

**Site Proposal for the Twentieth International Hemingway Conference**

**Ernest Hemingway & Euskal Herria: The Basque Hemingway**

**San Sebastian & Bilbao**

**July 2022**



Fig. 1. Pauline and Ernest in La Concha (San Sebastian, 1927).

[EHPH-06896]



Fig. 2.  
La Concha (San Sebastian, 2020).

After you have all read this proposal, I dare to challenge you all to connect these loose threads to the influence that the Basque atmosphere had on Hemingway's life and work, either in the Basque Country or at diverse sites throughout the world. Those sites are intimately connected with the diaspora of the Basque people and the exiles of the Spanish Civil War in Cuba, Manila, Idaho, and Nevada.

In Errigoiti or Hailey, in Gernika or Ketchum, we are looking forward to hearing all the new information that the conference will unearth regarding the Basque-Hemingway connection that it is still shrouded in mystery!

## 1.) Relevance of Place:

The first time Ernest Hemingway set foot on the Basque Country's soil was in 1923. Afterwards, and for the rest of his life, Hemingway had an almost continuous connection to the Basque Country. *The Sun Also Rises*, *Death in the Afternoon* (90th Anniversary in 2022), *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, and the two posthumous operas, *Islands in the Stream* and *The Garden of Eden*—all contain numerous topical references. Hemingway biographers have noted Basque friendships in Cuba and Idaho. On account of the centenary of the coming of Ernest Hemingway to the Basque Country, the twentieth Hemingway conference offers exciting locales to celebrate an early centenary in the cities of San Sebastian and Bilbao in Northern Spain. As proposed, these two sites are idyllic venues to hold the 2022 Twentieth International Hemingway Conference. You will experience the San Fermines at Iruña, have a swell swing in La Concha, and notice the transformation of Bilbao from the industrious city represented in the *DIA*<sup>1</sup>, to the modern cosmopolitan city it has become. The jewel of its reconstruction and renewal is its downtown area, where a majestic Guggenheim Museum designed by Frank Gehry stands.

San Sebastian and Bilbao are hubs of cosmopolitan life in Spain. Next to the Biscayan golf in the showery north of Spain. Both cities are in one of the main pathways that has connected Europe to the Iberian Peninsula. Both San Sebastian and Bilbao are world-widely known places able to portray an image of vanguard venues, while preserving their own centenary tradition. Indeed, the fact of sticking to old traditions renders the image of Basque people as that of hard working and honest people that are very fond of their varied and amazing traditional gastronomy.

The proximity of the two cities, only one hour from each other, will allow us to enjoy the little hidden places around the country in between<sup>2</sup>. The country that Hemingway explored and portrayed so well in *SAR*, *DIA* etc., offers innumerable links not only towards his work, but also to his life. Besides, the time of Hemingway in the Basque Country and relationship all over the world cover an extensive span of time: from the 1920s to the rest of his life. Even after Hemingway passed away, some connections remain<sup>3</sup>. The next chronological account renders many threads to follow up regarding Ernest Hemingway and Euskal Herria (Basque Country).

The first time Ernest Hemingway witnessed the coast between Bilbao and San Sebastian was from the sea. Aboard Leopoldina he wrote to his family: *We've been crossing the Bay of Bizcay up of France all day* (Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1921). He was amazed by the northern coast: *You ought to see the Spanish coast. Big brown mountains looking like tired dinosaurs slumped down in the sea* (Sherwood Anderson Dec. 23, 1921). After this first impression, he crossed Irun in May of 1923 to watch bullfighting in Madrid and Andalusia. Two months later, on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July of the same year, following the advice of Gertrude Stein, he was heading to Pamplona to watch bullfights and to spend *the best week I ever had since the Section* (to William Horne Jul. 18, 1923). A bacchanalian feast, *near the wildest damn country in the Pyrenees in from Roncesvaux. The Irati river* (Howell Jenkins, Nov. 9, 1924).

On the way to Pamplona, the train stopped in San Sebastian. Hemingway recounts: *You leave the Gare D'Orsay (Paris) at 7.10 pm arriving San Sebastien about 9.15 a.m. You can play around there and go swimming very stylishly at noon and catch the train leaving San Sebastien at 4 pm for Pamplona.* (Don Stewart July, 1924) The good train service between Paris and San Sebastian, thanks to its proximity to Hendaya, made it a good place to rest, explore, swim and write.

Trout fishing was another usual activity Hemingway used to enjoy practicing in the North of Navarre. Near Burguete. Thus, he found swell fishing in the Irati River *You leave the car at Burguete and go in fifteen miles*

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<sup>1</sup> The old Bilbao has been depicted by the Spanish writer Miguel de Unamuno, whom Hemingway met in Paris.

<sup>2</sup> Vitoria- Gasteiz and Iruña, the other two big cities in the Basque area are only one hour from San Sebastian too.

<sup>3</sup> Currently, Hemingway is known amongst the general public, the press mentions him, and *The Sun Also Rises* is being translated to Basque language right now. Nonetheless, the image of a snobbish American, braggart, womanizer and drunk often prevails, instead of the Nobel Prize-winning writer. The conference aims to go beyond that image associated with the stereotyped Hemingway of 1959.

by foot. (Horne. *Op.cit.*). He narrates to his parents quite excited *We are going trout fishing on both sides of the Pyrenees, hiking from Pamplona to St. Jean Pied du port* (Clarence and Grace Hemingway, May. 26, 1924). In 1924, before San Fermin, Hemingway and Hadley went to Burguete to join Jonathan Doss Passos and Crystal Ross, who were walking from St. Jean Pied du Port to Pamplona. It is located along the pilgrimage route leading to Santiago de Compostela. By the way, Pamplona is on the same latitude that Oak Park: 42 degrees in the Northern hemisphere. Indeed, *The 42<sup>nd</sup> Parallel* is also the title of one of Dos Passos's novel forming his U.S.A. Trilogy.

