

DONO STIASAN SEBAS TIAN



CULTURAL
GUIDE
2017

The people of San Sebastian love events, group activities, celebrating and feeling the pulse of the city in the streets.

Much like the city's pintxos (tapas), another great passion of both locals and visitors alike, there is something for every taste in San Sebastian. Culture, cuisine and sports meet in this city surrounded by mountains and sea, green and blue, the colours that will accompany you throughout your stay.

This calendar includes a small selection of some of the most important events the city celebrates each year.

Additional and up-to-date information at:

www.sansebastianturismo.com

THE THREE KINGS' PARADE

When: 5 January

Where: City centre

The day before Three Kings' Day is one of the most magical days of the year. Melchior, Gaspar and Balthazar visit San Sebastian to pick up letters from boys and girls, followed by the traditional parade through the city.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168



BALLET: SWAN LAKE - ROYAL RUSSIAN BALLET

When: 8 January

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre

A captivating love story that pairs over 40 dancers with the power of Tchaikovsky's music to make Swan Lake a unique experience.

+ **info:** www.kursaal.eus / 943 003 180

GIMNÁSTICA DE ULÍA INTERNATIONAL RACE

When: 8 January

Where: Paseo de Zurriola

This race is a San Sebastian classic. Runners battle it out on a course that stretches from the Kursaal to Ategorrieta, with Zurriola Beach as a backdrop.

+ **info:** www.gimnasticadeulia.es / 943 278 195

DOCK OF THE BAY

When: 7 to 14 January

Where: Principal Theatre and Trueba Cinema

The musical documentary film festival celebrates its tenth edition this year.

Music meets cinema in the Dock of the Bay, which showcases screenings and concerts at different venues across the city.

+ **info:** www.dockofthebay.es

SAN SEBASTIAN DAY (TAMBORRADA)

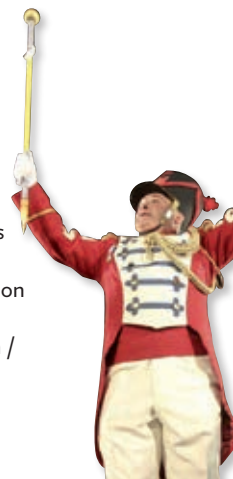
When: 20 January

Where: Citywide

San Sebastian's biggest party of the year kicks off at midnight on 19 January, when the sound of drums begins to flood the city. After months of rehearsing, over 100 drummers

(tamborradas) take to the streets to celebrate San Sebastian Day. Kids have their own tamborrada on the morning of the 20th.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168



BASQUE NATIONAL ORCHESTRA

When: 27 and 30 January

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre

Ainars Rubikis, director
Nicholas Angelich, piano

Programme:

- L.V. Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4.
- E. Aragón: The Biggest Flower in the World.
- F. Buide: The Satyricon and the Fragments.
- P.I. Tchaikovsky: Romeo and Juliet.

+ **info:** www.kursaal.eus / 943 003 180



62 DONOSTIA INTERNATIONAL RACE

When: 29 January

Where: San Sebastian Racetrack

The San Sebastian racetrack trades horses for a day of non-stop activity as it hosts the runners in the 62 Donostia International Race. Organised by the Gipuzkoa Racing Foundation.

+ **info:** www.krosdonostia.com

COMIK-D

When: 3 to 5 February

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre

San Sebastian's First International Comic and Manga Fair brings together publishers, international artists and fans in round table discussions and professional meetings.

+ **info:** www.saloncomicdonostia.com



CALDEREROS

When: 4 February

Where: Citywide

True to tradition, the caldereros (tinkers) flood the streets in the days leading up to Carnival, filling San Sebastian with the sounds of banging pots and pans.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168

INUDE ETA ARTZAINAK

When: 5 February

Where: Old Town and Gros district

Another traditional parade that features nursemaids and shepherds.

The nursemaids parade with babies in their arms while the shepherds court them.

High society during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries will also be represented.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168

FEBRUARY / MARCH

OPERA: CARMEN - BIZET

When: 10 - 12 February

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre

Carmen is legend that has existed for decades in the collective imagination of popular culture.

