

# Route 6. Bilbao-Orduña

## The source of the Nervión

*Bizkaia and Araba-Álava come together at a fairy-tale location where both regions share a spectacular geographical space, the Ayala region, and the echoes of the economic power which reached the area in the 16th and 17th century thanks to its privileged position as a commercial and customs enclave with Castilla.*

The C3 Local Rail line departing from Abando, next to the Bilbao-Bizkaia Tourist Office, in just half an hour leaves behind an industrial and city landscape, washed by the river Nervión, for the green lands dotted with pastures until reaching **Orduña**.

The train passes through the two large towns of Ayala, Laudio and Amurrio (the Liquor Museum "Destilerías Manuel Acha" is right next to the station) and in barely 45 minutes it enters the valley of Orduña.



As you descend into Orduña, in the distance you can make out Mount Txarlazo. This is the first option for all mountain lovers as the route which takes you to the top leaves just 10 minutes from the station. This 6 Km climb, signposted as the Euskadi "Birding" route allows you to enjoy woodlands, interesting flora and, in the more favourable seasons, the cliff-nesting birds which form part of the scenery of this valley.

As you come down, the route, which is dotted with interesting constructions from the beginning of the 20th century, takes us to one of the entrances to the old quarter of the so-called "Medieval City of Bizkaia", opposite the municipal Tourist Office.

The **Plaza de Los Fueros** is the centre of this city with 11 narrow lanes coming off it. Here, there is a rich monumental heritage including Santa María Church-Fort, palaces and the imposing Customs building.

The municipal tourist office offers guided trips around the medieval site all year round.

As you wander along the narrow streets, numerous taverns and bars will appear, offering a variety of pintos, not to mention "las gildas", which can be sampled with any of the txakolis produced in the same valley under two designations of origin, and which can be tasted first-hand by making a reservation to visit their wineries.



renfe  
Cercanías

**Bilbao**  
(Abando)

C3

Amurrio

Orduña

Delika

Nervión Viewpoint



Orduña is an enclave in Bizkaia which shares a valley with the Alava villages of "La Junta de Arrastaria" to which Delika belongs. This village is reached after a short walk of 3 km. The walk called "**The River Nervión Canyon**" starts here, at the foot of the impressive viewpoint suspended over the valley and from which the waterfall with a 222 m drop can be seen in the rainy and/or snowy season. The viewpoint can also be reached from Orduña by taxi which must be booked in advance (further information at the Orduña Tourist Office).

The relief of the valley also makes it the perfect setting for hot air balloon trips, paragliding and hang-gliding.

Salto del Nervión Waterfall

Orduña