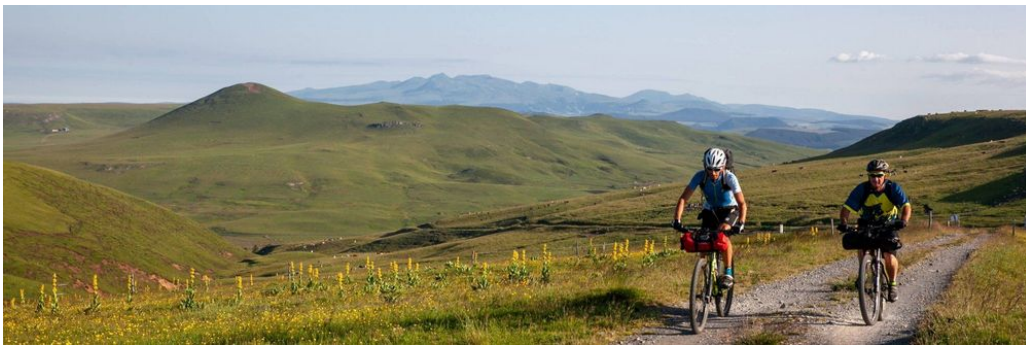


The Great Crossing of the Massif Central by mountain bike Part 1 From Clermont-Ferrand to Laubert or Mende

**6 days – 5 nights including 6 days of mountain biking,
Compatible with electric mountain bikes**

Level: 2/5



The GTMC VTT : The Great Crossing of the Massif Central by mountain bike (La Grande Traversée du Massif Central en VTT). Setting off from Clermont-Ferrand, you cross through an incredible array of landscapes: volcanoes of the Auvergne, the Cézaillier, Margeride and Lozère. The Massif Central is the largest expanse of mountainous 'massif' in France, and is perfectly adapted for mountain biking ! This itinerary takes you on a trip to discover the Puy de Dôme, Puy de Sancy (1886m), Lac Chambon and the Truc de Fortunio, and with a warm welcome from our partners, who are used to accommodating mountain bikers, guaranteed at the end of each stage !

Stages are, on the whole, relatively physical, but always rolling and with climbs.

In the Margeride, you will pedal between 1000 and 1500m of altitude, through beautiful forests, constantly criss-crossing between imposing blocks of granite which stand as witnesses to the early ages.

From the heart of the Auvergne to the Lozère, via the high altitude forests of Margeride, you ride through a perfect mix of climbing tracks and playful descents !

Strengths

- A legendary crossing of a massif perfectly adapted to mountain biking.
- 6 days of self-guided mountain biking without transfers, crossing the volcanoes of the Auvergne, the Cézaillier, Margeride and Lozère.
- Saint-Flour, town of art and history. Compatible with electric mountain bikes.

SCHEDULE

Day 1: From Clermont-Ferrand to Laschamps : 42 km - Elevation: + 1320 m

It's the departure of your Great Crossing of the Massif Central ! You set off from Clermont-Ferrand, heading north towards Volvic, which you reach after a few challenging climbs. You gain altitude to discover the chain of Puys and all of its famous volcanoes. Be careful, the Puy de Dôme (1464m) is watching you!

Riding along beautiful and lively paths, you climb a little more, crossing through some pretty villages.

From Vauriat, staying under the gaze of the impressive Puy de Dôme, you pass between undergrowth and small single-tracks, before descending the slope towards Laschamps, for a first and well-deserved rest.

Night in Laschamps.

Double room

Day 2: From Laschamps to Besse : 55 km - Elevation: + 1400 m

Along superb trails, you slalom between the Puy Pelat, Mercoeur, Montellet and Pourcharet, before arriving at Recoleine and descending towards Orcival, a very pretty, well-known village with a Roman basilica.

You arrive in the Massif du Sancy.

The next part of stage offers a climb along a path up to the Lac de Servières, the highest point of the stage (1212m), which merits a break. You then relaunch yourself along some lively tracks, through the forest, to reach Pessade. A succession of demanding climbs leads you to a beautiful descent towards the Lac Chambon, where a quick swim shouldn't be missed! After that, a new climb along tracks leads you to the medieval village of Besse where you will be transported back in history.

Night in Besse.

Double room

Day 3: From Besse to Allanche : 56 km - Elevation: + 1110 m

Setting off from Besse, we enter the Cézaillier, passing by the Lac and Puy de Montcineyre. Here, on the great plateaus, we can see the Puy de Sancy, the highest peak of the Massif Central (1886m).

After Jassy, you take on the standard ascension of the Col de Fortunier, switching between roads and tracks which offer you a magnificent view over the peaks of Sancy and Cantal.

From there on, only happiness ! A long and technical descent, fast and playful, takes you into the department of Cantal and to Allanche.

Night in Allanche.

Double room

Day 4: From Allanche to Saint-Flour : 47 km - Elevation: + 845 m

Today, the stage with the lowest altitude gains of the trip, takes you initially through the woods of Pinatelle towards Chalinargues. You descend first along a trail and then a single-track to quickly arrive at Neussargues.

