

## Etape du Tour 2012 by Ronan Pensec Travel

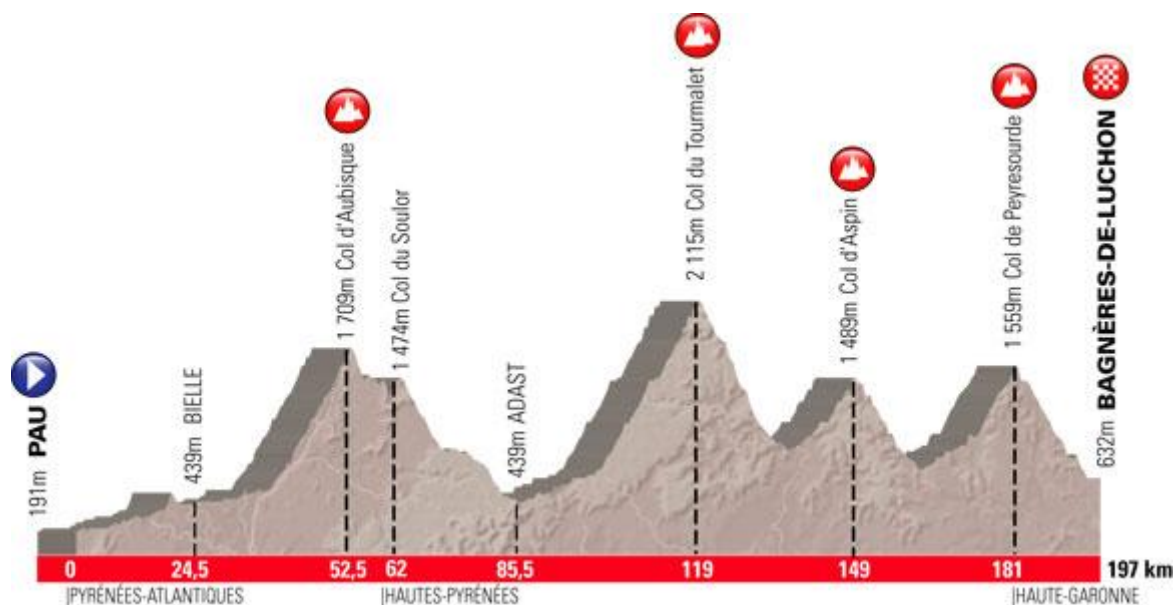
Thursday July 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday July 15<sup>th</sup> 2012

4 days and 3 nights - with transfers

in a 2\* hotel in Pau

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**

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You will be one of the privileged riders who will be provided with accommodation right at the start. 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 3 nights in Pau in the 2\* **Hôtel Kyriad Lons**, a hotel with all necessary amenities for leisure (<http://www.kyriad-pau-nord-lons.fr/fr/index.aspx>). The hotel staff will do everything to make you feel at home.

The hotel has been reserved on half-board on Day 1 and Day 2 (bed and breakfast with dinner - wine and water included).

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.

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

- Included in this program is the airport shuttle (on day 1 and day 4) from/to Toulouse airport as well as the transfer of your personal items to the finish on the day of the Etape (day 3).
- 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! Same is valid for the visit of the village.
- You will be staying 3 nights in the same hotel at Pau, no need to move from one place to the other! The hotel we reserved is 2\* Kyriad hotel.
- After the race, you will meet our staff and cool down with a drink and a good serving of pasta! You'll be able to take a shower and put some fresh clothes on before returning to your hotel by bus.

## 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.

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).

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

Group: Meeting at Toulouse airport

Hotel: Kyriad in Pau Lons

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 2\* **Hôtel Kyriad Lons**, for 3 nights (on Day 1 and Day 2 on half-board - bed and breakfast with dinner - wine and water included).

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

Group: Day off

Hotel: Kyriad in Pau Lons

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

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 it 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

Group: D-day, the Etape du Tour

Hotel: Kyriad in Pau Lons

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 back pack with your personal items 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...).

After you have crossed the finish line, one of our staff members will be at the finish line to show you the direction to our meeting point. Our staff will be waiting for you there and will have cold drinks and a pasta party ready for you! You'll be also able to take a shower and put on some fresh clothes before going back to Pau in the late afternoon.



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

Group: Transfer to Toulouse 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 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 airport: 146 km (91 miles), 1hour 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 2\* Hotel in Pau (Room sharing in twin or double): **Euros 550(1)**
- Etape du Tour 4 days / 3 nights with 2\* Hotel in Pau (Single room): **Euros 640**
- Etape du Tour 4 days / 3 nights with 2\* Hotel in Pau and – non competitor: **Euros 460**

The entry to the Etape is not included in this program. From November 17<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

## THE PRICE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation for 3 nights in two-star hotel in Pau: rooms with private bathroom including toilets, a tub and / or a shower.
- 3 Breakfasts, and 2 dinners (Day 1 and Day 2), drinks (wine and water) included.
- Transfer from Toulouse airport to your hotel on the first day, and transfer from your hotel to Toulouse on the last day in a private coach,
- Transfer of your personal items to the meeting point close to the finish and transfer back to the hotel after the Etape.
- Drinks, pasta party and showers available close 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.
- Dinner on Day 3
- 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.

**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).

