

London to Paris Cycle



Duration: 5 days

Cycling from London to Paris is one of the great cycle experiences in Europe. Passing through picturesque Kent countryside, we cross the Channel and continue through the small villages and medieval market towns of Northern France. With long days in the saddle and some strenuous hill-climbs, the sight of the Eiffel Tower, our finishing point, will evoke a real sense of achievement.

Our last day in Paris allows us to explore the sights and soak up the romantic atmosphere of this majestic city!

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: London – Dover – Calais

An early start from Blackheath Common allows us to avoid the morning traffic as we pass through the outskirts of London onto quieter roads. It is not long before we are among the rolling fields and villages of rural Kent, passing orchards and traditional oast houses where hops are stored. We follow country roads across the hills of the North Downs to Dover and the coast. Taking the ferry to Calais, we have dinner on board and cycle the short distance to our hotel. Night hotel.

(Dinner on ferry not included)

Cycle approx. 130km (80 miles)

Day 2: Calais – Arras

We head south from Calais, through beautiful French countryside. Our route takes us along small, quiet roads through villages and small towns. During the afternoon we ride past small War Cemeteries such as at Noordpeene and Gauchin, a reminder of the remarkable history of this region. The terrain is reasonably flat to begin with but becomes more undulating as we travel south. We spend the night in Arras. Night hotel.

Cycle approx. 125km (78 miles)

Day 3: Arras – Compiègne

This morning, after a couple of long days in the saddle, our legs may feel a little tired. We ride south through villages and along quiet undulating French roads, passing cemeteries of the First World War as we pass through the region of the Somme. We usually have time to stop at Theipval, with its thought-provoking 45m-high Memorial to the Missing. Continuing south, we head through the more forested region around Compiègne; this attractive town lies on the banks of the River Oise. Night hotel.

Cycle approx. 125km (78 miles)



DETAILED ITINERARY (cont.)

Day 4: Compiègne – Paris

Our final day's cycling takes us southwest, initially through small villages and woodland before we meet the outskirts of Paris. Needless to say, the volume of traffic increases but our destination and the finish is in sight! We cycle through the Parisian streets, sweeping around the Arc de Triomphe and down the famed Champs-Élysées to our finish beneath the lofty arches of the Eiffel Tower. We head to our hotel and get ready for a few celebration drinks to mark our achievement.

Cycle approx. 95km (59 miles)

Day 5: Paris – London

After breakfast you are free to explore the city; popular attractions include the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, Sacré Coeur and the Louvre, or simply wander along the river-bank and watch the world go by. You are responsible for getting yourself and your bags to the Gare du Nord in good time for our Eurostar train back to St Pancras, where we will be reunited with our bikes.

(Lunch & Dinner not included)

Discover Adventure reserves the right to change the route or itinerary for safety reasons should local conditions dictate.

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CHALLENGE GRADING

Our trips are graded from Challenging (Grade 1) to Extreme (Grade 5).

This ride is graded **Challenging (1)**. Main challenges lie in the long distances (70-100 miles) with undulating terrain, including some short, sharp climbs.

Many factors influence the Challenge Grading, such as terrain, distances, climate, altitude, living conditions, etc. The grade reflects the overall trip; some sections will feel more challenging than others. Unusual weather conditions also have a significant impact, and not all people are tested by the same aspects.

Our grading levels are intended as a guide, but span a broad spectrum; trips within the same grade will still vary in the level of challenge provided.

