

FROM PORTUGAL TO SPAIN

From Faro to Seville



Nice bike tour which starts in Portugal and finishes in Spain. This tour is the meeting point of the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, the two regions that have been covered by many different cultures throughout history and prehistory. Flamenco in Andalusia, Fados in Portugal. You will discover the best of each country. The route combines trails in nature protection areas with linking stretches on traffic calmed.

PROGRAMME

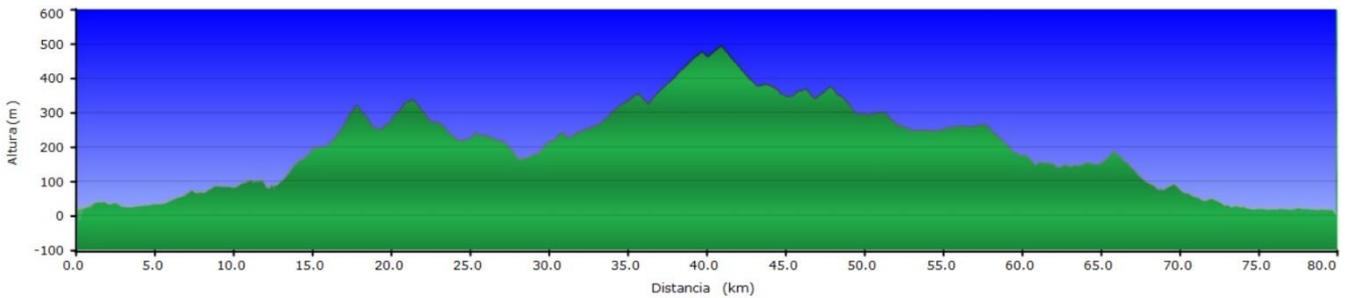
Day 1. Arrival to Faro

Arrival at Lisbon airport and transfer to Faro. If we have time, we will do a circular tour around Faro.

Faro is the capital city of the Algarve, the central area of Faro is really quite compact. An impressive archway leads into the old town, where you will discover cobbled streets, with interesting shops and cafés. An impressive square lined with orange trees is home to a small cathedral; it was built on the site of a mosque and merits a visit to see the beautiful tiles and gilt carved wood inside. If something a little more macabre takes your fancy, Faro is also home to a 'Church of Bones', where a whole wall is decorated with skeletons. There is a pedestrianised area, with lots of boutique shops and traditional Portuguese restaurants, and you can have a nightcap on the edge of the small marina, where you can watch the world go by in what is an extremely laid back city.

Day 2. Faro to Tavira

Distance road bike: 80km



Our journey will take us on a fabulous ascent through pine forests and through more sleepy hillside villages before we reach the interesting town of Estoi. Then we will continue passing through the quaint village of Alportel, we will enjoy a challenging ascent to Barranco de Velho. This is the Caldeirão mountain range, which forms a significant border between the Algarve and the Alentejo. Then, we will follow the river South towards the Barrocal region, referred to as 'the orchard of the Algarve', with its many colourful spring flowers and fruit trees, and whitewashed houses, with laced chimneys. Arrival at Tavira.

Day 3. Tavira - Vila Real de Santo Antonio

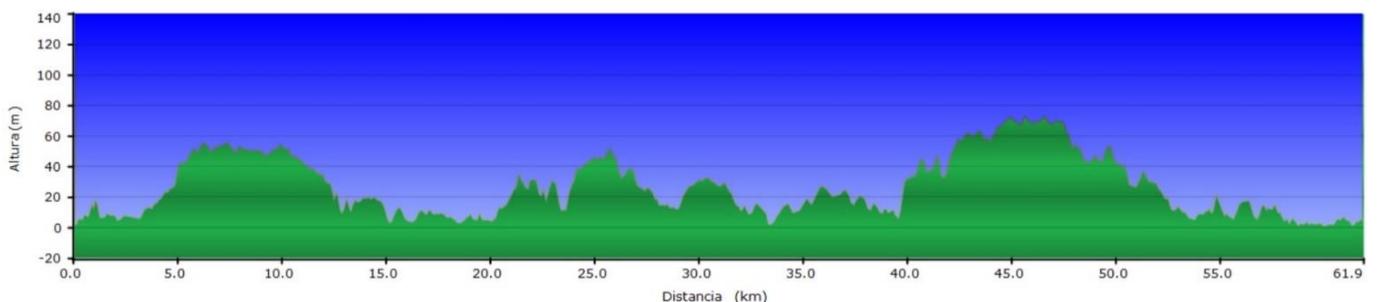
Distance road bike: 62km



We will start cycling through the river valley towards the Coast and the picturesque village of Caçela Velha, a tiny whitewashed village set on a hill overlooking the lagoon with a little church and the remains of an 18th century fort. We will certainly want to linger here to take in the view. Heading towards the sparkling waters of the Beliche reservoir, it won't be long before we are cycling through typical Algarve 'lost villages', amidst the stunning mountain scenery that forms the Serra de Tavira. The route takes we back inland a little where we will enjoy some quiet country lanes, avoiding the busy roads that hug the coast, before turning South once more towards Vila Real de Santo Antonio.

