

*We truly believe that the information, stories and reports are going to astonish you.*

*Certainly they will change the way you think... about Basques*



# THE PROJECT

## **NON EDO NON BASQUE HERITAGE**

It is dedicated to the **Basque heritage in Europe and the Americas**, as the history of this great nation has to be preserved for the generations to come. The project is divided into various chapters and they will be presented in a detailed manner on this pages.

The history of Basque nation, the oldest European nation, has its roots in the lands called Euskal Herria –

Passing to the stages of the journey that follows Basque footsteps all over the Europe and the Americas, one can never forget that Euskal Herria served as a strategic point on a Europe's geopolitical map. That its ports served as the best construction docks in Europe since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, or even earlier, up to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. That its iron and steel industries still provide world with the best spades, knives and steel structures. That its green hills breed the best sheep and cows in Europe. That the harsh weather conditions require a person to be strong and determined to survive. That the strong drive for discovering new areas of fishing and whale hunting turned the Basques into the best fishermen and sailors. That the best sailors, even from the smallest places in the whole Basque Country had reached the Americas long before Christopher Columbus got to the shores of what he thought was the "New Land"...well, even he needed skilful sailors so..he contracted Basques as a half of its crew..

We will try to reach all the places connected with Basque history and immigration to re-tell the stories of Basque families living far away from their homeland. How do they preserve their customs, how do they form their communities, what is the history of the family who lived in Basque country and decided to emigrate...How? Why? Where? What?.... all these questions will accompany us along the journey.

# INFOGRAPHIC

## CENTERS



ANDORRA ROMA BERLIN BRUSSELES LONDON MONTREAL PORTSMOUTH NEW YORK  
WASHINGTON DC MIAMI SANTA FE PARKER ROCK SPRINGS SEATTLE BOISE ELKO RENO  
SAN FRANCISCO FRESNO TXINO LOS ANGELES LAS VEGAS MEXICO DF SAN SALVADOR  
PANAMA BOGOTA MEDELLIN CARACAS BALENIA LIMA KUSKO SANTIAGO DE TXILE  
BALPARAISO ASUNZION ROSARIO MONTEVIDEO SAO PAULO RIO DE JANEIRO BUENOS  
AIRES BAHIA BLANCA TXAKABUKO KORDOBA MAR DE LA PLATA COMODORO RIBADABIA...

## HISTORICAL FIGURES



ANDRES DE URDANETA, MIGUEL Y ANTONIO DE OKENDO, JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA,  
MIGUEL LOPEZ DE LEGAZPI, JUAN VIZKAINO, JUAN SEBASTIAN ELKANO, BLAS DE  
LEZO, SIMON BOLIVAR, JUAN DE LA GOSA, DIEGO DE IBARRA, JUAN DE GARAY, ERNESTO  
CHE GUEVARA, ALONSO DE MENDOZA, ANTONIO DE BERRIO, JUAN DE TOLOSA, CRISTOBAL  
Y JUAN DE ONATE, MIGUEL DE IBARRA, PEDRO DE GAMBOA, VASCO NUNEZ DE BALBOA,  
VASCO DA GAMA, CHURRUKA, SEBASTIAN VIZKAINO, SALVADOR ALLENDE...

## FAMILY ROOTS



BENGOETXEA, MITXELENA, ETXENTXUSIA OLTSKOTGA,  
AZPIAZU, ZARRAONANDIA, SALAZAR, ASKUAGA,  
ETCHEPARE, ONATE, GANZARAIN, AZPILIKUETA...



