

A solar eclipse is shown at the top of the page, with the sun partially obscured by the moon, creating a ring of fire effect. The sun is bright yellow, and the moon is dark. The background is a dark blue sky with some clouds.

ECLIPSE IN

A stylized sun logo with rays emanating from a central point, positioned to the left of the word "Spain".

Spain

BILBAO & SAN SEBASTIÁN



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TEXAS  **EXES**[®]
— FLYING LONGHORNS —

August 7-16, 2026

TEXAS EXES®

— FLYING LONGHORNS —

Dear Texas Ex,

Delight in the remarkable riches of Spain's Basque Country and Navarra region on an exciting, first-class journey perfectly timed to coincide with a total solar eclipse! Along the way, come away with a richer understanding of Spanish history and culture through fascinating excursions and illuminating insights from local experts.

You'll spend two nights in Bilbao, three nights in Olite at a parador inside a wing of a majestic castle and three nights in San Sebastián. In the Navarra region, romantic Olite will capture your imagination as you stand on the ramparts of the turreted castle and wander down tiny cobblestone lanes. In Basque Country, share a dinner with residents and hear about Basque life, tour the groundbreaking Guggenheim Bilbao Museum and relish cosmopolitan San Sebastián's top-notch cuisine. Other highlights include Pamplona, the medieval center of Vitoria-Gasteiz and the French Basque town of Saint-Jean-de-Luz. Topping it all off is a special gathering to see the amazing eclipse unfold over Spain!

On this remarkable trip, delight in the camaraderie of traveling with a group, plus enjoy ample free time to make your own discoveries. This outstanding itinerary is brought to you by the Texas Exes Flying Longhorns travel program, which supports the association's mission of promoting and protecting The University of Texas at Austin and uniting its alumni around the world. While you do not have to be an alumnus of UT to travel with us, we do ask that all Flying Longhorns travelers have an active membership in the Texas Exes. Memberships start at just \$50.

The association is a huge proponent of continuing education and there is no better classroom than our world. Experience rich history and culture in the company of your fellow Longhorns! Are you ready for the adventure of a lifetime? We're standing by to answer all of your questions and/or take your reservation. Capacity is limited on this popular program and it may sell out quickly. Please contact the Flying Longhorns travel office at 800-594-3900 or travel@texasexes.org with questions or to make a reservation.

Hook 'em,

Your Flying Longhorns Travel Team
Margaret, Janice & Catherine

UNESCO World Heritage

Routes of Santiago de Compostela, Spain



Above: Vitoria-Gasteiz | Right: Cathedral of Santa Maria,
Vitoria-Gasteiz



Discovery begins here



Come along on an unforgettable adventure complete with a showstopping celestial event! With enrichment from expert guides and lecturers, this eight-night experience in the picturesque Basque Country and Navarra region introduces you to the proud heritage, grand architecture and irresistible cuisine that form the cultural fabric of Spanish life. The centerpiece, of course, is your chance to revel in a total solar eclipse amid these beautiful surroundings!

Top: Guggenheim Museum Bilbao | Above: Wine cellars, Laguardia | Cover: Royal Palace of Olite | Mail panel: Vineyard setting in Rioja Alavesa for solar eclipse viewing

Inspiring Moments



- Gaze up in wonder at the awe-inspiring, rare moments of a **total solar eclipse**.
- Bask in breathtaking **San Sebastián**, acclaimed for its world-class cuisine.
- Admire the stunning **Guggenheim Museum Bilbao** and its art treasures.
- Explore enchanting **Olite's storybook castle** and its atmospheric lanes.
- Delight in charming **Saint-Jean-de-Luz**, a French Basque waterfront town.
- Savor fine wines in Spain's celebrated **Rioja region**.
- Wind through the narrow medieval streets of colorful **Pamplona**.
- Discover details about everyday Basque life at a **dinner with residents**.



