

Etape du Tour 2012 by Ronan Pensec Travel

Friday July 6th to Monday July 9th 2012

4 days and 3 nights - with transfers

in 3* & 4* hotel/residence close to departure and finish locations

Following the success of the 2011 editions, ASO and Mondovelo chose to organize again next year two Etapes du Tour. You will be spoiled for choice, as the two acts will cover great stages. The first one will welcome you in the Alps.

ALBERTVILLE / LA TOUSSUIRE-LES SYBELLES (140 km)



Col de la Madeleine: 6.2 %, 25.3 km, 2000 meters,
Col de la Croix de Fer : 6.9 %, 22.4 km, 2067 meters
Col du Mollard: 6.8%, 5.7km, 1638 meters
Col de La Toussuire: 6.1%, 18 km, 1705 meters

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Agrément tourisme n°029030003

With this program, we offer you to spend 2 nights near Albertville in a 3* hotel and 1 night in La Toussuire in a 4* residence on half-board basis (bed and breakfast with dinner - wine and water included).

You will be one of the privileged riders who will be provided with accommodation near both the start and the finish. Albertville is a small town of about 18.000 inhabitants and only 5 hotels; unfortunately not enough to lodge 8.000 riders.

For the first 2 nights, we booked a hotel in Faverges (20 km, 12 miles from Albertville) where the start will be given and the village will be hosted.

After the race, you will be staying in a different 4* residence very close to the finish line. This will spare you the hassle of a bus transfer back to your start hotel. By the time many participants get on their bus, you'll have already showered and will be celebrating your performance.

The highlights of this package:

- Included in this program is the airport shuttle (on day 1 and 4) from/to Geneva airport as well as the transfer of your personal items from the start to the finish.
- At the start, our hotels are located in the town of Faverges (20 km - 12 miles from Albertville).
- At the finish, you will be one of the few privileged ones who will be able to ride from the finish line to your residence. While the other competitors wait for their transfer back, you will be able to take it easy/cool down!
- On the day before the race, we will accompany you by bus to the village where you will pick up your bib number and visit the different stands. In the afternoon, we will pick up your bikes to bring them to a secured location close to the starting line where they will be stored overnight.
- Bike storage near the start for the Saturday night.
- We will take care, on the morning of the Etape, of the transfer of your personal items between the two locations.

YOUR TRAVEL:

Please arrange your own flights into Geneva airport.

The following airlines operate direct regular flights into Geneva airport: (www.gva.ch/en)

- Air France (www.airfrance.com) London
- Air Canada (www.aircanada.com) Montreal
- Aer Lingus (<http://www.aerlingus.com>) Dublin
- Easyjet (www.easyjet.com) Edinburgh, Manchester, Liverpool, Bristol, London
- Swiss Air (www.swiss.com) London
- United Airways (www.united.com) London, USA
- British Airways (www.britishairways.com) London
- BMI Baby (www.bmibaby.com) East Midlands

Flights are going to be in very high demand and there will be limited space for bikes on each flight. We recommend booking early in order to secure your seat and get the best fares. Don't forget to secure, at time of your booking the spot for your bike on the flight.

Your guides will meet you at the airport and will accompany you on the ride to your hotel.

There will be several bus transfers, scheduled to leave around Noon and 4pm. However, the exact transfer times will be determined once we have the flight information of our guests.

Please note that any participant arriving after 5pm will have to organize his own transfer to the hotel.

If you prefer to drive, you are free to meet the group directly at the hotel (in that case, please refer to our "self drive" program).

Friday, July 6th: Day 1

Group: Arrival at Geneva airport

Hotel: BW Le Florimont in Faverges

Bus transfer: *(see above):*

Geneva airport – Faverges: 69km, 43 miles (1 hour 09 min)

Our staff will welcome you at the airport and will stay with you throughout your entire stay with us.

We booked the hotel BW Le Florimont (<http://www.hotelflorimont.com/>) on half board basis (water and wine included). The hotel's dynamic team will welcome you into a warm and comfortable atmosphere

After you've checked in, you will be free to make any final adjustment on your bike and become familiar and acclimated with the area. You may also have the time to start warming-up for the big day or relax at the hotel.



On the evening, you will have your first dinner with the group and enjoy local wines and traditional dishes.

Saturday, July 7th: Day 2

Group: Day off / Visit of the village

Hotel: 3* hotel Best Western Le Florimont in Faverges

You will start the day with a plentiful breakfast with menu options that will help fuel you up for this last preparation day.

After breakfast, our bus will bring you to the Etape du Tour village with its bicycle exhibition, where all the major European manufacturers will be present. This is also where you will sign for and pick up your race number. Although, the distance between your hotel and the village can easily be cycled, our bus will come to pick you up at your hotel to drop you off in Albertville. If you feel like riding from your hotel to the village, you are of course welcome to do so!

The afternoon will be off: you will have time to go for an easy ride.

To ease the stress tomorrow morning, we have booked a secured storage facility close to Albertville (9km-5.6 miles from Albertville) where the bikes will be kept overnight. Between 4pm and 5pm, our staff will come to your hotel to pick up your bike as well as bike case and bring it there. Tomorrow morning, you will collect your bike from this site and ride the last kilometres to the starting line.