Passion and disappointment take centre stage in Bizet's celebrated opera with a new production by local company Opus Lirica performed by one of the most talented mezzos on today's opera scene in what is undoubtedly her most charming role yet.

+ **info:** www.opus-lirica.com

STOCK FAIR

When: 2 to 6 March

Where: Kursaal Auditorium

The Kursaal hosts a new edition of the Stock Fair. Organised by the Gipuzkoa Trade Federation, the fair features over 50 booths by Gipuzkoa stores and provides the perfect opportunity for local stores to showcase their stocks at the best prices around and while supplies last; the public can find articles from a range of sectors, including fashion (women, men and kids), eyewear, fashion accessories, footwear, linens, haberdashery, sports and leather.

+ **info:** www.kursaal.eus / 943 003 180



CARNIVAL

When: 23 to 27 February

Where: Citywide

The carnival parades will take over the city and fill the streets with colour and rhythm.

Locals and visitors alike can enjoy an extensive programme of exciting and extravagant activities.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168

LES LUTHIERS: ¡CHIST! AN ANTHOLOGY

When: 2 to 4 March

Where: Kursaal Auditorium

Selection of the best works from the over 48 years of history of this Argentinean quintet and proof of the group's still-relevant humour, which features a unique mix of creativity, wit and irony.

+ **info:** www.kursaal.eus / 943 003 180



LILATON

When: 5 March

5 km women-only race, a leading event that introduces a significant number of women to a passion for running.

+ **info:** www.lilaton.es / 943 21 53 54



MARCH



DFERIA

When: 6 to 9 March

Where: Victoria Eugenia Theatre, Principal Theatre and other locations

Dferia is a trade fair that aims to showcase the performing arts market, bringing together agents and presenting the latest Basque and international creations.

+ **info:** www.dferia.com / 943 483 860

BASQUE NATIONAL ORCHESTRA

When: 23, 24 and 30 March

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre

Hans Graf, director

Programme:

- L.V. Beethoven: Prometheus. Overture.
- I. Stravinsky: Symphony in C.
- R. Schumann: Symphony No. 2.

+ **info:** www.kursaal.eus / 943 003 180

XV HUMAN RIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL

When: March 31 to April 7

Where: Victoria Eugenia Theatre and other locations

The Human Rights Film Festival is back to raise the public awareness and promote the values of solidarity, justice and equality, among others.

+ **info:** www.cineyderechoshumanos.com / 943 481 975

LEISURE AND TOURISM TRADE FAIR (SEVATUR)

When: 17 to 19 March

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre

This trade fair offers the opportunity to discover different parts of the world through a range of booths, photo and craft exhibitions, competitions, etc.

A total of 7,000 square meters will host 65 booths that provide leisure and tourism information and opportunities.

+ **info:** www.sevatur.com / 943 410 806



APRIL

SAN SEBASTIAN HALF MARATHON

When: 2 April

Where: Citywide

San Sebastian hosts a new edition of its annual half marathon. Athletes must run the traditional 21.097 kilometres on a course that runs through the city centre.

+ **info:** www.mediadonosti.com/
943 459 106 - 670 332 272



BASQUE NATIONAL ORCHESTRA

When: 3, 5, 27 and 28 April.

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre.

Christoph König, director
Pinchas Zukerman, violin
Amanda Forsyth, cello

Programme:

- J. Brahms: Concerto for violin, cello and orchestra.
- E. Elgar: Concerto for violin and orchestra.
- P.I. Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4.

+ **info:** www.kursaal.eus/ 943 003 180

SAN SEBASTIAN INTERNATIONAL CHESS OPEN

When: 8 to 15 April

Where: Frontón Carmelo Balda (Anoeta)

The San Sebastian International Chess Open celebrates its 40 edition this year, an event that brings together national and international grandmasters.

+ **info:** www.fgajedrez.org/ 943 474 604

BOOK DAY

When: 23 April

Where: Plaza de Gipuzkoa

The Plaza de Gipuzkoa will once again host Book Day, the perfect opportunity to buy the latest bestsellers or all-time classics.

