

**Pyrenees Roundtrip**  
**August 28 – September 6, 2009**



The popular Pyrenees jersey

# Tracing the Tour de France



The participants of the Pyrenees Roundtrip 2008.



Narrow roads wind themselves up along the steep cliffs.



Just nature around us while we are eating our sandwiches.

## Pyrenees Roundtrip, 28.8.–6.9.2009

**Over 20 passes, 900 km, and 17'000 meters in altitude**

In 1910 the Pyrenees were part of the Tour de France programme for the first time. To that time the wild mountainous region seemed to be almost invincible. For cycling fans names such as Col de Tourmalet, Col d'Aubisque, Col d'Aspin and Col de Peyresourde sound like music – very challenging music. Dramatic stories have been told about these passes, legends that have made the Tour de France to what it still is today – a unique myth.

Certainly the Pyrenees are no longer as «barbarous and murderous» as they were 100 years ago. They are now easily accessible for tourists. The roads are narrow and the passes not quite as high as the alpine passes. Apart from being a sportive highlight you will find charming landscapes, both of which make this roundtrip to an unforgettable experience.

**Dare yourself and be part of this unforgettable adventure.**

### Top Support

A **luxury bus with a trailer especially for bicycles** will take you from Switzerland directly to the starting and finishing point of the tour. The same bus will be responsible for luggage transport during the tour. Therefore it is also possible to partially travel by bus. Experienced tour guides will lead you carefully from stage to stage in groups of different speed levels. Our sports director Peter will accompany the tour with another vehicle and make sure that all water bottles are full and everybody has enough to eat.

### Repair Service

Our mechanic is responsible for all repairs that are to be done. **Rental bikes** are available. They are equipped with Shimano triple.

### Groups

Our philosophy is 10 guests per tour guide, so that our groups are even and harmonious.

Overall Lead	Gusti Zollinger
Fitness Group	👉👉
Cyrril	round 19–23
Sports Group	👉👉👉
Andi	round 21–25 km/h
Peter/Mechanic	
Power Group	👉👉👉👉
Gusti	round 23–27 km/h
Escort vehicle	Peter Schiffner
Luggage transport	with bus

### Price from Switzerland 10 days/per person

**CHF 2395.– / € 1455.–**

#### Our Top Services:

- 7 nights in a double-room (partner will be allocated)
- breakfast and dinner
- guided tours
- transport to and from Switzerland and luggage transport in luxury bus
- «Sportvital» drinks will be provided on the tour
- drink-bottle
- snacks on the tour/escort vehicle
- repair service
- jersey, remembrance gift
- bicycle transport

**limited number of participants**

#### Services that are not included:

	CHF	€
• bike rental incl. cleaning	165.–	105.–
• annulation and assistance insurances		
• lunch		

### Feedback

- Gisela und Peter, Kammerstein (D):** «Unsere Erwartungen wurden bei weitem übertroffen, Organisation und Service perfekt, haben wir noch nie so erlebt.»
- Remo und Erni, Amerika:** «The Pyrenean Tour was wonderful, you have good Guides, the Organisation is very good.»
- Roger, Dübendorf (CH):** «Die Reise ist perfekt organisiert und wir Teilnehmer werden auf hohem Niveau betreut. Streckenplanung war optimal.»
- Sue aus Nussbaumen (CH):** «Sehr gut organisiert, fühlte mich wohl in der Gruppe und wir hatten viel Spass.»
- Karl-Heinz, Willi, Gunnar und Reini die vier Musketiere aus Nürnberg (D):** «Super, perfekt, besser geht es nicht, Hotel und Routenwahl sehr gut, die Rundumbetreuung einmalig, Preis-Leistung hervorragend.»
- Herbert aus dem Allgäu (D):** «Super Organisation, alles perfekt, unbedingt zum weiterempfehlen.»



# Pyrenees Roundtrip



Striptease on the Col de la Core.

## Pyrenees Roundtrip, August 28 – September 6, 2009

### Journey by bus to Couiza (FR)

#### Friday Night

Journey by night to Couiza. It is possible to get aboard in Zurich, Tegerfelden, Egerkingen, Berne and Geneva.

#### Saturday

arrival in Couiza at about 10.30 a.m.

Hotel check-in, peroration of bicycles, short tour, welcome drink and information by Gusti Zollinger in the evening.

## Schedule

### 1<sup>st</sup> Stage Sunday

**Couiza (Fr) – Puigcerda (Sp) = 100km, 1660 m alt.**

From Couiza, which is situated in the foreland of the Pyrenees we will quickly reach the mountainous region. The majority of the route will lead through the lovely “Aude” valley. After two thirds of today’s route we will climb the first pass, the Col de la Quillane, from which we will cross the Spanish boarder while cycling downhill. We will then arrive in Puigcerda.

In the late summer we can benefit from the ideal weather in the Pyrenees.



## Spain

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Monday

**Puigcerda – Cellers = 155 km, 1830 m alt.**

On a slightly descending main road we will head towards La Seu d’Urgell. On the right hand side mountains as high as 2700m, behind which you will find Andorra, proudly present themselves. To the left hand side you will see the natural reserve of Serra del Cadi. After that we will climb the Port de Canto. The second half of the route will mainly go downhill until we reach Sellès.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage Tuesday

**Cellers – Broto = 170 km, 2760 m alt.**

**/130km, 1700 m alt. (bus ride)**

After rolling to Tremp the climb up to Port de Martllobat begins. We will cycle through Benabarre into the valley of the Rio Esera. The highest point of the day is the P.to de Foradada on 1200 m. After the descent we will reach the wonderful Broto valley and head towards Broto.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Stage Wednesday

**Broto – Lourdes = 145 km, 2845 m alt.**

To warm-up we will cycle over the Puerto de Cotefabio. After that three other well-known Tour de France passes await us. First of all we will climb the El Portalet, where we will cross the boarder to France, followed by the strenuous Col de Aubisque and finally the Col de Solor. Then we can cycle downhill until we reach Lourdes.

## France

### 5<sup>th</sup> Stage Thursday

**Lourdes – Bagnères-de Luchon = 125 km, 3100 m alt. queen’s stage**

Today on our queen’s stage we must tackle a total of 48 km up-hill. The three fantastic passes have gone into the Tour de France history and often play a decisive role. First we will climb the Col du Tourmalet, which

lies on 2114 m and is the highest point of our tour, followed by the Col d’Aspin and the Col de Peyresourde. Our today’s destination is Bagnères-de-Luchon.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Stage Frida

**Bagnères-de-Luchon – Saint Giron = 120 km, 2080 m alt. or 85 km, 1000 m alt.**

We will start the day rolling downwards. After that we will climb the Col d’Ares and the Col de Buret which seem to be rather small passes compared with those climbed the day before. After 52 km the Portet d’Aspet awaits all participants. Those who want to take it easier will head directly for Saint-Girons. 85 km.

Those who still want to do more will reach today’s destination through the Central Pyrenees after 120 km.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Stage Saturday

**Saint-Girons – Couiza = 125 km 1400 m alt.**

With the Col de Port, which we will reach after 25 km we will tackle the last thousand meter pass. Then we will return to Couiza.

At our final dinner whilst reviewing the tour, everyone will agree and say:

«that was fantastic!»

## Return Journey in the luxury bus

### Saturday night

We will leave Couiza on the same day at about 11.00 p.m. The comfortable trip during the night will take us back to Switzerland.

### Arrival Sunday

Close to Geneva we will eat breakfast together. After that we will continue to the other destinations and arrive at around lunch-time.