

## **SAN SEBASTIÁN FOOD LAUNCHES GOURMET EXPERIENCE VOUCHERS IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Jon Warren, culinary creator and owner of gastro experience company San Sebastián Food, is offering a range of gourmet gift vouchers this Christmas for food and wine lovers to treat their friends or family to the ultimate gourmet weekend away.**

The voucher gift boxes which are valid for one year offer a range of experiences especially designed to feature the best of San Sebastián's rich culture and gastronomy which in recent years has enjoyed a reputation for being one of the best cuisines in the world.

Beautifully presented in a handmade hinged box with an authentic wax seal, the voucher gift boxes include a personalised itinerary with details of the chosen gastro experience. Ranging from a Pintxos Tasting Tour to Basque Cookery classes, Rekondo Wine Tasting or dinner at the world renowned restaurant Arzak, holder of three Michelin stars and ranked number 9 in the prestigious S.Pellegrino 'World's Best Restaurants 2010', visitors will get the chance to discover Basque Cuisine at its very finest.

For a whole weekend of culinary delights, three food and wine experiences are recommended. A sample gourmet itinerary starts from €400 for two people including a Pintxo Tasting Tour, a Gourmet Tasting Tour and a Pintxos Cooking Class allowing visitors to develop the necessary skills to recreate their favourite Basque dishes at home.

Pintxo tasting is an integral part of Basque lifestyle and a must for any visitor to San Sebastián. Combining exceptional quality bites of food paired with mini glasses of wine in each bar, visitors will wander the streets of the old town of San Sebastián and visit six wonderful bars in the two hour culinary adventure. From slow cooked veal cheek to juicy grilled prawns, wild mushrooms, marinated anchovies or the most delicious seared foie gras, this is a fabulous introduction to the Basque Country's culinary culture.

The Gourmet Tasting Tour takes visitors from historic landmarks such as the La Bretxa market to small independent shops selling the finest quality Spanish and Basque produce. Visitors can discover the secrets of the local shopkeepers, sample their produce and get an understanding for where the produce has been grown and produced.

For those eager to learn a new skill, San Sebastián Food run an authentic cookery class focused on fresh, seasonal produce in a traditional working restaurant. Tucked away in the corner of the village plaza at the water's edge, the cooking courses are run by San Sebastián born chef Alex Barcenilla. Alex is the head chef of the restaurant and has over 20 years of experience including two years working at Akelarre\*\*\*, the 3 Michelin star restaurant in San Sebastián. His passion for cooking and knowledge of traditional Basque cuisine coupled with his experience at top level restaurants makes him an excellent teacher.

For a truly special treat, the three night food and wine adventure is priced at €1,195 for two people and includes a Pintxos Tasting Tour, Basque cooking class, 3 course dinner and wine tasting at Rekondo (which boasts one of the greatest wine cellars in the world), and an unforgettable 3 Michelin star dinner at Arzak offering the chance to sample the contemporary and innovative interpretation of classic dishes by award winning chef Juan Mari Arzak.

Tailored to varying budgets and tastes, the gift box vouchers are the perfect gourmet present this Christmas and ideal for those looking for a special gift experience. The gift box is designed to be an integral part of the gastro weekend away to store recipes, tasting notes and food tips and also contains a specially created booklet with details on how to make the most of the region as well as the famous cuisine and the Basque language and culture.

For more details on all the gastro experiences available, please visit [www.sansebastianfood.com](http://www.sansebastianfood.com) or consult the team to create an unforgettable Christmas gift.

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For more information or images please visit [www.sansebastianfood.com](http://www.sansebastianfood.com) or email Kate McWilliams or Jules Ugo at [firstname@lotus-uk.co.uk](mailto:firstname@lotus-uk.co.uk). Alternatively please call 0207 953 7470