

Table Of Content

Geographical location	4
Neighbouring cities/countries	5
Significance	6
History	7
Cultural identity	8
Natural resources	9
Key site seeing places (paid and free)	10
- Paid	10
-- Musée Fesch	10
-- Musée Archéologique d'Aléria	10
-- Musée de la Corse	11
-- Musée de la Miniature	12
-- Escalier du Roi d'Aragon	12
-- Filitosa	12
- Free	14
-- Scandola Nature Reserve	14
-- Les Calanche de Piana	14
-- Bonifacio Citadel	14
-- Lavezzi Islands	15
-- Gorges du Tavignano	15
-- Tamaricciu Beach	16
-- Santa Giulia Beach	16
-- Plage de Palombaggia	16
-- The Citadelle of Calvi	17
-- Église Saint-Michel de Murato	17
-- Église Sainte-Marie-Majeure de Bonifacio	18
-- Oratoire de la Confrérie de Sainte Croix	18
-- Place Saint-Nicolas	18
-- Réserve Naturelle des Bouches de Bonifacio	19
-- Aiguilles de Bavella	19
-- Le Vieux Port	20

-- Terra Nova	20
-- Statue of Napoleon Bonaparte	20
-- Grotte di Bonifacio	21
Key sites sports & adventure	22
Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums	23
Spas and relaxation	24
Events calendar	25
Key local guides and tours	28
Transportation hubs	29
Transportation cost	30
Baggage allowance	31
Must try food and local savouries	32
Restaurant & Nightlife	33
Average meal cost	37
Shopping	38
Tourist benefits	39
Essential local apps	40
Driving	41
Travel essentials	42
Essential clothes	43
Local currency	44
Change vendor's commission, ATM charges	45
Staying connected	46
Time Zone	47
Languages	48
Political Scenario	49
Economic Scenario	50
Religious belief	51
Visa requirements	52
Essential vaccination	53
Theft and Safety	54
Embassy/Consulate	55
Accessibility	56

Emergencies 57

Do's and Don'ts 58

Tipping basics 59

Pet info 60

Conclusion 61

Disclaimer 62



Index

1. Geographical location

Corsica is the fourth largest island in the Mediterranean, after Sicily, Sardinia and Cyprus. It lies 14 kms to the north of Sardinia. While being a part of France, the island is also designated as a territorial collectivity. Corsica is mostly mountainous and has 20 peaks exceeding 6,500 feet and over 100 summits of more than 2,000 meters. It has a coastline running for around 1,000 kilometers with over 200 beaches.



Index

2. Neighbouring cities/countries

Some Cities Lying Close To Corsica Are Tuscany (90 Kms), Caprera (109 Kms), Elba (229 Kms), Nice (235 Kms), Genoa (264 Kms), Florence (267 Kms) And Rome (287 Kms).



Index

3. Significance

Best known as the birthplace of Napoleon Bonaparte, Corsica is, undoubtedly, the most beautiful island in the Mediterranean Sea. It is world renowned for its intense azure waters, alpine deep greens, gorgeous mountain range, and magnificent rock formations. It offers excellent adventure sporting opportunities such as kayaking, surfing, diving, water skiing and jet skiing. Add to it the island's deep historical roots and fabulous fusion cuisine! Corsica is a dream destination for travelers of all ages.



Index

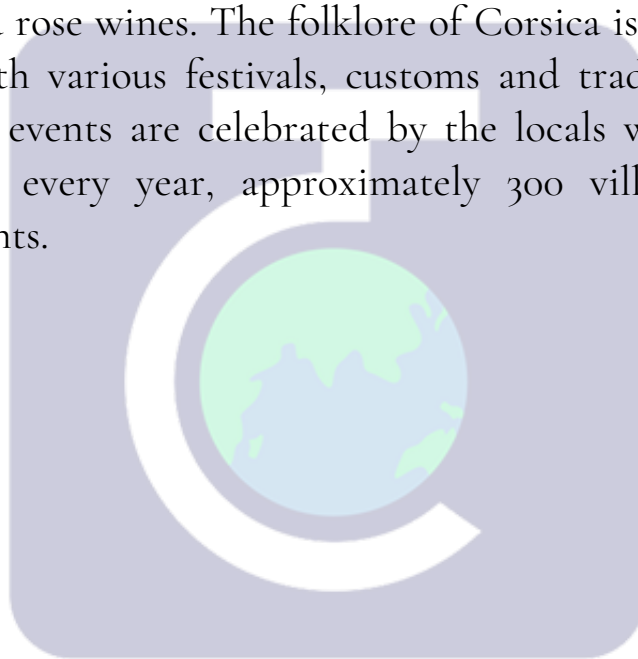
4. History

The earliest human settlements in Corsica date back to 3,000 BC. During the Middle Ages history, the island was invaded multiple times. It was contested by Vandals, Byzantines, Ostrogoths, Tuscans and Saracens to name a few. In 1755, Pascal Paoli, a Corsican patriot, was officially pronounced as the General of the Corsican Nation. Corsica adopted written constitutions in 1735 and 1755.



5. Cultural identity

Corsica has a typical island culture which tends to be friendlier to the environment. Being geographically and historically close to Italy, the culture of Corsica has also been greatly influenced by Italian and French cultures over time. Food and drink plays one of the most important roles in the Corsican culture. The island has an abundance of fish and seafood of various kinds. It is also known for its red, white and rose wines. The folklore of Corsica is rich and the region's calendar is laced with various festivals, customs and traditions. All the main French festivals and events are celebrated by the locals with great pomp and show. For example, every year, approximately 300 villages celebrate their respective patron saints.



Index

6. Natural resources

France is rich in coal, timber, iron ore, fluorspar, zinc, uranium, bauxite, arsenic and potash to name a few. It is also richly endowed with agricultural resources and is rich in cheese, wheat and wine. It is also known for its extensive timber and fishing industries.



Index

7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Musée Fesch

Located within the gated Palais Fesch, Musée Fesch or Palais Fesch-musée des beaux-arts is a renowned museum of fine arts in Ajaccio. It is housed in the 19th-century Palais Fesch on Rue Cardinal Fesch and displays the painting collection stockpiled by Cardinal Joseph Fesch. The museum has received an international reputation because of its awe-inspiring selection of Italian paintings from the 14th to the 18th century and large Napoleonic section completely dedicated to the founder.

Address : 50-52 Rue Cardinal Fesch, 20000 Ajaccio, Corsica, France

Zipcode : 20000

Location : 41.92187, 8.7389160000000017

Contact : +33495262626

Website : <http://www.musee-fesch.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Saint Roch Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €8 Discounted (Seniors over 65 years, students, groups of more than 10 visitors): €5 Free for people under 18 years

Open & Close Timing : October to April: Monday, Wednesday and Saturday 10:00hrs-17:00hrs Thursday, Friday and Sunday 12:00hrs-17:00hrs May to September: Monday, Wednesday and Saturday 10:30hrs-18:00hrs Thursday, Friday and Sunday 12:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.2. Musée Archéologique d'Aléria

If you need a quick getaway from the beaches of Corsica, visiting Musée Archéologique d'Aléria is a good option. Located in the old part of Aleria, approximately 2 kilometers from the modern village, the museum contains the remains discovered on the archaeological site of Aleria and houses an impressive collection of unearthed Roman objects including jewels, weapons and utensils.

