



## TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING  
LEVEL

4

Europe / France / Alps

# Alps Journey Bike Tour

Conquer Legendary Cols of the French Alps



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Ride through the heart of the Alps to conquer France's greatest, hardest, and most famous climbs, including the Alpe d'Huez, Col du Galibier, Col d'Izoard, and Col de la Bonette
- Discover the quiet and secluded—but no less stunning—Maritime Alps, where you'll have perfect ribbons of road all to yourself
- Immerse yourself in TDF lore, passing over and through some of the most iconic climbs and villages in Tour history
- Pedal your way from Lake Geneva to the Mediterranean Sea, covering dramatically different climatic conditions and landscapes
- Ride like a pro in custom Rapha x DuVine gear: jersey, socks, and cycling cap are complimentary on all Level 4 tours



## ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

### Arrival Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**  
Geneva, Switzerland
- 📍 **Pick-Up Location:**  
Fraser Suites in Geneva
- 🕒 **Pick-Up Time:**  
8:30 am

### Departure Details

- ✈ **Airport City:**  
Nice, France
- 📍 **Drop-Off Location:**  
Nice airport or TGV train station
- 🕒 **Drop-Off Time:**  
11:00 am

**NOTE:** DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

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### Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or [emergency@duvine.com](mailto:emergency@duvine.com).

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### Travelers Take Note

Our Journey tours are designed to reach small towns where hotel options are often limited and/or seasonal. Due to availability and routes, groups may sometimes be split between different properties, which are of the highest standard available in the area.

Upon booking this tour, you will be asked to complete a short form. We use this information to ensure all Level 4 trip participants are adequately prepared for our most difficult riding and have proximate cycling experience to the rest of the group.

Due to altitude, weather can change quickly. Expect anything from peak summer heat to hail and snow in a single day, and pack accordingly. Helpful hints about dressing for all climates can be found on [our blog](#).

Please note that e-bikes cannot be reserved for this tour.

# TOUR ITINERARY

## Tour By Day

DAY  
1

### Geneva, Annecy, and the Savoy

Welcome to an epic week of cycling. Before we head out across the Alps, meet your guides on the shores Lake Geneva for a short transfer to our starting point. There's no honeymoon ride and the Mediterranean isn't getting any closer, so we start with 12 kilometers of steady climbing—and this pass doesn't even warrant a name. Today's name-worthy climb is the Col de Tamié, an approachable 9.7 kilometers at 4% on narrow (but scenic) roads. Rest up at tonight's hotel in the heart of the Savoy region—the thermal spa makes a soothing soak for sore legs.

**Meals:** Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Annecy, Albertville

**Accomplished:** 73 miles / 117 km, elevation gain: 6,361 feet / 1,939 meters

**Accommodations:** [Hotel Radiana](#)

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DAY  
2

### Madeleine and Glandon

Yesterday we climbed some hills; today we climb some mountains. Our to-do list consists of twin cols, and there are mere moments to warm up before we hit the Col de la Madeline first. It's a hair-raising way to start the day, with 26 kilometers averaging 6.1%. The descent into La Chambre offers some sweet relief before we tackle the Col du Glandon: a 21-kilometer climb at 6.9% with the final two kilometers over 10%. Get in the zone for the last stretch to tonight's hotel, where we'll have a taste of Alpine food and hospitality.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** La Chambre, Vaujany

**Accomplished:** 62 miles / 99 km, elevation gain: 12,952 feet / 3,948 meters

**Accommodations:** [Hotel V de Vaujany](#)

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## TOUR ITINERARY

DAY  
3

### 4 for 4: Alpe d'Huez to Galibier

After a breakfast fit for a professional cyclist, we head east on roads that make all the fatigue worthwhile: one lane of crisp asphalt clinging to the edge of the Romanche Valley, and not a car in sight except for the support van. Our first real challenge is the most famous of them all: the Alpe D'Huez and all 21 of its hairpin switchbacks. After that, the Col de Sarenne and Col du Lautaret might as well be considered cool-downs. There's extra credit for anyone who wants to tag the summit of Galibier—what's another eight kilometers at 7% for some serious bragging rights? Descend down the valley into Le Monêtier-les-Bains. If you have the energy, take a walk around town and stretch your legs as you head to dinner on your own tonight.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch

**Destinations:** Alpe D'Huez, La Grave

**Accomplished:** 68 miles / 110 km, elevation gain: 11,164 feet / 3,403 meters

**Shorter Option:** 58 miles / 94 km, elevation gain: 9,281 feet / 2,829 meters

**Accommodations:** [Le Monêtier](#)

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DAY  
4

### Hump Day

We're halfway through the trip. Your legs are sore. But the hump today is none other than the Col d'Izoard. This climb was the battleground for the epic rivalry between the legendary Italian, Fausto Coppi, and the French great, Louison Bobet, in the 1950s. It is also the highest point of our tour at 2,360 meters. We are heading south into the Maritime Alps where the passes aren't household names but the riding is out of this world: no cars, just ribbons of pavement winding through pines and mountain pastures. This is exactly what we'll experience on the Col de Vars before rolling into Villa Morelia for a relaxing afternoon by the pool or a much-needed massage.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Briançon, Guillestre, Jausiers

**Accomplished:** 66 miles / 107 km, elevation gain: 8,738 feet / 2,664 meters

**Accommodations:** [Villa Morelia](#)

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## TOUR ITINERARY

DAY  
5

### Col de la Bonette

The Col de la Bonette is billed as the highest pass in Europe—which means we have basically no choice but to conquer this gentle (or perhaps not-so-gentle) giant. A one-kilometer warm-up prepares us for the 24-kilometer climb through Mercantour National Park. At its steepest, the gradient hits 15%, but it's easy to distract yourself with the extraordinary views all around. The flying descent down the other side is equally as memorable: towns begin to look more and more Italian, and we start to feel the hint of a Mediterranean breeze. Tonight, we feast like locals on good, honest food served in an outdoor setting, then rest up for tomorrow's final push.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Jausiers, Bousieyas, Isola

**Accomplished:** 60 miles / 96 km, elevation gain: 8,997 feet / 2,743 meters

**Accommodations:** [Pure Montagne Resort](#)

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DAY  
6

### Ride to the Sea

Our last ride is nothing short of spectacular as we follow one-way roads all the way to Nice, but one more col stands between us and our celebrations: the Col de Turini. It's easy to understand why pro riders flock here in droves—the city's mountainous backyard makes a perfect training ground, and luxurious recovery is within easy reach. Take a victory lap around the harbor, have champagne on the beach, and check into our sea-view hotel. The afternoon is all yours: spend it blissed out on the beach or weaving through the bustling port before we celebrate our last evening like champions. Our journey across the Alps has earned us a platter of fresh fish, veggies, pasta, and olive oil—a culinary reflection of all the ground we've covered along the way.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations:** Nice

**Accomplished:** 58 miles / 94 km, elevation gain: 6,235 feet / 1,901 meters

**Accommodations:** [Hôtel la Pérouse](#)

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## TOUR ITINERARY

DAY  
7

### Au Revoir

Enjoy an easy morning and decadent breakfast at our hotel. Your guides will transfer you to the Nice airport or TGV train station as you head to your next destination.

**Meals:** Breakfast

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