

# THE RIVER RHONE CYCLE ROUTE

From the Alps to the Mediterranean

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Guidebook to the Rhone Cycle Route, an 895km ride starting high in the Swiss Alps, winding past Lake Geneva and tracing through France to reach the Mediterranean. Described in 20 stages (averaging 45km per stage), a reasonably fit cyclist should be able to complete the route in approximately 10 days. Allowing for a gentler ride with time for sightseeing on the way, the route can be cycled in a fortnight by most cyclists.

Following the river Rhone from its source near the summit of the Furkapass to the Mediterranean Sea, the Rhone Cycle Route slips past some of Switzerland's highest mountains, skirts the shore of Lake Geneva, dips between the Jura mountains and Savoy Alps in France, laces through Lyon, France's second city, and traces the valley between the Alps and Massif Central on its way to the coast. The mostly downhill route uses two waymarked national cycle trails; the Swiss R1 Rhone Route and the French ViaRhona.

The guide provides detailed route descriptions and 1:150,000 mapping for each stage plus lots of practical advice such as preparing for the journey, transport options there and back, what to take, accommodation en route and more. A Swiss/French glossary is also included.

## Key marketing points

- uses two waymarked national cycle trails
- adopted by the European Cyclists' Federation as EuroVelo EV17
- varied and plentiful accommodation options and eating establishments along the way.

## About the author

Mike Wells has been a keen long-distance walker and cyclist for over 20 years. He has walked all the major British trails, the GR5 through the Alps from Lake Geneva to the Mediterranean and has explored the Italian Dolomites- Alta Via routes. He has also walked in Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Norway and Chilean Patagonia.

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