

TRIP ITINERARY · CYCLING · ENGLAND & FRANCE

LONDON TO BORDEAUX

From the Shard over the South Downs, overnight ferry to St Malo, then three big days through western France to the vineyards of Bordeaux.

5 days

DURATION

4

DAYS RIDING

411 miles

DISTANCE

Hotels

ACCOMMODATION

★★★★★

DIFFICULTY

June –
September
SEASON

OVERVIEW

Cycle from one of London's most iconic landmarks to Bordeaux: across the South Downs, overnight to St Malo, then through rural western France and the vineyards to the city.

This varied and exciting route begins at the Shard in London, through Southern England and over the South Downs to the port of Portsmouth. Here we'll cross the English Channel on an overnight ferry to St Malo, France. The following day we'll begin a further three days through France, ending our ride next to the reflective pools of the Place de la Bourse, Bordeaux.

You'll have a full day to explore this fascinating city before returning to the UK on a flight to London in the early evening. The More Adventure team will meet you here with your bicycles and luggage, and here the trip comes to an end.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Starting at the Shard in London
- ✓ Riding over the South Downs
- ✓ An overnight ferry from Portsmouth to St Malo
- ✓ Crossing the Loire at Nantes
- ✓ The Royan ferry and the Médoc vineyards
- ✓ Finishing at the Place de la Bourse, Bordeaux

DATES & BOOKING

See the latest dates, availability and book online at

moreadventure.co.uk/event/london-to-bordeaux-cycle/

★★★★★

"Tremendous organisation and top quality adventure management. Skilled and experienced, Tom and his team were always on top of the ride and quick to adapt. Very personable and always helpful. Definitely recommend them."

Brian Kalms · Google review

DETAILED ITINERARY

1

83 MILES

OVERNIGHT: FERRY CABIN

OVERNIGHT FERRY

DAY 1: THE SHARD, LONDON – PORTSMOUTH

We meet in front of an icon of London, The Shard. After a trip briefing, photos and loading luggage onto the support vehicle, we cycle southwest, leaving the city behind as we enter rural Surrey. There will be a few hills to overcome as we enter the beautiful South Downs National Park, but we should arrive in plenty of time for an evening meal in Portsmouth and our overnight ferry to St Malo. After a hot shower on board, we'll retire for our first night in comfortable cabins.



2

116 MILES

OVERNIGHT: LA CHAPELLE-SUR-ERDRE

DAY 2: ST MALO – LA CHAPELLE-SUR-ERDE

After breakfast on board the ferry we will dock into St Malo early on Day 2. We'll leave St Malo and cycle south passing through the Forêt du Mesnil then onto the small town of Combourg, home to a beautiful chateaux overlooking lake Tranquil. Our route continues south, reaching the small town of Rennes at the confluences of two rivers – the Ille Ille and the Vilaine. We'll soon reach our destination for the evening, La Chapelle-sur-Erde, just north of the city of Nantes. After an evening meal, and showers, we'll spend the night in our hotel, ready for the following day's ride.



3

115 MILES

OVERNIGHT: ROCHEFORT

DAY 3: LA CHAPELLE-SUR-ERDE – ROCHEFORT

Today is an easier ride which begins by crossing the city of Nantes which is perched on the end of the river Loire. The sixth largest city in France, Nantes became the largest port in France during the 17th Century and was responsible for nearly half of the French Atlantic slave trade in the following century. After crossing the river Loire, our route heads southeast to the village of Vieilleville before entering the small Roman town of Luçon. We skirt around Le Baie de l'Aiguillon, a popular nature reserve that's home to thousands of waterfowl including ducks, geese and swans. Our route ends in the small town of Rochefort, just south of La Rochelle and on the banks of the river Charente.



4

97 MILES

OVERNIGHT: BORDEAUX

GIRONDE FERRY

DAY 4: ROCHEFORT – BORDEAUX

We begin today's ride by crossing the river Charente then heading south past Rochefort airport. Our route continues south to meet the Atlantic at the seaside resort of Royan where we'll catch an early ferry across the Gironde to Soulac-du-Mer. We'll then follow the Gironde estuary to the beautiful city of Bordeaux, a relatively flat final stretch to the end. Congratulations – you made it! After a few photos, we'll retire to our hotel for our final night of the trip for a celebratory meal and drinks.