On the last evening before the race, you will relax over a dinner especially prepared to give you all the energy that you will need for the upcoming challenge.

Sunday, July 8th: Day 3

Group: D-day, the Etape du Tour

Hotel: 4* residence in La Toussuire

Today is the day! This is your opportunity to live up to the same challenge as the professionals.

The race's start time is 7.00am but you will be required to be on the starting line by 6:30am.

After an early breakfast, our bus will be waiting in front of your hotel to bring you to the start.

You will be dropped off at the bike storage facility in order to get your bike. From there, you'll be able to ride the last kilometres to the starting line. This will serve as an early and necessary warm up. If you feel up to riding the entire distance from the hotel to the start, you are of course free to do so. Here you'll take your place among the thousands of other competitors who came from all over the world to compete in this great cycling event.

This morning, by the time you'll leave the hotel, our staff will come and pick up your luggage in order to bring it to your next stop in La Toussuire. Please make sure that you have all your bags ready and tagged with your name.



There will be several feeding/drink stations set up during the race. However, due the high number of participants, we highly recommend you bringing your own supply (water, gel, energy bars...).

The ideal location of your residence in La Toussuire will enable you to ride directly to the hotel after the race. One of our staff members will be at the finish line to show you the direction to your residence. At the residence, you will be able to relax, re-hydrate and share your impressions before gathering with your group to celebrate your glorious ride.

For your information, the participants booking a double or a twin room will be accommodated in private apartments, while those booking a single room will share bigger units offering 2 separate rooms and bathrooms.

The residence offers the following amenities: covered pool, sauna, hammam, Wi-Fi, laundry-room...

The dinner will be served in a close by restaurant.



Before going to bed, you will be asked to pack your luggage and your bike in its case in order to facilitate the airport transfer in the morning!

Monday, July 9th: Day 4

Group: Transfer to Geneva airport

This morning's breakfast will be enjoyed with a great sense of accomplishment. You deserve to feel proud and we hope that you will be encouraged to participate again in the future. An event like this is also an opportunity to make new friends, and this morning will be your last chance to say goodbye and perhaps exchange email addresses, before you take the coach to the airport.

You'll leave La Toussuire and return to Geneva airport.

We will operate 2 airport transfers:

Hotel to Geneva – Departing at 8am, arriving at 10:15am

Hotel to Geneva – Departing at 11am, arriving at 12:15pm



RATES:

- Etape du Tour 4 days / 3 nights with 3* Hotel near Albertville and 4* residence in La Toussuire (Room sharing in twin or double):**Euros 620(1)**
- Etape du Tour 4 days / 3 nights with 3* Hotel near Albertville and 4* residence in La Toussuire (Single room):**Euros 700**
- Etape du Tour 4 days / 3 nights with 3* Hotel near Albertville and 4* residence in La Toussuire – non competitor:**Euros 500**

The entry to the Etape is not included in this program. From November 17th on, you will be able to buy it separately on the official Etape du Tour website at <http://www.letapedutour.com/>.

In order to secure your package, a deposit of 40% will be required at time of registration, the balance will then be due between May 15th and 31st, 2012.

THE PRICE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation for 2 nights in a three-star hotel at the start and 1 night in a three-star hotel at the finish: rooms with private bathroom including toilets, a tub and / or a shower.
- 3 Breakfasts, and 3 dinners, drinks (wine and water) included.
- Transfer from Geneva airport to your hotel on the first day, and transfer from your hotel in La Toussuire to Geneva on the last day in a private coach, transfer of your personal items from the start to the finish.
- Box trailer / van for the safekeeping and transport of your bike in your bike bags/ boxes.
- Bike storage facility close to the start.
- Ronan Pensec Travel Welcome Package.
- Local taxes
- Services of our guide.

THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Entry to the Etape (2)
- Lunches.
- Personal hotel expenses, mini bar, telephone, room service.
- Travel and personal insurance.
- Airfare

Regarding the bike transfer service from the UK, please contact us directly at info@ronanpensectravel.com

(1) Please note that if you are travelling by yourself but are willing to share your room with another single participant, we will do our best to find you a roommate. Should we not be in a position to do so and you end up therefore staying in a room by yourself, we will have to charge you the single room rate.

(2) The entry is not included in this program, and has to be purchased separately. If you have not been able to buy it from ASO, we can secure it for you. Don't hesitate to ask us.

OPTION: This year's first Etape du Tour will take place only 4 days before the arrival of the Tour de France pros in the Alps.

This will be a good opportunity to combine the challenge of riding the Etape with the viewing of some of the most important stages of the Tour de France: a nice reward for all the efforts put in during these past months!

If you have always dreamed of not only seeing the Tour de France, but also riding the same stages ahead of the pros, we can help you create a Tour de France experience that can't be equalled.

Ronan Pensec, with his 13 years of professional racing, and 25 years of experience with the Tour de France, has designed a variety of tour programs to choose from. We have programs combining the two acts of the Etape du Tour with the Alps stages, or the Act II with the last week of the Tour de France.

This is a perfect opportunity to enhance your Tour de France experience. Don't miss it.

For more information, please contact us at info@ronanpensectravel.com.

