



MOUNTAINS & SEA - FROM CORTE TO CALVI

Technical sheet - Self Guided Walking - 7 days, 6 nights - Twin centre - 5 days walking

SELF GUIDED WALKING 7 days / 6 nights

Level 1 2 3 4

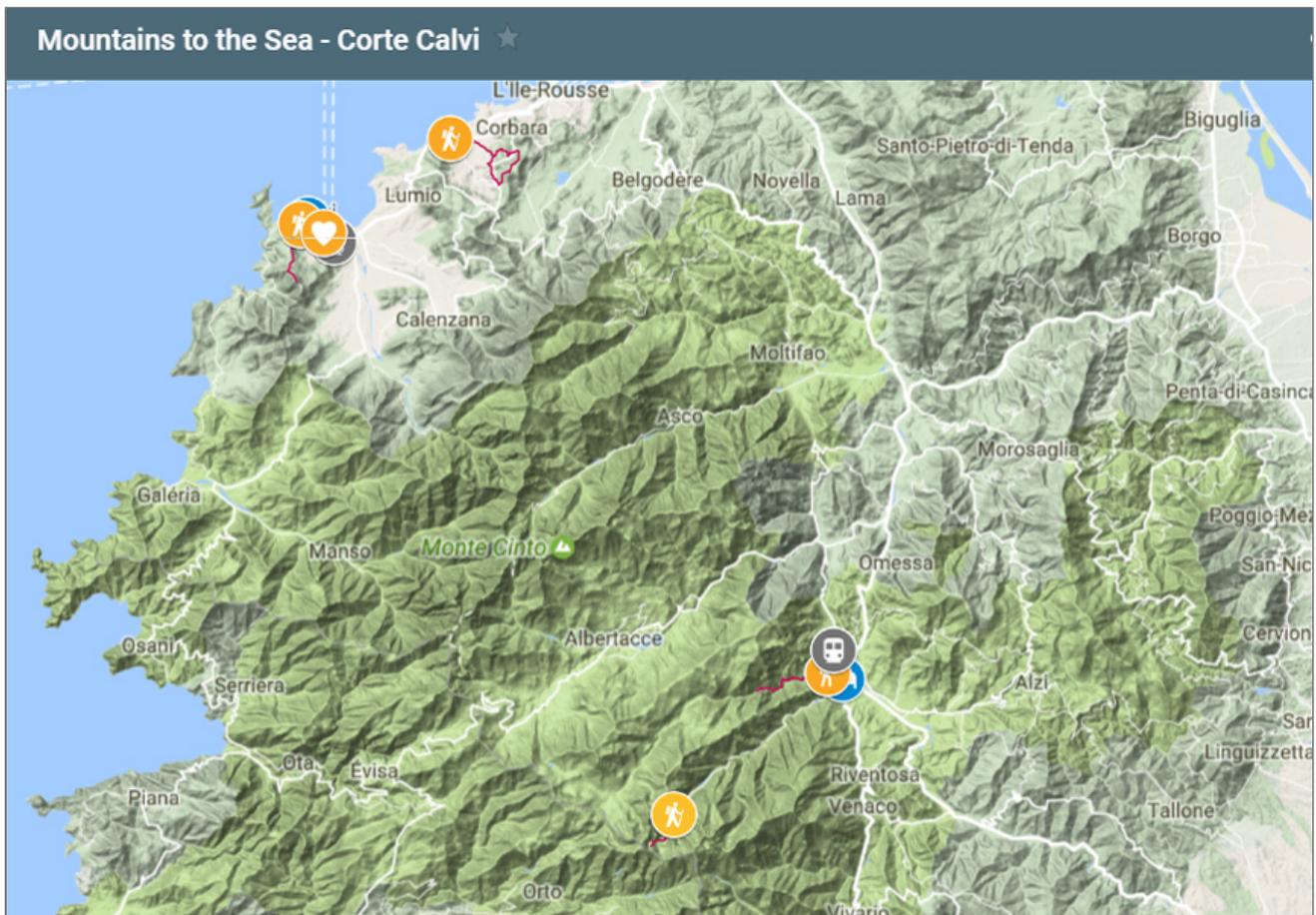
Twin centre - 5 days walking

Comfortable 3* Hotels

- Corsica's historic capital
- Picturesque Genoese seaside town of Calvi
- Glacier lakes and Gorges
- Calvi, Corte



This holiday offers classic hiking in the heart of the Corsican mountains and pleasant walking by the sea in Calvi. You travel to the heart of the island by train, and the town of Corté, from where you can explore the historic citadelle and discover the river gorges of this high mountain region. After a couple of days in the mountains, you take the train to the coast at Calvi, in the Balagne, the garden of Corsica. You discover the heights of Calvi and the unspoilt coast of the Revellata peninsula before having time to enjoy Calvi's beautiful beach and explore her fortress Citadelle, built by the Genoese.



