

## Bicycle Tours in France: Bike and Barge the Seine Plus! Castles of the Loire

### OVERVIEW

This week-long bike and barge cruise takes you along the Seine River Valley, passing by splendid estates including the castle and grounds at Fontainebleau, and through small medieval towns on the way to Montargis. Enjoy this scenic ride on easy canal paths, with frequent stops to sip café au lait in quaint French villages. Our boat for the week floats quietly along the Seine River, slipping through locks and under bridges while sumptuous meals are prepared onboard. This tour is ideal for anyone who loves the French joie de vivre, and those who are new to cycling and want to try bicycle traveling without having to pack and unpack their bags. Our Plus! tour is land based and gives those who want to keep exploring the chance to spend another few days pedaling between important chateaux including Blois, Chambord, Amboise and Chenonceau.

\*\*\*If this sounds great but you are looking for a shorter trip check out our [Bike and Barge the Seine](#) which features the first 8 days of this itinerary.\*\*\*

### HIGHLIGHTS

Paris; Castle of Fontainebleau; “artists’ villages” - towns that inspired 19th and 20th century Impressionist painters; medieval fortified towns and castles; private castle visit.

### TOUR FACTS

<b>Includes</b>	The usual plus... 10 nights lodging, all breakfasts, 8 dinners, 6 picnic lunches, Fontainebleau guided visit, chocolate tasting, Chambord guided castle visit, canoe trip along the Cher river, guided visit to Clos Lucé, entry ticket to visit Chenonceau castle; and the usual (see below)
<b>Countries</b>	France
<b>Begin/End</b>	Paris/Amboise
<b>Arrive/Depart</b>	Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG)
<b>Total Distance</b>	318 km (198 miles) - 347 km (216 miles)
<b>Avg. Daily Distance</b>	35 km (22 miles) - 39 km (24 miles) per riding day
<b>Tour Level</b>	1.0:
<b>Keep in Mind</b>	We work hard to maintain consistency across all of our tours, but some trips have unique differences. Here are some things to keep in mind about this tour. For more questions about the Barge check out our <a href="#">Bike &amp; Boat FAQ</a>

**Please Note:** We may have small itinerary changes to this trip after you download this PDF document. If you have booked this trip and there are major changes, including changes to towns or activities, we'll email you directly. However, you should always be sure to refer to the [online itinerary](#) for the most up-to-date trip information including arrival and departure tips before you depart for your trip:

<https://www.experienceplus.com/guided-bike-tours/france/barge-seine-plus>

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**DATES & PRICES**

Dates	Price	Single Supplement*
📅 Jun 22-Jul 2, 2019	USD\$5490	USD\$1450
📅 Aug 17-27, 2019	USD\$5490	USD\$1450

\*We are happy to match solo travelers who would like to share a room with someone of the same gender. If no match exists, due to hotel pricing, we will charge 50% of the single supplement rate. This fee will be collected at the time of the final payment. If a roommate assignment is available this fee will be refunded at the conclusion of the tour.

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### ARRIVAL INFO

**Meeting time early afternoon - on Day 1, meet your fellow cyclists and Tour Leaders at the boat dock (exact details to be announced in time as the docking schedule will be finalized in January 2019).**

**Note:**

Before you make arrangements, [check with us](#) if your tour departure is guaranteed. If your tour departure is out further than 6 months, please also check with us as there might be slight changes to the itinerary.

If you haven't been to Paris yet, we recommend you spend some time in this amazing city. You can find hotel recommendations in Paris and throughout France [here](#).

Depending on where you choose to stay in Paris prior to your trip, your hotel's website will usually provide arrival information. You might also like [Rome2Rio](#) for more route-planning.

We recommend flying into the Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG).

### DEPARTURE INFO

**Your trip ends on the final day at around 11:30 a.m. after the guided tour of Clos Lucé.**

If you didn't get a chance to spend time in Paris before the trip, you might choose to do so now. Find the link to hotel recommendations in the arrival instructions.

The below information will help you plan your departure. For more tips or other routes, you might like [Rome2Rio](#). The fare and timing information listed below is approximate.

We recommend flying out of Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG).

**From Amboise to Paris CDG or Paris city:**

1. Taxi from the ending point of the tour to the Amboise train station
2. Train from Amboise to "Paris Roissy Charles de Gaulle Airport" (2 hours/fares vary) or Paris (1hr 50 min-2 hrs 20 min/fares vary)

Look up French train schedules and book tickets, if necessary, [SNCF.com](#) or [Trainline.eu](#). Questions? See our information on taking trains in Europe [here](#) or [ask us](#).

