

TOLOSALDEA[†]



The authentic
Basque experience

Ongi etorri!



THE VERY HEART OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY

Tolosaldea is predominantly a rural region of Gipuzkoa that has preserved its roots and true essence. Covering an area of 332 km², this is a place to enjoy the *tranquillity of nature, the quality of its cuisine and the richness of its culture.*

You could well say that it is the very heart of the Basque Country, *as it is located almost in the very centre of it*, midway between most of the Basque capital cities. It is attainable by the N-1 and has five airports within an hour. You can also get there by train and bus.

Although it is the most sparsely populated region in Gipuzkoa (it has just over 47,000 inhabitants), it has the most municipalities: 28. Most of these are small villages, surrounded by mountains, *with a vibrant capital: Tolosa.*

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www.tolosaldea.eus

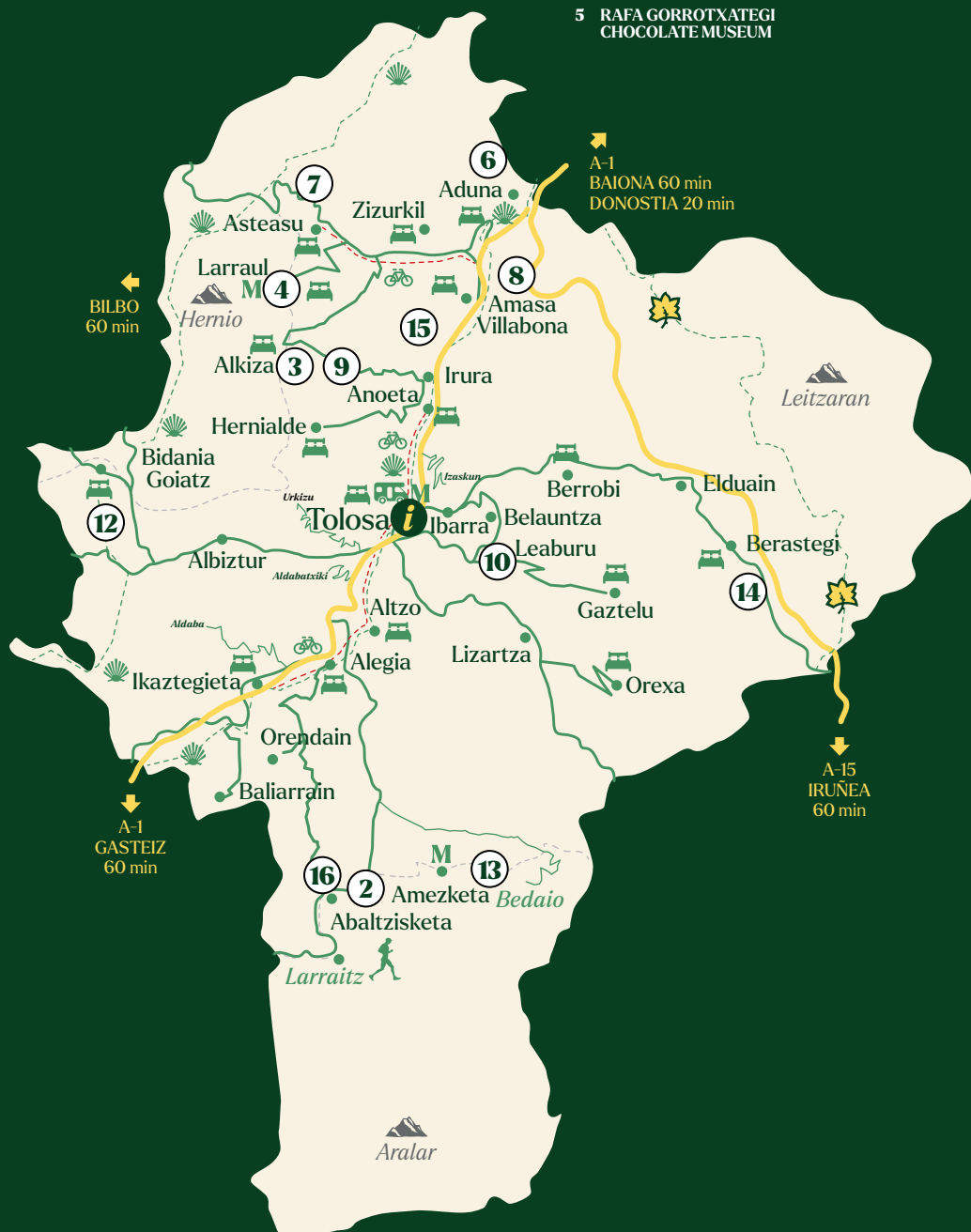
The information in this brochure was collected in the third quarter of 2024. The prices, addresses and other practical information are subject to change. Tolosaldea Garatzen is not responsible for any mistakes or errors that it may contain. If you notice any errors, we would be grateful if you would contact us at tour@tolosaldea.eus.

TOLO SALDEA[™]

i INFORMATION
TOLOSALDEA TOURIST OFFICE

MUSEUMS AND INTERPRETATION CENTRES

- 1 TOPIC
- 2 PELLO ZABALA MILL
- 3 FAGUS ALKIZA
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PRODUCT TOURS

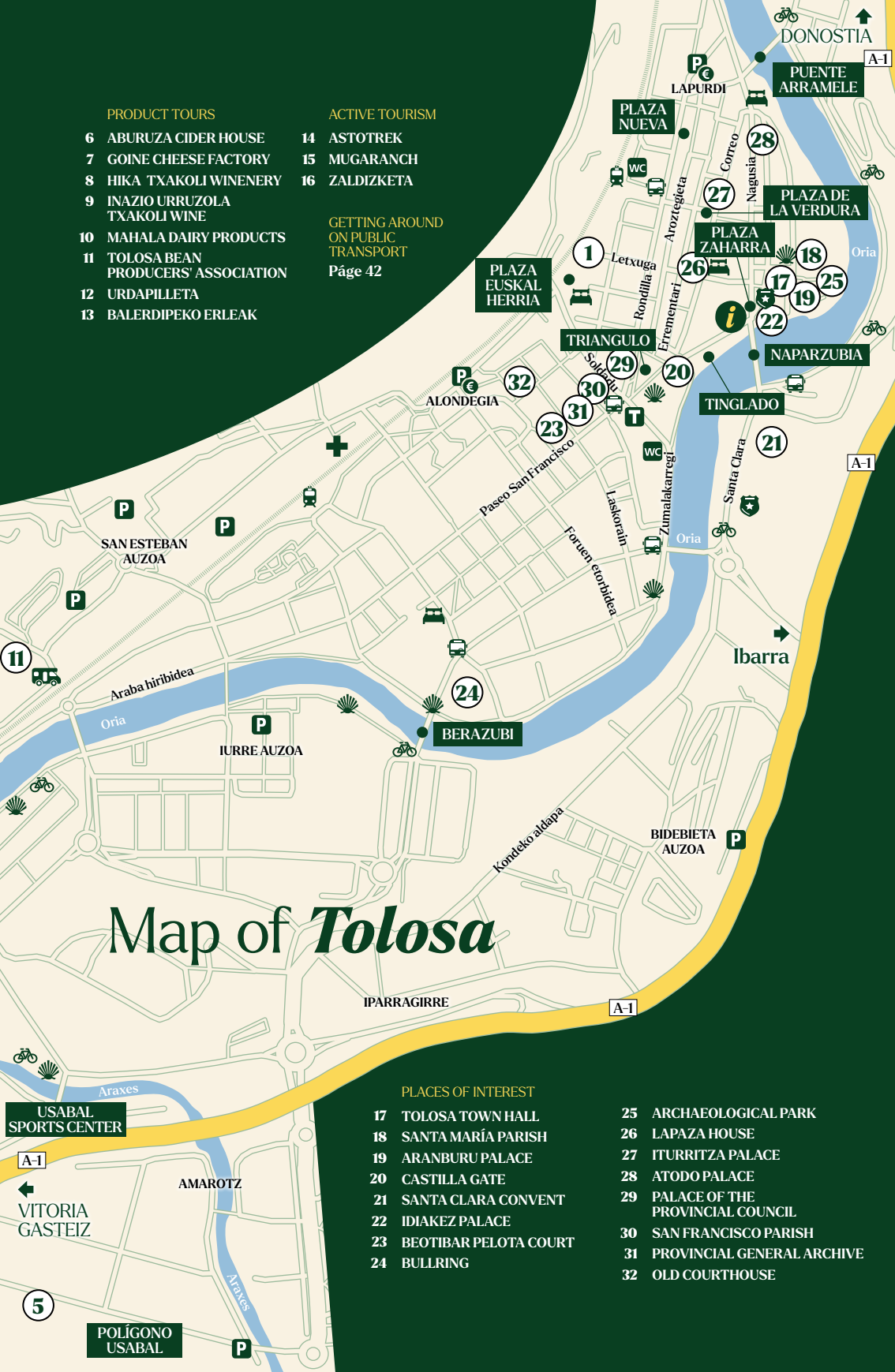
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Map of Tolosa

