



TOUR ITINERARY

Europe / France / Pyrenees

RIDING
LEVEL

4

Pyrenees Journey Bike Tour

Traverse France's Untamed Frontier from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Ride from the sunny shores of the Mediterranean to the lush hills of the Atlantic Ocean across the breadth of the untamed Pyrenees
- Experience local culture and cuisine—refueling with plenty of beer—as you make your way through the wildly gorgeous Pyrenean Range
- Cross the mighty summits of the Col du Tourmalet, Col du Peyresourde, Col d'Aubisque, and other climbs made famous by the TDF
- Traverse dramatically distinct landscapes and diverse climatic conditions, from the French countryside to the hills bordering Basque country
- Clip into world-class Colnago V4 road bikes with Dura-Ace Di2 shifting and Vision carbon wheels and kit up in custom Rapha x DuVine jersey and bibs



ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

Arrival Details

Airport City:

→ Barcelona, Spain; Marseille, France; or Paris, France

Pick-Up Location:

📍 Les Roches Brunes or Le Relais des Trois Mas in Collioure

Pick-Up Time:

🕒 8:00 am

Departure Details

Airport City:

→ Bordeaux, France; Biarritz, France; Paris, France

Drop-Off Location:

📍 St. Jean de Luz Train Station

Drop-Off Time:

🕒 10:00 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.

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.

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.

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Tour By Day

PRE-TOUR

Pyrenees Pre-Night (Optional)

Arrive in Collioure and make your way to one of our pre-tour hotels for the evening. Located between Narbonne and Barcelona, the seaside town of Collioure is yours to explore before the start of your cycling adventure tomorrow. In the morning, enjoy an included breakfast before meeting your DuVine guides.

Inclusions: Hotel, Breakfast

Accommodations: [Le Relais des Trois Mas](#)

Price per person in double occupancy: \$230

Price in single occupancy: \$430

DAY
1

Med to Mountains

Your guides will meet you in Collioure where our bikes are waiting for the week's journey. After we're all fitted, start cycling across the Pyrenees: you'll have a chance to dip your wheel in the Mediterranean, or sacrifice a white bull to the gods before we climb 991 meters above sea level to the Col d'Aussières. This ride puts us well into the mountains where plenty of higher passes await. Rest and refuel at our peaceful mountain hotel to prepare for another big day tomorrow.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Collioure, Sournia, Gincla

Accomplished: 77 miles / 124 km, elevation gain: 8,608 feet / 2,624 meters

Accommodations: [Hostellerie du Grand Duc](#)

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DAY
2

Camurac and Luzenac

Wake up and enjoy the tranquility of the French countryside. We still haven't hit the big mountains just yet, and there probably aren't a lot of 20-kilometer climbs like the one up to Col du Portet in your backyard. It's only a 5% average grade, but no one will think you're a hero for staying in your biggest chain ring, so save your legs. Enjoying the scenic castles, mountain villages, and 12,000-year-old cave paintings in Tarascon along the way is permitted. We are 100 kilometers closer to the Atlantic, but the High Pyrenees are looming.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Puilaurens, Axat, Tarascon-sur-Ariège

Accomplished: 60 miles / 97 km, elevation gain: 5,937 feet / 1,810 meters

Accommodations: [Manoir Agnes](#)

DAY
3

The Three Cols

Add three major climbs to your *col-lection*. Today, the elevation profile says it all: three big climbs followed by a long descent to Saint Lary. First up is the Col de Port (16 kilometers at a respectable 5%), then Col du Saraillé (9 kilometers at 3.8%). It may not be one you'll brag about at home, but we refuse to overlook the middle child. These roads are unreal, and you'll have plenty of time to reflect on why you never want to go home on the epic descent to our bed and breakfast.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Seix, Castillon-en-Couserans

Accomplished: 59 miles / 95 km, elevation gain: 7,997 feet / 2,438 meters

Accommodations: [Bed in Bellongue](#) or Au Detour du Larrech

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Port de Balès

For the 2007 TDF, the tour organizers paved the last five kilometers of an old trail on the south side of Port de Balès to create this HC (beyond category) climb. Don't let the easier grades at the beginning lull you into a false sense of security; this climb is 19 kilometers at an average grade of 6%, but the 12% ramps near the top are the real kicker. Be sure to refuel here because we still have the Col de Peyresourde to tackle. Tonight we'll stay in Arreau, a quintessential French mountain town on the banks of the Louron, where you can spend your free night exploring both the medieval streets and the local dining scene.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Destinations: Saint Larry, Arreau

Accomplished: 68 miles / 109 km, elevation gain: 10,680 feet / 3,256 meters

Accommodations: [L'Hotel d'Angleterre](#)

DAY
5

The King Stage—Tourmalet and Hautacam

The Tourmalet needs no introduction. Both feared and loved by cyclists, it's the most frequented climb in TDF history. First up is the Col d'Aspin before hitting the approaches to the Tourmalet. If this isn't enough, from Argelès-Gazost, at the bottom of the descent, you can add on the Hautacam, another HC climb, considered by many to be the toughest in the Pyrenees. Or you can drink a beer in town and rest your legs. (We won't tell anyone. What happens on a journey, stays on a journey.)

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Arreau, Argelès-Gazost

Accomplished: 50 miles / 80 km, elevation gain: 7,449 feet / 2,271 meters

Longer Option: 69 miles / 112 km, elevation gain: 13,399 feet / 4,085 meters (Hautacam)

Accommodations: [Le Viscos](#) or [Hotel Gallia](#)

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Goodbye to All That

Our last day cycling across the Pyrenees begins with the Col d'Aubisque. The Aubisque was part of the famous 1910 stage where Octav Lapize called the race organizers "assassins". The Aubisque has been featured in the Tour de France 70 times since. It's not exactly all downhill from here; the last two days of riding are tough (tougher than the first two). Rest up and enjoy some country hospitality in preparation for the final ride to the sea.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Laruns, Barcus

Accomplished: 69 miles / 112 km, elevation gain: 9,374 feet / 2,858 meters

Shorter Option: 60 miles / 97 km, elevation gain: 4,238 feet / 1,292 meters (without the Col d'Aubisque)

Accommodations: [Maison Chilo](#)

DAY
7

Ride to the Sea

The nice thing about leaving the High Pyrenees is that there are no more famous climbs, so you may have a chance to rule the Strava segments here. Here we'll ride on narrow farm tracks through the green hills of Basque country, reminiscent of the rolling hills of Ireland or France. We'll make our re-acquaintance with sea level in Saint-Jean-de-Luz, a French fishing village on the Atlantic Coast. If you brought your own bike, you can throw it in the sea to celebrate. Congratulations, your cycling friends have all stopped following your updates. But beer tastes better than jealousy, so enjoy it. You've earned it.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Barcus, Mauléon-Licharre, Saint-Jean-De-Luz

Accomplished: 63 miles / 101 km, elevation gain: 5,366 feet / 1,636 meters

Accommodations: [Hotel Madison](#)

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DAY
8

Farewell

You biked across the Pyrenees of France, why not enjoy one more croissant? Later in the day, catch a train on to your next destination.

Meals: Breakfast