100%



75%



25%



15.000€



Aberdeen  
Torshavn  
Reykjavik  
St. John's

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Nov Oct Dec



..... planned  
..... alternative  
--- sailing

# PEOPLE BEHIND THE PROJECT



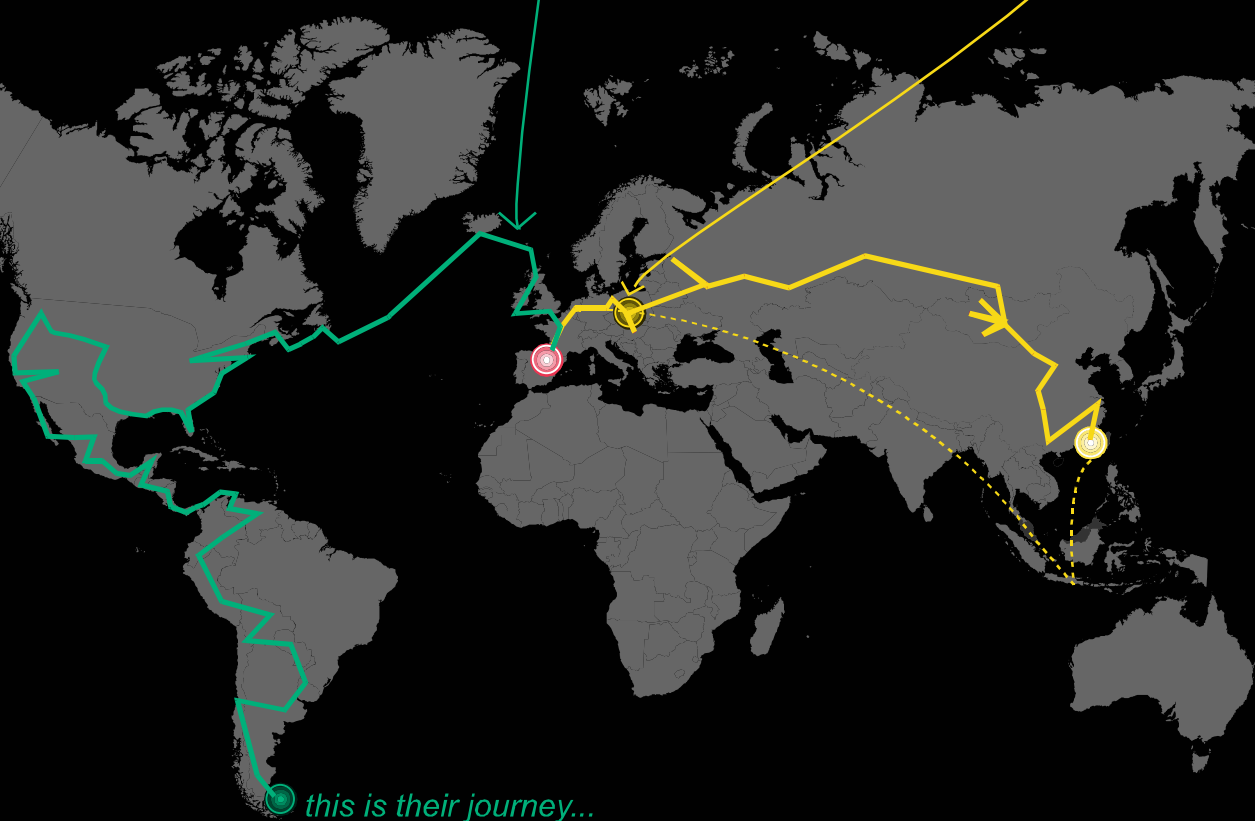
**Eric Bengoetxea**...Mítxelena Túmas Etxenagusia Arozena Retegi Olaskoaga Arrieta 100% basque with his eight basque surnames Eric is responsible for the image of the crew. A talented and creative crazy cat, dedicates his life to design, celebrate Basque feasts and to spread Basque history wherever he goes. Has missed San Fermin party only once - while travelling on a train from Russia to China in a self-financed hitch-hiking trip "no planes no plans" Basque Country - Shanghai without a single plane.

**Urszula Skwarek** - research and analysis 50/50 polish - basque Rethinking Latitudes blog on international relations, Interests:

Basque history in the Americas, Basque immigration, linguistics, geopolitics, geostrategy, peace process in the Basque Country, state terrorism. Attending all the Basque feasts possible - from cider parties to rowing competitions.