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| 18 SANTA MARÍA PARISH | 26 LAPAZA HOUSE |
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| 22 IDIAKEZ PALACE | 30 SAN FRANCISCO PARISH |
| 23 BEOTIBAR PELOTA COURT | 31 PROVINCIAL GENERAL ARCHIVE |
| 24 BULLRING | 32 OLD COURTHOUSE |

USABAL SPORTS CENTER

VITORIA GASTEIZ

POLIGONO USABAL



etikoa
Turismo Euskadi

Ongi etorri!

You are a responsible tourist

You know your rights and we protect them.

Visible prices, clear information, treating you well...

Your trip promotes local development because you buy local products and crafts...

The magic words. Kaixo and eskerrik asko. Hello and thank you.

A place where everyone is welcome.

We are careful with our language and respect spaces or services intended for people with specific accessibility needs.

Basque culture and our language.

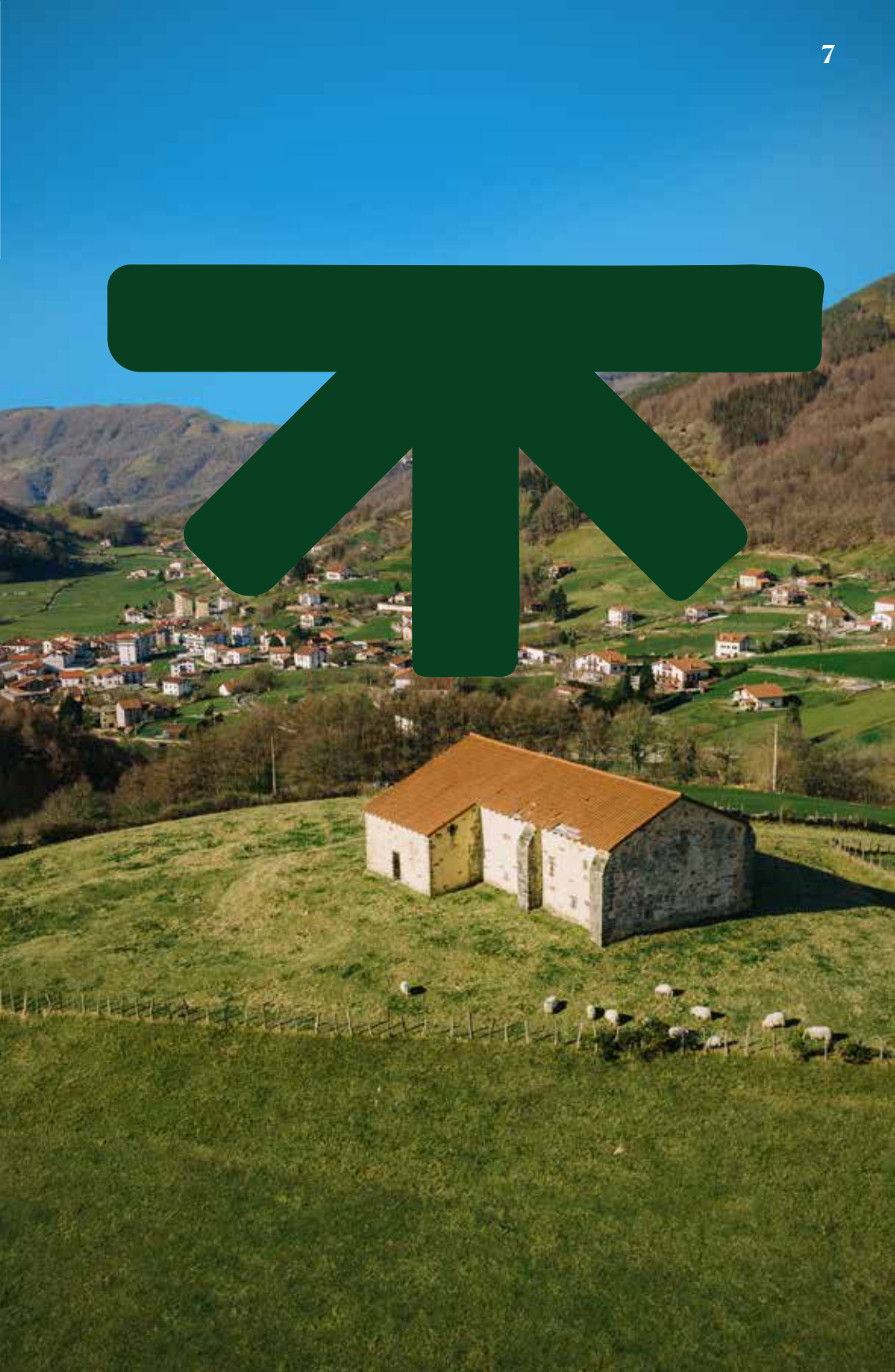
Discover our culture and learn a little Basque.

Help to protect our heritage sites by respecting their rules, keeping their entrances clear and avoiding any negative impacts.

Nature, surrounded by green. A well-cared-for environment that requires respect, lower use of water, energy and packaging, and proper waste management.

Sustainable services. We provide services that support sustainability, recycle, save energy and water, respect the local community and the natural and cultural heritage.

How to get around? The local train runs through Tolosaldea and, depending on the area you want to see, it may be easier to get there by public transport. All that information is at the end of this guide.



Must-sees



1

TOLOSA

A vibrant town



2

ARALAR NATURE PARK

A magical vast space



3

TRADITIONAL CUISINE WITH LOCAL PRODUCE

A celebration of seasonal produce



4

HERNIO

A wonderful natural setting
with plenty of activities



5

AMEZKETA CANDLE BOARDS

A very special tradition
to honour the dead

6

**ALTZO, THE GIANT'S
BIRTHPLACE**

A story worthy of a film



7

ASTEASU / OBABA

**A setting that inspired
Bernardo Atxaga's literary work**



8

**BERASTEGI,
PASTORAL CULTURE**

A stunning, small high plateau



9

THE APPLE ORCHARDL

Beauty on the hilltop



10

ALKIZA

**The viewpoint of
the wildest surroundings**



28 MUNICIPALITIES

TOLOSA

INHABITANTS: **20.065**

A vibrant town



Tolosa is the hub for shopping and facilities in Tolosaldea, a **meeting place** for its inhabitants. It was even once the capital of Gipuzkoa. The importance of its location, standing at the crossroads between Castile, Navarra and France, has been a key factor in its history. It also provides a wide range of social and cultural activities. Because there is always something going on in Tolosa!

BU07-BU08 Tolosa. / **Local train** Brinkola-San Sebastian.

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ABALTZISKETA

INHABITANTS: **326**

The gateway to Aralar Nature Park

TO01 Request stop from Tolosa.
TO24E On-demand service from Alegia.
TO41G Request stop from Tolosa.



ADUNA

INHABITANTS: **506**

The vantage point among apple orchards in the Oria Valley

TO08 Request stop from Villabona.
TO23E On-demand service from Andoain.

ALBIZTUR

INHABITANTS: **325**

Another bastion of the Tolosa bean

TO05 From Tolosa.
UK02 Tolosa-Azpeitia.



