

## Corsica GT20 Challenge: Bastia to Bonifacio by Road Bike

8 days / 7 nights

Experience Corsica's GT20 from Bastia to Bonifacio with all the logistics taken care of. Each night you'll stay in handpicked hotels, while your luggage is transferred daily. Enjoy the freedom of a self-guided ride, with the comfort and peace of mind of a fully organized trip.

### YOUR PROGRAM

#### Day 1 - Arrival in Bastia

Arrival in Bastia. This gives you time to discover the capital of Northern Corsica. The old port is superb as well as the freely accessible citadel and the old town which offers a superb panorama on the sea and the surroundings. For tonight, we recommend the old port and its special atmosphere.

Night in 3-star hotel in Bastia on B&B basis.



#### Day 2 - From Bastia to Saint-Florent

Your first day on the GT20 takes you north to explore the stunning Cap Corse. Following the coastline to Macinaggio, you'll then tackle the climb to the Serra Pass (366 m), home to the famous Mattei windmill. This pass marks the transition to the island's western side, where a scenic balcony road winds through charming villages and dramatic landscapes. With breathtaking views of both sea and mountains, you'll descend towards Saint-Florent, a picturesque harbor nestled in a beautiful gulf.

Distance: 113 km (D+ : 1500m ; D- : 1500m)



### Day 3 - From Saint-Florent to Calvi

Leaving Saint-Florent, you'll cross the wild landscapes of the Agriates to reach the Vezzu Pass (311 m). A winding descent then leads to a quiet road through the fragrant maquis. The route climbs towards Novella and up to the Croce Pass (511 m), followed by the San Colombano Pass, marking your arrival in the Balagne region. From here, a scenic descent takes you to Belgodère before weaving through the charming villages of Feliceto, Muro, and Cateri. At Montemaggiore, you'll momentarily leave the GT20 to reach Calvi, where you'll settle in for the night.

Distances: 110 km (D+ : 1450m ; D- : 1450m ; Min. : 1m ; Max. : 372m)

Night in 3-star hotel on B&B basis.



### Day 4 - From Calvi to Porto

Leaving Calvi, you'll follow the coastline past the rugged cliffs of La Revellata, enjoying stunning sea views. The route then heads inland, weaving through the wild landscapes of L'Argentella before reaching the scenic Fango Valley. A possible detour to the seaside village of Galéria offers an extra taste of Corsica's coastal beauty. Climbing towards Palmarella Pass (408 m), you'll be rewarded with sweeping views over the Gulf of Girolata. The final stretch delivers breathtaking panoramas of the Scandola Nature Reserve before descending into Porto, your destination for the night.

Night in a 3-star hotel on B&B basis.

About 85 km (D+ : 1900m ; D- : 1400m)



#### **Day 5 - From Porto to Corte**

A day with a fairly high altitude. You will cross many charming villages including Evisa, where the chestnut reigns, then the splendid forest of Aitone.

You will discover one of the most remote areas of the island, the Niolu. You will cross Albertacce, Casamaccioli and Calacuccia at the edge of its vast lake. Passing the splendid Scala of Santa Regina you will reach Corte, your evening stop.

Night in a 3-star hotel on B&B basis.

Approximately 83 km (D+ : 2895m ; D- : 2493m)



#### **Day 6 - From Corte to Zicavo**

This day promises to be incredible, a mountain stage through the chestnut trees that will take you through the famous Verde Pass (located at 1289 m) to reach Zicavo, famous for its cold meat.

Zicavo is a mountain village as there are many in Corsica, in the heart of a wild and unspoilt valley. Surrounded by mountains,

this village of Haut Taravo in the heart of the Natural Park will seduce you and especially, in summer, its freshness (it is located 750m above sea level).

Night in hotel or B&B, dinner in a local restaurant.

About 80 km (D+ : 1947m ; D- : 1686m)



#### **Day 7 - From Zicavo to Bonifacio**

Starting in the village of Zicavo, you'll ride for 15 kilometers to reach the Col de la Vaccia. From there, you'll descend towards Aullène, where a break can be taken before continuing. The route winds through the charming villages of Alta Rocca, leading you to the Bacino Pass (809 m), before reaching Chera. Finally, you'll follow the main road for the last 10 kilometers to Bonifacio, where you'll spend the night, marking the end of the day's your journey.

Night in a 3\* hotel on B&B basis.

Distance : 115 km (D+: 11450m ; D-: 2600m)



#### **Day 8 - End of stay**

End of the trip after breakfast.

You can either return the bikes to Bastia on your own or choose our bike pick-up option in Bonifacio.

