



# From the Alps to the Mediterranean on a motorbike



## The great historical passes

**Duration**: 7 days/6 nights

**Best time**: to May to October Number of people (mini /max): 10-30

The Alps and Provence offer breathtaking panoramas and unrestrained turns. The various routes you will find below include the most beautiful passes and panoramas in the region.





You will also discover the lake of Serre-Ponçon, between wild creeks and turquoise water, it is a sea in the mountains.

Let yourself be taken on a fabulous road trip!

#### **Strengths:**

- Quality accommodation of your choice in a hotel or hotel residence with a garage or closed private car park
- The great Alpine route
- A tour that takes you from the Alps to the Mediterranean and Provence.

#### The Historic roads on the Grandes Alpes Route

Wild, solitary and impressive, the roads of the Route des Grandes Alpes owe their fame to the exploits of the Tour de France cyclists, who have forged the legend of alpine climbs for over a century. Here, the Tour can be won or lost, whatever the slope, there is always an anecdote to tell!

Galibier, Turini, Izoard, Colombière.... names that are more than evocative for lovers of the little queen! You too can experience this incredible adventure to conquer these giants of the Alps that will fascinate you with their breathtaking landscapes!



## Day 1: Arrival in the Hautes-Alpes

Arrival at the end of the day at your hotel or residence.





Installation. A welcome drink. Dinner and accommodation.

### Day 2: Gap - Briançon - Col du Galibier - The Mure

After breakfast at the hotel, you will leave Gap towards Briançon by the N94. On the road you can admire a large part of the **Serre Ponçon Lake**, but also the Mont-Dauphin fort which has been classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2008.

**Briançon** is also a listed fortified city, it is dominated by the **Salettes fort** conceived by Vauban, just like that of **Mont Dauphin**.

The D1091 will take you to the **Col du Galibier**, located at an altitude of 2,642m, and will take you on a tour of a small part of Savoie and then Isère via **the Mure**. The D902, D906, D927 and then the N85 enables you to reach the Col Bayard and Gap roads. This circuit runs along many lakes such as the water of Olle shared between Isère and Savoie, the Vernet lake in Oz, the great lake of Laffrey, the lake of Pétichet and the lake of Pierre Châtel which are 3 consecutive lakes before the Wall.



Dinner and overnight stay at your hotel.

#### Ideas for visits:

- Wall of Mont Dauphin and/or Briançon classified by UNESCO
- The castle of Vizille and its parks

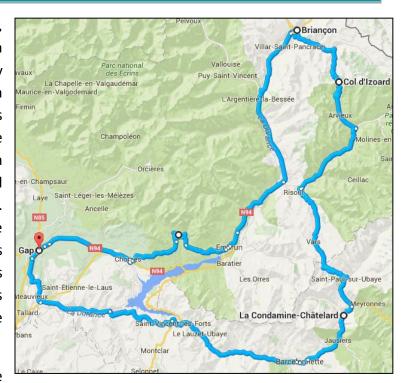






## Day 3: Gap - Col of Vars - Col of Izoard - Briançon

After your breakfast at the hotel, you will leave Gap in the direction of Barcelonnette then Risoul by the D900. You will arrive here in Queyras with villages such as Guillestre, Arvieux, to reach the Col de l'Izoard. Queyras is a regional natural park where wood craftsmanship is well known. Wood carvings adorn the furniture drawings with and symbols (rosettes, suns, water line). This territory also produces cheeses such as the Izoard tomme, or the Queyras blue.



The Col de l'Izoard is one of the

gateways between this park and Briançon and is located at an altitude of 2,361m, from where the view over the Ecrins mountain range is breathtaking. For the return trip, you will take the N94 in the direction of **Réallon** on the D9 after Embrun, in order to enjoy a panoramic view of the Serre-Ponçon lake, especially in **St Apollinaire**. Return to Gap.

Dinner and overnight stay at your hotel.





#### **Ideas for visits:**

- Saint Véran, the highest municipality in Europe
- The craft house in Château Ville Vieille

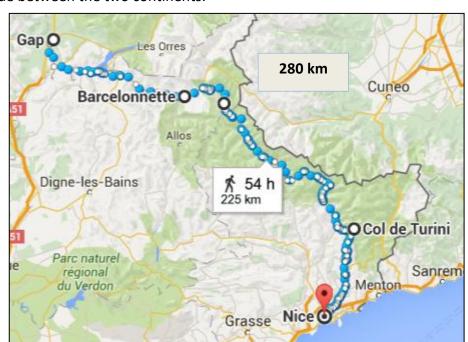
### Day 4: Gap - Barcelonnette - Col of the Bonette - Col of Turini

After breakfast at the hotel, you will take the N94 and drive along the Serre-Ponçon lake again, and continue on the D954 and D900 to **Barcelonnette**. It is a city in the Ubaye Valley known for its trade with Mexico since the 19th century. You will find "Mexican villas" that retrace the history of this trade between the two continents.

Continuing on the D900 you will turn right towards the **Bonette pass** (2,715m) on the road to Nice, to join the road to the **Turini** pass.

This pass became famous because of the Monte Carlo Rally, thanks to the many hairpins that delight motorcyclists just as much.

Then follow the D2204 to Nice.



Dinner and overnight stay at your hotel.

#### **Ideas for visits:**

- Museum of the valley in Barcelonnette
- Fortin du Restefond, historical barracks
- Nice and its "Promenade des Anglais"





## Day 5: Nice - Grasse - Gorges du Verdon - Aix-en-Provence



After breakfast at the hotel, you will take the D2085 towards **Grasse**, a city of Art and History. Grasse is also known for its historic factory and **Fragonard** perfume shop, which traces 3,000 years of perfume history. Via the Draguignan road towards Moustiers-Sainte-Marie you will meander through the **Gorges du Verdon**, a Natura 2000 classified site.

You are in the Alpes-de-Hautes-Provence until **Gréoux-les-Bains** following the D952. From the wild banks of the Verdon to the beneficial Spa waters, the water rhythms the city of Gréoux-les-Bains. Along the great site of the **Sainte Victoire**, also classified Natura 2000, by the D952 and D96, you will reach **Aix-en-Provence**. This former capital of Provence is a City of Art and Culture with a rich architectural heritage that has been superbly restored and maintained. The private mansions line up their beautiful sculpted doors and windows with balconies and artistic ironwork. Aix is a real open-air museum.

Dinner and overnight stay at your hotel.

#### **Ideas for visits:**

- Fragonard Museum in Grasse
- Aix-en-Provence





## Day 6: Aix-en-Provence - Luberon - The Mont Ventoux - Nyons

After breakfast at the hotel, via the D7N and D977, you will reach Vaison-la-Romaine by bypassing Cavaillon and Carpentras. From the latter you can admire Mont Ventoux (1,912m),

and even try its ascent.

You will cross many vineyards whose culture shapes the landscapes of the canton of Vaud. You will then travel a few kilometers in the Vaucluse to finally reach Nyons, the land of olives.

From Nyons to Serres you will take the D94 from where you will discover an authentic terroir in the colours of lavender fields, vineyards and olive trees. Serres is an ancient medieval village that is part of the Baronnies Regional National Park. Then the D994 will take you to your hotel in Gap.



Dinner and overnight stay at your hotel.

#### Ideas for visits:

- Gordes Roussillon
- Vaison-la-Romaine, a medieval city and its cooperative cellar "La Romane".
- Nyons Oil Mill
- Mont Ventoux

## Day 7 : Departure

Breakfast and departure to your region.