



Pyrenees ROADTRIP

Family Trip

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It's the dream opportunity for the family to experience a unique, exalting roadtrip. Every day is different: the majestic landscapes and the astounding discoveries follow one other non-stop, while entertainment or sports activities keep on rolling. Everything is offered, nothing is imposed. It's a real adventure like in a film. So many stories to tell. You'll be a hero for your children.



from
2888 € /family

Based on 2 adults + 2 children

8 days/8 nights in chambres d'hotes and 4, 3 and 2 star hotels, with breakfasts included and half board • Mountain scooter descent • Ride on quad (1h30) • 1 family entry to Balnéa spa centre (2h) • 1 day of canyoning in Spain guided by an experienced instructor • Rafting descent • A visit with the shepherds or tree-top adventure park and via ferrata • 1 access to the Pic du Midi by cable car • Guided horse-riding • Guided ride on electrically assisted mountain bike • 1 pass to Caunterets-Pont d'Espagne (parking, cable-car ride from Puntas and chairlift to Lac de Gaube • 20 mountain bob descents • 1 introductory session of Gyropod • 1 entry to the Pyrenees Animal Park

The strengths:

A detailed itinerary to follow independently
All reserved in advance
A varied programme with moments of relaxation
A Franco - Spanish itinerary



On the programme:

Day 1 : Col de Peyresourde - Night in Loudenvielle - 1h16 / 65 km

After crossing Luchon, you'll arrive at the Col de Peyresourde, a classic mountain pass for bike races with over sixty crossings since 1910. Take the time to stop a bit at the summit before going to your hostel. From its position overlooking the valley, you'll have a view that is just as striking: the lake, the little villages, the mountain peaks.

Day 2 : Balnéa (balneotherapy centre) - Quad - Mountain scooter descent - Col de Val Louron-Azet – Night in Saint-Lary - 33 mn / 24 km

The Louron Valley, an authentic marvel. Everything invites you to linger: the charm of its villages, the lake with its water sports centre, the treetop obstacle course, the leisure park, the water park complex... Fun and different, thrill-seekers will love a downhill ride on a scooter. You don't need to be a champion to try it! Helmet jammed onto your head, both hands clamped onto the handlebars, you roar down the wide, fast tracks... Lastly, mounted on a quad, under the guidance of Patrick, you'll set off for the surrounding trails to discover the mountains in a different way before being swept away for a tour of the world of wellbeing at Balnéa, the balneotherapy centre.

Then you'll leave for the neighbouring valley, the Vallée d'Aure, which provides access to the Néouvielle National Nature Reserve and also to Spain and its famous Aragon canyons.

Day 3 : Spain: Canyon d'Añisclo - Canyoning with an instructor - Night in Ainsa - 2h14 / 101 km

You'll dash off to Spain via the Aragnouet-Bielsa tunnel. Now you are in Aragon. A proud and rich land. Here, everything is an ochre colour, flooded with the light of the powerful sun. The road leads you to the Canyon d'Añisclo, a real lookout over the Mont Perdu massif, listed by UNESCO. You could even swim in the turquoise water of the natural pools formed by the "rio".

Whether you are an accomplished acrobat or just looking for adventure, you must try canyoning. Jumping, rappelling, swimming in the cool limpid water, natural water slides.... A passionate, one-of-a-kind experience that your guide will be happy to share with you.

At the end of this wonderful day full of excitement, you will visit the medieval city of Ainsa, where you will spend the night.

Day 4 : France: The Mountain Lakes Route > Néouvielle National Nature Reserve – Rafting - Night in Saint-Lary - 1h55 / 86 km

After this little jaunt in Aragon, you'll leave the Spanish Pyrenees for one of the most beautiful, lake-filled landscapes of the massif: the Néouvielle National Nature Reserve. You'll set off on an easy trek to discover this pristine natural site, a peaceful wilderness that will enchant you with its 70 lakes and its centuries-old black pine forests.

Then, on board your raft, in complete safety, your breathtaking whitewater descent will leave you with unforgettable moments of discovery. Guaranteed fun!