ALEGIA

INHABITANTS: **1.771**

A small but beautifully preserved historic quarter

TO01 From Tolosa.
TO41G From Tolosa.
Local train Brinkola-San Sebastian.



ALKIZA

INHABITANTS: **371**

The viewpoint at the entrance to the Hernio massif

TO20E On-demand service from Tolosa.
TO27E On-demand service from Villabona.

ALTZO

INHABITANTS: **448**

The birthplace of "Handia", the giant from Altzo

TO25E On-demand service from Alegia.



AMASA-VILLABONA

INHABITANTS: **5.826**

The region's second capital

BU07-BU08 Tolosa-San Sebastian.
Local train Brinkola-San Sebastian.



AMEZKETA

INHABITANTS: **937**

Intangible natural heritage of exceptional value

TO01 From Tolosa.
TO41G From Tolosa.



ANOETA

INHABITANTS: **2.095**

On the trail of a prehistoric settlement

TO07 From Tolosa.
TO47G From Tolosa.
Local train Brinkola-San Sebastian.

**ASTEASU**INHABITANTS: **1.546****A setting for literary inspiration**

TO27E / On-demand service from Villabona.
 TO08 / From Villabona.
 TO07 / From Tolosa.
 TO47G From Tolosa.

BALIARRAININHABITANTS: **149****A little-known gem overlooking Aralar**

TO26E / On-demand service from Alegia.

BELAUNTZAINHABITANTS: **286****A rural sunny spot**

TO04 From Tolosa.
 TO02 From Tolosa.

**BERASTEGI**INHABITANTS: **1.083****A wonderful little high plateau**

TO02 From Tolosa.
 TO42G From Tolosa.

**BERROBI**INHABITANTS: **575****The "other" food capital**

TO02 From Tolosa.

**BIDANIA-GOITAZ**INHABITANTS: **538****Elegance and an age-old doline beneath Mount Hernio**

TO05 From Tolosa.
 UK02 Tolosa-Azpeitia.

ELDUAININHABITANTS: **237****A hillside with beautiful farmhouses**

TO02 From Tolosa.

GAZTELUINHABITANTS: **168****A secluded village, surrounded by countryside**

TO04 Request stop from Tolosa.

**HERNIALDE**INHABITANTS: **313****A peaceful terrace facing Uzturre mountain**

TO21E On-demand service from Tolosa.

IBARRAINHABITANTS: **4.130****A town known for its "chilli peppers"**

Local train Brinkola-San Sebastian (Tolosa stop).
 BU07-BU08 Tolosa-San Sebastian (Tolosa stop).

**IKAZTEGIETA**INHABITANTS: **487****Rural expanse**

Local train Brinkola-San Sebastian.

IRURAINHABITANTS: **1.887****The tradition of playing pelota with a net racket**

BU07 Tolosa-San Sebastian.
 Local train Brinkola-San Sebastian (Anoeta stop).

**LARRAUL**INHABITANTS: **257****The vantage point of the Aiztondo Valley**

TO07 Request stop from Tolosa.

LEABURU-TXARAMAINHABITANTS: **394****A rural settlement up on high**

TO04 From Tolosa.

LIZARTZAINHABITANTS: **637****The road to Navarra**

TO03 From Tolosa.

ORENDAININHABITANTS: **240****An exceptional setting facing the Txindoki mountain**

TO24E On-demand service from Alegia.

OREXAINHABITANTS: **108****The smallest village in Gipuzkoa**

TO03 Request stop from Tolosa.

**ZIZURKIL**INHABITANTS: **2.975****Set in beautiful meadows**

TO07 From Tolosa.
 TO22E On-demand service from Villabona. Up to the Zizurkil area.
 Local train Brinkola-San Sebastian (lower area of Zizurkil).

FOOD DESTINATION



One of the main hallmarks of *Tolosaldea is its famous cuisine*. The home of world-renowned products like Idiazabal cheese, the famous Tolosa beans and the Ibarra chilli pepper; food made with fresh, high-quality, seasonal produce, bought at one of the most iconic markets in the Basque Country: Tolosa market. Where Basque traditions are preserved and the people will make you feel at home.



TOLOSA MARKET

One of the biggest markets in the Basque Country

It has been held **every Saturday** for almost 800 years. In fact, Tolosa has been a hub of commerce throughout its history. The market has a huge social and cultural impact on the town: market day is very busy in Tolosa: shopping, strolling, the atmosphere, pintxos (tapas), going out for drinks...there is often even live music in the street.

Local, seasonal produce reigns in this market. Lots of it is fresh, harvested the day before or even on the same day.

Typical products: Tolosa beans, Ibarra chilli peppers, Idiazabal cheese, Errezil apples, honey, other dairy products, wood oven bread...

GUIDED TOUR OF THE MARKET:

Every Saturday at 11:00
From the Tourist Office.

943 697 413

tour@tolosaldea.eus

Plaza Zaharra 10 - 20400 Tolosa.

TOLOSA BEANS

Our black pearl

This product takes its name from the important historical role played by the Tolosa market in its trade. It is not only produced in Tolosa, but also on many farms in Gipuzkoa, following traditional methods.

It is a dark, almost black, oval-shaped variety with a white spot. **It produces a very distinctive chocolate creamy broth.** And it has been a staple in the diets of the rural villages.

Nowadays, serving a bean stew means celebrating, having a meal with friends, a family meeting or something special. The beans are prepared separately and served with their accompaniments: Ibarra chilli peppers, black pudding, cabbage and ribs.

Their BIG FESTIVAL is held in November in Tolosa.



+ INFO: Pages 36/37



WHERE
TO EAT BEANS



RECIPE



TRADITIONAL BASQUE CUISINE

Product-based cooking

Our cuisine starts on pastures, in farmhouses, in barrels. **Local and seasonal produce form the basis of traditional Basque cuisine.** Nowadays, it is also called product-based cooking. Raw materials that have barely been touched and ever-present ingredients like onions, garlic, parsley and peppers are ever-present.

Beans are one example, cooked separately without any accompaniments. Meat roasted with nothing but salt and sometimes a little oil, steak, lamb, farmhouse chicken, sucking pig... Desserts, especially dairy products: such as seasonal "mamia" (curd) or **cheese, which in Tolosaldea is enjoyed as a dessert itself.**

TOLOSALDEA'S "OSTATUS"

The taste of small villages

No two villages are alike, but there is one thing they all have in common. A place: the *ostatu* or inn. It is often located in the Town Hall building itself, or **near the town square and is the epicentre of local social life.**

RECOMMENDED:
Hernialde, Oresa,
Altzo, Alkiza and
Larraul (Zirta).



MONDEJU SAUSAGE

An exclusive sausage

A **lamb sausage** that you can only find in certain areas near Aralar with a long tradition of shepherding, such as Amezketeta, Abaltzisketa or Zaldibia.

A sausage made with tripe and sheep fat, leeks, onions, eggs and it is always a little bit spicy. Fancy giving it a try?



The MONDEJU FESTIVAL
is held in Amezketeta at the end
of September.



CIDER HOUSES

Todo un mundo alrededor de la manzana

Toxtx! Festivities, tradition and cuisine. It is one of the best-known gastronomic rituals in our culture. It is held from January to April (although more and more **cider houses** are extending the season). It consists of having lunch or dinner in a cider house and standing up of the table every time they shout "txotx" to taste the cider from several barrels.

THERE ARE SIX CIDER HOUSES IN TOLOSALDEA: Aburuza (open all year round) and Zabala in Aduna, Isastegi and Eguzkitza in Tolosa, Sarasola in Asteasu and Goikoetxea in Lizartza.

+ INFO: Page 38



ADUNA

From apple orchards to cider

In Aduna there is a **very easy route** through the apple orchards, which are particularly splendid in spring, with their characteristic white blossom. But also in summer, when you will be able to see the apples.

TRACK:



DISTANCE: **2 km**
INCLINEL: **60 m**
DURATION: **1 hour**
DIFFICULTY: **Easy**



ABURUZA

GUIDED TOUR AND MEAL:
Friday 19:30 and Saturday 12:30.

PRICE: **€50**

AGES 14-17 : **€35**

AGES 4-13 : **€20**

943 692 452

aburuza@sidrasaburuza.net
www.sidrasaburuza.net

Goiburu Auzoa 8 - 20150 Aduna.