Feel free to contact us if you'd like to arrange a transfer to Figari, Bastia, or another location depending on your travel plans.



## Additional information

### TARIFFS

Price from 1790 euros per person.

### OPTIONS

May & June departures : 70 euros per person.

July & September departures : 160 euros per person.

August departures : 240 euros per person.

Single room : 390 euros per person.

Single room in July, August & September : 595 euros per person.

Road bike rental with helmet and smartphone holder : 350 euros per person.

E-road bike rental with helmet and smartphone holder : 450 euros per person.

Bike pick-up in Bonifacio (cost to be shared based on the number of participants) : 350 euros per person.

### INCLUDED

Nights in 2 and 3-star hotels in double or twin rooms, 1 night in guesthouse.

Breakfasts

1 dinner in Zicavo

Luggage transfer

Information package with maps and road-books on our app (a smartphone is required)

Local assistance by phone

GPX tracks

### NOT INCLUDED

Meals (except breakfasts and 1 dinner in Zicavo), drinks

The insurance

The bike

Anything not included in the description

#### **LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY**

6 days of cycling with stages of about 100 km per day.

#### **CARRYING**

Your luggage is transferred by vehicle. So you only have to take with you day gear (picnic, camera ...).

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

In 2 and 3-star hotels, in double or twin rooms, one night in guesthouse.

#### **SIZE OF GROUP**

From 2 persons

#### **DEPARTURES**

Departure possible every day from April to the end of October.

#### **DEPARTURE**

Bastia

#### **DISPERSION**

Bonifacio

#### **EQUIPMENT TO TAKE**

ADVISED MATERIAL TO TAKE WITH YOU (non-exhaustive checklist) :

As a good preparation is key to a successful stay, here are a few tips to ensure that your trip takes place in optimal conditions.

#### **BIKES**

In order that your stay does not turn into a mechanical training course, it's advisable to carry out a meticulous revision of your bike before going on a tour :

- the tyres are well inflated and in good condition
- cables and chain are in good condition
- the transmission elements are clean and oiled
- there are no leaks in the suspensions
- the wheels are well tightened
- the brakes are in good condition (wear + possible leaks)
- the headset has been checked

And don't forget that anomalies are easier to spot on a cleaned bike...

#### **REPAIR MATERIAL**

To avoid mechanical problems, it's better to be far-sighted and always carry the basic equipment of a biker:

- 2 inner tubes (puncture sealant is strongly recommended, or puncture sealant strips)
- a pump
- tire irons
- an inner tube repair kit consisting of patches and glue
- a multi-tool
- a small wrench
- a piece of tire

Also, you can prepare your own toolbox which we transfer with your luggage. You will put in it the following items :

- a brake cable (front and rear)
- a derailleur cable
- a tyre
- one derailleur hanger
- chain oil
- a rag

#### EQUIPMENT

As you can't judge a book by its cover, cycling slinky shorts won't help you to turn into a cycling champion. However, a minimum of specific bike equipment will be necessary in order to be comfortable :

- a helmet
- glasses
- suitable shoes (no smooth soles)
- a cycling short or short
- a breathable tee-shirt (try to avoid cotton)

#### DAY BACKPACK

Because it's unpleasant to ride with a too loaded backpack, it's better to think carefully about the necessary things to bring in the backpack for the day:

- a water bag and/or a flask and/or water cans on the bike (2L/day/person minimum)
- provisions (energy bars, dried fruits...)
- the basic repair material for your bike (see above)
- a windbreaker (waterproof)
- picnic
- a headlamp
- a knife
- sun cream (+ lip protection)
- toilet paper
- a first-aid kit (see below)
- your mobile phone + an external battery
- a rubbish bag

#### PICNIC

In order to avoid unnecessary waste at picnic time, remember to take with you :

- an airtight box (0.5L) with initials marked on the lid and on the box + wide elastics
- reusable cutlery (fork and pocketknife)

#### TRAVEL BAG

Your luggage is transferred during the day and you will find it every evening at your hotel. It is preferable that your travel bag contains the following items :

- a sleeping bag liner (stays in gîtes)
- a change of clothes
- a pair of light shoes for the evening
- a large jumper or fleece jacket
- a small toilet bag with a towel

#### FIRST-AID KIT

Concerning all our guided stays, the instructor has a first aid kit.

However, it is essential to bring your own first aid kit.

Here is a list of the minimum items to take with you:

- disinfectant
- gauze strips
- plaster
- protective cream for the buttocks
- your personal medicines
- micropur pastilles (water disinfectant)
- a survival blanket

A more complete first-aid kit should be formulated with your doctor.