



Trip description

Cycling holiday in the Vézère and Dordogne Valleys

Enjoy a cycling holiday in the Dordogne region. From Bergerac to Sarlat, discover the typical villages of the Périgord and exchange your bike for a canoe to explore the Dordogne valley and the Vézère valley.

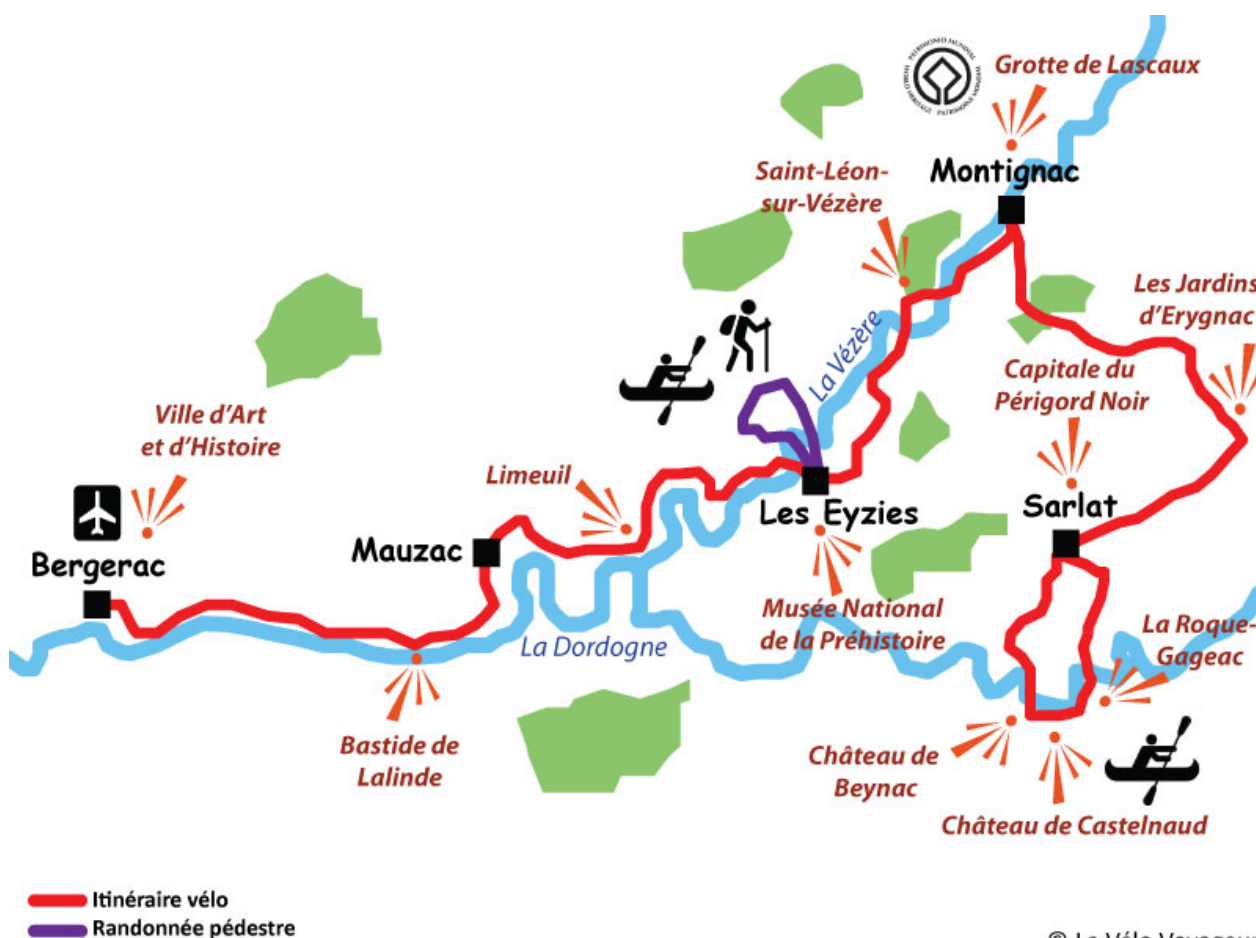


Destination	France
Location	Dordogne / Périgord
Duration	8 days
Difficulty Level	Challenging
Validity	From April to October
Minimum age	14 years
Reference	DP0802

