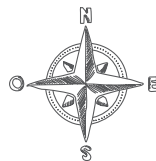




ESPELETTE

Family circuit



Distance 7,25 km	Height 140 m	Duration 2h00	Typology Circuit	Signposting PR (yellow)
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The route starts in Espelette at the market square in front of "Chez Doxpi" restaurant.

Start GPS : UTM : 625886 - 4799685 Lat/Long : 43.339484/-1.446993

This very easy route is ideal for families or people who are not used to long hikes. You can discover a part of Basque heritage such as the architecture, Espelette chilli pepper plantations and pastoralism within green surroundings and points of view on mountains.

SECTION 1 > In the village of Espelette

UTM : 625886 - 4799685

At the market square in front of "Chez Doxpi" restaurant, take a lane between two boxwood hedges towards the castle. At the end of the lane, turn left on the road (at the Espelette chilli pepper syndicate) then turn right to pass in front of the castle. Take the road between the fronton and the castle; go down the stairs on the left after the fronton. At the bottom of the road, turn left just after a large house and go down a few steps that lead to a green area. Take the footbridge that crosses a stream before walking for a short distance down a passage between two low walls.

SECTION 2 > Espelette chilli pepper workshop

UTM : 626131 - 4799889

Reach a street at the end of a lane. Turn left between red shuttered houses towards the church. At the next crossroads, turn right onto the road that goes uphill. Stay on it for 270m before turning right onto a narrow path between the gardens around two houses. Go along a fence on the left for 200m and keep going along this path until the road ends. Turn left onto the track in an undergrowth. Join a road at the Espelette chilli workshop.

SECTION 3 > To a wooded park

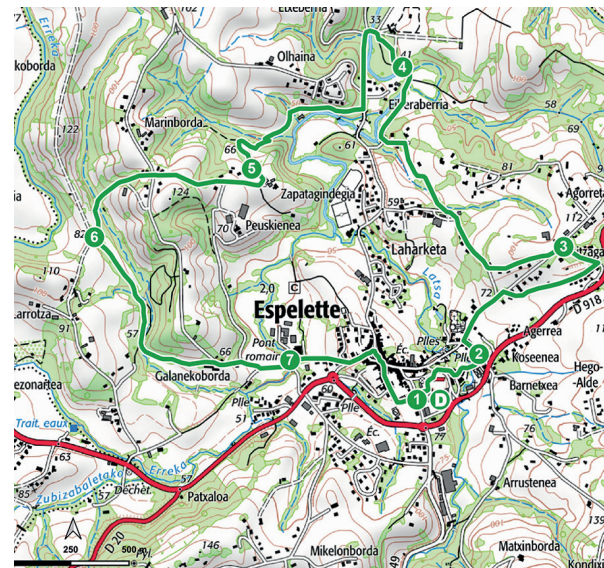
UTM : 626435 - 4800401

Turn left on the road. After 100 m, turn right at a B&B on a small grassy path which goes along the edge of a fence. After 270 m, reach a road and turn right. Go down this road for 350m before taking a track on the right. After a short slope, the track becomes an asphalt road and leads to a house. Turn left. Follow this grassy track until you reach a road. Turn left. At a bend in the road, turn right to a track. Keep walking until you reach a stream. Follow the right bank of the river to reach a park with beautiful oak trees.

SECTION 4 > Walking in the undergrowth

UTM : 625717 - 4801067

Turn right. At a Y intersection, take a path on the left which separates the track from the fence on the right. Walk down the path to the entrance of Biper Gorri Campsite. Cross the bridge and turn left on the road going upwards. After 250 m turn left at the crossroads. Pass a few garbage containers and turn right on a track. At the bottom of the track you will see a fence with a small ladder Go over it and take the wide



path on the left of a track leading up to a meadow. Go over another fence ladder and cross a small stream; follow a path up to a meadow (this area is on a private property, please stay on the path).

SECTION 5 > On the village heights

UTM : 625105 - 4800592

Turn left at a large isolated oak tree towards greenhouses. At the greenhouses, turn right and walk along a fence to a small gate. Close the gate and turn right on the road. After about 100 meters, turn right on a track. At the end of the track, you arrive to a road; cross it and take a wide path downhill. Go through the undergrowth and cross a footbridge before walking on uphill. At the crossroads with a track, turn left on a path.

SECTION 6 > Towards the Roman bridge

UTM : 624448 - 4800254

Cross two clearings and keep going under forest cover. About 50 meters after having entered the forest, take a narrow path at intersection on the main path. At the intersection of several paths, take the left path after crossing a stream on a footbridge. First in the undergrowth, go along the edge of a meadow on the left; keep going under an alley of oaks until a road. Turn right and at the first crossroads, right again. At the end of the road, turn left to cross the Roman bridge..

SECTION 7 > Back to the village

UTM : 625335 - 4799793

Take the road in front of you. At the stop sign, turn left on the street that goes up to the center of the village. Pass the restaurant and turn right. In the main street, turn left between the bakery and the bank and then right to reach the market square.

