



Trip description

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

Cycle Corsica along the west coast from Bastia to Ajaccio. This 10-day trip takes you to the most beautiful places in the northwest of the island.



Destination	France
Location	Corse
Duration	10 days
Difficulty Level	Challenging
Validity	From March 15 to October 15
Minimum age	14 years
Reference	CO1001

Type of stay
itinerant trip



Itinerary



Bike tour not available in July and August.

Discover the wild Corsica along the west coast, from Bastia to Ajaccio. You will admire breathtaking landscapes all along your bike tour. From Bastia you cycle to the charming town of Saint-Florent, nicknamed the "Corsican Saint-Tropez". Then, you cycle through the impressive Desert des Agriates to the hilltop village of Monticello. On the mountainside, you cross small picturesque villages before cycling down towards the bay of Calvi. From there, a magnificent coastal road takes you along the west coast of the island to Galeria and its small harbour. Then, you cross the Palmarella pass to reach the magnificent bay of Porto. We recommend for your rest day in Porto to take a boat to visit the Scandola nature reserve or the Calanques de Piana, two natural gems listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. You continue your journey to the ancient Greek city of Cargèse, then reach Ajaccio, the capital of Corsica. A small round trip to the breathtaking Sanguinaires Islands will complete this beautiful cycling trip on Western Corsica.

Day 1

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 quays of the Old Port.

Day 2

Bastia - Saint-Florent

Bike
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 through 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
48/69/80km

Altitude
±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 - Calvi

Bike
45km

Altitude
±580m

You continue cycling on the hills and cross the charming villages of La Balagne region : Santa-Reparata-Di-Balagna, Pigna and Sant'Antonino. Stroll on the pretty places where meet the old ones, admire the fountains and the wash-houses, vestiges of the rural heritage and do not hesitate to push the door of the workshops where the local craftsmen will be delighted to share with you their ancestral know-how.

Then, a beautiful descent in the middle of the maquis and olive groves will take you to the sea. Finally, Calvi welcomes you in the heart of its bay overlooked by the old citadel. A short walk along its charming harbor will complete this beautiful cycling day.

Day 5

Calvi - Galeria

Bike
39km

Altitude
±400m

Leaving Calvi we advise you to make a detour to the chapel of Notre Dame de la Serra built in the 15th century and nestled at the top of a rocky promontory. Beyond contemplating a jewel of religious heritage, you will also have the chance to admire the most beautiful panorama of the island on the bay of Calvi and the west coast of Cap Corse. 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 6

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.

Day 7

Porto

You enjoy a day of rest in the charming town of Porto. You can relax on the beach or take a boat trip to the Scandola Reserve (2h15) or the Calanques de Piana (1h30), both listed as UNESCO World Heritage.

Day 8

Porto - Cargese

Bike
53km

Altitude
 **±781m**

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 9

Cargese - Ajaccio

Bike
49km

Altitude
 **±467m**

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 10

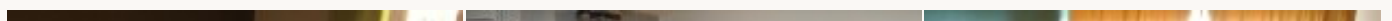
Departure from Bastia

After breakfast, enjoy a last stroll in Bastia 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*

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

Double room fare

1799 €/pers

9 nights in ** or *** hotels

9 breakfasts

10-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddles, 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

(*) Middle season

50 €/pers

(*) High season

200 €/pers

Single occupancy extra (**)

on request

Extra night in Bastia

78 €/pers

Extra night in Ajaccio

90 €/pers

Option

Electric bike

90 €/pers

Road bike

on request

Transfer from airport to Bastia

40 €/pers

Transfer from Ajaccio to airport

58 €/pers

(*) Middle season :

From 01.06 to 30.06.2023

From 01.09 to 30.09.2023

High season :

From 01.07 to 31.08.2023

(**) 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)

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