A year before, in 1923, a marvelous summer was ahead at the real summer watering place of San Sebastian. Since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, San Sebastian was a royal vacation favorite. However, it was not until the aftermath of World War I that the city acquired a cosmopolitan nature. With the coming of Spanish elite, exiled from the Russian revolution, English nobility and *la crème de la crème* of the American expatriates from Paris. The beautiful beach, and the amazing mild atmosphere of San Sebastian was the perfect cocktail to attract people. As Hemingway recalls in 1934, *San Sebastian, one of the very pleasantest places of Europe*. It was the time of the *Belle Époque*. The terraces of the cafes, where Hemingway enjoyed good German beer, were full *In the provinces good beer is brewed in Santander, the Cruz Blanca, and in San Sebastian. In the latter town the best beer I have drunk has been at the Café de Madrid, Café de la Marina, and Café Kutz* (DIA, Glossary:



Fig.3. Around 1920. Cafe La Marina. San Sebastian Kutxateka.

Cerveza). The Cafe Kutz opened in San Sebastian. There was also another Café Kutz in Pamplona (Fig.5), Basque cafés represented social spaces since the 19<sup>th</sup> century brimming with vitality. As noted in the short story “*The Denunciation*,” (1938) irrespective of each café had its peculiar ideology, the cafés were social spaces where strong ties were sewn: *Only the old waiters know him and the old waiters do not denounce* (Short stories, 340). Each café has its own public, its own social role. *There were cafés where you went for politics and nothing else but you didn't talk politics at Chicote's. You talked plenty of the other five subjects though* (Short stories, 338). The owner of the Chicote depicted in the short story was spending his summer at San Sebastian when the revolt (Spanish Civil War) erupted.

Casinos such as The Kursaal, and the Hotel Maria Cristina, were built during the *Belle Époque* too. Simultaneously, many bourgeois families built their summer homes there. Juan Madinaveitia's Aizetsua estate in Aiete (still standing) is one out of many. He was the father of Juan Manuel, the doctor of Hemingway in Spain, and professor of Juan Negrin, the main Spanish president during the Civil War. The famous painter that amazed America in the early 1900s, Joaquin Soroya was a regular at Aizetsua. It is not by chance that on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August of 1930, Niceto Alcala, Manuel Azaña, or Indalecio Prieto, among many other republicans, signed the Pact of San Sebastian to end the Primo de Rivera dictatorship and the bourbon monarchy. Rivera's regime fell down first, and soon thereafter the municipal elections of April 13<sup>th</sup> on the next morning around 6:00am, as recalled by Toribio Echeberria in *Viaje por el país de los recuerdos*, the socialist Juan De Los Toyos proclaimed the Republic in the town hall of Eibar.

Hemingway was not an admirer of neither Primo de Rivera nor King Alphonsus XIII. Ironically, on September 15<sup>th</sup> 1923, two days after the coup d'état of Primo de Rivera, which, the Spanish King adhered, was issued *King Business* in *Toronto Weekly*. Hemingway narrates the vicissitudes of European Kings. When talking about Alphonsus XIII, he wrote: *people don't take Alfonso too seriously. They have had him for a long time* (By-Line, 81). After the revolt of Primo de Rivera, he was in power nine more years. It is pretty wry that the article mentions another mutiny. This time in Malaga. On August 22<sup>nd</sup> led by the corporal of the Navarrese regiment, Jose Sanchez Barroso, the troops tried to hoist a Vizcayan flag in the “Lazaro”, whilst Vizcayan flag (probably the Basque flag, Ikurriña) was prohibited. In this particular case, the flag symbolizes the resistance to the military recruitment, remembering the *fueros*, a special juridical-administrative regime enjoyed by the Basque Provinces till 1876.



The resistance against the military service in the African campaign was a *continuum*, a matter that triggered many popular upheavals and the end of Primo Rivera dictatorship too. While socio-political trouble arose everywhere, Alphonsus XIII was practicing sports. According to the article *King Business*, the day of the Gran Prix at San Sebastian there was another Spanish military disaster in Morocco in which the Spanish lost over 500



Fig.5. Photo of 1923 Automobilism San Sebastian race. Foral Archive of Gipuzkoa.

soldiers (By-line 81). The same day of the disaster, *The King opened the new motor racing track at San Sebastian by turning off two laps himself* (Fig 4-5).

Through this snapshot, Hemingway brings us back to the middle of the first two decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's bitterest Spanish problem, the Moroccan war. At the same time, he offers a perfect chance to assess the incipient sporting process that was happening in the Basque Country. Alongside the already mentioned San Sebastian rally, cycling, soccer and Pelota were the main sports. In August 1925, Hemingway witnessed another event. The second edition of the Tour of the Basque Country (Fig.6). Later he wrote:

"There was a bicycle-race on the Tour du Pays Basque, and the riders were stopping that night in San Sebastian. In the dining-room, at one side, there was a long table of bicycle-riders, eating with their trainers and managers. They were all French and Belgians, and paid close attention to their meal, but they were having a good time [...] the next morning at five o'clock the race resumed with the last lap, San Sebastian-Bilbao. The bicycle-riders drank much wine, and were burned and browned by the sun. They did not take the race seriously except among themselves. They had raced among themselves so often that it did not make much difference who won. Especially in a foreign country. The money could be arranged. [...] The Spaniards, they said, did not know how to pedal. (Book III, Chapter, 19. SAR).



