

Deapie, with its numerous protagonists, is a journey from the past into the future of a town that you are now part of.

Have any of the landmarks on the route conjured up a memory? Or perhaps a building, a landscape, an image has caught your eye... That stop on the way, enjoying an irresistible tapa, which we call a *pintxo* here. A feeling, a corner, the snapshot of a moment...

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BASQUE GOVERNMENT  
Ministry of Tourism,  
Trade and Consumer Affairs

Technical assistance and co-ordination: Reharq

Idea and technical management: Getxo Tourist Information Office

Please contact us for further information: 944 91 08 00 / www.getxo.eus/info

deapie Self-guided tours  
of Getxo



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## The route

Manuel María Smith represents a whole generation of Basque architects who left their mark on Getxo in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Smith listened to Bilbao society at the time and understood perfectly their taste for all things English, as reflected in sport, fashion...as well as in architecture.

The route starts in the square beside Neguri metro station, which is most appropriate, as the idea behind the neighbourhood of Neguri belonged to railway entrepreneurs.

Guided by Manuel M<sup>a</sup> Smith, we will be visiting Neguri's most iconic corners, which he helped to give an identity, as a place designed for and by the Basque upper middle-classes in those years. We will be looking at some of the more characteristic buildings, such as Los Rosales, the church of El Carmen and the Eguzkialde Palace (popularly referred to as "the mayoress's house").



Los Rosales, the flower that gave its name to a mansion route, and Rafael de Garamendi's masterpiece. It is one of the maximum expressions of the juxtaposition between different English styles and aspects corresponding to Basque and Spanish tradition. Its developer, Juan José Uribe, combined ten separate plots to create the grounds for this building. Since 1986, it has been the head-offices of the Seguros Bilbao insurance company.

**A neighbourhood designed to be enjoyed**  
Neguri was designed as a neighbourhood of elegant buildings with gardens, standing on large plots among tree-lined avenues. Its streets were provided with communal and sports facilities, such as the Church of El Carmen and the Real Club Jolaseta tennis club (which is on the deapie route dedicated to Elvira Larrazabal), as places where the local residents could socialise.

**Neguri's architects**  
Despite being this route's protagonist, Manuel M<sup>a</sup> Smith was not the only famous architect in Getxo at that time. The splendour of the first thirty years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century attracted some of the era's finest architects. Professionals of the calibre of Rafael de Garamendi, Mario Camiña, Emiliano Amano, Ricardo Bastida, and Fidel Iturria, among others, rubbed shoulders in these streets, seeing how the neighbourhood they had created took shape.

Did you know...

**The railway, a constant presence throughout Getxo's history**  
Neguri was founded in 1903 by José Isaac Amano, Valentín Gorbena and Enrique Aresti (managing director, chief engineer and chairman of the board, respectively, of the Santander-Bilbao railway company). Together they founded a real-estate company called Sociedad de Terrenos de Neguri, and they asked Getxo Town Hall for permission to begin the urban development process. The first buildings date from 1905, and some of them are still standing! This gives the neighbourhood its very own special atmosphere.

**Interesting facts**  
Towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a number of upper middle-class families in Bilbao decided to swap the summer heat in the city for the cool air in Getxo and its sea breezes. This change of residence initially took place only during the summer months. When Neguri was created, however, all this changed: the new neighbourhood became home to the upper classes all the year round, even in winter. Its name -proposed by the influential Basque academic Resurrección María de Azkue - stems from *neguko hiria* ('the winter city').

## The dignitary

### Manuel M.ª Smith (1879-1956)







Manuel M<sup>a</sup> Smith Ibarra descends from Irish settlers who arrived in Bilbao in the 18th century. In 1896, he began his studies at the School of Architecture in Madrid, where he was so successful that in 1902 King Alfonso XIII in person awarded him the medal of most distinguished student.

Besides excelling in the field of architecture, he was also a prominent member of the upper middle-classes to which he belonged, as both his father's and his mother's surnames carried as much prestige as any one of his customers. He was also a great patron of the arts, founding the Bilbao Association of Friends of the Opera and being a founding member of the Philharmonic Society. In recognition of his career and prolific contribution to Getxo, on 14 December 1957 the Local Authority named a street after him in Las Arenas.

**Neguri was the place where a large part of Bizkaia's upper middle-classes settled at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Would you like to visit one of the province's most beautiful neighbourhoods?**  
The deapie protagonist on this occasion was one of its main architects, namely, Manuel M<sup>a</sup> Smith.

**OVERALL DISTANCE:** 2200 m.  
**WALKING TIME:** 26 min.  
**SELF-GUIDED WALKING TIME\*1:** 105 min.  
**DIFFICULTY:** Low.  
**ACCESSIBLE:** Yes.  
**CALORIES\*2:** 125.  
**START:** The square Plaza de la Estación de Metro de Neguri.  
**END:** The square Plaza Darío de Regoyos.








\*1. Includes walking time, enough time to stop at each point on the way, and a 15-minute break to enjoy the local food, shops, parks and recreational areas.  
\*2. Average amount burnt by an adult. Calculate your own calorie consumption: 0.029 × body weight in kg × 2.2 × overall walking time in minutes = approximate number of calories burnt.