Address : Lieu dit Fort, 20270 Aléria, Corsica, France

Zipcode : 20270

Location : 42.1045665, 9.511245099999996

Contact : +33495570092

Entry Fee : Adults: €2 Discounted (students, children and groups of 10 people or more): €1 Free admission for classes and school under the guidance of their teachers, as well as official guides

Open & Close Timing : 16 May to 30 September: Monday to Thursday 09:00hrs-12:00hrs, 13:00hrs-18:00hrs 1 October to 15 May: 08:00hrs-12:00hrs, 13:00hrs-17:00hrs Closed on Sunday from 1st November to 31st March

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 5 - 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Musée de la Corse

Located at the site of the Citadel of Corte, Musée de la Corse (Museum of Corsica) spans across centuries and traces the Corsican customs and crafts. It is spread over 3 levels and offers deep insight into the evolution of the agrarian society of Corsica. The architecture of the museum is also worth admiring and the exhibits take you back in time.

Address : Rue de la Citadelle, 20250 Corte, France

Zipcode : 20250

Location : 42.30615179999999, 9.148392699999931

Contact : +33495452545

Website : <http://www.musee-corse.com/index.php/fre/Accueil>

Entry Fee : Full individual rate: €5.30 Reduced fare (senior citizens 60+ years): €3.80 Reduced rate (student, high school student, unemployed): €3.00 Reduced price school: €1.50 Children less than 10 years: Free admission Supplement audio guide: €1.50

Open & Close Timing : 1st November to 31st March: 10:00hrs-17:00hrs - Daily except Sundays, Mondays, holidays and 24 December 1st April to 21st June: 10:00hrs- 18:00hrs Daily except Mondays and 1 May 22nd June to 20th September: Daily 10:00hrs-20:00hrs 21st September to 31st October: 10:00hrs-18:00hrs Daily except Monday, Closed from December 31 to 14 January

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 - 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.4. Musée de la Miniature

Housed in the gunpowder store of Bastia's citadel, Musée de la miniature exhibits a miniature village built with authentic materials and moving figurines. Visitors can see the chestnut watermill, the chapel on a hill, the Genoese bridge, and numerous craft shops.

Address : La poudrière, 20200 Bastia, France

Zipcode : 20200

Location : 44.556373, 4.749958999999999

Contact : +33610268208

Entry Fee : Adults: €5.30

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 - 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.5. Escalier du Roi d'Aragon

Escalier du Roi d'Aragon (King Aragon Steps) is a beautiful staircase that serves as an access path to underground freshwater well. There are 187 perpendicular steps in total carved into the limestone cliff. It is an excellent spot for stunning natural views of the island and some great photos.

Address : Escalier du Roi d'Aragon, 20169 Bonifacio, France

Zipcode : 20169

Location : 41.38631399999999, 9.156369899999959

Contact : +33495731188

Entry Fee : Adults: €2.50 Children: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-22:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 - 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.6. Filitosa

Classified as a historic landmark, Filitosa is a spectacular megalithic site between Ajaccio and Propriano in southwest Corsica spanning over 5,000 years of history.

The strange stones are shaped by time and winds. The site is scenic with explanations and mysterious music and quite interesting unlike anything else.

Address : Filitosa, D.57, 20140 Sollacaro, France

Zipcode : 20140

Location : 41.74499300000001, 8.870024999999941

Contact : +33495740091

Website : <http://www.filitosa.fr/>

Entry Fee : Adults: €7 Disabled: €3.5 Discounted (For groups of 10+ people, members of partners' pass): €6 Free admission for children under 8 years of age,

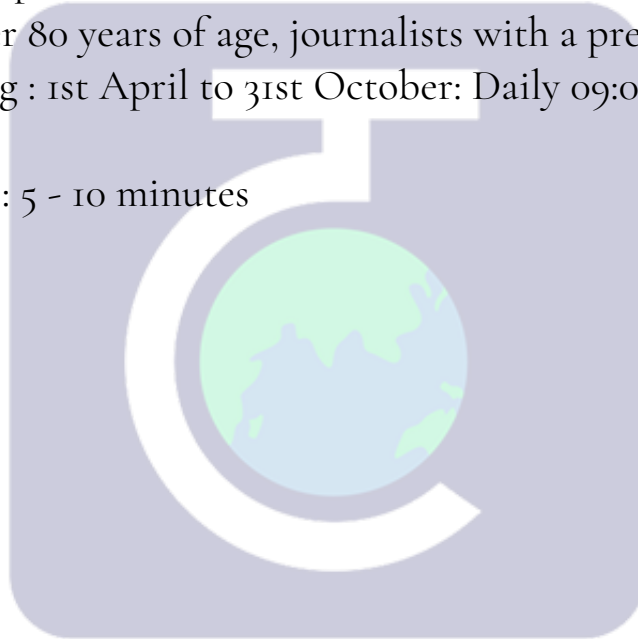
Senior citizens of over 80 years of age, journalists with a press card

Open & Close Timing : 1st April to 31st October: Daily 09:00hrs- sunset

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 5 - 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



Index

7.2. Free

7.2.1. Scandola Nature Reserve

Situated on the west coast of Corsica, above the gulf of Girolata, the Scandola Nature Reserve is a lovely park and reserve recognized as a Natural World Heritage Site. This landscape is sculpted by water and wind, and is an absolutely unmissable experience when visiting Corsica. You can reach here by taking a boat tour from Calvi, Galeria or Porto, or you could also hire your own boat.

Address : 20147 Corse-du-Sud, France

Zipcode : 20147

Location : 42.3589629, 8.561468300000001

Contact : +33495517910

Website : <http://www.reserves-naturelles.org/scandola>

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Friday Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 5-10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Les Calanche de Piana

Known as the 'Calanche de Piana', Les Calanche Cliffs is a breathtaking scenic attraction on the island. These marvelous red cliffs towering over the Mediterranean are located in the west of Corsica and offer astounding views of the island. These are actually jagged creeks weathered by erosion which look like amazing forms of sculpture. You also have options for tours to Girolata and Scandola from here.

Address : Calanche de Piana, 20115 Corsica, France

Zipcode : 20115

Location : 42.24545270000001, 8.653476899999987

Contact : +330609490610

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Bonifacio Citadel

Bonifacio's 9th-century citadel is a famous tourist attraction. It overlooks the entrance of the natural harbor and offers incredible views of the sea and the shoreline. Having an interesting selection and variety of restaurants, the citadel is worth spending a couple of hours, especially for history buffs.