Eric and Ulka met in 2012 on the most famous Warsaw's Street – Nowy Swiat, while they were celebrating Euro 2012 football championships. Since they have become inseparable. Urszula, deeply involved in the history of Basque Country listened to Eric's stories with huge interest. She let him finish his hitch-hiking trip. Eric determined to fulfil his biggest dream sat on the Transsiberian train, galloped through Mongolian steppes, rode across China and climbed the Pearl Towe in Shanghai.

After his unique experience he decided to come back to Spain and find Ulka who was at that time in Madrid. Since then they have been planning the trip connected to the Basque heritage along Americas and Europe, searching for places visited by the Basques long time ago. After two years of preparation and data collection they will start the biggest project ever devoted to their dream in January 2015.....





# 1<sup>ST</sup> CHALLENGE

## ORIGINS OF THE OLDEST LANGUAGE



In January 2015 we will set off for the first stage of our journey.

The aim is to travel across Europe, visiting the most important places connected with the Basque history. We will buy a van, the customized one, where we can sleep, have a meal or take a shower.

The journey starts in Spain. We will visit the northern Basque coast and the interior of the province. We will head to the French Basque provinces to visit the places connected with Basque history and especially the sites where smugglers operated – eg. Hendaye, St. Jean de Luz on the coast, and interior: Sare and Donibane Garazi, where the mountainous passages to the Navarra province enabled the secrecy of all illegal movements.

Moving along the Cantabrian coast we will reach Gales. Then heading to the South we will enter Portugal: Porto, Lisbon and other cities up to the south. Leaving Portugal we will still head to the south: Seville and Cadiz will be next on our trip. Seville and its Guadalquivir river especially as it was the place where the sailors left the country from the 15<sup>th</sup> up to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This port was the only one authorized by the Spanish monarchy to operate on routes to the Americas.

From there, we will head to Malaga, along the Mediterranean coast, later on going to the central part of Spain, Toledo Madrid, and further east to Barcelona and Girona. Entering France we will follow the coast, visiting Monte Carlo, Cannes or Monaco. Heading to Italy: from north to south Toscanne, Venice, Milan, Rome (EuskalEtxea), Naples. And then going back north or if its possible crossing the Adriatic Sea to get to Albania. In case that transporting the car on a ferry would cost us too much money we will head to northern part of Italy. Then across Slovenia to Croatia. Visiting the Adriatic coast and what's left from the war in the 1990s. Moving along the coast we arrive to Albania and later on too Greece. The country where the economic crisis of 2007 has brought the state on the border of collapse. The question which is still being discussed is our trip to Turkey – through Istanbul and then the northern coast, along the Black Sea southern border, we would like to arrive to Armenia.

Armenia is one of the most important stops on our journey. Both countries share linguistical and historical ties. Our privilege would be to visit Armenia where as history says, many Basque mercenaries served during wars in ancient times. Many of them decided to stay and start a new life in the faraway land. That led to the incorporation of Basque vocabulary to Armenian language. Visit to the capital – Yerevan – which University has a Department dedicated to the study of Euskera. Many renown professors and linguists dedicated themselves to the study of Euskera and the similarities it shares with Armenian language. It is reflected in words such as 'zabatlegi' or 'ormazabal' which mean the same thing both in Euskera and in Armenian. So our visit in Armenia would be a culminating point of that part of our trip.

We would try to go back the same way as we came, so straight to Istanbul. Crossing the Bosporus straits and then to Bulgaria (and possibly Romania, where *lauburu* signs are also present). From Bulgaria to Hungary then Slovakia/ Czech Republic across Poland and Baltic countries – Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Getting to Helsinki in Finland and straight to the Arctic circle where we would reach our destination of Nordkapp (estimate time of arrival 2<sup>nd</sup> part of February). It is the northernmost point in Europe and the closest place to Svalbard glacial where one of the principal bays is called Basques Bay. In that moment we will join our two adventures: Basque Heritage in Europe and Nordkapp – Ushuaia. From Nordkapp we would get back to the south, crossing probably through Norway/Sweden and Denmark.

