



Tailor-Made Itinerary – Sachiko



TRIP OVERVIEW

Weather

22-27°C - Warm and pleasant with low rainfall

Budget

€685–€1,110 / person

Safety

Low Risk - Stay aware of your surroundings and follow local guidelines.





Why Corsica?

- **Stunning Diversity:** Corsica offers dramatic mountains, pristine beaches, and charming villages—all within manageable driving distances.
- **Ideal for Families:** Safe, welcoming, and with a relaxed pace, Corsica is perfect for multi-generational groups.
- **September Sweet Spot:** The island is lively but not crowded, with warm weather (avg. 22–27°C), ideal for swimming, hiking, and exploring.
- **Budget-Friendly Options:** Excellent value in local inns, family-run hotels, and simple seaside stays.



Custom Program: Corsica Discovery (10 Days)



Day 1: Arrival in Bastia – Gateway to Corsica



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Morning: Arrival at Bastia Airport or Port (flight/ferry from mainland France). Private transfer or self-drive: ~15 minutes by car to city center. Pick up rental car.

- **Afternoon:** Settle into hotel. Stroll through Bastia's Terra Vecchia and Old Port. Enjoy a coffee on Place Saint-Nicolas.
- **Evening:** Dinner at a local bistro specializing in Corsican charcuterie and seafood.
- **Highlight:** Sunset views over the harbor.

Accommodation Options:

- **Hôtel Port Toga** (budget city hotel) – Bastia Port. Modern, locally run

hotel with rooftop terrace, double-glazing, and efficient air-conditioning. Walkable to Old Port and restaurants. From €90–120/double room/night (~€45–60 pp). Ideal for 4 adults in two double rooms. *Eco-friendly: energy-saving features, supports local economy.*

- **Chambres d'hôtes Bastia Old Town** (guesthouse/B&B) – Terra Vecchia/Old Port. Locally-owned, authentic character, Corsican breakfast, walkable to all sights. From €70–90/double room/night (~€35–45 pp).
- **Small Village Hotel** (Cap Corse option) – Erbalunga/Nonza. Locally owned, simple rooms, solar water heating, supports micro-economy. From €80–100/double room/night.

Experiences:

- **Guided Walking Tour of Bastia Old Town** – 2 hours, €10–20 pp. Explore Terra Vecchia, Old Port, and baroque churches with a certified local guide. 100% on foot, supports local guides.

TIP: Bastia's city center is walkable—avoid using the car in town to reduce emissions and parking hassle.

TIP: Book hotels early for best rates in September.

Day 2: Cap Corse Peninsula – Wild Beauty



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Morning: Scenic drive north along Cap Corse (max 2h round trip).

Bastia → Erbalunga: ~20–30 min by car. Stop at Erbalunga, a picturesque fishing village.

- **Afternoon:** Visit Macinaggio or Nonza for panoramic sea views.
Optional: Cap Corse coastal hike (easy, 1–3h, self-guided/free or €25–40 pp with guide). Optional local wine tasting at a Cap Corse or Patrimonio winery (€10–25 pp, 1–2h, adults only).
- **Evening:** Return to Bastia. Enjoy dinner in the old town.
- **Highlight:** Wild, rugged coastline and Genoese towers.

Accommodation Options:

- Same hotel options as Day 1.

Experiences:

- **Cap Corse Coastal Hike** – 1–3 hours, free (self-guided) or €25–40 pp with local guide. Easy paths, stunning views, supports conservation.
- **Wine Tasting (Cap Corse/Patrimonio)** – 1–2 hours, €10–25 pp. Taste local muscat and AOC wines at a small winery. Adults only (18+).

TIP: Keep daily drives under 2–3 hours due to winding roads. Add buffer time for scenic stops and breaks.

TIP: For sustainability, use the car only for regional excursions and walk within villages.

 Day 3: Corte – Heart of the Mountains



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Morning: Drive to Corte (~1h30 from Bastia). Settle in. Explore the historic citadel and the Musée de la Corse (museum entry €5–8 pp, 2–3h).

- **Afternoon:** Walk along the Restonica Valley or take a short river swim (easy, accessible, free apart from parking).
- **Evening:** Dinner at a rustic Corsican inn ("auberge") with mountain specialties.
- **Highlight:** Authentic mountain village ambiance.

Accommodation Options:

- **Hôtel de la Paix** (budget hotel) – Central Corte. Simple, functional

rooms, walking distance to citadel and restaurants. From €70–100/double room/night (~€35–50 pp). Book two doubles for 4 adults.

- **Ascosa In Terra Corsa** (ecolodge) – Ponte-Leccia, 22 km from Corte. Ecolodge in olive gardens, focus on outdoor sports and low-impact living. From €80/room/night. Good for active adult families, multi-bed or adjacent rooms.
- **Mountain Guesthouse** – Corte area. Locally run, traditional décor, mountain views. From €70–90/double room/night.

