

# France Island of Corsica Hiking

## Soaring Peaks, Chestnut Forests & Local Traditions

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for downloading this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary and accommodations may be subject to change depending on the specific departure date. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

**We love talking travel!**

Contact us at [info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)

or call **800-974-0300**





# Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

## **Unrivalled Expertise**

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Travel Company by Newsweek Readers' Choice Awards.

## **Unique Trip Design**

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail — the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

## **Small Groups**

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.







## Leading the Way

### World-Class Local Guides

Our knowledgeable and passionate expert guides effortlessly create an immersive local experience for you. They are trained to the highest professional standards and are at the heart of everything we do. They make it possible to meet the challenges of adventure travel, and help create lasting memories and lifelong friendships... we can confidently say our guides are the best in the business.







# Why take this trip with us?

## REASON 1

MT Sobek has been leading adventures in France for over 50 years and this custom-designed trip takes you on an achievable section of the GR20 trail, with nights spent at comfortable hotels.

## REASON 2

In 8 well-paced days, you'll experience Corsica's stunning trails, breathtaking mountains and sandy beaches while also learning about the island's history, culture and urban life.

## REASON 3

Get the inside scoop on one of Europe's best hiking destinations with expert local French Corsican guides, who know the island inside and out.

## At A Glance

### ACTIVITIES

Moderate to challenging hikes, scenic drives, culture tours, and tastings of local delicacies, all the while taking in the island's majestic landscapes.



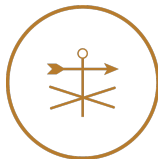
### LODGING

Waterfront hotels, converted historic monasteries, and riverside retreats all feature excellent service, great views, and the full spectrum of amenities.



### CLIMATE

Corsica is dry, Mediterranean, and unshaded. In the mountains it is cool with possible storms.



### KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

*"What a total comfort to know that with MT Sobek, you're in the hands of professionals who have been doing it so long and so well. That was part of why we landed on them as our operators for our dream trip, and everything about the experience they gave us—from tailored expertise to unswerving professionalism—confirmed the company's emphasis on excellence."* - Alex M.





# France Island of Corsica Hiking

## Soaring Peaks, Chestnut Forests & Local Traditions

Join an extraordinary hiking adventure to the Mediterranean island of Corsica — a hiker's paradise. Discover the cliffs and peaks soaring above white-sand beaches, and dazzling vistas from atop those very peaks. Take in the red-granite formations of the Calanches de Piana, lush canyons, chestnut forests, and fabled mountain lakes. Set out from the port town of Porto to the tiny village of Girolata, follow a high-ridge trail, and head down to the coast to laze on sandy beaches. Along the way, enjoy authentic Corsican cuisine and enjoy comfortable accommodations.

### 8 Days

**Start:** Ajaccio, Corsica/France

**End:** Ajaccio, Corsica/France

**Departing:** May, June, September, October

**Activities:** Hiking & Trekking

**Lodging:** Comfortable Hotels

**Group Size:** 4-16 Guests

#### ACTIVITY:



Check [mtsobek.com](https://mtsobek.com) for date-specific pricing.

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*"Corsica is Europe's best-kept secret. It has it all in one space: beaches like Greece, hills like Scotland, rocks like New Zealand. A true gem!"*

- David S.



# The Itinerary

## DAY 01

### Arrive in Ajaccio, Corsica

Start the adventure in Ajaccio, the island's capital, and the birthplace of Napoleon. Transfer from the Ajaccio airport to the hotel, secluded along the untamed coastline. This evening you'll have a briefing, followed by a festive welcome dinner.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Cala di Sole, Ajaccio

**MEALS:** Dinner

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## DAY 02

### Discover the Calanches de Piana

Meet the guides in the morning and transfer to the Calanches de Piana (about 90 minutes by car) for the first hike. Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, these blood red pinnacles soar out of the jagged coastline, creating improbable inlets and shapes. The hiking trail meanders through the red rock, rising high above the plunging cliffs, with jaw-dropping viewpoints over the sea. Transfer to your home for the next three nights, the village of Piana, perched above the Gulf of Porto. Enjoy dinner together this evening.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Les Flots Bleus, Le Lavandou

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2-hour private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 3 hours/5 miles hiking with 1,530' elevation gain & loss

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## DAY 03

### Explore the Aitone Forest

Head into the hills and enter the village of Evisa, perched high above the sea. To the northeast is the beautiful Aitone forest, where you'll follow a beautiful chestnut-tree trail. Chestnuts are an important part of Corsican cuisine, and have been planted in the area for centuries. Pass by a series of small waterfalls and emerald-green natural pools carved from the rock. Enjoy a riverside picnic in the shade of Corsican pines, some of which are over 150' tall, before returning to Piana. Enjoy dinner on your own at one of the restaurants in the village.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Les Flots Bleus, Le Lavandou