Fig. 4. 1923 Automobilism San Sebastian circuit poster



Fig.6. IV. Tour of Basque Country poster. Antonio Guezela.

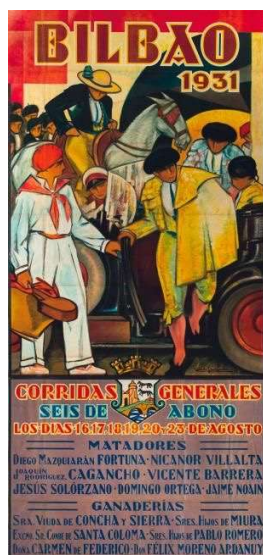


Fig.7. 1931. Bilbao Bullfights. Antonio Guezela.

After mentioning the *Toronto Weekly* articles, we cannot leave bullfighting aside. Two articles refer to the 1923 bullfight season. The first one, *Bullfighting a Tragedy*, was published October 20<sup>th</sup>, where the bullfights of San Sebastian are also mentioned. *Pamplona in July*, released the next week, focuses on the feria of San Fermin. The symbolism of bullfighting is crucial to understand Hemingway, and his *afición* took shape during the 1920s. By 1932, Hemingway wrote *DIA*. To compose his first non-fiction book, he witnessed many bullfights, and gathered even a bigger amount of press and posters traveling around the whole Basque region (Fig.7). Many Basque places are mentioned, even the little town of *Deva*, which is a controversial reference. Miriam Mandel argues that it was the Navarrese town of Vera instead (Mandel, 2002).

Next to the little town of Deba, in the direction to San Sebastian sits Zumaia. Hemingway in the company of Waldo Peirce visited the famous painter Ignacio Zuloaga at his chapel, Santiagootxe in 1927 (Gallagher 2003). In between these coastal towns, a little bit further from the sea stands the barroquese Sanctuary of Ignatius the Loyola in Azpeitia. The headquarters of Jesuits, named after a key figure of Basque Nationalism, and Catholicism, Loyola's wound was mentioned in *DIA*, and Edward Stanton compared the wound suffered by Loyola in 1521 in Pamplona and Hemingway's wound when he first saw the capital of Navarre (Stanton, 1989). Going up the mountains from Azpeitia, there is another town Errezil, the place where Paulino Uzcudun, the virile Vasco, was born. The famous boxer star, an icon of Francoism, who according to Hemingway *Paolino Uzcudun can whip most of the heavies* (Henry Strater Sep. 23 1928).

The boxing star, Uzcudun as well as Zuloaga were made Franco-ist symbols. Conversely, Hemingway was an ardent defender of the Spanish Republic. He acted as a war correspondent in the Spanish conflict, raised funds for the republican cause with the documentary *Spanish Earth*, wrote a piece of theatre, *The Fifth Column* and gave one of the few public appearances in the Carnegie Hall (“*Facism is a lie*” lecture), denouncing among other things the bombing of Guernica. The massacre immortalized by Pablo Picasso was shown in the Spanish Republican Pavilion of 1937 *Exposiotion Internationale des Arts et Techniques dans la Vie Moderne* of Paris. A new compelling suggestion was made by Alejandro de Pablo. According to a comparative study, Picasso draw on the final scenes of the movie *AFTA* (1932) directed by Frank Borzage, to paint the Guernica (De Pablo, 2011). The same Spanish pavilion also hosted a Basque section, which was organized by the painter Jose Maria Ucelay, who was somehow involved in the history of Picasso's paint, along with the writer Juan Larra (Zulaika, 1997). The same Ucelay portrayed twice Hemingway with a characteristic surrealist, vivid and strong colours during the 1950s. Whereas one of the portraits consist of a conversation between Mary and Ernest, the other was with Juan Duñabeitia or Sinbad.

Duñabeitia, an exile from the Spanish Civil War, was an experienced sailor and an officer of the Basque Marine in the war. He did not have a place, so the sailor stayed at Finca Vigia every time he was in Cuba. During Hemingway's WWII Q-boat hunt, or “Friendless operation,” Sinbad, along with Felix Areitio (Ermua) and Patchi Ibarluzea, both Jai Alai players, were part of the Pilar tripulation. They were the models for the William, Ara of *Island in the Stream*. As in the Friendless Operation, in the Crook Factory, the spying network that Hemingway led for the Cuban embassy, was integrated with Basque people. The efficacy, and the real nature of the operations is not clear yet. Too much censured information. It seems, nonetheless, that the Crook Factory almost disarticulated one of the main FBI and OSS war efforts, regarding the Basque Intelligence Service (BIS) operated by the Basque government in exile and led by Jose Antonio Aguirre. A double German-US agent, known as the G or Gernika agent: Jose de Laredagoitia. Once World Word II was over he retired to Montana.

Jose Laredagoitia was born in the Basque Country, immigrated to Idaho, and was a sheepherder in Emmet (ID). Deported in 1941, he was recruited and trained by Nazi agents in Bilbao to pass along information. However, once in Latin America he offered himself to the Basque Intelligence Services, and the FBI took him over (Mota, 2014). At the same time that the mysterious “fake” Life of Saint Teresa Book appeared in the Centro Vasco of Habana, Laredagoitia might have arrived in Cuba.

In the 1930s-1940s to talk about sheepherders in Idaho was almost synonymous to be a Basque. Ernest Hemingway knew it. In one of the most famous episodes of *SAR*, when Jake met a local guy who learnt English as a sheepherder in America. It was not the last time that Hemingway would interact with Basque sheepherders.