Address : La Citadelle, 20169 Bonifacio, France

Zipcode : 20169

Location : 41.38712110000001, 9.156024000000002

Contact : +33495731188

Website : <http://www.bonifacio.laparoisse.fr/index.php?page30-13-AB>

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Lavezzi Islands

Located just 10 kilometers off the coast of Bonifacio, Iles de Lavezzi are a group of beautiful, unfrequented granite islands with fascinating rock formations. It is a protected site and a paradise for hikers, scuba divers, sailors, zen seekers and yoga lovers. Several boat companies and tour operators in Bonifacio and Porto Vecchio run day trips to Lavezzi Islands.

Address : Iles Lavezzi, 20169 Bonifacio, France

Zipcode : 20169

Location : 41.34027799999999, 9.255556000000007

Contact : +33495721877

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Gorges du Tavignano

The Gorges du Tavignano are Corsica's deepest, extremely picturesque and among the most-visited gorges in Europe. There is only a small trail leading through this beautiful part of the island. It is accessible on foot and remains well off the beaten track. There are multiple opportunities to traverse through the natural environment in this part of Corsica.

Address : Gorges du Tavignano, 20250 Corte, France

Zipcode : 20250

Location : 42.293377, 9.079003000000057

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Tamaricciu Beach

Tamaricciu or Folacca Beach is one of the most popular beaches in southeast Corsica. It is known for its ivory sand, bizarre rock formations, pine tree sitting and pristine waters. Tamaricciu is almost a continuation of Palombaggia Beach and you can reach it by walking south. A perfect place for a family outing, keep this attraction on your list while traveling to Corsica.

Address : route de Palombaggia, 20137 Porto-Vecchio, France

Zipcode : 20137

Location : 41.5534668, 9.318187200000011

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Santa Giulia Beach

Tagged as one of the most enthralling beaches in Corsica, Santa Giulia Beach is known for its pearl-white sand and turquoise water. There are a lot of activities on the beach, making it an absolute paradise for water-sports enthusiasts. The beach has shallow and warm waters and is, therefore, ideal for small children and families. There are numerous cafés and restaurants on the beach.

Address : 20137 Porto-Vecchio, France

Zipcode : 20137

Location : 41.521569, 9.259676000000013

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Plage de Palombaggia

Plage de Palombaggia is a glistening, long beach in Corse frequented by many

tourists. Stretching over 1.5 kilometers, the beach is known for its white sand, pine trees, bright blue water and aqua sports. There are a lot of restaurants and bars along the beachfront that serve the best of cocktails and seafood.

Address : Rte de Piccovagia 20137, Porto-Vecchio, Corsica, France

Zipcode : 20137

Location : 41.5579257, 9.325304500000016

Contact : +79851071653

Website : <http://www.ot-portovecchio.com/sud-corse/fr/1-6/palombaggia.html>

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. The Citadelle of Calvi

Located in the historic part of the town, the Citadel is a must visit when in Calvi. The citadel is the symbol of the town of Calvi and is visible from everywhere in the city. It was built in between the 13th and 16th century and offers numerous narrow passages and alleyways. The citadel holds great historical importance and offers spectacular views from the top.

Address : Haute ville, 20260 Calvi, France

Zipcode : 20260

Location : 42.5681968, 8.760553399999935

Contact : +33495651667

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Église Saint-Michel de Murato

Located in the French department of Haute-Corse, Murato, Église Saint-Michel is one of the most classic churches of Corsica. This remarkably checkered church is known for its beautiful Romanesque architecture and was classified as a historic monument in 1840. A legend goes that the villagers of Murato once woke up to discover that the church had been built by angels.

Address : 20239 Murato, France

Zipcode : 20239

Location : 42.586064, 9.333488999999986

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. Église Sainte-Marie-Majeure de Bonifacio

Built in the 12th-13th century, Église Sainte-Marie-Majeure is a beautiful church located in Bonifacio, southeastern Corsica. It is one of the oldest structures in the city and was classified as a Historic Monument in 1982. The 14th-century bell tower of the church rises to 82 feet and offers amazing views of the town.

Address : Rue du Saint-Sacrement, 20169 Bonifacio, France

Zipcode : 20169

Location : 41.3870453, 9.159522599999946

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. Oratoire de la Confrérie de Sainte Croix

Established in the beginning of the 15th century in rococo style, the Brotherhood of the Saint-cross is the oldest in the city. It is fairly simple from the outside but extremely rich and intricate inside and preserves the crucifix of Black Christ, found by two fishermen in 1428. Oratory of the Confraternity of the Holy Cross was classified as a historical monument in 1931.

Address : Rue Dell'Evenche, 20200 Bastia, Corsica, France

Zipcode : 20200

Location : 42.692511, 9.451820999999995

Website : <http://www.bastia-tourisme.com/tourisme-corse/10-176/oratoire-de-la-confrerie-de-la-sainte-croix-xv-.html>

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.13. Place Saint-Nicolas

Located opposite the commercial port, Place Saint-Nicolas or the Saint-Nicolas Square is the main square of Bastia and also one of the largest in France running across 280 meters. It holds various flea markets and seasonal events, especially during summers. The area also has plenty of bars and restaurants for a perfect

evening with friends.

Address : Allée Général Fieschi, 20200 Bastia, France

Zipcode : 20200

Location : 42.7005856, 9.451227799999997

Nearest Public Transport : 20200 Bastia Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.14. Réserve Naturelle des Bouches de Bonifacio

The strait of Bonifacio is among the most beautiful natural sites in the western Mediterranean. The natural reserve of Bonifacio was created in 1999 with an area of 80,000 hectares and boasts of an incredible natural beauty. It is located between Corsica and Sardinia and although somewhat crowded at times, it is a remarkable place to visit.

Address : Allée Général Fieschi, 20200 Bastia, France

Zipcode : 20200

Location : 41.4221738, 9.3229212999999962

Contact : +33495721877

Website : <http://www.rnbb.fr/>

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.15. Aiguilles de Bavella

Aiguilles de Bavella are stunning rocky spikes made of red granite. Meandering roads, countless scenic views, highest mountain tops, deep gorges, gushing rivers - Aiguilles de Bavella has all these and more! It offers excellent climbing, hiking, and mountaineering opportunities and is an absolute must-visit if you love the outdoors and raw natural beauty.

Address : Aiguilles de Bavella, 20122 Quenza, France

Location : 41.809544, 9.2129350000000016

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.16. Le Vieux Port

Located in the historic heart of Bastia, Le Vieux Port or the Old Bastia Port is a medium-capacity port in Corsica. It is a great place to spend your evening and while sauntering along the waterfront. It is lined with restaurants and bars and is officially recognized as a 'Town of Art and History' in France.

Address : Quai Nouveau Port de Commerce, 20200 Bastia, France

Zipcode : 20200

Location : 43.29373089999999, 5.3731112000000039

Contact : +33495552505

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.17. Terra Nova

Terra Nova or the citadel of Bastia is an alluring tangle of narrow and winding alleyways. Constructed in the 15th century, it is the military and administrative core of old Bastia, home to the Governor's Palace, Musée de Bastia and the church of Sainte Marie. Kindly note that it is a stiff climb on foot.