TOLOSA STEAK

Grill houses with lots of tradition

Tolosa's grill houses are world-renowned, they have even been ranked among the restaurants that serve the best steaks in the world. One thing is certain: their quality, history and distinctiveness set the standard for grilling meat.

Tolosa's grill houses were the first to serve grilled ox steaks and to build a menu around them. They were also pioneers in cooking with the tilted grill technique.



SPECIAL local
meat **FAIR** in May.



GRILL HOUSES IN TOLOSA:
Casa Julian, Nicolas,
Burruntzi and Botarri.

+ INFO: Page 38

PINTXOS

Local products in small bites

A wide selection, which you will find being served in Tolosa's bars and which others will prepare for you on the spot.

Pintxos (tapas) carefully prepared tiny gems, small creations and classics like Spanish omelettes or our very own *gilda*, made with Ibarra chilli peppers.

PINTXO BARS:

Bide bide, Fronton, Orbela, Xare, Karela, Txumitxa, Ikatza, Bertakoteka.



The Ibarra chilli pepper, which is also known as the "Ibarra king prawn", is a native chilli pepper grown in this area. From June to September it can be found fresh and is eaten fried, but all year round you can find it pickled and this is how it is served in *gildas* at the bars.



AWARD-WINNING RESTAURANTS

Tolosaldea is becoming a top foodie destination

They offer first-rate cuisine and are a symbol of the sustainable gastronomic model, quality, attention to detail and excellence.

New restaurants, long-standing grill houses, chefs with plenty of experience and pedigree... they represent our region at every service shift.

+ INFO: Page 38

AMA ●●

Recommended in the Michelin Guide, 2 Repsol Suns.

BAILARA ●

Recommended in the Michelin Guide, 1 Repsol Sun.

HIKA ●●

2 Repsol Suns.

CASA JULIAN ●●

2 Repsol Suns.

NICOLÁS

Recommended in the Repsol Guide.

IRIARTE

Recommended in the Repsol Guide.



IDIAZABAL CHEESE

The product of an age-old craft and tradition

A designation of origin cheese made with raw milk from Latxa sheep. Smoked or non-smoked, it is one of the most distinctive products from our region.

WINERY TOURS:

INAZIO URRUZOLA

Saturday at 13:00 and 13:30.

PRICE: €20

688 767 091

inaziourruzola@gmail.com

Barrio Otelarre 40 - 20150 Villabona

HIKA

PRICE: €27,50

943 142 709

info@hikagastronomiko.com

Arana Bailara 18 - 20494 Alkiza

CHEESE FACTORY TOURS:

GOINE CHEESE FARM FACTORY

PRICE: €10 / CHILDREN: €5

615 296 613

goineberria@gmail.com

Upazan Auzoa 150 - 20159 Asteasu

MAHALA DAIRY PRODUCTS

943 670 724

info@mahala.eus

Mahala Baserria - 20491 Leaburu



ESNEKI is held in Tolosa in November.
BE! is held in Berastegi in March.

TXAKOLI WINE FROM GETARIA

Our white wine

Txakoli wine of the highest quality is produced in Tolosaldea, traditional white txakoli, rosé, red, sparkling one... in family-owned wineries like Inazio Urruzola and in modern wineries like Hika.



EUSKAL TXERRIA

A pig on the brink of extinction

At the Elola farm in Bidania, they have been working for years to recover the local "euskal txerri" breed of pig. You can go on a guided tour and see the forest in which the pigs live and have a tasting session.

URDAPILLETA

605 701 204 / info@urdapilleta.eu

www.urdapilleta.eu

Bidania





SWEET TRADITION

Two of the finest bakeries and confectioneries

Bakery and confectionery have a long tradition in Tolosaldea. Since the mid-19th century, when Tolosa was the capital of Gipuzkoa, Tolosa has been a town with exceptional pastries, due to the tastes of its leaders. In fact, Tolosa is home to two of the best bakeries/confectioneries in the Basque Country: Eceiza and Rafa Gorrotxategi.

Eceiza makes the famous **Tolosa tejas** (almond tiles) and **cigarillos** (rolled butter cookies), originally created for the Casa Julian grill house.

BALERDIPEKO ERLEAK

Young beekeeping in a stunning natural setting

They work with the native black bee and give you the chance to learn first-hand about their work and find out more about the environmental and cultural importance of beekeeping.



CHOCOLATE MUSEUM

Rafa Gorrotxategi

A museum that teaches the deep history of chocolate in the Basque Country, with the help of a master confectioner: Rafa Gorrotxategi.

SELF-GUIDED TOUR:

PRICE: €4 / CHILDREN: €2

TOUR WITH TASTING:

PRICE: €10 / CHILDREN: €6

CHOCOLATE WORKSHOP:

PRICE: €20 / CHILDREN: €14

MUSEUM OPENING HOURS:

Monday, Saturday and Sunday:

09:00-14:00

Tuesday to Friday:

09:00-14:00 / 16:00-19:00

943 890 306

www.rafaGORROTXATEGI.EUS

Poligono usabal 14 - 20400 Tolosa



TOLOSA GOXUA.

In October, Tolosa holds its 'sweet festival'.



GUIDED TOUR AND TASTING:

Book in advance.

Saturday at 10:00.

PRICE: €12 / CHILDREN: €10

647 789 686

www.balerdipeko.eus

Bedaio Auzoa - 20268 Tolosa



NATURE



Tolosaldea is pure green. It is bounded by mountains and forests, belonging to three protected natural areas: the Aralar Nature Reserve, the Hernio massif and the Leitzaran biotope. Hence the importance of its ***natural assets***.

Still rural in nature, many deep-rooted local customs remain unchanged. We recommend visiting the mountains and discovering them!



HERNIO

The natural, mythological and cultural heritage of Hernio-Gazume

The summit of Hernio is one of the most iconic landmarks in Gipuzkoa. Its massif, formed by other beautiful peaks and a protected natural area, is steeped in history, customs and legends.

Hernio-Gazume is a Special Area of Conservation and part of the Natura 2000 Network due to its ecological and scenic value, with countless caves, lush forests and beech trees where endangered species of fauna live.



Every Sunday in September there is a pilgrimage in Zelatun.

FAGUS ALKIZA

Hernio-Gazume Interpretation Centre

The natural and cultural heritage of this Special Area of Conservation are showcased here.

You can learn about the animals threatened with extinction, find out more about the human impact on the area over the years, and see a model of the protected area.



Free self-guided tours.

Guided tours must be booked in advance.

PRICE: €7 / CONCESSIONS: €5

KIDS UNDER 12: Free

688 604 466

kultura@alkiza.eus

San Martin plaza z/g - 20494 Alkiza



MUGARANCH (ZIZURKIL)

Western riding school, in the foothills of Hernio

609 474 123

rancho@mugaranch.com

www.mugaranch.com

ARALAR NATURE PARK

A magical
vast space,
a true symbol



The Aralar mountain range, with more than 10,000 hectares spread across Gipuzkoa and Navarra, is one of the most impressive mountain areas in terms of altitude and natural and cultural heritage. A quarter of the nature park is covered with beech trees, it has remarkable geological features and it is still used for grazing.

Three entrances: Amezqueta (from San Martín), Abaltzisketa (from Larraitz) and Bedaio (rural district of Tolosa).

HIGHLIGHTS



ARRITZAGA

This is the only glacial valley in the Basque Country, an almost Pyrenean landscape. The remains of the Buruntutzin mining site can also be found in the same area.



AUSA-GAZTELU

A summit with the remains of a castle and a spectacular view with Txindoki in the background.



TXINDOKI

Also called Larrunarri or Ñañarri. It is one of the most iconic summits in the Basque Country. 1346 metres and stunning views.



ZARATE MOUNTAIN PASS

Standing in the shadow of Mount Balerdi, it is the dividing line between Gipuzkoa and Navarra. It is accessed through beautiful beech forests.



LARRAITZ AND ITS EASY ACCESS WALK

**A route suitable
for everyone**

Larraitz is one of **the main entrances to Aralar**. With a picnic area, parks and restaurants. There is also an easy access walk from Larraitz to Abaltzisketa with views of the natural park.

