

Thomson



TDF K/QOM Challenge – Week 2 Alps Stages

TOUR DE FRANCE OFFICIAL PREMIUM TOUR OPERATOR

TDF K/QOM Challenge – Week 2 Alps Stages

DEPARTURES

July 10th 2023

PRICE FROM

AUD \$12,995

DURATION

8 days / 7 nights

NON-RIDER FRIENDLY

Yes

RENTAL BIKE

AUD \$700

TOTAL DISTANCE

712 km

TOTAL ELEVATION

21,779 m

DAILY AV. DISTANCE

102 km

DAILY AV. ELEVATION

3,111 m

Week 2: the Alps stages with the Premier Official Tour Operator Ride Alpe d'Huez!

LIVE race-viewing of the key Alps stages during Week 2 of the Tour de France, including VIP access to the Bastille Day Stage Finish on the Col du Grand Colombier! Ride the Col du Galibier, Col de Joux Plane, Col de la Croix de Fer – and of course Alpe d'Huez. No one does the Tour like Thomson!

Thomson Tour de France K/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.

Be there on the Col du Grand Colombier on Bastille Day to experience the highlight of Week 2 in the Alps.

Our Bastille Day race-viewing program includes:

access to our Private Hospitality Marquee on the Col du Grand Colombieran official ride across the Finish Line before the arrival of the Tour de France pelotona memorable photo shoot on the Official Podium on the Col du Grand Colombier

You'll also witness the Finish of Stage 14, LIVE from the Official VIP Tribune at the stage finish in Morzine, and mingle with pro riders and Tour celebrities with our privileged VIP access to the Departure Village at the start of Stage 15 in Les Gets.

Riding is also a key feature of every Thomson Tour de France trip and on this trip you'll conquer numerous famous climbs including Alpe d'Huez, Col du Galibier, Col de la Croix de Fer, the spectacular Lacets de Montvernier and one of our favorite climbs, the little-known Col du Sabot.

No one rides like Thomson!



Epic Itinerary



DAY	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE	ELEVATION	HOTEL
01	Bienvenue en France!	44 km	1,281 m	Hotel Pic Blanc
02	21 switchbacks to Alpe d'Huez	103 km	3,443 m	Hotel Pic Blanc
03	Croix de Fer, Telegraphe and Galibier!	142 km	4,515 m	Hotel Pic Blanc
04	The sensational Col du Sabot	71 km	2,783 m	Hotel Carlina
05	Private Ride with Marthe Col du Galibier LIVE Race-Viewing: Marthe Col du Galibier: Official Ride over the Finish Line & Podium Photo Op	133 km	3,588 m	Hotel Carlina
06	LIVE Race-Viewing: VIP Tribune at the Stage Finish in Morzine	107 km	2,889 m	Hotel Carlina
07	LIVE Race-Viewing: VIP Departure Village in Les Gets - OR - Ride on the Race Route	112 km	3,280 m	Hotel Carlina
08	Au revoir!			

Epic Itinerary

Day 1

DISTANCE
44 km

ELEVATION
1,281 m

Bienvenue en France!

Your trip starts at Geneva Airport where our staff will meet you before the transfer to your hotel in Alpe d'Huez.

After a brief orientation meeting, lunch and bike build-up, you'll head out on our warm-up ride which starts with the descent of the 21 switchbacks from Alpe d'Huez to Bourg d'Oisans. A short ride along the valley floor takes you to Allemont and the start of your first climb in the Alps: the magnificent back-route to Alpe d'Huez over the Pas de la Confession climb.

CLIMBS

Alpe d'Huez
from Allemont

19.7 km 1,195 m 6.1%



Epic Itinerary

Day 2

DISTANCE

103 km

ELEVATION

3,443 m

21 switchbacks to Alpe d'Huez

Today is your opportunity to test yourself on the most famous of all climbs – the 21 switchbacks that lead to Alpe d'Huez!

The ride starts with a 28km descent to the town of Bourg d'Oisans, the start of the climb to Alpe d'Huez. On reaching the summit, the ride continues with “the balcony”, an incredible route perched high on a ridge with some of the most impressive views in the Alps. Your final climb of the day takes you back to Alpe d'Huez over the stunning Col de Sarenne, a remote, narrow road that climbs to 2000m before dropping down into Alpe d'Huez.