✓ PROGRAM

Day 1 - Arrive Corte

Arrive into Calvi, Bastia or Ajaccio. Take a train from the nearest station (approx 4km from the airports) directly to Corte to discover the historic heart of the island. After settling into your hotel, why not explore the citadel on the newly finished heritage walk. You could visit Corte museum, or lunch or dinner in one of the cobbled alleyways around the Citadelle. Stay at a 3* Hotel, in Corte on a B&B basis.

Day 2 - Corte

For the first day in Corte, we suggest the Tavignano Gorge. A stone path will lead you into the gorge amidst a heady, warm Mediterranean vegetation of blue/black island lavender, the curry plant and juniper bushes. The cliffs soar up above and deep below you can glimpse the pounding torrent with its numerous rock pools. For centuries, this age-old path was the route into the isolated Niolu region. The towering granite cliffs have been beautifully sculpted by time, with clinging pine trees and rugged cliffs all around. You may choose to walk to the swing bridge that traverses the torrent, a great swimming and picnic place with smooth sun baked rocks and inviting clear rock pools. Stay at a 3*Hotel, in Corte on a B&B basis.

12km, 7h, +480m, -480m.

Day 3 - Corte

Corte is situated on the confluence of two magical gorges the Restonica and the Tavignano. For your second day's walking in Corte, a well trodden path leads up to the lake of Melo. The path is made easier by two sets of metal steps. You arrive at a large apple shaped, glacier lake surrounded by spongy grass. You can press on higher to the abruptly contrasting lake of Capitellu. It is 40m deep, the deepest on the island. Sheer sheets of granite plunge into its depths and there are little traces of vegetation. From your hotel you can catch a minibus to the start of the walk (approx 15€pp please prebook - OUT 9h, BACK 15h & 17h). At the end of your walk, a little hut sells refreshments, the perfect place relax. Stay at a 3*Hotel, in Corte on a B&B basis.

6km, 4h30, +500m, -500m.

Day 4 - Corte to Calvi

Your itinerary now takes you to the coast at Calvi. After breakfast you will head for the station, from where you will catch a train to Ponte Leccia, and change for the coastal train to Calvi, in the Balagne. Once arrived into Calvi, you can drop your bags at your hotel before exploring the town, crowned by a Genoese Citadelle. Today you can just discover the town, we give you a town discovery walk or you can just relax on the beach. Stay at a 3*, in Calvi on a B&B basis.

Day 5 - Calvi

Today's walk takes you to Notre Dame de la Serra, the chapel with birds eye views of the town. You can make this walk longer by starting early and climbing to the summit of the Capu di A Veta, at 700m. Enjoying marvelous birds eye views over the bay of Calvi, the walk crosses an idyllic landscape and if you just choose to go to the chapel, an easier walk, the views are still sublime. Stay at a 3*Hotel, in Calvi on a B&B basis.

11.3km, 4h45, +700m, -700m.

Day 6 - Calvi

Today you can just hire a bike and explore the Balagne coast or take the train to Algajola (6€ payable locally), a little seaside town on the way to Ile Rousse, and walk to the perched village of Sant Antonino, and the artisans village of Pigna before catching the train back. Stay at a 3*Hotel, in Calvi on a B&B basis.

14.5km, 4h45, +480m, - 480m.

Day 7 - Calvi

Today your holiday ends in Calvi, you may have time to walk the Revellata peninsula to the lighthouse. End of holiday in Calvi, extra nights available.

This itinerary is correct at time of publication. Should situations arise that are beyond our control, such as severe weather conditions, or other such factors that could put your safety at risk, the itinerary may be modified.

✓ TECHNICAL INFO

Starts	At your hotel in Corté.
Ends	At your hotel in Calvi after breakfast.
Access	Ajaccio or Bastia Airport or Port, Calvi airport or L'Île Rousse port, please ask for details of transport connections. Air tickets and boat reservations available, please ask for a quotation.
Accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hotel 3*, in a twin/double room, please request at time of reservation.• Continental breakfast (tea, coffee, milk, bread, butter, jam).• B&B basis <p>Should you have any food allergies, special requests or dietary requirements, please advise at time of booking.</p>
Number of participants	Reservations for minimum of 2 participants. NB. For safety reasons we do not accept solo hiker reservations on Self-Guided treks.
Level	Moderate. Involves longer walks, generally from 4-6 hours a day. The nature of the terrain presents little technical difficulty but some previous hill walking experience is useful. The ascents will vary from 400m to 800m altitude gain per day. See our level ratings.
Guiding	Self-Guided Walking. We provide you with a Travel Dossier complete with A4 copies of the IGN maps and a walking guide created by our team. During your hike our 24-hour assistance service will also be able to answer all your questions and, if necessary, assist you with the smooth running of your stay.
Luggage transfers	During this walk you will carry only a small day sack with a water bottle, camera, picnic, trailfood, sun and wet weather gear. Luggage is transported by vehicle, point to point.

