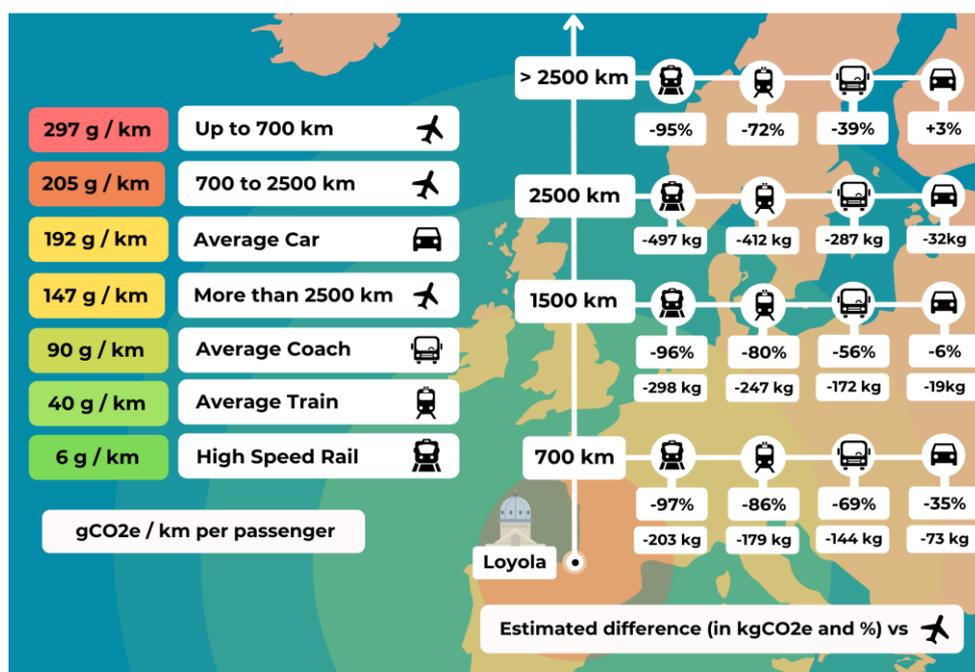


Getting to Loyola

(v.1 Dec2021)

0. Foreword

* We're wholeheartedly inviting all the Congress participants to travel by land to Loyola whenever that is possible, so that our call and commitment to a more sustainable world is put into practice. The JESC ecology team developed a simple infographics where the carbon print savings, when compared to travelling by plane, are calculated (data from ADEME & Milieucentraal.nl was used). Other measures to have a more "sustainable Congress" will also be adopted and suggested.



* Loyola lies in the beautiful Urola Valley in the Spanish Basque Country, between Bilbao and San Sebastian, and it is surrounded by green landscapes, steep hills and fast-running rivers. The last leg of the trip to arrive to Loyola will have to be done by bus (or car), and if done during daylight, it's a beautiful scenery worth to be enjoyed.

1. Arriving by plane

* For those arriving by plane, the best option is to fly to the [International Airport of Bilbao \(BIO\)](#), called "Loiu Airport".

* From there, there are several ways of travelling to Loyola by bus. The simplest one is getting a fast bus (which takes the highway) to San Sebastian/Donostia ([D050B Line](#), PESA [Lurraldebus](#), there is one leaving the airport every hour and it takes 1h15min, price 17,10€). Once in San Sebastian, one must take then the regional bus to Loyola ([UK01 Line](#), LaGuipuzcoana bus to Azktoia-Azpeitia, leaves every half an hour and takes 1h15min, price 1,35€; the bus stop is one of the last, after Azpeitia, and please ask the driver to tell you when to get off the bus, right next to the Sanctuary).

* It is also possible to get a taxi directly from the airport of Bilbao to Loyola. The distance is c.70 km, and the estimated price is c.120-150 €.

* As we foresee that a fair number of participants will arrive by plane (mainly the ones coming from farther in Europe and from other continents), we're considering the possibility of having a bus leaving the airport on Sunday 27th March evening (between 20.00-22.00), and another one on Monday 28th March around noon (12.00-13.00). This will be decided once the travel details of the participants are known (and the same applies to the end of the Congress).

* We kindly ask for your understanding that it will not be possible to collect participants in other timetables, and that each one must take charge of her/his arrival to Loyola.

2. Arriving by train

* For those arriving by train, the best reference is the train station of Hendaya (the "last" train station in France before arriving to Spain), to which many TGV (french fast trains) arrive.

* In Hendaya one can take the regional train that crosses the border to Irún (the "first" train station in Spain) and goes to San Sebastian ([Euskotren](#) direction Lasarte-Oria, leaves every 30 minutes and takes 45 min, price 2€). One must leave the train in the Amara main station, walk 900 m to Paseo Garcia Federico Lorca 1, and once there take the regional bus to Loyola ([UK01 Line](#), LaGuipuzcoana bus to Azktoia-Azpeitia, leaves every half an hour and takes 1h15min, price 1,35€; the bus stop is one of the last ones, after Azpeitia, and please ask the driver to tell you when to get off the bus, right next to the Sanctuary).

* There's also the possibility of getting a taxi from San Sebastian to Loyola, the distance is c. 50 km and the estimated cost is c.100-120 €.

3. Final notes

* Other options to get to Loyola by plane are flying to Madrid or other cities in Spain, and then taking the train. If that is the case, the best thing to do is travelling to San Sebastian or Zumárraga, because these two cities have direct bus connection to Loyola (see above for San Sebastian; as from Zumárraga, [UK6 Line](#), bus LaGuipuzoana heading to Zumaia, and get off in Loyola).

* As it was already explained to the network coordinators, the price to the Congress includes (up to) 5 nights in Loyola, that is, participants arriving on Sunday 27th March and leaving on Friday 1st April, or arriving on Monday 28th March and leaving on Saturday 2nd April. But if an extra night is necessary (that is, arriving on Sunday and leaving on Saturday, that is possible, only an extra fee of 53 € will have to be paid).

* [GoogleMaps](#) is of course also a good tool to organize the trip to Loyola. The Sanctuary of Loyola has a webpage [here](#), and it includes a description (similar to ours) of how to get there.

* Please be aware that a few names in "euskera" (the basque language), are different from the ones in spanish (like San Sebastian-Donostia). They usually (but not always) are presented together.

* Finally, and as for the Covid situation, we're following it closely but expect the Congress to happen in presence (with all the safety measures required from the health authorities). In case there's a possibility of change (like changing to hybrid form), we'll immediately get in touch with the participants. As a simple matter of precaution, when buying the tickets we suggest to check if changeable tickets/refundable tickets/cancelation insurance are available for a small extra fee.

JESC Organizing Team

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