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## THE BASQUE PYRENEES FREEDOM TRAILS' ASSOCIATION (BPFTA)

(Registered as a Charity/Cultural Association with the Basque Government No: AS/G/19762/2016)

President: Joe Linehan

Secretary: John Morgan

Treasurer: Felipe Etxeberria Agirretxe

### Commemorative Escape Line from St-Jean-Pied-de-Port/Donibane Garazi to Elizondo 20-21 June, 2020

(To participate on the walking trail or otherwise avail of the hired coach, prior registration with BPFTA is required)

#### Our Aims

The Basque Pyrenees Freedom Trails' Association (BPFTA) is a voluntary organisation based in the Basque Country and with an international membership. It is dedicated to the recovery of the historic memory of WW2 Escape Lines' operations across the Basque Pyrenees and which helped Allied escapers and evaders, amongst others, to flee over the Basque Pyrenees border from Nazi-occupied Europe during that conflict. The commemorative events are aimed at paying tribute to all those involved.

During WW2, routes across the Pyrenees in the Basque Country, generally along clandestine smugglers' paths, were a major link in the escape lines' networks. There were various safe-houses on either side of the border and many of the mountain guides were local. Donostia-San Sebastian was an important logistics' point and other Basque cities and villages were involved such as St Jean de Luz/Donibane Lohitzune, Anglet, Oiartzun, Bayonne, Renteria, Hernani, Mendibe, Irún, St.-Jean-Pied-de-Port (Donibane Garazi), Orbaizeta, Otsagabia, Aldudes and Elizondo, to name just a few.

It is important that all those involved on both sides of the frontier are forever remembered for their brave and selfless actions during WW2, knowing that, if caught, they would be tortured, sent to concentration camps and/or executed. Many were.

Thus, BPFTA aim to disseminate knowledge of these WWII escape lines over the Basque Pyrenees and to pay tribute to all those involved from both sides of the frontier and who aided the escapers and evaders: the shepherds and smugglers, etc. who acted as mountain guides, those responsible for logistics, the couriers and safe-house keepers, and to the fugitives themselves. We bring this historical memory to life through commemorative walks across the frontier and with tribute events for those involved, and also by bringing this heritage to the attention of students at second and third level education in the Basque Country – their heritage – as well as of students abroad.

## Programme 19 - 22 June, 2020

Experienced guides will take us on this easy to moderate commemorative two-day trail. On Saturday 20 June our coach will take us from our San Sebastián city hotel to the start point of the first day of our commemorative trek, from just outside Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port/Donibane Garazi in the French Basque Country as far as the village of Banca where a light lunch can be taken, our bus collecting us along the road down to the village. Then our coach will take us to our hotel in Donibane Garazi for the overnight stay. The next morning, Sunday 21, the coach will take us from our hotel to Aldudes, in the beautiful valley of the same name and close to Banca, to hike the second leg, up across the Pyrenees border and then down to the town of Elizondo in the Baztan valley in Navarre. Each day will involve about 13km walking; 3.5-4 hours on foot and, with rests and stops, about 4-5 hours in total each day. We will thus emulate an escape route of 76 years ago. Places of historic and other interest will be pointed out on the way and tribute events with local people and representatives are planned in St.-Jean-Pied-de-Port (Donibane Garazi) and Aldudes in Lower Navarre (both in the French Basque Country) and, across the frontier in the Spanish Basque Country, in Elizondo (Navarre) and in Donostia/San Sebastian and Hernani, both in the province of Gipuzkoa. Only a day backpack is needed on the walks; the rest of the baggage can be left in the hotel in San Sebastian awaiting our Sunday return, or otherwise on the bus.

### Friday, 19 June

Participants from abroad arrive at the Olarain hotel in Donostia-San Sebastián (each participant has to make their own booking with the hotel, quoting the BPFTA block reservation). At 18:45 we will go to the Gros neighbourhood of Donostia/San Sebastián for short tributes to Bernardo Aracama and Antonia Sarasola, key providers of logistics to various Basque escape lines as well as to Luis Lizarrizuri, the former Belgian consul, Resistance member and escape lines helper. Transport costs included in the BPFTA event registration fee. Free evening - recommended walk along the Zurriola promenade and then across the bridge over the river Urumea and into the Old Town of this Basque city with its gastronomic "pintxos" (tapas). Further on is the "Concha" beach and its picturesque marine promenade.