Address : Terra Nova, 20110 Propriano, Corsica, France

Zipcode : 20110

Location : 41.6761227, 8.9054433999999967

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.18. Statue of Napoleon Bonaparte

Napoleon Bonaparte was born in Ajaccio in 1769 and the town of Ajaccio honors him with a towering monument. The statue is worth admiring and many tourists pay a visit to this famous area.

Address : 20000 Ajaccio, France

Zipcode : 20000

Location : 41.9188017, 8.7382407999999971

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.19. Grotte di Bonifacio

The Grotte di Bonifacio are impressive natural caves and one of the most beautiful places to visit in Bonifacio. This place is better known as a traveler's or photographer's delight because of the perfect size of the cliff faces. The only way to get to Grotte di Bonifacio is by boat, which can be rented easily.

Address : 6 Rue Fred Scamaroni, 20169 Bonifacio, France

Zipcode : 20169

Location : 41.38734040000001, 9.158091000000013

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No



8. Key sites sports & adventure

Corsica boasts of a perfect setting for outdoor pursuits and offers myriad options to adventure lovers of all age groups.

- **Multi Sport -**

Address : Route de la Roya, 20217 Saint-Florent, France

Location : 42.6742,9.28640799999993

Contact No : +33688214916

Website : <http://www.altore.com/>

Entry Fees : Paragliding: €85, Souvenir video (HD) €25 Flying Boat:

Return trip Nonza Cap Corse 30 minutes €120, Souvenir video (HD)

€30, Canyoning: €60 per person per day

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 4

Wait Time : 10 - 20 minutes

- **Jet Skiing and Quad tour -**

Address : Plage de la Tonnara, D358, 20169 Bonifacio, France

Location : 41.427008,9.105870999999998

Contact No : +33495735636

Website : <http://pirate-adventure-corsica.com>

Entry Fees : Quad: €45-80 Jet ski: €70-400

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:30hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 4

Wait Time : 10 - 20 minutes

Index

9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Football is the most popular outdoor sport in Corsica. The Corsican national football team is the unofficial football team for the island of Corsica.

- **Stade Armand Cesari:**

Address : Route du Stade, 20600 Furiani, France

Location : 42.6514431,9.4426946999999947

Contact No : +33495300080



10. Spas and relaxation

When in Corsica for a vacation, why not escape from the chaos of the city at least once to rejuvenate yourself with a top European spa? You can easily find spa and wellness services in almost all mid-range and luxury hotels in the region.

- **Sofitel Golfe d'Ajaccio Thalassa Sea & Spa:**

Address : Domaine de la Pointe, Golfe d'Ajaccio, 20166 Porticcio, Corsica, France

Location : 41.8833822,8.7802322

Contact No : +33495294040

Website : <http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-0587-sofitel-golfe-d-ajaccio-thalassa-sea-spa/index.shtml>

- **Hôtel La Villa:**

Address : Chemin Notre Dame de la Serra, 20260 Calvi, France

Location : 42.5554375,8.745583900000042

Contact No : +33495651010

Website : <https://www.hotel-lavilla.com/>

- **Hôtel Castel Brando:**

Address : Erbalunga, 20222 Brando, France

Location : 42.774188,9.474817000000003

Contact No : +33 4 95 30 10 30

Website : <http://www.hotelcastelbrando.com/en/spa-wellness>

11. Events calendar

Month

Events

Ajaccio Jazz Festival

This is the highlight event of the year. It attracts famous jazz artists and young talents from all across the world who perform in open-air concerts, run workshops and jam long into the night. It's said to be one of the best festivals in France.

Fête de la Musique

It is an annual music festival to celebrate the joy of music. There are processions of young and old musicians throughout the island. There is great food and a lot of merriment all around.


Calvi On The Rocks

Calvi On The Rocks is France's answer to Coachella. It is a popular open air electronic music festival. It attracts a young, hip crowd and global stars of house, techno and alternative music. The festival lasts for 6 days and is held in the beautiful town of Calvi.

Corsica's Guitar Festival

‘Les Nuits de la Guitare’ or Guitar Festival that started in 1990 is one of the most important festivals in Corsica today. It is celebrated every year for 8 days in Patrimonio, located between Bastia and Saint Florent.

Olive Festival



This is an extremely popular trade show held on the first weekend after 14th July in Montegrosso. It demonstrates the art of olive oil production. Visitors are also welcome to taste the products.

Porto Latino, St Florent (Latin-American Music Festival)

Porto Latino is a lively festival of Latin-American music. It takes place in and around the town’s small citadel.

Honey Festival

Every year in September, the beautiful town of Murzo in Corsica hosts the Festival of Honey. Beekeepers set up stalls (more than 50 in all) in the streets. Visitors can taste and buy honey, that is locally made by various species of bees.

Christmas and New Year's Eve

Christmas and New Year's Eve is celebrated with great pomp and show everywhere in the city, in hotels, restaurants and even in the streets. The fireworks display is worth a sight.



12. Key local guides and tours

Although Corsica is an island best explored on your own, having a local guide will help you gain a more immersive experience in the city. Tours can also be customized to your personal liking and language preference. Popular City Tours:

- i) Landscape tours Corsica is a stunning island with splendid beaches, fascinating geological formations and numerous nature & wildlife areas. The best way you can explore it is to take a boat tour and discover the wonderful landscapes and nature reserves.
- ii) Cultural Trips A cultural tour through Corsica and surrounding areas is an enriching experience. Visitors can learn about traditional Corsican cuisine, music and folklore.
- iii) Wine and culinary tours Corsica is known for its vineyards. Excursions to the fantastic vineyards around the region can help you learn about the history of wine and winemaking. During the tour, you are also taken to various breweries and gourmet restaurants of the island.

Popular Tour Guides:

- i) Matteo Pisu Matteo is a licensed tour guide with a rich experience in guiding for over 26 years. He specializes in archeology, sightseeing and trekking tours around the region.
- ii) Ivana Malu Ivana is a funny and friendly guide specializing in landscape, beach and adventure tours.