A number of authors will be on hand in to sign copies of their books.

+ **info:** 943 425 557

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DANCE GALA

When: 30 April

Where: Victoria Eugenia Theatre

True to its philosophy, the XXI International Day of Dance Gala will showcase a wide range of dance styles, thanks to the altruistic collaboration of dancers and companies, with a special focus on the local performers and companies.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com



DONOSTI ARTEAN

When: 4 to 7 May

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre

IV International Contemporary Art Fair with workshops for children, a digital space, talks and meetings with artists, guided tours of the Fair and the Kubo Kutxa Room.

+ **info:** www.donostiarte.com / 91 702 03 36

OLATU TALKA

When: 19 to 21 May

Where: Citywide

Theatre, music, and dance come together in this multidisciplinary festival designed by the people of San Sebastian themselves, who open up lines of collaboration between professional and amateur artists.

+ **info:** www.olatutalka.eus / 943 481 666

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XVI TANGO FESTIVAL

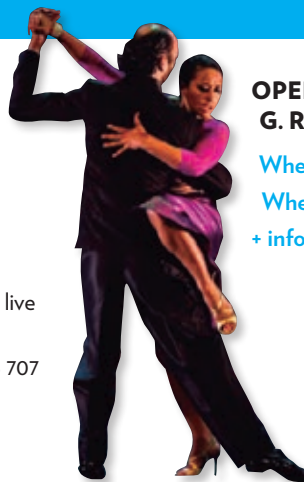
When: 12 to 14 May

Where: Victoria Eugenia Theatre, Kursaal Conference Centre

Inauguration: City Hall Assembly Room.

Tango returns to San Sebastian with live demos and free courses.

+ **info:** www.agatatango.es / 652 755 707



OPERA: LA CENERENTOLA - G. ROSSINI

When: 12 to 14 May

Where: Victoria Eugenia Theatre

+ **info:** www.opus-lirica.com / 665 724 752

XV SURFILM FESTIVAL

When: 3 to 7 June

Where: Principal Theatre, Aquarium and other locations

Films, short films, music, exhibitions... all dedicated to surfing in this edition of the long-standing Surfilm Festival.

+ **info:** www.surfilmfestival.com / 943 481 157



SUMMER COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY

When: 15 June to 15 September

Where: Miramar Palace

The Summer Courses at the University of the Basque Country offer an outstanding and extensive range of classes, seminars, workshops and conferences.

There will be a break during the second and third weeks of August.

+ **info:** www.sc.ehu.es / 943 219 511

JUNE / JULY

SAINT JOHN'S EVE

When: 23 June

Where: Citywide

The summer solstice is celebrated on Saint John's Eve.

Bonfires are lit across the city on this night to keep evil spirits at bay and bring good luck.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168

FOOTBALL: DONOSTI CUP

When: 2 to 8 July

Where: Anoeta Mini-Stadium and 15 other locations

Over 200 teams from around the world come together each year to play in one of the best youth football tournaments

around. Six days of intense matches in which thousands of young players battle it out to reach the final in Anoeta Stadium.

+ **info:**

www.donosticup.com /
943 467 954



HORSE RACES

When: June to September

Where: San Sebastian Racetrack

The summer horse-racing season kicks off in June with races on different dates through September.

+ **info:** www.hipodromoa.com / 943 373 180



XVIII SAN SEBASTIAN REGATTA

When: 15 - 16 July

Where: La Concha Bay

This international regatta features two races. The first covers 32 miles and starts in Hendaye and ends in San Sebastian.

The second stays in the city and takes place entirely in La Concha Bay

+ **info:** www.rcnss.com / 943 423 575

52 HEINEKEN JAZZALDIA: JAZZ FESTIVAL

When: 20 to 25 July

Where: Plaza de la Trinidad, Kursaal Conference Centre, La Zurriola Beach and other locations

One of Europe's biggest jazz festivals takes over San Sebastian with massive concerts, bands playing in the streets and outdoor performances.