In Belgium we have another important place to visit which is situated in Bruges, where La Casa de Contratación de Vizcaya, the first house connected with commerce between the Iberian Peninsula and Bruges. The main square situated next to the old house of Basque commerce, "Biskayers Plaatz" reflects the importance of tradesmen coming from Vizcaya and their influence on trade that connected those two parts of Europe.





## 2<sup>ND</sup> CHALLENGE OH MY KOD!

Surely this will be the hardest part of our voyage. We need to get to Newfoundland on a ship, just as the Basques did in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century. Before leaving Spain we need to contact with the major ship operator in the Northern Atlantic – Eimskip. This company sends container vessels all year round on various routes on the Atlantic Ocean. One of the most important routes goes from Reykjavik with the destination in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. The container vessel makes various stops on its way, mainly in Argentina and Halifax, which are situated in Newfoundland and New Scotia respectively. Argentina is our destination port. From this place we will follow to St. John's and other ports connected with Basque history and culture.

We will have to cover the lap from Faeroe Islands to Iceland, where Basques were present for centuries thanks to their contacts with Vikings. The oldest document from 1412 dates that twenty Basques whalers passed by the western tip of Iceland off Grunderfjord, which is a 500 mile crossing to Greenland. From there another 1,200 mile voyage would have taken them to the northern Labrador coast. The total crossing from the Faeroes to Newfoundland is not much farther than from San Sebastian to Iceland. The Basques chased whales that traveled to subarctic waters and then dropped down along both the European and American coastlines.

Nevertheless, what was directly connected with Basque adventures in the northern seas was whale hunting. Since the Basques learned how to preserve fish – especially cod – which gave them a food supply during the months full of sailing, they undertook more challenging trips to Northern Atlantic. In that way they reached Iceland and possibly there they were informed about the huge whale populations living southwest from Iceland. That helped them to reach Terranova – the New Foundland, where they established settlements. We have to bear in mind that this event happened earlier than Christopher Columbus reached Caribbean islands in 1492. Moreover the legend says that before his voyage, Columbus had spent some time on the Madeira Island, where he had met a survivor from a shipwreck. The survivor was a Vizcaino (in that time Basque inhabitants of the three provinces were called Vizcainos). Supposingly it was this man who had told Columbus about the existence of land across the Ocean, what motivated Columbus to organize the trip. During the 4<sup>th</sup> voyages of Columbus he was always accompanied by a big group of sailors proceeding from the Basque Country. His flagship from the first voyage, Santa Maria, was constructed in a Basque port of....

The presence of Basques in Terranova was marked by the establishment of today's capital, St. John's. The capital was founded by Basques coming from Pasajes San Juan in Guipuzkoa province, who reached the land in Terranova in the course of searching for fish and whales (beginning or 16<sup>th</sup> century or earlier). Every spring until about 1626 they sailed to their North American whaling stations, where they set up scaffolding to dry codfish and built stone ovens to prepare whale oil, a commodity that was highly prized in Europe. However, it was not the first case of Basque presence in the area.

We cannot forget that linguistically many words proceeding from euskera were incorporated into the language used in that region, usually words connected with animal & natural world, eg. Orein – deer. The toponymy of Newfoundland is full of words connected with Basque presence, Channel - Port-aux-Basques, Placentia, and settlements along the St. Lawrence Bay and the Red Bay.

### 3<sup>RD</sup> CHALLENGE NORDKAPP TO USHUAIA



The Nordkapp – Ushuaia challenge is the main reason of our travel. The two opposite points on the planet Earth, marking North Pole and South Pole, became the basis of Basque history starting in the Middle Ages (or possibly earlier). Through the contacts with Vikings in the 9<sup>th</sup> century that prolonged up to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, Basques were able to improve their shipping construction what allowed them to undertake adventures further into the sea. Maintaining an important connection with Bruges, the centre of European commerce and trade in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, Basques exchanged their goods (wood, iron, fish, whale oil, furs, etc) for other more elaborate materials (mainly textiles). Expanding their trade on the British Isles, and reaching Iceland.

