



Corse : Evisa - Porto public bus version

Corsica is a mountain in the sea, this weeks walking is an opportunity to enjoy every aspect of the island, to discover the extreme contrasts. You can bathe in the perfumes, colours and contrasting landscapes that have earned Corsica its reputation. Discover an island of warm sunshine, silence and beauty.

We propose a unique semi-itinerant holiday, from Evisa village towards the sea, with stunning walks in the magnificent gulf of Porto.

Tour Aventure Trekking

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

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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 - Day in Evisa with optional walk to the village of Marignana

Today you have the option of just relaxing, or taking a walk that follows part of the trail known as the 'Mare e Monti' It is a village to village walk and in the old days the path was the only route of communication between the villages. It leads through the surrounding chestnut woods and into a luxuriant maquis, a jumble of vegetation which at this altitude is a mix of oak, cistus flowers, the strawberry tree, the curry plant and tree heather. You will arrive at the abandoned hamlet of Tassu, a small treasure to investigate. You can continue on to the village of Marignana which is situated directly across the valley from Evisa. A return walk via the village of Cristinacce completes today's insight into rural village life.

Distance : 9km, duration : 4h30, altitude gain : +300m, descent : -300m.

D4 - Col de Salto and Cuccavera

From the holiday village (paisolu d'Aitone) a forest track leads through the Corsican pine woods. After some time you cross a small bridge, the Casterrica, where there are some inviting rockpools. The track continues climbing to reach a small col called Bocca u Saltu. After a short time you leave the track to take a charming forest trail that winds its way towards the col Cuccavera. This is a great lunch spot, a hint of wild thyme perfumes the air. A stunning view of the clear blue sea and indented coastline is the day's highlight.

Distance : Optional, duration : Optional, altitude gain : Optional, descent : Optional.

D5 - Evisa to Porto

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 Genoese bridge where you start the walk up through the maquis, towards the vibrant village of Ota. A village

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that couples mountain architecture with a hot Mediterranean climate and flora. Braying donkeys, hunting dogs, villagers working in their gardens, bright bougainvillea, lemon and fig trees all add colours to the picture. The delicious smell of the Ceccaldi restaurant beckoning and the rose coloured granite sea cliffs getting ever closer. Perhaps you will get tempted to sit and unwind on 'Chez Felix's terrace to marvel at the succession of high mountains so close to the sea. Your route leaves Ota heading swiftly down to the coast. The view towards the Gulf of Porto is a kaleidoscope of colour: red cliffs, shocking blue sea and the bold Genoese tower. The walk is downhill and you can find all the plants that you associate with the heat and the Mediterranean, deep blue-black island lavender, pale pink cistus and rock sedum. Impatience will mount as you draw closer to the sea.

Distance : 14km, duration : 6h00, altitude gain : +320m, descent : -1170m.

D6 - Free day in Porto

Free day in Porto where you can make the most of the various activities available to you. Diving, boat trips, horse riding or cycling. Porto's seaside resort, dominated by a magnificent Genoese tower, is still one of the places the most visited in Corsica.

D7 - Porto to Piana

With just 4h30 walking today you may choose to spend your morning in Porto to enjoy some of the sea activities. When the sea is calm there are regular boat trips towards Scandola, this is the most reputed part of the coastline and the wild natural beauty is spectacular. It is possible to explore on your own with snorkel and mask, or for the more adventurous there is scuba diving. If you decide to walk directly to Piana in the morning it is possible to walk down to the small sandy cove of Ficaghiola in the afternoon. Leaving Porto you cross over the bridge that links Porto to the harbour. You walk along the beach that is bordered by a eucalyptus wood, then take a path that is just above sea level and gives a balcony view down onto the clear blue waters, as well as splendid views of the indented rugged coastline and its many creeks. It is the most dramatic part of the coastline and classed by UNESCO as a site of world beauty. The vegetation is a haze of lavender, myrtle, delicate pink cistus flowers, juniper, foxgloves, tall white asphodels and cyclamen. Once in the 'calanques' you will be surrounded by an incredible site of granite needles, tortured shapes and rock sculpted formations dotted with maritime pine trees.

Distance : 12km, duration : 5h00, altitude gain : +520m, descent : -140m.

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, the terrain is varied but often rocky. You need to be used to walking and take regular exercise to enjoy this holiday.

Price

- From 01/04/2010 to 30/06/2010 : Prix/pers en chambre de deux 510 €, Prix/pers en chambre individuelle 690 €
- From 01/07/2010 to 31/08/2010 : Prix/pers en chambre de deux 570 €, Prix/pers en chambre individuelle 780 €
- From 01/09/2010 to 31/10/2010 : Prix/pers en chambre de deux 510 €, Prix/pers en chambre individuelle 690 €

Price includes :

Bed and breakfast accommodations, baggage transfers between hotels, the dossier containing your maps, route notes and all necessary details needed for your holiday.

Price does not include :

Bus tickets, unforeseen additional transfers, drinks, picnics, extra activities, holiday insurance.

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). You will have to carry your luggage from the hotel to the bus stop on days 1, 2 and 7.

Accommodation/food

Hébergement

7 nights in hotels in twin or double rooms (breakfast included). From June to Septembre non-heated outdoor swimming pools in Evisa and Porto accessible.

Food

- Continental breakfast (tea, coffee, milk, butter, jam).

Starting point/end

Starting point : At your first hotel in Ajaccio, depending on your time of arrival.

End : Ajaccio's ferry terminal, by 4.30hr pm.

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 rhythm of

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your holiday.

Your transfers

Day 2 : At 7h45 bus to Evisa.

Day 7 : Return to Ajaccio by bus

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. You will need the appropriate luggage (Consult with us for left luggage facilities).

Dates

Departures on sundays, from the start of April to the end of October. 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 ****luxe : 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

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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

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 Plane :

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

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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

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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