





# TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / France / Provence

# Provence Lavender 4-Day Bike Tour

Lavender Fields + Summer the Luberon

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# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Pedal roads surrounded by lavender fields in full, fragrant bloom
- Enjoy a Provençal meal at the lovely home of our local friend
- Shop for seasonal souvenirs at the market in Gordes and visit classic Provençal villages like Gordes, Roussillon, or Manosque
- Stay in two character-rich hotels: the Couvent des Minimes with its L'Occitane Spa and the secluded and luxurious Domaine des Andeols in the middle of the lavender fields and olive groves
- Please note, spa reservations for both Couvent des Minimes and Domaine des Andeols are recommended to be booked 2 months prior due to high demand.











# ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

# **Arrival Details**

- \_ Airport City:
- Paris or Marseille, France
- Pick-Up Location:
  - Aix en Provence TGV Train Station
- Dick-Up Time:

9:30 am

# **Departure Details**

- Airport City:
- Paris or Marseille, France
- Drop-Off Location:

Avignon TGV Train Station

Drop-Off Time:

12:00 pm

**NOTE:** DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour, within reason and in accordance with the pick-up and drop-off recommendations. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the recommended departure or arrival time or location, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

# **Emergency Assistance**

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or emergency@duvine.com.



## TOUR ITINERARY

# Tour By Day



# Welcome to Provence

Your guides will greet you at the Aix en Provence TGV train station, and the adventure begins! Transfer to the Couvent des Minimes, a luxury hotel and former convent with a new L'Occitane spa. After an essential safety talk and bike fitting, we set out on a warm-up ride and stop in the medieval town of Forcalquier for a fresh, local lunch. After, pedal on rolling roads lined with grazing deer, lavender fields, and pre-alpine forest. Back at the hotel, take advantage of the spa before we reunite for a pre-dinner cocktail. Our first dinner is an introduction to traditional Provençal gastronomie at the Brasserie Pampérigouste. Bon appétit!

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Forcalquier, Pierrerue, Mane

Accomplished: 18 miles / 30 km, elevation gain: 1,630 feet / 497 meters

**Accommodations: Couvent des Minimes** 



# Wild Provençal Country

Begin the day with a gourmet breakfast, followed by a quick transfer that brings us deeper into the Luberon Valley. This morning's ride travels through peaceful landscapes of pine trees and lavender fields against a backdrop of brilliant blue sky. It's a real-life representation of the scenery that inspired artists and attracted them to communities all around Provence. A picnic lunch awaits at a local lavender distillery where we'll discover the secrets of the region's prized "purple gold" amid endless fragrant fields. After, continue cycling through the heart of the Petit Luberon to the perched village of Villars, its narrow streets lined with pretty houses, art studios, and cafes. Arrive at our next hotel to settle in for a two-night stay and unwind by the pool. Later, we'll regather for tonight's dinner in Roussillon.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Auribeau, Buoux, Villars, Saint-Saturnin-lès-Apt

Accomplished: 29 miles / 48 km, elevation gain: 2,650 feet / 808 meters

Accommodations: Domaine des Andeols



# TOUR ITINERARY



# Lavender, Markets, and Wine

Today's ride begins with a climb to the quaint village of Murs where we'll stop for a coffee then enjoy an invigorating downhill through a patchwork of lavender fields, vineyards, and Provençal garrigues (shrubland). Pause to visit the iconic Abbeye de Senanque and its lavender fields in full bloom before exploring the outdoor market in the picturesque village of Gordes—a perfect place to shop for lavender souvenirs and fragrant Provençal herbs. Continue to a domaine near the village of Goult where we'll learn about Côtes du Luberon wines followed by a lovely picnic prepared by our guides. Back on the road, meander through olive groves and more lavender fields around Roussillon before returning to our hotel. The afternoon is yours to take a relaxing swim or treat yourself to a massage at the hotel spa. This evening, we'll dine at the hotel beneath a giant oak tree, raising a glass to a wonderful week together.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

**Destinations**: Murs, Gordes, Goult, Roussillon, Saint-Saturnin-lès-Apt **Accomplished**: 31 miles / 50 km, elevation gain: 2,867 feet / 874 meters **Shorter Option**: 22 miles / 35 km, elevation gain: 2,017 feet / 615 meters

**Accommodations: Domaine des Andeols** 



# Au Revoir!

Bid farewell to Provence with one last spin, taking in your fill of countryside scenery: olive groves, vineyards, and long stretches of lavender fields. After, your guides will transfer you to Avignon and see you off to your next adventure.

**Meals**: Breakfast

**Destinations**: Lioux, Saint-Saturnin-lès-Apt

**Accomplished**: 14 miles / 23 km, elevation gain: 1,158 feet / 353 meters



## YOUR TOUR DETAILS

#### **Travel Protection**

DuVine offers a **Travel Protection Plan** to help protect your travel investment, your belongings, and most importantly, you. The offered Travel Protection Plan is non-refundable, but it is strongly recommended in the unfortunate event that you have to cancel or leave your trip.