POINTS OF INTEREST

❖ The Espelette chilli pepper information centre

Created on the initiative of the Espelette chilli pepper producers' union, the visit explains chilli pepper culture through a guided tour. It explains the history, local agriculture and organoleptic characteristics of the chilli pepper. It ends with a short film and pepper tasting on demand.
UTM : 625916 - 4799801

❖ The castle

The castle of the Barons of Ezpeleta. The remains of this emblem of the village date back to the Middle Ages. After being destroyed and rebuilt by the Ezpeletars following a revolt, the castle was bequeathed to the municipality in 1694. It now houses various municipal services
UTM : 625916 - 4799801

❖ Espelette chilli workshop

Visiting the workshop is a must in Espelette. The public is welcome for an authentic discovery of the famous local chilli pepper. History, cultivation methods, production of the various products, AOC quality brand... the staff tells with passion all there is to know about the red pepper.
UTM : 625916 - 4799801

POINTS OF ATTENTION

Be careful while walking on the roadside.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- Public toilets .
UTM : 625898 - 4799724
- Picnic table .
UTM : 625942 - 4799718



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Hiking and biking trails

Useful things to know

LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY

The degree of difficulty is detailed in the guide leaflet for each trail and is categorised according to the classification used by the French Hiking Federation (Fédération Française de Randonnée Pédestre).

Very Easy. Less than 2 hours along well-marked paths. Ideal for families with young children.

Easy. Less than 3 hours, can be walked with children; slight difficulties may be encountered on some sections of the path.

Medium. Less than 4 hours. Suitable for walkers used to hiking; some sections of the trail may require a higher degree of effort, with some elevation gain.

Medium. Over 4 hours. For experienced and seasoned hikers. The trail is long and/

or difficult (elevation gain, challenging sections).

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

Veru easy. Wide, smooth rolling trail, less than 300 m elevation gain.

Easy. Fairly smooth trail, less than 300 m elevation gain.

Medium. Technically challenging trail, less than 800 m elevation gain.

Difficult. Very difficult terrain, 300-800 m elevation gain.

HEIGHT

The cumulative uphill climb.

DURATION

The amount of time required is given as an indication only. It takes into account the length of the trail, elevation gains and any potential difficulties. The duration is calculated without taking any rest breaks into account.

PR® CERTIFIED HIKING TRAILS®

These trails have been given the French Hiking Federation (Fédération Française de Randonnée Pédestre) seal of approval based on various quality criteria that take into account environmental, touristic, technical and other accreditation aspects. (Further information available at www.ffrandonnee.fr)

GPS COORDINATES

The coordinates of the departure point are given in latitude/longitude so that you can log the GPS position into your device. All other data (stages along the trail) are provided in UTM coordinates. The reference format is as follows: WGS 84 - UTM 30T TRAIL MARKERS

MARKING

The trails presented here are PR® certified and are marked in yellow. Some stretches of the path may also be part of a long-distance GR footpath, in which case red and white markers will show the direction to take. This will be fully explained in the guide leaflet.

	LOCAL FOOTPATHS AND PR®	REGIONAL FOOTPATHS GRP PAYS	LONG DISTANCE FOOTPATHS GR®	MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS
RIGHT direction				
Turn LEFT				
Turn RIGHT				
WRONG direction				

The Dos and Don'ts when hiking and biking

Enjoying Basque Country footpaths and trails means behaving in an appropriate and respectful way, not only towards nature but also towards the men and women who work in this countryside. It is very important to ensure some rules are followed.

Be prepared before you set off:

- Don't leave without all the necessary equipment (map, water, suitable clothing and footwear, etc.)
 - Avoid going alone. Remember to inform a relative or friend, or even the town hall of your itinerary. The lack of telephone network in some areas may prevent you from contacting someone or being contacted.
 - Don't drink water from the streams and rivers, and don't swim in them.
 - Check on the forecast just before setting off; the weather can change very quickly.
- Find out about any scheduled events taking place along your itinerary: stubble burning, hunting, forestry activities, etc.

Preserve and protect nature

- Put a recyclable bag in your backpack so that you can take your rubbish home.
 - Don't approach animals; observe them in silence from a distance.
 - Don't pick wild flowers, berries or mushrooms without permission to do so.
- Pay careful attention to signposting and stay on the marked paths.

Show respect and consideration for agricultural and pastoral activities

- Slow down when driving near herds or flocks. Only park in especially provided places so you don't impede traffic.
 - Avoid hiking with your dog. If you do take your dog, it must be kept on a lead at all times.
 - If you open a gate, make sure you close it behind you.
 - Show respect and consideration for private properties situated along your itinerary.
 - Keep your distance from free-roaming animals. Don't feed them.
 - Don't light any fires or barbecues.
- Only camp in authorised areas.

Managing your waste when hiking and biking

Keep your rubbish in your backpack when out enjoying the Basque countryside. Then, you can sort through your waste for recycling when you get home!

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Météo France (weather forecast): 08 99 71 02 64 or 32 50 or www.meteofrance.fr
- Assistance / Emergency services : Europe-wide emergency number 112, Fire Brigade: 18, Police / Gendarmerie: 17, Emergency SMS number for the deaf and hard of hearing : 114



YOUR FEEDBACK

The greatest care and attention has been given to the itineraries that we have recommended to you. So we would be delighted to have your impressions and observations with regard to the condition of the trails and footpaths. Your feedback will also enable us to ensure they are maintained in good condition. Please inform us of any problem you encountered or if you have any useful comments to make, go to sentinelles.sportsdenature.fr

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Basque Country Tourist Information Office

- ESPELETTE, rue principale +33(0)5 59 93 95 02
- SAINT-PÉE-SUR-NIVELLE, rue du fronton +33(0)5 59 54 11 69
- AINHOA, rue principale +33(0)5 59 29 93 99
- SARE, mairie +33(0)5 59 54 20 14
- ASCAIN, rue Oletako bidea +33(0)5 59 54 00 84
- URRUGNE, place René Soubelet +33(0)5 59 54 60 80
- CAMBO, Herriko Etxeko etorbide +33(0)5 59 29 70 25

CONTACT THE PROFESSIONALS

Numerous professional guides and qualified activity coordinators are available to accompany you off the beaten track. To find out more, just contact the front desk at the Basque Country Tourist Information Offices.