**Bicycle Tours in France: Bike and Barge the Seine Plus! Castles of the Loire****Welcome to Paris, the city of lights****Highlights** Paris

Meet early afternoon at our docking point in central Paris. We'll take a test ride with the bikes this afternoon and you'll have time to explore the surroundings before we gather to meet everybody including the barge crew. We'll enjoy a welcome drink and dinner on board tonight. And how about a post-dinner stroll in central Paris?

**DAY 1****Meals** Dinner**Lodging**  Fleur Barge**Exiting Paris by boat and bike**

**Highlights** Cruise the Seine during breakfast, bicycle along river paths and forest lanes, Melun town

Avoid the city traffic by cruising through Paris on our private barge, enjoying views from the river and relaxing on board. Breakfast and a leisurely morning onboard prepare us for late-morning departure along the Seine river and through the Sénart Forest. Meander along bike paths and through sleepy villages to reach the small town of Melun where our boat will dock for the night on the ancient village island. Melun, born as a Gallic town was then a Roman mutatio. Those wanting more time on the bike can pedal an additional 25 km to visit two castles, the Vaux-le-Vicomte and Blandy medieval castle/village. We'll taste another specialty of town, the Brie de Melun. There is the option of bicycling an extra 25 km (15 miles). If you'd like to partake in the extra rides on this trip you will need to navigate using the Ride with GPS tracks that we will make available to you 30 days prior to your departure date.

**DAY 2****Distance** 45 km (28 mi)**Gain** 135 m (443 ft)**Terrain** Mostly flat**Level** 0.5**Meals** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**Lodging**  Fleur Barge**Pedaling through Fontainebleau**

**Highlights** Artists' village of Barbizon, guided visit of Fontainebleau castle (UNESCO site), picnic on castle grounds, fortified medieval town.

Start your delightful ride along the river lined by sumptuous villas. Enjoy the quiet bike path before we leave the river to dive into the expansive Fontainebleau forest, centered around the famous Fontainebleau castle which was home to French monarchs for about eight centuries. Our first stop is the small village of Barbizon, formerly home to mid-19th century painters including Théodore Rousseau and Jean-François Millet. Continue through the forest to reach the magnificent Fontainebleau castle, one of France's most spectacular royal palaces. We'll enjoy a guided visit of the castle as well as a picnic on the royal grounds. Continue pedaling to return to our boat, moored tonight in a medieval fortified town along a small tributary of the Seine River.

**DAY 3****Distance** 44 km (28 mi)**Gain** 255 m (836 ft)**Terrain** Mostly flat**Level** 1.0**Meals** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**Lodging**  Fleur Barge

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### From Moret-sur-Loing to Nemours

**Highlights** Medieval town of Moret-sur-Loing, Loing River biking, Nemours.

Spend some time this morning wandering the streets of quaint Moret-Sur-Loing, the fortified medieval town that inspired Impressionist painters including Monet and British artist Alfred Sisley. Our ride today takes us along the Loing River to another artist village. From here, you can choose to take a longer ride or continue along the river to reach our boat, docked in tiny medieval Nemours. Visit town and its medieval castle or, for a different take on the region's (pre)history, enjoy a visit to the interesting prehistorical museum, which houses rich archaeological collections from the Paleolithic period through the end of the Iron Age, excavated in the Île-de-France region. 17 km (10 miles) extra ride available.

### Medieval Castles and Towns

**Highlights** Medieval castles and towns

The Loing River was "improved" in the early 18th Century in an effort to increase visits from merchants. We'll leapfrog the canal today as we pedal through forested areas and rural countryside to reach a private castle open to us for a visit and lunch. After lunch, we'll keep pedaling to the impressive fortified medieval town of Chateau Landon. An engaging guided walk through town brings to life the importance of this town—. A quick downhill brings us to our boat, docked on the Loing Canal in a tranquil spot for the night. 20 km (12 miles) extra ride available.

