



Corse : Girolata - Porto Gulf

The West coast of Corsica, where you will find the gulf of Porto, conceals a multitude of sites of incredible beauty.

From Evisa to the Calanches de Piana, passing through the villages of Ota and Girolata, we propose a mountain to the sea itinerary to be discovered with all the family.

Hundred years old forests, swimming in the natural pools and in the sea, the scented maquis, spectacular gorges and cliffs ... not forgetting the local cuisine and delicious cheeses, all await you in the programme of discovery.

Tour Aventure Trekking

Agence de voyages LI 02A.06 0002 - Garantie Financière de 137204€ : APS - Contrat RC : n°86 410 716 Gan Eurocourtage IARD

RCS AJACCIO 489 755 470 - Membres du SNAV - E-mail : info@tour-aventure.com - Web site : www.tour-aventure.com

Corse - Sardaigne : Route du Vazzino, face au stade François Coty 20 090 Ajaccio Siret : 489 755 470 00015 - Tél : +33 (0)4 95 50 72 75 - Fax : + 33 (0)4 95 21 42 95

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Program

D1 - Start of holiday in Ajaccio

Arrival in Ajaccio, time to settle into your hotel before exploring. Ajaccio is the capital of Southern Corsica, the ambience is very vibrant and Mediterranean. It is great to just sit in one of the cafés opposite the harbour and soak up the atmosphere. The old streets and houses are often dwarfed by the large ferries that arrive from Italy or mainland France. visit the shops, museums, cathedral and Napoleon's house or simply relax on the beach. Opportunity to visit the îles Sanguinaires by boat.

Les Crêtes-Mountain ridge walk

You can choose to do this walk upon arrival or before you leave Ajaccio the following day. You are given the option of two walks along the mountain ridge 'les Crêtes' that dominates the city and Gulf of Ajaccio. The aerial views of the town, over the sea and the mountains are stunning.

Distance : from 6km to 11km, duration : from 2h00 to 4h00 , altitude gain : +140m to +340m, descent : -140m to -340m.

D2 - Ajaccio to Evisa

Transfer by bus to Evisa village, the pearl of Corsica.

Evisa and the forest of Aitone

Today's walk is under the shade of Laricio pine trees to the spectacular Aitone waterfalls. A great swim spot in the natural 'piscines'. The trail then takes you through Evisa chestnut forest where you will find trees that are hundreds of years old.

Distance : 9km, duration : 4h00, altitude gain : +450m, descent : -450m.

D3 - From Evisa to Ota

From Evisa you walk down the Spelunca gorge, the path zig-zags back and forth leading into the depths. You follow the torrent to a Genoise bridge where you start the walk up through the maquis towards the vibrant village of Ota. A village that couples mountain architecture with a hot Mediterranean climate and flora. Braying donkeys, hunting dogs, villagers working in their gardens, bright bougainvillaea and lemon and fig trees all add to the colour. The delicious odours of the Ceccaldi restaurant beckoning and the rose coloured granite sea cliffs getting ever closer. Perhaps you will take the time to sit on the café's terrace 'Chez Felix' to marvel at the succession of high mountains so close to the sea.

Distance : 13km, duration : 5h00, altitude gain : +130m, descent : -670m.

D4 - Col de la Croix to Girolata

After a drive in the minibus you will arrive at Col de la Croix, the starting point for the walk. The trail winds down hill through a coastal vegetation to the beach, the Plage de Tuara. From the beach you walk up across the neighbouring hillside to descend through the maquis to Girolata. In springtime you have the impression of walking through a garden, the tumble of wild flowers and herbs is a joy. The village of Girolata is unique, it is accesible by boat or by foot only, it's completely cut off to all traffic.

Distance : 9km, duration : 4h00, altitude gain : +580, descent : -580.

D5 - Girolata to Piana

In the morning departure by boat to Porto. After a pic-nic you will take a trail along a pebble beach and slowly ascend above the gulf taking in the superb views over the Scandola reserve and the Capu Ceninu. You will then arrive in the

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Calanche de Piana, classed by UNESCO as a site of world beauty. Once in the 'calanques' you will be surrounded by an incredible site of granite needles, tortured shapes and sculpted rock formations dotted with maritime pine trees. Distance : 5km, duration : 3h30, altitude gain : +360m, descent : -360m.

