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## Spain's best cycling holidays











Follow the pros to the unspoilt Basque Country CREDIT: GETTY

ith the professionals currently tackling the Vuelta a España, one of cycling's three Grand Tours, we've unearthed eight of the best two-wheeled Spanish breaks for mere mortals.

## The Picos de Europa

The Picos de Europa National Park is an extraordinary prickling of scenery that lurks just inland from the Asturian coast and is easily reached from the UK via Asturias, Santander or Bilbao airports. It's an immensely popular destination for Spanish tourists, yet rather less visited by Brits, which is a peculiar state of affairs when you consider the abundant virtues on show: staggering, razor-sharp peaks and adjacent Atlantic beaches that are reminiscent of Cornwall. Among the highlights for cyclists is the climb to Lagos de Covadonga, a Vuelta staple, which - as the name suggests - features fantastic lake views.

Marmot Tours offers a five-night "Classic Cols of the Picos" itinerary, which also offers the chance to grovel your way up the stupidly steep Alto de l'Angliru, to the west of the national park. The next departures are in May 2020; £1,180pp. Or to truly immerse yourself in the lofty