### Saturday, 20 June 2020, 08:00

After breakfast at 07.30 our coach will leave the Olarain hotel at 08:00 with walking and non-walking participants for the 1h.45min journey to our first day walk start point, near St. Jean-Pied-de-Port/Donibane Garazi, starting not later than 10.00. Distribution of fresh water. The ascent from 321m takes us 3.7km above the Arrobi (Nive) valley, following the waymarked GR10 or PR walking trail, to Beharria at 880m, in less than 2 hours with rest stops. Then a gentler ascent along a wide path to our highest point at 957m for another 3.7km. Finally, a 1-1½ hour walk down this path or asphalt road towards the village of Banca for approximately 15.00. Our bus, with any non-walking participants and a supply of fresh water, will pick us up at some point along the road to take us down to the village. So about 4hours on foot+ 1 hour for rest stops and "elevenses" (*hamaiketakoak* in Basque!). In the village we will have a light lunch (about 15€ and to be paid in situ) at the restaurant, below which is the free-admission Mining Interpretative Centre (Banca was renowned for its copper mines, the peak of its smelting and forging industrial activity being in the 1750s).

Our bus will then take us back the 15 minutes to our hotel (Hôtel Central) in St. Jean-Pied-de-Port/Donibane Garazi, where we can shower and rest; there will also be free time to explore this beautiful Basque town. At some time during the afternoon a tribute is planned to thank all those in the region who helped escapers and evaders during WW2. Dinner in the hotel will be at about 21:00 and included in the BPFTA agreed half-board tariff for hotel guests-participants (as per the registration form, individual direct booking with the hotel with credit card required by each participant), quoting the BPFTA block reservation).

### Sunday 21 June, 08:15

At 08:15 and after breakfast in the hotel (from 07:30 and included in the BPFTA half-board tariff for participants), the coach will leave the hotel to take us up past Banca and to the next village of Aldudes, to start walking the second leg of the Freedom Trail at about 09.00. Aldudes was famous as a smuggling point and there is an Escape Lines monument in the Square opposite the WWII safe house of Hôtel Baillea. A short tribute will be held here in honour of WW2 helpers and escapers.

The first hour is a 3 km climb from 387m, past the Pyrenees frontier at 730m, and up to our highest point at 760m. Then a gentle 2-2½-hour, 10km walk down to Elizondo in the Valley of Baztan (13km, walking time 3.5 hours, total time including rest stops, 4.5hrs). Here, at lunchtime, a tribute event is planned with local people and authorities to give thanks to all those in the region who helped fugitives escape during WWII (restaurant lunch 15€- 25€ to be paid in situ).

At about 17:00 our coach will take us back to our hotel in Donostia/San Sebastián and a free evening.

### **Monday, 30 June 2019, lunchtime**

For those remaining on the Monday, there is an optional lunchtime visit to the nearby town of Hernani with its monument to the four local mountain guides who helped escapers and evaders during WWII, followed by lunch in a local cider house (cost c.35€ to be paid at the restaurant). Participants to arrange own transport (private car or taxi) to Loidi, Hernani.

### **NOTES ON ACCOMMODATION (All prices include VAT)**

Taking into account the good quality of the hotels and the high-season, favourable tariffs have been agreed with both hotels for the BPFTA group. In order to take advantage of this deal, each participant must book directly, quoting "BPFTA". Our block reservation tariffs quoted below are applicable until March 2020. After that date or otherwise once our block booking is full, room availability is not guaranteed, or at these tariffs.

For the nights of Friday 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> of June, at the Olarain hotel, Ondarreta Pasealekua, 24, 20008 Donostia, Gipuzkoa. Spain. Phone: 943 003300; email: [javiermarin@olarain.com](mailto:javiermarin@olarain.com), the BPFTA-agreed tariffs for the room including breakfast for this hotel are: Friday or Sunday night: single use of a room 92.50€, double or twin room 122.00€. All rooms have private shower, toilet and TV. We would ask participants to pay for the Friday night accommodation on that day (or before) so time is not lost at reception on the Saturday morning. Luggage can be left here until Sunday or the Monday morning.

For Saturday 20 June at the Central Hotel, 1 Place Charles de Gaulle, St. Jean-Pied-de-Port/Donibane Garazi, France. Phone: +33 5 59 37 00 22; email: [central.centralhotel6@orange.fr](mailto:central.centralhotel6@orange.fr), the BPFTA-PBCL agreed tariff for guests-participants is for half board, i.e. accommodation, Saturday night dinner and Sunday morning breakfast, and includes local taxes. All rooms have private shower, toilet and TV. The half-board accommodation tariff for individual use is 132.90€, a double-bed room for two is 175,80€, and a twin-bedded room for two is 185,80€. We would ask participants to pay for the Saturday night accommodation on that day so no time is lost at reception on the Sunday morning. Any doubts at reception, ask to speak to Christine.

