

Trip description

8-day cycling tour in Western Corsica from Bastia to Ajaccio

You cycle on one of the most beautiful coastal routes in Corsica between Bastia and Ajaccio. Over the stages the landscapes change and offer you spectacular views of the Mediterranean sea.



Destination	France
Location	Corse
Duration	8 days
Difficulty Level	Challenging
Validity	From March 15 to October 15
Minimum age	14 years
Reference	CO0801

Type of stay itinerant trip



Itinerary



This 8-day bike tour takes you on one of the most beautiful coastal routes on the island, along the west coast from Bastia to Ajaccio. You start your route in Bastia with its beautiful citadel and cross the Teghime pass to reach the popular seaside resort of Saint-Florent. You cross the impressive Desert des Agriates and appreciate the richness and diversity of its fauna and flora. Then, you cycle through charming hilltop villages to Calvi, and continue your ride along the west coast. The landscapes change over the kilometers, you cycle along the cliffs with ocher rocks and strange shapes. From afar, you can admire the Scandola nature reserve and the Calanques de Piana, natural gems listed as UNESCO heritage. You spend the night in the Gulf of Porto, then in Cargèse, ancient greek city. Finally, your bike tour ends in Ajaccio, the capital of Corsica and the birthplace of Napoleon.

Arrival in Bastia

Welcome to Bastia, capital of northern Corsica! You will be charmed by this colorful and lively city. Take the time to stroll into the narrow streets of the Genoese Citadel and enjoy a coffee on the guays of the Old Port.

Day 2

Bastia - Saint-Florent

25/28km

Altitude ±544m

You leave Bastia and cycle towards the west by crossing the pass of Teghime (536m). At the top you will enjoy a breathtaking view on the south of Bastia and the Gulf of Saint-Florent. Then, you have several options to reach Saint-Florent: cycling through the north and the charming wine village of Patrimonio where you can stop to taste its very good wines or by cycling trough the south and Poggio d'Oletta, you will come across the San Quilico Chapel and the former Nebbio Cathedral.

Day 3

Saint-Florent - Monticello

Bike Altitude 48/69/80km +1530m

Leave Saint-Florent and start cycling through the Desert des Agriates, an amazing mountainous area with untouched nature. The Agriates extend over 40km of maquis and coasts with rugged relief, it is the largest natural and ecological site of the Corsican littoral. From village to village you cross this stunning desert and get close again to the sea. Your stage ends at the hilltop village of Monticello from where you can admire a beautiful sunset on Ile Rousse.

Day 4

Monticello - Galeria

Bike **79km**



You continue cycling on the hills and cross the charming villages of La Balagne region: Santa-Reparata-Di-Balagna, Pigna and Sant'Antonino. A beautiful descent in the middle of the maquis and olive groves will take you to the sea. Calvi welcomes you in the heart of its bay overlooked by the old citadel. Then, take one of the most beautiful coastal roads of the island that meanders on a mountainside, the limestone white rock is gradually turning into golden rock with strange shapes carved by the wind. You end your day in Galeria, a small seaside resort where you will certainly come across some wild cows roaming freely in the village.

Day 5

Galeria - Porto

Bike 51km Altitude +768m You leave Galeria and cycle uphill to the Palmarella pass where you will enjoy a spectacular view of the Gulf of Girolata and the Scandola Reserve recognizable by its red granite cliffs. Your way continues through the pass "col de la Croix" (downhill!) on a sublime winding road nicknamed the "road to the thousand turns". It might be difficult for you not to stop every turn to contemplate the magnificent landscapes. You cross the charming villages of Curzu and Partinello. Finally, you arrive in Porto whose gulf is classified as world heritage by UNESCO. You will be seduced by the charm of its small port overhung by a square Genoese tower at the top of a big rock.

Porto - Cargese





You start cycling with the magnificent calanques de Piana as a backdrop. Enjoy a stop to visit the pretty village of Piana and its white houses, ranked among the most beautiful villages in France. Your journey ends in Cargèse, ancient Greek city whose influence is still perceptible. Enjoy a sweet evening by the sea in this charming seaside town.

Day 7

Cargese - Ajaccio

Bike **49km**



Last stage of your bike tour. You have the opportunity to make a round trip to the beautiful wild beaches of the Gulf of Lava. Then, you reach Ajaccio, birthplace of Napoleon. Stroll through the old town around the harbor and let yourself be seduced by the Corsican charm of the narrow streets with colorful houses. If you have the time, we recommend a round trip to the tip of Parata and the Sanguinaires Islands, an exceptional natural site where you can admire stunning sunsets.

Day 8

Departure from Ajaccio

After breakfast, enjoy a last stroll in Ajaccio before leaving.

Accommodation



Category A

You stay in **/*** hotels where you will be hosted with a warm welcome. Breakfast is included.







* Example of the type of accommodation



Category B

You stay in ***/**** hotels where you will be hosted with a warm welcome. All properties have been selected for their cleanliness, style and friendliness of the staff. Breakfast is included.





* Example of the type of accommodation

Practical information

To get to departure point:

By plane: direct flight to Bastia from Paris, Lyon, Bordeaux, Nantes, Lille, Marseille and Bruxelles. Then, take a shuttle to Bastia city center (25min) or private transfer (surcharge).

By ferry: ferry crossing from Marseille (13h), Toulon (9h) or Nice (5h30).

Departure from Ajaccio:

By plane: direct flight from Ajaccio to Paris, Lyon, Nice, Marseille, Nantes, Lille, Bordeaux and Geneva. Private transfer possible to the airport (surcharge).

By train: direct train to Bastia (3h45).

By ferry: ferry crossing from Ajaccio or Bastia to Marseille, Toulon or Nice.

Meeting time:

Please give us your arrival time so that we can organize the delivery of bicycles.

Price description

Bike tour not available in July and August.

Category A 1399 €/pers

Double room fare 7 nights in ** or *** hotels 7 breakfasts 8-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (sadddle bags, locks, toolkit) the delivery and return of the bike the luggage transport from one lodging to the other the access to a mobile app including the roadbook and the practical and tourist information local visitors' taxes 7d/7 hotline (*) High season 150 €/pers Single occupancy extra (**) on request Extra night in Bastia 78 €/pers Extra night in Bastia - High season 98 €/pers

Extra night in Ajaccio - High season 99 €/pers (from 15/06 to 15/09)

Category B 2039 €/pers

Double room fare

(from 15/06 to 15/09)

Extra night in Ajaccio

7 nights in *** or **** hotels

7 breakfasts

8-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (sadddle bags, locks, toolkit)

the delivery and return of the bike

the luggage transport from one lodging to the other

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

local visitors' taxes

7d/7 hotline

(*) High season
390 €/pers

Single occupancy extra (**)
on request

Extra night in Bastia
125 €/pers

Extra night in Bastia - High season (from 15/06 to 15/09)
160 €/pers

Extra night in Ajaccio
on request

86 €/pers

Option

Electric bike 75 €/pers

Road bike on request

Transfer from airport to Bastia 40 €/pers

Transfer from Ajaccio to airport 58 €/pers

(*) High season:

From 15.06 to 15.09.2022

(**) These prices are guaranted 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)