 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: Alamedia rekalde 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 sahimi moriaware. On the wine list you will find more than 150 different labels.

Photo: Prajak Poonyawatpornkul/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ibanez De Bilbao 11, Bilbao

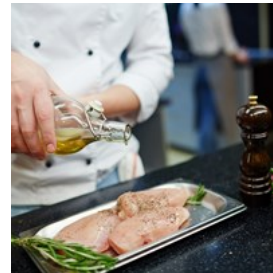
Opening hours: Mon-Sun 1pm-4pm / 8.30pm-Midnight

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, 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 pintxos. 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: 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](http://www.irrintzi.es)

Email: [irrintzi@irrintzi.es](mailto: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: Plaza Arriquirar 4, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 1pm-4pm / 8.30pm-11pm

Phone: +34 944 13 36 36

Internet: [www.yandiola.com](http://www.yandiola.com)

Email: [maitre@yandiola.com](mailto: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: 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](http://www.restaurantelar.com)

Email: [miguel@restaurantelar.com](mailto: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: Santa Maria, 16, Bilbao

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

Phone: +34 944 16 03 11

Internet: [www.restaurantekasko.com](http://www.restaurantekasko.com)

Email: [info@restaurantekasko.com](mailto: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: zorzortziko@zortziko.es

### Restaurante Astillero Euskalduna



A friendly, popular and informal restaurant that has a great reputation among local foodies. The location is next to and facing the river Nervión,

which promises a spectacular view. Everything you will get here is home made, from the cod fish soup to the sea mussels and Venus clams.

Their 150 square metre terrace is the ideal location for a cool evening with a soothing breeze on a hot summer's night.

Photo: \_LeS\_/Shutterstock.com

Address: Dique Kalea 1-3, Bilbao

Public Transport: Metro Stop: Parada San Mamés

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 10am-11.30pm, Fri-Sat 10am-0.30am, Sun 9am-0.30am

Phone: +34 944 41 88 88

Internet: www.astilleroeuskalduna.com

Email: info@restauranteastilleroeuskalduna.com

### 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 / San Sebastian

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 1.30pm-3.15pm / 9pm-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 with sightseeing do as the locals - enjoy a cup of coffee or tea at one of the many cafes the city has to offer.

### Restaurante Guggenheim Bilbao



After a long visit to the Guggenheim Museum, why not rest your feet at the 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 Etorb. 2, Bilbao  
 Opening hours: Tue-Sun 1pm-3pm / 8pm-10pm  
 Phone: +34 944 23 93 33  
 Internet: [www.bistroguggenheimbilbao.com](http://www.bistroguggenheimbilbao.com)  
 Email: [info@bistroguggenheimbilbao.com](mailto: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](http://www.cafelagobilbao.com)  
 Email: [info@cafelagobilbao.com](mailto: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](http://cafebarlastorres.wordpress.com)  
 Email: [felipe.lastorres@gmail.com](mailto: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

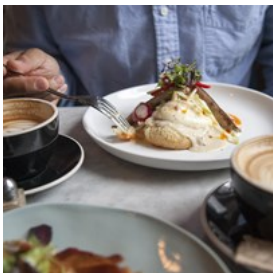
Address: Calle Arechaga 6, Bilbao

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: Belostikale Kalea 20, Bilbao

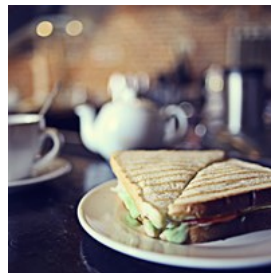
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-9pm

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, 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



## 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-Thu 8am-11pm, Fri 8am-Midnight, Sat 11am-Midnight

Phone: +34 94 415 42 21

Internet: [www.barelglobo.com](http://www.barelglobo.com)

Email: [barelglobo@gmail.com](mailto:barelglobo@gmail.com)

## 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: Calle Alameda Urquijo 39, Bilbao

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 9am-9pm

Phone: +34 944 438 672

Internet: [www.pasteleriadonmanuel.com](http://www.pasteleriadonmanuel.com)

Email: [contacto@pasteleriadonmanuel.com](mailto: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.

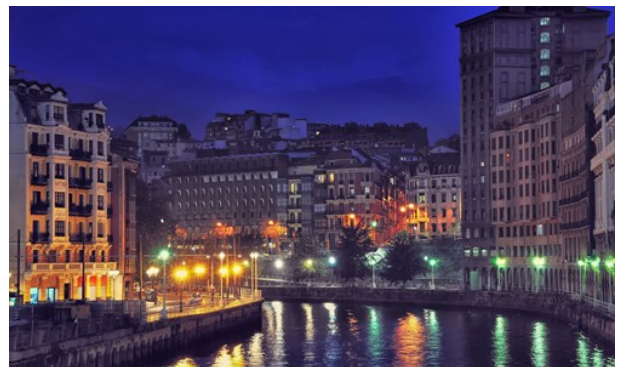
Photo: mavo/Shutterstock.com

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 Casco Viejo is the best place to head for bars, particularly around the Plaza Nueva. In central Bilbao it's Urquijo Gallerias, Calles Ledesma and Licenciado Poza that are the main areas to go bar hopping and drink local favourites - kalimotxo, coke and red wine. For a unique night out, visit a cider tavern - sidrería - where you eat lots of char-grilled meat and drink copious quantities of cider.

