

Thomson



Tour de France Pyrenees
KOM/QOM Challenge (riders)

only)

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DEPARTURES

July 18th 2022
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PRICE FROM

AUD \$10,795

DURATION

8 days / 7 nights

NON-RIDER FRIENDLY

No

RENTAL BIKE

AUD \$700

TOTAL DISTANCE

345 km

TOTAL ELEVATION

11,277 m

DAILY AV. DISTANCE

58 km

DAILY AV. ELEVATION

1,880 m

The Pyrenees stages with the Premier Official Tour Operator Optional Paris extension

LIVE race-viewing of the key stages in the Pyrenees & an optional Paris extension. Challenging rides including the Tourmalet, Hautacam and the Col du Portet. Optional extension to witness the Grand Finale in Paris.

Thomson Tour de France KOM/QOM Challenges are the trips of choice for avid cyclists of all abilities looking for a unique blend of LIVE race-viewing and challenging riding.

Experience the highlight of the Tour de France in the Pyrenees at the summit finish in Hautacam, live on the mountain-side from our Private Hospitality Marquee. Mingle with the pro riders and Tour celebrities with our privileged VIP access to the Departure Village of Stage 19 in Castelnau-Magnoac, and cherish the unique experience of riding across the Finish Line ahead of the peloton in Peyragudes.

You'll also have a challenging ride program. You'll conquer numerous famous climbs including the Col du Tourmalet, Col de Portet, Port de Balès, Col de Peyresoude, Col d'Aspin and the legendary climb to Hautacam on race day.

No one rides like Thomson!

Non-Riders: this trip is reserved exclusively for cyclists. We're running a parallel TDF Pyrenees trip that welcomes non-riding partners. Full details available [here](#).

Paris Extension: extend your trip to continue on to Paris and witness the Final Stage on the Champs-Élysées. Our Paris Extension includes travel to Paris (flight or high-speed TGV train), accommodation at the 5-star Hotel Intercontinental Opera, and entry to the Elysée Tribune directly opposite the Finish Line on the Champs-Élysées circuit.



Performance Itinerary



DAY	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE	ELEVATION	HOTEL
01	Bienvenue en France!	32 km	649 m	Hotel Mercure, Saint Lary Soulan
02	Port de Balès (Chaingate)	82 km	2,403 m	Hotel Mercure, Saint Lary Soulan
03	Ride over the Finish Line, Podium Photo Op & LIVE VIP Race-Viewing in Peyragudes	55 km	2,314 m	Hotel Mercure, Saint Lary Soulan
04	LIVE Race-Viewing: Private Hospitality Marquee on the final climb to Hautacam	26 km	1,287 m	Hotel Mercure, Saint Lary Soulan
05	LIVE Race-Viewing: VIP Departure Village in Castelnau - OR - Quintessential Pyrenees Ride	47 km	1,559 m	Hotel Mercure, Saint Lary Soulan
06	Le Tourmalet	103 km	3,065 m	Hotel Mercure, Saint Lary Soulan
07	End of the Pyrenees Trip - OR - continue to Paris for the Final Stage (Paris Extension Only)			Hotel Intercontinental Le Grand, Paris
08	End of the Paris Extension			

Performance Itinerary

Day 1

DISTANCE
32 km

ELEVATION
649 m

Bienvenue en France!

Your trip starts at Toulouse Blagnac Airport where our staff will meet you before the transfer to your hotel in St Lary.

After a brief orientation meeting, lunch and bike build-up, you'll head out on our warm-up ride which takes you high into the hills above the Aure Valley over the Montée d'Ilhan. Serene roads and spectacular mountain landscapes set the scene for the week to come!

CLIMBS

Montee d'Ilhan from Borderes-Louron	4.9 km	299 m	6.1%
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Performance Itinerary

Day 2

DISTANCE

82 km

ELEVATION

2,403 m

Port de Balès (Chaingate)

First big ride in the Pyrenees and we kick things off with one of our favorite Pyreneese climbs. The Port de Bales was first introduced to the Tour de France in 2007 when a gravel forestry trail was asphalted allowing a connection between two valleys. It's probably best remembered for the "chaingate" incident in 2010 when Alberto Contador attacked Andy Schleck after Andy had dropped his chain.

Stunning scenery, no traffic, great pavement, fantastic views from the summit, and on a par with the Tourmalet in terms of difficulty all combine to make the Port de Bales one of our all-time favorite climbs. It's a long ride so our staff will advance you 50km in the vans, to the village of St Bertrand de Comminges. From St Bertrand you'll have a 10km warm-up before reaching Mauleon-Barousse and the start of the climb. From the summit, enjoy the great descent before the final climb of your trip, the iconic Col de Peyresourde.