Experiences:

- **Corte Citadel & Musée de la Corse** – 2–3 hours, €5–8 pp. Learn about Corsican history and mountain life.
- **Restonica Valley River Walk & Swim** – 2–4 hours, free (parking a few euros). Gentle walk, wild swimming in natural pools.

TIP: Roads are steep and winding; plan buffer time and avoid night driving. Bring refillable water bottles—tap water is safe and high quality.

Day 4: Restonica Valley or Free Day



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Morning: Optional: Gentle hike in the Restonica or Tavignano valleys (choose according to group's energy). Drive to trailheads: 20–40 min from Corte.

- **Afternoon:** Free time to relax, explore Corte's cafés, or visit local markets.
- **Evening:** Casual dinner in town.
- **Highlight:** Rest day to recharge amid mountain scenery.

Accommodation Options:

- Same hotel options as Day 3.

Experiences:

- **Guided Canyoning or Via Ferrata** – Half-day (3–4h), €45–70 pp.

Adventure activity with local guides, suitable for adults. Advance booking required.

TIP: For sustainability, car-share within your group and choose one base for 2 nights to reduce packing/unpacking.

TIP: Respect Leave-No-Trace principles in the valleys; avoid suncreams harmful to freshwater ecosystems.

📍 **Day 5: West Coast – Calvi & Balagne Villages**



Morning: Drive to Calvi (~1h30 from Corte). Stop en route at Sant'Antonino or Pigna (beautiful hilltop villages, 30–45 min from Calvi).

- **Afternoon:** Explore Calvi's citadel and sandy beach. Optional swim or boat ride.
- **Evening:** Dinner with sea view in Calvi.
- **Highlight:** Lively harbor and mountain backdrop.

Accommodation Options:

- **Hôtel Belvédère** (budget hotel) – Near Calvi beach. Small Corsican hotel, walkable to harbor and restaurants. From €80–120/double room/night (~€40–60 pp). Request sea-view doubles or adjacent rooms.
- **Casa Legna** (ecolodge) – Pigna, Balagne. Nature-friendly eco-lodge, environmentally friendly materials, peaceful setting. From €230/double lodge/night (above budget, but ideal for a splurge; would need two lodges for 4 adults).
- **Village Guesthouse** – Balagne villages (Pigna/Sant'Antonino). Locally run, supports artisans, from €80–100/double room/night.

Experiences:

- **Calvi Citadel & Harbor Stroll** – 2–3 hours, mostly free (museum/church €3–5). Fully walkable, supports local cafés and artisans.
- **Balagne Hilltop Villages** – Half-day, free to wander. Explore

Sant'Antonino and Pigna, known for crafts and music.

TIP: Use Calvi as a 2-night base to reduce daily driving and packing.

Roads to villages are steep and narrow—drive slowly and allow buffer time.

📍 **Day 6: Scandola Nature Reserve & Girolata**



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Morning: Boat excursion to Scandola Nature Reserve (UNESCO, departs from Calvi or Porto, 2–4h, weather dependent). Price: €45–70 pp. Small-group boats recommended for eco-sensitivity.

- **Afternoon:** Visit the remote village of Girolata (accessible only by

boat/hiking). Picnic lunch.

- **Evening:** Return to Calvi. Relaxed evening.
- **Highlight:** Dramatic red cliffs and turquoise waters.

Accommodation Options:

- Same hotel options as Day 5.

Experiences:

- **Boat Excursion to Scandola & Girolata** – 2–4 hours, €45–70 pp.

Choose eco-conscious operators; may be cancelled if sea is rough.

TIP: Book Scandola boat tours in advance, especially in September.

Choose operators that highlight eco-interpretation and avoid feeding wildlife.

 Day 7: South to Ajaccio – Napoleon's City



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Morning: Drive south along the coast to Ajaccio (~3h from Calvi, with scenic stops). Plan for rest stops on winding roads.

- **Afternoon:** Explore Ajaccio's old town, birthplace of Napoleon. Visit the market or Fesch Museum (museum entry €5–10 pp).
- **Evening:** Dinner in Ajaccio's lively marina district.
- **Highlight:** Mediterranean sunset from the citadel ramparts.

Accommodation Options:

- **Hôtel Kalliste** (budget city hotel) – Ajaccio center. Locally run, simple décor, balcony views of bay/citadel, walkable to beaches and old town. From €60–100/room/night (~€30–50 pp). Book two rooms for 4

adults.

- **Cheap Family Hotel Ajaccio Center** – Near Saint-François or Corse Azur beaches. Sea views, 250m from beach, modest amenities. From €60–90/room/night.
- **Simple Guesthouse** – Ajaccio center. Locally owned, walkable to all sights. From €70–100/room/night.

Experiences:

- **Ajaccio Old Town & Napoleon Heritage** – 3–4 hours, €5–10 pp for museums. Walking tour of citadel, market, Maison Bonaparte, Fesch Museum.

TIP: Stick to one base for 3 nights in Ajaccio to cut down on travel days and packing. Plan rest stops on longer drives.