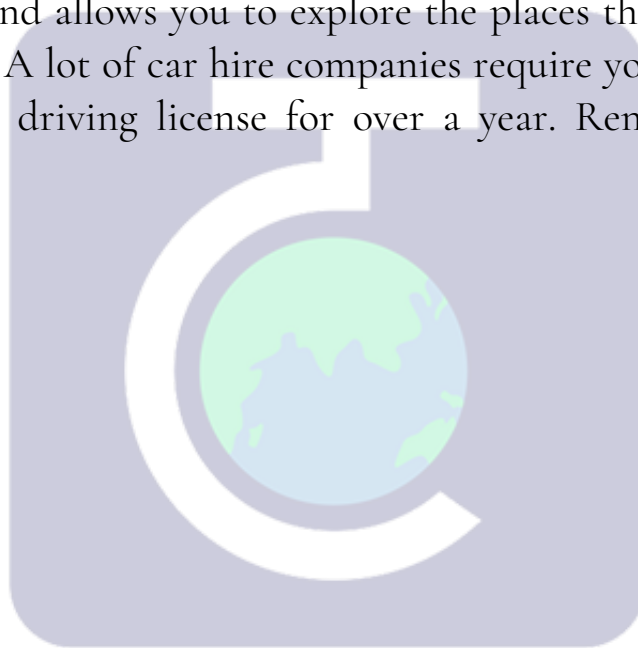
Index

13. Transportation hubs

There are four airports in Corsica that keep it well connected to the European mainland. i) Calvi Airport Sainte Catherine Aeroport in Calvi (CLY) is located about 7 kms from the city centre. The only option to get there is to take a taxi which costs €20 approximately. ii) Ajaccio airport Aéroport de Ajaccio Campo Dell'Oro (AJA) is the largest airport in Corsica and is located just 15 minutes from the city center. You can take Bus 8 for €4.50. You can also take the shuttle bus that operates every 50 minutes. Tickets cost €3-5 for shuttle bus and €25-30 for a taxi. iii) Bastia Airport Aéroport de Bastia-Poretta (BIA) is the second largest airport in Corsica after Ajaccio airport and is located at a distance of 16 kms from the city centre. You can take the shuttle bus to the city centre for €8. iv) Figari Airport Figari Sud Corse Airport (FSC) is located 3 kms northwest of Figari. There is no public transport and the best option is to hire a car from the airport. Taxis are readily available and a taxi to Bonifacio costs around €35. The Corsican railway only serves the northern part of the island by Chemins de Fer de la Corse (CFC). It links all major towns. There is a bus station or bus stop in all major towns. Ferries to the island depart from French ports Marseille, Toulon and Nice, and from Italian ports in Savona, Genova, Livorno and Civitavecchia.

Index**14. Transportation cost**

Public transport is really poor in Corsica and relying on buses or trains is a bad idea. Roads are narrow and full of hairpin bends. Even during peak summer season, buses only have departures once or twice a day. Corsica's lovely little train called Trinighellu is quite an attraction but is slower and limited to three lines only. A great way of getting around in Corsica is to rent a car or scooter. It offers the most flexibility and allows you to explore the places that are inaccessible by the public transport. A lot of car hire companies require you are at least 21 years old and have held a driving license for over a year. Rentals start from €282 weekly.



15. Baggage allowance

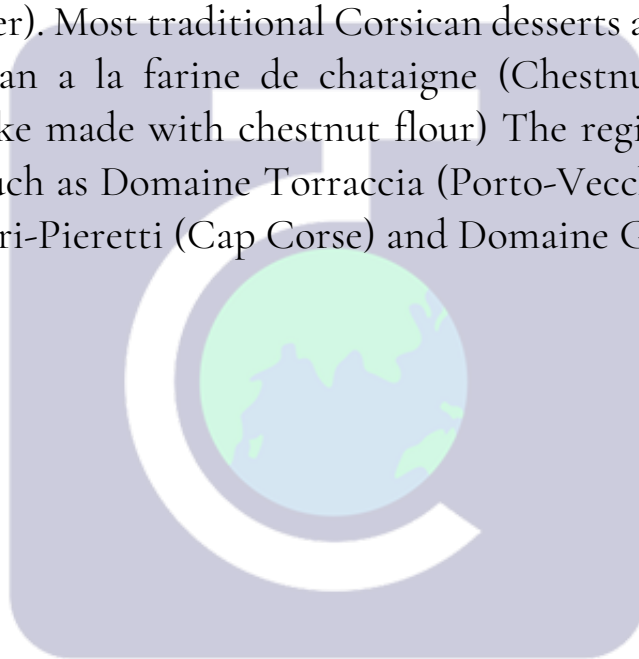
There is enough space in local trains for standard luggages to fit in and while there is no set limit on the amount of baggage you can carry on public transport in Corsica, it is recommended that you travel light. Backpacks are most convenient to carry around the city.



Index

16. Must try food and local savouries

Corsican cuisine has great inland influence. The staple dishes of Corsica are inspired by fresh, locally grown Mediterranean products like tomatoes, zucchini, figs, fish, oysters, lobsters and seasonal herbs. Signature dishes of the island include Civet de sanglier (Stewed boar in a fruity wine sauce), Veau aux olives (Veal with olives), Agneau Corse (Corsican lamb), grilled fish, Brocciu and Charcuterie (appetizer). Most traditional Corsican desserts are Beignets (chestnut flour doughnuts), Flan a la farine de chataigne (Chestnut tart) and Fiadone (traditional cheesecake made with chestnut flour) The region is also known for several good wines such as Domaine Torracchia (Porto-Vecchio), Domaine Leccia (Patrimonio), Venturi-Pieretti (Cap Corse) and Domaine Gentile (Patrimonio).



Index

17. Restaurant & Nightlife

A trip to France is incomplete without delicious and healthy meals. Many of the city's restaurants and cafes have a preference towards local produce, but you can relish both traditional French delicacies and modern meals in Corsica. Ajaccio is a major area where all restaurants are located. Corsicans are always ready for a party and the nightlife scene of the island is quite happening. Parties at most clubs last until after sunrise, not just on weekends but almost every day. There are a lot of clubs on the beaches that are especially active during peak summer season.

Food -

A trip to France is incomplete without delicious and healthy meals. Many of the city's restaurants and cafes have a preference towards local produce, but you can relish both traditional French delicacies and modern meals in Corsica. Ajaccio is a major area where all restaurants are located. Corsicans are always ready for a party and the nightlife scene of the island is quite happening. Parties at most clubs last until after sunrise, not just on weekends but almost every day. There are a lot of clubs on the beaches that are especially active during peak summer season.

- **Le Cabanon Bleu:**

Address : 65 Cours Lucien Bonaparte, 20000 Ajaccio, France

Location : 41.6412157,9.3564811999

Contact No : +33495510215

Website : <https://cabanonbleu.wordpress.com/>

Open / Close Time : 11:45hrs-14:30hrs, 19:30hrs-22:30hrs

- **Via Marine:**

Address : 18 Rue Georges Clemenceau, 20260 Calvi, France

Location : 42.5665281,8.757942500000013

Contact No : +33495650630

- **Restaurant A Scaletta:**

Address : 4 Rue Saint-Jean, 20200 Bastia, France

Location : 42.6966695,9.450259700000006

Contact No : +33495322870

- **Kissing Pigs:**

Address : 15 Quai Banda del Ferro, 20169 Bonifacio, France

Location : 41.3886392000000,9.16051229999993

Contact No : +33495735609

Open / Close Time : 11:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **La Table de Cala Rossa:**