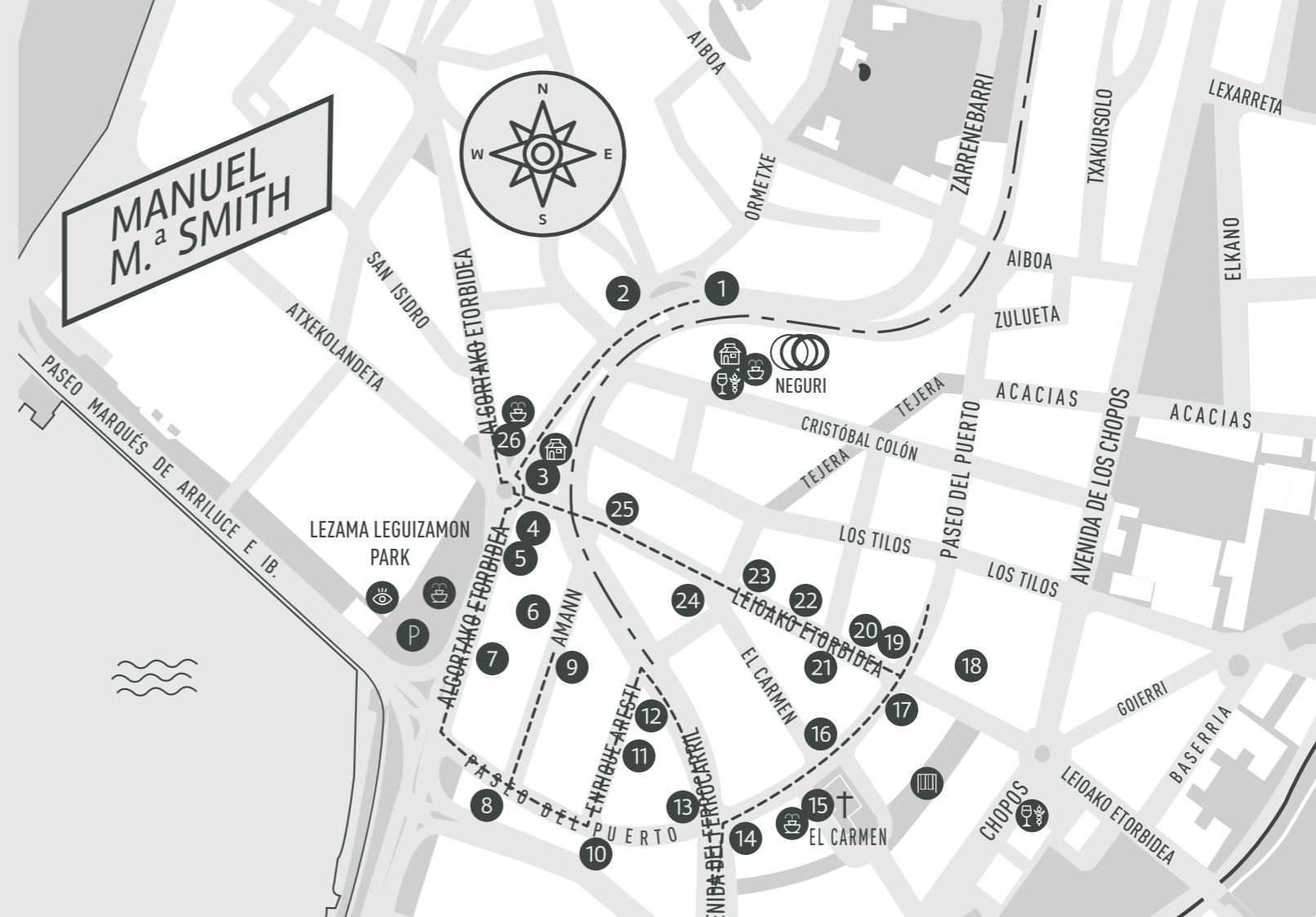
-  Car park
-  Children's playground
-  Shopping
-  Viewpoint
-  Gastronomy
-  Fountain

- 1 The square Plaza de la Estación de Neguri** –  Zarrenabbarri, 1  
Beside the old train station (1906). A listed building and one of the few railway stations from that time that are still standing in Bizkaia.
- 2 Housing block (1928)** –  Avenida Neguri, 9  
Referred to as the “Plaza de Toros” (bullring) because of its round shape. It was designed, built and lived in by Manuel M<sup>a</sup> Smith.
- 3 Casa Izpegi (1911)** –  Avenida Leioa, 1 – corner with Avenida Neguri  
Designed by Emiliano Amann, it has features of Neo-Basque architecture.
- 4 Burdin Bidarte House (1904, ..., 2018)**  
–  Avenida Leioa, 2 – corner with Avenida Algorta  
Diseño de Pedro Peláez, en 1926 la hereda Dolores Prado, esposa de nuestro protagonista, para residencia de verano.
- 5 Marqués de Olaso Palace (1926)**  
–  Avenida Algorta, 8 – Avenida Ferrocarril, 4  
It has a dignified appearance thanks to its overriding symmetry and the corner towers, designed by Manuel M<sup>a</sup> Smith.
- 6 Bidegain House (1920)**  
–  Avenida Algorta, 2 (main façade on Amann, 2)  
Its main features are its façades, decorated with false timber

arrangements that simulate the structure of a Basque farmhouse, a *caserio*, designed by Manuel M<sup>a</sup> Smith.

