



# NATURE TRAILS IN LA RIOJA, NAVARRE AND BASQUE COUNTRY




 Guide to the  
**Nature Trails**  
 of Spain

## NATURE TRAILS IN LA RIOJA, NAVARRE AND BASQUE COUNTRY

Here, the Natural Trails running through Rioja, Navarra and the Basque Country are briefly described. Among them, short routes such as Galdames - Sopuerta may be found next to longer trails such as those who follow the course of the Rivers Oja or Cidacos or the Ferrocarril Vasco - Navarro railway line, or very long routes such as Senda del Pastoreo or the route along the course of River Ebro.

**Agua Soriano, Camino Antonino (Soria, Zaragoza, Navarra).**

Running from Tudela to Soria, this Nature Trail joins the Ebro Nature Trail, or GR-99, and the Douro Natural Trail. A historical 1135 km route which leads us from Celtiberians settlements through Roman remains and into the Middle Ages, under the watchful eye of the Moncayo.

**Ebro (Cantabria, Burgos, Vitoria, Rioja, Navarra, Zaragoza, Huesca, Lleida, Tarragona).**

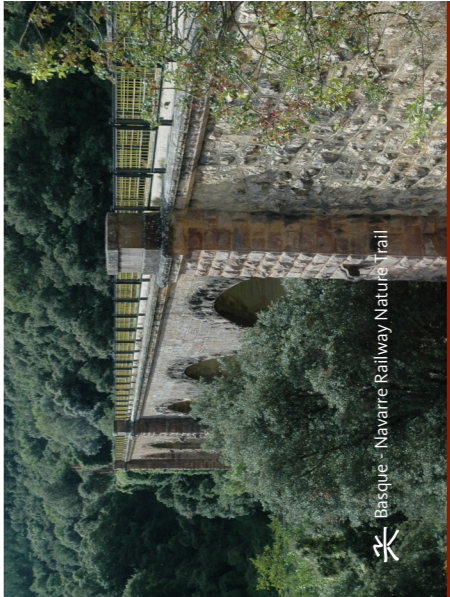
For centuries, the Ebro valley has been occupied by many cultures, and proof of its rich cultural past remains along its course. The Ebro river spans 1.280 km from Reinosa to Tortosa, a long course along which its natural and cultural richness may be enjoyed.

**Cidacos Greenway (La Rioja).**

The River Cidacos is a tributary of the River Ebro, in its right bank, whose source is in the Montes Claros mountains, in the province of Soria. This 377 km long route follow the last section of the river between Arnedillo and Cahorra, which runs along a fertile valley and cross the Biosphere Reserve of the Valleys of Leza, Jubera, Cidacos and Alhama, which was created in 2003 and is characterised by rocky cliffs and river canyons, punctuated by traditional terraced agricultural fields.


 Basque - Navarre Railway Nature Trail

**MORE INFORMATION:**  
[www.camino.natural.es](http://www.camino.natural.es)



NIPO: 013-17-167-6

## PATHS, ROUTES AND GREENWAYS

The total of trails that run through this historical territory have been traced following very diverse concepts. Some of them follow the course of a river (Cidacos, Ebro, Oja, Queiles or Zadorra), while others follow old railways and their now abandoned infrastructure, and those who lead us into mountain pastures, where a close relationship between humans, cattle and nature has been created.



Since 1993 the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries and Food's Nature Trails Program aims to restore former transport infrastructures such as railway tracks, cattle trails and traditional routes, for public use and enjoyment.

These routes take us to the countryside to discover the biodiversity and beauty of our precious natural heritage, and discover the villages, sights, traditions and people that are part of the unique cultural landscape of our country.

We invite you to visit the Nature Trails in La Rioja, Navarra and Basque Country and offer you the keys to enjoy the trip. We only ask one thing of you: do not forget to leave everything as you found it. The conservation of these pathways is also your responsibility.

### Plazaola Greenway (Gipuzkoa, Navarra).

The Plazaola Nature Trail is one of the most spectacular greenways in Spain. Covering areas in both Navarra and Gipuzkoa, it runs along the Larrain and Letzarain valleys, where in the past a humble narrow gauge which, at its origins (1904) used to carry iron ore from the Plazaola mining site, in Navarra, to Andoain, in Gipuzkoa. This trail is composed by several sections: Plazaola – Lekunberri - Mugiro - San Migeltxo- Kaxarna, Trinitarios section and Andoain - Letzarain section.

