



## Trip description

### Cycling holidays from Bordeaux vineyards to the Atlantic

Selfguided cycling tours from Bordeaux to Arcachon on the Atlantic coast, cycling through the Medoc vineyards (Pauillac), the sandy beaches of the Landes, the Dune du Pyla, Cap Ferret and oyster villages.



Destination	France
Location	Vignoble bordelais
Duration	8 days
Difficulty Level	Very easy
Validity	March to November
Minimum age	9 years
Reference	A0702

Type of stay  
itinerant trip



### Itinerary



This cycle trip leads you to discover all aspects of the Bordeaux region: from the wine tradition handed down for generations to the sandy coastline

of the Atlantic with its fragrant pine forest. You start your cycling holidays in Bordeaux, where you observe the beautiful architecture as you stroll through the historic city center and cycle along the banks of the Garonne.

You ride through the Medoc vineyards passing along the most prestigious wine houses such as Haut Marbuzet, Mouton-Rothschild and Lafitte-Rothschild. Then you ride through the pine forest to the coast and Cap-Ferret. You cross by boat the basin where you can enjoy the most beautiful view on the dune of Pyla, the highest sand dune in Europe.

You finish your cycling trip at Arcachon where you can relax and stroll at your own pace, towards the dune du Pyla or the oyster ports.

### Day 1

#### Bordeaux

You might want to enter the old city section by riding along the quays of the Garonne. The Bordeaux quayside is one of the most magnificent waterfronts in the world. Bordeaux was awarded UNESCO World Heritage status in 2007 because of the beautiful 18th century facades and outstanding buildings. Discover the banks of the Garonne River and check out the buildings made with white chiseled stone.

### Day 2

#### Bordeaux-Margaux

Bike  
34km

You leave the dynamic city of Bordeaux along the banks of the Garonne and then calmly riding through Bordeaux residential areas. Gradually, nature overrides and soon you reach the first vineyards of the Medoc. You stop in the prestigious village of Margaux, land of "grands crus".

### Day 3

#### Margaux-Pauillac

Bike  
29km

+ 34 km optional round trip

You discover the natural diversity of the Medoc starting with cycling in the heart of a wetland and then go on through the vineyards to Pauillac (23km). You can continue your discovery by making a loop around Pauillac (32km). You start the itinerary along the banks of the Gironde. A little further you admire the traditional fishing houses. The end of your bike ride takes you through the most famous vineyards of the Medoc : Château Haut-Marbuzet, Château Mouton-Rothschild, Château Lafitte-Rothschild and many other renowned names.

### Day 4

#### Pauillac – Hourtin

Bike  
34km

Today you will cross the Medoc from East to West. You leave Pauillac on a country lane through the vineyards, cross the cutest villages where the time stopped a long time ago. You ride straight and see in the distance the edge of the pine forest. Just behind it is Hourtin, quiet village with its little harbor on the gigantic Hourtin lake, the largest natural lake in France.

### Day 5

#### Hourtin – Lacanau

Bike  
55km

You are on the bike trail called Vélodyssée. On this leg, between ocean, forests and lakes, you will cross the pine forest to reach Lacanau. This part is hilly because you follow the dunes but you can take an easier route along the largest natural lake in France, Hourtin's lake. If you're in the mood for some seaspray, ride to Carcans Ocean. Then ride on the Vélodyssée to reach the sea resort Maubuisson where you will find all kind of restaurants. The way to Lacanau is a wonderful green path, but take the time to stop at the nature reserve at Cousseau Lake. You'll finish your trip using on the cycle path joining Bordeaux to Lacanau.

## Day 6

### Lacanau-Arcachon

Bike  
44km

Ride along the coastline on the designated bicycle path. Here's your chance for a unique ride as you get up close to the tallest sand dune in France, the Dune of Pyla. At the end of the ride, Cap-Ferret gives you amazing views of the Great Dune of Pyla. This giant dune is sometimes called "The Sahara of France" because of its four different sand formations. There's time to sunbathe or swim while experiencing the fresh salt air. Take the boat to Arcachon and enjoy the view of the coastline from a different perspective. Boat trip from Cap Ferret to Arcachon. Approximately 1 hour, included in tour

## Day 7

### Suggested day trip : oyster-farming villages and the Leyre delta

Bike  
41km

Learn about oyster farming from dedicated oyster farmers in Gujan Mestras and sample the freshest oysters you'll ever taste! The Leyre Delta is where fresh waters of the river and the salty waters of the ocean meet. You can go bird watching or rent a canoe or kayak and explore the area or water.

Oyster museum (Maison de l'huitre) Approximately 1 hour, included in tour. The museum visit is partly guided.

## Day 8

### To the Great Dune of Pilat and the ocean

Bike  
26km

On this route, you'll ride along the coastline and dunes towards the Dune of Pilat. Take time to sunbathe on the beach or enjoy a dip in the ocean water.

## Accommodation

### Category B

You'll be very comfortable staying in these mostly 3-Star hotels with clean and cozy accommodations. Enjoy the swimming pool before sleeping in your comfortable bed. A tasty breakfast is waiting for you each morning.



## Practical information

### To get to departure point:

**By plane:** flight to Bordeaux and then shuttle to the city-center.

**By train:** From Paris-Montparnasse rail station, take a TGV train to Bordeaux. The duration of the trip is about 3h20. To plan your trip, [www.raileurope.com](http://www.raileurope.com)

### Parking

If you drive to Bordeaux, we advise you to park on the first day at your hotel in Arcachon where parking is free (not bookable places) or in the surrounding streets near the Place de Verdun, very safe because the police station is located around the corner.

The first day of your stay is an arrival day without biking so you have plenty of time to drop off your luggage in Bordeaux and drive to Arcachon to park for your vehicle.

You take the train to get back to Bordeaux, where you get your bikes in a shop near the train station.

### To get back to starting point:

Regional trains take you back to your starting point if you wish. They are accessible without booking in advance and bicycles are free. You have to buy your ticket on spot (full rate 11.20€/adult). The duration of the commute is about 50 minutes. You will find the timetable of the day in your travel documents.

### 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 B

Double room fare

2-3 adults	1019 €/pers
4-5 adults	919 €/pers
+ 6 adults	869 €/pers

7 nights in \*\* or \*\*\* hotels  
7 breakfasts  
7-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddle bags, locks, toolkit)  
the luggage transport from one lodging to the other  
the boat ride from Cap-Ferret to Arcachon with bikes  
a road book with maps, descriptions of the routes and tourist informations  
a guided visit of the Oyster Museum  
the return of the bikes  
local visitors' taxes  
sending charge of the travel documents in France  
24h/24 hotline

High season extra (*)	120 €/pers
Extra for a single room	48 €/night
Halfboard	28 €/dinner
Extra night in Bordeaux or Arcachon	70 €/pers

### Options

Extra for the rental of an electric bike (8 days)	55 €/pers
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Discount if you ride your own bicycle

-125 €/pers

(\*) High season :

from 01.07 to 01.09.2019

(\*\*) These prices are guaranteed for 2 participants minimum.

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)  
+33 (0)1 80 91 98 18 or [bonjour@levelovoyageur.com](mailto:bonjour@levelovoyageur.com)