

Corsica by motorbike - 8 days motorcycling tour - Half-board - gîtes d'étape and hotels

8 days/ 7 nights

This fantastic tour will take you to Corsica's most beautiful sites, including sensational winding roads set against a backdrop of spectacular landscapes. You will undoubtedly enjoy the diversity of the landscape, traditional cucina corsa and meeting the island's welcoming locals.

Based in Corsica, our team often rides across the island's back roads in order to ensure that you get the best possible experience during your stay in Corsica.

WARNING: This tour includes nights in gîtes d'étape and in hotels. You will be staying in shared bedrooms for four and up to eight people. If you wish to stay in double bedrooms only, please check our 3 star hotel version of the tour.

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - The Cape of Corsica

From Bastia you will journey northwards to Erbalunga and its beautiful, tiny port, and then to Maccinaggio before crossing the island from east to west. Onwards to Barcaggio, the northern tip of Corsica. Next, via Centuri the number one fishing port for lobsters in France, you will follow the dramatic cliffs of the western coast and take a break at Canari or Albo before reaching Nonza, known for its Genovese tower and black sandy beach. Soon after you will visit Patrimonio, the capital of Corsican wine and then arrive in Saint-Florent and its sandy beaches.

Evening meal at your own expense.

Distance: approximately 130km.



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Day 2 - From St Florent to Galéria

Today's stage will lead you to go through the Désert des Agriates, a magnificent protected natural reserve. On the way there, you will get to see stunning landscapes and ride on many fantastic winding roads. Charming secret mountain roads will quickly unravel before your very eyes, as you catch sight of olive groves, cactus trees, and Barbary figs. You will then get to explore authentic and enchanting little villages where cows wander freely across the roads; and, on your way to Balagne at sunset, the landscape will become a true feast for the eyes, as it will slowly change into a lunar spectacle. You will then stop for a while in Belgodere, in front of a picturesque little church, before setting off to the Route des Artisans (Road of the Craftsmen).
Next, you will ride to Calvi and get to admire both its port and ancient citadel. After that, you will ride along one of Corsica's most popular roads. Admittedly, it is in poor condition but it will offer you some of the best and most wonderful landscapes in Corsica. Finally, you will reach the seaside town of Galeria and have dinner there in a local gîte d'étape.

Distance: approximately 150km.



Day 3 - From Galéria to the Calanches de Piana

Today's stage will lead you to the Col de Palmarella, where you will be able to enjoy stunning panoramic views. You will then ride down a beautiful cliff road and see rolling carpets of arid grassland, as you reach charming villages. There, you will be able to relax and have a drink. However, you will soon set off to other seaside villages nearby, where there are many water sports.
After that, you will set off to the famous Calanches de Piana, and ride up to a village, where you will be able to visit a few churches, and where a certain Greek influence makes itself felt through the village's architectural features. You will then go around the coastline before riding into the heart of the island. Be careful of the wild pigs. They tend to wander about freely on the roads. The journey will then lead you to Evisa, a town essentially famous for its chestnut trees. Finally, you will end today's journey by travelling around gorges where it is quite common to come across herds of goats.

You will have dinner and spend the night in a gîte d'étape near Porto.

Distance: approximately 150km.

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Day 4 - From Porto's bay to Corte

On this fourth day of the tour, you will ride along scenic roads which will take you to an enchanting village, famous for its Genovese bridges and olive groves. On the way to Corte, you will climb the highest road in Corsica, and then, ride down an undulating road which will lead you to the shores of a local lake. The magnificent Scala di Santa Regina will take you to the borders of the Castagniccia region, where you will be able to ride endless miles of winding roads. Next, you will discover the stunning Restonica Gorge before returning to your hotel in the evening.

You will spend the night in a 2 star hotel. Dinner at your own expense.

Distance: approximately 125km.