Union Pacific Railroads invited Hemingway to spend some days at the new brand Sun Valley Lodge in 1939. Though in decline, Ketchum was one of the main sheep hubs of the US, therefore, there was a considerable Basque Colony there (Douglas 2015). Hemingway had contact with Basque boarders in the extinct Rio Club at Ketchum and Gem Bar at Hailey. In the late '50s the hired helpers for the Ketchum house were Basques from the *old country*. Gastronomy was another way to connect Hemingway to Basques. Gloria Batis (Rio Club), Pilar Unamuno and Epi Inchausti (Gem Bar) were excellent cooks that bonded Hemingway even more to Basque food.

Drawing on the oral testimonies of his Idaho and Cuban friends (Reynolds Collection), Hemingway regarded Basques as honourable people. The appreciation towards Basques is clearly attested in the third book of *Island in the Stream*. In the book some glimpses of Hemingway's characterized view of the Basque is shown “They're a wonderful team. Willie learned that awful Spanish in the Philippines but they understand each other perfectly. Some of that is because Ara is a Basque and speaks bad Spanish, too.”(Part III, Chapter 19).

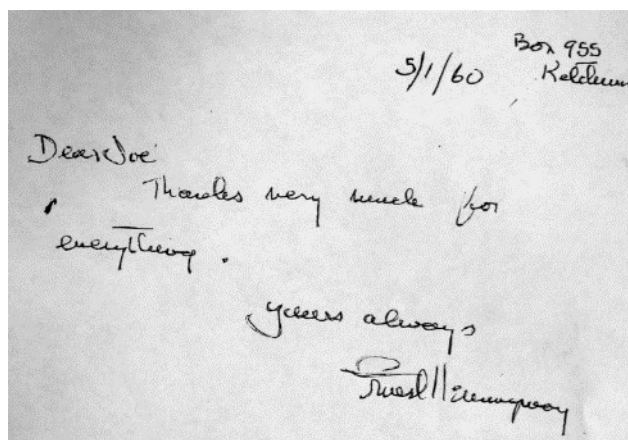
As noted in that phrase, Hemingway met some Basques in the Philippines too. In the famous WWII travel to the oriental front as Hemingway and Martha Gellhorn depicted in her own book, “Travels with myself and another”. Hemingway spent 5 days alone waiting for Martha, in Manila in the Manila Hotel, where he hung out with Basque priests and Jai Alai players, almost mimicking Cuba (Monteiro, 2010).

Once all his friends were released from prison (TDS, Chapter 1) he returned to Spain in 1953, 1954, 1956, and 1959, too. This last year he came back to chase the mano a mano of Ordoñez and Dominguin. On those years, he frequented the Basque country too. He entered through Irun the first time in 1953. He stayed at the Pio baroja funeral in 1956 at San Sebastian and, he also visited the cemetery of Mundaka, where his *spiritual manager* (Unzain Sept. 20, 1954) Andres Unzain was buried. Hemingway visited one last time the Basque Country in 1960.

The previous winter snowed pretty hard in Sun Valley. Nothing new really. Joe Laragan, a second generation Basque living in Ketchum, had an Oil business, so that the Hemingway's hired Laragan as their heating oil supplier. Laragan remembers as it follow *"I took a load of oil out to his house one day and I had to wade through two feet of snow dragging the fuel hose about 100 feet to the fill pipe, to the underground tank. He came out of his house and said, "Can I give you a hand?" I was really surprised because this was the first time in all my years of oil deliveries that a customer had offered to help me. I thanked him and said I could handle it okay and he went back in the house. A week later, I received a check in the mail for the oil bill I slipped in his door. With the check was a letter in his own hand writing that said:*

Fig.8. Dear Joe: Thanks very much for everything. Yours always,  
Ernest Hemingway (The Community Library-MS 0742 ) "

Next winter, on December 29, 1960 a letter from Rochester was written by Mary to Laragan. *Ernest has been improving steadily under their very careful and thorough treatment of his high blood-pressure here, and we hope to get home to Ketchum within the next couple of weeks.* We all know the real story. It was not blood-pressure that was the illness Ernest was fighting. We know what happened next. Ketchum, Mayo, Ketchum.



## 2.) Suggested Membership for Site/Program Team:

### Program Director:

- Alberto Lena holds a PhD in American Studies from Exeter University and a PhD in Cinema Studies from the University of Valladolid. He had been Post-doctoral Research Fellow at Exeter University and at the University of Padua where he developed, with Professor William Boelhower, a research project in the field of the representation of violence and the Atlantic world. He is currently working as civil servant at the Department of Education in Castilla y Leon, Spain. He is the author of essays on Francis Ford Coppola, Benjamin Franklin, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Alfred Hitchcock, and Thornton Wilder.
- Edorta Jimenez is a professional writer. He holds a BA in Education and Basque philology from the University of the Basque Country. He is the author of poems, short stories and novels in Basque and Spanish. A couple of his works have been translated into Italian and German too. The winner of many awards, he characterise to complete thorough research before writing. Among his vast production there are two essays regarding Hemingway: *Hemingway y Urdaibai* (1999) and *San Fermingway* (2005). The last one was written after a stay at the University of Reno. He is currently a member of *Hemingway 1923 project: Recovering Hemingway-Hemingway Bidaide*.

### Site Director Donosti:

- Iñaki Sagarna holds a BA in History from University of the Basque Country, and soon will hold a MA at History from Boise State University. He was awarded 2019 Hemingway in Idaho fellowship by The Community Library (Ketchum). He focuses the relationship between Hemingway and Basques, namely in the American West.

## Site Director Bilbao:

- Javier Muñoz holds a BA in Journalism. A professional journalist, he is the current coordinator of *Hemingway 1923 project: Recovering Hemingway-Hemingway Bidaide*. Muñoz wrote *Eating with Heminwgay* (2015) a book recently awarded with the third place on the International C01 section Gourmand awards 2020.