Address : Cala Rossa, 20137 Lecci, Porto-Vecchio, France

Location : 41.622559,9.33808829999998

Contact No : +33 4 95 71 61 51

Website : <http://www.hotel-calarossa.com/fr>

Open / Close Time : 19:45hrs-21:45hrs

- **LE 20123:**

Address : 2 Rue Roi de Rome, 20000 Ajaccio, France

Location : 41.918027,8.737254000000000

Contact No : +33495215005

Website : <http://www.20123.fr/>

Open / Close Time : 07:00hrs-23:30hrs

- **Via Notte:**

Address : route de Porra, 20137 Porto-Vecchio, France

Location : 41.5634334,9.279770999999998

Contact No : +33495720212

Website : <http://www.vianotte.com/>

Open / Close Time : 21:00hrs-06:00hrs

- **La Camargue:**

Address : Route Nationale 197, 20260 Calvi, France

Location : 42.55164190000001,8.7754797999999971

Contact No : +33495650870

Website : <http://www.discothequecamargue.com/>

- **Le Rafaello:**

Address : 5 Rue Chanoine Leschi, 20200 Bastia, France

Location : 42.7038666,9.4532864000000025

Contact No : +33628465946

Website : <http://www.lerafaello.com/>

Open / Close Time : Thursday, Friday and Saturday 21:00hrs-05:00hrs

- **Casino Municipal:**

Address : Address: Boulevard Pascal Rossini, 20000 Ajaccio, France

Location : 41.9171934,8.7359255999999973

Contact No : +33495504060

Website : <http://www.casino-ajaccio.com/>

Open / Close Time : Monday to Saturday 13:00hrs-03:00hrs, Sunday 13:00hrs-00:00hrs

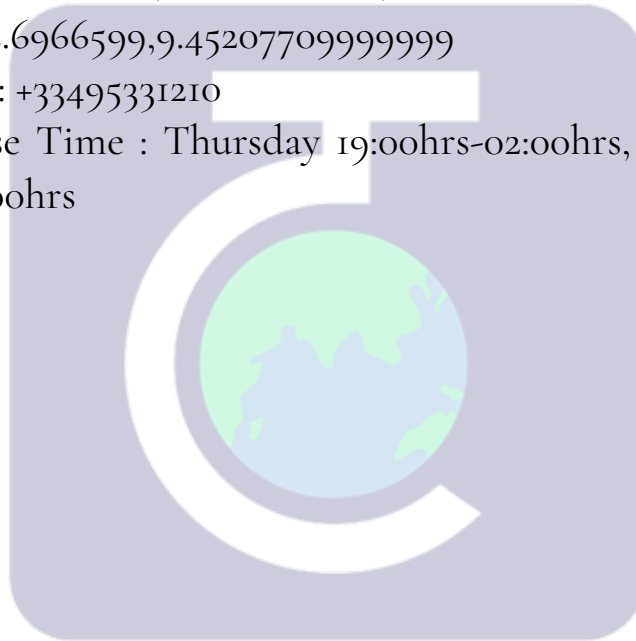
- **Le Pulp:**

Address : 11 Rue Sisco, 20200 Bastia, France

Location : 42.6966599,9.452077099999999

Contact No : +33495331210

Open / Close Time : Thursday 19:00hrs-02:00hrs, Friday and Saturday 19:00hrs-05:00hrs



Index**18. Average meal cost**

3-course meal at an inexpensive Restaurant: €10 3-course meal at a mid-range restaurant (for minimum 2 people): €40 Combo meal at McDonalds or equivalent: €8 0.5 liter draught beer: €5



Index

19. Shopping

Corsica is not a shopping destination per se and there are no massive malls anywhere on the island. However, you can find many antique stores, souvenir shops, artsy boutiques, bookstores and wine shops in the region. It also has various local markets that sell superb local honey, olive oil, jams etc. Bonifacio's old town has various narrow streets choc a bloc with quirky boutiques and small shops selling jewellery, fashion accessories, craft items etc. Porto Vecchio and Calvi also have excellent antique stores and souvenir shops.



20. Tourist benefits

VAT rate in Bordeaux ranges between 10- 20%. International travelers can reclaim the Value Added Tax paid over goods provided they spend a minimum of €175 (in one shop) on goods that they export within 90 days of their purchase. To avail this benefit, all you are required to do is look for stores with tax free shopping signboard, get the VAT reimbursement receipt from the store at the time of your purchase, fill it out carefully and get it stamped from the customs authorities on your final departure. Global Refund is the most common in the city. Kindly note, there is no refund without completed forms, receipts attached and customs validation.



Index**21. Essential local apps**

Corsica Ferries is a useful mobile application to book/ change/ cancel your tickets for ferries to Corsica. It also offers information related to ships, access to shipping ports etc.



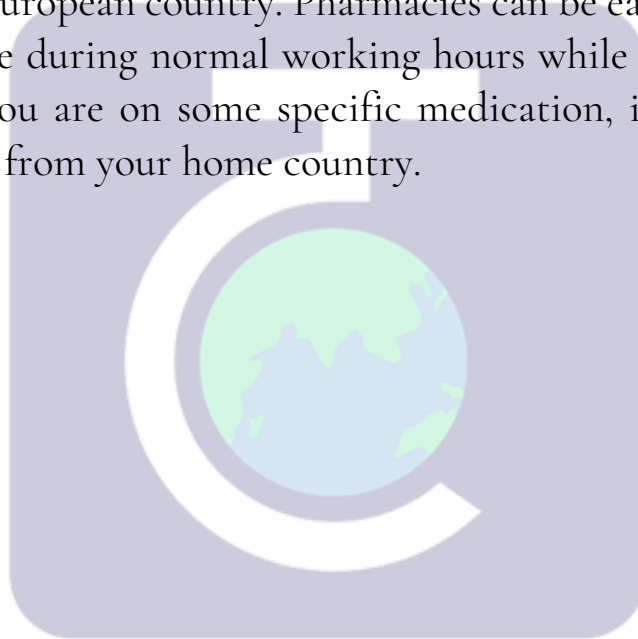
22. Driving

Driving in Corsica is certainly an experience and while driving through its mountains, it takes you through some spectacular natural views. People in Corsica are impatient drivers. Add to it some blind turns, narrow roads and high probability of livestock to loom ahead of your car before any warning. The main roads, however, are very good. The legal driving age in the city is 18. It's also generally recommended to get an International Driving Permit, which provides a translation of your license. Make sure you always carry your ID Card, credit card, license, insurance certificate and vehicle registration (carte grise) with you when you drive.



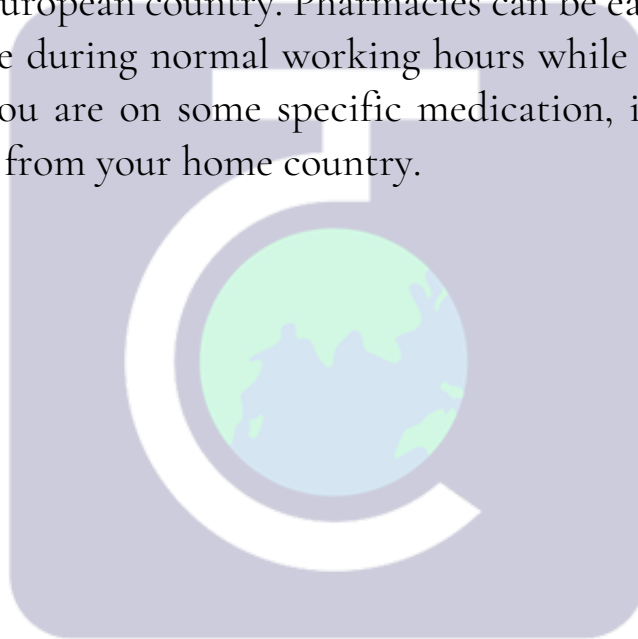
23. Travel essentials

The standard electricity supply on the island is 220 volt - 50 Hz AC. The standard electrical socket (outlet) in the country is of "Type C" Europlug and the "Type E" and "Type F" Schuko. If the plug of your appliances does not match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter during your stay in Corsica. Most battery chargers have a built-in voltage converter, but you might need one if coming from a non-European country. Pharmacies can be easily found in Corsica. Most of them operate during normal working hours while some are open for 24 hours. However, if you are on some specific medication, it is advised that you carry your medicines from your home country.