CLIMBS

Port de Balès from Mauleon-Barousse	19.3 km	1,250 m	6.5%
Col de Peyresourde from Junction to Port de Balès	9.7 km	737 m	7.6%



Performance Itinerary

Day 3

DISTANCE

55 km

ELEVATION

2,314 m

Ride over the Finish Line, Podium Photo Op & LIVE VIP Race-Viewing in Peyragudes

A unique opportunity today to ride your bike across the Official Finish Line just a few hours before the peloton – followed by a photo shoot on the Official Podium. You'll round off an amazing Tour de France day by witnessing the Race Finish from the VIP Tribune at the Finish Line in Peyragudes.

We've secured access to the VIP Tribune located at the Finish – and to get there you'll enjoy a stunning ride to Pla d'Adet where George Hincapie won the stage in 2005. The final 30km of your ride will be on the actual race route, so you can expect to be cheered on by thousands of passionate fans.

CLIMBS

Pla d'Adet from St Lary Soulan	11.1 km	857 m	7.7%
Col de Val Louron-Azet from St Lary Soulan	10.7 km	765 m	7.1%
Peyragudes from La Peyrada	4.3 km	233 m	5.4%



Performance Itinerary

Day 4

DISTANCE

26 km

ELEVATION

1,287 m

LIVE Race-Viewing: Private Hospitality Marquee on the final climb to Hautacam

The final climb of the 2022 Tour de France and it's a classic – the 16km climb to Hautacam. After a short van transfer to Lourdes, you'll ride to Argeles-Gazost where you'll meet up with the Tour de France race route for the final climb to Hautacam. Riding this legendary climb on race day will be an experience you're unlikely to forget. Enjoy!

Our Logistics Team will have set up our Race-Viewing Hospitality Marquee on the climb to Hautacam which will be buzzing with thousands of passionate fans excited to see this final climb of the 2022 Tour de France. Enjoy the atmosphere from the comfort of our Private Hospitality Marquee. Food, drinks, and satellite TV race coverage will keep you entertained as you wait for the peloton to approach.

CLIMBS

Hautacam

from Ayros Arbouix

12.6 km 998 m 7.9%



Performance Itinerary

Day 5

DISTANCE

47 km

ELEVATION

1,559 m

LIVE Race-Viewing: VIP Departure Village in Castelnau - OR - Quintessential Pyrenees Ride

The Tour de France leaves the Pyrenees and you'll have a couple of options to choose from:

Option 1: head over to Castelnau-Magnoac to experience the start of a Tour de France stage. You'll have privileged access to the VIP Departure Village, a great place to mingle and meet the riders as they relax and warm-up before the start of today's stage.

Option 2: join our ride leaders for a magnificent ride up the spectacular climb to the reservoir at Cap de Long, rated one of the most beautiful (and challenging) climbs in the Pyrenees.

CLIMBS

Cap de Long
from Fabian

13.6 km 1,044 m 7.7%



Performance Itinerary

Day 6

DISTANCE
103 km

ELEVATION
3,065 m

Le Tourmalet

Final day of the trip and we've saved the most famous of all Pyreneen climbs for last – the legendary Col du Tourmalet.

Setting out from the hotel your first challenge is in the form of the Cat.1 Col d'Aspin. The descent of the Aspin takes you to Ste Marie de Campan and the start of the Tourmalet. Enjoy a snack at the famous cafe on the summit before heading back down to Ste Marie and the start of the magnificent ride over the Hourquette d'Ancizan and back to your hotel in St Lary Soulan.

After the ride, we'll meet up in the Hotel Bar to toast a sensational week in the Pyrenees with a few celebratory drinks before dinner.

CLIMBS

Col d'Aspin from Arreau	11.9 km	794 m	6.7%
Col du Tourmalet from Ste Marie de Campan	17.0 km	1,272 m	7.5%
Hourquette d'Ancizan from Payolle	10.1 km	537 m	5.3%



Performance Itinerary

Day 7

End of the Pyrenees Trip - OR - continue to Paris for the Final Stage (Paris Extension Only)

End of the Pyrenees Trip: our private shuttle will drop you off at Toulouse Blagnac Airport

OR

Paris Extension: travel to Paris (either by flight or by TGV High speed train) for the grand finale of the 2022 Tour de France. Witness the Final Stage from the Elysée Tribune directly opposite the Finish Line on the Champs-Élysées. Enjoy the thrilling sprint finish, champion's podium and electric atmosphere of the final stage of the race.