### 3.) Recommended Time of Year:

June to July is the best option. The Basque Country has a pretty mild weather during the whole year, but it rains quite a bit. Summers are not too hot, never above 90 F°/32 C°, and it is the drier season. After a study of the lodging with the 2020 summer prices, **mid-July** looks like the best period. The conference would take place the second week of July, from the **10<sup>th</sup> of July to the 17<sup>th</sup>**.

Hemingway himself noticed that June was too early to stay at the Basque Coast. *It's too early for the Basque coast. It's still cold and rainy. It rains everywhere there now* (GOE, Book I, Chapter 3). Besides, if someone wants to come over to **San Fermín**, and enjoy the beginning of the fiesta, San Sebastian is only 1 hour from Iruña with regular, easy and direct transportation connections. Also, the organization may set an optional trip to Iruña the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>.

### 4.) Information about Travel:

The Basque Country is, after Madrid and Barcelona, one of the most accessible hubs in Spain. The frequency of buses or trains from Madrid and Barcelona is 8-10 times every day. From Madrid there is a 4 hours drive, or 6 hours by bus or train. Barcelona is 7 hours away.

In addition to the airports of Barcelona and Madrid, there are two airports nearby. **Bilbao, which is the main airport in the North of Spain and Biarritz airports** offer great connection to Paris or Amsterdam. Another excellent and cheap choice is the train from **Paris to Hendaya**, in only 5-6 hours. Then, Hendaya is 20 minutes from San Sebastian by train.

If you want to see where the Basque Country is located and have more information regarding the destination, you can have a look in the next link:

[https://issuu.com/turismo-euskadi/docs/en\\_turismo-euskadi?mode=embed&layout=http://turismo.euskadi.eus/contenidos/recurso\\_tecnico/aa30\\_comun/es\\_def/folletosdigitales/issuu/custom/layout\\_euskadi.xml](https://issuu.com/turismo-euskadi/docs/en_turismo-euskadi?mode=embed&layout=http://turismo.euskadi.eus/contenidos/recurso_tecnico/aa30_comun/es_def/folletosdigitales/issuu/custom/layout_euskadi.xml)

### 5.) Accommodations:

In July, San Sebastian hotels have their highest rates of the year. Bilbao, nonetheless, has the cheapest lodging rates. Even though we encourage to do an overnight stay at San Sebastian to fully exploit the nightly charm that the city has, as we are planning to be at Bilbao longer, the close location of the sites, which is around 1 hour by bus (10\$), makes it feasible to stay the whole week in Bilbao.

We have had preliminary contacts with some hotels, but this still requires more research. In San Sebastian it will be difficult to find good deals. Instead, Bilbao and hotels in the province of Guipuzkoa seems amenable to negotiate better deals. We will try to negotiate low rate cheap stays at **student** residencies too.



## SAN SEBASTIAN:

### Luxury:

**Hotel Maria Cristina.** (550 € individual/700€ double) The best example of San Sebastian cosmopolitanism of the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The construction by 1912 of the building motioned the beginning of the French style Belle Epoque. The 5 star hotel named after a Spanish Queen was designed by Charles Mew, the same designer of the Hotel Ritz in Paris, London or Madrid. Well known personalities, namely during the famous San Sebastian film festival, such as Alfred Hitchcock have sheltered into this Hotel. Ernest Hemingway had a stay in the hotel in the late 1950s, and in 1960 too. During the 1959 visit, Hemingway met Jose Arteche (Fig.9), who was responsible to get for free the rights to translate *The Old Man and the Sea* to Basque (trans. Goenaga “agurea eta Itxasoa” Itxaropena, 1963). <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/easlc-hotel-maria-cristina-a-luxury-collection-hotel-san-sebastian/?scid=bb1a189a-fec3-4d19-a255-54ba596febe2>

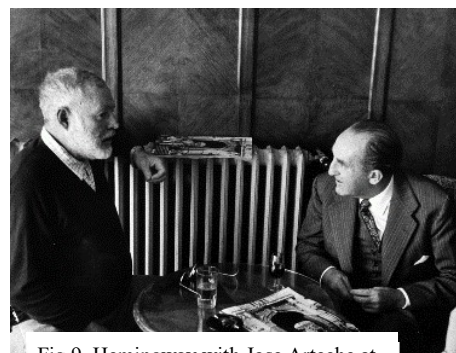


Fig.9. Hemingway with Jose Arteche at the Maria Cristina.

### Mid-Range:

**Astoria.** A hotel focused on cinema with thematic rooms dedicated to cinema actor and directors. (160€/ 200 €) The hotel itself is named after the famous Astoria cinema inaugurated in 1961. It was a select locale that closed in 2004. There was once a cinema of the same name in Barcelona. The 24th of April 1938 that cinema premiered *Tierra Española (Spanish Earth)*. It offers the best excuse to immerse in the San Sebastian cinema festival world, which has a long standing Hemingway-related connection. The festival of 2007 honoured Henry King in the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *The Sun Also Rises* (1957) movie. <https://www.astoria7hotel.com/>

**Hotel Avenida,** three-star hotel (160€/ singles, 200€ doubles). Hemingway stayed in a hotel of the same name in the 1930s. However, the hotel changed its location. <https://www.hotelavenida.net/es/>



Fig.10. Hotel Biarritz in the 1950-60s. Kutxateka

**Bargain:** There are plenty of little hotels and hostels in San Sebastian. These kinds of hotels are similar to the ones that Hemingway stayed during the 20s, 30s, and even in 1956 he stayed at Hotel Biarritz. Near the residence of the livelong friend, Juanito Quintana, who lived at **Calle San Bartolome, 27** after the Civil War.