Participants who wish to stay at Olarain or other hotel in Donostia/San Sebastian prior to 19 June or after 21 June will need to make those arrangements directly with the hotel, not necessarily at the BPFTA-agreed tariff.

### **NOTES ON TRANSPORT and LOGISTICS**

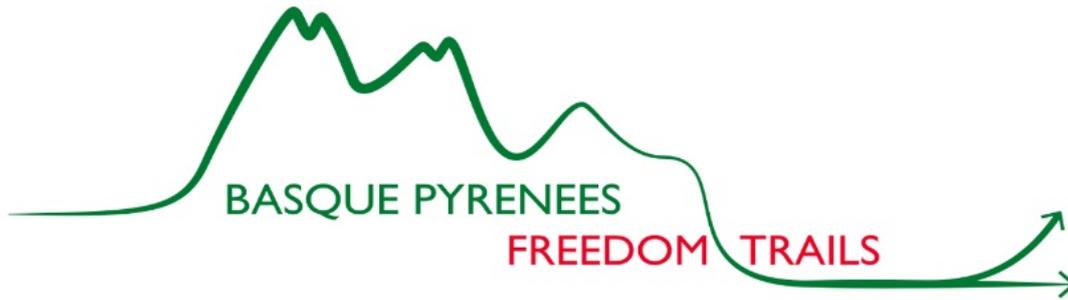
A hired bus will be at our disposal from 08:00 on Saturday until drop-off at our hotel on Sunday evening. Please note that coach pick-up and drop-off points in Donostia/San Sebastian and Jean-Pied-de-Port/Donibane Garazi during the weekend are at these two BPFTA-listed hotels only. As logistics back-up, the vehicle, with non-walking participants, will shadow our walks as much as road access allows.

### **COST**

The cost per participant, walker and non-walker, is 80€. This includes the cost of transport on Friday evening from the hotel to the Gros neighbourhood of San Sebastian for two tributes, the cost of coach transport for the two days, the two guides, logistics back-up, bottled water replenishment at en route meeting points with the vehicle, and third-party civil responsibility insurance cover for BPFTA (each participant must also have their own personal accident/medical insurance cover).

With the support of: The Irish-Basque Association *LagunCara* ([www.laguncara.com](http://www.laguncara.com))





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## BASQUE PYRENEES FREEDOM TRAILS' ASSOCIATION (BPFTA)

Registration\* for Commemorative Freedom Trail St-Jean-Pied-de-Port/Donibane Garazi to Elizondo,  
19-22 June, 2020

Name and surname (print)..... Age .....

Address, e-mail and contact number (for the duration of the walk/event) .....

I AM PARTICIPATING AS (mark with an "x")

A walking participant	<input type="checkbox"/>
and I wish to book a seat on the coach	<input type="checkbox"/>
A non-walking participant	<input type="checkbox"/>
and I wish to book a seat on the coach	<input type="checkbox"/>

### ACCOMMODATION

Participants must confirm their booking arrangements directly with the hotels:  
Olarain in Donostia/San Sebastian on 19 and/or 21 June and/or the Hôtel Central in St-Jean-Pied-de-Port/Donibane Garazi on the 20 June.  
Please tick the hotels you have reserved:

Olarain (DSS) Friday 19 June	Olarain (DSS) Sunday 21 June	Central (DG) Saturday 20 June
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**(OR) I do not need accommodation**

\*All information on this inscription form, required to plan logistics and for BPFTA-organised commemorative walks, meals or tributes, will be treated in strict confidence (see the Privacy Policy below).

numbers attending any of

**MEALS (to be paid *in situ*)**

**I wish to reserve lunch for Saturday 20 June, 2020 in Banca (cost approximately 15€)**

**I wish to reserve lunch for Sunday 21 June, 2020 in Elizondo (cost approximately 15€-25€)**

**(Optional) I wish to reserve lunch for Monday 22 June in Hernani cider-house (cost approximately 35.00€)**

**DETAILS OF YOUR INSURANCE & ANY SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS**

1. BPFTA does not accept any responsibility for any personal accidents, injury or illness, or for any theft, loss or damage to participants' property. Participants must have their own full insurance and be in suitable physical condition for hiking. Please enter your insurance details below. All persons attending these events do so at their own risk, and with their own medical/insurance policy.

