

Corte, the heart of Corsica

7 days/ 6 nights

At the very heart of the island lies Corte, the historic capital of Corsica. As the original seat of Corsican Nationalism, Corte stands proud, with its foreboding citadel and an imposing view of granite mountains behind. Thanks to the university in Corte (the only one on the island), it is now a lively little town, with many restaurants and bars lining the main street. This is an excellent place for walkers with easy access to the region's most stunning scenery.

This is a centre based holiday, allowing you to relax knowing that each night you will be returning to your hotel in Corte.

YOUR PROGRAM

Day 1 - Arriving in Corte, the historical capital of Corsica

Make your way to Corte (please feel free to ask us for advice on how to get there) and settle into your hotel. Depending upon your time of arrival you could visit the citadel and the museum of Corsica or simply enjoy the centre of town with its numerous bars and restaurants.

Night in a hotel.



Day 2 - The Tavignano Gorge

Starting from Corte, today's walk will take you to one of the most beautiful gorges in the whole of Corsica. You will walk alongside the Tavignano Gorge, on a path with great panoramic views over the surrounding mountains and river. Once you have crossed the footbridge of the Tavignano, you will be able to enjoy swimming in natural pools with crystal-clear waters. You will then return to Corte.

Night in a hotel.

Walking: 4h00.

Height gain: +440m.

Day 3 - The Arch of Corte

Today, you will discover a superb rock arch, 6m high and roughly 8m in width. This arch is often on the covers of books about Corsica. To reach it, you must climb up 1000m, but the spectacular views are definitely worth it. For those still feeling strong, it is possible to walk to the bergeries de Padule (allow an extra 2 hours or more). The descent follows the same route.

Night in a hotel.

Walking: 5h15.

Height gain: +1000m.

Height loss: -1000m.



Day 4 - Villages in the Cortenais

Train transfer to one of the prettiest villages in the region. The village's pretty stone houses are built on large slabs of rock and, from the church square, you will get a glimpse of the sea. From the village, you will follow part of the Mare a Mare which descends through the maquis (Corsica scrub) towards Corte. Goat farming abounds in this region and should lead you to some nice encounters! Your walk will then lead you to the beginning of the Restonica Gorge and to Corte, which is easily recognizable in the distance with its citadel perched high on the summit of a promontory rock.

Night in a hotel.

Walking: 4h20.

Height gain: +540m.

Height loss: -740m.

Day 5 - The Lakes of Melo and Capitello

The lakes of Melo and Capitello are two prime destinations in the Corte region and we advise you to depart early in the morning. Depending upon the season, you can take the bus or a taxi to the bergeries de Grotelle. From there, you will climb to the lake of Melo where you can continue to climb to the superb lake of Capitello. The views from the lakes are marvelous and, from Melo onwards, the magnificent landscapes of the Restonica Valley will unravel before your very eyes.

Night in a hotel.

Walking: about 4h00.

Height gain: +500m.

Day 6 - La Punta di Zurmulu

For this last day, you will make your way to Punta di Zurmulu whose highest point lies above the ancient capital of Corsica. You can start the walk from the citadel, from where you will continue to pass near to the Tavignano River, under the oak trees and through the maquis. From la Punta di Zurmulu, the view of Corte is magnificent. You will then return to Corte.

Night in a hotel.

Walking: about 4h00.

Height gain: +500m.



Day 7 - Your trip ends here

Your trip ends here, after breakfast. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to extend your holiday in Corsica.

Additional information

TARIFFS

Price from 480 euros per person.

OPTIONS

Map of Corsica (1:25000) : 30 euros per person.

July august departure : 35 euros per person.

INCLUDED

Breakfasts, nights in double or twin bedrooms, local assistance, information package with maps and route notes, transfers (there and back) for the day walk to the lakes and the train journey for the walk on day four.

NOT INCLUDED

Evening meals, picnic lunches, transport options to and from Corte, picnics lunches and beverages, transfers which are not included in the tour, personal travel insurance, visits of tourist sites, personal expenses.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

You will need to be in good physical condition and used to walking in the mountains. Walking: 3h30 to 5h30 a day with some steep climbs.

CARRYING

You only need to take your day bag with you (for picnics, water, cameras etc.)

ACCOMMODATION

In two or three star hotels (double or twin bedrooms).

SIZE OF GROUP

From 2.

DEPARTURES

Every day from the beginning of April to the end of October.

DEPARTURE

Corte.

DISPERSION

Corte.