### 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](http://www.bilbao-cafebar.com)

Email: [info@bilbao-cafebar.com](mailto:info@bilbao-cafebar.com)

### Cotton Club



The Cotton Club is one of the classic treasures of Bilbao. The club has been in the city ever since 1994, and is just as popular as when it first opened. It's one of the favourite venues of Bilbao to perform, since the acoustics are amazing and the venue has a cosy yet modern atmosphere. The people who visit the venue are mostly between the ages of 20 and 50. The Cotton Club is known for playing 80s and 90s hits.

Photo: atipong arysorn/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gregorio de la Revilla 25, Bilbao

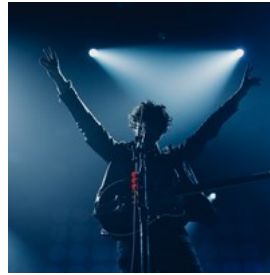
Opening hours: Tue-Wed 8.30pm-3am, Thu 8.30pm-5am,

Fri-Sat 8.30pm-6.30am

Phone: +34 94 410 4951

Internet: [www.cottonclubbilbao.es](http://www.cottonclubbilbao.es)

### 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](http://www.kafeantzokia.com)

Email: [bulegoa@kafeantzokia.com](mailto: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](http://www.fever.es)

Email: [info@fever.es](mailto:info@fever.es)

## Holiday Gold Bilbao



This venue is a hot spot for students who don't limit their party nights to the weekends. While electro, indie pop and rock dominate the sound

system, in the afternoons the place also organises other events for older people. Mind that it can get crowded, but that's part of the fun!

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Madariaga 18, Bilbao

Opening hours: Thu 6pm-10pm, Fri 6pm-10pm /

11.30pm-6am, Sat 6pm-10pm / 11pm-6am, Sun 6pm-10pm

Phone: +34 944 75 55 13

Internet: [www.holidaygoldbilbao.blogspot.se](http://www.holidaygoldbilbao.blogspot.se)

## 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: Nejrón 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](http://www.mollymaloneirishpub.com)

Email: [bilbao@mollymaloneirishpub.com](mailto: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](mailto: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: 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



This tearoom serves the best leaves from different parts of the world, but you can also come in and grab a beer. The cosy vintage decor will make

you want to stay for yet another one, and you can come back after a long night out to get some hot beverages in the morning. Baobab is a popular spot for a hip crowd, positioned 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](http://www.yandiola.com)

Email: [maitre@yandiola.com](mailto:maitre@yandiola.com)

More Info: Located on top floor of the Alhóndiga building

## Marzana 16



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

Email: [marzana16@marzana16.com](mailto:marzana16@marzana16.com)

## SHOPPING



*Ivanko80/Shutterstock.com*

Bilbao's main thoroughfare, the Gran Via, is where you will find all the department stores, boutiques and designer shops, from Gucci to MaxMara. Handicrafts and local wine can be picked up at markets such as the Mercado de la Ribera. Basque specialities like wood carving and weaving can be found around the Casco Viejo. Here, you will also find lots of independent shops as well as chain stores. Best places to go are Calle Askao, Artekale, Bidebarrieta, Somera, Correo and La Cruz. Mind that nearly all 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](http://www.mercadodelaribera.net)

Email: [info@mercadodelaribera.net](mailto:info@mercadodelaribera.net)

## Zubiarte



This is an upmarket shopping mall where you will find exclusive designers such as Tommy Hilfinger, 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

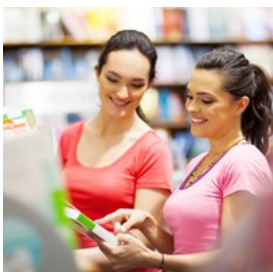
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-0.30am, Sun Noon-0.30am

Phone: +34 944 27 73 80

Internet: [www.zubiarte.com](http://www.zubiarte.com)

Email: [comercialspain@sonaesierra.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.elcorteingles.es)

Email: [clientes@elcorteingles.es](mailto:clientes@elcorteingles.es).

### Gran Via



classy boutiques.

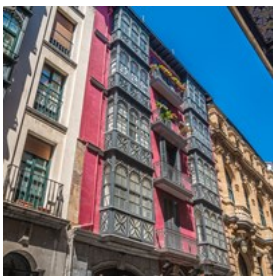
Framed by modernist buildings and lime trees, the main street and the adjoining streets of the El Ensanche neighbourhood holds a great variety of

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



lively market place where numerous vendors offer almost everything.

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

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



boast a large offer of custom-made clothing, exclusive hand craft and, of course, high-class shoes.

If you are looking for specialty shops and international brand-stores, make sure to visit Indautxu. This young neighborhood

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](http://www.martinazuricalday.com)  
Email: [martinazuricalday@gmail.com](mailto: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

### Kukuxumusu



Kukuxumusu is a Spanish company that specialises in T-shirts, post cards and souvenirs. It provides a great offer of funny prints and cute memorabilia. In

Baqué, it is translated as "flea kiss". The company began when three friends started a souvenir shop with t-shirts depicting bull runs and bull fights.

