

# The Rhône Cycle Route: From Lyon to Arles

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS, APPROX. 335 KM  
BOOKING CODE: FR-ROLA7

DAILY ROUTE LENGTH ●●●●●  
TOPOGRAPHY ●●●●●



From Rhône-Alpes to  
Provence

From Eur **1039,-**



## Your tour

This bike tour takes you to the southeast of France. From Lyon, the route follows the Rhône into Provence. On the way, you will repeatedly encounter traces of the Romans, such as in Vienne, where the once largest Roman theater in Gaul can still be seen today. Through lush vineyards, apple and peach orchards as well as past impressive cathedrals and over impressive bridges you cycle towards your destination Arles. Sweeten this easy cycling tour with nougat from Montélimar – a delicacy made from Provençal honey and almonds.

## Itinerary

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>Day 1</b> | Individual arrival in Lyon   |
| <b>Day 2</b> | Lyon – Saint Désirat region, approx. 50 km + train ride or approx. 75 km |
| <b>Day 3</b> | Saint Désirat – Valence, approx. 55 km                                   |
| <b>Day 4</b> | Valence – Montélimar, approx. 65 km                                      |
| <b>Day 5</b> | Montélimar – Orange, approx. 70 km                                       |
| <b>Day 6</b> | Orange – Châteauneuf-du-Pape – Avignon, approx. 35 km                    |
| <b>Day 7</b> | Avignon – Arles, approx. 55 km   |
| <b>Day 8</b> | Individual departure   |

## Travel time

|                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Season A</b> | 21.04. – 28.04. | 06.10. – 13.10. |
| <b>Season B</b> | 05.05. – 09.06. | 22.09. – 29.09. |
| <b>Season C</b> | 16.06. – 15.09. |                 |

Arrival Sunday 21.04. – 13.10.2024  
The season is dictated by the arrival date.

## Services

- 7 nights with breakfast, national 2\* / 3\*-level
- Luggage transport from hotel to hotel to Arles, max. 20 kg / piece
- Cycle route description with maps (1 x per room)
- Service-Hotline (7 days, 08.00 a.m. – 08.00 p.m.)

## Not included services

- Train ride Lyon – Givors, approx. 7 Euro incl. Bike
- Citys or visitors tax, if payable

## Basic price per person

|                            |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Doubleroom, Season A       | 1039,- |
| Doubleroom, Season B       | 1139,- |
| Doubleroom, Season C       | 1199,- |
| Price Surcharge Singleroom | 349,-  |

## Additional night prices per person

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Arles DBL / BB | 69,-  |
| Arles SGL / BB | 129,- |
| Lyon DBL / BB  | 89,-  |
| Lyon SGL / BB  | 159,- |

## Additional services per person

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| E-bike / Pedelec*                                | 259,- |
| Rental bike (7- / 21-gear)*                      | 99,-  |
| Sporty rental bike (30-gear)*                    | 169,- |
| Return transfer excl. bike (Sun, from 4 persons) | 129,- |
| Return transfer incl. bike (Sun, from 4 persons) | 169,- |

\*including rental bike insurance

## Exemplary hotel list

|               |                                  |  |
|---------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Lyon          | Hotel Charlemagne Perrache, Lyon | www.hotel-lyon-charlemagne.fr/de         |
| Saint Désirat | La Désirade Saint Désirat        | http://www.hotel-ladesirade.fr/          |
| Valence       | Atrium Valence                   | http://www.atrium-hotel.fr               |
| Montélimar    | Beau Soleil Montélimar           | http://www.beausoleil-montelimar.com/de/ |
| Orange        | Hotel Le Louvre, Orange          | https://hotelorange.brithotel.com/       |
| Avignon       | Au Saint Roch, Avignon           | www.hotelstrochavignon.com               |
| Arles         | Hotel Acacias, Arles             | https://hotelarles.brithotel.fr/         |
|               | Porte de Camargue, Arles         | www.portecamargue.com                    |

## Child reduction on basic price

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| 0 - 5 Years   | 100% |
| 6 - 11 Years  | 50%  |
| 12 - 14 Years | 25%  |
| 15 - 17 Years | 10%  |

Due to the more demanding stages, we recommend this trip only for young people with good stamina. Reduction for children is valid for accommodation in room with two full-paying guests.

## Languages Travel documents

→ German, English, French

## Additional note

- All bookings are on request.
- In France, helmets are compulsory for children up to the age of 12. However, for safety reasons, we generally recommend wearing a helmet.
- Return trip to Lyon: Optional by minibus every Sunday (min. 4 people), must be specified when booking.
- Alternatively on your own by train, connections hourly, 0 – 2 x change, duration: approx. 2 – 3 hours.
- Twin / double rooms / separate beds are only occasionally available. We treat requests as non-binding customer requests, if above mentioned room types are a booking condition, it must be mentioned as a condition at the time of booking.

## Equipment of our rental bikes

- Bike lock
- Odometer
- Handlebar bag
- Air pump (per room)
- Breakdown kit (1 x per booking)
- Unflat Schwalbe Marathon Plus tyres or comparable
- Waterproof pannier

## Journey to Lyon

- Nearest airports: Lyon
- Train station: Lyon

## Parking in Lyon

→ Public parking in Lyon, cost: about 28 € / day. No reservation possible through Radweg-Reisen.

