



Trip description

Biking Tour through Provence Gems

A self-guided bike tour on the quiet and colorful roads of Provence. Experience natural attractions along with the culture and outstanding food. A delightful combination of adventure and relaxation!



HOCQUEL Alain - Coll. CDT Vaucluse

Destination	France
Location	Provence and Camargue
Duration	8 days
Difficulty Level	Moderate
Validity	From March to November
Minimum age	From 12 years old
Reference	P0702

Type of stay
itinerant trip



Itinerary

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This bike tour through Provence takes you by villages, castles, and historical monuments, letting you absorb the true atmosphere of this area. The

route begins in the town of Avignon and leads through the well-manicured vineyards of the Chateauneuf--du-Pape area. From here, you'll come to Orange, where you'll want to see the best-preserved Roman theatre in France that seats 9,000 people! Continue on to Seguret, one of France's most beautiful villages. If you like, take a day trip to Vaison-la-Romaine homes. The path next takes you to the foot of the mythical Mont Ventoux in Bedouin and Mazan.

You'll ride on quiet road lined with olive and cypress trees. When passing through historic ancient villages, you'll hear the people speaking with a southern France accent. Keep pedaling south and go through the country's former capital, Pennes-les-Fontaines. Soon you'll fall under the charms of the L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue Canals. This trip allows you time to slow down and take in the sights, sound and smells of Provence.

DAY 1

Avignon

Your bike trip begins in the heart of Provence. Discover Avignon, a city with exceptional architectural and artistic heritage. The walled city has a town center enclosed with ramparts. You might want to take a river cruise on the Rhone River or meander the winding streets and cross the historic Saint Benezel Bridge. The city is filled with historical churches as well as modern day cafes.

DAY 2

Avignon - Orange

Bike
42km

If you like, explore Avignon some more this morning. This UNESCO Heritage site has plenty to see. Afterwards, you'll leave the city along the Rhone River and pass through picture-perfect villages in the countryside. After crossing the river, you'll reach the world-famous wine village of Chateauneuf-du-Pape. Be sure to sample some of these great wines! Your daily tour ends with a leisurely ride through the vineyards to Orange and its ancient Roman theater.

DAY 3

Orange - Séguret

Bike
25km

You'll leave the historic city center to reach the surrounding plains of Orange. This route takes you past the intriguing rock formation known as "Laces of Montmirail". The rocks have been finely chiseled by erosion, giving them a "lacey" appearance. You'll pass several wineries where hosts will share their knowledge of winemaking with you. Continue until reaching the town of Seguret

DAY 4

Day-trip to Vaison-la-Romaine

Bike
40km

Today's round-trip leads you to Vaison-la-Romaine. You'll bike by well-tended vineyards on quiet country paths. After pedaling up a small pass, you're rewarded with great views of the valley below. You'll soon reach the village of Saint-Roman-de-Mallegarde, a former outpost of the order of the Knights Templar. Continue riding along the Aygues River and then head to Vaison-la-Romaine. This city has a strong archeological history. You can see the remains of floors in mosaic, marble, marquetry. Marvel at the statues, ponds, atriums, and private thermal baths, all showing life in Roman times. After strolling through the medieval narrow streets, hop on your bike and return to your hotel in Seguret

DAY 5

Séguret - Mazan

Bike
34km

This morning's tour leads you through the 'Grands Crus' of the Rhone Valley as you discover villages such as Gigondas, Vacqueyras and Beaumes-de-Venise. Follow the path on quiet, back country roads between scented lavender fields and olive trees. Stop in the towns of Caromb, Modène and Saint-Pierre-de-Vassols and explore the uniqueness of each place. Your final destination is Mazan, with its historic town center.

DAY 6

Mazan - L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue

Bike
35km

You'll head South this morning to reach the former capital of the Combat Venaissin, Pernes-les-Fontaines. The town has preserved many medieval remains, including forty fountains! The next part of the route follows alongside the Carpentras Canal, where you'll reach the enchanting town of L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue. This former fishing village was built on stilts in the 12th Century. Today, the town is known for its many antique shops. If you are looking for a bargain, check out one of the 350 secondhand goods dealers!