NOTE: Plan benefits, limits, and provisions may vary by state or jurisdiction. In order to receive full benefits, Travel Protection must be purchased within 21 days of initial tour deposit. This plan is available to citizens of the U.S. and Canada only.

#### Gratuity

Gratuities for guides are much appreciated to thank them for exceptional service, support, and expertise. The industry standard is for each guest to tip 10-15% (U.S. tours and Cycle + Sail tours) or 7.5-10% (all other tours) of their trip price at the end of the tour. Unless you want to tip separately, guides will divide tips among themselves. Tips in local currency are always preferred. We recommend bringing extra cash or visiting the ATM at the beginning of your trip. For alternate methods of tipping (including Venmo, PayPal, and TransferWise), please see our FAQs.





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## YOUR TOUR DETAILS

#### **Bikes**

DuVine's top-of-the-line bikes are tuned to perfection and fit specifically to you. Our performance bikes from premier manufacturers feature light frames, smooth-rolling tires, comfortable seats, and wide gear ranges for the best ride possible. Please see our website for the exact bike models offered on tour. Additionally, e-bikes are available on most DuVine tours. Electric assist provides an extra boost to your own pedal power, so you can ride longer distances, tackle tougher climbs, and maintain a faster pace. Electric assist is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact your Tour Coordinator if you are interested.

#### **Electrical Overseas**

If you're traveling abroad, you will most likely need an **adapter**, which allows your device's plug to fit into foreign outlets. North American devices run on 110/125V electricity while the majority of the world runs on 220/240V. Converters and transformers change the voltage of electricity to match your device.

#### **Training**

First and foremost, get out on your bike and start logging some miles. Nothing compares to the real thing, but if you can't cycle outside, consider spin classes. Experience with the elements of wind, actual hills, terrain, etc will help with your comfort level (balance, unexpected conditions, etc.) on tour. Always remember, training is a gradual process—don't try to overdo it or push yourself when you aren't ready. However, the most important part of training is to enjoy your ride! **Download a training guide** based on your Tour Level.

#### **Travel Sustainably**

We believe bike travel should leave little behind. DuVine takes small measures to be greener—like eliminating single-use plastic water bottles, replacing paper maps with GPS, returning your pedals in cloth bags, and offering snacks in reusable containers rather than disposable plastic.



## YOUR PACKING LIST

#### On The Bike

Cycling jerseys or athletic shirts

Cycling shorts

Cycling shoes (if you bring your own pedals)

Sneakers (if you don't bring your own pedals)

Athletic socks

Arm/leg warmers

Lightweight, waterproof, wind-resistant jacket or vest

Bike gloves

Bike saddle/cover (if you prefer your own)

#### **Off The Bike**

Walking shoes

Hiking shoes (if required)

Long + short-sleeved shirts

Sweater/jacket for evenings

Dinner attire (dressy casual) + dress shoes

Swimsuit

#### Travel Items\*

Travel confirmations + tickets for air, rail, etc.

Passport, including photocopy

Local currency

DuVine Tour Itinerary (with meeting + departing info)

Health insurance information

Medications

Cycling gear (+ pedals) if riding on Day 1

\*We recommend keeping these items in your carry-on

#### **Additional Items**

Cell phone + charger

Photography gear + charger

Power/plug adapter

**Toiletries** 

Sunscreen, sunglasses, + other sun protection gear

Insect repellent

#### What We Provide

• Bike saddle

• GPS (where available)

• Flat or caged pedals

DuVine t-shirt and jersey

Helmet

Water bottle

Snacks/nutrition

Drawstring bag

### Do I need to bring special gear?

- Cycling shorts are designed to provide extra padding when spending the whole day in the saddle. Don't forget the chamois cream!
- If you bring your own cycling shoes, you must bring your own pedals. If you've never used clip-in pedals before, we don't recommend using them on tour.
- Arm and leg warmers are essential for cooler weather. Wear them with your short-sleeve jersey and shorts for lightweight, easy-to pack, and effective warmth.
- Bike gloves are a preference, but are recommended for Level 3 and 4 tours. The padding in gloves can ease arm, shoulder, and joint fatigue.

#### **Dressing for the Weather**

 The location and time of year of your tour can bring all kinds of weather, from extreme heat to relentless rain. Check extended forecasts before your trip and pack accordingly.

#### **Before You Go**

- Ensure your passport is valid for 3-6 months after return date.
- Call your bank/credit cards to notify them of upcoming travel.
- Please limit your luggage to one medium-sized suitcase and one carry-on.

## **Order DuVine Gear**

Want DuVine bike shorts to match your complimentary jersey? To order, contact **tourcoordinators@duvine.com**. Gear is shipped free of charge to DuVine guests in the U.S. and Canada. For expedited shipping and guests outside of the U.S. and Canada, additional shipping fees will apply.