The next part of the stage is much less shady as you leave the forests to experience beautiful farmland, rich in history, where you can discover numerous dolmens and chateaux. You then cross the Planèze, an ancient place much-loved by the builders of megaliths, before arriving in Saint-Flour, city of art and history with 15 centuries of architecture to discover.

Night in Saint-Flour.

Double room

Day 5: From Saint-Flour to Chanaleilles : 61 km - Elevation: + 1600 m

Stage 5 takes you into the Margeride. The first part takes you through various hamlets and rivers to arrive in Ruynes, at the foot of the massif of Margeride.

Via a physically demanding climb through the forest, you gain altitude and find yourself at more the 1400m!

Along a ridge top path you cross through a high point of the French Resistance.

From Mont Mouchet, you gain speed as you head downhill and arrive in Paulhac, entering the department of the Haute-Loire. A fairly standard but physical climb along a forest track takes you to 1400m altitude before a pleasant descent towards Chanaleilles. Night in Chanaleilles.

Double room

Day 6 : From Chanaleilles à Laubert to à Mende : 57 km – Elevation: + 1050 m

Laubert : 57km Profile : +1050m

Mende : 65km Profile : +1135m -1545m

For this final stage, you continue your crossing of the Margeride, taking the famous trail of Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle for a few kilometres of climbing in order to reach a plateau at 1400m of altitude, offering you several beautiful viewpoints of the surroundings, in the heart of the Margeride nature. Along beautiful forest tracks, then some technical paths from the Col des Trois Soeurs, you descend towards the typical village of Giraldès.

Passing along a track, the route takes you up to the Truc de Fortunio, where you will pass above 1500m altitude before a great single-track descent towards the Lac de Charpal. In the heart of the Lozère, the final part of the stage takes you to Laubert, via a succession of descents, with Mont Lozère in sight.

End of trip in Laubert or Mende.

TRAVEL CONDITIONS

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RATES

Freedom package with luggage transfer by cab - double room

Registration for 2 people	795€
Registration for 3 people	740€
Registration for 4 people	650€
Registration for 6 people	580€

Formula with qualified instructor and luggage carrying by taxi

Registration for 6 people	895€
Registration for 8 people	795€

Freedom formula with assistance vehicle

Registration for 6 people	1090€
Registration for 8 people	950€

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GENERAL INFORMATION

How to subscribe ? :

No, no automatic forms!

At LaRébenne, we prefer to keep in touch with our travelers. We like to talk to you about our travels, and we want to maintain this relationship with you. Exchange, sharing and pleasure remain our ambition for LaRébenne travels.

Don't hesitate to contact us directly to talk about hiking or biking.

contact@larebenne.com

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Registration, deposit and validation

Once you've chosen your trip, it's quick and easy to register!

* Either go directly to your tour's page on our website and click on registration.

* Or we can work with you to create a tailor-made tour, and send you a personalized link to your registration form.

The registration is effective when we receive your registration form with your acceptance of the general terms and conditions of sale, accompanied by the deposit of 30% of the tour price. You will then receive an acknowledgement of receipt of your registration.

100% secure payment
You can pay by credit card (faster) or bank transfer.


Payment of balance

The balance must be paid one month before the departure date. You will find your invoice on your My LaRébenne space, as well as a payment link to the balance of your stay.

Invitation to depart

On receipt of payment of the balance, your travel diary will be available in your customer area on My LaRébenne, where you will find all the information you need for your trip, as well as your invoice.

Insurance :

In accordance with regulations, each participant in a LaRébenne trip must hold individual civil liability as well as individual multi-risk cover to protect themselves against incidents or accidents that may occur before or during the tour or bike trip.

Assistance mainly covers search and rescue, repatriation and medical expenses. It comes into play as soon as a medical report makes it possible to decide on repatriation. Repatriation, known as "premature return", can also be arranged for reasons other than the insured's own, such as the death of a family member (see cases in the insurance booklet). Beforehand, in regions far from medical facilities and difficult to access, you must agree to the organization of first aid using local resources (4X4, porters, horses, etc.).

This contract also covers loss, theft or delayed delivery of baggage, as well as interruption of stay.

The insurance protects against the financial risk of cancellation. It is very important to have this type of insurance in case of cancellation due to a health problem or for professional reasons.

We suggest you take out one of the five policies we have selected, bearing in mind that we only act as an intermediary between you and the insurer. Any additional insurance is invoiced per person and must be taken out on the day of booking:

- "Multirisque" contract (4.5%), minimum premium 15 euros:
Repatriation assistance + tour interruption + luggage + cancellation.

[See the complete contract](#)

- "Cancellation" contract (2.5%), minimum premium 10 euros:
Cancellation only.

[See the complete contract](#)

- "Repatriation assistance" contract (1.6%), minimum premium of 10 euros:
Repatriation assistance + tour interruption + luggage.

[See the complete contract](#)

As far as "civil liability abroad" is concerned, only French residents are covered.