DISTANCE: **1,5 km**

DURATION: **25 minutes**



ZALDIZKETA (ABALTZISKETA)

Horseback riding in Aralar

646 035 958



TRAIL STATION

**16 trail routes
to suit all levels**

The Basque Country Trail Station is found in the nature parks of Aralar. **The main entrance** from Tolosaldea is in the neighbourhood of **Larraitz in Abaltzisketa**, being the access for 8 routes of different levels.

MAP



TOLOSALDEA ON FOOT

Hiking trails to suit all mountaineers and abilities

If you like hiking you will find information on more than **50 routes** on this link: distance, slope, track and the information you need to choose the one that best suits you. **GR (long distance), PR (short distance), SL (local footpath)** and themed routes, ranging from simple trails with little difficulty to routes for seasoned hikers.

TRACKS



RECOMMENDATIONS



For the welfare of domestic and wild animals, dogs must be kept on a leash.



Avoid lighting fires and discarding cigarettes. This will prevent fires and soil degradation.



Do not collect any animals, plants, minerals or fossils, they are part of the landscape.



You are in an area of extensive livestock farming. Close the gates and barriers.



You should be accompanied on your walk.



Do not discard or bury rubbish.



Greet other people when you cross paths: Epa, Kaixo, Egun on.

MOUNTAIN WALKS WITH A LOT OF HISTORY

Passion for mountaineering

In Tolosaldea you will find time-honoured mountain hikes with a long tradition, such as the **14-hour Aralar hike, the hikes in Aizkardi and Bedaio...** walks that provide a challenge and a way to enjoy the mountains.

See the schedule:

www.tolosaldea.eus





THE INLAND ROUTE OF THE WAY OF ST. JAMES

Walk from the heart of the Basque Country to Santiago

This is the same route that was followed by the pilgrims who entered the peninsula from France via the Santiago Bridge in Irún and joined the French route in Santo Domingo de la Calzada by travelling from north to south through Gipuzkoa and Araba.

Two versions of the Camino as it passes through Tolosaldea

After completing the first stage between Irún and Hernani, you have to choose between following the course of the Oria River, village by village along the 'Camino Real', or taking the mountain road to Saiatz. They converge at Zegama, passing afterwards through the San Adrián natural tunnel.



HERNANI-TOLOSA

STAGE 2A
Through the Oria Valley
19,30 km



HERNANI-BIDANIA

STAGE 2B
Through Saiatz
28,80 km



TOLOSA-ZEGAMA

STAGE 3A
Through the Oria Valley
35,20 km



BIDANIA-ZEGAMA

STAGE 3B
Through Saiatz
34,30 km





LEITZARAN BIOTOPE

Crossed by the Plazaola green way

From Berastegi you can reach the Leitzaran Biotope, an area of outstanding beauty where everyone falls in love with the crystal-clear rivers and unusual flora and fauna. It is one of the most unspoilt and best preserved areas in the Basque Country, with 90% of the valley covered by woodland.



THE PLAZAOLA GREEN WAY

The old railway line between Pamplona and San Sebastian

22.1 kilometres of the route run along the Gipuzkoa section from Andoain (Otieta recreation area) to the Urto recreation area in Berastegi. The route runs alongside the Leitzaran river and features hidden gems like the **1,000 steps**, **water canal routes** or the **calcination furnaces** and **mines of Bizkotx**.

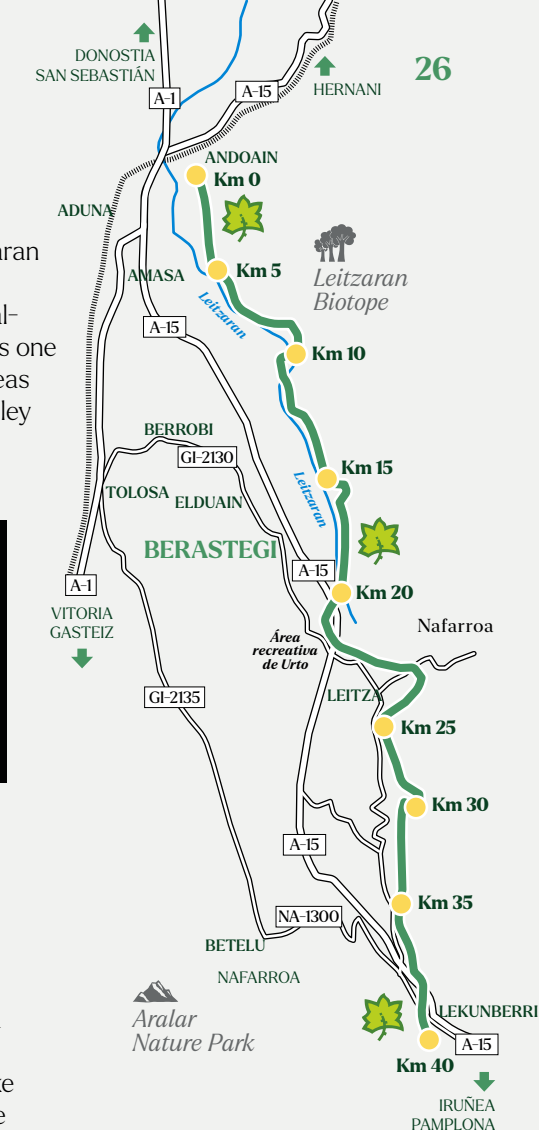


ASTOTREK (BERASTEGI)

Ride on a donkey

676 691 592

www.astotrek.eus



THE CANAL ROUTE

Starts from Amasa's Square

DISTANCE : 17 km

DURATION : 6,50 hours



VIEW ROUTE



CYCLING TOURISM

Tolosaldea by bike

The mountainous landscape with winding roads, typical of inland Gipuzkoa, is the perfect place for cycling, enjoying evergreen scenery.



TWO CYCLING TOURISM ROUTES

Iconic climbs like Larraitz, Altzo and Alkiza.

WIKILOC



THE ONLY ENDURO TRACK IN GIPUZKOA

Four signposted and approved MTB routes in Alegia, off-tracks with jumps, drops and berms.

WIKILOC



15 MORE KILOMETRES OF CYCLE LANES

Sections with gentle slopes that cross the region from Asteasu to Ikaztegieta.

PDF



ART AND CULTURE



Bertso songs, the Basque language, mythology, art, festivals... As well as enjoying the works of great local artists, and being able to explore imaginary worlds, in Tolosaldea you will discover countless interesting facts and age-old customs related to Basque culture that will astound you.



THE PELLO ZABALA SPACE IN AMEZKETA

An interpretation centre inside a mill

Its aim is to interpret the natural environment of Amezketa, **at the foot of Aralar** and the entrance to the Arritzaga glacial valley, and the cultural heritage preserved in the area. You can see the mill in operation and even learn how to make cornbread (talo).

GUIDED TOURS:

Candle boards and sampling of local produce.

Tour of the mill and sampling of local produce.

Tour of the mill and cornbread workshop.

PRICE: €10

657 370 156 / 

Urzabal Auzoa Auzoa 1
20268 Amezketa

TWO ROUTES THROUGH AMEZKETA



ROUTE



FERNANDO AMEZKETARRA

Thematic route.



ROUTE



THE ZAZPITURRI WATER TRAIL

Geological route.



THE TRADITION OF THE AMEZKETA CANDLE BOARDS

A very special way to honour the dead

Amezqueta, or more precisely San Bartolome Church, is one of the few places in the Basque Country where you can see this **ancient tradition**.

The *argizaiola*, as it is called locally, is a carved board onto which a long candle is rolled up. Argi = light + ola = board. It is lit above graves to honour the dead.



TOLOSA

The history that lies behind its historic quarter

Monumental heritage that's well worth a visit and a stroll through its narrow streets. From the most recognisable landmark in Tolosa, the Tinglado Market, to the Castilla Gate, several town mansions and palaces, the Navarra Bridge, the remains of a Renaissance palace, examples of Basque architecture and charming squares and streets

And of course **Santa María Church**, the second largest in Gipuzkoa. You can go on a guided tour that takes you up to the vaults of the church on Saturdays.