Day 8: Prunelli Valley or Beach Day



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Morning: Choose: Explore the Prunelli Valley (easy drive, mountain villages, ~30–45 min from Ajaccio) OR relax on Porticcio's sandy beaches (30 min from Ajaccio by car or shuttle boat).

- **Afternoon:** Optional: Water sports (paddleboard or kayak rentals from €15–30 pp for 1–2h), or just unwind by the sea.
- **Evening:** Local dinner featuring Corsican cheeses and honey.
- **Highlight:** Flexibility for active or relaxed day.

Accommodation Options:

- Same hotel options as Day 7.

Experiences:

- **Porticcio Beach Day & Water Sports** – Free beach access, paddleboard/kayak €15–30 pp. Human-powered, low-impact activities.
- **Prunelli Valley Drive & Village Stops** – Free drive, lunch at local auberge €20–30 pp.

TIP: For sustainability, choose human-powered water sports and support small village restaurants.

📍 **Day 9: Inland Villages & Farewell Dinner**



- **Morning:** Short drive to Sartène or Filitosa (prehistoric site, 1–1h30 from Ajaccio).

- **Afternoon:** Explore village streets, artisan shops, and enjoy a long lunch in a local auberge.
- **Evening:** Return to Ajaccio. Farewell dinner with regional specialties.
- **Highlight:** Immersion in Corsican traditions and cuisine.

Accommodation Options:

- Same hotel options as Day 7.

Experiences:

- **Filitosa Prehistoric Site** – Entry €6–10 pp. Significant archaeological site with menhirs and walking paths.
- **Sartène Village Exploration** – Free to wander. Artisan shops, cafés, and Corsican culture.

TIP: For cultural heritage tourism, stick to marked paths and respect site rules at Filitosa.

 Day 10: Departure from Ajaccio



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Morning: Return rental car. Depart from Ajaccio Airport or Port (flight/ferry to mainland France or onward). Ajaccio center → airport: ~15 min by car.

- **Afternoon:** Buffer time for late flights or last-minute shopping.
- **Evening:** (If late departure) Optional: Relax at a café overlooking the sea.
- **Highlight:** Smooth, stress-free departure.

Accommodation Options:

- Late check-out available on request (TBD).

TIP: Book flights/ferries early for best prices. Allow buffer time for car

return and airport formalities.

Customizable Options

- **Guided Experiences:** Add private guides for hiking, history, or food tours (from €10–50 pp, depending on activity).
- **Transportation:** Upgrade to automatic or hybrid rental car for easier, more sustainable driving.
- **Accommodation:** Upgrade to boutique hotels or eco-lodges (e.g., Casa Legna, A Cheda) for a splurge night.
- **Activities:** Scuba diving, canyoning, or e-bike rentals (advance booking required).
- **Dining:** Reserve special tasting menus or farm-to-table experiences.
- **Travel Insurance:** Comprehensive coverage for peace of mind.

TIP: When comparing budget hotels, look for eco-labels like European Ecolabel or Clef Verte (Green Key) for verified sustainability.

TIP: Prioritize places serving Corsican products—charcuterie, cheeses, wines, honey, seasonal fruit—to support local farmers and reduce transport emissions.

Alternative Options

- **Slower Pace:** Spend 3 nights in each region (Bastia, Corte, Calvi, Ajaccio) to reduce packing/unpacking.

- **Southern Focus:** Base in Bonifacio/Porto-Vecchio for more beaches and less driving. Consider **A Cheda** (4-star ecolodge, Bonifacio) or **Cocoon Village/Glamping Corsica** (Ospedale Forest, off-grid eco-bubbles) for an upgrade night.
- **Budget Stretch:** Consider hostels or self-catering apartments to lower costs and allow for more activities.

TIP: For adult groups, no need for child seats in rental cars. Choose compact or hybrid models for easier maneuvering and lower fuel use.

✦ Practical Info & Budget

- **Best Season:** September is warm, with low rainfall and pleasant sea temperatures (22–25°C).
- **Comfort:** Budget hotels in Corsica are clean and friendly, but book early for best rates.
- **Health & Safety:** Tap water is safe. No vaccines required. Roads are winding—drive cautiously.
- **Visa:** Schengen rules apply (TBD for non-EU passports).

Item	Estimated Cost (per person)
Accommodations (9 nights, budget hotels/B&Bs, double rooms)	€315–€540
Rental car (10 days, compact, split	€90

4 ways)

Meals (picnic lunches, casual dinner, 10 days)	€200–€300
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Activities/Excursions (guided tours, boat, canyoning, entries)	€80–€180
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Total Estimated Cost	€685–€1,110
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- **Note:** Flights/ferries to Corsica are not included and should be booked early for best prices.

TIP: Use refillable bottles; tap water is safe. Avoid single-use plastics and take rubbish back from beaches, rivers, and trails.

Next Steps

- Let us know your preferred arrival/departure cities and transport (flight or ferry).
- Share any special interests (food, history, adventure, relaxation) or accessibility needs.
- We'll refine the program, suggest specific hotels, and optimize the budget to your needs.
- **Ready to make Corsica your next family adventure? Reply to customize your journey!**



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