Plaza de la Virgen Blanca, Vitoria-Gasteiz

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Bilbao, Spain. 🚗

Day 2 | Bilbao, Spain

Arrive and transfer 🚗 to the hotel. This evening, attend a Welcome Reception at the hotel.

Day 3 | Bilbao

Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. Begin with a scenic tour of Bilbao's top sites. Next, visit the innovative Guggenheim Bilbao, designed by architect Frank Gehry and regarded as one of the most important buildings of the 20th century. View its modern and contemporary art collections on a guided tour.

Free Time: Explore more of Bilbao on your own for the rest of the day. Perhaps you'll head to vibrant Casco Viejo, the medieval district lined with stately buildings, splendid churches like the Santiago Cathedral, and inviting restaurants and bars.

Day 4 | Vitoria-Gasteiz | Olite

Old Quarter of Vitoria-Gasteiz. Founded by Sancho VI, the King of Navarra, in the 12th century, Vitoria-Gasteiz features a wonderful medieval quarter. On a guided walk, see the Plaza de la Virgen Blanca, which honors the city's patron saint; palatial Renaissance gems; and other notable buildings. Some of the oldest streets surround the Cathedral of Santa María, a stop on the Camino de Santiago, the historic Christian pilgrimage route. The street names, such as Zapatería (shoemakers), Pintorería

(painters) and Herrería (blacksmiths), hearken to the medieval trade guilds that once thrived here. Conclude with a tapas lunch in town.

Continue to Olite and check in to the parador.

Day 5 | Olite

Royal Palace of Olite. Feel transported to the Middle Ages as you step inside this fairy-tale castle. Once the court and favorite residence of Charles III, King of Navarra, the Gothic building is fortified with crenellated towers and features French and Mudéjar details added by the king in the 15th century.

During your sightseeing, pause for lunch at a restaurant with your fellow travelers.

Medieval Olite. Olite's timeless grandeur and rich history come alive as you meander with your guide through winding lanes to appreciate its architectural treasures.

Tonight, gather for dinner at the parador.

Day 6 | Olite | Laguardia | Solar Eclipse Event

Free Time: Enjoy the morning at leisure in Olite.

This afternoon, depart for Laguardia in the Rioja Alavesa, a subregion of Spain's renowned Rioja wine region.

Laguardia. Founded in the 10th century, this lovely, compact walled town sits in the verdant Ebro Valley beside the Cantabrian Mountains. Feel immersed in its medieval ambience on a guided walk that features the 13th-century fortifications, the Romanesque church and



San Sebastián

the underground network of wine cellars. After your walking tour, travel to a winery in the region. Savor a delicious dinner and a champagne toast before the solar eclipse.

Solar Eclipse Viewing. Feel firsthand the soul-stirring impact of this unparalleled phenomenon! Watch in amazement as the moon gradually passes between the sun and Earth until the astounding period of totality when it completely blocks the sun's rays.

Day 7 | Pamplona | San Sebastián


After breakfast, check out of the hotel and depart for Pamplona, the capital of Navarra.

Pamplona. Follow your guide along the old town's 16th-century streets where crowds famously throng for the Running of the Bulls each July during the festival of San Fermín. See the Gothic Pamplona Cathedral, the bullfighting ring and lively Castle Square. Afterward, head to a winery near Pamplona

for lunch before traveling to San Sebastián. Check in to your hotel in San Sebastián.

Enrichment: A History of Northern Spain.

For thousands of years, the Basque people have inhabited this mountainous region and preserved their distinctive culture as well as their language, one of Europe's oldest. Delve into the story of this alluring corner of Spain, known as Euskadi, or Basque Country.

 **AHI Connects | Meet the People.** Join a diverse group of residents for dinner and conversation about life in the Basque region.

Day 8 | San Sebastián

San Sebastián. Called Donostia in Basque, San Sebastián rose to prominence as a resort town in the mid-1800s when Queen Isabella II, heeding her doctor's advice, chose it as her summer seaside retreat. Spanish royalty and aristocrats followed, adding a touch of glamour. Today, it dazzles with gorgeous

Walled medieval city of Laguardia





beaches and an exceptional gastronomic scene. On a guided walk, see the old town highlights, including the Basílica de Santa María del Coro and the elegant Belle Epoque buildings. Later, stroll along the boardwalk that hugs La Concha Bay, relish the waterfront views and enjoy lunch with your group.

