Corsica
POP 314,486

Includes
Bastia .......... 880
Cap Corse .......... 883
Île Rousse .......... 886
Calvi ............... 888
Porto ............... 890
Ajaccio ............ 892
Sartène ............ 897
Bonifacio & around .... 897
Porto-Vecchio & around .......... 902
L’Alta Rocca ........ 904
Corte ............. 906

Why Go?
Jutting out of the Med like an impregnable fortress, Corsica resembles a miniature continent, with astounding geographical diversity. Within half an hour, the landscape morphs from glittering bays, glitzy coastal cities and fabulous beaches to sawtooth peaks, breathtaking valleys, dense forests and enigmatic hilltop villages. Holidays in Corsica will therefore be incredibly varied: from hiking and canyoning to working your tan, enjoying a leisurely cruise, delving into the island’s rich history and sampling local specialities.

Though Corsica has officially been part of France for more than 200 years, it feels different from the mainland in everything from customs and cuisine to language and character, and that’s part of its appeal. Locals love talking about their Corsican identity so plenty of engaging evenings await, especially if the holy trilogy of food, wine and melodious Corsican music are involved.

Best Places to Eat
La Sassa (p886)
Le Matahari (p888)
A Pignata (p906)
Raugi (p882)
Pasquale Paoli (p887)

Best Hikes
Vallée du Tavignano (p908)
Sentiers des Douaniers (p884)
Les Calanques de Piana (p892)
Aiguilles de Bavella (p904)
Gorges de la Spelunca (p891)

When to Go

Ajaccio

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<th>Month</th>
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Easter Easter is marked by solemn processions and colourful passion plays.
May & Jun The maquis is in blossom and it’s warm enough to swim but not too hot to hike.
Jul–Sep Enjoy the summer party vibe at beach restaurants and nightclubs.
Corsica Highlights

1. Cruising sapphire waters in the Réserve Naturelle de Scandola (p891)
2. Exploring wild and remote Cap Corse (p883) by way of winding coastal roads
3. Seeing red, blazing red, between fantastic rock formations in Les Calanques de Piana (p892)
4. Putting on your hiking boots to explore the gorgeous Vallée du Tavignano (p908)
5. Slipping into serene turquoise waters at Plage de Palombaggia (p902), near Porto-Vecchio
6. Admiring the work of prehistoric people – see where they lived and what they built – at Filitosa (p898)
7. Boning up on Bonaparte around Napoléon’s home town, Ajaccio (p892)
8. Discovering island paradise with a boat trip to the Îles Lavezzi (p899)
9. Marvelling at Bonifacio’s dramatic location on the edge of a cliff (p897)
10. Walking and canyoning in the breathtaking Aiguilles de Bavella (p904) massif