



NORTHERN SPAIN



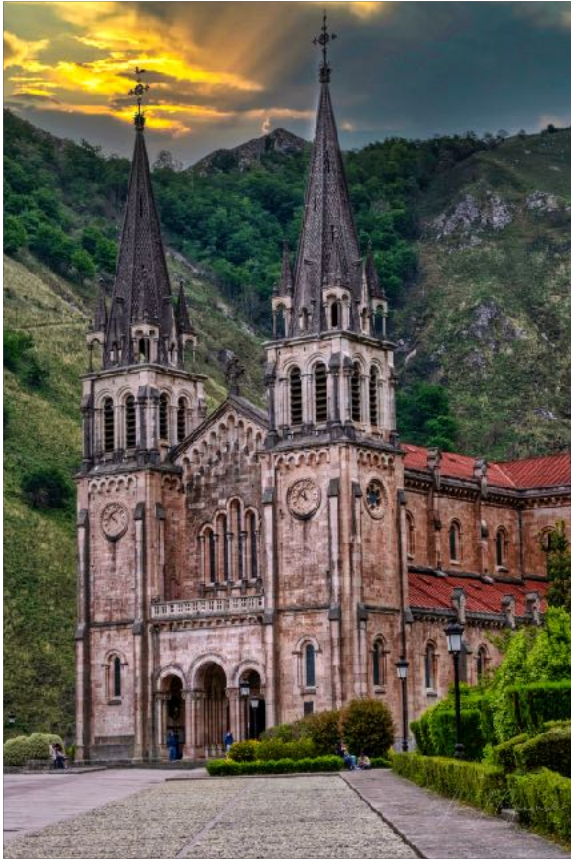
*A unique photography journey through Basque country.
May 10th ~ May 19th, 2024*

Nine Nights, Ten Days
\$6250 pp \$1000 ss



Highlights

- ◆ Experience the best of Basque Country from the Bay of Biscay to Asturias.
- ◆ The picturesque promenade and beaches of San Sebastian, known to many as “the secret Spain”.
- ◆ Immerse in the enchanted forest of Otzarreta.
- ◆ Capture the heart of the medieval village of Santillana del Mar.
- ◆ Shoot the stunning glacial lakes and Basilicas of Covadonga
- ◆ Study art at the Guggenheim.
- ◆ Become a better photographer in a place where art and nature coexist.
- ◆ Go where few have gone in “Picos de Europa” where a hidden town and delicious cider await.



What's included:

- ~ All Meals except lunch on free day at Puebloastur
- ~ Photography coaching around the clock
- ~ Small group
- ~ All Ground Transportation
- ~ Entrance Fees
- ~ All Accommodations

What's not included:

- ~ Resort Spa Services
- ~ Tips
- ~ Travel Insurance
- ~ Flights

And as far as photography goes. . . .

- ◆ Refine Composition
- ◆ The Art of Seeing~ Land, City & Seascapes
- ◆ Long Exposure Photography
- ◆ The Secrets of Street Photography
- ◆ Star Gaze and Shoot
- ◆ Post-processing and share sessions
- ◆ All skills welcome

Itinerary at a Glance

- ◆ Day one: Friday, May 10
 - ◆ Meet at Abba Hotel in San Sebastián Spain (two nights)
 - ◆ San Sebastián aka Secret Spain: streets, architecture and landscapes
- ◆ Day Two: Saturday, May 11
 - ◆ Wake up with San Sebastián: seascapes, morning light
 - ◆ The best in street, food, architecture and portrait photography
- ◆ Day Three: Sunday, May 12
 - ◆ The Otzarreta forest: Landscapes and mystery
 - ◆ Check in to the “hotela” and explore: night sky options (three nights)
- ◆ Day Four: Monday, May 13
 - ◆ Otzarreta Forest: Ours to discover. Honing technical skills
- ◆ Day Five: Tuesday, May 14
 - ◆ Guggenheim Museum and Bilbao: Architecture! Streets! Art!
- ◆ Day Six: Wednesday, May 15
 - ◆ Santillana del Mar and the bold coast: Medieval movement and seascapes
 - ◆ Check in Puebloastur (four nights)
- ◆ Day Seven: Thursday, May 16
 - ◆ Free day. Photo share session. Photo walks. Private sessions. Very special dinner.
- ◆ Day Eight: Friday, May 17
 - ◆ Bulnes: Landscapes, milky way, portraits
- ◆ Day Nine: Saturday, May 18
 - ◆ Covadonga: Landscapes, architecture and people of Northern Spain
- ◆ Day Ten: Sunday, May 19 Farewells and Departures from Asturias.

