

Le Tour de France 2017

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HOLIDAYS

"Share the passion of the world's greatest stage race"

Secure your place on this limited space tour with our "Earlybird" offer and ride the major climbs of the Tour de France, get close to the action and see the fireworks at the Paris finalé of cycling's greatest race with our Polka Dot Tour de France trip.

A combination of our local knowledge, on road support and professional soigneur service will take care of everything so you can focus on getting the most out of your riding, soak up the local culture whilst staying in carefully selected 4 star and Superior 3 star accomodation.



"The main focus of this tour is riding quiet roads and stunning mountain passes through the French countryside, and of course securing you the best position to witness some of the key moments of next year's Tour de France. I am really excited to present you with this opportunity to take home some unforgettable memories."

Steve Cunningham.

Dates: 15th-24th July 2017

"Early Bird" Deposit: \$750 AUD

Pricing: TBC October (competitively priced)

Arrival Airport: TBC

Departure Airport: Paris Charles de Gaulle

Contact: steve@polkadotcycling.com

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Be a part of the culmination of the 2017 Tour de France following the last 10 days of the race.
- Ride specially selected routes that the Peloton will be racing on.
- Be at the World Famous Finalé in Paris and join the champagne celebrations on the Champs-Élysées.
- On road personal coaching and advice from former professional rider and director sportive, Steve Cunningham.
- On and off the bike photography pack to capture those precious memories.
- The "Pro" experience includes the best in the business on road support, with a 1:5 guide to rider ratio.
- Flexible ride options allow you to ride as much or as little as you want.
- Our professional soigneur service takes care of everything from baggage transfer to dietary requirements and bike mechanics to physical preparation for the day ahead.
- Non-riders are welcome and well catered for with daily sightseeing excursion options.
- This Tour is guaranteed to depart.

Arrival Day

Meet & Greet

Upon release of the Tour route in October you will be given the name of the airport in France closest to the start of your tour. We will organise our friendly guide team to meet you and transfer you to your hotel, where you will meet the rest of the group and have the opportunity to build your bike or setup your hire bike.

If there is time you can go for a quick spin to loosen off the legs from the flight before our first group dinner, where Steve and his team will brief you on the trip ahead and give out your welcome packs.



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Riding

Roll out

The trip's itinerary is designed to allow you to ride as much or as little as you want, with each day featuring at least one famous tour climb and another optional climb offered for those that want to do a bit more.

Your on road support consists of our Polka Dot Cycling trained guides, who are highly experienced in managing groups over a wide variety of terrain and your tour leader Steve Cunningham will also be on hand to deliver personal coaching and advice to ensure you get the most out of your riding on this tour.

We use a "best in the business" 1:5 guide to rider ratio to ensure you are treated like a Pro and have the support you need in terms of directions, local knowledge, first aid and mechanical support.

Our vans are well equipped with high quality "ride food", water, bike spares and WiFi. The vans also take care of your luggage and carry your daypacks with clothing spares.

Steve – *"Unlike some operators, we choose not to follow the race each and every day and so balance this tour with key stages and locations together with days away from the race to explore quiet roads, villages and enjoy the French cuisine and culture."*



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Accommodation & Food

Culture & cuisine

We will be handpicking 4* and exceptional 3* hotels for their comfort and character and also for their breakfasts and evening meals, which will ensure that in addition to being well fuelled you'll be able to sample some of the most authentic local cuisine.

On the road we carry a selection of quality ride foods, electrolyte and water to ensure optimum performance on the bike.

We will be booking restaurants for lunch where appropriate or providing lunch on the go using local Patisseries and fresh produce.

Steve – "France has a diverse culture, which is what makes it so interesting to ride through, with each region and town offering unique experiences. We will give you the inside track to ensure you see the best of France, enjoy it's wine, sample it's haute cuisine and engage with the locals."



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The Race

Share the Passion

The Tour de France needs little introduction, with the big name riders and teams making it the focus of their year and the passionate crowd from all over the world turning out in their thousands to cheer, chant and run alongside the peloton as they flash through the French countryside.

We will do the legwork to get you in the best positions to view the race, visit the start and finish areas of selected stages, without detracting too much from your own time on the bike.

Steve – *"This will be my eighth consecutive time at the Tour de France trip and the magic is always there for me. There is so much going on at every touch point, whether it be mingling with the Pros at the start and finish areas, watching the fireworks on the climbs with the big crowds or seeing the riders descend at incredible speed, it never ceases to take my breath away."*



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Paris

Grand Finalé

One of the greatest shows on earth sees the peloton complete 8 laps of a circuit that hurtles through the streets of Paris at break neck speed and finishes with a prestigious sprint on the Champs-Élysées.

On the morning of the Paris stage we will transfer you to Paris first class on the TGV, France's high-speed rail line. Your luggage will arrive separately and we will check it into your hotel room for you.

We'll be organizing race circuit viewing for you to be right in the thick of the action and join in the Champagne celebrations as the Tour victor is crowned champion and the party carries on long into the night.

Departure Day

Au Revoir

Our final breakfast together will be a chance to share the many memories from the week and night before, as well as say goodbye to new found friends.

We will then be providing transfers to Charles de Gaulle airport and assisting you with your onward travel if you are remaining in Europe.



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INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE

- 15 places available making for a personalised tour.
- All transfers including airport pickups and drop-offs.
- 9 nights in carefully selected 4 Star and Superior 3 Star hotels.
- Daily regional buffet breakfast.
- 5 nights of the finest French cuisine including selected wines and beverages.
- 4 evening meals will be left open, giving you the freedom to explore local options that our local experts will recommend and make bookings for you.
- Full on road support for all ride options, using well-equipped vans to provide quality "ride food & drinks", mechanical support, first aid, shower, changing facilities and WiFi.
- Flexible lunch options with local cafes or Pro musette packed lunches.
- On and off the bike photography by the team, to take home those precious memories.
- A welcome pack including Polka Dot Cycling jersey, printed maps and profiles, local information and more.

EXTRAS & UPGRADES

- Single room supplement \$1500
- BMC bike hire \$500
(compact gearing and fully serviced)

To join us on this trip it is a requirement you have travel insurance that covers full medical insurance – both emergency and non-emergency care – and preferably one that covers any valuables you may bring yourself.

Arrival and Departure flights are not included in this package so please ensure you have made your own arrangements. We are happy to recommend arrival and departure times or airlines to use.

FINALISE YOUR BOOKING

To assure your place on this tour, please contact Niamh via niamh@polkadotcycling.com.

We will then email you a booking form for completion before taking a deposit of \$750.

For any further questions about this tour, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Steve by (+61) 0488 918 900 or email steve@polkadotcycling.com.

We look forward to welcoming you on the Tour and creating some unforgettable memories!