



# SMUGGLING

The division of the country into two states, with their borders and customs posts, gave rise to a new trade: smuggling or 'night work'. Depending on the period, heading north or heading south, the contraband could be practically anything, depending on the needs and prices of the time; from the simplest goods, like coffee, sugar, chocolate, wine, tobacco or fabrics, to more complex ones, such as machinery, tools, sheep, cows, horses and even people.



# A secret agreement

There must have been a secret agreement between the 'carabineros' and 'douaniers', and the smugglers according to which if they met on the hillsides, the latter would abandon their bundles and flee. The border guards, in return, would not fire (or only fire in the air) and could confiscate the contraband.

These areas were ideal for 'night work': the border is long, with many brooks and paths, and it is peppered with caves like this to stash away smuggled goods. The path of the Pottoka Azul which joins up the caves of Sara, Zugarramurdi and Urdazubi is a reminder of the old smuggling paths.