### Senda del Pastoreo (Burgos, Araba/Álava, Gipuzkoa, Navarra).

A circle route which leads the visitor to those places where shepherding has defined and shaped the cultural landscape, which has been harmoniously humanised. Most of this path, which spans over 400 km, runs through spaces of environmental interest.

### Tarazonica Greenway (Navarre).

The old railway road that until 1972 connected Tarazona and Tudela, two of the most important towns in the Ebro Valley, running along the River Queiles valley, has become a smooth lane between these historic towns, which for centuries were an example of intelligent and fecund coexistence between Arabs, Jews and Christians.

### Oja Greenway (La Rioja).

The River Oja has its source in the Sierra de la Demanda mountains. Running to the northeast to the river Tirón which is ultimately an Ebro tributary, its crosses one of the most beautiful and monumental landscapes of Rioja, a fertile valley by which other rivers roll. However, the River Oja is the only which has the honour to give its name, albeit slightly shortened, to this autonomous community, a name which has acquired universal fame and prestige: Rioja. This 26,6 km nature trail follow the course of this river.

### Montes de Hierro Greenway (Bizkaia).

This trail makes use of the old railway between Traslaviá and Castro Urdiales. It runs through the historical Basque mining valleys in the *Encartaciones* (*Enkarterriak* in Basque) county es (*Enkarterriak* en euskera), that was already mentioned by Pliny two thousand years ago as a land rich in iron and other minerals. This trail follows an old railway layout along 20 km.

### Basque-Navarre Railway Greenway (Araba/Álava, Navarra).

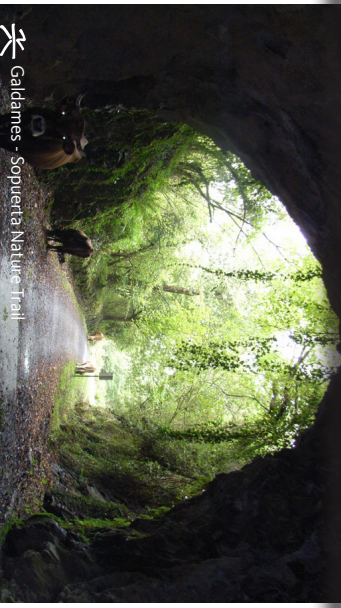
The hills of Araba/Álava and the Navarrese county of Tierra Estella are two neighbouring areas, both scarcely populated and characterised by steep hills: its woods oscillate between Mediterranean and Atlantic vegetation and its chalky cliffs provide shelter to large birds of prey. This 35 km nature trail follows the railway locally called as the Little Train or the Crab Train, which connected Estella to Vitoria and Bergara until 1967.



Plazaola Nature Trail

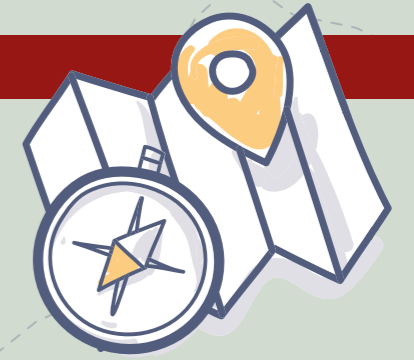


River Cidacos Nature Trail



Galdames - Sopuerta Nature Trail





CANTABRIA

CANTABRIAN SEA

FRANCE

Montes de Hierro GW NT

BILBAO/BILBO

SAN SEBASTIÁN /DONOSTIA

Plazaola GW NT

CN Senda del Pastoreo

VIZCAYA /BIZKAIA

GUIPÚZCOA /GIPUZKOA

Plazaola GW NT

Orozko

Eibar

Urretxu

Beasain

Irurtzun

VITORIA /GASTEIZ

ÁLAVA /ARABA

Altsasu/Alsasua

Plazaola GW NT

Condado de Treviño (Burgos)

Senda del Pastoreo NT

Estella-Lizarra

COMUNIDAD FORAL DE NAVARRA

Basque-Navarre Railway GW NT

Olite

BURGOS

Santo Domingo de la Calzada

LOGROÑO

Ebro NT

Oja GW NT

Nájera

ZARAGOZA

LA RIOJA

Calahorra

Arnedo

Cidacos GW NT

Tarazonica GW NT

Agua Soriano. Camino Antonino NT

Tudela

SORIA



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