



R I D E & S E E K

Split into 3 stages, each a week long on the islands of Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, this is a journey through the history, food, architecture and traditions of these Mediterranean jewels. Mediterranean charm and hospitality is at the heart of this tour.



CORSICA, SARDINIA AND SICILY | (OCTOBER 09 - 31 | 2021 • JUNE 05 - 27 | 2022)

3 Islands Overview

TOTAL DISTANCE:
1720km | 1069mi

ELEVATION:
24,690m | 81,010ft

DURATION:
23 DAYS
22 Nights



CORSICA



SARDINIA



SICILY

St Florent
Calvi
Porto
Porticcio
Propriano
BONIFACIO
SANTA TERESA
Castelsardo
Alghero
Cabras
Buggerru
Sant'Antioco
Pula
CAGLIARI
Olbia

SARDINIA

EXTRA LOOPS
ARE AVAILABLE
THROUGHOUT THE TOUR
FOR THOSE WANTING
MORE DAILY RIDING AND
ELEVATION

Tours available from
1 WEEK



3 ISLANDS

GRADING:



Trapani
Selinunte
Agrigento
Piazza Armerina
Catania
Ragusa
SIRACUSA
PALERMO

SICILY

MAKE IT
EPIC

TUNISIA

Ride with us across 3 sun-kissed islands at the crossroads of the Mediterranean.



The beautiful Mediterranean Islands of Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily

The exceptional diversity of the islands is represented through the numerous civilisations and cultures that have left their mark. The amazing gastronomic variations, the strikingly rugged interior landscapes paired with stunning coastlines of white beaches and emerald waters, and locals with an incredibly strong sense of place. The Mediterranean charm is truly at the heart of this tour.

We ride from North to South beginning with Corsica, home of Napoleon. Its mountainous North contrasts beautifully with idyllic beaches and fishing villages. From here we head to Sardinia a land of towering cliffs, beach coves and unique history. Then finally to Sicily where rolling farmland, volcanoes and stunning coastline is littered with classical sites in exceptional settings.



3 Islands



STAGE 1 - Corsica

- Ride along spectacular coastal roads.
- Discover the divine landscape of the Cap Corse.
- Sample the amazing charcuterie.
- Explore the beautiful and romantic town of Bonifacio.
- Marvel at the UNESCO listed Scandola Nature Reserve.
- Learn about the origins & significance of the Vendetta.



STAGE 2 - Sardinia

- Experience a range of contrasting landscapes as we travel north to south.
- Ruminant over the enduring mystery of the nuraghi that dot the landscape.
- Dine on some of the finest seafood you'll eat anywhere.
- Sample the delights of the Cannonau & Vermentino wines.
- Marvel at the sound of the 4 tenors.

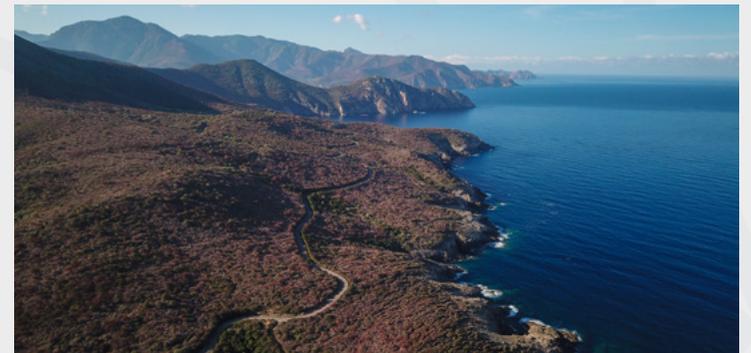


STAGE 3 - Sicily

- Peel away the layers of history that define this ancient land.
- Gorge on the finest gastronomy in the Med.
- Explore the back streets of the bustling towns of Palermo, Siracusa and Ragusa.
- Dine in the shadow of the Temple of Athena.
- Visit the amazing archaeological sites of Selinunte & Villa Romana di Casale.