Day 5 : Col d'Aspin – Meet some shepherds or Via Ferrata > Pic du Midi – Night in Viella - 1h50 / 68 km

From Saint-Lary, you will tackle the Pic du Midi by way of the Col d'Aspin. A spectacular cable car ride will take you to the summit. Take a break to visit the site, strolling along the terraces and admiring the view of the Pyrenees mountain chain. Fantastic!

Reach for the heights and embark on an acrobatic course paced out with zip-lines, monkey bridges, aerial swings and a via ferrata running along a waterfall.

You can also choose to "keep your feet on the ground" and wander off to meet some shepherds. With them, the work of the shepherd will hold no more secrets for you: visit the sheepfold, care for the lambs, stroke and tickle them...

At the end of the day, you'll cross the Col du Tourmalet dreaded by the Tour de France cyclists and you arrive at Luz Saint Sauveur.

Day 6 : Cirque de Gavarnie - Ride on horseback > Cirque de Troumouse - Night in Gavarnie - 59 mn / 34 km

Discover the Cirques de Gavarnie, Troumouse and Estaubé, these glacial meanders of rare perfection and impressive beauty, listed as World Heritage sites by UNESCO. The most curious among you may also take a detour to discover the astonishing Roland's Breach, a natural gap 40 meters wide and 100 meters high in the mountains at the Spanish border said to have been cut by Roland, the nephew of Charlemagne, with his sword called Durandal. That's the legend!

Another magical moment of the day is a ride on horseback. At a slow jog or a fast gallop, follow your guide on the mountain trails through the magnificent landscapes or into the heart of the forest.

Day 7 : Cauterets-Pont d'Espagne > Pyrenees Animal Park - Night in Argelès-Gazost - 1h56 / 74 km

Cauterets-Pont d'Espagne is the emblematic site of the Pyrenees National Park, a true Garden of Eden. Riding the Puntas cable car and the Gaube chairlift, you can easily visit it. Have lunch on the edge of the splendid

Lake Gaube at the foot of the Vignemale, the highest peak of the French Pyrenees.

On the way back, a visit to the Pyrenees Animal Park will provide you with another view of nature. In this green and rocky environment, you are invited to share the intimacy of the animals.

Day 8 : Electric mountain bike – Mountain Luge - Segway – Lourdes (The torchlight procession) - Night in Lourdes - 14 mn / 13 km

Here you are, ready for another day of “action – thrills”. Robin is waiting for you. He has chosen the best spots to take you along the trails on an electric mountain bike, an original way to ride around with ease. To enjoy the mountains even more without straining yourself, try out a segway. A fun-filled innovation, this electric vehicle enables you to effortlessly go up and down the steepest slopes.

Then we're off to the Mountain Coaster. You are behind the controls of a wild ride that is 100% thrills as you fly down the Pyrenees... in complete safety, of course!

Your adventure tour comes to an end at Lourdes where the sanctuaries will give you a unique, personal and surprising experience, while the torchlight procession is both fascinating and moving - don't miss it.

Day 9 : Departure.

Accommodation:

Hotels 4*, 3*, 2* and guest house

Day 1: charming mountain auberge in Loudenvielle

Located close to the Peyragudes ski resort and the GR10 in the Louron valley, this charming auberge offers the warm welcome one only finds in the south west. The view from the balcony is splendid, the shimmering lake, the tiny mountain villages and their houses with slate roofs, the snow capped peaks all around. The setting is peaceful, the rooms simple yet cosy, each with a view over the mountains or the stream. In summer after a day in the mountains everybody gathers on the terrace for a drink. In winter after a day on the ski slopes at Val Louron or Peyragudes the log fire is very welcoming, and Christophe will tell a few tales of the valley. He will also delight you with his cuisine, he is passionate about his cooking and you can enjoy his Garbure, tartiflette, raclette not to mention his grilled prawns, veal 'Oxoa' and his famous home made Gateau Basque. Even the most demanding of gourmets will be satisfied.