### Montargis

**Highlights** Bourdelle Sculpture Garden, Ferrières Abbey, Montargis

An optional 13 km ride this morning takes you to a unique art spot in a nearby town. This garden museum honors influential and prolific 19th Century sculptor Antoine Bourdelle by hosting 58 of his bronze statues in a lovely garden. Keep pedaling to the small medieval town of Ferrières with its impressive Benedictine Abbey, tiny alleyways and historic wash houses. Take a break and wander through town before continuing south to arrive in Montargis, the second largest town of the region and a fitting ending destination to our barge trip as its medieval center is crisscrossed with canals and rivers. Our home for the next two nights! Enjoy dinner in town tonight. Extra ride available 14 km (9 miles).

### DAY 4

**Distance** 45 km (28 mi)

**Gain** 359 m (1178 ft)

**Terrain** Mostly flat

**Level** 1.5

**Meals** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Lodging**  Fleur Barge

### DAY 5

**Distance** 35 km (22 mi)

**Gain** 172 m (564 ft)

**Terrain** Mostly flat

**Level** 1.0

**Meals** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Lodging**  Fleur Barge

### DAY 6

**Distance** 42 km (26 mi)

**Gain** 252 m (827 ft)

**Terrain** Mostly flat

**Level** 1.0

**Meals** Breakfast, Lunch

**Lodging**  Fleur Barge

## Bicycle Tours in France: Bike and Barge the Seine Plus! Castles of the Loire

### Loop ride in Montargis

**Highlights** Ouanne River ride; 10th Century Castle Ruins, Bee-Keeping Museum

A loop ride today takes us to another small town in the countryside to visit a unique, thriving honey making farm and “living museum” where a short visit highlights the peculiar place of bees in the world. Return to Montargis and make sure to visit some of the sights like the gardens and ruins of the central Chateau, the cathedral and several Renaissance palaces and gardens. Extra ride 23 km (14 miles).

### DAY 7

**Distance** 50 km (31 mi)

**Gain** 316 m (1036 ft)

**Terrain** Mostly flat

**Level** 2.0

**Meals** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Lodging**  Fleur Barge

### Chambord and Blois

**Highlights** Guided visit of Chambord Castle, city of Blois

We'll say farewell to our boat today and make our way to the Castle of Chambord, one of the most famous chateaux of the Loire Valley. Some say Leonardo da Vinci designed the opulent 400-room Château de Chambord when he lived at the royal court. Opulence is key here: The Château nearly bankrupted the French treasury before its completion in 1685. Enjoy a unique behind-the-scenes tour of the castle late morning before heading to Blois, a different and lively feel compared to the tranquil villages we've visited on our boat tour. Stroll through town to see its Castle, the cathedral and gardens that dot the city. 30 km (18 miles), or 13 km (8 miles) extra miles available. Consider that if you do add miles you will arrive in Blois late and likely won't have much free time before our group visit of Chambord Castle.

### DAY 8


**Distance** 18 km (11 mi)

**Gain** 108 m (354 ft)

**Terrain** Mostly flat

**Level** 0.5

**Meals** Breakfast

**Lodging**  Best Western Hotel Blois Chateau

### Cycle to Amboise

**Highlights** Cycling along the Loire River, Chaumont Castle, Da Vinci Museum, Amboise

Leave Blois along the Loire River today, cycling on one of Europe's most popular bike routes. First stop is at the Chaumont Castle, with its spectacular gardens, park, and castle perched over the Loire river valley. Continue pedaling to reach the vibrant town of Amboise which boasts the manor house of Le Clos Lucé, where Leonardo da Vinci came to spend the last three years of his life upon invitation from the French King Francis I. Leonardo is buried in the castle's chapel. Today you can add an extra 47 km (29 mile) loop to Vouvray.

### DAY 9

**Distance** 42 km (26 mi)

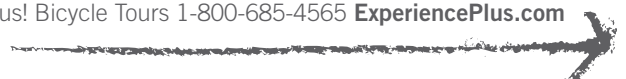
**Gain** 256 m (840 ft)

**Terrain** Mostly flat

**Level** 1.0

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  Hotel le Clos d'Amboise



**Bicycle Tours in France: Bike and Barge the Seine Plus! Castles of the Loire****Amboise**

**Highlights** Château de Chenonceau; canoe trip down the Cher River

Head off toward the Cher River this morning where we'll regroup to canoe to the famous castle of Chenonceau. The castle forms a bridge across the river, one of the tributaries to the Loire. After dropping your canoe and a lunch together, we head off by bike to explore the castle, once occupied by Diane de Poitiers, mistress to Henri II. After the king's death in 1599, Queen Catherine de Medici reclaimed the castle and evicted de Poitiers. You can still explore the two separate gardens created for these two women.

