



Uruguay - Ride from West to East, the Coast and Vineyards Bicycle Tour 2022
Guided Tour
7 Days / 6 Nights



Nestled between Brazil and Argentina, this tiny country in South America is a true traveler and cyclist's paradise. Join us on a cycling tour in Uruguay and experience the trip of a lifetime! This cycling tour in Uruguay is simply outstanding. It is peaceful, quiet and, above all, gorgeous. Our bike tour is true to its name, visiting the vineyards that produce Uruguay's famous Tannat wines and cycling from the western wineries of Carmelo to the region of the Atlantic coast. We will stop for private cheese and wine tastings throughout the week and visiting historical cities like Colonia Del Sacramento or booming destinations like Punta Del Este. This bike trip is unlike any other!

Itinerary Day to Day

Day 1: Welcome to Uruguay 31 km

Your guides will greet you at the port of Colonia de Sacramento. Meet our local historian who leads us through the narrow cobblestoned streets and recounts how this World Heritage Site kept changing hands from crown to crown. We'll make our way towards the Porton de Campo to enjoy a light lunch by the city's gate and drawbridge before our first ride towards Anchorena Park. Take in panoramic views of the broad Uruguayan countryside and pedal along quiet country roads. This afternoon, transfer by van to the hotel and spend the rest of your day relaxing by the pool or exploring the beautiful grounds.



Day 2: Vineyards to Playa Cere 50 km

Today's ride takes us through the quaint settlement of Punta Gorda and on to Bodega Cordano, one of the oldest vineyards in Uruguay. We are treated to a selection of their varieties and a tour of the property before we continue towards our friend Bernardo's boutique winery, El Legado, for lunch. Sample the flavours of a typical Uruguayan Asado, including various meats and savoury dishes, then take off through the streets of Carmelo to Playa Cere. We will loop back to our hotel via an easy tree lined road and rest up for an elegant evening. Tonight, transfer to Puerto Camacho for a private cruise on the Río de la Plata, sip sunset cocktails as we sail towards Punta Gorda, and dock at a secluded marina. Transfer back to your hotel.

Day 3: Rio de la Plata to the Gold Coast 18 km

This morning our transfer brings us to the capital city of Montevideo. We will make our way through the historic Ciudad Vieja, the oldest part of the city, arriving at the vibrant Mercado Del Puerto. Stop for a typical 'parrilla' (BBQ) lunch at this waterfront market while taking in the energy, sights, and smells. After lunch, we set our sights on the Barrio Sur, a neighbourhood known for hosting Carnival. Meet Lobo Nuñez, a renowned Afro-Uruguayan drum luthier and legendary percussionist within the Uruguayan Candombe music scene. Inspired by his rhythm, enjoy a percussion demonstration. After feeling the beat, hop back on the bike for a coastline ride along La Rambla, an avenue that separates Montevideo from the shores of the Atlantic.

Day 4: Punta Del Este and Atchugarry Sculpture Park 59 km

Our day starts with a drive to the amazing Casapueblo museum, a bright white, honeycomb shaped structure perched on a cliff over the Atlantic. The museum is the starting point for our ride through Punta Del Este, which leads us by small seaside villages and arrives to the Fundación Pablo Atchugarry Sculpture Park. Your guides will prepare a picnic lunch beneath the trees and in the midst of the outdoor sculptures and art installations. Keep your body moving back on the bike as we cycle along the shimmering shoreline of La Barra seaside town to your next hotel. Enjoy a well-deserved poolside cocktail on arrival.



Day 5: Ride to the Little Uruguayan Tuscany of Garzon 34 km

Today, we bike to Pueblo Garzón, founded in 1892 by Fermin de León. We will visit the main square and old train station of this charming town where time seems to have stopped centuries ago. We will hop in our van and drive uphill to the amazing Bodega Garzon. After a tour of the property, sit down to an indulgent wine and olive oil tasting before we enjoy a delicious lunch overlooking a spectacular landscape of vineyards and rolling hills. Return to our hotel for some downtime before we reconvene for a seaside meal to remember at La Huella.



Day 6: Laguna Garzon and Town of Jose Ignacio 45 km

Get ready to be awed by the small town of Jose Ignacio and the protected area of Laguna Garzón, where the departments of Maldonado and Rocha converge. We will bike along the coast to the small town of Jose Ignacio and make a stop at the lighthouse. Continue riding along the coastline to El Caracol, and discover a secluded spot within the forest. For lunch, try your hand at cooking regional dishes the traditional way: with fire! The afternoon's golden hour will find us riding along local trails to our next hotel. Tonight we enjoy dinner beneath the stars at the estancia's patio.

Day 7: Departure

After breakfast, your guide will transfer you to the Airport as you head on to your next destination



Route



Technical Characteristics:

Route Profile: Medium. This tour is a combination of gravel and paved roads. Roads are in good condition and there are some slopes – mostly in the Colonia / Carmelo and Garzon rides which make the ride challenging but easy going.

Distance: 237 km

Travel Season: Sunday departures from January 3 - April 30 and September 1 – December 15, 2022

Low Season: March 1 - April 30 and September 1 – December 15

High Season: January and February

Blackout Dates: December 24 – January 2; February 26 – March 1 (Carnival) and April 9 – April 1

Price per Person

Double Occupancy Low Season	\$ 5700.00 USD
Double Occupancy High Season	\$ 5925.00 USD
Single Supplement Low Season	\$ 730.00 USD
Single Supplement High Season	\$ 950.00 USD

*Group rates available for this tour. As this is a guided tour, the pricing improves with more people participating. Please ask us for details.

Accommodation:

Variety of 3* and 4* boutique hotels, some rooms with winery views, all with private facilities

Included:

- 6 nights at selected accommodations
- Daily breakfast, lunch and 3 dinners
- Private transfers throughout the itinerary including support vehicle
- Bike, helmet and mechanic support throughout the ride
- Water and snacks during the tour
- Entrance to museums, natural reserves or national parks mentioned in the description of the itinerary

Not Included:

- Meals that are not mentioned in the tour description
- Soft drinks or alcoholic drinks during meals
- Tips for guides or drivers
- Ferry or air tickets



Bikes

Rockhopper Specialized



The Rockhopper is like a cheat code for unlimited fun, with a lightweight A1 Aluminum alloy frame. Our Sport XC 29 geometry maximizes the benefits of large 29-inch wheels, while the hardworking parts kit just won't quit. The 16-speed Shimano drivetrain provides reliable shifting that puts you in the right gear every time. A broad gear range flattens out long hills and keeps you cranking on descents, and the rust-resistant KMC chain runs long and strong but won't get the friction on. SR SunTour XCT 30 suspension fork keeps you in control no matter the terrain. Powerful Shimano hydraulic disc brakes give you confidence and control on steep trails. Ground Control Sport front and Fast Trak Sport rear tires are the perfect combo of efficiency and grip.