Your auberge has 11 bedrooms and can take 37 persons, a restaurant with terrace, lounge with log fire.

Days 2 - 4: a 4 star hotel in Saint-Lary

Situated at the heart of the Pyrenees National Park this hotel has an exceptional location, a green and peaceful setting. At just 50 metres from the cable-cars for the Saint Lary ski resort, the hotel has kept its Pyrenean roots and its mountain soul, it offers an ambience of charm and authenticity. The staff are always on hand to offer a high quality of service. The hotel has 65 very comfortable rooms including 5 family rooms, their decoration is both classical and contemporary with fine materials and warm colours. Each room has a clear view over the surrounding mountains or the spa gardens. The bar and the La Mangeoire restaurant are situated around the lounge with its mountain chalet look. The restaurant offers a refined cuisine with a large choice of regional and international dishes based on local seasonal produce. The 'La Cintra' bar is at the heart of the hotel and is a popular meeting place. The hotel is joined directly to the Sensoria by Nuxe spa baths, you can enjoy warm baths, body and facial treatments, Nuxe massages and many other beauty treatments. A lovely moment of relaxation for both body and mind in a warm cosy setting, and at the very heart of the Pyrenees.

Your hotel has 65 bedrooms (including 3 for persons with reduced mobility), a restaurant, bar with open fire, 4 meeting rooms, a terrace.

Day 3: a 3 star hotel in Ainsa

Located close to Ainsa, the capital of Sobrarbe and a mediaeval Aragon village, this modern hotel with its own spa is a real jewel. Situated close to the French border it is the ideal place from which to explore the Anisclo canyon, the Pineta valley at the foot of Monte Perdido, Ainsa itself and the Ordesa canyon. Behind the hotel in its garden is a swimming pool and paddling pool. As a backdrop the Pena Montenesa, the symbol of the region stands proudly, the sunset from the hotel is remarkable. The rooms have lovely views and are comfortable

and cosy. The hotel is quiet, the brand new spa is the perfect place to relax. There are superb duplex family rooms and games for the children in the garden. Sporting facilities include tennis courts, a running track, and football and basketball pitches. Children have table tennis and an outdoor pool with paddling pool. The spa has swan-neck massage jets, sensory trails, massages and a terrace with sun loungers.

Day 5: pretty chambre d'hotes in Luz Saint Sauveur

Located between Bareges and Luz Saint Sauveur Patrick offers three pretty chambre d'hotes. You are completely surrounded by mountains, from the windows you can admire the Pic du Midi, the Ardiden massif and the St Marie Chateau. You will love the care and attention to detail of the décor and furnishings, with finely carved headboards, spacious rooms, family rooms under the rafters, admire their fine collection of black and white photos. The mountain spirit is everywhere, Patrick is above all a sheep farmer, and proud of his origins, this is apparent as soon as one enters his house. At dinner Patrick offers the produce from his own family farm: grilled lamb chops, pates, sausages, cured ham, rustic country breads...

Your chambre d'hotes has 3 very different rooms, a small lounge for reading with a TV, parking. Meals prepared by your hosts.

Day 6 :modern and cosy hotel in Gedre-Gavarnie

Your hotel is located in Gedre, the village from which the three prestigious 'Cirques' of Gavarnie, Troumouse and Estaube are reached. From the terrace there is a splendid view over the Breche de Roland. You are at the entry point to the National Park and the World Heritage site of 'Pyrenees, Mont Perdu, land of Cirques and Canyons'. Your hosts, Odile and Philippe offer a very warm welcome in their family run hotel, the building dates from the 17th century. Their restaurant proposes a range of typically Pyrenean dishes such as Garbure, Porc Noir de Bigorre, AOC Bareges Gavarnie lamb, the surprising Gateau a la Broche. A festival of flavours to be enjoyed with a glass or two of Madiran or Pacherenc...

Your hotel has 25 bedrooms (with 3 offering disabled access), a restaurant, bar, lounge, a panoramic terrace.