**DAY 10**

**Distance** 42 km (26 mi)

**Gain** 348 m (1141 ft)

**Terrain** Mostly flat

**Level** 1.5

**Meals** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging**  [Hotel le Clos d'Amboise](#)

**Guided tour of Clos Lucé, tour end**

**Highlights** Clos Lucé

Before you head off on your own travels join us this morning for a fascinating guided tour of the Clos Lucé, where Leonardo da Vinci spent the final years of his life. Walk through his bedroom, discover where he worked, and stroll through the vast gardens where many of his inventions were constructed for the first time. Our visit of Clos Lucé will end at 11:30 so please plan your travels accordingly if you'd like to participate. We hope you've enjoyed this relaxing cultural and historic exploration of the Loire!

**DAY 11**

**Meals** Breakfast

**INCLUDED****BEFORE YOU LEAVE**

- Traveler Services: Assistance with arrival and departure, booking extra nights at your starting and ending tour hotels.
- Bicycle Tour Training programs designed specifically for your tour and fitness level.
- Tour Planning tips on what to pack, reading and movie lists, hotel recommendations and many other helpful tips.
- A complimentary gift of your choice.

**ON YOUR BICYCLE TOUR**

- Superb tour leaders who are great fun and also bilingual, bicultural experts, and avid cyclists. They're experienced to help you navigate confidently on and off the road.
- Comfortable lodging in 3-4 star hotels located in or near the town square with easy access to your favorite café (bar, gelato, espresso) of the day, always with a private bath.
- All breakfasts & at least half of your dinners each featuring multi-courses, fresh, seasonal specialties and wine or beer for dinners. See specific tour itineraries for details.
- On many tours we also have 1 or 2 lunches - see specific tour itineraries for details.
- Use of a high quality Titanium road bike, hybrid, or an aluminum tandem (aluminum road bikes or hybrid bikes in South America), geared specifically to cruise the flats and help ease you over the mountain. Our bikes come with an odometer so you can track your miles, an expandable rear rack pack to carry your stuff, and a water bottle that's yours to keep. Refer to our bikes page for full details.
- Full van support including: luggage shuttle, water and snack resupply, mechanical assistance, and rides for tired cyclists!

- Special events like wine tastings and cultural visits as described in the trip itinerary.
- All tips and gratuities at tour hotels and group meals.
- Unique and scenic routes, marked with our signature chalk dust arrows that ensure that you won't get lost and have the freedom to travel at your own pace.
- Daily mileage options—for those folks who just can't get enough cycling, we'll suggest optional routes off our marked course.
- Detailed route map, and informational sheets each day that tell you more about the area where you will be riding.
- All the fun (and more) that you expect from your vacation.

**WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED**

- Transportation to and from the bicycling tour including airfare, or train travel.
- Helmets - we ask that you bring your own to ensure the safest fit.
- Meals not listed in the itinerary
- Tour Leader gratuity (with the exception of Expeditions)

**AFTER YOUR BICYCLE TOUR**

- Deeply discounted tours with our Re-Cycle Program. Your fifth tour with us will be discounted by 50% of the average price of your previous four tours; your tenth tour will be discounted by 100% of the average price of your previous nine tours!



**LEVELS**

Travelers have different cycling abilities and preferences for the number of miles, elevation gain, and type of terrain they want on a bicycle tour. Our tour levels fall on a scale of 1 - 5. In addition to the overall tour level we have developed daily level summaries to provide an even more detailed look at what kind of cycling you can expect from each day on tour. You'll find all of the details including mileage, elevation gain, terrain and level for each day of the itinerary to help you better understand what to expect from your tour.

**LEVEL 1 - 1.5**

This day will be mostly flat and the distance will rarely exceed 30 km. Level 1 - 1.5 tours are suitable for beginner cyclists, those traveling by bicycle for the first time, or multi-generational groups with a desire for a nice and easy bike tour with plenty of opportunities to stop and enjoy the scenery.

- **Average daily mileage:** 15-30km. Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** Mostly flat with occasional gentle climbs at a grade of less than 3%, that are sustained for a maximum of 3km. There might be a steeper but short climb..