✓ DATES AND PRICES INFORMATION

Prices	Starting from 590 € consult our rates on our website : http://www.corsica-aventure.com/gb/Sejours/corte-calvi-self-guided-walking
Price includes	Accommodation on B&B basis, local internal transfers by taxi and train, luggage transfers, travel dossier with A4 copies of IGN maps and walking notes.
Price does not include	Reservation fee of €5pp, travel insurance, drinks, picnics, site visits and transfers to Corte day 1, transfers from Calvi on day 6, travel to Corsica.

✓ SPECIFICITIES OF THE STAY

Preparing for your trip

It is really important to get prepared physically for your trip. The more time you put in before you leave, the more you will get out of the walking. You should do regular aerobic exercise in preparation for your holiday. Walking regularly with a rucksack up and downhill is the best way to make sure you are fit enough and enjoy the trip to the fullest.

Climate

Set in the Mediterranean, 170km from France and 85km from mainland Italy, Corsica has a pleasant Mediterranean climate with hot dry summers and moderate dry, clear winters. Climate in the mountains is alpine rather than Mediterranean. Corsica is known for its micro climates, each valley can be different, with the proximity of the mountains and the sea often generating some stormy, unpredictable weather. Corsica also has one of the highest sunshine records in France, with around 7.5 hours a day throughout the year, making it the ideal destination for active outdoor adventures. It should be noted that mountains see significant snow in the winter, generally lasting into May on the highest slopes.

Sun hours (Average)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Corsica	4	5	6	8	10	11	12	11	9	7	5	4
London	2	1	1	2	4	5	6	7	6	6	5	3

MaxTemperatures (°C)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Corsica	13	14	16	18	21	25	27	28	26	22	18	15
London	10	7	6	7	10	13	17	20	22	21	19	14

Forest fires

During the summer months, in the event of high winds and in hot and dry conditions, forested areas can be closed to prevent fires. Areas at risk are closed for walkers in order to reduce the high risk to life. Access to these areas is prohibited during a stated time scale which could affect the walking itinerary. On certain routes including the GR20 & Mare e Monti, this could close consecutive stages, and prevent walking. Alternative itineraries may not be available.

Rivers & Lakes

Rivers and lakes may be a tempting spot for a dip on your walking holiday but you do so at your own risk. It is important to be aware of weather in the mountains around you that could suddenly and significantly change the water level and flow of a mountain stream. It is also important to remember that sudden immersion in cold water can produce a shock which can very quickly lead to drowning.

Language

Most people in this area of France speak French and know little English. In the villages you can still hear Corsican being spoken. It is good to learn some simple French phrases and greetings as this is always appreciated.

Currency

You will need to bring sufficient cash to cover your personal expenses, including picnics, snacks and drinks. Credit cards are sometimes not accepted in more remote villages. Cash machines can be found in only the larger towns.

Travel to Corsica

Flights

The price of our trips covers the land package only and does not include travel to the island. You will need to book flights which enable you to arrive on Corsica in plenty of time for your holiday, please ask regarding travel options or take a look at our travel page and make sure your trip is confirmed prior to purchasing flight tickets.

- **Air Corsica** (flights from London Stansted, Paris, Toulouse, Marseille, Nice, Lyon, Nantes, etc) www.aircorsica.com
- **Easyjet** (flights from Paris Roissy CDG, Lyon, Geneva, London, Manchester...) www.easyjet.com
- **British Airways** (flights from London Heathrow) www.ba.com

Overland & Sea

There are a number of Overland options including self drive and taking the train, then the ferry. There are ports around Corsica including Ajaccio, Bastia, L'Île Rousse, Propriano and Porto Vecchio with regular ferry services from mainland France & Italy.

- Corsica Linea & La Meridionale operate from Marseille. www.corsicalinea.com & www.lameridionale.fr
- Corsica Ferries operates from Toulon, Nice, Savone, Livorno & Sardinia. www.corsica-ferries.co.uk

Getting about Corsica

There are limited public buses and a good train service for getting travelling around the island. The train runs from Ajaccio via Corte to Bastia, with a branch line at Ponte Leccia for Calvi and the Balagne. Bus services are restricted and even in the summer months don't necessarily offer daily departures. A very comprehensive independent website in French and English Corsica Bus www.corsicabus.org show you the options available. Please ask for information on public transport, taxi and car hire options.

What to bring and pack

Equipment Warning – Please note, there is no opportunity on this trip to buy new equipment. Ensuring you have the right gear is essential for your safety and the enjoyment of your holiday.