Photo: Ariwasabi/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Calle de la Cruz 13, Bilbao  
Phone: +34 902 78 70 92  
Internet: [www.kukuxumusu.com](http://www.kukuxumusu.com)  
Email: [info@kukuxumusu.com](mailto:info@kukuxumusu.com)

### Megapark Barakaldo



Just outside Bilbao lies Barakaldo Megapark. With fashion outlets, a number of restaurants and bars as well as an IMAX cinema, the Megapark is a popular activity on rainy days.

While you can arrive by bus or metro, you'd better rent a car if you're planning to do some serious shopping.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Erribera Etorbidea, Bilbao  
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-10pm  
Phone: +34 944 18 02 69  
Internet: [www.megaparkbarakaldo.com](http://www.megaparkbarakaldo.com)  
Email: [informacion@megaparkbarakaldo.com](mailto:informacion@megaparkbarakaldo.com)  
More Info: 15 minutes walk form Metrostop Bagatza or take Bus A-3136 or A-3144 from Bilbao.

## Ricas Y Famosas



Get a glimpse of the lifestyle of the rich and the famous at this Bilbao Boutique. This place is named after the famous 80s movie, and offers an exclusive choice of sheer fabulous clothing. Whether you are looking for the perfect cocktail dress or shoes that fit your new purse, you will make a find at Ricas Y Famosas.

Photo: sergiu.birca/Shutterstock.com

Address: Poza Licentziatuaren Kalea, 3

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

Phone: +34 944 442 771

Email: unzueta66@gmail.com

## 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](http://www.little-store.es)

Email: [info@little-store.es](mailto:info@little-store.es)

## Meridiano



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: Iparraguirre 33, Bilbao

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

Phone: +34 946 79 41 13

Internet: [www.meridianoshoes.com](http://www.meridianoshoes.com)

Email: [contacto@meridianoshoes.com](mailto: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](http://www.euro-sport.net)

Email: [info@euro-sport.net](mailto: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](http://www.milrosasbilbao.com)

Email: [milrosas@milrosasbilbao.com](mailto:milrosas@milrosasbilbao.com)

## ESSENTIAL 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)

travelers 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](http://www.aena.es)

### Best Time to Visit



Basque Country can get chilly during the winter, so the prime time for visiting Bilabo are the summer months. To avoid the bulk of tourist

masses, plan your trip for late April or May, and September to early October, when temperatures are still pleasant and both in- and outdoor pursuits can be equally 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 service 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 using a Creditrans / BARIK pass, or by cash for a single ride.

## Metro

Bilbao has an excellent metro (underground) network. Bilbao's reputation for cutting-edge design extends even to transport. The metro's sleek 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. They are sold in denominations of €5, €10 and €15 and credits

are drawn every time it is used.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair  
Phone: +34 944 79 09 81  
Internet: [www.bilbao.net](http://www.bilbao.net)

## Taxi



Radio Taxi Bilbao +34 94 444 88 88

[www.taxibilbao.com](http://www.taxibilbao.com)

Radio Taxi-Nervión +34 94 426 90 26 [www.radiotaxinervion.com](http://www.radiotaxinervion.com) Radio

## Tele-Taxi

+34 94 410 21 21

[www.teletaxibilbao.com](http://www.teletaxibilbao.com)

Phone: +34 94 444 88 88

Internet: [www.taxibilbao.com](http://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 are identified by the green cross outside. Late night pharmacies operate a rotating shift. Every pharmacy in the city has

a rota of which one is open late.

One pharmacy can be found at the following

address:

Fika Kalea, 65, 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.farmaciacarmendiapurroy.com](http://www.farmaciacarmendiapurroy.com)

Email: [info@farmaciagarmendiapurroy.com](mailto:info@farmaciagarmendiapurroy.com)

## Telephone



Country code: +34 Area  
code: 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

Opening hours: Every day 09.00 - 21.00

Phone: +34 944 795 760

E-mail address: [informacion@bilbaoturismo.bilbao.net](mailto:informacion@bilbaoturismo.bilbao.net)







Avenida de Madariaga  
C. Araba  
C. Burgos  
Calle Poeta Blas de Otero  
LA RIBERA  
Ribera de Deusto  
Ribera de Botica

1  
C. Sanzander  
C. Lodiño  
C. Gipuzkoa  
C. Arriaga

2  
Plaza de San Mames  
Torres Quevedo

3  
C. Lodiño  
C. Lodiño

4  
Calle Mendipe  
Calle Camilo  
Calle Anzoto  
C. Gordóniz

B  
Avenida de las Universidades

ABANDOIBARRA  
Avenida de Alandoibarria

Parque de Doña Belas Artes  
Casita de Iturrizar  
Museo de Arte Moderno

INDAUTXU  
Calle Maximo  
Calle de la Revilla

AMETZOLA  
Calle General Salazar  
Plaza de Toros  
Vista Alegre

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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 Sombriería	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 Emparanza	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		