

## 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-book](#) [Prepare your trip](#)

### YOUR PROGRAM

#### Day 1 - Arrival in Bastia

Your trip starts 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

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 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).

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.



### 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.

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



#### **Day 8 - Tour ends in Ajaccio**

After breakfast, your tour comes to an end. If you rented bikes, we'll pick them up at the hotel. Transfer to the airport or back to Bastia (possible by train) on request.

## Additional information

### TARIFFS

Price from 1290 euros per person.

### OPTIONS

Single room : 435 euros per person.

Departures in May, June and September : 80 euros per person.

Departures in July and August : 190 euros per person.

Hybrid bike rental (delivery and repatriation included) : 440 euros per person.

Electric bike rental (delivery and repatriation included) : 550 euros per person.

Road bike rental (delivery and repatriation included) : 580 euros per person.

### INCLUDED

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

7 breakfasts per person

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

Transport to Bastia and from Ajaccio

Unplanned transfers

Meals and drinks

Bike rental

### 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

### CARRYING

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

In your hotel in Bastia, in the afternoon.

## **DISPERSION**

In your hotel in Ajaccio, after breakfast, on day 8.