Day 3. Vila Real de Santo Antonio – Ayamonte – Huelva

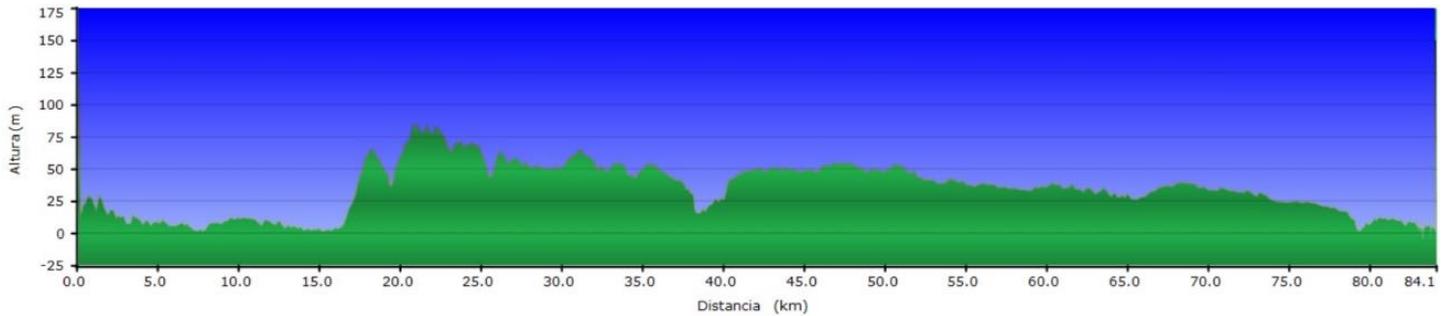
Distance road bike: 62km



In the morning, we have to take the ferry from Portugal (with the bikes), to pass the border and enter in Spain. From Ayamonte to Islantilla we are going to take nice roads which enter to a marshes area that connects the inland with the sea. Once in Islantilla, we will take secondary and nice roads to arrive to Huelva

Day 4. Huelva – El Rocio

Distance road bike: 84km



We will start crossing crops and villages to arrive to Moguer and we will enter to the area of Parque de Doñana, one of the biggest Natural reserves of Spain. We are going to cycle parallel de long beach of the this natural park crossing it before our arrival at El Rocio. El Rocio is a beautiful little village which sits in the heart of the Donana park - an important wet-land reserve. El Rocio has white cottages, sandy unpaved roads and a kind of 'Spanish wild-west' feel about it. Lots of people get around on horseback and there is a special rail for tying your horse to whilst you stop for lunch etc.

Day 5. El Rocio – Sevilla

Distance road bike: 93km



Today, we will follow secondary roads who connects with some parts of the path of the pilgrims. Feel the true spirit of El Rocío, the most famus pilmigrage in Andalusia which dates from 1653. The pilgrimage begins with a walk through the ancient footpaths that converge around the River Guadalquivir. Before arriving to the village, we will take a nice secondary road calle “the strawberry road”. Arrival to Sevilla.

Day 6. Sevilla

Bike tour around Sevilla, looking the highlights in the morning. Free lunch and free time at the afternoon. Farewell dinner.

Day 7. Departure

Transfer from Seville to the airport.

ACCOMMODATION*

Faro Boutique Hotel***

Faro

www.faroboutiquehotel.pt/faro-boutique-hotel

Vila Gale Tavira Hotel****

Tavira

www.vilagale.com/es/hoteles/algarve/vila-gale-tavira

Hotel Apolo***

Vila Real de Santo Antonio

www.apolo-hotel.com

NH Luz Huelva****

Huelva

www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-luz-huelva?gmb=new

Hotel La Malvasía***

El Rocío

www.hotellamalvasia.com

Hotel Alcazar* (2 nights)**

Sevilla

www.hotelalcazar.com

*The hotels can change depending on the availability

BIKE INFORMATION

Our bikes are all fully equipped with pannier rack, pannier bag, lock, inner tube, pump, toolkit and counter kilometres.

Road Bike: 240€



PRICE

From 8 to 12 bikers: 1.575€ per person double room

From 13 to 22 bikers: 1.425€ per person double room

Supplement single room: 245€ per person

Rental Road bike: 240€

Picnic price: 9€ per picnic

Transfer from Seville to Madrid (500km): 600€ for the group

The price includes:

- Transfer from Lisbon or Faro airport to the hotel the first day and from Seville to airport or train station the last day.
- 1 guide for road biking (1 guide for 12 bikers, 2 guides up to 13 bikers)
- 1 supporting van
- 7 nights accommodation and breakfast
- 7 nightly meals with wine and water
- 1 picnic (the first day if you cycle or another day if you cannot cycle the 1st day)
- Ferry from Vila Real de Santo Antonio to Ayamonte
- Bananas, water and energetic bars during the trail
- The transport of belongings between overnight stays

The price does not include:

- Picnics
- Rental bikes
- Flights
- Extra drinks