Starting from Belgium, Bruges and the Bizkayer Plaat, where the consulate of Vizcaya was situated and strong trade ties were maintained during the Middle Ages, we will continue our trip arriving to Great Britain. The history divided and reunited Basques and Englishmen many times. The wars between Spain and England during centuries were marked by Basque presence. The first international treaty concerning the liberty of navigation was signed between the Basques in Bermeo and Edward III of England in 1350. From England to Wales, visiting a nation that was deprived of its own state, we will follow to Ireland, where the ties between the Basques and Irish were marked by the existence of terrorist groups ETA and IRA, which were fighting for the liberty of those two nations. The fight of Irish in the 1920's finished with victory, although IRA maintained its strongholds and fought against the Northern Ireland connected to Britain. From Ireland to Scotland, other nation which recently voted in a referendum over the independence. Although Scotland will stay within Great Britain, the political process allowed the country to organize a referendum which was denied in the Basque Country by the Spanish government. From Scotland to Shetland Islands and Faeroe Islands where the presence of Basques dates as early as 875. There are even similarities in the architecture on Faeroe Islands and the one that is in the Basque Country.

# 4<sup>TH</sup> CHALLENGE EUSKAL ETXEAK

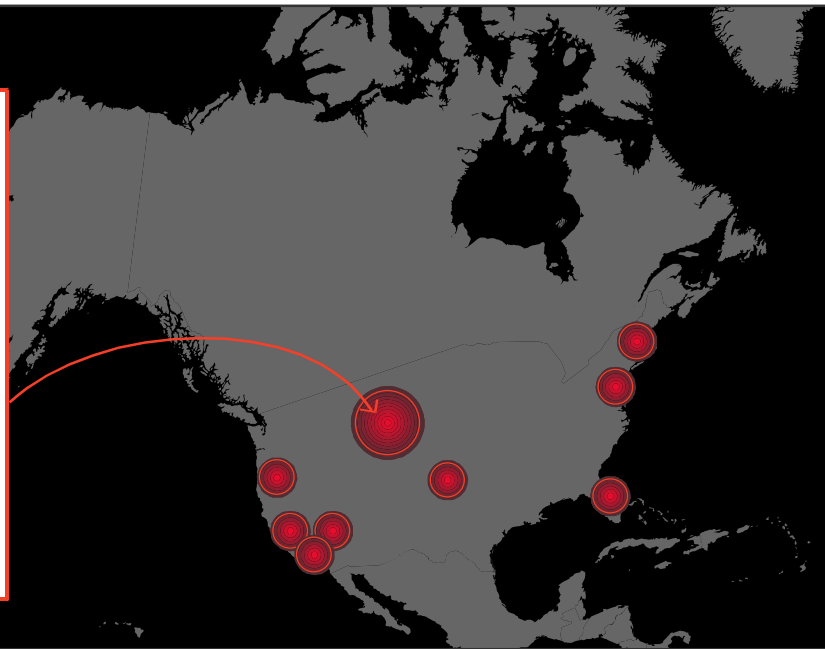


**Euskaletxea** — *Basque-house; a place where Basques use to meet each other and maintain their culture and customs in every country far away from their homeland.*

From Terranova we will set off to Quebec, where strong ties between the inhabitants of Quebec and Basques were preserved until nowadays. The independence spirit is reflected in many ways, one of it is the bar-restaurant situated in San Sebastian. From there heading to Toronto, crossing the border in Detroit and heading to visit most of the Euskaletxeak of the Americas. The Basque heritage in all of that parts had a great impact on society. Nevertheless those histories are easily forgotten, that is why Gogoa Non – Basque Heritage trip will try to revive the Basque spirit. We will try to contact with the descendants of Basques along the continent. Through interviews, videos, conferences reports and online streaming we will share our experience with everyone who is willing to know the history of nations without their lands. Who wanted to create imperishable histories for future generations, whose paper in world's history was dismissed many times. We will restore their place in the world's history so that it will never be forgotten again. Basque fishermen, whalers, shepherds, explorers, traders and even nation leaders created the history of Americas and we would like to retell in once again. By contacting Euskaletxeak we will organize and participate in the talks, conferences and parties dedicated to Basques.