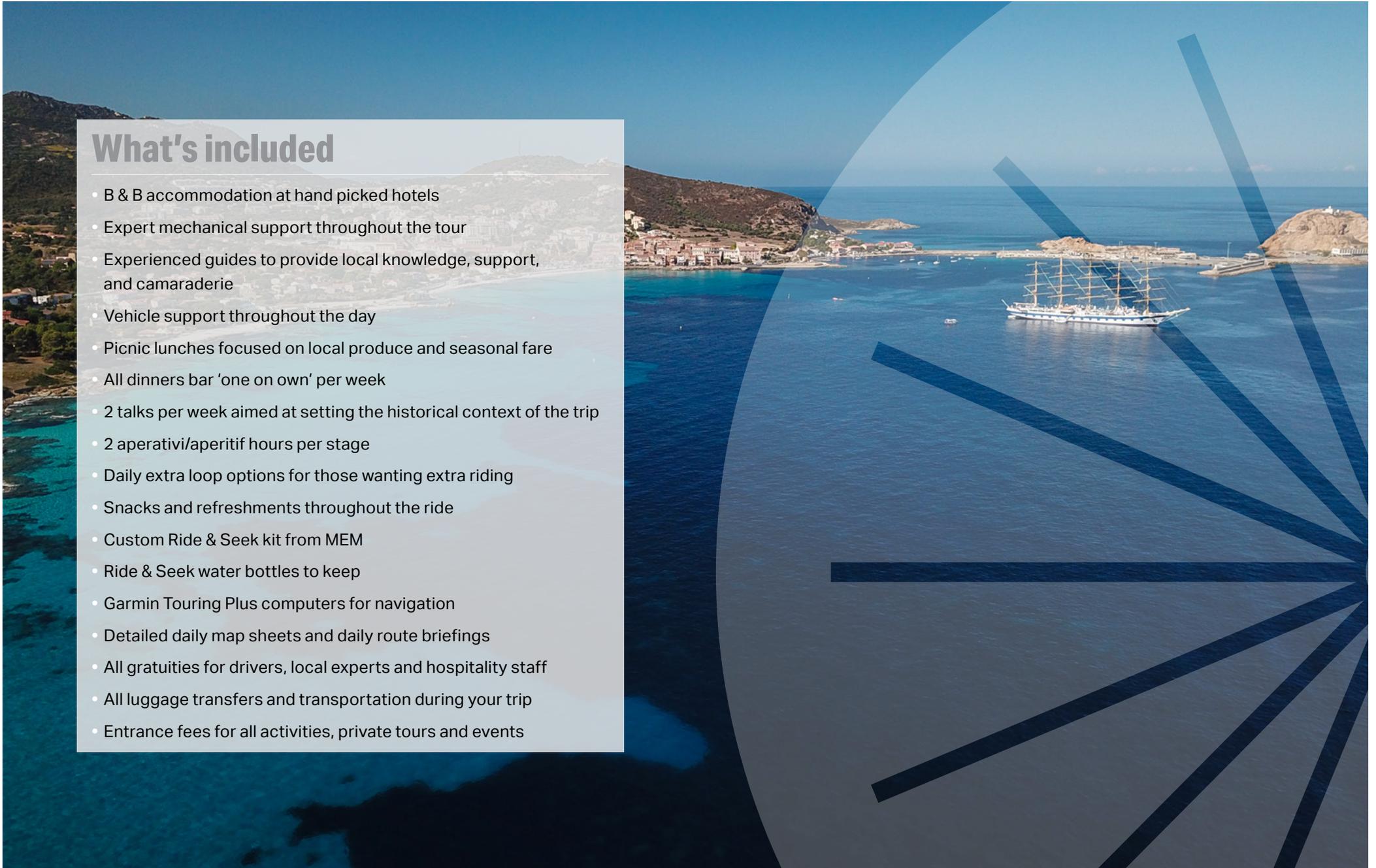


 CLICK to see the Ride & Seek website for details of tour dates and prices



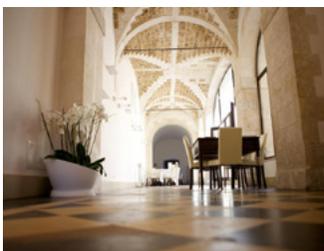
What's included

- B & B accommodation at hand picked hotels
- Expert mechanical support throughout the tour
- Experienced guides to provide local knowledge, support, and camaraderie
- Vehicle support throughout the day
- Picnic lunches focused on local produce and seasonal fare
- All dinners bar 'one on own' per week
- 2 talks per week aimed at setting the historical context of the trip
- 2 aperitivi/aperitif hours per stage
- Daily extra loop options for those wanting extra riding
- Snacks and refreshments throughout the ride
- Custom Ride & Seek kit from MEM
- Ride & Seek water bottles to keep
- Garmin Touring Plus computers for navigation
- Detailed daily map sheets and daily route briefings
- All gratuities for drivers, local experts and hospitality staff
- All luggage transfers and transportation during your trip
- Entrance fees for all activities, private tours and events



We carefully select the places where we stay based on their personality and the hospitality of our hosts.

Each island is very diverse and this is reflected in the range of accommodations we have selected. Many have sea views and over the years the hoteliers have become personal friends. From 5 star luxury in Ortigia to a family run agriturismo in the Sicilian countryside our choices give a real sense of the character of the people and places we visit.



Hotel Ortigia, Sicily

A spectacular 5 star hotel in the heart of Ortigia the historic centre Siracusa. Overlooking the harbour it serves as a fitting end to our Island odyssey.

Hotel Calabona, Sardinia

Overlooking the Coral Riviera and with spectacular views of the heads this 4 star hotel provides a great base for exploring the enchanting town of Alghero.

