



## Trip description

### Cycling along the Doubs river, an authentic French experience

At the foot of the Jura from Belfort to Dole on the Eurovelo 6 along the Doubs river



Destination	France
Location	Vallée du Doubs
Duration	8 days
Difficulty Level	Easy
Validity	from mid-April to October
Minimum age	9 years old
Reference	VD0801

Type of stay  
itinerant trip



## Itinerary



On this bike trip you will discover a true authentic French region: the Doubs valley! Your cycling route starts from Belfort, a magnificent city with its citadel and 18th century facades and follows the river Doubs, which meanders majestically.

Forests and cliffs are reflected in the green waters of the river. Many small villages invite you to a gourmet stop: you are here in the paradise of cheeses, sausages and other cold meats.

Your route also passes through the beautiful city of Besançon and Dole, which invite you for a stroll. You will also make a small detour through the forest to reach the royal saltworks of Arc-et-Sénans, revealing the industrial past of this region. This industrial inheritance is also displayed in the very interesting Peugeot museum near Montbéliard.

## Day 1

### Arrival in Belfort

You arrive in the beautiful city of Belfort. More than a beautiful Vauban citadel and the sculpture of the lion Bartholdi, which made the city famous, you will find a vibrant city with its wide shopping streets, its quaint squares, its Haussmanian buildings with handsome facades covered with geranium.

## Day 2

### Belfort - Montbéliard

Bike  
31km

You leave Belfort along the banks of the Savoureuse river. You can choose to continue straight along the canal or cross the forest and follow along the Rhine to the Rhone Canal. Your bike route takes you to Sochaux and the Peugeot Museum. Discover this industrial epic before entering the small Renaissance town Montbéliard. Climb to the castle of the Dukes of Württemberg, visit the Saint-Martin temple, the oldest religious building of the Reformation in France and stroll through the medieval streets admiring the houses with their colorful facades. Do not miss in the evening to taste the famous sausage of Montbéliard!

## Day 3

### Montbéliard - Baume-les-Dames

Bike  
63km

Today your bike ride leads you to discover the beautiful loops of the river Doubs. First you have to leave the city and Montbéliard to meander leisurely on bike paths the bucolic edges of this river. From Isle-sur-le-Doubs on the valley becomes majestic and very wild. You wind through the incised valley by steep cliffs, which are the delight of climbers. Very beautiful arrival in the small town Baume-les-Dames, labeled "City of character" at the foot of the rift of Babre.

## Jour 4

### Baume-les-Dames - Besançon

Bike  
39km

The Doubs valley is particularly spectacular after leaving Baume-les-Dames. The bike route is very varied: green banks under steep karst cliffs reverberating in the peaceful waters of the Doubs, small villages with bell towers of colored tiles, towpaths lined with plane trees and old brick paper mills tending their chimneys to the sky. At the bend of a loop you arrive without even noticing at the foot of the citadel of Besançon. Big favorite for this student, vibrant and cultural city.

## Day 5

### Besançon

Besançon has a very rich historical and cultural heritage. But it does not boil down to its citadel, which includes not only the Vauban fortifications, but also several museums and a zoo. It is also a vibrant city!  
Stroll through the semi-pedestrian shopping streets of the city center to meet the many students, who scour the bars along the Doubs. This beautiful city is also a high place of watchmaking; do not miss the astronomical clock and the superb museum of time. Finally you can follow the footsteps of the very famous French writer and politician Victor Hugo, who was born in Besançon.

## Day 6

### Besançon - Arc-et-Sénans

Bike  
54km

Leave Besançon riding leisurely on a bike path along the Doubs until the breakthrough of Thoraise: an amazing river tunnel under a waterfall. By bike you have to go up to the village to go down again with a beautiful view in the valley. Shortly after you can choose if you wish to continue along the meanders of the Doubs or to make a small detour towards the caves of Osselle.

Arrive in the small village of Ranchot and leave the banks of the Doubs to cross the forest of Chaux and reach the Royal Saltworks of Arc-et-Sénans. This 18th century saline is one of the first modern "factories". It was used to turn the brackish water extracted in Salins, 20 km away in salt.

## Day 7

### Arc-et-Sénans - Dole

Bike  
39km

You cross the forest of Chaux to reach the Doubs. Riding on the towpath of the canal, you pass under beautiful limestone cliffs and fortified villages. In Rochefort-sur-Néron you can climb on the cliffs and admire the beautiful view of the valley. The towpath lined with plane trees leads you to the marina of Dole at the foot of the cathedral. We were charmed by this historical city, birthplace of Louis Pasteur. You will admire the cathedral, the halls, but also at every turn of streets here a crest over a portal, there a carved door etc.

## Day 8

### Departure from Dole

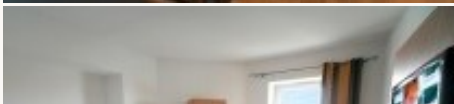
Discover Dole, labelled City of Art and History, but also a main spot of French cuisine.

A regional train brings you back to your starting point if you wish. You can also extend your stay.

## Accommodation

### Category B

You will get a good night's sleep when you stay in these 3-star hotels or charming Bed and Breakfasts. All properties have been selected for their cleanliness, style and friendliness of the staff. A hearty breakfast is included!





\* Example of the type of accommodation

## Practical information

### To get to departure point:

**By plane:** flight for Bâle (Switzerland) and train to Belfort-Montbéliard TGV (50min).

**By train:** Regional train or TGV to Belfort-Ville or Belfort-Montbéliard TGV. To plan your trip, [www.raileurope.com](http://www.raileurope.com).

### Parking:

We will inform you about the different options (free and paid-parking) to park your car next to your accommodation in your travel documents.

### To reach back the starting point:

There is a train between Besançon and Belfort (1 train per hour, duration: between 1h45 and 2h15 with a connection in Besançon). All practical information will be in your travel documents.

You can choose to use a private transfer from Dole to Belfort (in the booking form)

## Price description

### Category B

Double room fare

Basis 2-3 persons

989 €/pers

Basis 4-5 persons

859 €/pers

Basis +6 persons

799 €/pers

7 nights in \*\*/\*\* hotels

7 breakfasts

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

the luggage transport

the delivery and the return of the bikes

the access to our mobile app including the roadbook and the practical and tourist information

7/7 hotline

High season (\*)

50 €/pers

Single occupancy extra

42 €/nuit

Solo traveller extra

300 €/pers

Extra night in Belfort

68 €/pers

Extra night in Dole

82 €/pers

### Options

Extra for the rental of an electric bike (6 days)

85 €/pers

Discount if you ride your own bicycle

-80 €/pers

Half pension: 3 dinners

95 €/pers

Return transfer from Dole to Belfort, with the rented bikes and luggage

2-3 pers

160 €/transfer

4-5 pers

200 €/transfer

+6pers

220 €/transfer

(\*) **High season :**

from 15.05 to 30.09.2022

**Children discount** (in the same room as 2 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](http://www.levelovoyageur.com)

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