

IZARRAITZ SPECIAL CONSERVATION AREA

The sector of the Izarraitz massif that belongs to the Geopark is largely covered with forest plantations and meadows. Part of these fields grow on rocky limestone slopes facing south in the Porruetako Sakona and Sagarretako Sakona basins.

In open fields, you can see the red-backed shrike, the short-toed eagle, the honey buzzard and passerines linked to the fields and hedgerows.

The deciduous forest is well represented in Izarraitz. Thus, beech and oak groves occupy the coolest and most humid places, while holm oaks prefer sunny areas. In height, the mixed forests stand out at the foot of the limestone cliff, a very scarce habitat with species of great interest such as the foxhound, yew, hazelnut or holly. Pollarded and overgrown trees provide shelter for many small organisms.

In the closed of the forest the black-green lizard, the wild cat, the genet, the European polecat or the marten take refuge.

The rupicolous flora is also very rare and among the scrublands that grow here, pre-heaters, ferns and thorns stand out.

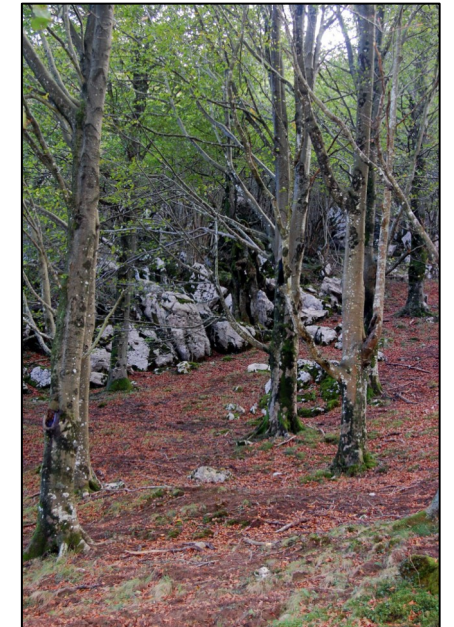
In the caves and chasms, the presence of several species of bats of interest has been detected, such as the Greater Horseshoe Bat or Geoffroy's Bat.



Summits of Aitolako tontorra



Yew



Beech forest