July is a pretty busy period. If finding cheap deals is difficult, you should try in the nearby Zarautz, Orio, Zumaia, Deba ... where there are good options along the coast with excellent train and bus connections to San Sebastian. There are more San Sebastian hotel choices in the following link: <https://congress.sansebastianturismoa.eus/en/congresses/accommodation>



## **BILBAO:**

**Luxury:** Carlton. (200/210 €) The Carlton Hotel is the top luxury Hotel in Bilbao. Located in the very centre of Bilbao, in the Plaza Moyoa was built by 1926. During the Civil War, it was the headquarters of the Government of Euzkadi. Hemingway visited the hotel in the 1950s. There is a beautiful long letter to Mary Welsh from this hotel in the JFK archives, and a famous photo along with Lauren Bacall is shown right.

It seems that they are interested in being the official Hotel of the Conference, so we could try to negotiate a good deal with them. <https://hotelcarlton.es/>



Fig.11. In front of the Carlton with Lauren Bacall in 1959.

## **Mid-range:**

Melia Bilbao is a 4 star hotel (150/160 €), modern hotel located in the very centre of Bilbao. A quarter mile from Guggenheim and the Museum of Fine Arts. <https://www.melia.com/en/hotels/spain/bilbao>

Hotel Silken Indautxu is a 4 star hotel (150/160 €). Located in the centre of Bilbao next to the Azcuna center (Alondiga), which is the main mainstream cultural center of Bilbao. <https://www.hoteles-silken.com/en/hotel-indautxu-bilbao/>

**Bargains:** Plenty of small hostels, and little hotels in the very centre of Bilbao. All of them are located less than 10 minutes walking to the Euskalduna palace (Congress setting), or Guggenheim.

## **6.) Availability of an Adequate Conference Center:**

After a careful observation of the available venues and taking into account that we are requesting funds from the local government, we favor two beautiful local government managed modern buildings. The conference sites have spectacular views, really good and easy public transportation communication with the whole city, and province, and easy wheelchair accessibility. In case that the conference will need more room, there would not be any problem. In addition, the **prices are just estimates and not a closed deal. We will assess the needs of the conference with assistance**, so they may be cheaper.

### **San Sebastian- Kursaal Palace**

At the foot of Zurriola beach is the Big Kursaal, which used to be a Casino built in 1921. It is one of the greatest expressions of the *Belle Epoque* of San Sebastian. It was demolished in 1972, and after a huge inversion in the late 20th, a big, modern building designed by Rafael Moneo was erected. In the following link there is all the information regarding the proposed venue. A virtual tour is included: <https://www.kursaal.eus/en/> A superb location. The old part of San Sebastian is only 5 minutes walking, the concha 10 minutes and it is located next to the famous San Sebastian bridges.

- ☐ Room 4 (60 people) 716 €/ the whole day
- ☐ Room 5 (40p) 580 €/ the whole day
- ☐ Room 6 (40p) 580 €/ the whole day
- ☐ Room 7 (40p) 580 €/ the whole day



Fig.12. The Kursaal in 1921

**SUM= 2476 €x3= 7398 €**

The Room 4 will need a sound system so, the projector, microphones, front projection screen and the sound system is 272 per day/x3= 816 €. The rent of the video projector and the screen per rooms are 88 x3 x3= 792 €.

**TOTAL= 7398 + 816 +792 = 9006 €**

As we are planning to host the inauguration event there, it is cheaper to rent three days the whole conference, rather than to pay rent for this locale for one night.

### **BILBAO- Euskalduna Jauregia**

Euskalduna Conference Center, inaugurated in the same year as the Kursaal 1999, is located in the place where the Euskalduna Shipyard was. Next to the Guggenheim museum, it is one of the symbols of the new modern Bilbao. <https://www.euskalduna.eus/>

- ☐ SALA 5H (100 people) - 2.766,00 €/3 day
- ☐ SALA 3A (90p) - 2.088,00 €/3 day
- ☐ SALA 3B (45p) 1.317,00 €/3 day
- ☐ SALA 5B (45p) 1.317,00 €/3 day

**SUM= 7488 + Festivity rate (25 %): 798,00 = 8286**

3 days rent for microphone and projector 240,00 per rooms x 4 rooms= 960 €.

**TOTAL= 8286 + 960= 9242 +Taxes (%21-1941 €) = 11.183 €**

### **7.) Suggested Special Events and Side Trips:**

#### **SAN SEBASTIAN**

**Opening Reception** at the Kursaal (San Sebastian). We will host a party that includes a dinner and drinks (red and white wine, cider, txakoli and beer) with traditional Basque sung-poetry (in English) and a concert of Txalaparta (Basque traditional music).

**A walking tour in the old part-Concha ending in a Visit to the Museo San Telmo** (San Sebastian). We will have a walk in the old part of San Sebastian. The walk will end with a cocktail in the San Telmo museum. The museum hosts some of the finer Gipuzkoan artistic collection (Zuloaga, and amazing Prehistorical, Roman, Middle Age and even Spanish Civil War archaeological pieces, etc.).

**Sagardotegi** (Cidery) [Travel grant dinner-optional]. A typical Old-Basque restaurant, which includes all cider you want to drink, a cod omelette, cod (Bizkaian way or with green peppers), Chuleta (a very thick meat), and desert: cheese, nuts and Crips rolled butter almond cookies (Cigarrillos de Tolosa).

**TRAVEL DAY: (optional)** A tentative outlook of the day-trips is suggested. We will consult and accept new suggestions to make a more compelling day trips. We would love to cover transportation costs with grant money, which will require a minimum requirement of assistance on each trip.

