

## Etape du Tour 2012 by Ronan Pensec Travel

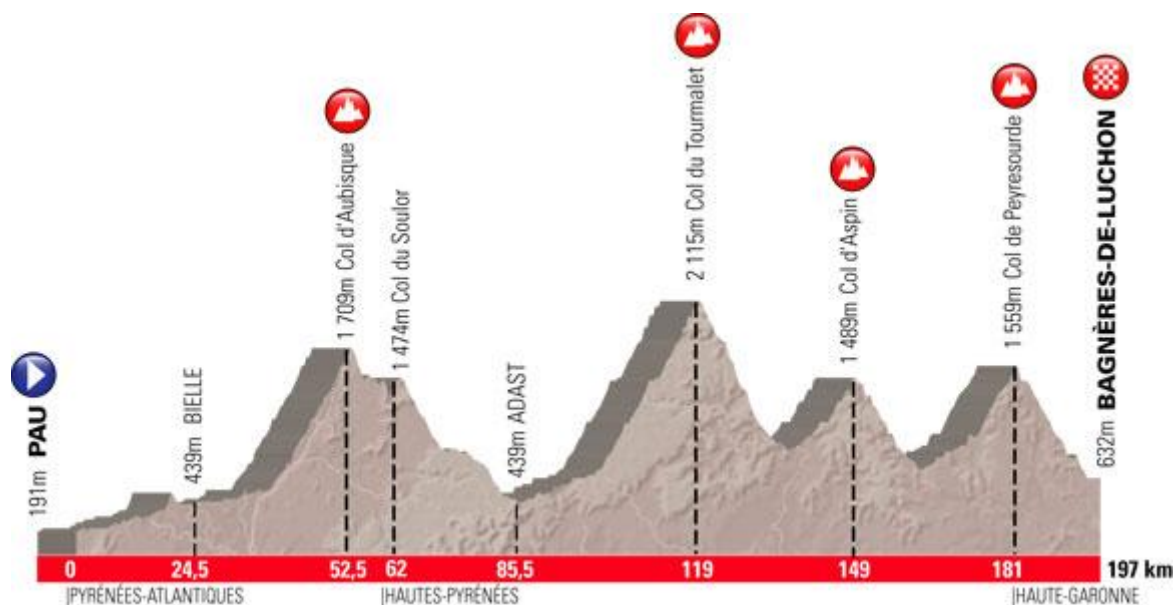
Thursday July 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday July 15<sup>th</sup> 2012

4 days and 3 nights - with transfers

in 3\* hotels right at the start and finish

For the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Act, the organizers chose a start town very well familiar with the Tour de France and the Etape du Tour: Pau. This Act will be a “royal journey” for those who will dare attacking the mythical Pyrenean climbs on this almost 200 km long stage.

### PAU / BAGNERES DE LUCHON (197 km)



**Col d'Aubisque:** 7.1 %, 16.4 km, 1709 meters

**Col du Tourmalet :** 7.4 %, 19 km, 2115 meters

**Col d'Aspin:** 4.8 %, 12.4 km, 1489 meters

**Col de Peyresourde:** 6.7 %, 9.5 km, 1559 meters

#### **Ronan Pensec Travel**

Zone Commerciale Maner Ker Elo – 29170 Fouesnant  
Tél : 02 98 51 15 96 - E-mail : [info@ronanpensectravel.com](mailto:info@ronanpensectravel.com)  
SIRET 38316172600021 – FR 76 38316172600039 – APE 926C  
Agrément tourisme n°029030003

You will be one of the privileged riders who will be provided with accommodation right at the start and the finish. 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.

With this program, we offer you to spend 2 nights in the Pau center in the **3\* Hôtel Montpensier**, an elegant habitation with past charm and character (<http://www.hotel-montpensier-pau.com/>).

Since 1930, Pau has become a mainstay of the Tour de France cycling race, thanks both to its geographical location and to its marvelous infrastructure. Pau hosted its 63rd stage in 2010, and only one other city besides Paris has done better. Next year, it will welcome for the 64<sup>th</sup> time the Tour de France and for the 7<sup>th</sup> time the Etape du Tour.

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> night in Bagnères de Luchon, we have booked rooms in the **3\* hotel Majestic**, located 300 meters from the town center. (<http://www.hotelmajestic-luchon.com/>)

Bagnères-de-Luchon also referred to as Luchon, is a spa town in the Haute-Garonnecounty in Southwestern France. Bagnères-de-Luchon is celebrated for its thermal springs. The Tour de France route often passes through Luchon, due to its location deep between two cols.

Both hotels have been reserved on half-board (bed and breakfast with dinner - wine and water included).

### **The highlights of this package:**

- Included in this program is the airport shuttle (on day 1 and 4) from/to Toulouse airport as well as the transfer of your personal items from the start to the finish.
- You will be staying right in the start town and will not have to get up in the middle of the night to get to the starting line. Quite to the contrary, you'll be able to reach it from your hotel in a couple of minutes!
- On the day before the race, you will be able to ride or walk to the village where you will pick up your bib number and visit the different stands.
- We will take care, on the morning of the Etape, of the transfer of your personal items between the two locations.
- At the finish, you will be one of the few privileged ones who will be able to ride from the finish line to your hotel. While the other competitors wait for their transfer back, you will be able to take it easy!
- Service of our staff.

