

Bastia to Ajaccio - along the West coast

8 days / 7 nights

Follow Corsica's most beautiful coastal roads from Bastia to Ajaccio.
This is a superb trip that will allow you to enjoy the best that Corsica has to offer, using the same roads of the amazing third stage of the Tour de France 2013. From the northern capital of Bastia you will cycle to Ajaccio, the birth place of Napoleon. For the most part you will be cycling along the stunning and varied western coastline. You will have the chance to visit the Balagne region, which has wonderful beaches and picturesque mountain villages, and the area around Porto which has quite rightly been named as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Accommodations offer comfortable double rooms, in 2* or 3* hotels.

Trip available with our digital road-book.
Find out about the digital road-bookPrepare your trip

YOUR PROGRAMME

Day 1 - Arrival in Bastia

Free arrival in Bastia, the capital of "Haute Corse" (upper Corsica).

Settle into your hotel in the afternoon and spend some time wandering around this interesting town. In particular, it is worth visiting the ancient Citadelle, the Place St Nicolas and the old harbour. There are plenty of excellent restaurants to choose from for your evening meal.
Night in a 3* hotel



Day 2 - Bastia to St Florent

Depending on the option you choose: the bikes will be delivered to your hotel this morning, or you can collect them directly from the hire agency.

This first stage leads you over the col de Teghime (536m), where you have a beautiful view on both sides of the island. On your way down to St Florent you can stop in Patrimonio for a "short" wine tasting. The region of Patrimonio is well known for its

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vineyards. For the very courageous ones an 85km stage can be done by cycling north of Bastia onto the Cap Corse and over the col de Santa Lucia (381m).

Distance:

Around 26km (D+ : 584m ; D- : 581m ; Min. : 0m ; Max. : 552m)
or 85km (D+ : 1093m ; D- : 1153m ; Min. : 1m ; Max. : 393m)



Day 3 - Saint Florent to Monticello

Today you will leave the bay of St Florent and head through the "desert des Agriates". At spring time you will be acosted with the scents and colours of the wild maquis (Corsican scrub). After about 30km you reach the coast again, with a superb view of the "red island" that shelters the harbour of Ile-Rousse. Your overnight stop is a village just above it.

Distance: around 48km (D+ : 883m ; D- : 685m ; Min. : 1m ; Max. : 363m)
Night in a 3*-hotel



Day 4 - Monticello to Galeria

Today you continue southwards to Calvi. You have the option to stay high and ride through some nice mountain villages (with superb views of the sea) or take the shorter route along the coast (this is the main road).

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Once you arrive in Calvi it is worth visiting the Citadelle that overlooks the bay. A refreshing drink on the port is a must.
From Calvi you still have 37km to go on the coastal road. This has been named as one of the most scenic coastal roads in the whole of Europe, despite the fact that it is, at times, in bad condition. Tonight you will spend your evening in a small fishing village.

Distance:

66 km (D+ : 690m, D- : 900m, Min : 1m, Max : 218m)
or 78 km (D+ : 933m, D- : 1148m, Min : 1m, Max : 533m)

Night in a 2* hotel



Day 5 - Galeria to Porto

Just when you thought the scenery couldn't get any better, it does! This is a superb day of cycling with breath-taking views along the whole ride. After a few warm-up km you start to climb the col de Palmarella (408m). From the top you can see the bay of Scandola (a UNESCO World Heritage site). Further on you will climb the pass to the col de la Croix, after which you can enjoy some good downhill riding. You will cross the villages of Curzu and Partinello, before taking the last short climb that separates you from the bay of Porto.

Distance: around 51km (D+ : 585m ; D- : 564m ; Min. : 5m ; Max. : 405m)
Night in a 3* hotel in Porto.

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Day 6 - Porto to Cargese

This stage starts with a climb out of Porto to the famous "Calanques de Piana". This is an area with stunning rock formations and has also been named a UNESCO world heritage site. You'll then cross the village of Piana and finally, Cargese, an ancient village built by the Greeks in the 18th century.

Distance: around 31km (D+ : 703m ; D- : 660m ; Min. : 10m ; Max. : 481m)
Night in a 2* hotel



Day 7 - Cargese to Ajaccio

Already your last day on the bike. As it isn't too far to Ajaccio, you can do a round-trip to the bay of Lava and its magnificent beaches. An early arrival in Ajaccio allows a visit of the "iles sanguinaires" at the north cape of the Ajaccio-bay, or a tour of the city including for example, the Tino Rossi harbour and Napoleon's birth place.

You can either return the bikes to Bastia by your own means or opt for the collection option in Ajaccio.

Distance: around 49km (straight)
(D+ : 752m ; D- : 831m ; Min. : -1m ; Max. : 412m)
Night in a 3* hotel

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Day 8 - Tour ends in Ajaccio

After breakfast, your tour comes to an end.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a transfer to Ajaccio, Bastia or elsewhere, depending on your departure point.

Additional information

TARIFFS

Price from 1220 euros per person.

OPTIONS

Single room : 420 euros per person.
Departures in May and June : 120 euros per person.
Departures in September / July : 150 euros per person.
Departures in August : 250 euros per person.
6-day hire of a hybrid bike (VTC) including a helmet, smartphone mount and panniers – to be collected from the shop : 290 euros per person.
6-day hire of an electric bike, including a helmet, smartphone mount and panniers – to be collected from the shop : 330 euros per person.
6-day hire of an aluminium road bike, including a helmet and smartphone mount – to be collected from the shop : 290 euros per person.
6-day hire of a carbon road bike, including a helmet and smartphone mount – to be collected from the shop : 430 euros per person.
Bicycle delivery to Bastia and collection in Ajaccio (price to be split between the number of people) : 330 euros per person.
Transfer from Bastia Airport to Bastia city centre – daytime fare for 1 to 4 people : 70 euros per person.
Transfer from Ajaccio to Ajaccio Airport – daytime fare for 1 to 4 people : 40 euros per person.

INCLUDED

The nights in double rooms in 2 and 3-star hotels

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Breakfasts
The luggage transfers on each stage
Information package with maps and road-books on our app (a smartphone is required)
Local assistance by phone

NOT INCLUDED
Meals (except breakfast), drinks
Insurance
Bicycle hire (see options)
Airport transfers (see options)
Anything not mentioned in ‘the price includes’

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY
Medium: stages from 26km to 52km, with up to 800m h.d.
On some you have the choice between 2 routes; longer or shorter

LUGGAGE
Your luggage gets transferred from one accommodation to the next. You only have to carry what's needed for the day.

ACCOMMODATION
Double rooms in 2* and 3* hotels.

SIZE OF GROUP
From 2 participants

DEPARTURES
Daily from the beginning of April to mid-October

DEPARTURE
Bastia

DISPERSION
Ajaccio

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
A deposit is required by our bike rental partner for each bicycle. The amount ranges from €500 to €800 per bike, depending on the model chosen. The deposit is held as a pre-authorisation and is not charged, subject to the rental partner’s conditions.

To fully enjoy your trip independently, you should be familiar with the basics of bike maintenance, including how to change an inner tube in the event of a puncture.

In the event of a breakdown or technical issue that is not due to a defect in the bicycle and requires assistance from our team, an assistance fee may apply.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

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In July and August, temperatures in Corsica can be particularly high and the roads busier. We therefore recommend starting your ride early in the morning, to enjoy more comfortable cycling conditions and avoid the hottest part of the day.

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