

San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain

Spain's most beautiful bay city serves up crescent beaches, Belle Époque grandeur, and the world's best bar food — all within easy reach of the tender dock.

Tender (most ships) or Pasaia pier

Typical call: 7-9 hrs

Currency: Euro (€)

Basque (Euskera) & Spanish

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: Arrive: All aboard:

Excursion: Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender to Puerto de San Sebastián harbor; some ships dock at Pasaia, ~10 km east

Best For: Pintxo crawls, La Concha Beach, Belle Époque architecture

Walk to center: 0 min from tender; 15 min by shuttle or taxi from Pasaia

Don't Miss: Parte Vieja pintxo bars and a slice of La Viña's burnt Basque cheesecake

Getting around: Taxi €10–€20 · Rideshare Uber · Hop-on hop-off Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Pintxo Crawl — Parte Vieja** — The Old Town's dense grid of pintxo bars is the main event.
 - Monte Igueldo Funicular** — A 1912 wooden funicular climbs to the top of Monte Igueldo for the best panoramic photo of La Concha Bay.
 - Monte Urgull Hike** — Free forested walk up the hill that anchors the Old Town.
- San Telmo Museum** — The best introduction to Basque identity, housed in a stunning 16th-century Dominican convent with modern wings.
 - La Concha Beach Day** — Often called the best urban beach in Europe — calm, shallow waters, golden sand, and a graceful promenade lined with Belle Époque railings.

BEST WALKS

- Old Town & Beaches Loop** 3-4 km · 1-1.5 hrs · Easy — From the fishing harbor, walk into Parte Vieja for pintxos at midday, then stroll the La Concha promenade west to Ondarreta Beach and the Peine del Viento sculptures...
- Monte Urgull Summit Walk** 2 km · 45-60 min · Moderate — Start at the base of Monte Urgull near the Old Town, follow shaded wooded paths to the Castillo de la Mota at the summit, then descend on the bay-side path with...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		59°	46°	13d
Jun		70°	57°	9d
Aug		75°	61°	9d
Sep		72°	57°	9d
Oct		66°	52°	12d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 7:25AM–8:50PM · Jun 6:27AM–9:49PM · Aug 7:13AM–9:10PM · Sep 7:47AM–8:17PM · Oct 8:22AM–7:24PM

Representative sunrise/sunset — 2025, 15th of each month; local civil time including DST (Europe/Madrid). Source: Astral; not a forecast or climate average.

Currency: Euro (€)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Lunch timing is critical. Pintxo bars are packed and at their best noon–3 PM. Many close from 3:30–7:30 PM. Plan to eat by 1 PM if you have an early departure.
- Pack a small umbrella. This is Green Spain — it's lush because it rains. Short showers are common even in summer. A packable rain jacket will save your day.
- Carry small coins. Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere, but €1–2 coins are handy for pintxos and the Monte Igueldo funicular. ATMs are plentiful in the center.
- Tender queues build fast. If your ship tenders, go ashore early or wait for the first rush to clear. Don't leave return to the last tender — late afternoon queues can be long.
- Say hello in Basque. A quick Kaixo (hello) or Eskerrik asko (thank you) in Euskera will charm any local. Basque is a language isolate — nothing like Spanish.
- Try the Gilda. The original pintxo — olive, guindilla pepper, and anchovy on a skewer — was invented here. Salty, briny, perfect with txakoli wine.

San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 1 Saint Vincent's Church | Oldest Gothic church in San Sebastián's Old Town. | 2 Aquarium San Sebastián | Explore Bay of Biscay marine life in this historic aquarium. |
| 3 Eureka! Zientzia Museoa | Interactive science museum with a planetarium and 3D cinema. | 4 Cathedral Buen Pastor de San Sebastián | San Sebastián's main neo-Gothic cathedral, a city landmark. |
| 5 Alderdi Eder Park | Beautiful gardens with a carousel, facing La Concha beach. | 6 Miramar Jauregia | Former royal summer palace with stunning La Concha bay views. |
| 7 Urgulleko Historiaren Etxea | Mount Urgull's history house details San Sebastián's past. | P Cruise port / terminal | |