

Steve Bauer **Bike Tours Inc.**

Tour de France

Alpe d'Huez to Paris - July 21st to July 27th , 2008

One night add-on Option to Paris - Departure July 28th

Day 1: Arrival July 21 - Welcome to the Tour de France 2008

The Tour de France has one more exciting week to reach Paris. Our guides will greet you at the Lyon airport at 12pm/noon. The transfer to our first hotel in Grenoble will take about one hour.

Once everyone is settled at the hotel, our team will help you to get your bike unpacked, dialed in, and ready to roll for a warm-up ride. A little cycling will help you wind down from your travel before our first group dinner at the hotel. There is an excellent scenic loop in the surrounding foothills that will be just perfect to stretch your legs.

Estimate Ride Distance: 50km/31 miles

Terrain: Hilly

Hotel: Park Hotel Grenoble

www.parkhotelgrenoble.com

Day 2: July 22 - Famous L'Alpe d'Huez

The incredible, winding, amazing climb to L'Alpe d'Huez ski station is at just a bike ride away. Our thoughts begin to wonder who will win the final mountain top finish on this famous route. The ride route will take us up the valley road from Grenoble to Bourg d'Oisans before we make a turn onto the climb.

Climb Alpe d'Huez the day before the race arrives. Feel the tension and excitement mounting for the race when we return the next day for the main event.

Estimated Ride Distance: 100 to 120km/62 to 75miles **Terrain:** 1 mountain climbs

Terrain: Climbs

Hotel: Park Hotel Grenoble

Day 3: July 23 - Up close and Personal with the Pros on Alpe d'Huez

It's a big day to see the boys do battle on the mountain top finish. We will do some excellent riding in the morning before we make our way to the mountain to watch the race live. The men in the peloton have a huge itinerary of their own. Galibier, Croix de Fer and finally L'Alpe d'Huez. Will the yellow jersey position be solid or will the suspense continue on to the final Time Trial?

Estimated Ride Distance: 75km/47miles

Terrain: Small climbs and one big climb to get to the race course on Alpe d'Huez

Hotel: Park Hotel Grenoble

Day 4: July 24 - Any more attacks to challenge the leader?

The boys may be faced again a battle for position coming into the last kilometers followed by maximum power surges in the final 200 meters, but not us! We will cruise the hills and valleys on the race course on the race course prior to the race. It will be a great opportunity to see what the men will tackle themselves some hours later.

After a nice lunch and the race viewing as it passes, we will transfer to our next hotel in Bourges.

Estimated Ride Distance: 120km /75miles

Terrain: Hilly

Hotel: Mercure "Hotel Bourbon" Bourges

www.mercure.com/mercure/fichehotel/gb/mer/1888/fiche_hotel.shtml

Day 5: July 25 - A sprint into Montlucon

On a more relaxed time table today we have plenty of time to make the race finish in Montlucon. We will plan a nice long rolling ride from Bourges to Montlucon. The rolling terrain on rural roads of this region will make for an enjoyable day of cycling. Await the big spring into town.

Van transfer back to Bourges.

Estimated Ride Distance: 100 km

Terrain: Rolling hills

Hotel: Mercure "Bourbon" Bourges

Day 6: July 26 - Ultimate Time Trial in Cognac

Will the *Tour de France* 2007 be as suspenseful as 2006? It will take almost three weeks of bicycle racing to find out. An individual time trial is the best way to see the racers one by one and take some great pictures. Choose your ride distance to get to the racecourse. Famous Steve Bauer Bike Tours Barbecue at the race course. Return to the Hotel by Bike or by Van.

Estimated Ride Distance: 60 to 120km/38 to 75miles

Terrain: rolling

Hotel: Mercure Bourges

Day 7: Departures or continue one more night in Paris

We will depart in the morning to the airport.

Day 6: July 29 - Add-on Option to Paris, Champs Elysées

This is an add-on option to the final stage on the Champs Elysées in Paris. Come watch and feel the ultimate finish of the Tour. It is a unique moment to see the boys giving the little left over energy for a good show on the Champs. This add-on includes the transfer to Paris on 1st Class TGV, 1 night hotel in Paris close to Champs Elysées, and departure transfer to Paris, Charles de Gaulle Airport.

Estimate Transfer Time: 3 to 4 hours

Day 7: July 30 - Add-on Optional to Paris, Departure

We will depart in the morning for Paris. Watch the spectacle on the Champs Elysees as the peloton races the final hour of the Tour de France lapping on the most famous bike racing circuit in the world.

Hotel: tba 4 star

Departures:

For those continuing travels on their own or heading home.

Transfer by our vans to the train station in Bourges

OR

Travel with the group to Paris for departure (Paris Orly is most convenient)

More Information

The Trip at a Glance

7 days / 6 nights

- 3 nights in Grenoble, Alps Mountains,
- 3 nights in Bourges

Live Race Viewing

Stage 17 On climb of L'Alpe d'Huez

Stage 18 On the race course to St. Etienne

Stage 19 Finish in Montlucon

Stage 20 Final TT in St. Amand Montrond

Our Group Size

Our group size is a maximum of 16 people.

