

Corte / Ghisoni

Crossing Corsica by bike - GT20

DépartArrivéeCorteGhisoni

DuréeDistance3 h 51 min57,97 Km

Niveau Thématique I cycle a lot Mountains

Beyond the Bocca di Verghju, Corsica's highest road pass, this ninth stage of the GT20 proves one of the most challenging, involving almost 1,400m of positive shift in altitude. After negotiating the way to Venacu, you tackle the long and winding way up to the Col de Croce pass. The stage offers cyclists a series of varied landscapes to relish and crosses such picturesque villages as Noceta, Ruspigliani and Vezzani. The Barrage de Sampolu, a dam, marks the entrance to the Défilé de l'Inzecca, a gorge famed for its sheer, steep rocky sides rising above the impetuous Fium'Orbu River. Then comes a tunnel, guiding you to Sampolo Lake, before you take on the final climb to Ghisoni.

The route

Aiming for the next stopover town of Ghisoni, prepare for the ride! Following an initial climb of 8km, you arrive at the Col de Belle Granaje. After this pass, you descend to Venacu. You'll join the T20 main road to reach Venacu, where you branch off in the direction of Aleria. After a descent, take the direction of Noceta/Vezzani, then you start the climb to the Col de Croce. Do note, the ascent to this pass involves 500m of positive shift in altitude along 12 km, so it's hard on the legs. Once at the summit, enjoy a 17km descent. Next, having crossed the low Col de Cardo pass, join the D344 road taking you on an 11km-long ride, via the Inzecca Gorge, to Ghisoni; note that this final stretch is along a narrow road with tight bends and at an average gradient of 3.3%.

Practical information

Tourist offices

 Office de Tourisme du Centre Corse La Citadelle 20250 Corte - 04 95 46 26 70

CFC (Corsican train services and stations)

- Corte railway station
- Venaco railway stop

Don't miss

- Corte (or Corti): Musée de la Corse; the Citadel; the Barrage de Calacuccia, a dam
- Ghisoni: nestled at the foot of Monte Renoso (2,352m in altitude) and Bastani Lake, the village is also known as a ski resort





