

BIKING IN PROVENCE

Travel to Avignon, easily reachable from Marseille and Lyon airports by train and shuttle bus in under 2 hours. If possible we recommend arriving with plenty of time to explore this charming city! With a walled medieval centre, towered over by the magnificent Papal Palace, and the unique 11th century Pont d'Avignon (or bridge of Saint-Bénézet) that was never completed, the city is the perfect place to wile away an afternoon.

 Region	Provence
 Activity	Summer
 Duration	6 days
 Code	FPROV
 Price	From €990
 Level	3/5
 Comfort	4/5

ITINERARY

Day 1 Avignon

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If you are hiring bikes our local partner will meet you for a fitting this evening or tomorrow morning.

Day 2 Cycle to l'Isle sur la Sorgue

Leave cosmopolitan Avignon behind and begin your journey into the Provençal countryside. Pedal through the suburbs of Avignon on cycle paths and quiet roads to reach the village of Le Thor dominated by its 12th century Romanesque Notre-Dame-du-Lac church. From here it's possible to take an optional detour to visit the Grottes de Thouzon cave system and marvel at how nature has sculpted the underground limestone.

After rolling into L'Isle-Sur-La-Sorgue, renowned for its antique markets, why not indulge in a refreshing sorbet while dipping a toe in the Sorgue River? Spend the afternoon wandering between the antique shops, boutiques and eateries lining the town's winding streets.

Distance: 29 km

Ascent/descent: +106/-75m

Day 3 Cycle to Gordes

Today's ride winds its way through the vineyard and olive grove dotted countryside between L'Isle Sur La Sorgue and the hilltop village of Gordes. Stop en route in the village of Fontaine de Vaucluse—the site of the largest spring in France, and source of the Sorgue River. Enjoy a cool drink on a shady café terrace, walk along the banks of the river and gaze into the emerald waters that spring from the base of the imposing limestone cliffs before hopping back into the saddle and tackling the rolling terrain between Fontaine de Vaucluse and Gordes.

The uphill approach to Gordes is rewarded with unrivalled views onto the village—the buildings of Gordes look almost draped over their hilltop home as they extend down to the valley floor below. Why not spend the afternoon relaxing poolside before sampling the local cuisine?

Distance: 23 km

Ascent/descent: 448/-156m

Day 4 Cycle to Mont Ventoux

Hop back into the saddle for a challenging but rewarding day of pedalling punctuated by regional highlights. Soon after leaving Gordes you'll pass the Abbaye Senanque—this 12th century Cistercian monastery has been home to monks for over 900 years. If you're travelling during lavender season you'll see why the abbey has become a regional icon—rows upon rows of lavender planted in fields around the stone abbey. After the ascent to Col Des Trois Termes enjoy descending through a spectacular limestone gorge leading to the lovely hilltop village of Venasque overlooking the vineyards below. Soon you'll be cruising between vineyards of the Cote de Rhone to arrive in Bedoin—renowned among road cyclists and Tour de France fans for its position at the base of legendary Mont Ventoux.

Distance: 27 km

Ascent/descent: 601/-627m

Day 5 Cycle to Chateauneuf du pape

Leave the hills behind today for an easier ride through towns and villages of vineyard blanketed countryside to reach the wine-

connoisseurs mecca of Chateauneuf du Pape. There are plenty of picnic spots and opportunities to lunch along the route as you wind your way across the rich AOC-vine growing plains to reach Chateauneuf du Pape.

After a delicious dinner, accompanied by local wine, why not take an evening stroll up to the chateau viewpoint to watch the sunset over the Provençal hills?

Distance: 41 km

Ascent/descent: +224/-445m

📍 Day 6 **End of the trip**

After breakfast we have arranged an onward travel transfer to Avignon's TGV train station. Avignon has good train links across France; Marseille and Lyon airports are reachable in under 2 hours.

PERIOD & BUDGET

When to travel?