GUIDED TOURS OF THE HISTORIC QUARTER
From Tuesday to Saturday: 10:00 and 15:00.

GUIDED TOURS OF SANTA MARÍA CHURCH
SATURDAY: 12:30.

PRICE: €4
CONCESSIONS: €2
DURATION: 1 hour
LANGUAGES:
Basque / Spanish/
English / French



AUDIOGUIDE

943 697 413 / 
tour@tolosaldea.eus
Plaza Zaharra 10 - 20400 Tolosa



AN OUTDOOR MUSEUM

In Tolosa you can feel the art

An exhibition that began with a selection of sculptures by Basque artists that were dotted around Tolosa, including **Oteiza, Chillida, Basterretxea and Kondobika Jauregi**. It has since been expanded with murals and other types of pictorial works.



RAFA GORROTXATEGI CHOCOLATE MUSEUM

Sweet tradition

Rafa Gorrotxategi, a renowned master craftsman, will welcome you into his Chocolate Museum so that you can discover the history of chocolate and its centuries-old intricate relationship with the Basque Country.

TOPIC

The magical world of puppets



A one-of-a-kind museum in Europe, a centre entirely devoted to puppetry. Puppets from all around the world, from the 18th century to modern-day puppets. Puppets that are part of world heritage, puppets designed by famous artists... A unique museum in the old Palace of Justice, suitable for the whole family.



TITIRIJAI

Tolosa International Puppet Festival

End of November.

OPENING HOURS OF TOLOSA'S TOPIC MUSEUM:
10:00-13:00 / 16:00-19:00

**Weekends, public holidays and high season
mid-June to mid-September):**
10:00-14:00 / 15:30-19:30

**Closed on Mondays (excluding public holidays
and bank holidays).**

PRICE: €4

CONCESSIONS: €2 / €3

943 650 414

cit@cittolosa.com

www.topic.eus





LARRAUL ECOMUSEUM

Cultural heritage

A space where we can learn about the transformation of the Basque countryside over the last few decades and which shines a spotlight on the cultural heritage of the area.

GUIDED TOURS MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE:

PRICE: €2

634 289 327

kultura@larraul.eus

www.larraulekomuseoa.net

San Esteban Plaza – 20159 Larraul



GRISAILLE OF SAN ESTEBAN CHURCH

One of the only 16th-century grisailles in Gipuzkoa, which can be seen behind the recessed altarpiece of the church in Larraul.

THEMATIC ROUTE

THE LIZARD TRAIL

**A walk through
the land of Obaba**



The renowned writer **Bernardo Atxaga** was inspired by the landscapes of his home town, Asteasu, when writing several of his stories. These include "Obabakoak", which has been translated into 26 languages. **Obaba** is an unspecified place that appears in many of his novels, which is recognisable as Elizmendi, the district of **Asteasu** from which this 2-kilometre route begins, which can be enjoyed while listening to the stories being narrated by Bernardo Atxaga himself.

www.muskerrarenbidea.eus



THEMATIC ROUTE

THE GIANT FROM ALTZO

A journey through the life of the giant

You can still feel some of the excitement generated by **Migel Joakin Eleizegi** in Altzo today. A real-life person who inspired the film "Handia", winner of 10 Goya Awards, and who grew to a height of 2.42 m because he suffered from gigantism.

**GUIDED TOURS MUST
BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE:**

WALKING TOUR: : 3 km / 2 hours / It starts in the square

Groups with over 15 people: **€3** / per person

Groups with fewer than 15 people: **€45** / per group



Family activities

Discover *the treasures* of Tolosaldea with our friends: Mariona will open up the doors to the magical, colourful world of puppets at TOPIC; you can enjoy lots of adventures in Larraitz with Mari, the Mother Earth goddess who lives at Txindoki; Rafa Gorrotxategi will teach you how to make delicious chocolates in Tolosa; and you'll be amazed by the size of the giant of Altzo!

You'll find these and many more stories and secrets waiting to be discovered in our villages. There are also countless *family activities*.

1 TOPIC

Over 1,000 puppets from all over the world in the only museum of its kind in Europe.

+ INFO: Page 31

2 RAFA GORROTXATEGI

Museum on the history of chocolate and chocolate making workshops.

+ INFO: Page 19

3 THE GIANT FROM ALTZO

He was a real person: compare your body with his actual size.

+ INFO: Page 33

4 THE LIZARD TRAIL

A journey through the literary world of Bernardo Atxaga around the streets of his home town.

+ INFO: Page 33

5 FAGUS ALKIZA

A number of routes to discover the birds that live on the foothills of Hernio and in the area's forests.

+ INFO: Page 21

6 EASY WALKS

Routes to explore Orexa, the smallest village in the Basque Country, and its connection with cheese.

+ INFO: Page 24



Restaurants and accommodation with child-friendly facilities: changing tables, kids' menus, cots, playpen or play area, high chairs...

RESTAURANTS

Larraitz-Gain (Abaltzisketa).
Altzoko Ostaturia (Altzo).
Iturri-ondo (Asteasu).
Bide-Bide (Tolosa).
Botarri (Tolosa).
Orexako ostaturia (Orexa).

ACCOMMODATION

Apartamentos Lete (Alkiza).
Agroturismo Saskarate (Asteasu).
Agroturismo Lizolagoiena (Asteasu).
Hotel Bide-Bide (Tolosa).



JANUARY

Tree Day: Tolosa.

Start of the Txotx (cider) season.

Page 15



FEBRUARY

TOLOSA CARNIVAL

This is Tolosa's biggest celebration, one of the best-known carnivals in the Basque Country. An urban carnival that features costumes, brass bands, heifers... You don't need a very elaborate costume, carnival is all about attitude in Tolosa (costumes on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday of the carnival).

Rural carnival:

Abaltzisketa, Amezketeta and Lizartza.

Negutrail. Mountain race:

Berastegi.

MARCH

BE! A WEEKEND OF PASTORAL CULTURE.

Berastegi.

This festival features tours of the cheese factory with donkeys, talks, a market and other events relating to pastoral culture.



APRIL

Special fair. Orendain.

GOROSTIDI HARRIA

This harrijasotzailes (stone-lifting) championship was held for the first time in Aduna in 2008 and is an extraordinary event. In addition to the special stones, the athletes have to overcome the challenge of beating Iñaki Gorostidi's (1982) record in two events.

MAY

1 May. Opening of the Aralar pastures: Larraitz (Abaltzisketa).

Local meat fair: Tolosa.

Special plant and flower fair: Tolosa.

Txindoki Vertical Kilometre:

Carrera de montaña. Larraitz (Abaltzisketa).

Special fair: Irura.

Patron saint festivals: Oresa.

JUNE

San Juan Festival:

Tolosa.

Cider contest: Tolosa.

Patron saint festivals:

Abaltzisketa, Anoeta, Asteasu, Belauntza and Leaburu.

White wine festival: Tolosa.



T3T. TOLOSALDEKO 3 TONTORRAK. Tolosa.

CA 43.8 km race across Tolosaldea, through three of its most iconic summits: Hernio, Uzturre and Erroizpe (Larte). Page 23

AGENDA

JULY

Patron saint festivals:

Alegia, Altzo and Villabona.

AUGUST

Patron saint festivals:

Aduna, Albiztur, Amezketeta, Baliarrain, Berastegi, Berrobi, Bidania, Gaztelu, Goiatz, Hernialde, Ibarra, Ikaztegieta, Larraul, Orendain and Zizurkil.

SEPTEMBER

Special fair:

Villabona, Asteasu, Goiatz, Alegia.

Ibarra Chili Pepper Fair: Ibarra.

Zelatun Pilgrimage (Hernio):

Every Sunday.

Txakoli Day: Amasa.

Patron saint festivals:

Alkiza, Bedaio (Tolosa), Elduain, Irura and Lizartza.

OCTOBER

Mondeju Festival: Amezketeta.

Special fair: Anoeta, Zizurkil, Belauntza, Leaburu.

Mikologika. Mycology Fair: Tolosa

Tolosa Goxua. Sweet festival: Tolosa.

Page 19

INTERNATIONAL CHOIR FESTIVAL Tolosa (October- November).