CLIMBS

Alpe d'Huez from Bourg d'Oisans Roundabout	14.6 km	1,131 m	7.7%
Balcon d'Aunis from La Grave	5.0 km	356 m	7.1%
Mont de Lans from D1091 Junction	5.7 km	440 m	7.7%
Col de Sarenne from Mizoen	12.9 km	957 m	7.4%



Epic Itinerary

Day 3

DISTANCE

142 km

ELEVATION

4,515 m

Croix de Fer, Telegraphe and Galibier!

A major challenge today with the Col de la Croix de Fer, Col de Telegraphe and the iconic Col du Galibier on the agenda. All 3 climbs are classified as “Hors-Categorie” meaning their above category, a French way of saying they’re damn hard.

One of the most remarkable climbs in the Alps is the Lacets de Montvernier, with its 18 switchbacks crammed into just 3km. It lies between the Croix de Fer and the Telegraphe so you’ll also have the opportunity to experience this incredible climb. From Les Lacets, a short ride along the valley will bring you to St Michel de Maurienne, the start of the iconic Col du Galibier. The summit lies 35km ahead at 2645m (8678ft), the highest elevation you’ll reach during the trip.

CLIMBS

Col de la Croix de Fer from Le Verney	24.2 km	1,496 m	6.2%
Lacets de Monvernier from Pontamafrey	3.8 km	296 m	10.6%
Col du Telegraphe from St Michel de Maurienne	12.1 km	885 m	7.3%
Col du Galibier from Valloire	18.3 km	1,237 m	6.8%



Epic Itinerary

Day 4

DISTANCE

71 km

ELEVATION

2,783 m

The sensational Col du Sabot

A magnificent, little-known climb, high above Alpe d'Huez is the highlight of today's ride. From the hotel you'll descend to Bourg d'Oisans then head out on the road to the Col de la Croix de Fer. In the wonderfully named village of Oz, you'll start the spectacular, traffic-free climb to the Col du Sabot. Make sure to maintain a steady pace, the Sabot is a lot more challenging than it's famous neighbour (Alpe d'Huez).

After the ride, we'll have lunch at the hotel then transfer to our next hotel in the famous ski town of La Clusaz, in the Haute-Savoie mountains.

CLIMBS

Col de Sabot
from Allemont

17.3 km 1,374 m 7.9%

Alpe d'Huez
from Allemont

19.7 km 1,195 m 6.1%



Epic Itinerary

Day 5

DISTANCE

133 km

ELEVATION

3,588 m

LIVE Race-Viewing on the Col du Grand Colombier: Private Hospitality Marquee on the climb - plus Official Ride over the Finish Line & Podium Photo Op

Bastille Day and the first mountain stage in the Alps. You'll have the unique experience of riding your bike across the Official Finish Line just a few hours ahead of the peloton – followed by a photo shoot on the Official Podium. We'll round off an amazing Tour de France day by witnessing the race, live on the mountain, from the comfort of our Private Race-Viewing Hospitality Marquee close to the summit.

Before the final climb to the Col du Grand Colombier, you'll also climb the Col de la Biche, an extremely challenging climb where the grade exceeds 10% for over 7km, and which last featured in the Tour de France in 2020.

CLIMBS

Col de la Biche from Gignez	13.3 km	1,028 m	7.7%
Col du Grand Colombier from Culoz	17.6 km	1,274 m	7.2%



Epic Itinerary

Day 6

DISTANCE
107 km

ELEVATION
2,889 m

LIVE Race-Viewing: VIP Tribune at the Stage Finish in Morzine

Second mountain stage in the Alps between Annemasse and Morzine and you'll be there to witness all the action LIVE from the VIP Tribune at the Finish in Morzine. A magnificent ride takes you over the Col de la Colombiere and the Col de Romme before reaching the Col de Joux Plane. The steep slopes of the Joux Plane had Lance Armstrong in serious difficulty on Stage 16 of the 2000 Tour de France, with Lance going on to describe it as "the hardest day of my life on a bike". Hopefully you'll enjoy a better day on the Joux Plane! From the summit you'll descend into Morzine where you'll witness the Stage Finish, live from the VIP viewing tribune.