Free Time: Make your own dinner plans this evening. Maybe you'll try the tasty bites at San Sebastián's bevy of pintxos (tapas) bars or check out a traditional Basque restaurant. Your Travel Director can offer suggestions.

Day 9 | Saint-Jean-de-Luz, France | San Sebastián, Spain

On your route into France today, stop to admire the border town of Hondarribia.

Saint-Jean-de-Luz. In the 17th and 18th centuries, fishermen in this pretty French beachfront town traded their nets for swords and cannons to become feared pirates. Learn about its swashbuckling past and more on a guided walking tour.

Free Time: Select a nice spot for lunch on your own before returning to San Sebastián. Tonight, celebrate your sojourn in Spain at a Farewell Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

Day 10 | In Transit

After breakfast, transfer ➡ to the Bilbao airport for the return flight ✈ to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

✈ Flights and ➡ transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Activity Level

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches

Included Features



Accommodations {with baggage handling}

- **2 nights** in Bilbao, Spain, at the first-class Catalonia Gran Vía Bilbao.
- **3 nights** in Olite at the first-class Parador de Olite.
- **3 nights** in San Sebastián at the first-class Catalonia Donosti Hotel.

Transfers {with baggage handling}

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program.

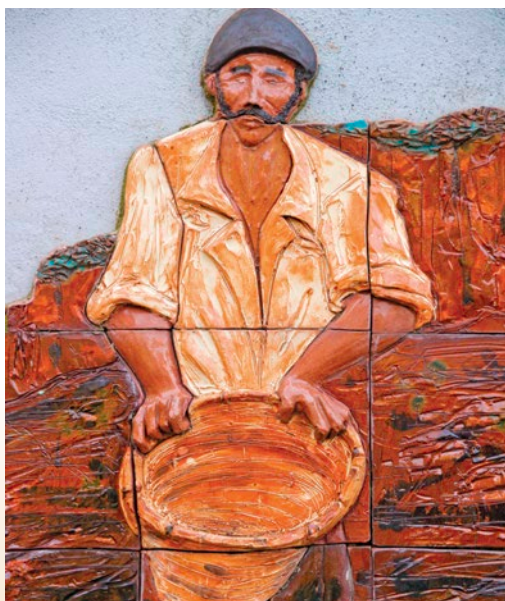
Extensive Meal Program

- 8 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 5 dinners, including a Farewell Dinner; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 32 guests.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

Mosaic depiction of Basque farmer





Running of the Bulls Monument, Pamplona



Saint-Jean-de-Luz, France



Pamplona

2026 | Departure Details

Program Dates

Travel dates ✈ **August 7-16, 2026**

✈ Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

Tour dates* **August 8-16, 2026**

* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

Land Program

Full Price **\$6,745**

Special Savings **\$750**

Special Savings Price* **\$5,995**

***This Special Savings Price includes our \$250 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full discounts and is valid if you book by the date on the address panel and pay in full at booking.**

Deposit amount is \$750 per person.

Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure.

Price includes applicable program taxes (such as VAT and port charges).

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

Single accommodations are an additional \$1,895 (limited availability).

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://texas.ahitravel.com/destinations/1944A?schoolId=167>.

AHI FlexAir

Let us arrange your flights

Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply.)
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays

AHI Travel Expertise

Travel Consultants assist with the reservation process.

Travel & Air Coordinators offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

Travel Information provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

Your Travel Director, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

Handpicked Expert Guides and Knowledgeable Lecturers deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.

Accommodations



Catalonia Gran Vía Bilbao | Bilbao



Parador de Olite | Olite



Catalonia Donosti Hotel | San Sebastián



Book your journey today!

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