+ **info:** www.heinekenjazzaldia.com / 943 481 900

JULY / AUGUST

SAN SEBASTIAN - SAN SEBASTIAN CYCLING CLASSIC

When: 29 July

Where: Boulevard (start and finish)

Cycling fans will have the chance to enjoy one of the city's most legendary races.

Classic enthusiasts won't want to miss this qualifying event on the international UCI World Tour calendar.

+ **info:** www.gtxe.org / 943 460 540

SEMANA GRANDE (BIG WEEK)

When: 12 to 19 August

Where: Citywide

San Sebastian's Semana Grande (Big Week) will pack the city with concerts, rides for kids and countless activities scheduled throughout the week.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168

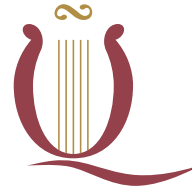
78 QUINCENA MUSICAL

When: 1 to 30 August

Where: Kursaal Conference Centre, Victoria Eugenia Theatre and other locations

This is the oldest festival in Spain and one of the oldest in Europe.

+ **info:** www.quincenamusical.com / 943 003 170



HORSE RACES

When: June to September

Where: San Sebastian Racetrack

The summer horse-racing season kicks off in June with races on different dates through September.

+ **info:** www.hipodromoa.com / 943 373 180



INTERNATIONAL FIREWORKS COMPETITION

When: 12 to 19 August

Where: La Concha Bay

This is one of the biggest events during Semana Grande (Big Week).

Firework experts from around the world will compete each night to see who can offer the most spectacular show.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

EUSKAL JAIAK – BASQUE CELEBRATIONS

When: 31 August to 10 September

Where: Old Town

Cider Day will kick off this celebration of Basque culture. Musical and sports activities and the best Basque cuisine are the main attractions.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168

DONOSTIA KUTXA KULTUR FESTIBALA

When: 1 and 2 September

Where: Monte Igeldo Amusement Park

Donostia Kutxa Kultur Festibala is a platform that showcases the work of young artists in the fields of music, film, comics and fashion.

+ **info:** www.igeldofestibala.com



REGATTAS: BANDERA DE LA CONCHA

When: 3 and 10 September

Where: La Concha Bay

La Concha Bay will host the final rounds of the Bandera de La Concha regatta over the last two Sundays in September. The qualifying rounds are celebrated on the Thursday before the first Sunday of the month.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168

ZINEMALDIA - 65 INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

When: 22 to 30 September

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre, Príncipe and Antiguo Berri Cinemas, Victoria Eugenia Theatre, Principal Theatre and Velodrome.

San Sebastian turns into the world capital of glamour during its International Film Festival.

Outstanding films, exhibitions, and retrospectives share the spotlight with the famous film stars who visit the city for the event.

+ **info:** www.sansebastianfestival.com / 943 481 212



HORSE RACES

When: June to September

Where: San Sebastian Racetrack

The summer horse-racing season kicks off in June with races on different dates through September.

+ **info:** www.hipodromoa.com / 943 373 180

OCTOBER



SAN SEBASTIAN GASTRONOMIKA CONFERENCE

When: 8 to 11 October

Where: Kursaal Congress Centre

San Sebastian becomes the culinary centre of Europe over this three-day event, which brings together hundreds of chefs and culinary experts from across the world to present their culinary innovations.

The public will also be able to sample exquisite products at the 200+ booths sets up for the event.

+ info: www.sansebastiangastronomika.com/ / 943 410 857

DONOSTIKLUBA

When: October

Where: Egia Cultural Centre and other locations
Donostikluba, San Sebastian's Electronic Music Festival, offers concerts and festivals at different venues across the city.

+ info:
www.donostikluba.com/ / 943 482 818



THREE-BEACH RACE

When: 8 October

Where: Ondarreta Royal Tennis Club
(start and finish)

San Sebastian's three beaches are included in the course of this popular 10-km race that draws in almost 3,000 participating runners.

+ info: www.gafatletismo.com/ / 943 451 757



XXI POPULAR ROAD RACE CLASSIC

When: 15 October

Where: City centre

The streets of San Sebastian's city centre will turn into the course of the 15-km Popular Road Race Classic.