The best period for travelling is during the following months:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Terms and conditions

Booking conditions

By booking one of our travels, the customer bindingly accepts the general terms and conditions of sale. Each customer must fill a registration form. The booking is definitively registered when the customer has settled the payment of a deposit of 35 % of the total trip's price (subject to availability at the time of registration). In case of short term booking – within 35 days before the travel departure, the full trip's price is due immediately. Payments can be settled via bank transfer (SWIFT code/IBAN number) or online, directly from our website (available soon). You will receive an email with a booking confirmation as quickly as possible.

Invoice procedure

Once your booking registered, we send you an email with the invoice. Full payment is required at least 35 days before your arrival. If the customer does not settle the payment of the travel's price within the period agreed upon, Altaï Alpes gets the right to cancel the booking without additional charges.

Cancellation policy

Cancellation by You

If, for any reason, you need to cancel your trip, the amounts you have paid will be refunded, subject to the following deductions:

You must notify us of your decision to cancel in writing, using any method that provides acknowledgment of receipt. The cancellation date will be determined based on the date we receive your written notice.

In case of cancellation, for any reason, the following cancellation fees will apply:

- **More than 31 days before departure:** 30% of the total trip cost (excluding insurance)
- **30 to 21 days before departure:** 40% of the total trip cost (excluding insurance)
- **20 to 14 days before departure:** 50% of the total trip cost (excluding insurance)
- **13 to 7 days before departure:** 75% of the total trip cost (excluding insurance)
- **Less than 7 days before departure:** 100% of the total trip cost (excluding insurance)
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Special Cases

Regardless of the cancellation or contract modification date, the following fees are added to the above scale:

- **Non-refundable fixed ground fees:** Any firm bookings made early (such as certain mountain huts) will be charged in case of cancellation.
- **Insurance and registration fees:** Whatever the insurance policy chosen, the cost of insurance and registration fees are non-refundable.

If you have taken out multi-risk insurance, the cancellation fees may be reimbursed by the insurance in specific cases (e.g., illness, accident, death, etc.).

The insurance becomes effective from the day of subscription and payment.

Cancellation by Us

Altaï France may cancel a trip free of charge in the following cases:

- If the minimum number of participants required to run the trip is not met.
- In case of **exceptional and unavoidable circumstances**, especially related to mountain conditions and customer safety.

In such cases, Altaï France will propose alternative solutions. If no suitable alternative is available, any unused services will be refunded. No additional compensation can be claimed.

You will be informed of any cancellation as soon as possible, and no later than:

- **30 days** before departure for self-guided or exclusive trips
- **20 days** before departure for trips longer than 6 days requiring a minimum number of participants
- **7 days** before departure for trips lasting 2 to 6 days
- **48 hours** before departure for trips shorter than 2 days

If Altaï France is forced to cancel all or part of the trip due to circumstances that compromise customer safety (e.g., poor mountain weather), the unused services will be refunded. No additional compensation will be provided.

For safety reasons and to ensure a consistent group level as described, the guide and organizers reserve the right to terminate your participation if your technical level or physical condition does not meet the requirements. In such a case, no refund or compensation will be provided.

Changes to travel contract

If any change is made in the travel's contract at the customer's request, any fee that might arise from this change shall be paid by the customer. In any cases, every request for changes shall be notified in writing. In case of external events that could not be foreseen, Altaï Alpes might change some aspects of the travel contract. We will endeavour to inform you of any change as quickly as possible.

Pricing

All travel prices for groups on our website have been calculated for the indicated number of participants. The price list is confirmed after the booking. If the number of participants is lower than expected, an additional payment charge might be applied. For each travel and program, we mention the price per person – valid for the minimum number of participants – and we provide you with detailed explanations about the services included or not. Any change, of the currency exchange rates or on the price of travel's services in particular regarding the cost of the fuel, might entail price revision.

Contract transfer

In case of transfer of the contract by the customer to an assignee, modification and cancellation conditions will be applied.

Insurance

We recommend you to get your own insurance before your departure to cover the activities undertaken by Altaï Alpes. Please email us your insurance contract information (insurance company's name, contract number, phone number) and bring this information with you during your trip.