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.5-hour private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 3 hours/5 miles hiking with 1,480' elevation gain & 660' elevation loss

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## DAY 04

### Reach the Spectacular Girolata Village

Just north of Porto follow the Mare e Monti path that links the sea to the mountains. Take in the maquis vegetation of heather, boxwood, and Corsican pine, and descend to a secluded beach for a dip and a picnic. Continue along the Sentier du Facteur — "the mailman's path" — the one path a mailman took for 30 years to deliver the mail to the village of Girolata. Marvel at the handful of golden-stone homes huddled on a promontory above the bay. Return to Porto by boat, then transfer back to Piana for the evening.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Les Flots Bleus, Le Lavandou

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2-hour private van transfer & 2.5-hour boat ride

**ACTIVITY:** 2 hours/3 miles hiking with 350' elevation gain & 1,150' elevation loss

## DAY 05

### Hike on the Famous GR20 to Corte

Get an early start and transfer to the Col de Vergio pass (60 minutes by minibus). Tackle the famous GR20 hiking path, the toughest and arguably most spectacular trail in all of Europe. Cover one of its most majestic sections, along switchbacks up to a grassy crestline with dazzling views to the sea below, and to the fairy-tale Lac de Nino Lake surrounded by deep-green grassy bogs with a backdrop of serrated summits. Continue by vehicle through canyon roads to reach the town of Corte, home for the next three nights.



**ACCOMMODATION:** Dominique Colonna, Corte, Corsica

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2-hour private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 5.5-6 hours/12 miles hiking with 2,624' elevation gain & loss

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## Follow the Manganello River to a Shepherd's Hut

Today, begin the hike in the lost village of Canaglia, along the leisurely Mare a Mare route through the center of the island, following alongside the Manganello River. Reach a remote shepherd's hut on a clearing with views of high summits, and savor a picnic lunch featuring local cheeses and charcuterie. Hike back and return to Corte by minivan. Take the time to meander through the streets of the island's historic capital, before having dinner together in the center.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Dominique Colonna, Corte, Corsica

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.5-hour private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 3 hours/6 miles hiking with 985' elevation gain & loss

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## Gorges du Tavignano

Leaving the authentic town of Corte by foot, you enter the remote Tavignano valley, where the town streets immediately give way to remote wilderness. It's a stunning walk, remaining in the Tavignano valley the entire time, and following the Mare a Mare path that crosses the width of Corsica. Reaching the Russulinu footbridge, we enjoy a picnic and a swim in the natural pools before returning along the same path. In the evening we gather in town for a farewell dinner before a third and final night in Corte.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Dominique Colonna, Corte, Corsica

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1-hour private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 4.5 hours/8 miles hiking with 1,150' elevation gain & loss

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## Depart from Ajaccio

Your trip ends after breakfast with a transfer from the hotel to the airport in Ajaccio.

**MEALS:** Breakfast





## Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

### **Cala di Sole**

A waterfront hotel with stunning views of the Gulf of Ajaccio, Cala di Sole has its own private white-sand beach, lined with chairs and umbrellas. A swimming pool, tennis courts, bowling green, and gym help guests stay active. This small family-owned property has friendly staff and simply furnished rooms featuring five-star views of the gulf.

### **Hotel Scandola**

Relax with a glass of wine and breathtaking views of the Gulf of Porto, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The hotel is perched facing the jagged cliffs and sea stacks of the Scandola Nature Reserve. Cocoon yourself in artful rooms and enjoy magical sunset views of the Gulf from your private balcony. Gather at the lively bar with views of the picturesque village of Piana and an enticing wine list.

### **Dominique Colonna**

Blending seamlessly into the surrounding forests and cliffs above, the Dominique Colonna balances elegant, contemporary architecture and accommodations with regional charm. Swim in the gorgeous pool, sip local wines on a patio above a bustling creek, or enjoy a private massage. At the end of the day, unwind in gorgeous rooms, whose wood and stone furnishings echo the natural surroundings.



# Departure Dates

This trip is available to run in: May, June, September, October

**Book early for a greater choice of available dates.**  
Once you book, your price is GUARANTEED!

September 15-22, 2025

October 6-13, 2025

May 18-25, 2026

June 8-15, 2026

September 14-21, 2026

September 28-October 5, 2026



# What's Included

## PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portage

## PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses





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The Adventure Company | Est. 1969

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