D6 - Piana to Ajaccio

We will communicate the time of the public bus back to Ajaccio when you reserve. The time changes during the season. You may have time to walk down to the small cove of Ficaghjola for a swim.

Walk to Ficaghjola

The cove of Ficaghjola is a small sandy creek. With its white sand and high mountains it is very picturesque. It is a favourite nightstop for passing sailboats who like to drop anchor.

Distance : 5km there and 5km back, duration : about 1h30 one way, altitude gain : +450m, descent : -450m.

This programme is an example of the itinerary we aim to adhere to. It may be possible, if situations arise that are beyond our control, for the itinerary to be modified.

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Details

Level of difficulty

The walks are on good footpaths and trails. For each day the level of walking is flexible.

Price

- From 17/04/2010 to 30/09/2010 : Prix/enfant de 8 à 15 ans en dortoir 450 €, Prix/adulte 580 €

Price includes :

Half board accommodation (no evening meal on day 1), internal transfers, baggage transfers between hotels, the dossier containing your maps, route notes and all necessary details needed for your holiday.

Price does not include :

Transfers Ajaccio/Evisa on day 2 and Piana/Ajaccio on day 7, unforeseen additional transfers, drinks, picnics, extra activities, holiday insurance and evening meal on the first day.

Encadrement

Self-guided walking.

Carrying

You will need to carry a day sack only, with your water bottle, camera, picnic and gortex jacket.

Our bag-moving service means you can travel light during your walks.

Your main luggage - will be transported by vehicle between the different night stops. We ask you to please limit your main luggage to between 10-15kg to facilitate the transportation and carrying for the taxis. It is also important to consider that it may be necessary to carry your bags short distances at the start or end of your holiday. (Consult with us for left luggage facilities)

Accommodation/food

Accommodation

1 night in a hotel in double, twin, single or 4 beds rooms (Bed & breakfast), 4 nights in dormitories in gites(half board). Communal bathrooms.

Food

Continental breakfast (tea, coffee, milk, butter, jam) Evening meals often based on local specialities.

Pic-nics and drinks not included.

Starting point/end

Starting point : At your first hotel in Ajaccio.

End : Friday at the ferry terminal of Ajaccio, depending on bus transfer (either morning or afternoon).

Organisation

We propose a self guided, independent formula. You choose your departure date and we will take care of all the rest between the initial rendez-vous time through to the dispersion point. We transport your bags between the hotels, provide the maps and good walking route notes. This is a way of enjoying complete flexibility, you dictate the pace and

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rhythm of your holiday.

Dates

Departures every Sunday from mid April to the end of September. For departures on a different day please consult us.

Number of participants

From 2 people

Access

Ajaccio port or airport.