#### **1. VISITING THE BASQUE COST.** Zumaya, Eibar, Guernica, Mundaka, Bilbao.

After contemplating a beautiful scenery from San Sebastian through the Gipuzkoan Coast, the first stop will be Zumaya, where we will have a visit to the house-museum of Ignacio Zuloaga, and the marvellous Flysh formation. The famous show of Game of Thrones was recorded there ([https://geoparkea.eus/en/?lang\\_code=en](https://geoparkea.eus/en/?lang_code=en)).

Then, we will head to Guernica, where we will have lunch, and prior to finishing our day in Bilbao we will go to the area of Urdaibai, visiting some places such as the grave of Andres Unzain in Mundaca.

## 2. TXINGUDI BAY. Hondarribia, Irun, Hendaya, Bilbao.

The morning will start with a visit in the charming old-town of Hondarribia (Hemingway visited the town at least in 1927), then we will visit Irun and the Roman museum of Oiasso (Irun was a Roman city) ending up with a taste of wine. Once we have eaten we will follow Hendaya.

## 3. VITORIA AND WINE COUNTRY- Vitoria-Gasteiz, La Guardia, Bilbao

Hemingway stopped a couple times in Vitoria in the late 1950s. Many of his friends from Cuba settled down in Vitoria. The cuban state worker Paco Garay, or Jai Alai player Felix Areitio “Ermua”.

Through the old part of Vitoria-Gasteiz we will travel to the Medieval period. A visit to the bowels of the old Santa Maria Cathedral allows to immerse yourself in the Middle Ages, admiring the complex restoration process carried out by an interdisciplinary team of experts of the cathedral [www.catedralvitoria.eus/](http://www.catedralvitoria.eus/)

Then, we will have a visit to the Basque Wine Country. We can have a visit to the famous Marques the Riscal <https://www.marquesderiscal.com/indexeng.php> or to the thematic Villa Lucia <https://villa-lucia.com/>. Bilbao will be the last stop of the trip.

## BILBAO

**A couple of key speakers will talk about the bombing of Guernica and the Spanish Civil in Euskal Herria museum (Guernica).** There will be a panel devoted to **the Basque connection with Hemingway:** E.H.-E.H.: Euskal Herria- Ernest Hemingway (Basque Country-Ernest Hemingway).

**A walking tour in Bilbao** ending up in the **Fine Arts Museum**. We will immerse in Pozas street <https://www.bilbaoturismo.net/BilbaoTurismo/en/rutas/poza>, tasting pintxos and some drinks. Then, we will finish our afternoon in the Fine Arts Museum, where there is the painting of Ucelay along with amazing collections of El Greco, Zuloaga, Sorolla, Arteta... <https://www.museobilbao.com/in/>

**CLOSING BANQUET AT GUGGENHEIM (OPTIONAL).** To end our fantastic week we propose a dinner in one of Guggenheim salons offered by the Michelin star restaurant **NERUA GUGGENHEIM**.



Fig.13. Hemingway and Sinbad. Bilbao Fine Arts

## 8.) Availability of Financial or In-Kind Support:

Three out of the four team organizing members live on-site. Even though the fourth one needs lodging, lives 3 hours from the site so that the cost of the team members is pretty low.

We will ask for help from the Basque Government agency of tourism BASQUE TOUR. Despite the fact that we do not have any closed deal, it seems they are highly interested in a collaboration. In the last five years, they have been working on *Hemingway 1923 project: Recovering Hemingway-Hemingway Bidaide*:

- ☐ 1. The Hemingway Basque Tour: [https://turismo.euskadi.eus/contenidos/informacion/turismo\\_hemingway\\_landing/en\\_def/index.html](https://turismo.euskadi.eus/contenidos/informacion/turismo_hemingway_landing/en_def/index.html)
- ☐ 2. Hemingway traveler magazine: [https://issuu.com/espaciohemingway/docs/hemingway\\_traveler\\_n1](https://issuu.com/espaciohemingway/docs/hemingway_traveler_n1)
- ☐ 3. Soon to be launched: <https://hemingway1923.com/>

## 9.) Preliminary Budget:

If we do not secure the help of the Basque government, new conference locations are in mind, and being a private entity will allow us to negotiate cheaper deals.

INCOME	cuantia	cantidad	TOTAL
INSCRIPCIONS	180 €	300	54.000 €
INSTITUTIONAL HELP	1	25.000	23.000 €
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>77.000 €</b>

EXPENSES	cuantia	cantidad	TOTAL
DONOSTI CONFERENCE CENTER	3	--	9.100 €
BILBAO CONFERENCE CENTER	3	---	11.200 €
BUSES	5	600	3000 €
CONFERENCE COFFEE	5X4 (\$)	300	6000 €
INAUGURAL BANQUET	300	50	15.000 €
INAUGURAL SHOW: ORAL POETRY/ TXALAPARTA SHOW	2	1000	2.000 €
KEY SPEAKERS	2	2000	4000 €
S.TELMO VISIT+PINCHO TOUR	300	20	6000 €
FINE ARTS+ LUNCH	300	20	6000 €
TRAVEL GRANTS			1.500 €
VARIOUS			6.625 €
CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PER DIEM	225	7	1575 €
BILBAO CLOSING BANQUET AT THE GUGGENHEIM	5000	1	5000 €
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>77.000 €</b>

## 10.) Willingness and Ability to Edit a Collection of Conference Papers:

Alberto Lena and Denise K. Mok have shown keen interest in editing a select collection of conference papers.