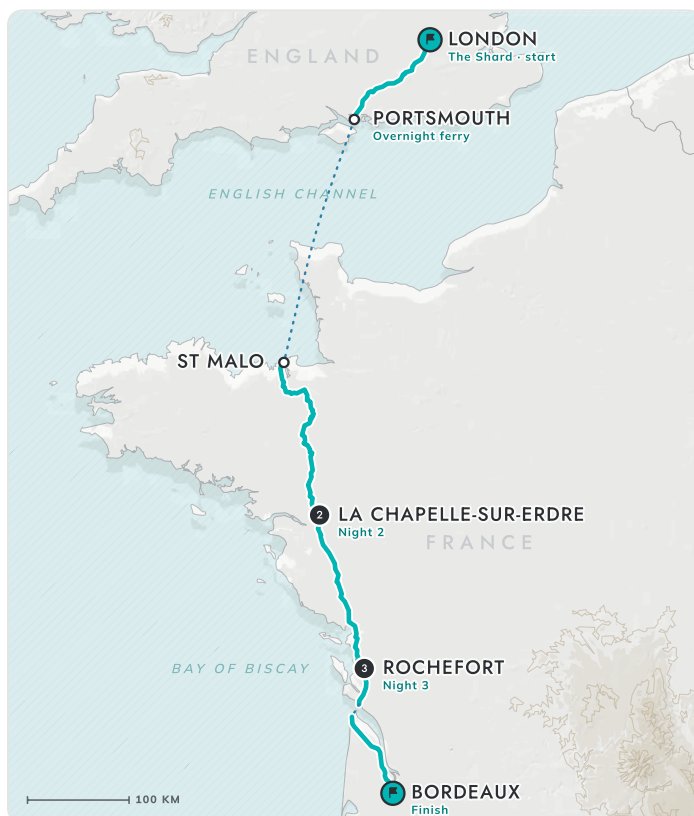
5

FREE DAY

FLIGHT HOME

DAY 5: BORDEAUX – LONDON

Your bicycles and luggage will be driven back to the UK so you have a full day to explore Bordeaux. A thorough exploration of the cathedral is a must, along with a visit to the Pont de Pierre and one of the many museums in the city before your evening flight back to London. Here you'll be met by the More Adventure team who will hand back your bicycles and luggage and the trip comes to an end.

**THE ROUTE****LONDON TO BORDEAUX**Day 1 · London → Portsmouth **83 miles**Day 2 · St Malo → La Chapelle-sur-Erdre **116 miles**Day 3 · La Chapelle-sur-Erdre → Rochefort **115 miles**Day 4 · Rochefort → Bordeaux **97 miles**

GPX files of the full route are emailed when the trip is confirmed.

GRADE: CHALLENGING ★★★★★

See our cycling grades at moreadventure.co.uk. If you're unsure whether this trip is right for you, give us a call.

INCLUDED

- ✓ Cycle leader(s) and support driver(s)
- ✓ 3 x night's hotel accommodation
- ✓ 1 x night ferry cabin accommodation
- ✓ Ferry crossing from Portsmouth – St Malo
- ✓ 3 x breakfasts
- ✓ 4 x buffet-style lunches
- ✓ Ferry from Royan to Soulac-du-Mer
- ✓ Bicycle mechanical support
- ✓ First Aid cover
- ✓ All luggage transported during your trip
- ✓ Bicycle and main luggage transfer back to London
- ✓ GPX files of the full route (emailed when the trip is confirmed)

GOOD TO KNOW

TRIP NOTES

HEALTH

Your health and safety is our number one priority. Our leaders hold outdoor first aid certificates and have hands-on medical experience. Visit your GP well before the trip to discuss any pre-existing conditions. We ask for a medical declaration when you book.

NOT INCLUDED

- ✗ Bicycle and Helmet
- ✗ Return flight from Bordeaux to London
- ✗ Transfers to Bordeaux Airport
- ✗ Breakfast on the ferry
- ✗ Evening meals, drinks and snacks
- ✗ UK GHIC or EHIC health card
- ✗ Insurance

Flights home: Book your own flight from Bordeaux to London; we drive your bike and main bag back.

INSURANCE

Personal travel insurance is compulsory and should be in place before you book. As a minimum it must cover medical expenses, including emergency repatriation. We strongly recommend it also covers cancellation, curtailment and loss or damage to luggage and equipment.

LEADERS

Experienced, qualified leaders run every trip, with back-up support where the trip needs it. They guide and encourage the group and look after the logistics so you can enjoy the adventure.

HOW TO BOOK

1. Choose a date on our website and click 'Book now'
2. Fill in your details (you can book for a group) and your medical details
3. Pay a 40% deposit securely by card to secure your place
4. You'll get a confirmation email with further trip information
5. Pay the balance no later than 5 weeks before the trip, in instalments or in one go

Questions? We're happy to help.

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