## Luggage transport

→ Luggage pick-up from 09.00 a.m., delivery to the next hotel by 06.00 p.m. at the latest, labeling of luggage is 1 x for the whole tour. No restriction on the number of pieces of luggage, but max. 20 kg per piece of luggage.

## Travel documents

→ Dispatched up to four weeks before arrival. For short-term bookings, delivery to the start hotel, hotel list and arrival information will be sent by email

## Stages description

### Day 1: Individual arrival in Lyon

The old town of Lyon has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1998. There is much to discover on a walking tour of the city. Creep on quiet soles through the traboules in the old town. These are narrow corridors and passages through house corridors, staircases and courtyards. In the past, silk weavers could transport their fabrics through the city center in the dry. Stroll through Place Bellecour, the third largest square in France, and visit the magnificent Basilica of

Notre Dame de Fourvière with its four towers. In the evening, enjoy the exquisite gastronomy and feel like God in France already at the beginning of your bike tour.

### Day 2: Lyon – Saint Désirat region, approx. 50 km + train ride or approx. 75 km

After just a few kilometers, at the confluence of the Rhône and Saône rivers, you will reach the Musée des Confluences - the Museum of Confluences. This futuristic building made of glass, concrete and stainless steel displays, among other things, two dinosaur skeletons

that are 80% complete. Due to the heavy traffic in Lyons, we recommend a short train ride to Givors. Following the twists and turns of the Rhône, you will soon come to Vienne. Many Roman ruins, such as that of the largest Roman theater in Gaul, still bear witness to the importance of the city during the Roman Empire. As soon as you leave the city, the vineyards of the Côtes du Rhône wine region rise steeply to your right and left. The wines from this region are mainly cuvées, blends of different grape varieties. You cycle a little further through shady floodplain forests to your destination today, St. Désirat.

### **Day 3: Saint Désirat – Valence, approx. 55 km**

Today, too, the bike path leads you always along the banks of the Rhône. World-famous wines also grow in the area around Tournon-sur-Rhône. Take a break in the charming historic old town and enjoy a glass of Hermitage. The grapes of this famous wine grow directly across the Rhône River from the town. As you make your way to Valence, capital of the Drôme department, the Massif Central and Alps draw ever closer to the river. The city is considered the northern gateway to Provence. In the middle of the historic city center is the Saint Apollinaire Cathedral, the city's most important building. Spend the evening in one of the numerous restaurants or a bar in the city center.

### **Day 4: Valence – Montélimar, approx. 65 km**

You ride leisurely through fertile land and peaches, apples and even kiwis grow along the way. Above the bike path are numerous castles, most of which are only ruins today. The sight of them takes you back to the Middle Ages and in your mind you watch over the valley and defend the old walls from your enemies. You will pass the small village of Loriol-sur-Drôme, situated in the middle of a beautiful landscape at the confluence of the Drôme and Rhône rivers. Soon after, you will have reached Montélimar. This inviting town with its pedestrian streets and small squares is best known for the nougat produced there. To compensate for the sweet delicacies, stroll to the imposing Château des Adhémar. The Romanesque residential castle was built in the 12th century and served as a prison from the 15th to the beginning of the 20th century.

### **Day 5: Montélimar – Orange, approx. 70 km**

Over impressive suspension bridges you change the bank of the Rhône several times. The bike path then leads to the former bishop's town of Viviers. Behind the cathedral, which dates back to the 12th century, you will enjoy a magnificent view over the Rhône valley. In the floodplain forests that follow, it then becomes quiet, nothing can be heard except the whirring of the wheel spokes. In Bourg St. Andéol, picturesque houses from the 16th to 18th centuries characterize the old town directly on the Rhône. Along the way is the small town of Pont St. Esprit, where a 600-year-old bridge with 25 arches spans the Rhône impressively. The destination, however, is the city of Orange with its famous Roman theater and the city foundation arch, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

### **Day 6: Orange – Châteauneuf-du-Pape – Avignon, approx. 35 km**

In Caderousse, whose surrounding dikes protect the Provençal hamlet from possible floods of the Rhone, the route goes along the ViaRhôna through the famous wine-growing region of Châteauneuf-du-Pape. The path leads through the vineyards directly along the slopes and offers beautiful viewpoints over the Rhone valley. In Avignon, we recommend a stroll through the old town with a visit to the Palace of the Popes, which has been declared a World Heritage Site.

### **Day 7: Avignon – Arles, approx. 55 km**

Initially, today's stage will lead you to the little town of St. Rémy, which many visitors consider to be the prettiest town in the Provence. The smell of fresh thyme and melissa lingers in the air. Once you have traversed the Alpilles, you will reach the rocky town of Les Baux. Its region is known for excellent olive oils. Your destination for today is the Van Gogh town of Arles, which was also the former capital of the Kingdom of Burgundy.

### **Day 8: Individual departure**

After breakfast you start your individual return journey home or extend your stay.