

## Route 4: Elantxobe

# The village which hangs from a cliff

*Elantxobe is a small fishing port which appears before us, suspended from the cliffs of cape Ogoño, rapidly hurtling down towards the sea and the fishing harbour. The sheer slopes of the rocky walls on which it is built result in a cascade of steep streets and narrow houses, creating small yet curious spots.*

**Bilbao**  
(Termibus)



**Bizkaia**  
bizkaibus

A3513 - Bizkaibus



Elantxobe

From the Termibus station in Bilbao, **leaving every two hours**, the **Bizkaibus line A3513** (Bilbao-Galdakao-Gernika-Gautegiz Artea-ga-Elantxobe-Ea-Lekeitio) takes you to **Elantxobe**. This village was founded as a fishing harbour, in the 17th century it became important for coastal defence, and today it is more important as a leisure sports region. In the 19th century, the fishing industry assumed great importance with the creation of a number of canning and pickling factories, but little by little the sea in this region stopped producing so generously and the industry fell into decline.

In this seafaring village with an architecture unlike the rest, the neoclassical houses in Kale Nagusia street overlook the sea and the port, waiting for the return of their fishermen. The best way to enjoy this location, so exposed to the sea, is to climb up to the highest part and discover the charm of the coastline from the viewing point, together with the giddiness of the streets. On a clear day, you can even make out the Gipuzkoa coast.



Rotating platform

There are few wide flat spaces in the village, only in the upper part can you find a small square and viewing point, together with the church of San Nicolás de Bari, founded in honour of the patron saint of the village and constructed with donations from the fishermen and their families. Inside the church is a notable baroque

altarpiece made of gilded wood. An ingenious device is the curious rotating platform to allow buses and large vehicles to turn round and leave the village. Also of note are the Town Hall palace and the Nagusia Tower House.

After visiting this unique fishing village, where you can also savour delicious fish at the restaurants, climb up to the Ogoño vantage point to enjoy the spectacular views. This is a cultural-ecological path approximately two kilometres long with a climb, but easy to complete. From the wharf there is a spectacular view of the urban architecture of the village, and you will pass the fishing association, the centre of village life in the times of good fishing. Climb up to the cemetery and from there head to the vantage point. Exceptional views of Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve, cape Matxitxako and Laga beach await you.

The Bizkaibus **A3513** line takes you back to Bilbao.



Elantxobe



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