

# On the trail of the GR20 South

8 days / 7 nights

The mighty GR20: a fantastic itinerary from the North-West to the South-East of the island! From the Renoso Mountain to the Needles of Bavella, you'll follow red and white markings and take some alternative routes to complete this southern part of the "Grande Randonnée" (GR).

Prepare your trip

## YOUR PROGRAM

# Day 1 - Vizzavona

Arrival in Vizzavona. Night in a gîte or refuge depending on availability at the moment of booking. Dinner and night in Vizzavona.



## Day 2 - Vizzavona to Capanelle

Today's hike begins in a beech forest at Vizzavona before climbing to Bocca Palmente where you will have a stunning viewpoint over the lagoons of Diana and Urbino. The next part of the trail takes you to the Bergeries d'Alzeta and you then walk along an ancient mule-track to reach the gîte at Capanelle.

About 14 km, 5h00, +1155 m, -715 m.

Dinner and night at the gîte at Capanelle, breakfast and picnic for tomorrow.

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## Day 3 - Capanelle to Col de Verde

From Capanelle, you make your way to the picturesque sheepfolds of Traghjete before trekking on towards the Plateau of Ghialgone. You then cross the footbridge of I Spiazzi and the forest of Marmano, before reaching the Col de Verde. Dinner and night at the gîte.

About 14 km, 5h00, +600 m, -900 m.

Dinner and night at the gîte at Col de Verde. Breakfast and picnic for tomorrow.



#### Day 4 - Col de Verde to Cozzano

You climb up to the Bocca del Orro and walk across the Prato plateau with its alpine fields. As you follow the ridge line, you have spectacular views of the Taravo valley to the west and the Tyrrhenian Sea to the east. You then drop down the St Antoine forest to reach the delightful village of Cozzano.

About 14 km, 8h00, +750 m, -1300 m.

Dinner and night at the gîte. Breakfast and Picnic for tomorrow.





### Day 5 - Cozzano to Coscione Plateau

After an early morning departure, you climb the Bocca di l'Usciolu and walk along the mountain ridge with its dreamlike rocky landscape, sculpted by the wind. The path descends through an ancient alder forest. The lush vegetation becomes more dense and exposed, and you soon reach the plateau de Cuscione and the shepherd's hut where you will spend tonight.

About 16 km, 8h00, +1300 m, -650 m.

Dinner and night at a Shepherds hut on the plateau de Coscione. Breakfast and Picnic for tomorrow.



# Day 6 - Coscione Plateau to Bavella

The plateau de Cuscione offers a gentler terrain with its green grazing lands and pozzines (a type of peat bogs). You then climb the rocky slopes of Mount Incudine (over 2000m high and the highest peak in the south) before dropping down to the Asinao Valley. From here, the path climbs to the spectacular granite peaks that are the famous Needles of Bavella.

About 15 km, 8h00, +985 m, -1100 m.

Dinner and night at the gîte at Bavella. Breakfast and Picnic for tomorrow.

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Day 7 - Bavella to Conca: the last stage!

The start of the day is an easy path through the forest to the refuge at Paliri. You will then attack the descent, accompanied by the scented essences of the warm maquis. The end of this great adventure is approaching ... On your arrival in Conca, you have finished the GR20!

About 16 km, 7h00, +450 m, -1400 m.

Dinner and night at the gîte in Conca. Breakfast for tomorrow.



Day 8 - End of the great adventure

End of services after breakfast. From Conca, you can easily take a shuttle to Porto Vecchio, then a bus to Bastia or Ajaccio. Contact us if you need a transfer.

# Additional information

**TARIFFS** 

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Price from 720 euros per person.

#### **OPTIONS**

Luggage transfer supplement (everyday). Per person, for a group of two hikers.: 480 euros per person. Luggage transfer supplement (everyday). Per person, for a group of four hikers. : 240 euros per person.

#### **INCLUDED**

Accommodation, 7 nights in gîtes (dormitories)

7 dinners

7 breakfasts

6 picnic lunches

Route notes and maps on our app (a smartphone and extra battery are necessary)

Local hotline

#### **NOT INCLUDED**

Transfers to Vizzavona.

Transfers from Conca.

