

Best of the Eastern Algarve Cycling Tour



This is designed to be a gentle and relaxing cycling holiday with a rest day roughly halfway through the week, cycling the Eastern Algarve area to Silves mainly on quiet tarmac roads and occasionally dirt tracks. Quality bike hire with panniers to carry your luggage and essential bike equipment included.

Activity: **Cycle Touring – self guided**
Location: **Algarve, Portugal**
Level: **Reasonably experienced riders**
Duration: **7 days**
Price: **From €525**

Itinerary

Day 1 Vila Real de San Antonio

We will collect you from Faro Airport and take you to Vila Real de San Antonio, an interesting old town on the banks of the Guadiana river, which forms the border between Spain and Portugal.

Day 2 Tavira

Your first day's cycling is along the Ecovia do Litoral (this is a dedicated cycle route that runs along the Algarve coast, linking Cape St Vincent in the west to Vila Real de San António on the Spanish border). Along the way you will pass through the coastal resorts of Monte Gordo and Altura, as well as the ancient village of Cacela Velha, where you can enjoy refreshments whilst taking in the panoramic views across the lagoon and out to sea. You should arrive in Tavira with plenty of time to have a look around this elegant old town dating back to Roman times.

Day 3 Olhao

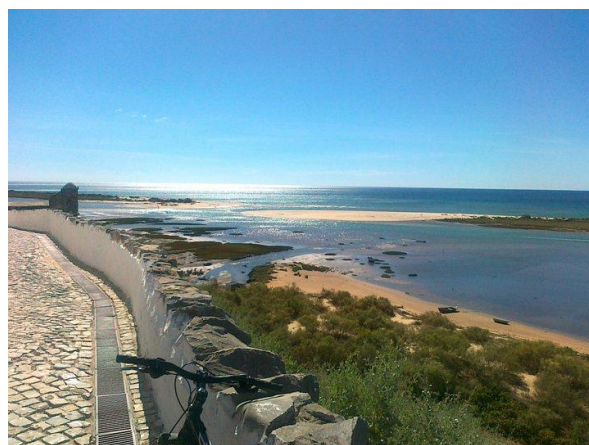
This is another gentle day's cycling along the mostly flat Ecovia do Litoral. There are cafes and restaurants along the way and the route also



passes through the charming fishing village of Fuseta. Once you arrive in Olhao, the Eastern Algarve's principal fishing port, you may like to take a ferry or water taxi over to one of the islands (Armona, Culatra or Farol) for an afternoon on the beach or dinner in one of the fine seafood restaurants located on the islands.

Day 4 Loule

Today's ride heads inland, by-passing the regional capital Faro and skirting the famous roman remains at Estoi. You will cycle into the hills, through quiet villages, to reach the old market town of Loule. Loule is an explorer's haven, with its narrow cobbled streets leading off the central Avenida, tiny shops and hidden away bars and restaurants.



Day 5 Rest Day in Loule

Today you will have an opportunity to relax and explore the fascinating old town or relax by the roof top swimming pool at the hotel, right in the centre of town. If you are still feeling energetic, you may choose to cycle down to the coast where some of the finest beaches in the Algarve can be found.



Day 6 Alte

This is a more challenging day in the rolling hills to the north of Loule, but well worth the effort for the tremendous scenery. You will head towards the tiny hill-top village of Querenca, a great coffee stop and a place to take in the splendid views. Your final destination for the day is the lovely hillside village of Alte. Famous for its white painted houses and fresh water springs, the year round presence of water in the river adds a certain unique charm to the village.

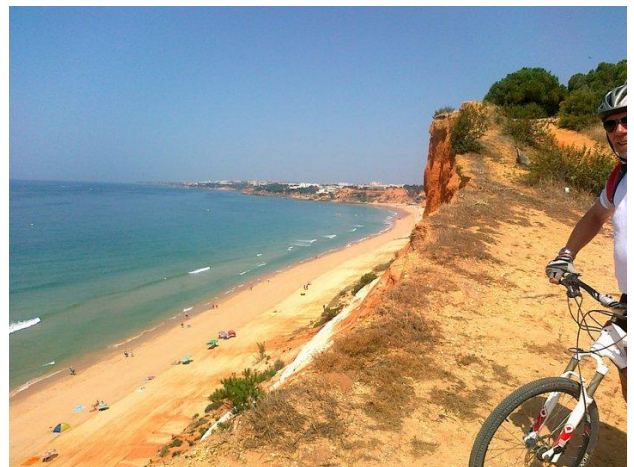
Day 7 Silves

This will be a ride to remember with some great views all along the way. There is a lovely ride along a dirt track road alongside the Barragem do Funcho, and then gently cruising down the valley to your destination for the day in the lovely historic town of Silves. Once the Moorish capital, Silves is steeped with history. It is an enchanting town on the banks of the Rio Arade and home to the best preserved castle in the Algarve.



Prices are per person, based upon two people sharing a twin/double bedded room and include the following :-

- Cycling mainly on quiet good quality tarmac roads. Options for daily route extensions
- Interesting towns to stay with a choice of good restaurants
- Good quality hotels
- Quality maps and route suggestions
- Quality bike hire
- Transfers to/from start and end of route
- Flexible arrival day enabling you to choose the best flights to suit you.



Visit www.activityalgarve.com, call +351 913 226 954 or email paul.beesley@sapo.pt for more information.