**LEVEL 2 - 2.5**

This day is ideal for riders newer to bicycle touring looking for a bit of a challenge, or for individuals who desire shorter days on the bike. On average, level 2 - 2.5 bike tours will ride 30-50 km per day on mostly rolling terrain.

- **Average daily mileage:** 30-50km. Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** Mostly rolling terrain around 3%. Presents multiple 3% to 4% climbs. May present an occasional steeper climb.

**LEVEL 3 - 3.5**

Level 3 - 3.5 tours are for active individuals (who run, bike, swim etc. on a regular basis) with the desire to cover longer daily distances on the bicycle. These tours are a great workout when you're riding as you will average 50-70 km daily with total gain of 2,000-2,800 ft. There will be multiple 4-6% climbs throughout the tour.

- **Average daily mileage:** 50-70km. Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** Multiple Climbs with grades of 4 - 6%.

**LEVEL 4 - 4.5**

Level 4 - 4.5 tours are for passionate cyclists or very active individuals. This level tour is great for cyclists looking to stay in shape and pedal hard they travel across regions or countries. Level 4 - 4.5 tours cover 70-90km daily with 2,800-3,600 ft of gain. Cyclists on a level 4 - 4.5 bicycle tour can expect multiple climbs, some climbs might be short and steep (6-8% for 1-3 km) while others may be sustained (6+ Km) at a 4-6% grade.

- **Average daily mileage:** 70-90km. Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** Presents multiple steep climbs (6% to 8% grades), 1 to 3km long. Alternatively, 4 - 6% grades for 6 kilometers or more.

**LEVEL 5 (EXPEDITIONPLUS!)**

Our ExpeditionPlus! tours designed for strong riders looking for the challenge of riding across countries or continents. Long daily mileages means limited van support so we recommended these tours for riders who feel confident that they can ride every mile.

- **Average daily mileage:** 120 km (75 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Terrain:** Expect and be prepared for any and everything.

**REMEMBER**

It is almost always possible to adapt the day's ride to how you are feeling either by taking advantage of the support van, or asking tour leaders for additional mileage.

**Need More Miles?** On just about every day of every tour it is possible to add miles to the day. Just talk to your tour leader about the options.

**Need Fewer Miles?** If you aren't sure about your abilities or how much you want to ride remember the support van is available to offer snacks, encouragement, a lift over the next hill, or to the next hotel. You are on vacation and we're here to help make it perfect for you.

**Chalk Dust Arrows.** Remember, no matter what level of tour you choose ExperiencePlus! uses chalk dust arrows to mark our routes so riders can take the day at their own pace! Whether you prefer to stop at every gelateria, take a hundred photos a day, or push to achieve a new personal best you'll be happy on our tours.

**WHAT TO EXPECT****BICYCLES**

Your bike will be equipped with: a men's or women's saddle, a quick release style seat post adjustment, rear rack and expandable pack, pump, patch kit, spare tube, cable lock, cyclometer, rear lights, a water bottle cage (or two) and a water bottle (or two) and a bell. If you would like to bring your own pedals and shoes we recommend doing so—your tour leaders will install them during the bike fitting. We have flat pedals with or without cages available. For safety and hygiene reasons we recommend you bring your own helmet.

**Daily Routine (Procedures and Logistics)****DAYSHEETS**

Each day you'll receive a daysheet with information on the day's activities, meals and ride, which will be discussed during a briefing. The Daysheets also include Tour Leader phone numbers, hotel information and interesting historical and cultural information about sites that you may want to stop and see along the route. Your Tour Leaders will also post daily announcements in the hotel lobby with information about sightseeing in town or restaurant recommendations for dinners on your own as well as important information about breakfast, luggage down and "arrows down" time.

**NAVIGATING ON TOUR**

Daily we provide you with a highlighted route map. Of course, we also mark the route every day with our signature chalk dust arrows. Our arrows make navigating very easy—you may never need to look at the map! The arrows also allow you to ride at your own pace. There is no need to "keep up" with the group—this is your ride!

But what if it rains? What happens to the arrows? In a light rain, the arrows actually "set up" and become more permanent. In a heavy rain, they do wash away. If that happens, we'll re-group to cycle together for those who want to continue cycling while those who prefer to stay dry can shuttle.

For the tech-loving riders out there we offer the opportunity to download GPS tracks of most tour routes to your personal GPS device using RideWithGPS.com. Tracks available upon request three to four weeks prior to the departure.