24. Essential clothes

The standard electricity supply on the island is 220 volt - 50 Hz AC. The standard electrical socket (outlet) in the country is of "Type C" Europlug and the "Type E" and "Type F" Schuko. If the plug of your appliances does not match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter during your stay in Corsica. Most battery chargers have a built-in voltage converter, but you might need one if coming from a non-European country. Pharmacies can be easily found in Corsica. Most of them operate during normal working hours while some are open for 24 hours. However, if you are on some specific medication, it is advised that you carry your medicines from your home country.



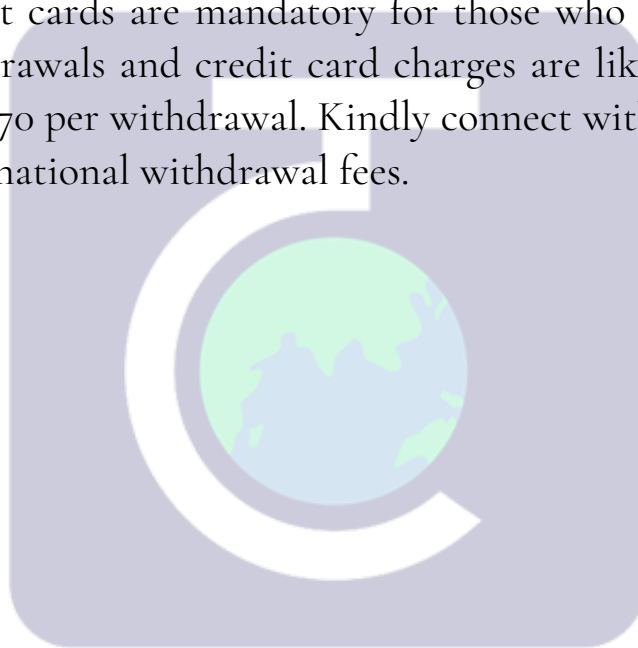
25. Local currency

The official currency of Corsica is Euro (€). 1 USD = €0.90.



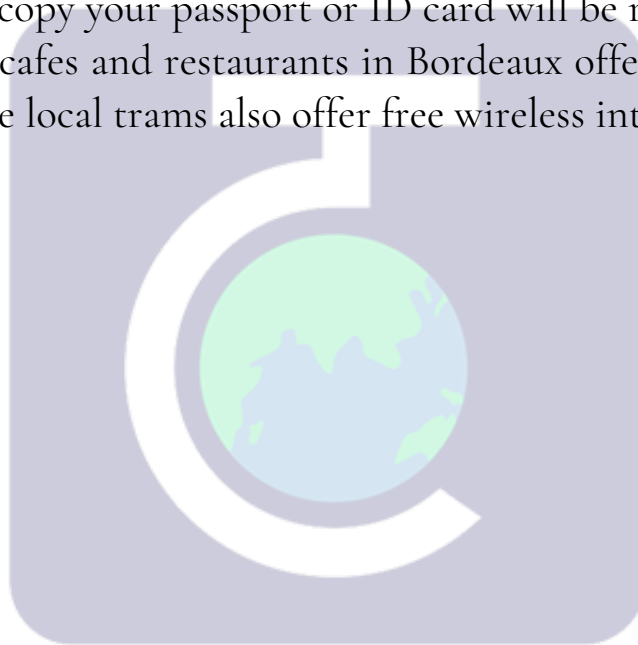
Index**26. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges**

In Corsica, there is an increasing tendency for places to not accept cards. A lot of restaurants, hotels and even petrol stations in Corsica don't accept credit cards, especially for purchases under €15. ATMs are also not as widespread in Corsica. It is advised that you go well-equipped with cash. However, in places where cards are accepted, all major credit cards (including VISA, MasterCard etc) are accepted. Also, credit cards are mandatory for those who wish to rent a car in Corsica. ATM withdrawals and credit card charges are likely to incur a typical surcharge of €0.94-4.70 per withdrawal. Kindly connect with your bank for more information on international withdrawal fees.



27. Staying connected

Orange is the major mobile network providers in Corsica. There is a standard mobile network (GSM 900/ 1800/ GPRS/ HSPDA) in the country and you should check beforehand if your phone is compatible, especially if you're coming from the US. If you plan to stay in the city for a longer period of time, you might as well consider buying a new SIM card. A starter set prepaid card will cost you around €20. A photocopy your passport or ID card will be required for the same. Most hostels, hotels, cafes and restaurants in Bordeaux offer free wi-fi facility to their customers. Some local trams also offer free wireless internet on the go.



28. Time Zone

Corsica falls under the Central European Time Zone (UTC +01:00). It observes Daylight Saving Time (CEST), UTC +2.



29. Languages

French is the official language of Corsica. Corsican (Corsu) is a local language spoken by a large number of Corsicans. It is very similar to Italian. People in Corsica, especially youngsters, can speak or at least understand basic English or German.



30. Political Scenario

Administratively, Corsica comprises of two departments: Haute Corse is to the north and Corse du Sud to the south. Corse du Sud is also the seat of the regional Government. The Corsican Assembly has executive control over the island. It has greater powers than the regional councils on the mainland.



Index**31. Economic Scenario**

Corsica's economy is greatly dependent on tourism industry. The two biggest concentrations of tourists are in Calvi and Porto Vecchio. The agri-food business comes second and includes both farm and industrial production. Chief exports from the region include cheese, wine, oil, marble and granite. Construction and public works also contribute to the island's economy. Employment levels in Corsica keep fluctuating, depending on tourist seasons.



Index**32. Religious belief**

A majority of Corsican population is Roman Catholic. Church attendance, however, is quite low with only 8% attending church regularly. Till World War II, natives believed a lot in spirits, sorcerers, prophecy, and magic.