## JAIALDIA 2015

Idaho, Boise which is our destination because of Jaialdia organized in July/August 2015 and which we have to attend. The biggest basque party in the world organized by the city hall, the mayor is a Basque as far as I can remember. Boise is the city with the highest basque population in the US. Shepherding brought many Basques to Idaho where they settled and started a new life preserving old customs and traditions. Another place in this state connected to basques is Mountain Home, where Euskal Lagunak (Basque friends) has its seat.



Nevada: Elko, Reno 1. Elko is the city where North American Basque Organization (NABO) has its headquarters/seat. It is the biggest organization that reunites basques living in the US. So of course it has to appear on our agenda. Probably they will be present at the Jaialdia in Boise as their representatives come from prominent basque families living in the West. 2. Reno – Zazpiak Bat Basque Club; of course connected to the shepherding – interviews with families, shepherds (reference: Amerikanuak).

California is the last place on our Basque Heritage map of the US. Explored during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century by a basque, Sebastian Vizcaino (although some of the sources indicate that he was spanish, he was always described as Vizcaino what means 'coming from the basqueland'). Sebastian Vizcaino was the first man to explore California's Pacific coast and elaborate an exhaustive map. At the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century he was ordered by Gaspar de Zúñiga (another basque, a governor of Monterrey) to explore Pacific coast of today's California. He even reached Oregon. Some of the names given by Vizcaino preserved until nowadays: San Diego Bay, Santa Barbara Channel Islands, Point Conception, Monterey Bay. Sebastian Vizcaino was also named the first Spanish ambassador to Japan. Well, there are of course more histories connected to the basques immigrating to the West coast. The main cities who bear basque features are: San Francisco with its Basque Cultural Centre, Los Banos, Fresno, Bakersfield, Chino, and Los Angeles. Famous courts (jai alai, pelota) and music clubs are situated in those cities which we will visit for sure.



From Mexico to Ushuaia – Basque presence in Latin America has always been significant. Basque immigrants started arriving to the shores of Caribbean islands since the 15<sup>th</sup> century and as a unique community on the one hand they tried to preserve their customs and traditions and on the other hand they started to assimilate with indigenous population. We will visit the most important sites connected with Basques in Mexico and Central America. Certainly this part of our project will be connected with major historical figures, often unknown outside the continent.



Looking for my shepherd

**BENGOETXEA**

**MITXELENA**

**TUMAS**

**ETXENAGUSIA**

**AROZENA**

**RETEGI**

**OLASKOAGA**

**ARRIETA**

While talking about Basques and euskaletxeak along the continent sometimes the subject of Basques as political exiles was barely mentioned. It is connected with ETA terrorist group and Spanish governments' biased actions towards the Basque Country during the years of tension. Many people left the Basque Country afraid of their and their children's lives, heading to Latin America. We would like to devote part of our project to them, and try to find the ones who once left their homeland in search for refuge. It won't be an easy task, but hopefully the one which would help people interested in the subject have a new look on events that had taken place in Spain before and after the democratical transition.