+ info: www.15kmsansebastian.com/ / 943 451 757

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

UNDERWATER FILM SERIES

When: 16 to 22 October

Where: Principal Theatre (Calle Mayor)

The Underwater Film Series offers a free film series that showcases life in the depths of the sea.

+ **info:** www.ciclo.subacuaticasrealsociedad.com/
943 395 476



XXVIII HORROR AND FANTASY FILM FESTIVAL WEEK

When: 28 October to 3 November

Where: Principal Theatre, Victoria Eugenia Theatre and Kursaal Congress Centre

The Horror and Fantasy Film Festival Week will once gain offer its unique perspective on cinema with movie marathons and parallel activities.

+ **info:** www.donostiakultura.com/terror/
943 481 157



RUNNING: BEHOBIA - SAN SEBASTIAN

When: 12 November.

Where: Behobia (start) / Boulevard (finish)

The route between Behobia and San Sebastian is the location of Gipuzkoa's biggest running event of the year.

This 20-km race drew over 25,000 participants last year.

+ **info:** www.behobia-sansebastian.com/
943 214 900

RUNNING: MARATHON

When: 26 November

Where: Anoeta Mini-Stadium (start and finish)

This 40th edition of this marathon is a classic race for running enthusiasts.

The 42.195 kilometre course crosses the city.

+ **info:** www.maratondonostia.com/ 943 451 757

DECEMBER

SAINT THOMAS FAIR

When: 21 December

Where: Old Town, City Centre and Gros district
The smell of txistorra (Basque-style cured sausage) will once again waft through the streets of San Sebastian on 21 December

This traditional fair will bring together thousands of locals and visitors alike in the city centre to taste txistorra and buy cheese, honey and vegetables.

As always, a pig will be presented in Plaza de la Constitución.

+ info: www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARK

When: last week of December

Where: Kursaal Conference Centre

Designed especially for the youngest members of the family, kids can enjoy this park filled with rides, competitions, costume parties, musical performances, workshops and a host of other activities.

+ info: www.pindonostia.eu / 943 428 111



SAN SILVESTRE RACE

When: 31 December

Where: Antiguo (start) / Plaza Easo (finish)

The last race of the year celebrates its 32 edition this year with an 8,650-meter course that will run through Old Town, the Gros district, the city centre and the Amara district.

+ info: www.sansilvestredonostiarra.com / 634 592 614

OLENTZERO

When: 24 December

Where: City centre

Olentzero, a character in Basque Christmas tradition, will greet the children of San Sebastian before visiting each home to drop off presents.

+ info:

www.donostiakultura.com / 943 481 168



Additional cultural activities at:

www.donostiakultura.eu

www.kursaal.eu

www.santelmomuseoa.eu

www.tabakalera.eu

www.victoriaeugenia.eu

AND YEAR-ROUND

GASTROPOTE

When: Every Thursday

Where: San Martín Market

The San Martín Market in San Sebastian has turned in a unique space for enjoying outstanding cuisine and live performances.

Thursdays from 7 to 10 p.m.

+ **info:** www.gastropote.com



PINTXOPOTE

When: Different days of the week

Where: Different parts of the city: the City Centre, Old Town, the districts of Gros, Amara, Egia...

As the name itself suggests, this is an initiative promoted by the city's restaurants and bars that offers a pintxo (tapa) and a pote (drink) at a discounted price for two or three hours on certain days of the week.

There are several Pintxopote locations across the city and the price depends on the area.



BEHEMENDI LOCAL PRODUCTS MARKET

When: Saturdays

Where: Various San Sebastian districts and locations

Meeting point for farmers and producers from San Sebastian and surrounding areas and locals looking for local, fresh products and direct contact between buyers and producers.

+ **info:** mercadoitinerante.blogspot.com.es

MUSIKA PARKEAN

When: Spring and summer

Where: Different public parks across the city

Musika Parkean strives to make public use of the outdoor spaces around us, encouraging people to make alternative use of those spaces that they have never used before.

Eat, drink, have fun with friends and listen to a range of different music as a way to create new spaces and moments to enjoy ourselves.

+ **info:** www.musikaparkean.com



www.sansebastianturismo.com