



## EXPLORE FRANCE AT YOUR OWN PACE

### Day 1: Arrival in Rocamadour

Welcome to the Dordogne! We will meet you at the Souillac train station and transfer to your first hotel, where we will provide you with your trip package and check the bike fitting. You'll have time to explore the ancient streets snaking one above the other in this vertiginous and famous pilgrimage site, before your first dinner, included this evening.

### Day 2: Loop to the Gouffre de Padirac 38 or 51 Km / 24 or 32 Miles

Your first ride takes you through the gorgeous countryside of the Regional Park of the Causses de Quercy with rolling hills and valleys and beautiful villages. Your route brings you to the Gouffre de Padirac, one of the most incredible geological sites in all of France; descend into the caverns and visit the underground lake in small boats, with the stalactites and stalagmites reflected in the limpid waters around you. The long option takes you through one of France's "Prettiest Villages", Loubressac, before turning back towards Rocamadour for a second evening in time to enjoy a drink in one of the local cafés before dinner.

### Day 3: Rocamadour to Souillac 43 Km / 27 Miles

Today's ride takes you northwards towards the Dordogne River, passing through the lovely village of Mayrinhac, and crossing the river at St Sozy. Continue on a lovely route niched between the banks of the river and the shade of the cliffs through pretty Creysey; and then up to beautiful medieval Martel, with its seven historic towers. Quiet countryside and villages bring you at last to Souillac itself, on the banks of the river. Take some time to meander through town and admire the 11th century Saint Mary's Abbey - Souillac itself dates back to the foundation of a Benedictine Monastery in the year 655!





**Day 4: Souillac to Sarlat 40 Km / 25 Miles**

Today's ride is beautiful, following the bends and curves of the Dordogne. In the morning, you have a climb away from the river to go to the impressive and beautiful Chateau of Fenelon. As with so many of the region's castles, the site was attacked, damaged, and rebuilt a multitude of times over the centuries. You finish your day following an easiergoing bike path through lush greenery all the way into the medieval town of Sarlat. This incredible UNESCO heritage site, the largest Medieval ensemble in Europe, is best explored in the

evening, when the beautiful "lauze" stone roofs and tiny cobblestoned streets are lit up beautifully by the municipality.

**Day 5: "Prettiest Villages of France" 38 to 47 Km / 24 to 29 Miles**

The loop ride for the day is one of the most picturesque, passing through some of the "prettiest villages of France" (this is an official national rating) like La Roque Gageac, built flat against the cliffside overlooking the Dordogne, and with original troglodyte dwellings. You'll see medieval castles lining the river that warred across from each other... Take a short detour to Beynac, with its imposing castle built by the Barons of Beynac. Climb up to the war museum at Chateau Castelnaud. You may well decide to lunch in Domme. This village, an excellent example of the Bastide villages (fortified villages) of Medieval France, was built in the 13th century by Philip the Bold; there are still examples of medieval graffiti by the Templar knights, and a spectacular panorama to the valley below! Return to Sarlat for a second night.

**Day 6: Sarlat to Montignac and Lascaux 44 Km / 27 Miles**

Your route today takes you northwards from Sarlat through the Dordogne's rich countryside, where truffles and cep mushrooms, walnut orchards, and grapes grow, and where you shouldn't be surprised to see goose and duck farms, for the famous foie gras in the truly picturesque villages. Your final stretch follows the banks of the winding Vezere River, before arriving in Montignac, a pretty town in its own, but made famous today as it is the home of the renowned prehistoric cave painting site of Lascaux. You'll be able to visit the recently opened Lascaux IV reproduction, just on the outskirts of Montignac, before dinner.

**Day 7: Departure – Bon Voyage!**

After a final breakfast, say goodbye to Dordogne until next time. We transfer you to Brive-la-Gaillarde or Souillac train station for your further travels.





## BIKING IN DORDOGNE - 6 NIGHT "BEST OF"



### What's included in your Dordogne package:

- 6 nights' accommodation of the comfort level of your choice: CLASSIC, CLASSIC + or DELUXE
- Hotel taxes
- All breakfasts, 3 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 hotel to hotel
- Transfer from Souillac train station to the first hotel
- Transfer to Souillac or Brive-la-Gaillarde train station at the end of the trip
- Phone call support 7 days a week