- 7 Vallejo House (1924, 1952)**  
–  Avenida Algorta, 2 (main façade on Amann, 4)  
Smith once again shows off his skill at combining different architectural styles.
- 8 Eguzkialde Palace (1918, 2018)**  
–  Carreterra de Asua a la Avanzada, 1 – Paseo del Puerto 2  
Designed by Leonardo Rucabado in the *Montañés* style, it combines the architectural features of mansions in Cantabria with Renaissance and Baroque details.
- 9 Villa Victoria (1905)** –  Amann, 3  
Designed by José Picaza, it is the only villa from that time still standing on that side of Amann Street.
- 10 Eguren House – Prado House (1928, 1938)**  
–  Paseo del Puerto, 6  
In a regionalist style and inspired by Baroque Basque Palaces. The highlights on its facade, designed by Smith, are the gallery, the columns and the terrace.
- 11 Villa (1905, ..., 1935)** –  Enrique Aresti, 3  
The original project by Pedro Guimón has been significantly altered, with a highlight being the present combination of English and Neo-Basque traditions with Neo-*Montañés* details.

- 12 Villa (1911, 1990)** –  Avenida Ferrocarril, 10 – corner with Aresti  
Designed in a traditional English style by Manuel Camarón. Its value lies in its outstanding scenic position and the early date of its construction.
- 13 Bazter etxea (1905, 1995)** –  Avenida Ferrocarril 16  
One of Manuel M<sup>a</sup> Smith's first projects. Its English style and garden still blend in perfectly with the landscape in Neguri.
- 14 Villa Leku Eder (1919)** –  Paseo del Puerto, 10  
Built by Emiliano Amann, a villa in the Neo-Basque and English styles.
- 15 Church of Nuestra Señora del Carmen (1909)**  
–  Paseo del Puerto, 18 – corner with Carmen  
Built by Emiliano Amann. Its outline represents an inverted ship's keel, with its prow facing toward the high altar.
- 16 Villa Eguzki-eder (1913)** –  Paseo del Puerto, 11  
Designed by Emiliano Amann, its appearance combines features of English and Neo-Basque influence.
- 17 Villa (1913)** –  Avenida Leioa, 20  
Built by Manuel Salazar, it has an eclectic design with an old-fashioned appearance.
- 18 Los Rosales (1917)** –  Paseo del Puerto, 20  
Rafael de Garamendi's masterpiece and the sole building on the entire block (12,000 m<sup>2</sup>!).



- 19 Villa Rosa (1911)** –  Avenida Leioa, 27 – corner with Paseo del Puerto  
By José Bilbao Lopetegui, it is noteworthy for its English influence and its differentiating colour.
- 20 Villa Rafael (1912)** –  Avenida Leioa, 25  
Designed by Emiliano Amann, it is an example of a Neo-Basque villa: an entrance porch under a rounded arch, wooden balcony, etc.
- 21 Twin villa (1913)** –  Avenida Leioa, 14  
Same architect as stop 16, to which it is similar, although in this case English-style features prevail.
- 22 Villa (1908)** –  Avenida Leioa, 17  
It is consistent with Emiliano Amann's style, reinterpreting the English style with features that are reminiscent of traditional Basque farmhouses, the *caseríos*.
- 23 Etxetxu (1909)** –  Avenida Leioa, 5 – corner with Tejera  
Designed by Emiliano Amann, it has some of the features of a Neo-Basque villa. Its sundial tells the time from sunrise to sunset.
- 24 Senditzuegi (1910, 1920)** –  Avenida Leioa 10 – corner with Carmen  
Stylistically, it is one of Amann's most successful projects, as the whole is extremely ornate and varied.
- 25 Ergoyen Group housing (1966)** –  Los Tilos, 2  
Designed by Rafael Aburto for the Ergoyen family, it is the exception within the architectural context of Neguri.
- 26 Darío de Regoyos Park (1925)** –  Avenida Neguri, 4  
Monument designed by Smith. Brass medallion with the painter's portrait by Higinio Basterra.

## Would you like to know more?

Deapie invites you to discover Getxo's history in an enjoyable and informed manner through a series of cultural routes dedicated to famous local people. You still have another 13 routes, with the following being the closest:



### Horacio Echevarrieta

- Getxo seen from the vantage point of an industrialist and businessman.
- The start of the route is a three-minute walk away.



### Juana Bizcarra

- About the people that breathed life into the Ondategi garden city.
- The start of the route is a three-minute walk away.

You might also like to return to the start of this route, to Neguri metro station, and “catch the train” to:



### Antonio Basagoiti

- Rediscover his avenue among the houses of *indianos* and seafarers.
- The start of the route is a four-minute walk away.

## Continue discovering Getxo with deapie!