Type of stay
itinerant trip



Itinerary



From Bergerac to Sarlat, this self guided cycle tour will showcase the contrasting landscapes of the Périgord, from the Bergerac vineyards to the

golden cliffs of the Vézère and the Dordogne valleys. You start your bike tour from Bergerac, a beautiful medieval city on the banks of the Dordogne river. You cycle along the river, then cross the hills to reach charming little villages typical of the Périgord such as Trémolat and Limeuil. You reach the Vézère valley and its many prehistoric sites. Enjoy a break day in Les Eyzies where you can exchange your bike for a canoe to explore the Vézère river and its troglodyte sites or take a nice hike around the village. Then, you continue to Montignac and its famous Lascaux cave before cycling to Sarlat, a beautiful medieval town. Finally, discover the famous castles of the Dordogne with a beautiful loop tour : châteaux de Beynac, Castelnaud and La Roque Gageac. Here again you can enjoy a canoeing activity to discover the castles from a different perspective. This is a complete bike trip where you can combine cycling and canoeing for even more fun!

Day 1

Arrival in Bergerac

You arrive in Bergerac, city of Art and History where you can meet the statue of Cyrano, famous hero of the play by French author Edmond de Rostand. Take the time to stroll through the heart of the Renaissance town with its charming alleys and half-timbered houses. Be sure to stop by the covered market to taste some delicious local products: foie gras, mushrooms, walnuts, duck confit, truffles ... Welcome to Dordogne!

Day 2

Bergerac - Mauzac area

Bike
35km

Altitude
±170m

Start your bike tour with a gentle first step. You take a beautiful greenway along the Dordogne river to leave Bergerac. The peaceful shores of the river are only disturbed by the majestic gabarres (traditional boats) sailing there. Cycle through the charming town of Lalinde, the first English bastide in the Périgord, before reaching your hotel for your evening stopover.

Day 3

Mauzac area - Les Eyzies

Bike
45km

Altitude
±300m

You cycle on small winding roads to the top of the cingles de Limeuil et Trémolat from which you can admire the meanders of the Dordogne river. Then, cycle to the medieval village of Limeuil, listed among the most beautiful villages of France and located at the confluence of the Dordogne and the Vézère rivers.

You are now following the Vézère valley, known as the "Vallée de l'Homme" (Man's Valley) with its fifteen prehistoric sites listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Cycle through the charming town of Le Bugue before ending your day in Les Eyzies, a troglodyte village considered as "the world capital of prehistory", it was here that the Cro-Magnon Man was discovered.

Day 4

Les Eyzies

Altitude
±253m

Hike (12km) / Canoe (15-20km)

Enjoy a break day in Les Eyzies for a hike or a canoe ride on the Vézère river.

A nice 12km hike will take you to the Gorge d'Enfer valley. From Les Eyzies, you walk along the Vézère river to the magnificent Grotte du Grand Roc, a natural masterpiece that offers crystallizations renowned for their diversity (listed by UNESCO). You continue your walk through the undergrowth and the old kaolin quarries, then you reach the charming hamlet of Le Peuch with its cave houses. Finally, you walk back to Les Eyzies across the agricultural plain. You will enjoy a magnificent view of the cliffs and the ancient troglodyte castle, it now houses the National Museum of Prehistory which we highly recommend visiting.

You can also exchange your bike for a canoe to discover the very beautiful Vézère valley. You leave your bike in Les Eyzies and we drive you to La Roque Saint-Christophe or Saint-Léon-sur-Vézère (your choice) to start your canoe ride. The Vézère is much more natural than the Dordogne and offers a magnificent setting for canoeing in the middle of the caves and golden cliffs. You pass in front of amazing places such as the Maison Forte de Reignac or the troglodyte village of la Madeleine. A very nice excursion to discover the hidden treasures of the Vézère!

Day 5

Les Eyzies - Montignac

Bike
26km

Altitude
±295m

You leave Les Eyzies and cycle along the Vézère river where you will come across many architectural treasures: the Maison Forte de Reignac, the last intact example of a cliff-castle in France, la Roque Saint-Christophe, the largest troglodyte site in Europe, the Château de Losse, a medieval fortress built sheer... Then, you cross the medieval village of Saint-Léon-sur-Vézère, very typical village of the Black Périgord. You finally arrive in Montignac, a charming medieval town where you can visit one of the most precious gems of prehistory: the Lascaux Cave.