DAY 7

Day-trip to Fontaine-de-Vaucluse

Bike
21km

This nature-oriented day trip takes you to the village of Fontaine-de-Vaucluse. The town's fame comes from the massive spring that flows out of a 230m high cliff. It is the biggest spring in France and the fifth largest in the world! Leave your bike in the village and walk ten minutes to this unique natural site. Feel like more walking? Climb to Saumane-de-Vaucluse to discover a breathtaking view over the Alpilles and 15th Century castle.

DAY 8

Departure from L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue

You leave after a last walk in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue.

Accommodation

Category A

You'll enjoy staying in these clean and cozy 2-3 Star hotels that give you a pleasant rest after your day biking. Breakfast is included when you spend the night in these friendly and family-run hotels.

One night is spent in a typical provincial wine estate where the owner will be glad to show you around and have you sample the wines.



** Example of the type of accommodation*

Category B

You'll get a good night's sleep when you stay in these 3-Star hotels of Bed and Breakfasts. All properties have been selected for their cleanliness, style and friendliness of the staff. A hearty

breakfast is included! One night is spent in a typical provincial wine estate with a swimming-pool. The owner will be glad to show you around and have you sample the wines.



* Example of the type of accommodation

Category C

You'll enjoy a higher level of service in these 3-4 Star properties. Some nights you'll stay in a luxurious Bed and Breakfast and other nights in a hotel in an exceptional setting. Properties are selected for their high standards and impeccable service. This category is for guests looking for a higher-end vacation with a swimming pool every night. Of course, breakfast is included daily.



* Example of the type of accommodation

Practical information

To get to departure point:

By plane: flight for Avignon, Marseille Provence or Nîmes

By train: direct TGV trains from Paris (Gare de Lyon station), Lyon or Marseille to Avignon. The duration of the trip is about 2h40 from Paris, 1h10 from Lyon and 35mn from Marseille. To plan your trip, www.raileurope.com.

Meeting time:

The first day is an arrival day without cycling. You arrive whenever you want depending on from where you come. Please note that rooms are usually available in the middle of the afternoon depending on your accommodation. We thank you to advise us if you plan to arrive late.

Price description

Category A
Double room fare

€ 890 /pers

7 nights in ** / *** hotels

7 breakfasts

6-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddle bags, locks, toolkit)

a road book with maps and descriptions of the routes

the luggage transport
local visitors' taxes
sending charge of the travel documents in France
7/7 hotline

High season extra (*)	€ 60 /pers
Surcharge during Festival d'Avignon (**)	€ 100 /pers
Half-board	€ 30 /dinner
Extra for a single room (***)	€ 46 /night
Extra night in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue	€ 55 /pers
Extra night in Avignon (except during Festival season)	€ 55 /pers

Category B

€ 999 /pers

Double room fare

7 nights in *** hotels or B&B's
7 breakfasts
6-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddle bags, locks, toolkit)
a road book with maps and descriptions of the routes
luggage transport
local visitors' taxes
sending charge of the travel documents in France
7/7 hotline

High season extra (*)	€ 90 /pers
Surcharge during Festival d'Avignon (**)	€ 120 /pers
Half-board	€ 35 /dinner
Single room extra (***)	€ 60 /night
Extra night in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue	€ 65 /pers
Extra night in Avignon (except during Festival season)	€ 65 /pers

Category C

€ 1225 /pers

Double room fare

7 nights in ***/**** hotels or maisons d'hôtes with pools
7 breakfasts
6-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddle bags, locks, toolkit)
a road book with maps and descriptions of the routes
the luggage transport
local visitors' taxes
sending charge of the travel documents in France
7/7 hotline

High season extra (*)	€ 100 /pers
Surcharge during Festival d'Avignon (**)	€ 150 /pers
Half-board	€ 40 /dinner
Extra for a single room (***)	€ 84 /night
Extra night in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue	€ 90 /pers
Extra night in Avignon (except during Festival season)	€ 100 /pers

Options

Extra E-bike (7 days)	€ 85 /pers
Discount if you ride your own bicycle	€ -95 /pers

(*) High season :

from 01.06.2019 to 05.07.2019

from 30.07.2019 to 15.09.2019

() Festival d'Avignon surcharge** is valid from July 6th to July 29th 2019.

(***) valid for 2 participants minimum

Children discount (in the same room as two full rate participants)

0-4 years : -70%

5-11 years : -50%

12-17 years : -30%

The package doesn't include:

the journey to the tour location

the drinks

the meals which are not included

the entrance fee to sites

insurances (optional)

For more information or booking : www.levelovoyageur.com

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