Day 5 - From Corte to Valinco's bay

Today, you will ride along Corsica’s main road which goes through the Vizzavona forest and offers spectacular scenery. Once you will have reached Ajaccio, you will be able to enjoy strolling down the streets of Napoleon’s hometown and go to the Pointe des Sanguinaires – the Point of blood-thirsty men – which is surrounded by beautiful white sandy beaches. Next, you will climb a coastal route which is skirted by eucalyptus trees and which leads to an ancient prison. Finally, you will take the road to the small villages of the Taravo region where you will have dinner and spend the night in a gîte d'étape.

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Distance: approximately 175km.



Day 6 - Bonifacio and Bavella

Your first stop will be Sartène. You will then get to see more uninhabited landscapes on your way to Bonifacio and its chalk cliffs. As you reach Bonifacio, you will get a view of both the Lion of Roccapina and some majestic sandy coves on your right. Once you have left the town, you will ride along the most beautiful beaches that Corsica has to offer, and travel to the heart of the island via the famous Needles of Bavella. Along the way, you will have the opportunity to swim in small hidden rivers nearby. Afterwards, you will ride down to the Alta Rocca, where you will have the opportunity to eat traditional Corsican food, such as cooked meats and homemade patisseries.

You will have dinner and spend the night in a gîte d'étape.

Distance: approximately 160km.



Day 7 - From Alta-Rocca to the Costa Verde

Once you will have explored the wonderful local villages, olive groves and old mills of the region, you will ride along

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spectacular mountain passes and may see pigs and horses, wandering about freely.
You will also get to see many forests and have the opportunity to stop at Ghisoni to see its ‘ski resort’, before reaching the road to the Inzecca Gorge and today's destination point, Prunete.

Night in a hotel.

Distance: approximately 148km.



Day 8 - Back to Bastia

You will start today’s journey by riding through the Tavignano Gorge, and then, along the coastline, until you reach the villages of the Castagniccia region, from which you will be able to get great panoramic views. Later on, you will travel around Biguglia’s nature reserve and a pond where pink flamingos can often be seen.

The tour ends in Bastia.

Distance: from 70 to 150km.



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Additional information

TARIFFS

Price from 570 euros per person.

OPTIONS

Supplement per person for July and August departures : 30 euros per person.
Supplement for a single room in hotel : 155 euros per person.
Rental motorbike (Tariff T1) : 390 euros per person.
Rental motorbike (Tariff T2) : 627 euros per person.
Rental motorbike (Tariff T3) : 745 euros per person.
Tripy 2 GPS rental for 8 days : 80 euros per person.
GPS tracks on USB stick : 25 euros per person.
Corsican motorbike t-Shirt (size and colour to be confirmed later) : 15 euros per person.
Rental motorbike (Tariff T4) : 1173 euros per person.
Rental motorbike (Tariff T5) : 1600 euros per person.

INCLUDED

Nights in gîtes d'étape and hotels **
Breakfasts
Evening meals (only in gîtes)
Information package with maps and road-book

NOT INCLUDED

Ferry crossing
Other transfers not included in the tour
Personal travel insurance
Beverages
Meals which are not included in the tour (in hotel)

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Motorbike rental, repair costs, fines and speed tickets
Visits of tourist sites
Optional activities which are not included in the tour
Personal expenses

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY
Approximately 150-190 km a day.

ACCOMMODATION
In gîtes d'étape (shared bedrooms for 4 and up to 8 people). Three nights in hotels (double or twin bedrooms).

SIZE OF GROUP
From two.

DEPARTURES
Every day from the beginning of April to the end of October.

DEPARTURE
Bastia. We can also organize ferry crossings or airport pick-up services from Bastia airport directly to our hire shop. For more details or if you would like a fly-drive option, please contact us either by email or telephone.

DISPERSION
Bastia. If you are hiring a motorbike, we can organise a transfer from our hire shop directly to the airport.

EQUIPMENT TO TAKE
Bike Trousers.
Bike Jacket.
Bike Gloves.
Bike Boots.
Helmet (can be hired)
Waterproof Boot Covers.
Waterproof Coat & Trousers.
First aid kit.
Head lamp.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
During the tour, you will spend four nights in gîtes d'étape in shared bedrooms. Do not forget your sleeping bag!

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