Day 6

Montignac - Sarlat

Bike
44km

Altitude
±708m

From Montignac you cycle on small country roads to the village of Saint-Genies, one of the most beautiful villages in the Black Périgord. You cross Salignac and its castle, then a few kilometers further, cycle by Eyrignac gardens where we advise you to stop for a visit. Listed as a Historic Monument, these gardens are a green masterpiece combining rose gardens, ponds, flowers, grass carpets, fountains and plant sculptures on an area of 200 hectares.

You end your day cycling down to Sarlat, the capital of the Black Périgord. Labeled City of Art and History, the medieval city holds a large number of national heritage sites, a real open-air museum! Finally, do not miss the traditional market of Sarlat, one of the most famous in the region!

Day 7

Sarlat

Bike
43km

Altitude
±563m

Bike or canoe

Today, discover the most prestigious castles of the Dordogne by bike or canoe!

A beautiful loop tour takes you to the foot of the most beautiful castles of the region: the château de Monfort perched on its rocky spur, the château de Castelnaud and its museum of war in the Middle Ages and the château de Beynac, one of the best preserved in Dordogne. You also cycle through the villages of Domme and La Roque-Gageac, both listed among the most beautiful villages in France. On your way you will also have the opportunity to visit the majestic Marqueyssac Gardens overlooking the Dordogne valley.

For those who wish to admire the castles from a different perspective, you can exchange your bike for a canoe! You cycle from Sarlat to Vitrac (12km) where you leave your bike to get a canoe. You explore the Dordogne river while admiring its castles until Beynac where you leave the canoe (16km-3h). Then, we will drive you back to Vitrac in a mini-van where you collect your bike to cycle back to Sarlat (12km).

Day 8

Departure from Sarlat

After breakfast, enjoy a last stroll through the streets of Sarlat before leaving.

Accommodation

Category A

You will enjoy staying in these clean and cozy 2-3 Star hotels that give you a pleasant rest after

your day of biking. Breakfast is included when you spend the night in these friendly and family-run hotels.



* Example of the type of 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: To Bergerac airport, flights from Lyon, Nice, Brussels and many cities in England (London, Liverpool, Manchester...). Then take a taxi to the city center. Other nearby airport: Bordeaux. Then take a train to reach Bergerac.

By train: direct regional trains from Bordeaux to Bergerac (1h20). To plan your trip, www.sncf-connect.com

Parking

If you come by car to Bergerac, you can park in the secure car parks of Bellegarde, Gambetta ou République.

To get back to starting point:

Trains take you back to your starting point if you wish. Regular regional trains are riding between Sarlat and Bergerac. Bikes are accepted for free. The duration of the trip is about 1h. Full rate is 13.50€/pers.

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 advise you to plan half a day for visiting Bergerac, which is worth it. We thank you to advise us if you plan to arrive late.

Price description

Category A **929 €/pers**
Double room fare

7 nights in **/** hotels
7 breakfasts
6-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (saddle bags, locks, toolkit)
the luggage transport
the access to our mobile app including the roadbook and the practical and tourist information
the return of the bikes
7/7 hotline

Half-board (except in Bergerac - 6 dinners) 196 €/pers

Single occupancy extra 58 €/night

High season extra (*) 60 €/pers

Extra night in Bergerac 57 €/pers

Extra night in Bergerac - High season
(from 29/05 to 30/09) 69 €/pers

Extra night in Sarlat 55 €/pers

Extra night in Sarlat - High season
(from 29/05 to 30/09) 60 €/pers

Category B **1149 €/pers**
Double room fare

7 nights in *** hotels or charming Bed & Breakfasts
7 breakfasts
6-day rental of a fully-equipped bike (packs, helmets, locks...)
the luggage transport
the access to our mobile app including the roadbook and the practical and tourist information
7/7 hotline

Half-board (except in Bergerac - 6 dinners) 220 €/pers

Single occupancy extra 79 €/night

High season extra (*) 150 €/pers

Extra night in Bergerac 89 €/pers

Extra night in Bergerac - High season
(from 29/05 to 30/09) 129 €/pers

Extra night in Sarlat 75 €/pers

Extra night in Sarlat - High season
(from 29/05 to 30/09) 90 €/pers

Options

Extra for the rental of an electric bike (6 days) 95 €/pers

Discount if you ride your own bicycle -80 €/pers

Extra for solo traveller 200 €/pers

(*) High season :
from 29.05 to 30.09.2022

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