## YOUR TRAVEL:

Please arrange your own flights into Toulouse airport.

The following airlines operate direct regular flights into Toulouse airport:  
(<http://www.toulouse.aeroport.fr/>)

- Air France ([www.airfrance.com](http://www.airfrance.com)) London, Paris
- Aer Lingus (<http://www.aerlingus.com>) Dublin
- Easyjet ([www.easyjet.com](http://www.easyjet.com)) Bristol, London, Paris
- British Airways ([www.britishairways.com](http://www.britishairways.com)) London
- KLM ([www.klm.com](http://www.klm.com)) Amsterdam
- Lufthansa ([www.lufthansa.com](http://www.lufthansa.com)), Frankfurt

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.

## Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>: Day 1

Meeting at Toulouse airport

Toulouse airport – Pau: 195km, 122 miles (1 hour 57 min)

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

We booked the 3\* hotel Montpensier on half board basis (water and wine included) for the first 2 nights.

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.



Pau

## Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup>: Day 2

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, if you have not done so already, you will need to pick up your bib number at the village. You'll be free to do so at your convenience. The village is also where all the major European manufacturers will be present.

The afternoon will be off: you will have time to go for an easy ride and scout the first miles of the Etape du Tour: a nice way to get your legs primed for the ultimate day.

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.

## Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>: Day 3

D-day, the Etape du Tour

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

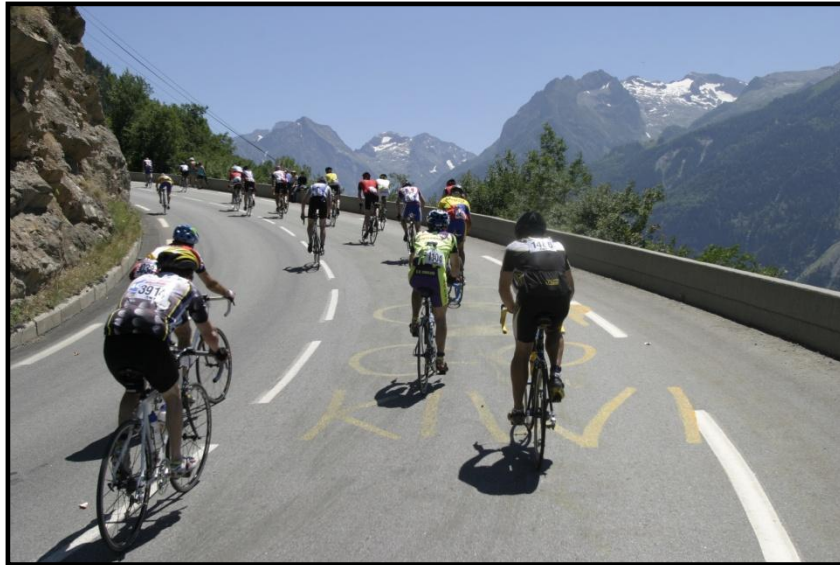
The race's start time is 7.00am but you will be required to be on the starting line by 6:30am. After an early breakfast, the ride to the starting line will help you warm up.

Before you leave the hotel, our staff will stop by and pick up your luggage in order to bring it to your next stop in Bagnères de Luchon. 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 hotel in Luchon will enable you to ride directly to the hotel after the race. Or you can make a stop first at the village and wait for your friends. At the hotel, you will be able to relax, re-hydrate and share your impressions before gathering with your group to celebrate the day. The dinner will be served at the hotel's restaurant.



### Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>: Day 4

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 the next year. 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 the hotel in Bagnères de Luchon and return to Toulouse airport:

Bagnères de Luchon-Toulouse: 146 km (91 miles), 1 hour 50 min

We will operate 2 airport transfers:

Hotel to Toulouse – Departing at 8am, arriving at 9:50am

Hotel to Toulouse – Departing at 11am, arriving at 12:50pm

## RATES:

- Etape du Tour 4 days / 3 nights with 3\* Hotel in Pau and 3\* Hotel in Bagnères de Luchon (Room sharing in twin or double): **Euros 635(1)**
- Etape du Tour 4 days / 3 nights with 3\* Hotel in Pau and 3\* Hotel in Bagnères de Luchon (Single room):**Euros 785**
- Etape du Tour 4 days / 3 nights with 3\* Hotel in Pau and 3\* Hotel in Bagnères de Luchon – non competitor: **Euros 490**

The entry to the Etape is not included in this program. You can buy 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 15<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

## THE PRICE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation for 2 nights in three-star hotel in Pau and 1 night in three-star hotel in Bagnères de Luchon: rooms with private bathroom including toilets, a tub and / or a shower.
- 3 Breakfasts, and 3 dinners, drinks (wine and water) included.
- Transfer from Toulouse airport to your hotel on the first day, and transfer from your hotel in Bagnères de Luchon to Toulouse 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.
- Ronan Pensec Travel Welcome Package.
- Local taxes
- Services of our guide.

## THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

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

**(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.

In December, we will email the official application form as well as guidelines on how to fill it out. Each participant to the Etape du Tour is required to provide a medical certificate from his/her physician stating that he/she is in good physical condition and he/she can take part in a cycling competition. We will need to receive this application form/medical certificate no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

**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](mailto:info@ronanpensectravel.com).