**DO YOU LIKE OUR PROJECT?**

# WE NEED YOUR HELP

Next year we will trigger the project on our website [www.nonedonon.com](http://www.nonedonon.com) and on the following specialized pages:

TREVOLTA

[trevolta.com](http://trevolta.com)



[indiegogo.com](http://indiegogo.com)



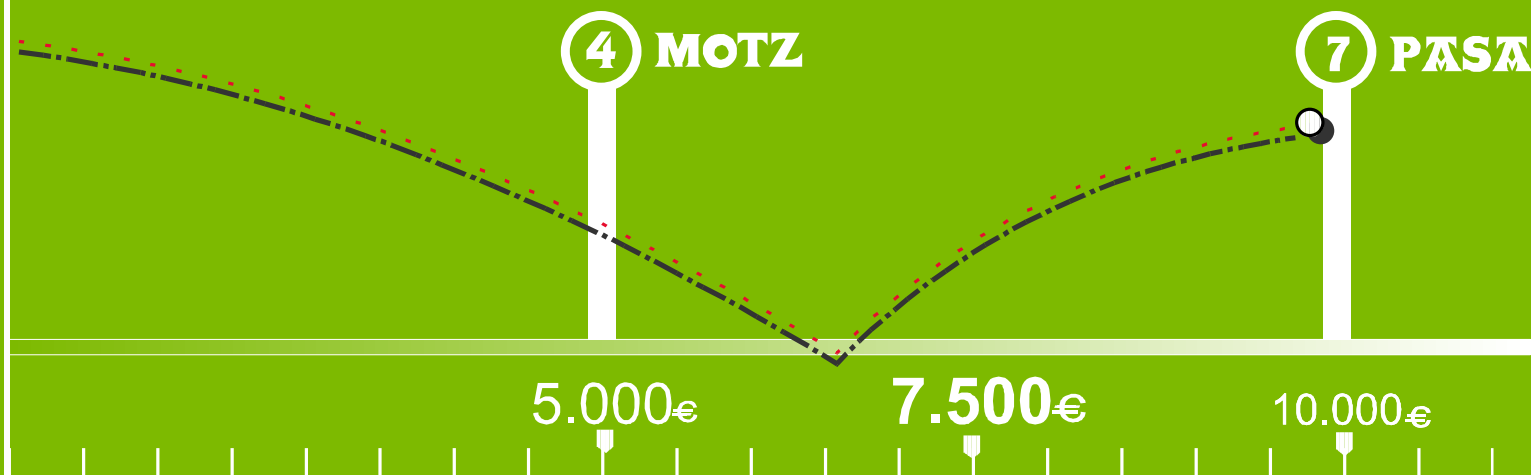
[goteo.org](http://goteo.org)

## CROWDFUNDING

2015

■ BENGOTXEA VIII  
■ SKWAREK

*We have a certain amount of money but we need your contribution to make it viable.*



### Who are the Basques? Where do they come from?

### What stood behind their drive to explore distant lands?

From whale hunters, fishermen, sailors, explorers, mine workers, shepherds to politicians, governors and presidents. Basque Americans until nowadays play a very important role in all american communities.

Differentiating themselves from other peoples through their culture, customs and language - euskera - the oldest language in Europe. We will present you Basque descendants we are going to meet on our way.

### MOTIVATION

Our main motivation is to show the world another, more interesting history of the Basque Country as the mainstream media discourse bases on last 40 years of terrorism of a nation that speaks the oldest language in Europe.

The project is aimed at everyone who was bored during history classes and especially to the descendants of all those Basques who migrated around the world.

## COMMON GOOD

We will create a platform on the internet which will unite basque surnames from the "new world" and the "old world". Moreover the collection of videos and interviews will be available for everyone interested in Basque culture and history. They will not perish in the midst of internet information.

# NON-MATERIAL NECESSITIES

## MATERIALS

Electronic materials – if you got any electronic materials that can help us in our RV van we would welcome them gratefully. Surviving in a RV sometimes may be difficult, even more when you end up in a place without batteries or heating, or if one simply gets lost on its way. We are going to prepare ourselves well, that is what we hope to do, however, any kind of useful devices are necessary (batteries, camaras, memory cards, USB devices, hard discs, heaters, etc)

Clothes – if you got any clothes that would serve us on our way we are ready to wear them! As backpackers moving from warm places to freezing sites, we have to equip ourselves in good clothing materials. Got clothes on the stock? Feel free to let us know!

Your garbage our treasure!

