

# Walking Corsica's Coast and Mountains

Trip Code: SGBC

Version:



WALK & TREK



SELF-GUIDED



LEISURELY



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the Revellata Peninsula, discover its lighthouse and swim in secluded coves
- Ride the historic “Micheline” train through incredible Corsican landscapes
- Enjoy hand-picked hotels in the historic towns of Corte, Calvi and Bastia
- Cool off in crystal clear mountain streams and pools

## AT A GLANCE

- Self-Guided
- 4 days walking
- Daily departures available
- Join at Bastia / End in Corte

## ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

# Introduction

Discover France, but not as you know it, on this one week self-guided Corsican adventure. Often described as a mountain in the sea, this is an island of contrasts where you can swim in the turquoise waters of the Mediterranean from beautiful bays, and hike in breathtaking mountain scapes surrounded by jagged peaks, rich forests of chestnut and pine, and dramatic gorges. On this self-guided walking holiday, we have hand-picked a selection of the most beautiful coastal and mountain walks to give you a delightful flavour of this sumptuous island in just one week.

You will spend the first half of your week on the sparkling coast with one night in Bastia and three nights in Calvi, followed by three nights in the mountainous interior of the island in historic Corte, staying at welcoming 3\* hotels on a B&B basis throughout. Making the journey between these three bases by train, you will be able to drink in the vistas and landscapes in the very heart of the island and immerse yourself into the beguiling character of Corsica at a leisurely pace. Combined with delicious Corsican food and wine and a blissful Mediterranean climate, what better escape could you ask for?

## Is this holiday for you?

This holiday is perfect for those looking to enjoy a slower pace of travel, while still embarking on satisfying walks in spectacular settings. The walks are moderate, typically around 3-5 hours a day with an average ascent/descent of around 300m. You also have the option to extend some of your walks if you are looking for more of a challenge. The terrain on Corsica can be rugged, with steep and rocky terrain that can require the use of hands and feet.

Staying 3 nights each in the towns of Calvi and Corte, you can relax and settle in to a leisurely holiday, or even rest your feet with a sightseeing day if you feel like it. You will make use of the train to travel between the towns with your own luggage; tickets are not included but full instructions on how to make these transfers will be provided. There are often opportunities for a cooling dip, whether in the sea or in a natural mountain pool, so don't forget to pack your swimsuit and towel.

# Itinerary

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Version:

## Holiday Information

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### What's Included

- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Self-guided information pack containing your map and route notes

### What's not Included

- Travel to Bastia
- Travel from Corte
- Cost of local transfers by public transport
- Visas (if applicable)
- Tourist Taxes may apply and are usually under 5 Euros per person per night
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Personal equipment
- Luggage transfers
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional

## Your Self-Guided Pack & Route Notes

Each self-guided holiday comes with comprehensive route notes and a map or pocket guidebook of the area you are exploring. The route notes contain information about the places you will visit and the local transport you might need, along with the detailed route notes for your daily walks or cycle rides. We even include some tips for the best places to stop for lunch.

You can expect to receive your Self-Guided Pack containing your route notes, a map or guidebook, and all your relevant documents, no later than 3 weeks before your holiday start-date. We will send your documents using a signed-for courier so that you can track your package and know that it is safely on its way to you. For bookings of more than 4 people we will send an additional Self-Guided Pack. If you do not need this additional pack please inform our Sales Team. Your pack will be sent to the lead booker, so please remind them to pack it before setting off.

Should your self-guided trip be part of a longer adventure requiring you to leave home more than three weeks before your holiday start-date, please inform our Sales Team so that we can make alternative delivery arrangements.

## Self-Guided Families

Our Self-Guided Holidays are perfect for your next family holiday and are suitable for children of all ages.

Our partner hotels and accommodations are able to provide cots for young children, and some offer family rooms. We can also arrange hire of children's bikes and tag along bikes for most of our self-guided cycling trips and with trips such as Lake Constance and the Danube offering routes on designated cycle paths you can rest assured in keeping your family safe.

As a parent we trust that you know your own child's capabilities, so please read the itinerary details to ensure the distances covered each day are suitable for your family. If this is a first time walking holiday for your family, a centre based trip is a fantastic option as it allows you to easily opt out of a days walking if a day of building sand castles, swimming in the pool or visiting museums is calling instead.

Please discuss this further with our sales team who will be happy to assist in picking the best trip for your family.

## Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The trip starts in Bastia and ends at Corte. All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. The nearest airport for this trip is Bastia Airport with many departures from regional UK airports. It is also possible to reach Bastia by ferry from mainland France (Nice or Toulon) or from Livorno in Italy.

If you are arriving to Bastia Airport, you can get to the train station in Bastia town using the bus shuttle service between the airport and the city. You can also reach Bastia town by train (approx. 25-30 mins) from the station in Lucciana which is a short taxi ride from the airport. Taxis are also available from the airport to Bastia town and the journey should take around 20 minutes.

At the end of your holiday you can return by train from Corte to Lucciana, the journey takes around 1 hour 20 minutes. From Lucciana it is a short taxi ride to Bastia Airport.

Private transfers are available on request, please speak to one of our Sales team for further details.

## Meal Plan

This trip is on a bed and breakfast basis to allow you the most flexibility during your holiday.

## Food & Water

Water from the taps is perfectly drinkable on this holiday - please use this to fill your personal bottles for your daily activities. We do not encourage the purchase of single-use plastic bottles.