Bags

- Small day pack for a water bottle, camera, picnic and waterproof
- Rucksack or suitcase for main luggage (15kg max per person)

For the walking

- Good walking shoes with an excellent grip sole & Walking socks
- Warm fleece, Shorts or trousers, and T shirts
- Swim wear & Microfibre Towel
- Sun and rain protection including sunglasses, Sun hat and sun cream
- Waterproof jacket (hat and gloves optional)
- 2 Walking poles
- Platapus or camel bag (2 litres capacity) or water bottle
- Personal first aid kit with good blister protection
- For your picnics - a good penknife & some plastic bags

Relaxation time

- Trainers or open sandals, Warm Fleece and casual wear

Picnics

Where picnics are not provided, there are grocery stores available to purchase your picnic for the following day. At certain hotels, they can be provided at a supplement. If a pre-booked picnic is important to you, please do not hesitate to ask.

Accommodation

We try to describe our accommodation and their surroundings as accurately as possible. Although every effort is made to ensure the information is correct, some facilities may not be available at certain times of year, or at times when maintenance work is required or events are being held. Check in time is generally accepted as mid afternoon, with check out by 10am, earlier when a transfer involved. Half board is usually on a set menu basis and breakfasts are continental unless otherwise stated. The style and décor of each individual hotel accommodation will inevitably differ across our programmes.

Communication

As mobile phone coverage is sporadic across Corsica due to the mountainous terrain, there could be no coverage in more remote areas. We advise that you check with your operator that your phone is suitable for use overseas. If you are coming from the US, Australasia or Asia, it may be advisable to purchase a local SIM card.

Early & Late season

Towns and villages in Corsica may have limited facilities available at the beginning and end of season. If a destination has a year round local population you are likely to find supermarkets and grocers shops open throughout the season, but more seasonal activities including Restaurants, could be closed outside of the summer months.

Wildlife, Insects & Pests.

Mosquitoes, wasps, ants, and other insects are common in Corsica, and in the heart of the countryside, rodents, cows, goats, foxes and wild pigs are abundant and care should be taken around them, especially with food. There are no dangerous snakes in Corsica.

Bed bugs are becoming an increasing problem throughout the world. About 4mm (1/4 in) long, 2.5mm wide and a brown colour, they are notorious travellers, and holiday makers are the ideal way to spread infestation. Whilst bed bugs do not carry any known diseases, bites can be very uncomfortable and cause painful rashes in some people. Bed bugs can be in the simplest or most luxurious hotels and all hoteliers are well aware of these pests and are extra vigilant in the prevention of an infestation. If you do get bitten, you should assume that your belongings are carrying bugs and/or eggs. Once infested, bed bugs are very difficult to get rid of and on returning from the trek, you should always be aware that your luggage could harbour them. The presence of animals or insects in or near any accommodation is out of our control.

Insurance

Before you embark on this holiday you must be fully insured.

✓ TAILOR YOUR HOLIDAY TO YOUR NEEDS

Our holidays are created to offer the best quality, at the fairest price. They can be tailored to your personal requirements.

We can

- modify the itinerary or difficulty level of the holiday
- increase or shorten the duration of the holiday
- organize extra visits and activities
- benefit from additional transfers
- upgrade accommodation

✓ OUR SERVICES

We offer several services to facilitate the organization of your holiday in Corsica.

- Reservation of hotel nights before or after your walking holiday
- Car rentals & bike hire
- Equipement Rental - sleeping bags, poles and backpacks
- Organization of taxi and train transfers
- Left luggage service

Verified by
VISA
MasterCard.
SecureCode.



✓ INSURANCE

To EU Nationals, we offer a multi-risk insurance with **APRIL** (cancellation, assistance and repatriation) particularly adapted to the practice of hiking. This insurance is optional and must be taken out at the time of reservation, costing 4.00% of the price of the holiday. The insurance covers your package booked through us and will not cover additional parts of your holiday such as flights, etc, not booked separately.

✓ RESERVATIONS

Our site offers secure online bookings, on reservation a deposit of 30% of the total cost of your holiday will be requested. The balance is be paid at the latest 1 month before departure.

Payment can be made by Mastercard or Visa and can also be made by International Bank Transfer.

✓ CORSICA AVENTURE

The team at Corsica Aventure are amongst the most experienced in Corsica, with the proven ability to set up and operate a wide programme of different walking and activity holidays. The company is based in Ajaccio, we have a whole team of guides, drivers and logistics staff on the ground as well as a team of people at the office in Ajaccio ready to help in any eventuality. When you contact us, by phone or e-mail, or visit our office, you will find the help and advice you need, from someone who has actually done the trip and can give you the benefit of their first-hand experience.

Corsica Aventure is a fully licensed Travel Agency registered with the French Government Tourist Board **ATOUT FRANCE**. You can book your holiday with us in complete confidence that all monies you pay for a trip are fully protected.