Day 7: family hotel in Argelès-Gazost

Day 8: superb guest house in Lourdes

Constructed towards the end of the 19th century this villa is in the centre of Lourdes with a magnificent setting, and a clear view over the sanctuaries and the castle, and with the Pyrenees as a back-drop. It is close to all the shops and cafes, you can reach the town quickly on foot. The guest house is particularly comfortable with home cinema TV, DVD, video games, a library and a piano.

Your guest house: 4 spacious bedrooms overlooking the town of Lourdes with a view over the sanctuaries and the castle.

The Aspin bedroom (16m²): On the first floor of the villa (no lift). This spacious room (16m²) has a south-facing balcony with a view over the sanctuaries and the Pyrenees. It has a 180 cms double bed. The bathroom has an Italian style shower and a bath, the stained glass window comes from an ancient chapel. Air conditioning, wi-fi, hair-dryer, separate toilet, tea and coffee making facilities.

Where?

THE ANISCLO CANYON - The wild side of Spain

Wilder than the Ordesa canyon, the Anisclo offers a magnificent adventure into a gigantic natural fault with a superb view over Mont Perdu. Do take a dip in the sublime natural pools of the rios.

THE NEOUVELLE NATURE RESERVE - The lakes route

The scenery is exceptional. A magnificent contrast of sharp granite summits which tower over a landscape of gentle green lawns, the area is home to the extraordinary mountain pine and has over 70 lakes, of all shades from turquoise to the deepest of blue.

THE PIC DU MIDI - The summit

Climb over a thousand metres in just 15 minutes, the cable-car takes the strain. Once at the top the panoramic terraces offer the best view in France, a fabulous 360 degree panorama covering over 300 kms. One can also spend the night or an evening at the top.

GAVARNIE - A World Heritage site

Five and a half kilometres in diameter, walls 1500 m high, dozens of waterfalls, impressive statistics for this wonder of nature. A natural colossus that must be seen, it adjoins the Spanish canyons.

CAUTERETS PONT D'ESPAGNE - Walking through paradise

Situated in the heart of the Pyrenees National Park, the Cauterets Pont d'Espagne area is a veritable Garden of Eden with fantastic walks for all levels. A cable-car takes you up to the sublime Lac de Gaube with its deep blue waters.

LOURDES - The torchlight procession

Each evening thousands of pilgrims and visitors gather to walk in procession from the Grotte des Apparitions to the Rosaire esplanade, all are bearing torches and all are singing. It is a moving sight, joyous and magical.

Budget:

From 2888 € /family. Based on 2 adults + 2 children

The price includes:

8 nights in chambres d'hotes and 4, 3 and 2 star hotels, with breakfasts included and half board - Mountain scooter descent - Ride on quad (1h30) - 1 family entry to Balnéa spa centre (2h) - 1 day of canyoning in Spain guided by an experienced instructor - Rafting descent - Visit with the shepherds or tree-top adventure park and via ferrata - Access to the Pic du Midi by cable car - Guided horse-riding - Guided ride on electrically assisted mountain bike - 1 pass to Cauterets-Pont d'Espagne (parking, cable-car ride from Puntas and chairlift to Lac de Gaube - 20 mountain bob descents - 1 introductory session of Gyropod - 1 entry to the Pyrenees Animal Park - Booking fee.

The price does not include:

Local taxes - Insurances.

Validity : All year

Between us:

You need a hire car

For all our itinerant voyages and Road Trips we can organise car rental.

Before leaving...

Make the most of your stay in Lourdes by taking the century old Pic du Jer funicular railway, visit the ancient castle with its superb view over the town, or even a swim at Lac de Lourdes!

Good places for lunch and dinner

From gastronomic restaurants to typical local cuisine, there is something for every taste. With a fine blend of the flavours of the south and many mountain specialities the Hautes Pyrenees offers a varied range of restaurants. Full of flavour and colour - confit de canard, foie gras, garbure... ask the chef , he will certainly have his own local speciality for you to try.

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