## DiFUSion

Do you know anyone in your community that has Basque roots? Or maybe there is a famous place connected with Basque presence in your city? From Norway's shores to Bruges' marketplaces in Europe and from New Founland to Ushuaia we are going to track Basque histories along both continents. We are willing to participate in local radio programmes and talk about our challenge, interviews or tv shows. Share our project on your social media.

## TRANSPORT

If you are willing to help us with things connected to transport please follow our route visible on the map presented in the project. We will welcome any kind of help, from useful advices on the conditions of transport, roads, etc in each country to helping us to gett from one place to another. It seems that the most challenging experience would be to cross the Atlantic from Iceland to New Foundland, if you can help us with this subject we will be grateful.

## ACCOMMODATiON

Couch surfing – you want to meet us and have a first hand experience? If you're a couchsurfing fan we want to let you know that although we will use the RV or other transport most of the time, nothing is as good as a nice bed! You got one spare – let us know! Do not be afraid to contact with us even for a beer, we want to know local people and cultures.



# INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS



Every penny counts, thank you very much



Personal "Thank You" email

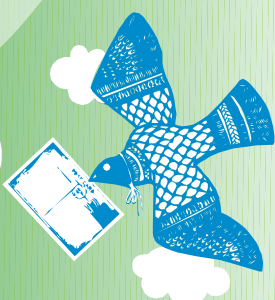


Personal "Thank You" mail  
&  
social media post



Personal "Thank You" mail + social media post

&  
unexpected postcard will arrive to you.  
(We will send you a personally written postcard from a place of our stay)



Personal "Thank You" mail + social media post  
+ unexpected postcard will arrive to you.  
(We will send you a personally written postcard from a place of our stay)

&  
T-shirt



50€  
Thank you

All the perks before



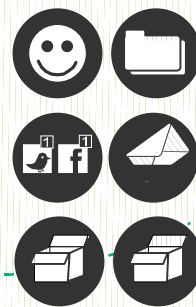
Postcard



DVD  
special edition

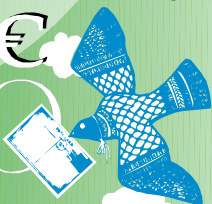


T-shirt



75€  
Thank you

All the perks before



Postcard



DVD  
special edition



T-shirt



Basque Beret



100€  
Thank you

All the perks before



DVD  
special edition



Espadrilles



T-shirt



Basque Beret

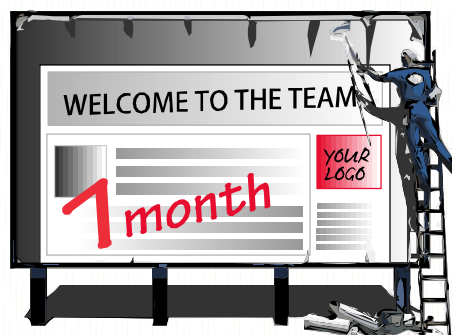


150€  
Thank you

All the perks before



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YOUR LOGO WILL APPEAR AT THE BEGINING AND THE END OF OUR VIDEOS.

1000€

All the perks before

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YOUR LOGO WILL APPEAR AT THE BEGINING AND THE END OF OUR VIDEOS.

## Estimated time of delivery

	"Thanks email" and social post- we will try to answer immediately
	Postcard - you will receive a postcard from a place of our stay during the project
	This DVD contains additional comments about our travel, we will send it to you after we accomplish our project
	Espadrilles are traditional shoes from the Basque Country -We will send a specially elaborated pair to our supporters as soon as we can
	T-shirt - with the " <i>katooak</i> " special design connected to the project We will send it to you as soon as we can
	The traditional beret of Basque country - will make you feel like a real basque shepherd, with a special design connected to the project we will deliver as soon as we can
	Sponsors' Banners - will appear on our website, social media and videos as soon as we begin to work together



**THANKS!**  
FOR SPARING **YOUR TIME**  
**NOW**



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Baque Heritage

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See you in  
**2015**



**TREVOLTA**

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