

FRANCHE-COMTÉ



GOURMET TRIP THROUGH THE FRANCHE-COMTE

The natural wealth of Franche-Comté is in no way inferior to its cultural wealth. Two sights were even worthy of inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List. The magnificent city of Besançon, surrounded by fortifications, lies in a loop of the Doubs. The genius of this military architect is also evident in the citadel of Besançon (UNESCO World Heritage Site). Many small towns in the Comté are home to rich historical treasures. But it's really the unspoiled nature and magnificent river landscapes of the Saône and Doubs that you come for. Every day is rounded off with a culinary highlight!

LEVEL



KM

214

DURATION

7 Days
6 Nights

TRAVEL DATES

04.05 - 10.05.2025
03.08 - 09.08.2025

Day 1

Arrival at our hotel in the heart of Franche-Comté. Time to enjoy the beautiful hotel grounds and then it's already time for the welcome drink and the first dinner. Pure pleasure.

Day 2 Besançon - Baume-les-Dames 41 km

Transfer to Besançon, the former capital of the free county of Burgundy, Franche-Comté. We stroll along the Grande Rue at the foot of the mighty fortress (UNESCO World Heritage Site) and then visit the citadel.



From here, today's route leads through the green Doubs valley. The design of the church towers has always been very important in this part of Franche-Comté and characterize the town centers. The river winds beautifully and after each loop, another magnificent view opens up. Baume-les-Dames welcomes you with its picturesque location on the bend of the river. Baume-les-Dames was famous for its pipe-making for many decades.

Day 3 Vallée du Doubs 42 km

This cycling day has two highlights: the Grottes d'Osselle dripstone caves and the Arc-et-Senans salt pans, which are a World Heritage Site. But first, you can enjoy a relaxing cycle along the banks of the Doubs, accompanied by its magnificent mountain ranges. The stalactite cave of Osselle was discovered in the 13th century and is one of the most interesting in Europe. There are 15 halls of different shapes and colors. The extraordinary colors range from blue to translucent orange.

Visit and then it is only a few kilometers to the royal salt works. The impressive complex was created by the visionary architect Nicolas Ledoux. He was appointed plenipotentiary of the Franche-Comté salt works. Salt makes you thirsty and makes you think about dinner, so it's time for the transfer back to the hotel.



Day 4 Le Vallée du Doubs - Montbéliard 51 km

Today's cycling stage takes you along the Doubs. After breakfast, it's time to get on your bike and head for the river. Pleasure cycling is the order of the day as the Doubs winds its way through the river valley in many loops.

At the idyllic picnic area, there are once again many delicacies to choose from, so it's good to get back on the bike afterwards. The destination: Montbéliard, a town closely associated with the House of Württemberg. The castle of the Dukes of Württemberg with its imposing round towers still bears witness to the time when Montbéliard was still called Mömpelgard. St. Martin's Square and the oldest Protestant church in France, as well as the town hall, are part of the city tour at the end of the afternoon. Transfer back to the hotel.





Day 5 Villersexel - Vesoul 43 km

After breakfast, we cycle through the Ognon valley to Villersexel. The picturesque town center is quickly crossed and makes way for the idyllic countryside, which we pass on quiet agricultural roads. The Château d'Oricourt is one of the best-preserved medieval castles in France. A longer stay is planned here. Visit it immediately after the picnic so that you can climb the stairs in the many turrets with sufficient strength. From here, the route continues in a rural idyll to Vesoul. Time for a tour of the historic town center. Numerous old houses from the 16th to 18th centuries surround the Saint-Georges church, which was built in the 18th century. Worth seeing: the English Park, classified as a "Remarkable Garden", with its rose garden and themed flowerbeds on the riverbank.



At the top of the hill is an oratory, the Notre-Dame-de-la-Motte chapel, which was built on the site of an old castle and offers a magnificent panorama of the town. With this view, we say goodbye to Vesoul and are transferred back to the hotel.



We have cycled through it many times and it is well worth visiting Franche-Comté

Klaus Wimmer



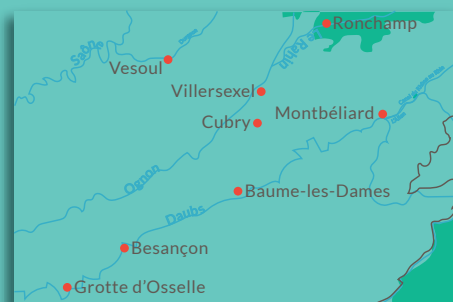
Day 6 Cubry - Ronchamp 37 km

The motto for the last day of cycling is "Relax and unwind". A relaxed cycle route in an idyllic atmosphere. Pastures, picturesque villages and wash houses characterize the day. A special visit awaits at the stage finish: the church of Ronchamp. Built between 1950 and 1955 according to plans by the French-Swiss architect Le Corbusier, the church is one of the most famous of its kind in the modern era. It is considered an icon of architecture due to its numerous visual metaphors, the richness of its spatial structure and its exemplary character. "When I built this chapel, I wanted to create a place of tranquillity, prayer, peace and inner contemplation."

Day 7

Departure after breakfast.

GUIDED BIKE TOUR



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- 04.05 – 10.05.2025
- 03.08 – 09.08.2025

INCLUDED SERVICES

- 6 nights in a 4-star charm castle hotel in a room with bath/shower/WC
- Daily breakfast buffet
- 4-course menu in the evening
- 5 lunch picnics with regional specialties incl. drinks
- Qualified tour guide during the entire trip
- Guided tours as per program
- All transfers mentioned
- All entrance fees
- Spa and local taxes

PER PERSON

ROOM

DBLE/DU/WC/VP	1431 €
SGL/DU/WC/VP	1689 €

BIKE RENTAL

21/27-Gear- Hybrid bike	90 €
E-Bike (250 € Deposit)	170 €

