# Tour de Corse: Assisted road biking

7 days / 6 nights

Discover an exceptional road bike tour of Corsica, exploring both its magnificent coastline and its wild interior. Each stage is unique, with the scenery changing day by day. Meet passionate locals who are proud of their island and share their love of Corsica and its authentic gastronomy.

The accommodation that we choose is all well located and offers the comfort you need; whether in hotels, guest houses and auberges (double rooms).

Surely is this a trip that you won't forget!!

Prepare your trip

# YOUR PROGRAM

## Day 1 - Bastia to Calvi

This first stage starts from Bastia and heads westwards up over the Col de Teghime. From here you leave behind Bastia and the view opens out to the west and over to the magnificent bay of St-Florent. The road sweeps downhill from here, through Patrimonio, a region known for its vineyards (a quick stop to taste a few good wines is not a bad idea). You will then cross St-Florent and ride through the Corsican desert (le désert des Agriates), before reaching the small villages of the Balagne, on the northwest coast. Night stop in Calvi.

About 115km (D+: 1948m; D-: 1922m; Min.: -1m; Max.: 551m)

Harder option:

About 140km for 2450m+ Max height: 685m



Day 2 - Calvi to Porto

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The itinerary follows the coastal road passing crystal clear waters, and offers simply stunning views. The major climb of the day is the Col de Palmarella and after this the "Col de la Croix", passing through a few typical remote villages. You reach Porto and its famous Genoese tower at the heart of this magnificent golfe. For an extended ride, take the road up to the "Calanche de Piana" (an extraordinary red rocky landscape).

About 80km for 1300m+ (105km with "Calanche de Piana") Max height: 408m

Harder option (with "Calanche de Piana"): About 170km for 3000m+ Max height: 1084m



### Day 3 - Porto to Venaco

Leaving Porto and the coast, todays stage leads you through stunning Spelunca gorges into the Aïtone-forest and up to the highest road pass of the island, the Col de Vergio. Don't be surprised to see some pigs, cows, goats or other wildlife on your way.

A long downhill awaits you (the twisty and narrow Scala Santa Regina is just pure pleasure!), before crossing Corte (where the island's university is located) and finally reaching the region of Venaco.

About 115km for 2980m+ Max height: 1477m



# Day 4 - Venaco to Propriano

The day starts with the Col de Vizzavona, followed by a short fast downhill, before climbing again, up the beautiful Col de ScalellaFurther on the route undulates through some tiny villages (some of them known for their prehistorical vestiges). Todays accommodation offers you a great view over the bay of Propriano, and after a long day on your bike you can enjoy a cold drink watching the sunset!

About 110km for 2300m+ Max height: 1178m

Harder option:

About 145km for 2500m+ Max height: 1178m



# Day 5 - Propriano to Zicavo

Today you will cross the Alta Rocca region, with its old historical villages, olive trees and mills. From the village of Zonza, the fittest will take the climb up to the famous Col de Bavella. The views over the Bavella needles are just amazing! Then it continues to undulate until the Col de la Vaccia (1195m) and a gentle descent to our overnight stop.

About 95kms for 2400m+ Max height: 1190m

Harder option with "Aiguilles de Bavella":

About 115km for 2800m+ Max height: 1205m



# Day 6 - Zicavo to Corte

You have a few km to warm up before attacking the 1st climb of the 3 this stage has to offer; the Col de Verde. A beautiful road through the Verde-forest followed by the next uphill section, up the superb Col de Sorba. The views are just wonderful! But keep your eyes on the road during the long and twisty descent. The next pass is a bit easier and also offers unique views over the Corsican countryside. Down again on a superb and twisty road, before rolling the last few km into Corte, historical capital of the island.

About 80kms for 1750m+ Max height: 1314m

Harder option:

About 100km for 2250m+ Max height: 1314m



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# Day 7 - Corte to Castagniccia

Deep through the villages of the Castagniccia, todays stage leads you into this area known for its old chapels, natural water sources and centuries old chestnut trees. That's pure nature!! Keep your eyes peeled for the "Milan Royal" (a local bird of prey) flying gracefully through the sky. Soon you will reach the east coast again, and Bastia is not much further.

Distance 105km for 2150m+ to our office; You'll have some time to get change before your transfer to the aiport.. Max height: 985m.



# Additional information

#### **TARIFFS**

Price from 1710 euros per person.

## **OPTIONS**

Single room: 380 euros per person.

Aluminium road bike rental : 310 euros per person. Carbon road Bike rental : 395 euros per person.

May, June and September departure: 70 euros per person.

# **INCLUDED**

6 nights in a double room

6 breakfasts

6 dinners (drinks not included)

6 picnics

Luggage transfer

Road book with points of interest and GPS tracks on our application (a smartphone is required)

A guide in a vehicle throughout the week (to transport luggage and prepare picnics)

Local telephone assistance

Return transfer to Bastia airport

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#### **NOT INCLUDED**

Transport to the meeting point

Transfers not included in the programme

Insurance

Drinks with dinner

Personal expenses

Anything not indicated in the 'price includes' section

#### **LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY**

For regular cyclists. Daily stages from around 90km to 120km, with some steep climbs.

#### **CARRYING**

Your luggage gets carried on all the stages by the assistance van.

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

Nights in double rooms in 2 and 3-star hotels, guest house and auberge.

#### SIZE OF GROUP

From 6 participants.

### **DEPARTURES**

4 annual departures for travellers wishing to join other like-minded cyclists group on a guided tour.

(Other possible departures for private groups (friends, family, sports clubs etc) on request, with departure dates to suit you. 6 personns min. Please, contact us!)

# DEPARTURE

Bastia, in front of the prefecture at 9am.

The meeting point will be the same place at 08:30 if you hire a bike.

#### **DISPERSION**

At our office near Bastia airport, on the last day around 4 p.m. Transfer back to the airport included.