Itinerary Description

Steve Bauer Bike Tours Inc has developed this itinerary description above to give you an overview of this *Tour de France* trip before we detail the routes and plan on the ground of France. *Steve Bauer Bike Tours Inc.* reserves the right to make changes to the above description. We work extremely hard to provide the best possible *Tour de France* experience for our guests. If we make changes to the initial advertised trip plan; it will be an improvement to the trip.

Riding Distances

Cycling itineraries will be developed based on the best available routes in each area taking into consideration the potential to ride on the *Tour de France* racecourse itself where possible. Our support guides and vans always do their best to provide flexibility for our travelers in choosing their daily cycling distance. Please understand that if we are riding the racecourse of the *Tour de France*, particularly on mountain passes, it may be impossible for a van to be with the cyclists at all times.

We will always try to seek the best balance between racecourse, itinerary and logistical support. The *Tour de France* organization may be strict.

Guide Support

A minimum of 4 support staff to 6 on full booked trip ensure your trip to run well for optimum enjoyment. Steve Bauer will join your group where possible. Guides will support the daily rides with vans shadowing the group and leading the ride on bicycle along with the guests. Some days all vans are required with fewer cycling guides on the road. Where other days, such as loop rides, fewer vans are required and more guides can participate with travelers on road cycling. In addition the support vans are well equipped with spare wheels, tires and tubes during every ride in case you incur a flat tire or breakdown

RENTAL BIKE

Our rental and spare bikes are very high quality carbon fibre Argon 18 Heliums: www.argon18bike.com. The bicycles are equipped with Shimano Ultegra. Spare parts on tour are Shimano.

You may request to rent one for the trip. We have limited quantities and sizes. Requests will be managed on the basis of first request, first served.

Accommodations

As always, our mission is to find the best hotel properties in proximity to the racecourse and our itinerary. For this trip above described, we believe that we have booked the best accommodation providing this type of bicycle tour. It is necessary to do transfers by van throughout the trip. Travel days can be long complex and demanding when following the race. However, in our experience we find it as an unforgettable experience, well worth the effort to ensure our guests to view the best sections of this amazing event.

Dining

We will include all breakfasts, some lunches, and four group dinners. One dinner will be on your own. Wine is included at all group dinners.

A quality trip means dining at some fine restaurants. Fine food of high quality will be emphasized for all of our group meals at our hotel location as well as restaurant off property.

Air Itinerary Example

Inbound: City of Origin from North America to Lyon Airport or Continental Europe with a connecting flight to Lyon Airport

Outbound: Paris Airport to city of Origin

Add-On Option: Outbound will be Paris, Charles de Gaulle Airport to city of Origin.

Insurance

Steve Bauer Bike Tours Inc. cannot alter our Cancellation Policy for ANY reason. Therefore, we highly recommend the purchase of Trip Cancellation/Interruption and Emergency Medical Insurance for all travelers.

RBC Insurance can be purchased directly from *Steve Bauer Bike Tours*, by filling out the reservation form and sending it back to us along with trip payment. If you choose to decline the insurance coverage offered by *Steve Bauer Bike Tours Inc.*; please return the reservation form checked off "I decline" with your deposit.

Late Arrivals and Early Departures

There will be no compensation for a portion of the trip price on occasions where travelers arrive to the trip late or depart early.

Early Arrival: We will do our best to accommodate early arrivals (prior to our rendezvous location time.) If we are able to assist; we will quote an early pick up charge on specific need basis.

Late departures: We cannot assist with departure after NOON our departure date

Most Important Information

Price: CAN \$5,900

Single Supplement: CAN \$900

Add-On Paris Price: CAN \$ to be determined

Add-On Paris Single Supplement: CAN \$ to be determined

What is included?

- Accommodations at Park Hotel Grenoble, and Hotel Bourbon (Mercure) in Bourges Two quality properties in excellent position proximate to the race route;
- Services of our trip leaders, 4 to 5 logistical support guides (5 guides when trip is full);
- All breakfasts, some lunches, 4 group dinners;
- Wine is included on all our group dinners;
- Gratuities and taxes on accommodations and meals;
- All ground transfers for you, your bicycle and your luggage within the trip context,
- 2 to 3 Support vehicles (passenger vans) for daily cycling itineraries, first aid and bicycle mechanical support (tools, spare wheels, spare bike and equipment);
- One truck for luggage transfers, bicycle case storage during the trip and bicycle mechanical equipment to support the trip;
- Fruit, nutritious snacks, energy bars, cold bottled water for all of our rides;
- Detailed daily route descriptions and mapped itineraries;
- Arrival pick up point is 1 specific time scheduled at 1 designated place at the Lyon Airport.
- Pre-departure information (how to prepare, *Tour de France* information, hotels and visits);
- 1 Custom designed *Steve Bauer Bike Tours Tour de France* cycling jersey;
- 2 *SBBT* cycling water bottles,
- Qualified mechanic on tour to help keep your bikes is rolling perfectly.

What's Not Included?

- Airfare;
- Some lunches and one dinner;
- Alcoholic beverages and drinks other than the wine included during our group dinners;
- Travel and personal insurance;
- Personal hotel expenses: mini bar, telephone, room service, laundry, Internet, fitness, spa services, movies, etc.;
- Any arrival or departure shuttle that does not meet our scheduled pick up/drop time and location.