Itinerary

Ahhh, Northern Spain Basque Country, a land like no other. Rugged yet colorful and lush. A land of hearty food and folk who have managed to hang on to age old traditions. A place where sheep herders and Michelin restaurants are neighbors. It's ours to capture.



We have carefully chosen three locations, base camps of sorts, for this journey with an emphasis on becoming a better photographer without the rush. It's time to settle in to study, experience and leave with a stunning portfolio of this slice of the world.

May 10-12th: Imagine this... Paris meets Malibu and falls in love. They have a child whose name is no other than "San Sebastian". Need I say more? I am one who prefers to find the road less traveled into the

countryside but not when it comes to this historical maze of yumminess. Massive Roman architecture surround ancient squares where bull fighting was born. A maze of small cobblestone streets beckons one to get lost with camera in hand. This, juxtaposed by surfers from all around the world walking with boards over shoulder towards the surf. It's lively to the point of being playful, friendly and safe...a true joy for the street photographer. If that's not enticing enough, it's also a Mecca for foodies. Pintxos, here we come.



May 12th-May 15th: The Enchanted Forest and the Guggenheim: Onward! On one particular trip, a lovely hotel receptionist intrigued by our gear asked Jordan if he heard of the enchanted forest. Say no more. We hit the road and scouted the Otzarreta forest for an afternoon, getting lost as if in a trance amidst the mysterious mossy landscape where every tree tells a story.



We will stay at an elegant “hotel landscape spa” in the forest for three nights which will give us ample time to follow the light in this curious land.

To the
Guggenheim!
Want to
become a
better
photographer?
Study art. A
day in Bilbao,
home to Frank

Gehry’s architectural masterpiece which is a creative brain teaser to photograph inside and out. Ample time to truly experience this marvel before exploring this very chic town where gothic, art deco, contemporary and art nouveau styles come together in harmony.



May 15th-May 19th: We say good bye to the forest and head west towards the Cantabria region to Santillana del Mar, a beautifully preserved 15th century town with cobbled streets and flowering window boxes. This village of “three lies” is known to many as the prettiest village in Spain. We will spend the afternoon capturing this gem followed by a meal at an open grill kitchen which offers a variety of local meats cooked in traditional fashion.

Off to an eco resort like no other. Time to unpack for the next four nights among the tranquil hills where cow bells and fresh air will lull you asleep. Wake up above the clouds with the grand “Picos de Europa” in the near distance. Pour a cup of espresso , take hold of your tripod and capture this dream from your doorstep.



From this home base we will take photography micro day trips further into the mountains, glacial lakes, Baslicas de Covadonga and even a hidden town (and the best cider) in the mountains.

When we are not shooting, enjoy the spacious common areas to post-process, talk photography or have a one-to-one photo session....you may fancy a massage or photo stroll up the road where there is magic around every corner.





Interested? Please contact Eli Arroyo for reservations: eli@yourcubatravel.com
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Leaders on this journey:

Your Custom Travels, Jordan Diaz. A walking encyclopedia with a passion for finding the best that travel has to offer. A bonafide hospitality expert and foodie extraordinaire. Jordan delights in the details so your journey can simply unfold in style.

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Laura L Gingerich, freelance photographer and educator who will give you all she has to ensure you leave with a mountain of memories and a portfolio to be proud of.

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