

Mare a Mare Sud Corsica

This walking tour runs through the interior of southern Corsica, from Porto Vecchio on the east coast to Burgo on the west coast. The route has an exceptional beauty and is fairly well signposted by orange stripes.

Corsica is in fact a huge rock that rises above the Mediterranean Sea. Over the highest peaks in the central part of the island – up to more than 2600 m – runs from north to south the world-famous hiking trail, the GR20. Until late spring you can still find snow here, but also sunbathe on the beach.

Day 1: Porto Vecchio (140 m) - Cartalavone (1020 m)

Day2: Cartalavone - Levie (610 m)

Day 3: Levie - Jellicu (or: hamlet/hamlet Jallicu) or: hamlet/hamlet Jallicu)

Day 4: Jellicu - Ste Lucie de Tallano (450 m)

Day 5: Ste Lucie de Tallano - Burgo (190 m)

Distances between the stages: about 15-18 km

And the bus to Ajaccio.

Landscape

The Mare a Mare Sud introduces you to an exuberant wild nature, classic Corsican villages, the famous maquis – a biotope of mostly dense Mediterranean scrub – and witnesses of former inhabitants and rulers over these inhabitants. During this trip, the azure Mediterranean Sea is regularly in view. The highest point on this route is about 1100 m. The traverse, with steep climbs and descents, can be done in five days. On the first day, after about 900 m of climbing, you will have a fantastic view of the port, the Gulf of Porto Vecchio and the artificial lake of L'Ospedale. Almost impossible to beat! Then you can walk through chestnut forests – introduced to this island by the Genoese for the purpose of food supply – past excavations and the many pigs.





Mountain view with the GR 20

Walking in Corsica is often bumping, climbing and descending on paths with loose stones and boulders. The route is not flat for a moment. While bumping you arrive at a gîte (holiday home) on a kind of plateau. No one was present on arrival, but the door of the farm was open. There were a few very dry sausages and a note with 'Bon Appétit' ready. There were a few beers in the fridge. Only in the evening, once the innkeeper-horse breeder has come home, you will be served the specialty of the island: a tripe (spiced cow stomach). We are more of those eaters who find that "no matter how you prepare and season the tripe, it remains a mediocre dish" (quote: Pellegrino Artusi, world famous Italian cook).

It should not go unmentioned that Napoleon was born on this island. And you will know that too: it can be found everywhere. Especially in Ajaccio, where the ferry from Marseille arrives and leaves again.

Corsica: Île de Beauté, rightfully so!

Levie, Alta Rocca The capital of the mountainous and wooded region **Alta Rocca** (High Rock), or three massifs: Bavella, Ospedale and the Cuscionu-plateau. De Alta Rocca has a history of about 9000 years. Many heritage treasures have been preserved: fountain, bread oven, mill, laundry room... Romanesque churches, prehistoric archaeological excavations.

Musée départemental de l'Alta Rocca: The collections exhibited here show the history and daily life of the inhabitants of Alta Rocca from the 8th millennium BCE to the Middle Ages.



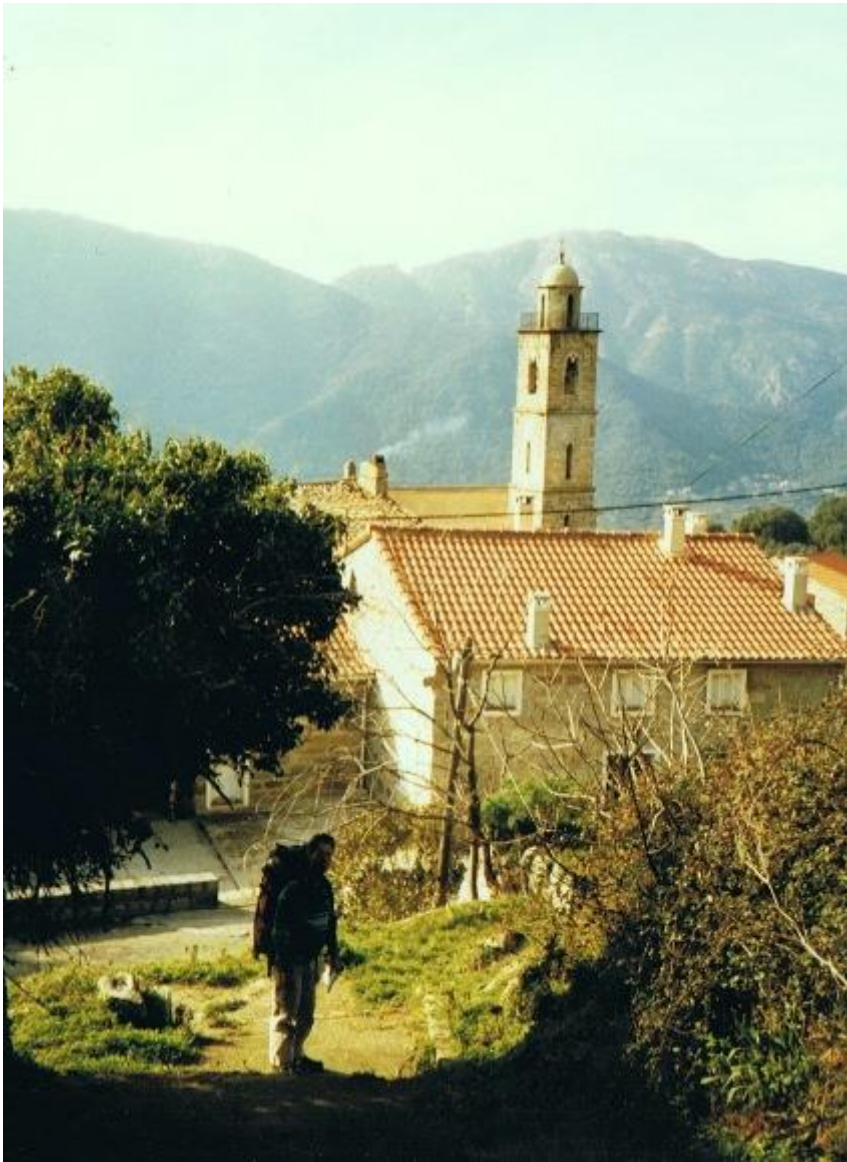
Ascent and descent, on paths with loose pebbles

Ste Lucie de Tallano

At 450 m altitude lies Ste Lucie de Tallano with its narrow streets, granite houses and monuments. The monastery of San Francesco from 1492. And in the vicinity Cuccuruzzu, an archaeological site in Corsica. In the municipality of Levie. A fortification in the rocks, made by the people of the Torrean civilization in the Bronze Age (until 1200 BC) Plan your route along these excavations, through beautiful forests.

Porto Vecchio

Starting point of the route, beautiful coastal town with, just to the south, snow-white beaches. Say: paradise. Or, more secularly: Bounty-island. A town with a beautiful gate, the church of Saint Jean de Baptiste, a fortress and a chance to see a famous movie star or other VIP. After a night's sleep, it goes straight up the next morning, and how! Right through the maquis but with an increasingly beautiful view over the Mediterranean Sea.



tranquil villages



The marks of de Mare a Mare Sud

Cartalavone

At over 1000m altitude is a refuge. With sleeping and dining facilities. This brings us - once again - to the experience that France, including Corsica, is somewhat lacking in terms of service to the hiker, the tourist. The gîte turned out to be closed, the restaurant "fermé, the shop without further information with the curtains closed...not insurmountable but repeatedly annoying. Then Germany has left a much better impression on us.