**VAN SUPPORT**

Full van support including: luggage shuttle, water and snack resupply, mechanical assistance, and rides for tired cyclists!

**HOTELS**

We have carefully chosen all of our accommodations for their charm and location. They are typically small, family run hotels that offer you a glimpse into the local culture. We prefer hotels near interesting sites in the center of town located along the best cycling route in the area. Because many of the hotels are small not all of the rooms will be exactly the same. We keep this in mind and do our best to distribute rooms fairly by the end of the tour. Our itinerary lists our primary hotels. On rare occasions, listed hotels are subject to change.

**MEALS AND RESTAURANTS**

Breakfasts: we work hard to arrange complete breakfasts but some hotels still serve continental style breakfasts; cycling is energy intensive so we do recommend you plan for a morning or mid-morning snack on the road at a local café or market.

Water is OK in almost all hotels and in country fountains; if there is a problem, we will advise you.

We'll recommend lunch locations en route and most itineraries include a few group picnics. We limit the number of picnics so you don't feel pressured to be at a certain place in the middle of your ride.

Dinners together are often pre-planned and pre-ordered. We'll ask you if you have special dietary requirements. Pre-planned meals allow us to provide a variety of regional specialties and facilitate efficient service. Water, wine and beer are included.

**TIPPING YOUR TOUR LEADER TEAM**

If you feel your tour leader team has demonstrated great expertise and service, common practice within the travel industry is to tip. Tipping is voluntary and greatly appreciated, and gratuity amounts vary widely. Should you decide to leave a tip, as a guideline, we suggest 5% of the tour cost per traveler – this for the entire tour leader team, not each Tour Leader. If you'd like to show your gratitude for your Tour Leaders' excellent service you can give the tip to any member of the tour leader team, as they share it evenly. In order to avoid social tensions, we encourage you to tip as individuals and not as a group. If you feel your Tour Leaders did not quite meet your expectations, then we would like to know about it. You will also have the opportunity to leave your comments in our evaluation survey which we email to you after your trip.

**PHOTOS**

By reserving space on tour, you agree that ExperiencePlus! may use, re-use and reproduce any images, photos or videos sent to us, or taken by our guides or travelers free of charge and without your right to inspection. If you do not want us to use any images of you on tour, you must inform


**CHECKLIST**
**TO DO ONCE YOU'VE BOOKED!**

- Read through your Reservation Confirmation Email, it has important information to help you plan your trip!
- Check the date on your passport. The expiration date should extend three months past your date of return to your home country.
- Complete the Customer Information Form:  
<https://www.experienceplus.com/blog/travel-planning/customer-information-form/>
- Apply for trip cancellation/interruption insurance within 21 days of booking your tour. Find details at <https://www.experienceplus.com/blog/travel-planning/travel-insurance/>
- Download the bicycle training program: <https://www.experienceplus.com/blog/travel-planning/bicycle-tour-training/>
- Peruse our country-specific Travel Planning Pages: <https://www.experienceplus.com/blog/travel-planning/>

**6 TO 3 MONTHS PRIOR TO TOUR START DATE**

- Check the online itinerary of your trip and review the arrival and departure information under the "Travel Information" tab to see meeting place and time, if a reservation on a complimentary ExperiencePlus! Shuttle (if applicable) is required, and other important information to help you plan your arrival and departure.
- Reserve your flights after you know you have a confirmed tour departure. Please check with our office if you do not know if your trip is confirmed.
- Book your pre and post-tour hotel nights.
- 12 weeks before your tour begin your training program  
<https://www.experienceplus.com/blog/travel-planning/bicycle-tour-training/>
- Final payment is due 90 days prior to the tour start. Please refer to your Deposit Payment Invoice and the Final Payment Reminder e-mail you have received for detailed instructions.

**6 TO 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO TOUR START DATE**

- Start reading one of the books or watching one of the movies from our Reading and Movie List you'll find on the country-specific Travel Planning Pages: <https://www.experienceplus.com/blog/travel-planning/>.
- Plan what you are going to pack and start packing! Refer to the Packing Lists on our website at <https://www.experienceplus.com/blog/travel-planning/packing/>.
- We'll email your Hotel Itinerary, the Participant Roster, names and contact information of your Tour Leaders and other important departure information about 30 days prior to departure.

**DAY OF YOUR FLIGHT**

Get as much sleep on the plane as you can. Pack one day of cycling gear in your carry-on. See you soon!