

## **DETOURS IN FRANCE**

**BIKING IN ALSACE** 



# **Explore** France at your own pace

#### **Day 1:** Arrival in Strasbourg

Strasbourg, seat of the new European Parliament, is an ancient and lively city, filled with treasures to explore. It was named a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1988, the first city to be honoured with the title in its entirety. This tour allows you time to meander the canals, cobblestoned streets, and small boutiques of Strasbourg. Visit the old town, its picturesque quarters and half-timbered houses in the neighbourhood known as "The Petite France". Visit the Gothic cathedral and its famous astronomical clock, and the European Parliament. Be sure to sate your appetite as well with the pastries, giant soft pretzels and fresh cheeses at every corner. Dinner tonight in one of our favourite restaurants.

## Day 2: Strasbourg to Obernai 41 km / 26 Miles

The first half of today's ride follows the very easy riding along the Bruch Canal, one of the prettiest bike paths in Europe. It will lead you out of Strasbourg and towards the vineyards, in Molsheim, where you can stop to explore and find some lunch. From there you ride through vineyard villages (such as Rosheim, with its three arched town gates, and Bischofsheim, with its abbey perched above), before arriving in Obernai itself. All of the villages will seduce you with their half-timbered houses and typical Alsatian feel. Be sure to stop to have your camera handy! Obernai, a wine-growing village itself, located near Strasbourg, is nestled up in the vineyard covered hills. During the summer it's decked out with flowers; you'll love its winding cobblestone streets that challenge motorists and enchant pedestrians and cyclists.

## Day 3: Obernai to Ribeauville 42 Km / 26 Miles

Today's ride is quite stunning, as you spend the day riding through the many villages of the Alsace wine region. Winemaking in Alsace has a long history; it is a region that produces primarily white wines, with its famous Rieslings and aromatic Gewurtzraminers, but you can also get a very drinkable and inexpensive red pinot noir here. There are plenty of opportunities to stop and taste wine, as you hop from village to village (you actually ride through 19 different villages over the course of the day! You can pick and choose where you want to spend more of your time today, but we highly recommend you stop and explore at least a little in Dambach (where you'll also certainly find lunch), Scherwiller, and Bergheim. Tonight you stay in tiny Ribeauville, with beautiful half-timbered buildings from the 16th and 17th centuries, and a variety of shops, wineries, and historic sites.



## **DETOURS IN FRANCE**





#### **BIKING IN ALSACE**

## Day 4: Ribeauville to Colmar 32 Km / 20 Miles

A final beautiful day of riding the Alsace villages and countryside. The beginning of today's ride continues through a few more lovely vineyard villages, starting almost immediately with the village of Riquwihr. This town has much of its Medieval fortifications and a castle still intact; it largely escaped damage during the Second World War, and is quite beautiful. You'll also want to stop for some explorations in both Turkheim and Eguisheim. The route then turns away from the vineyards and across the plains, entering the town of Colmar on a tranquil bike path. The center of this town, where you will be staying, reveals its charm: the colors and atmosphere of streets still embody much of the Middle Ages. Churches, cloisters, half-timbered houses, facades with ornate wood sculptures, paintings, and edifices from the Renaissance abound.

## Day 5: Departure – Bon Voyage!

After a final delicious breakfast, there are easy connections out of Colmar train station for your continued travels.



## What's included in your Alsace Tour Package:

- 4 nights' accommodation in the comfort level of your choice: CLASSIC, CLASSIC+ or DELUXE
- All hotel taxes
- All breakfasts, 2 dinners (drinks not included with dinners)
- Fully equipped quality touring bike
  \* E-bikes and Road bikes are available on request (subject to supplement)
- Orientation with our Trip Manager
- Detailed maps and step-by-step route instructions
- Regional information and advice
- Uploadable GPS file of the route to use on a free APP in your smartphone
   \* Can be used without international internet
- plan (offline)Luggage Transfers from hotel to hotel
- Phone call support 7 days a week