Steeped in tradition, full of flavour and locally grown, Corsican cuisine is a delicious fusion of French and Italian influences with its own unique character. The island's geography has played a strong role in determining what is served; with over 600 miles of coastline it is not surprising that seafood is a regular feature on restaurant menus, but not as often as you might think. Surprisingly, it is in fact the island's meats which are the Corsican's favoured protein source. The island's mountainous interior is perfect for rearing sheep and wild boar, which roam free and feast on the abundance of chestnuts growing in the area. This flavoursome diet of chestnuts gives the meat a unique flavour which makes it ever so popular. These tasty meats are used in delights such the fantastic cured meats including Figatellu and Lonzu AOC, or hearty stews such as civet de sanglier (a rich stew of boar, vegetables, chestnuts, fennel and red wine). The Italian influence on the island's food is evident in the love of cured meats and the many cheeses produced using sheep and goat's milk.

The island also has a great vegetarian offering with Corsica's Italian influences showing through in some fantastic vegetarian pasta dishes and typical juicy Mediterranean salads waiting to be enjoyed.

Chestnuts are not only a staple for Corsica's wild boar with islanders enjoying dishes such as Pulenta (a fritter made using chestnut flour). This is a tradition which dates back to Genoese times when the trees were first planted as an alternative crop to cereals. As you walk on the island you will note the many chestnut trees. We recommend sampling the crepes with chestnut filling with your coffee. It is a great sweet treat after a walk.

## **Accommodation**

On this holiday you will stay in carefully selected 3\* hotels, chosen for their great locations and hospitality. You will spend one night in Bastia and three nights each in Calvi and Corte, giving you a great flavour of the contrasts of coast and mountains on this beautiful island. All hotels offer delicious continental breakfasts to fuel you on your way. You will be sure to be charmed by our hand-picked hotels, whether by their history and tradition, their unique character, or the magnificent vistas over the beautiful surroundings. Not to mention you will be sure to be made to feel like one of the family by their warm and personal welcome.

It is possible to arrange additional nights accommodation in Bastia or Corte if you would like to extend your time on Corsica. Please speak to one of our Sales team for further details.

## **Baggage Allowance**

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Luggage with wheels is useful for this holiday as you will travel with your luggage between hotels.

# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

### Europe

Your passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

For the latest details on visiting countries within the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA), please check the UK Government website

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

## Health & Vaccinations

### Vaccinations

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations.

### GHIC / Medical cover

UK residents should carry a free Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). This entitles you to state provided medical treatment when you're visiting an EU country or Switzerland. This is not a substitute for medical travel insurance which is vital when travelling overseas.

### Severe Allergies

Please inform our KE Sales and support team of any severe allergies you may have before travel. We will always do our best to help but we are unable to guarantee an allergy free environment on our KE trips. We advise that you always carry your own treatment for the allergy with you such as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' if required. We also recommend that you discuss this with your accommodation on arrival so that they can better assist you.

## Currency

The currency for part or all of this holiday is the Euro.

## Preparing for your Holiday

The advantage of a self-guided walking holiday is that you decide the pace, however getting some additional exercise before coming on an active holiday makes a lot of sense. The fitter you are, after all, the more enjoyable your walks will be. You should be comfortable with walking 4-5 hours on consecutive days with an average ascent of around 350m per day. We suggest that you try to fit in some extra walks in hilly terrain before your trip to help prepare for your walking holiday.

## Climate

Corsica has a Mediterranean climate with hot summers and moderate, dry, clear winters. The climate varies with altitude of course. The temperatures can reach up to 30°C on the coast in the summer months and as low as freezing in the evenings in the mountains. The micro climates in Corsica make the weather unpredictable and fast changing in the hills. You will need to be prepared for all eventualities with your waterproofs and warm layers with you along with your swimming costume.

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travelaware.campaign.gov.uk](http://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## Books

DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Corsica

Landscapes of Corsica: a countryside guide - Sunflower Guides

Time is a Killer - Michel Bussi



## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

# Equipment Information

## Self Guided Equipment List

- Hiking boots with good grip soles
- Functional base layer
- T-shirts
- Hat
- Windproof jacket
- Fleece / extra layer
- Long/short hiking trousers
- Hiking socks
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Rucksack (approx. 20 l)
- Small first aid kit inside your rucksack

- Sunscreen
- Water bottle or hydration pack
- Camera (batteries/memory card)
- Mobile Phone (ensure your data package covers your destination)
- Power bank
- Waterproof phone cover
- Sun glasses
- Personal wash kit
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping to avoid the use of plastic bags
- Tupperware for picnics
- Walking poles
- Headtorch & spare batteries
- Your self-guided route notes

## Cotswold Outdoor

Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

## Land Only Information

Please note our 'from price' listed is based on 4 persons in double or twin occupancy, however we can quote for any number of travellers, including solo travellers, contact our sales team for a quote.

All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. You may even wish to make this holiday part of a bigger adventure or pair it with one of our other holidays. We can arrange additional nights accommodation before or after your self-guided trip, ask our sales team to find out more about this.

Our sales team will be happy to provide you a quote for scheduled flights or alternatively you may wish to book your own flights with a low cost carrier from your nearest regional airport.

Please DO NOT book your flights before you have received your booking confirmation and your deposit has been taken.

# Why Choose KE

## Why KE

We have chosen to start this holiday with a night in Bastia to allow time to explore this vibrant city. Utilising train travel to get around the island, we aim to minimise our impact and give you an unforgettable rail experience at the same time. With three nights each in Calvi and Corte, we have carefully balanced this relaxed holiday with delightful walks and time at leisure.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 30/12/2024 and the trip is subject to change