Insurance company (or Federated Mountain/Sports Club with policy cover) and Policy number:

.....

2. Participants may be required to forward relevant details of their insurance policy document to the organisers in advance of the event (e.g. details of repatriation if necessary, etc.).
3. If you have any special medical needs (e.g. asthma), you should take professional advice (insurance, medical, etc.) on the suitability of participating as a walker.
4. Please state if you have any special dietary requirements (non-gluten, non-nuts or non-fungi diet, vegetarian, vegan, etc.).

.....

5. Emergency contact person and number: .....

.....

**PAYMENT DETAILS**

I wish to participate in the BPFTA-organised commemorative event on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 of June, 2020 and agree to pay **80€** per participant to cover: the cost of transport on Friday to the neighbourhood of Gros for two tributes, the cost of transport over the two days, the two guides, logistics back-up, bottled water replenishment at en route meeting points with the vehicle, and third-party civil responsibility insurance cover for BPFTA (each participant must also have their own personal accident/medical insurance cover). Payment must be made in advance of the event directly into the BPFTA Spanish bank account, IBAN number: ES05 0081 4240 9700 0114 3625 and BIC: BSABESBB, indicating the name(s) of the participant(s) and ensuring that you mention "BPFTA" on the Bank transfer form. The Bank name and address is Banco Sabadell, Andrekale Kalea, 50, 20120 Hernani, Gipuzkoa, Spain.

**N.B. Any mailing, banking or other costs arising from bank or internet transfers have to be paid by the person making the payment.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Passport or ID No.; \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this completed, signed and dated participation form, with a copy of the payment receipt, to: BPFTA Secretary: John Morgan, 36, St. Laurence Road, Chapelizod, Dublin 20, Ireland and/or by email to [basquefreedomtrailsww2@gmail.com](mailto:basquefreedomtrailsww2@gmail.com)

## Privacy Policy

### 1. Who we are

BPFTA is a registered cultural association in the Basque Country (Registered with the Basque Government No: AS/G/19762/2016).

During WW2, routes across the Pyrenees in the Basque Country, along clandestine smugglers' paths, were a major link in the escape lines' networks. There were various safe-houses on either side of the border, many of the mountain guides were locals, and Basques cities and many villages were involved – Donostia-San Sebastian, St Jean de Luz, Oiartzun, Bayonne, Renteria, Hernani, Mendibe, Irún, St.-Jean-de-Pie-Port (Garazi), Isaba, Orbaizeta, Otsagabia, to name just a few.

It is important that all those involved on both sides of the frontier are forever remembered for their brave and selfless actions during WW2.

Thus, the aims of BPFTA are to disseminate knowledge of these WWII escape lines over the Basque Pyrenees, to pay tribute to all those involved from either side of the frontier who aided the escapers and evaders, such as the mountain guides ("mugalarris"), those responsible for logistics, the couriers and safe-house keepers, and to the fugitives themselves. We aim to bring these tributes to life through commemorative walks across the frontier and by drawing up educational material for use in second and third level education, both here and abroad.

Its activities include:

- disseminating knowledge of these WWII escape lines over the Basque Pyrenees
- paying tribute to all those involved from either side of the frontier who aided the escapers and evaders, such as the mountain guides ("mugalarris"), those responsible for logistics, the couriers and safe-house keepers, and to the fugitives themselves.

- drawing up educational material for use in second and third level education, both in the Basque Country and further afield.
- acquisition of books, photos, memoirs and other documents for BPFTA's archive, relevant to the above commemorations
- providing information exchange between supporters and other interested parties
- keeping supporters informed by way of email and BPFTA's website

## 2. What is personal data?

Any information that could identify a living person. It can include email addresses, phone numbers, names and anonymous information from which it is possible to make an identification.

## 3. How does BPFTA collect and hold your data securely?

When you write to BPFTA any details about you may be retained by BPFTA. As well as addresses and phone numbers, that may include your relationship with an ancestor who was an evader, guide, helper etc and any documents, photos and other paraphernalia which you forward to us.

BPFTA has put in place appropriate security measures to prevent your personal data from being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed. In addition, access is limited to those officers, agents, contractors and other third parties who have a need to know in order to fulfil BPFTA's aims. They will only process your personal data on BPFTA's instructions and they are subject to a duty of confidentiality. Procedures have been put in place to deal with any suspected personal data breach and you and any relevant regulator will be notified of any breach where there is a legal requirement to do so. If you think that any part of BPFTA's process is not secure please email to [basquefreedomtrailsw2@gmail.com](mailto:basquefreedomtrailsw2@gmail.com).