The world's best choirs, in Tolosa. Since 1969 it has been bringing together different types of choirs: folk, mixed voice or polyphonic choirs...



NOVEMBER

TOLOSA BEAN FESTIVAL Tolosa.

The Tolosa Bean Festival is celebrated to the rhythm of Euskal Jaia (Basque Festival). In addition to the bean competition, the special market and the meals starring the beans, there is a festive atmosphere in Tolosa during the whole day.

Esneki. The Basque Country's cheese and dairy product fair Tolosa.

Special fair: Berastegi.

Titirijai. International Puppet Festival: Tolosa. Page 31

Patron saint festivals:

Amasa (Villabona).

DECEMBER

Special fair: Altzo.

Christmas Market: Tolosa.

In most of the patron saint festivals you will find pilgrimages, trikitixa (local accordions), rural sports, pelota matches...



Where to eat

RESTAURANTS

Larraitz-Gain (Abaltzisketa) 

943 653 572 / www.larraitzgain.com

Albizturko Ostataua (Albiztur)

943 005 922

Alkizako Ostataua (Alkiza)

943 691 836

IU Jatetxea (Alkiza)

688 767 091 / www.inaziourruzola.eus



Altzoko Ostataua (Altzo) 

943 652 262 / zatozaltzora@gmail.com

Hika By Roberto Ruiz

(Amasa-Villabona)

943 142 709 / www.hikabodega.com

 **Iturri-Ondo (Asteasu)** 

943 691 331

 **Iriarte (Berrobi)**

943 683 078 / www.iriartejatetxea.com

Bailara (Bidania-Goiatz)

943 681 234 / www.bailara.com

 **Orexako Ostataua (Orexa)** 

943 682 290

 **Hernaldeko Ostataua (Hernalde)**

943 652 496

Zirta Jatetxea (Larraul)

943 691 855

Bistró Ijh (Bidania-Goiatz)

943 681 234 / www.iriartejauregia.com

Alondegia (Tolosa)


695 304 441 / www.alondegia.com

Bertakoteka (Tolosa)

943 652 185

 **Bide-Bide (Tolosa)** 

943 231 100 / www.hotelbidebide.eus

 **Ama (Tolosa)**

943 382 059 / www.amataberna.net

Botarri (Tolosa) 

943 654 921 / www.botarri.com

Fronton (Tolosa)

680 545 037 / www.frontontolosa.com

CIDER HOUSES

 **Aburuza (Aduna)**

943 692 452 / www.sidrasaburuza.net

Zabala (Aduna)

943 690 774 / www.rzabala.com

Isastegi (Tolosa)

943 652 964 / www.isastegi.com

Goikoetxea (Lizartza)

943 682 175

Sarasola (Asteasu)

943 690 283 / www.sidrerasarasola.com

 **Eguzkitza (Tolosa)**

943 672 613

GRILL HOUSES

Burruntzi (Tolosa)

943 650 559

 **Casa Julian (Tolosa)**

943 671 417 / www.casajulianmg.com

Asador Nicolas (Tolosa)

943 654 759 / www.asadornicolas.com

PINTXO BARS

Orbela (Tolosa)

943 016 780

Ikatza (Tolosa)

943 674 913

Xare (Tolosa)

943 476 520 / www.pedido.xare-tolosa.com

Karela (Tolosa)

943 650 182

Fronton (Tolosa)

680 545 037 / www.frontontolosa.com

Txumitxa (Ibarra)

943 671 158 / www.txumitxa.com

PRODUCT TOURS

Sidrería Aburuza (Aduna)

943 692 452 / www.sidrasaburuza.net

Guided tour and tasting, guided tour and meal.

Goine Cheese Factory (Asteasu)

615 296 613 / goineberria@gmail.com

Guided tour and tasting.

Bodega de Txakoli Hika (Amasa-Villabona)

943 142 709 / info@hikagastronomiko.com

Guided tour and meal.

Bodega de Txakoli

Inazio Urruzola (Alkiza)

688 767 091 / inaziourruzola@gmail.com

Guided tour and tasting, guided tour and meal.

Mahala dairy and pork products (Leaburu)

943 670 724

luixa.leaburutxarama@gmail.com

Guided tour and tasting.

Tolosa Bean Producers' Association (Tolosa)

943 650 253 / www.alubiasdetolosa.com

Euskal Txerri, Basque pig, Urdapilleta (Bidania-Goiatz)

943 681 006 / elolabaserria@gmail.com

Visita guiada y cata.

Balardipeco Erleak, apicultura (Bedaio-Tolosa)

647 789 686 / info@balardipeco.eus

www.balardipeco.eus

Guided tour and tasting.



Where to go shopping

Ideas for you to take home the best souvenirs from Tolosaldea

Carnicería Barriola (Ibarra)

943 670 869 / www.barriola.eus

Txistorra cured sausage with Ibarra chilli peppers, meat products and select products.

Eceiza (Tolosa)

943 655 161 / www.eceiza.eus

Tolosa *tejas* (petits fours) and chocolate cigarillos and pastries.

Panadería Garia (Tolosa)

943 671 363

Sourdough bread and pastries.

Rafa Gorrotxategi (Tolosa)

943 890 306

info@rafagorrotxategi.eus

www.rafagorrotxategi.eus

Chocolates, *gorrotxas* (yolk and almond pastries) and confectionery.



All the companies that appear on this page are part of the network to promote **food tourism** in Tolosaldea. If you would like to take part, please contact us at garmendia@tolosaldea.eus.



Where to sleep

Parking
 Places
 Pet friendly
 Charging point
 Tourism Code of Ethics
 Turismo FAMILIAR Family Tourism

COUNTRY HOUSE HOTELS AND COTTAGES

Zabale (Aduna) KSS00051
943 690 825 / zabalerural1@gmail.com

Saskarate (Asteasu) KSS00095
943 690 446 - 679 808 373
saskarate@hotmail.com

Ugarte (Asteasu) KSS00092 **TURISMO FAMILIAR**
943 692 722 - 671 614 189
agroturismougarte@gmail.com

Zumargain (Asteasu) XSS00109
655 758 808 / www.zumargain.com

Argiñenea (Berastegi) KSS00153
943 683 371 - 638 182 998
arginenea@gmail.com

Baztarretxe (Berastegi) KSS00064
943 683 386 - 635 726 687
azpiroz@yahoo.es

Teileri (Berrobi) XSS00013
943 841 429 / www.teileri.es

Mikelenea (Gaztelu) XSS00112
607 389 937 / info@casagaztelu.com

Ziasoro (Zizurkil) KSS00023
943 693 143 / ziasoro@yahoo.es

Lizolagoiena (Asteasu)
KSS00188 **TURISMO FAMILIAR**
688 683 262 / lizolagoiena@gmail.com

Akulebi (Villabona) KSS00122
943 693 034 - 639 907 018
akulebi@hotmail.com

Alustiza (Villabona) KSS00016
943 690 361 / alustizaneka@gmail.com

Urresti (Villabona) KSS00077
943 690 444 - 653 722 363
www.agroturismourresti.com

Arkaitza (Berrobi) XSS00145
615 009 620 - 639 960 435
arkaitza2@gmail.com

Agerre Berri (Larraul)
XSS00156
607 280 591 / info@agerreberri.com

Korteta (Tolosa) KSS00144
639 489 833 / www.agroturismokorteta.com

TOURIST APARTMENTS

Lete (Alkiza) XSS00139 **TURISMO FAMILIAR**
943 691 264 / www.letealkiza.com

Iriarte Apartamentuak (Orexa) TSS00121
943 682 148 - 665 701 707
iriarteapartamentuak@gmail.com



HOTELS AND HOSTELS

 **Hotel Iriarte Jauregia**** (Bidania-Goiatz)**
HSS00709    
943 681 234 / www.iriartejauregia.com

 **Hotel Bide-Bide** (Tolosa)**
HSS00854    TURISMO FAMILIAR
943 231 111 / www.hotelbidebide.eus

Hotel Oriá* (Tolosa) HSS00605   

Pensión Izkina (Alegia) HSS00375 
608 142 123

Altzoko ostatua (Altzo) RSS00917 
943 652 262 / zatozaltzora@gmail.com

Pensión Benta Aldea (Anoeta)**
HSS00706 
943 654 079 / www.bentaldea.com

Ikaztegietakoa Ostatua (Ikaztegieta)
HSS00914   
943 655 892 / uxermozo98@hotmail.com

 **Pensión Karmentxu (Tolosa)**
HSS00517  
943 673 701 / pkarmentxu@gmail.com

Pensión Oyarbide (Tolosa) HSS00061 
943 670 017 / www.pensionoyarbide.com

TOURIST HOSTELS

Uztartza (Aduna) BSS00012 
943 693 481 / www.albergueuztartza.com

Otardi (Asteasu) BSS00022  
649 062 674 - 663 048 275
www.otabardi.eus

Tourist services


MUSEUMS AND INTERPRETATION CENTRES

 **Topic. International puppet centre (Tolosa)** TURISMO FAMILIAR
943 650 414 / www.topic.eus
Museum, guided tours, theatrical tours, shows and workshops.

