

TOURMALET & CYCLING

Legendary mountain with the greatest challenges

1. DAY Arrival

Arrival in Marsous in the scenic and unspoilt Azun. Dinner and overnight in Marsou.

2. DAY Free day

Having been introduced to your bikes, and everything else, you are free to explore the area. Dinner and overnight in Marsou.

3. DAY Col du Soulor, Gourette, Ossau

A glorious 22 mile route that first takes you on the Tour de France route gently up the side of the Azun valley via a series of bends and switchbacks to the famed col du Soulor. You then cycle to the equally famous Col d'Aubisque via a superb corniche road where you can stop to enjoy the exceptional panoramic views to the isolated skiing village of Gourette, and the lovely Ossau valley, renowned not least for its traditional farmers' cheeses. Thankfully, there's then a long, swooping descent into and across the Ossau valley to Laruns before a final climb up towards the col de Marie-Blanche. Dinner and overnight in Ossau.

4. DAY Aspe valley

The first mile or so is a fairly steep climb until you reach the Bénou plateau with its Alpine meadows, stone barns, pine forests, and, dominating everything, peak after Pyrenean peak. From the Col de Marie-Blanche, you descend into the Aspe valley. From there you make your way back into the Ossau valley. Dinner and overnight in Sévignacq-Meyracq.

5. DAY Azun Valley

Today, you begin by exploring the lower altitude pleasures of the Bearnais. It has a beautiful foothills landscape with woods, valleys, rivers streams, small villages and large panoramas up the Pyrenean peaks. Your route loops back to the Azun valley, and you can choose a longer lower altitude route, or take one of two cols up and down into the Azun valley, the Col des Spandelles being what the French call "sauvage et sportive", and we would describe as challenging, seriously challenging. A very good day's cycling, though, whichever route you choose. Dinner and overnight in Marsous.

6. DAY Argeles-Gazost - Castelloubon valley

This is a wonderful day's cycling that positions you ready for the ultimate Col du Tourmalet ascent tomorrow. You begin by gently descending down the Azun valley to Argeles-Gazost, then discovering of the unspoilt Castelloubon valley with its traditional villages like Zoum sur Ouste and Ossun-es-Angles, its churches, oratories and roadside crosses, its rolling hills and tumbling streams. You then come into the Adour valley reaching Bagnères-de-Bigorre, which despite its violent history is a peaceful town renowned for its thermal baths. From there, it's all up hill, but, today, only as far as Sainte-Marie de Campan - visit Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption, and discover what mounaques are. Dinner and overnight in Sainte Marie de Campan.

7. DAY Col du Tourmalet, Luz-saint-Sauveur

It's finally time for the Col du Tourmalet, but first we'd recommend taking the cable car from La Mongie up to the observatory on top of Pic du Midi de Bigorre. Your rewards are pleasingly long - descent down into "Pays Toy", and the once royalty-favoured thermal spa town of Luz-saint-Sauveur. Your final section is along the Pau River before passing through the pretty village of St-Savin, and along the Azun valley to Maison Sempé for a final time. Dinner and overnight in Marsous.

8. DAY Departure

Departure after the breakfast.

You can now enjoy the most interesting and famous sections of the Tour de France route with the help of an electric bike. If you love cycling and you love a challenge, but are not superhuman, this is the holiday for you - and one you will remember for all the best reasons.



GENERAL INFO

- ✓ Price is based on a group of 15 people
- ✓ Price is per person per stay in double room in high season
- ✓ Single supplement on request

Prices are informative and based on availability. Program can be modified according to your requirements or budget. Send us your travel dates to reservations@codan-agentura.com and we will prepare fixed offer.

ACCOMMODATION INFO

Price for the package is based on a stay at 3-star hotels.

Hotel examples:

Ossau	L'Arrajou Chambres d'Hôtes
Sainte Marie de Campan	Le Hotel Chalet
Marsous	Maison Sempé

We can of course offer hotels in different category or location.

PACKAGE INCLUDES

Guide Service, Excursions & Entrances:

- Daily services of the bi-lingual guide
- Support van
- Picnics on days 2 to 7

Accommodation:

- 7 nights in double room, HB