Transfers not included in this itinerary(for example, due to bad weather or physical ailments).

Luggage transfers

Beverages

Holiday insurance

Everything not mentionned on the "included" section

# LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Terrain: well-marked paths but very technical terrain (rocky and uneven). You need to be sure-footed and have plenty of relevant mountain experience. You also need to be able to read and follow map instructions.

Walking: from 4h30 to 9 hours.

#### **CARRYING**

Luggage transfers are available on each stage, see options for prices.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

Gîtes d'étape (dormitories for 5-6 people with shared bathrooms).

Please be aware that facilities will be basic and normally on a shared basis (except in hotels). Hot showers should be available at each accommodation, but water may be limited due to high demand.

## SIZE OF GROUP

Minimum two.

#### **DEPARTURES**

Every day from mid May to end September.

### **DEPARTURE**

Vizzavona

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#### **DISPERSION**

Conca

#### **HOW TO GET THERE**

Vizzavona is easily accessible by train from Ajaccio, Bastia and Calvi.

#### **EQUIPMENT TO TAKE**

- A good pair of walking boots (ones that you have used before), with ankle support and non-slip soles.
- · Good quality walking socks
- A comfortable rucksack (either for all of your kit or as a day sack) with plenty of plastic bags to keep your kit dry.
- If you are having your luggage transferred, please make sure that you have only one bag for the transfers, with a maximum weight of 15 kilos. It should be an easily transportable soft bag or with wheels.
- T-shirt and shorts (depending upon the likely weather)
- Light trekking trousers (not jeans)
- It is good to be able to 'layer' your clothes with several light tops (for protection against cold, wind or sun)
- A warm sweater, polar or fleece. Beanie, gloves.
- Waterproofs such as an anorak (Gore-tex or micro pore for example) or poncho.
- A bathing suit and towel
- Sandals or flip flops for beaches, river wading, or for wearing in the evening (it's important to be able to rest your feet from your walking boots)
- · Sun cream plus sunglasses and a hat or cap
- A change of clothes
- For the picnics, you will need a small Tupperware box (for stews or salads), a plastic mug, a knife and fork. A Swiss Army knife or a pen knife is optional but can be very useful.
- Walking poles can be very useful to take the weight off the knees and to steady yourself on uneven terrain.
- A water bottle (at least one). It is preferable that you should be able to carry at least 2 litres of water at any one time.
- Camera and film, or batteries and memory cards for digital ones.
- A light torch (with spare battery)
- A small first aid kit possibly including: Rehydration salts to combat dehydration or fatigue, something for cuts, sprains, blisters, breaks, burns, stings, and pain relief. Please remember any personal medication that you may need.
- Wash bag, including: toothbrush, toothpaste, towel, toilet paper. Preferably a biodegradable soap for washing fruit, washing yourself and for washing clothes (it is possible to buy a multi-purpose biodegradable soap). Earplugs can also be useful if you are sleeping in dormitories.
- Money make sure you have enough cash on you for your trek (in Euros), as it is unlikely that you will be able to use a card or withdraw money if you are in the mountains.
- Maps IGN maps of a scale and quality that allow you to see the route clearly. If you are on a self-guided tour, you will more than likely be given copies of sections of maps. These should be clear enough to guide you along the route alongside the route notes, but we strongly recommend that you have the correct maps for the area of your walk. Please contact us if you need advice
- A compass but make sure you are able to read it before starting on your trek
- Mobile phone and charger (it may not always be possible to get a signal or to charge it, but it can be very helpful in many circumstances).
- Snacks (such as energy bars, dried fruit).

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- If you are a vegetarian, we suggest you bring a good supply of nuts or other foods containing protein. It is not always possible to get a good balanced meal, particularly in the more remote places in the mountains.
- A waterproof plastic pouch in which to put your trip documents, identity papers and insurance documents.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

To Vizzavona:

To get to Vizzavona, you can either book a taxi transfer with us or you can take the local bus or train. For train fares and timetables, please visit www.corsicabus.org.

## From Conca:

To get to your destination point from Conca, you can either book a taxi transfer or you can take the local bus or train. For train fares and timetables, please visit www.corsicabus.org

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