CLIMBS

Col de la Colombiere from Le Grand Bornand	11.8 km	685 m	5.8%
Col de Romme from Le Reposoir	4.6 km	369 m	8.0%
Col de Joux Plane from Samoens	11.8 km	987 m	8.4%



Epic Itinerary

Day 7

DISTANCE

112 km

ELEVATION

3,280 m

LIVE Race-Viewing: VIP Departure Village in Les Gets - OR - Ride on the Race Route

The Tour de France continues in the Alps with another mountain stage from Les Gets to Saint Gervais. Today you'll have a couple of options to choose from:

Option 1: head over to Les Gets to experience the start of the Tour de France stage. You'll have privileged access to the VIP Departure Village, a great place to mingle and meet the teams and individual riders as they prepare for the start of their time trial.

Option 2: join our ride leaders for a fantastic ride over large sections of today's TDF race route. The first climb of the day is the super-steep Col de Glieres with a 2km gravel section at the summit. On the descent of the Glieres you'll meet up with the TDF race route which you'll follow for the next 75km, over the Col de la Forclaz, the Col du Marais and the Col de la Croix Fry.

CLIMBS

Col des Glieres from Petit Bornand	8.7 km	726 m	8.3%
Col de la Forclaz de Montmin from Talloires	8.3 km	601 m	7.2%
Col du Marais from St Ferréol	10.2 km	458 m	4.5%
Col de la Croix Fry from Thones	11.3 km	824 m	7.3%



Epic Itinerary

Day 8

Au revoir!

Sadly, your Tour de France trip in the Alps has come to an end.

Our private shuttle will drop you off at Geneva Airport.



Climbs

CATEGORY	CLIMB	DAY	DIFFICULTY	LENGTH	ELE. GAIN	AV. GRADE
HC	Alpe d'Huez from Allemont	01	98	19.7 km	1,195 m	6.1%
HC	Alpe d'Huez from Bourg d'Oisans Roundabout	02	117	14.6 km	1,131 m	7.7%
3	Balcon d'Aunis from La Grave	02	54	5.0 km	356 m	7.1%
2	Mont de Lans from D1091 Junction	02	65	5.7 km	440 m	7.7%
HC	Col de Sarenne from Mizoen	02	100	12.9 km	957 m	7.4%
HC	Col de la Croix de Fer from Le Verney	03	118	24.2 km	1,496 m	6.2%
2	Lacets de Monvernier from Pontamafrey	03	85	3.8 km	296 m	10.6%
1	Col du Telegraphe from St Michel de Maurienne	03	94	12.1 km	885 m	7.3%
HC	Col du Galibier from Valloire	03	112	18.3 km	1,237 m	6.8%
HC	Col de Sabot from Allemont	04	140	17.3 km	1,374 m	7.9%
HC	Alpe d'Huez from Allemont	04	98	19.7 km	1,195 m	6.1%
HC	Col de la Biche from Gignez	05	109	13.3 km	1,028 m	7.7%
HC	Col du Grand Colombier from Culoz	05	120	17.6 km	1,274 m	7.2%
2	Col de la Colombiere from Le Grand Bornand	06	63	11.8 km	685 m	5.8%
2	Col de Romme from Le Reposoir	06	61	4.6 km	369 m	8.0%
HC	Col de Joux Plane from Samoens	06	117	11.8 km	987 m	8.4%
HC	Col des Glieres from Petit Bornand	07	93	8.7 km	726 m	8.3%
2	Col de la Forclaz de Montmin from Talloires	07	72	8.3 km	601 m	7.2%
3	Col du Marais from St Ferréol	07	39	10.2 km	458 m	4.5%
1	Col de la Croix Fry from Thones	07	90	11.3 km	824 m	7.3%



What's Included



TOUR DE FRANCE VIEWING

TDF Stage 13: VIP ride across the Finish Line, Podium photo op, and access to our Private Race-Viewing Hospitality Marquee

TDF Stage 14: access to the VIP Tribune at the Stage Finish in Morzine

TDF Stage 15: access to the VIP Departure Village in Les Gets

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

8 days / 7 nights fully accompanied trip

All accommodations

All breakfasts

All dinners

3 x lunches

4 x picnic lunches during the rides

TRANSPORTATION

Pick-up & Drop-off at Geneva 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

Special Discount card for Official Tour de France stores

Thomson Bike Tours S/S cycling jersey

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
Geneva Airport	July 10th at 8:30am	Geneva Airport	July 17th at 9:00am
OR			
Holiday Inn Express Geneva Airport	July 10th at 8:30am		

Rental Bikes

RENTAL FEE
AUD \$700

OPTIONAL INSURANCE
AUD \$95



Hotels



Hotel Pic Blanc



Hotel Carlina





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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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