







# **Classic Basque Country Tour**

# Toulouse to Pau 11 days/10 nights - 18 to 28 September 2010

Enjoy 3 nights in the famous pink city of Toulouse and 7 nights in the quaint Basque village of Ainhoa and discover the unique culture, delicacies and history of the Basque people and their striking landscape in France and Spain.

### **Your Accommodation**

Hotel de I 'Opera Toulouse – This prestigious 17<sup>th</sup> century hotel is positioned in one of the most famous and attractive squares in Europe, The Capitole. The hotel is the epitome of French elegance.

Hotel Agri Eder Ainhoa – Located in the heart of Basque country, this hotel offers chalet style accommodation in surroundings with a charm and authenticity that encourages complete relaxation. Our hosts, Philippe and Jean-Pierre Dottax ensure you enjoy delicacies imaginatively prepared from local produce.











## J&H TOURS

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#### **Itinerary**

#### Day One - Saturday 18 September - Arrive Toulouse

Arrive in the pink city of Toulouse and check in to our hotel for the next 3 nights.

This evening we meet for cocktails before our evening meal in the hotel's beautiful restaurant.

#### Day Two - Sunday 19 September - Toulouse & Albi

A late morning walking tour of the landmarks and monuments of Toulouse followed by lunch and an afternoon visit to delightful Albi and the wonderful Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec museum.

#### Day Three - Monday 20 September - Airbus A380 Assembly Factory

A morning tour to the fascinating Airbus A380 Assembly factory prior to an afternoon at leisure in Toulouse.

#### Day Four - Tuesday 21 September - Toulouse to Ainhoa

En route to Ainhoa we visit imposing Pau Castle where Henri IV was born and experience magnificent views of the Pyrenees.

#### Day Five – Wednesday 22 September – Ainhoa

A local expert on the Basque Country provides us with an interesting lecture this morning followed by lunch and an early afternoon walking tour of the small Basque village of Ainhoa.

#### Day Six - Thursday 23 September - Bayonne

Today we visit Bayonne's old centre and the famous Basque Museum followed by an afternoon to explore the town at leisure.

#### Day Seven – Friday 24 September – St Jean de Luz & Biarritz

We travel to the coast to explore, shop and enjoy the beautiful town of Saint-Jean-de-Luz in the morning and the world famous Biarritz in the afternoon.

#### Day Eight – Saturday 25 September – St Jean Pied de Port

We visit a Basque cheese farm, winery, artisan Bayonne ham company and enjoy lunch by the river in a picturesque village before an afternoon in the walled Pyrenean town of St-Jean Pied de Port.

#### Day Nine - Sunday 26 September - Bilbao

We cross the border into the Spanish Basque country to visit Bilbao's world renowned Guggenheim Museum. Absorb exceptional exhibitions and a Michelin class lunch of culinary art.

#### Day Ten - Monday 27 September - Cambo les Baines

We visit the stunning Basque mansion and gardens at Cambo les Baines and share lunch together in the lovely village of Itxassou, famous for its cherries. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Ainhoa before our farewell evening drinks and meal together at the charming Hotel Argi Eder.

#### Day Eleven – Tuesday 28 September – Depart Ainhoa

After a leisurely morning, we leave Ainhoa and travel by private coach to Pau International Airport where our tour ends.

#### **Tour Inclusions**

- \* Accommodation 3 nights at Hotel d l'Opera, 7 nights at Hotel Argi Eder
- \* All transfers including excursions in air-conditioned coaches
- \* All meals breakfast, lunch and dinner from Michelin dining to cafes, picnics and free dining
- \* Wine with lunch and dinner \* Bottled water on coaches
- \* All touring and sightseeing activities including entrance fees
- \* Fully escorted by Tour Manager \* All baggage handling \* All tipping and taxes
- \* Personal tour compendium, group photograph and DVD of tour photos

#### **Tour Exclusions**

- \* Airfares, airport taxes and charges \* Excess baggage \* Travel insurance and visas
- \* Any tours, transfers, activities, etc outside the published itinerary
- \* Vaccinations and other health requirements as needed \* Any items of a personal nature

#### **Tour Cost - Land Only**

Toulouse to Pau – 11 days \$11,990 per person twin share \$1,990 single supplement