FRENCH BIKE TOURS

FRENCH BIKE TOURS - EMAIL: INFO@FRENCH-BIKETOURS.COM - TELEPHONE +33 (0)553242210 - WWW.FRENCH-BIKETOURS.COM



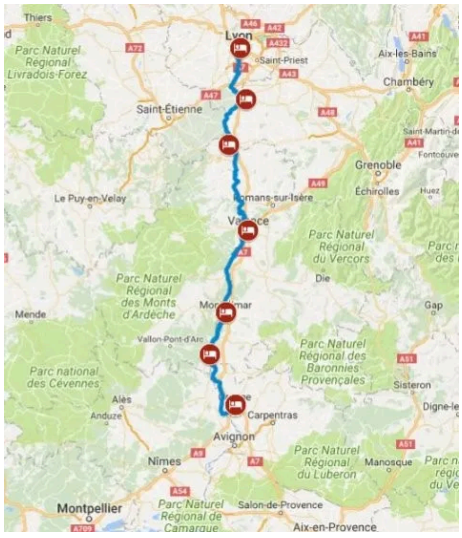
WINE , RIVERSIDE , NATURE , GASTRONOMY

type :	Linear cycle routes Easy cycling Classic Cycle Routes of France Electric bike option Self-guided
hybrid :	●●○○○
e-bike :	●◐○○○
duration :	8 days
comfort :	●●◐○○
period:	
code:	FRSB860

ViaRhôna - from Lyon to Orange

8 days, *€ 1000*

Introduction



Take your bike and discover the **Via Rhôna!** From Lyon, follow a route that has been used by successive civilizations for over 2,000 years. Wonderful landscapes, towns, authentic villages, impressive nature, vineyards and delicious gastronomy await you along the way!

After visiting **Lyon**, a gastronomic capital, this week shows you why the Rhône has long been renowned as the route of successive civilizations. Many spots recall the importance of river navigation and trade in times past. Several towns here have Roman roots, while famous vineyards line up along the steep, sunny slopes. **Valence** classed as city of Art and History for its rich cultural legacy, and finally **Orange**, the gateway to Provence. A bicycle trip to the sound of cicadas !

You have the option to blend various stages we provide along the ViaRhona!

Day to Day

Day 1 **Arrival in Lyon**

Arrival in the beautiful city of Lyon. Your options for the rest of the day are endless. Walk to the Basilique Notre-Dame de Fourvière for a great view in town, shop, visit a museum, or see the typical Halles de Lyon Market, you can also reward your soul of cyclist with a delicious meal in a "petit bouchon", authentic restaurant in the "French capital of gastronomy"!

Day 2 **Lyon - Vienne (or train option)**

After buzzing Lyon, the itinerary leads through the towns of Grigny and Givors, on to St-Romain-enGal. The historic importance of navigation is clearer here than anywhere else along the Rhône. Museums at St-Romain-en-Gal and Vienne give a good picture of the river's rich history, from classical to contemporary times.

You also have the possibility to take the train until Vienne and start your bike trip the day after if you want to avoid this first stage with busy roads and urban environment!

Challenge: 36.4km, 142 ascent, 158m descent

Day 3 **Vienne - Serrières**

This remarkable cycling day offers a great variety of landscapes. From Vienne, once an ancient capital of Roman Gaul, to the nature reserve of L'île au Beurre, bearing witness to the Rhône's wild side, via steeply terraced vineyards, including the prestigious Côte-Rôtie, and the first major orchards along the Rhône Valley, this stage will delight those interested in history, nature and gastronomy.

Challenge: 32.7km, 81m ascent, 96m descent

Day 4 **Serrières - Valence**

Your itinerary today runs between steep vineyards and dense orchards. Heading south from Lyon, this is the first ViaRhôna stage to enter the rugged Ardèche, a beautiful département (or French county) on the mighty Rhône's west flank. Here, the tamed river supports orchards, market gardens and vines producing top-class Saint-Joseph wines. Arriving in Tournon-sur-Rhone enjoy a pleasant break laden with Gallo-Roman history.

Challenge: 61km, 142m ascent, 152m descent

Day 5 **Valence - Montélimar**

After a halt at Valence's southern river port of L'Epervière, your route leads you back onto the western, Ardèche bank of the Rhône. The Ardèche is known for its exceptional caves, archaeological sites, characterful villages, châteaux and nature reserves. Continuing south along ViaRhôna and cycle on the recent Himalayan-style footbridge at Rochemaure is a great experience, built using the pillars of the Vieux Pont, it is an historic bridge over the Rhône. Here you are at the gates of Provence: "Montélimar" where a human presence has existed for more than 50,000 years. Renowned for its nougat, Montélimar is a pleasant town where it is good to stroll in the old city center.

Challenge: 71.3km, 157m ascent, 199m descent

Day 6 **Montélimar - Pierrelatte**

Leaving the beautiful city of Montélimar, cycle beside branches of the Rhône and pass through historic towns: Viviers, with its medieval spirit; Bourg-Saint-Andéol, its treasures including a rare sculpture of a Mithraic deity. Today your short itinerary is packed with heritage treasures, especially religious ones, including cathedrals, chapels and grand clerical residences. Those who love history as well as nature can enjoy their fill.

Challenge: 33.4 km, 64m ascent, 98m descent

Day 7 **Pierrelatte - Orange**

Today is your last cycling day, and not just an ordinary day. The program of the day : Pedaling through a impressive nature with the scents of Provence and across the charming village of Pont-Saint-Esprit. In the afternoon you reach the beautiful city of Orange. Of the numerous Roman buildings and monuments originally built, you still can see parts of the City Wall, the Arc de Triumph and the Theatre (UNESCO heritage), the stage wall of which the Sun King, Louis XIV, described as the most beautiful wall in his country.

Challenge: 51km, 74m ascent, 71m descent

Day 8 **Departure from Orange**

End of your trip after breakfast. We advise you to extend your stay in order to take the time to visit the history city of Orange.

Prices, Data, Booking

Starting dates:

Daily from April 01 till October 31

Of course you can also book extra night(s) during the trip. We can give you these prices on request. Please mention where you would like to add extra night(s).

Practical Info

7 Nights included

2/3 Star Hotels or 3/4 Star Hotels (supplement applied)

Breakfast included, Halfboard optional on request

Maps and tourist information on all the places of interest

24/7 Bilingual Emergency hotline

Luggage transport to your next accommodations. Luggage accepted per person: 1 suitcase or travel bag (20 kg maximum)

For time tables and further information check the **website of SNCF** or **rome2rio** for all French National trains (SNCF).
We strongly advise you to **download the sncf mobile app** prior to departure.
If you want to travel on a train with your bike, you can find more information **via this link**.

Parking informations on request

We will supply the directions of this trip with a personalized code which gives you access to our travel App.