Pello Zabala gunea (Amezketta)
657 370 156 / 
Tour about the Amezketta candle boards, tour of a mill and cornbread workshop.

Ecomuseo de Larraul (Larraul)
634 289 327 / www.larraulekomuseoa.net
Visita guiada con cita previa.

 **Fagus Alkiza. Hernio-Gazume Interpretation Centre (Alkiza)** TURISMO FAMILIAR
943 690 235 / www.fagus-alkiza.eus

 **Rafa Gorrotxategi Chocolate Museum (Tolosa)** TURISMO FAMILIAR
943 890 306 / info@rafagorrotxategi.eus
Self-guided tour, guided tour, chocolate tasting and/or workshop.

INFORMATION

 **Tolosaldea Tourist Office (Tolosa)** TURISMO FAMILIAR
943 697 413 / tour@tolosaldea.eus
www.tolosaldea.eus

ACTIVE TOURISM

Astotrek (Berastegi)
676 691 592 / info@astotrek.eus
Donkey rides.

Mugaranch (Zizurkil)
609 474 123 / rancho@mugaranch.com
Equestrianism.

Zaldizketa (Abaltzisketa)
646 035 958
Horseback riding.

Practical information



TOURIST INFORMATION

Tolosaldea Tourist Office (Tolosa)

943 697 413
tour@tolosaldea.eus
www.tolosaldea.eus

Low season

From Tuesday to Friday:
 11:00-14:00 / 16:00-18:00
 Saturday:
 10:00-14:00 / 16:00-18:00
 Sunday:
 10:00-14:00

High season

Every day:
 10:00-14:30 / 15:30-19:00

+ MEDICAL CARE
Emergency medical care for adults:
Tolosa Healthcare Facility
 Gemikako arbola s/n
 943 006 800

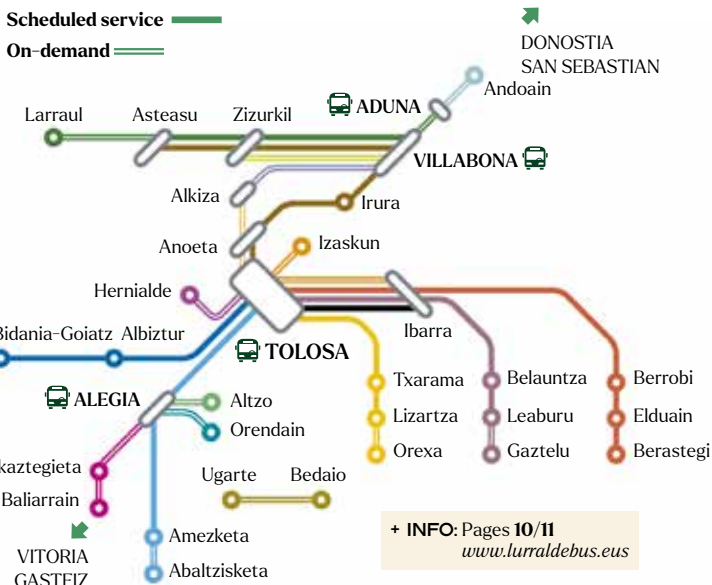
Emergency medical care for children:
Donostia Hospital
 Begiristain Doktorea Pasealekua s/n
 943 007 000

Clínica Asunción
 Izaskungo aldapa s/n
 943 697 000

EMERGENCIES
 112

TRAFFIC INFORMATION
 011

LURRALDEBUS BUS LINES



TOLOSA-SAN SEBASTIAN BUS LINE



RENFE LOCAL TRAINS



BICYCLE PATH NETWORK



Have a go at learning some
expressions in Basque.

Use a language that
is thousands of years old

GREETINGS *AGURRAK*

My name is Miren	<i>Ni Miren naiz</i>
Hi	<i>Kaixo</i>
Good morning	<i>Egun on</i>
Good evening	<i>Gabon</i>
Goodbye	<i>Agur</i>
See you tomorrow	<i>Bihar arte</i>
See you later	<i>Gero arte</i>
See you soon	<i>Laster arte</i>
Please	<i>Mesedez</i>
Excuse me	<i>Barkatu</i>
Thank you	<i>Eskerrik asko</i>
You're welcome	<i>Ez horregatik</i>
Yes	<i>Bai</i>
No	<i>Ez</i>
Welcome	<i>Ongi etorri</i>
Enjoy your meal	<i>On egin</i>

PLACES *LEKUAK*

Street	<i>Kalea</i>
Square	<i>Plaza</i>
Tourist office	<i>Turismo bulegoa</i>
Town hall	<i>Udaletxea</i>
Bank	<i>Banketxea</i>
Library	<i>Liburutegia</i>
Church	<i>Eliza</i>
Museum	<i>Museoa</i>
Cinema	<i>Zinema</i>
Exhibition	<i>Erakusketa</i>
Hotel	<i>Hotela</i>
Hostel	<i>Aterpetxea</i>
Country house hotel	<i>Landetxea</i>
Campsite	<i>Kanpina</i>
Car park	<i>Aparkalekua</i>
Bus stop	<i>Autobus geltokia</i>
Train station	<i>Tren geltokia</i>
Bar	<i>Taberna</i>
Restaurant	<i>Jatetxea</i>
Beach	<i>Hondartza</i>
Regional police	<i>Ertzaingoa</i>
Municipal police	<i>Udaltzaingoa</i>
Pharmacy	<i>Botika</i>

IN HOTELS, BARS & RESTAURANTS *HOTELEAN, TABERNAN & EDO JATETXEAN*

Hello, I would like a room	<i>Egun on, gela bat nahi dut</i>
Room	<i>Gela</i>
Bed	<i>Ohea</i>
Service	<i>Komuna</i>
Key	<i>Giltza</i>
Blanket	<i>Estalkia</i>
Breakfast	<i>Gosaria</i>
Lunch	<i>Bazkaria</i>
Dinner	<i>Afaria</i>
Card	<i>Txartela</i>
Cider house	<i>Sagardotegia</i>
Coffee	<i>Kafea</i>
Milk	<i>Esnea</i>
White coffee	<i>Kafesnea</i>
Red wine	<i>Ardo beltza</i>
White wine	<i>Ardo zuria</i>
Beer	<i>Garagardoa</i>
Cider	<i>Sagardoa</i>
Water	<i>Ura</i>
Sandwich	<i>Ogitartekoa</i>
Dessert	<i>Postrea</i>
Meal	<i>Janaria</i>
Drink	<i>Edaria</i>
Tip	<i>Eskupekoa</i>
Waiter	<i>Zerbitzaria</i>
Chef	<i>Sukaldaria</i>
Meat	<i>Haragia</i>
Fish	<i>Arraina</i>
May I have the bill, please?	<i>Kontua, mesedez</i>

NUMBERS *ZENBAKIAK*

1	<i>Bat</i>
2	<i>Bi</i>
3	<i>Hiru</i>
4	<i>Lau</i>
5	<i>Bost</i>
6	<i>Sei</i>
7	<i>Zazpi</i>
8	<i>Zortzi</i>
9	<i>Bederatzi</i>
10	<i>Hamar</i>

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