Bibliography

The Rough Guide

The Granite Island – Dorothy Carrington

Practical information

For supplementary nights in Ajaccio

Hôtel Le Dauphin (HT) : 0033 (0)4 95 51 29 96

Hôtel Le Kallisté **: 0033 (0)4 95 51 34 45

Hôtel Fesch ***: 0033 (0)4 95 51 62 62

Hôtel Les Mouettes**** : 0033 (0)4 95 50 40 40

For supplementary nights in Bastia

Hôtel Sud Hôtel **: 0033 (0)4 95 30 20 61

Hôtel le Forum **: 0033 (0)4 95 31 02 53

Hôtel Les Sablettes *** : 0033 (0)4 95 58 50 20

Hôtel Ostella*** : 0033 (0)4 95 30 97 70

For supplementary nights in Calvi

Hôtel du Centre (HT) : 0033 (0)4 95 65 02 01

Hôtel Christophe Colomb **: 0033 (0)4 95 65 06 04

Hôtel le Grand Hôtel *** : 0033 (0)4 95 65 09 74

Hôtel La Villa ****|uxe : 0033 (0)4 95 65 10 10

For supplementary nights in Corte

Hôtel de la Paix** : 0033 (0)4 95 46 06 72

Hôtel du Nord** : 0033 (0)4 95 46 00 68

Hôtel Les Jardins de la Glacière** : 0033 (0)4 95 45 27 00

Hôtel Dominique Colonna*** : 0033 (0)4 95 45 25 65

For supplementary nights in Porto-Vecchio

Hôtel Holzer **: 0033 (0)4 95 70 05 93

Hôtel Le Goéland **: 0033 (0)4 95 70 14 15

Hôtel Shegara *** : 0033 (0)4 95 70 40 31

Hôtel Alcyon *** : 0033 (0)4 95 70 50 50

For supplementary nights in Propriano

Hôtel Bellevue (HT) : 0033 (0)4 95 76 01 86

Hôtel Beach Hôtel **: 0033 (0)4 95 76 17 74

Hôtel Claridge *** : 0033 (0)4 95 76 05 54

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Grand hôtel Miramar ****Luxe : 0033 (0)4 95 76 06 13

How to get to Corsica :

By boat :

SNCM : Departures from Marseille, Nice or Toulon

Tel : 0033 (0)891 701 801

Web site : www.sncm.fr

Corsica Ferries : Departures from Nice or Toulon

Tel : 0033 (0)825 095 095

Web site : www.corsicaferries.com/Pcorsica.srv

CMN (Compagnie Méridionale de Navigation) : Departures from Marseille

Tel : 0033 (0)810 20 13 20

Web site : <http://www.cmn.fr/en/index.php>

By Air :

Air France : tel 0870 142 4343

Web site : www.airfrance.com/uk

Public transport in Corsica :

Buses :

Bus route Calvi, Ponte-leccia, Bastia :

Bus Les beaux voyages tel : 0033 (0)4 95 65 11 35. Departures from 01/09 to 30/06 from Monday to Friday, except bank holidays, and from 01/07 to 31/08 from Monday to Saturday except bank holidays.

Duration of journey Calvi Ponte-leccia 1h45 ; Calvi Bastia 2h15.

Bus route Ajaccio, Propriano, Porto - Vecchio :

Bus Eurocorse voyages tel : 0033 (0)4.95.21.06.30. Departures from 16/09 to 30/06 from Monday to Saturday except Sundays and bank holidays and from 1/07 to 15/09 every day.

Duration of journey Ajaccio Propriano 1h50 ; Ajaccio Porto - Vecchio 3h30.

Bus route Ajaccio, Vizzavona, Corté, Ponte-leccia, Bastia :

Bus Eurocorse Voyages tel : 0033 (0)4.95.21.06.30. Departures every day except Sundays and bank holidays.

Duration of journey Ajaccio Corté 1h45 ; Ajaccio Bastia 3 heures

Train companies in Corsica :

Direction Bastia, Ponte Leccia, Corté, Vizzavona, Ajaccio

Direction Bastia, Ponte Leccia, Ile Rousse, Calvi

Ajaccio train station : 0033 (0)495 23 11 03

Bastia train station : 0033 (0)4 95 32 80 61

Calvi train station : 0033 (0)4 95 65 00 61

Corte train station : 0033 (0)4 95 46 00 97

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What to bring and pack

- Bags

A small day pack for your water bottle, camera, picnic and waterproof.

A bag, rucksack or suitcase for your main luggage 10kg maximum per person.

- For Walking

Good walking shoes or boots with a good grip sole

Walking socks.

Warm fleece

Shorts and T shirts.

Swimming costume or trunks

Towel

2 Walking poles (optional)

Water bottle (one litre minimum)

Personal first aid kit with good blister protection

- For your picnics

A good cutting knife, fork, spoon, plastic cup and plate

some plastic bags

- Sun and rain protection

Sunglasses and sun cream

Sun hat

Wind and waterproof jacket (Gore-tex stlye)

- Relaxing time

Trainers or open sandals

Warm Fleece and casual wear

Tour Aventure Backup

The Tour Aventure team is present and always at hand to ensure the smooth running of your holiday. We are on the ground and ready to assist in any eventuality.

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