## 4. How BPFTA uses your personal data

BPFTA uses the information you provide in the ways you would expect given the activities set out in 1 above. That is:

- Sending other information updates
- Inviting supporters to events
- Use of photos on the website
- Use of evaders' and others' accounts provided on the website (to include photos/memorabilia forwarded to us)
- Adding it to BPFTA's archive
- Occasional fundraising activities

These are the only purposes for which BPFTA uses your data, together only with any further purposes that are compatible with those outlined above.

BPFTA does not sell or share your data with any individual or organisation. Should an individual who is interested in BPFTA's activities wish to make contact with any of our supporters, your permission will be requested in the first instance.

## 5. Cookies

A cookie is a small file which asks permission to be placed on your computer's hard drive. Once you agree, the file is added and the cookie helps analyse web traffic or lets you know when you visit a particular site. Cookies allow web applications to respond to you as an individual. The web application can tailor its operations to your needs, likes and dislikes by gathering and remembering information about your preferences.

We use traffic log cookies to identify which pages are being used. This helps us analyse data about web page traffic and improve our website in order to tailor it to customer needs. We only use this information for statistical analysis purposes and then the data is removed from the system.

Overall, cookies help us provide you with a better website, by enabling us to monitor which pages you find useful and which you do not. A cookie in no way gives us access to your computer or any information about you, other than the data you choose to share with us.

You can set your browser to refuse all or some browser cookies, or to alert you when websites set or access cookies. If you disable or refuse cookies, please note that some parts of this website may become inaccessible or not function properly.

## 6. Your rights

Under certain circumstances, you have rights under data protection laws in relation to your personal data. You have a right to:

**Request access** to your personal data (commonly known as a "data subject access request"). This enables you to receive a copy of the personal data we hold about you and to check that we are lawfully processing it.

**Request correction** of the personal data that we hold about you. This enables you to have any incomplete or inaccurate data we hold about you corrected, though we may need to verify the accuracy of the new data you provide to us.

**Request erasure** of your personal data. This enables you to ask us to delete or remove personal data where there is no good reason for us continuing to process it. You also have the right to ask us to delete or remove your personal data where you have successfully exercised your right to object to processing (see below), where we may have processed your information unlawfully or where we are required to erase your personal data to comply with local law. Note, however, that we may not always be able to comply with your request of erasure for specific legal reasons which will be notified to you, if applicable, at the time of your request.

**Object to processing** of your personal data where we are relying on a legitimate interest (or those of a third party) and there is something about your particular situation which makes you want to object to processing on this ground as you feel it impacts on your fundamental rights and freedoms. You also have the right to object where we are processing your personal data for direct marketing purposes. In some cases, we may demonstrate that we have compelling legitimate grounds to process your information which override your rights and freedoms.

**Request restriction of processing** of your personal data. This enables you to ask us to suspend the processing of your personal data in the following scenarios: (a) if you want us to establish the data's accuracy; (b) where our use of the data is unlawful but you do not want us to erase it; (c) where you need us to hold the data even if we no longer require it as you need it to establish, exercise or defend legal claims; or (d) you have objected to our use of your data but we need to verify whether we have overriding legitimate grounds to use it.

**Request the transfer** of your personal data to you or to a third party. We will provide to you, or a third party you have chosen, your personal data in a structured, commonly used, machine-readable format. Note that this right only applies to automated information which you initially provided consent for us to use or where we used the information to perform a contract with you.

**Withdraw consent at any time** where we are relying on consent to process your personal data. However, this will not affect the lawfulness of any processing carried out before you withdraw your consent. If you withdraw your consent, we may not be able to provide certain products or services to you. We will advise you if this is the case at the time you withdraw your consent.

If you wish to exercise any of the rights set out above, please email BPFTA on [basquefreedomtrailsww2@gmail.com](mailto:basquefreedomtrailsww2@gmail.com)

You will not have to pay a fee to access your personal data (or to exercise any of the other rights). However, we may charge a reasonable fee if your request is clearly unfounded, repetitive or excessive. Alternatively, we may refuse to comply with your request in these circumstances.

## 7. Glossary

### **Processing**

Everything that BPFTA does with your personal information, including sending you emails or postal correspondence, putting photos and other documents on the website.

### **Legitimate interests**

This is the basis upon which we process your data. It means that BPFTA only uses your data in ways you would reasonably expect and which have a minimal privacy impact.

BPFTA has carried out an assessment and considers it can lawfully process your data on this basis.