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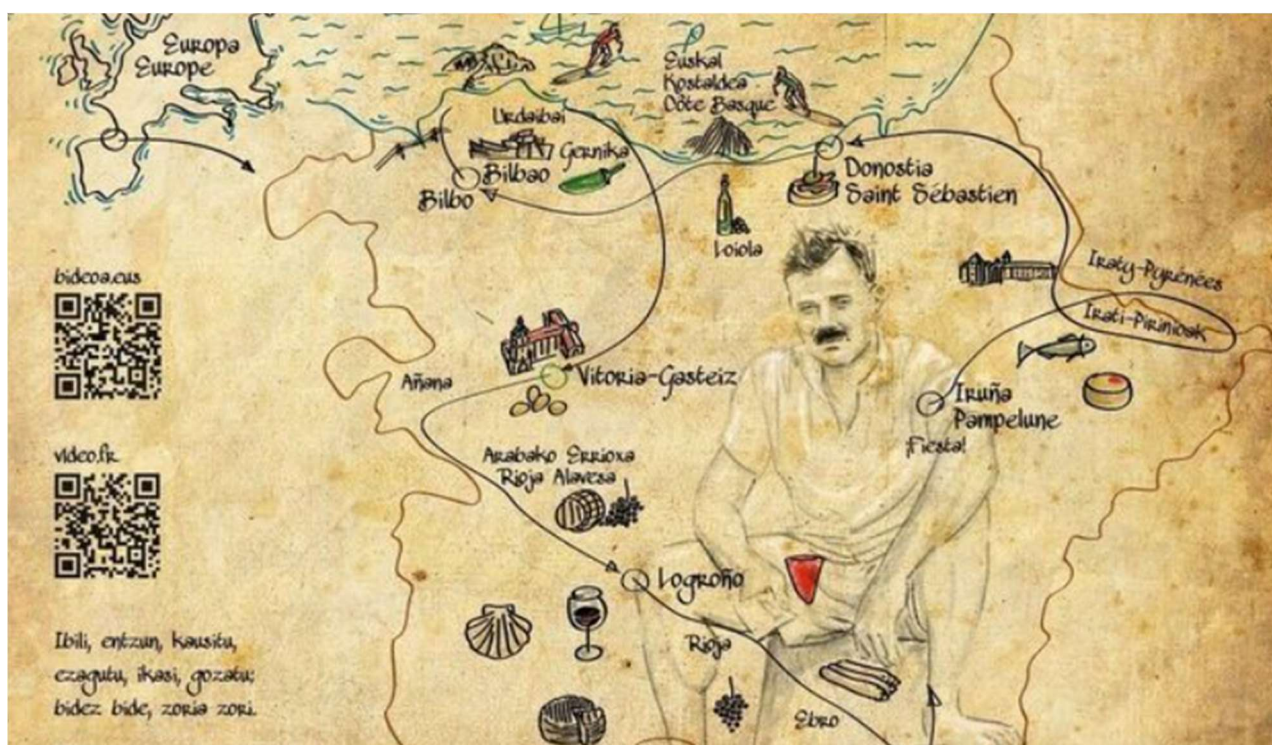


Fig. 14. Back cover of the *Hemingway Traveler* magazine.

## Ernest Hemingway & Euskal Herria: The Basque Hemingway panels

The title and following list represent the broad scope of the conference and the post-conference essay collection. However, all aspects of Hemingway studies are welcome.

### GENERAL:

- The Basque Country in Hemingway's work *The Sun Also Rises*, *A Farewell to Arms*, *Death in the Afternoon* (90<sup>th</sup> anniversary), *The Dangerous Summer*, *The Garden of Eden* (Short story "The Sea Change"), *Island in the Stream*, etc.
- Hemingway and ethnicity; Basque relationship with Hemingway in the Basque Country, Cuba, Idaho (American West) and Manila: The Basque stereotype.
- Hemingway and the *macho* stereotype in the Spanish press.
- Hemingway and his friends in the Basque Country and his travels in Spain: John Dos Passos, Dorman Smith, Waldo Peirce and Dorothy Rice (Zuloaga), Henry Strater, Archibald MacLeish and Dorothy Parker.
- Hemingway and sports / Jai Alai, fishing, biking, swimming, tennis, boxing (Paulino uzcudun) and motor racing.
- Hemingway reception in Spain (Spanish, Basque — e.g., in the 1990s huge Hemingway readings in the Basque literary circles, Catalan, etc.)
- Hemingway, translation and censorship (still uncorrected versions in newer Spanish editions).
- Exile, after war and anxiety: the *fiesta* culture of the North of Spain as a vehicle for inner catharsis and moral regeneration.

### SAN SEBASTIAN:

- The Basque Country as a writing place (Hendaya) *The Sun Also Rises*, *A Farewell to Arms*, and *The Garden of Eden*, "The Sea Changes" among others.
- Early 1920s Europe and Hemingway's writing of *in our time* (1924). Hemingway found inspiration for some of the vignettes while traveling in Spain in 1923.
- Between modernism and postmodernism.
- Hemingway and cosmopolitanism: arts and writing, public space, and café culture in 1920s France and Spain.
- Hemingway and cinematic representations (Hemingway and the *San Sebastian Film Festival*).

### BILBAO

- *Death in the Afternoon* and *The Dangerous Summer*.
- Spanish Civil War and Hemingway: Gernika. ("The Strange Country" - 1937 Carnegie Hall speech)

- Refugees of war. Martha Gelhorn-Eleanor Roosevelt: The Basque Children.
- Hemingway and Basque Intelligence service, FBI papers (Areitio, Duñabeitia, Ibarluzea..)
- Hemingway and religion: His spiritual manager: Don Andres Unzain.