Performance Itinerary

Day 8

End of the Paris Extension

Sadly, your trip to the Tour de France in the Pyrenees and Paris has come to an end.

The trip ends at the hotel in Paris on Monday July 25 after breakfast.

Please note we will not be providing a drop-off service on Monday morning. In our past experience, many guests have stayed on in Paris for a few extra days, and those returning home on the Monday have had flights at various times of the day and from different airports, making it difficult to schedule airport transfers at the right times. Our staff (and the hotel staff) will be available to help you reserve transport to the airport or train station.



Climbs

CATEGORY	CLIMB	DAY	DIFFICULTY	LENGTH	ELE. GAIN	AV. GRADE
3	Montee d'Ilhan from Borderes-Louron	01	43	4.9 km	299 m	6.1%
HC	Port de Balès from Mauleon-Barousse	02	108	19.3 km	1,250 m	6.5%
1	Col de Peyresourde from Junction to Port de Balès	02	86	9.7 km	737 m	7.6%
HC	Pla d'Adet from St Lary Soulan	03	97	11.1 km	857 m	7.7%
1	Col de Val Louron-Azet from St Lary Soulan	03	82	10.7 km	765 m	7.1%
3	Peyragudes from La Peyrada	03	34	4.3 km	233 m	5.4%
HC	Hautacam from Ayros Arbouix	04	110	12.6 km	998 m	7.9%
HC	Cap de Long from Fabian	05	111	13.6 km	1,044 m	7.7%
1	Col d'Aspin from Arreau	06	80	11.9 km	794 m	6.7%
HC	Col du Tourmalet from Ste Marie de Campan	06	126	17.0 km	1,272 m	7.5%
2	Hourquette d'Ancizan from Payolle	06	49	10.1 km	537 m	5.3%



What's Included



TOUR DE FRANCE VIEWING

TDF Stage 17: VIP ride across the Finish Line, Podium photo op, and access to the VIP Tribune at the Finish Line in Peyragudes

TDF Stage 18: access to our Private Race-Viewing Hospitality Marquee at the Summit Finish in Hautacam

TDF Stage 19: access to the VIP Departure Village in Castelnau-Magnoac (optional)

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

7 days / 6 nights fully accompanied trip

All accommodations

All breakfasts

All dinners

3 x sit-down lunches

2 x picnic lunches during the rides

TRANSPORTATION

Pick-up & Drop-off at Toulouse Blagnac Airport

All transportation during the trip

All luggage & bike box transfers

CYCLING SUPPORT

1 x Support Van & 1 x Ride Leader per 8 guests (approx.)

Overall Staff to Guest ratio: 1 to 3

Experienced bike mechanic

Park Tools Toolkit

Daily ride gpx files provided

NUTRITION DURING THE RIDES

Energy bars, gels and sports drink

Variety of snacks and local specialties for picnic lunches

Bottled water

Post-ride recovery food

MERCHANDISING

Tour de France Gift Bag

Tour de France Roadbook – the Holy Grail - given only to teams, media & Official Tour Operators

Special Discount card for Official Tour de France stores

Thomson Bike Tours merchandise pack

PARIS EXTENSION (IF SELECTED)

TDF Stage 21: access to the Elysée Tribune at the Finish Line in Paris

Transfer from Toulouse to Paris (either Flight or TGV High-speed train)

Private shuttle to the Hotel Intercontinental in Paris

1 night accommodation in the 5-star Hotel Intercontinental Opera

Breakfast at the Hotel Intercontinental in Paris

What's Not Included



Airfare

Travel and personal insurance

Additional hotel expenses i.e. phone charges, mini-bar, gratuities

Staff gratuities

Pick-up/Drop-off Info



PICKUP LOCATION	TIME	DROPOFF LOCATION	TIME
Toulouse Blagnac Airport	July 18th at 8:30am	Paris Extension: No organized Drop-Off	
OR			
Pullman Toulouse Airport Hotel	July 18th at 8:30am		

Rental Bikes

RENTAL FEE
AUD \$700

OPTIONAL INSURANCE
AUD \$95



Hotels



Hotel Mercure, Saint Lary Soulan



Hotel Intercontinental Le Grand, Paris





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We hope this itinerary has whetted your appetite for a trip with Thomson Bike Tours.

Our best-in-class service starts from the moment you get in touch, so please feel free to drop us a line with any questions you may have. We look forward to welcoming you for an experience you will never forget.

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