Hostellerie De L'Abbaye, Corsica

Back in the 14th century this charming 4 star hotel was a monastery. Situated within easy walking distance of the historic centre of Calvi it has views of both the sea and the mountains.

Antico Convento Dei Cappuccini, Sicily

As the name suggests this is converted monastery in Ragusa that has been tastefully renovated into a lovely 4 star hotel. Right in the centre of the old part of the city it could not have a better position.

Hotel Genovese, Corsica

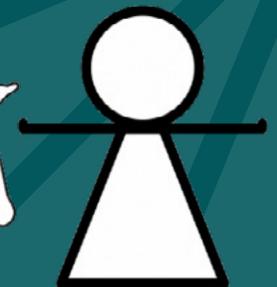
This refined 4 star hotel in the romantic town of Bonifacio provides a lovely finish to our ride in Corsica. With sweeping views and a perfect position to explore the town it is another great final hotel.

The 3 islands of Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily are so varied and rich in their history that taking a page to surmise their historic existence would be somewhat foolhardy! On tour we will experience this diversity in culture and history which ranges from Phoenician, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arabic, Norman, Renaissance, Baroque and a complex modern relationship with their 'bigger brothers' France and Italy. So for this historic peek at the 3 Islands we will solely examine how these islands symbolise their own existence.

It is little wonder with this vast array of influences that both Corsica and Sardinia choose a symbol called 'La Testa di Moru' – the Moor's head which originates in the Kingdom of Aragon and was used in Sardinia after the Aragonese conquest in 1297. Four Moorish heads are separated by a cross of St George – it is called the 'Is Cuatru Morus' – the Four Moors. The Corsican version portrays a Moor's Head in black wearing a white bandana above his eyes on a white background. Previously the bandana covered his eyes but Paoli, the Corsica folk hero from the 18th century, wanted the bandana moved above the eyes to symbolise the liberation of the Corsican people. The symbol was practically banned after 1769, when France forced the Genovesi to sell the island to them to settle their debts. During this period under French rule, 1769–1789, Corsican patriots again used the version of the flag with blindfolded eyes, as a mark of protest. This was the era in which Napoleon grew up in on his native Corsica.

As for Sicily, it represents itself with the Trinacria, a fantastic symbol, which is the head of Medusa (a gorgon with a head of snakes), surrounded by three bent running legs, and three stalks of wheat. A complex symbol but what are they getting at? Sicily was known by the Romans as Trinacrium, meaning 'star with three points'. The three bent running legs represent the three capes of Sicily which are Peloro (Messina: North-East), Passero (Syracuse: South), and Lilibeo (Marsala: West). Supposedly Sicilians likened and compared them to a woman's legs! The three ears of wheat, surrounding the head of Medusa, represent the fertility of the land of Sicily. The central Medusa head in the middle of the Trinacria implies the protection of the island by the goddess Athena, the patron goddess of Sicily! A decidedly complex ancient symbol, perfect for us to find out more about on tour!

After this complexity, we chose the simple Tanit symbol to represent our travels on the 3 Islands. Tanit is a Punic and Phoenician goddess, one of the chief deities of the Phoenician people of Western Europe and was worshipped in Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica from around the 5th century BC onwards giving us a common theme! Her symbol is interpreted as a woman raising her hands and she is sometimes depicted with a lion's head, showing her warrior quality.



What our guests have to say...



After my 12 years of riding bike tours and adventures, and my second tour with Ride & Seek, I believe Dylan and his professional guides have the magic formula.

Every detail is covered and no request is too large, so all I needed to do was turn the pedals and enjoy the ride. I can't say enough about the route, food, wine, and accommodations, however, the icing on the cake is their knowledge of the local history and culture. Thank you, Dylan and team, and keep up the great work.

Ted V



The ride offered stunning scenery day after day as we rode from Bay to Bay and occasionally an inland mountain pass on mostly good road surfaces. The tour was well planned and ran without a hitch thanks to the fantastic guides. As per all Ride & Seek rides, the cuisine and wine was exceptional and enjoyed with good company.

Jo & Tony B



I am still coming down off the high from the Three Islands tour and, just like the Caesar tour, reminiscing how lovely life was on my bike, staying in exotic places with fine dining and being spoilt rotten by the Ride & Seek support staff.

Jeremy T

www.rideandseek.com



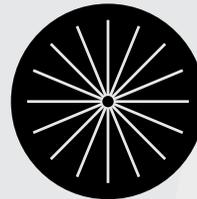
WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Go to our website at:

<https://rideandseek.com/tour/3-islands-corsica-sardinia-and-sicily/>

to find out more information, a recommended reading lists, testimonials and much more.

Alternatively, contact us at info@rideandseek.com or **+61 (0) 2 8007 3161**



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