33. Visa requirements

If you have a Schengen visa, you can stay (but not work) in Corsica for approximately three months. EU nationals with residence permit may stay for as long as they like and can enter with a valid EU identity card too. However, registration at Bürgeramt office is mandatory for stays exceeding a few months. Nationals of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, USA and a few others can visit Corsica with a valid passport for a period of three months. Nationals of the rest of the world need to apply for a visa to visit the city. For detailed information and the list of documents required for application of visa, you might want to check online at: www.schengenvisainfo.com/france-visa/



Index**34. Essential vaccination**

Before your visit to the Corsica, make sure you are up-to-date on routine vaccines like measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), varicella (chickenpox, polio and seasonal flu. Depending on the duration of your stay and the country you are traveling from, you might need vaccines for Hepatitis A and B. The World Health Organization recommends that you visit a physician at least six weeks before your departure.



Index**35. Theft and Safety**

Corsica is quite safe. Apart from existence of petty crimes such as pickpocketing and snatching, there is no major crime heard of in the city as such. The region is never really abandoned (even at night) but it makes sense to be careful especially if you are traveling alone. If you keep tabs on your possessions and keep your wits about you, you should not face any problems.



36. Embassy/Consulate

For any emergencies, foreign tourists can get assistance at their home embassies in Corsica. You can find the complete list of foreign representations in the city at: <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/france>



Index

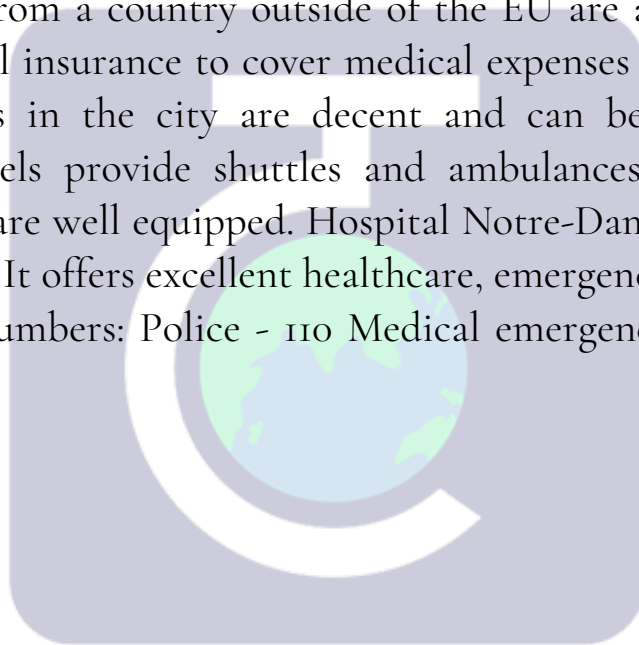
37. Accessibility

Many areas in the region have steps, steep slopes, cobbles and kerbs etc making access for disabled rather difficult. The roads are also very narrow and "built" in the mountains. Overall, access for wheelchair users is rather limited in Corsica.



38. Emergencies

Having a valid European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) will provide you access to the city's public health care system at greatly reduced cost. Since the EHIC will not cover medical repatriation, ongoing medical treatment or non-urgent treatment, it is advised that you sign up for an adequate travel insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment and repatriation. Visitors who come from a country outside of the EU are advised to take out a valid, private medical insurance to cover medical expenses in Corsica. The state run medical services in the city are decent and can be reached in case of emergency. The hotels provide shuttles and ambulances in such cases. The hospitals in the city are well equipped. Hospital Notre-Dame De La Misericorde is located in Ajaccio. It offers excellent healthcare, emergency service and private rooms. Emergency numbers: Police - 110 Medical emergency/ accident services; fire brigade - 112



Index**39. Do's and Don'ts**

Do's Ask for the prices or menu before ordering Carry your passport and ID card at all times Lock your bike properly Carry some cash. A lot of restaurants and shops do not accept credit cards Be wary of your surroundings at night, especially in the dark alleys. Do not Count/ exchange your money on the street. Leave your valuables unattended Feed stray pigs Spit on the road Leave tip on the table Buy cell phones, cameras, gold etc from a stranger in the street Accept any unwanted service from anyone on the street



Index

40.Tipping basics

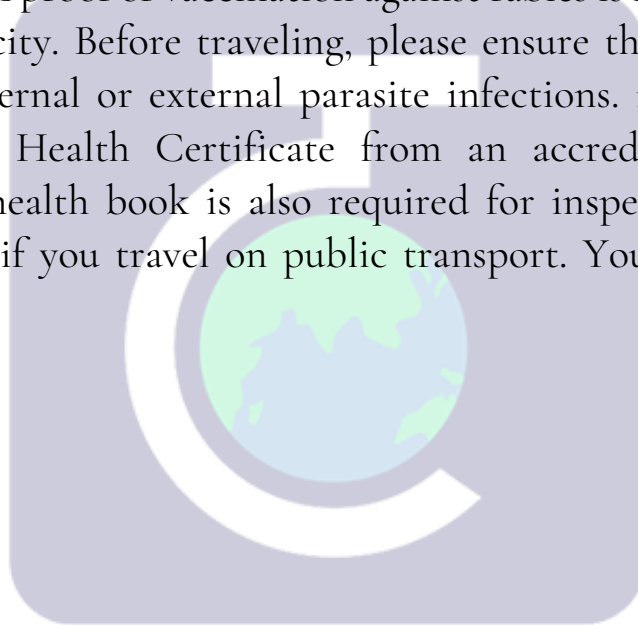
Generally, when eating out in the city, your bill will include a service charge and no extra tip is expected from visitors. However, if you found the service to be exceptional, it is not entirely uncommon to add an additional tip of up to 10%, but it is not necessary.



Index

41.Pet info

Corsica is regarded as a favourable city for dog friendly holidays. The natives love dogs and people can take their pets to almost all public places (parks, restaurants, hotels etc) in the city. The following information should be kept in mind while taking your pets to the island: i) Pet Microchip Your pet must have a microchip in compliance with ISO Standard 11784 or Annex A to ISO standard 11785. ii) Proper Vaccination A proof of vaccination against rabies is required for your pets before entering the city. Before traveling, please ensure that your dog or cat is treated with any internal or external parasite infections. iii) Health Book and Certificate EU Vet Health Certificate from an accredited Veterinarian is required. The pet's health book is also required for inspection. Note: The pet must have a muzzle if you travel on public transport. You can be fined if you don't have one.



Index

Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Corsica is one of the world's great islands and one of Europe's most beautiful travel locations. It is renowned all over the globe for its intense azure waters, alpine deep greens, gorgeous mountain range, and magnificent rock formations. Bastia, Ajaccio and Calvi offer some of the most scenic spots on the island. Corsica is a dream destination for travelers of all ages. If you are looking for a place that makes you forget your tensions and daily chores, this is it!



Index

Disclaimer

All rights reserved. This Travel Guide (inclusive of all content – text, graphics, images, illustrations, designs, etc.) is an Intellectual Property of Taxidio Travel India Pvt. Ltd. Copying, republishing, uploading, reproducing, downloading, distributing, posting, transmitting, or duplicating any of the material is prohibited. All the information contained in this Travel Guide is purely a work of research. The information may have undergone changes from the time it has been compiled. Taxidio Travel India Pvt. Ltd. Cannot be held liable for any alteration, inaccuracies or omissions.

