

# Planning a Football Trip to Bastia

Planning a Football Trip to Bastia? Free guide – where to stay, eat, drink and how to get tickets & to the stadium.

## Football Trip to Bastia – How to get to Bastia & How to get around

### Football Trip to Bastia – Fly to Bastia

You can fly to Bastia – Corsica from Edinburgh and London Heathrow and Stanstead with Germanwings.

You can also fly with Air France via Paris from most airports in the UK.

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### Directions from the Airport

Bastia Poretta Airport is located 11 miles south of Bastia, the commercial centre of Corsica.



Airport Shuttle – Departure of the terminal for the city center (Terminus Bastia Station), Journey time: about 35 mn,

Indicative price: 9 €

– [http://www.corsicabus.org/busBastia/BIA\\_Airport.html](http://www.corsicabus.org/busBastia/BIA_Airport.html)

## Taxis from the Airport

A taxi should cost about 16 euros and take about 20 minutes

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## Football Trip to Bastia – Travel By Train

You can travel to Marseille or Nice and then get the ferry if you want travel through France from London by Train via [Voyages SNCF](http://Voyages SNCF).

## Football Trip to Bastia – Travel By Ferry

Bastia ferries connect Corsica with Italy, France & Elba with crossings available to Livorno, Savona, Piombino & Genoa (in Italy), Nice, Toulon & Marseille (in France) & Portoferraio (in Elba). Bastia Ferry crossings are operated by Corsica Sardinia Ferries, Moby Lines, Corsica Linea & La Meridionale and depending on time of year you'll find a choice of up to 15 ferry crossings daily.

There are up to 15 ferry crossings daily from Bastia with sailing durations starting from 1 hour 30 minutes.

If you want to drive through France to get the Ferry from Nice it takes between 11 and 12 hours to drive to Bastia from Calais. Book tickets via [DFDS Seaways](http://DFDS Seaways).

## Football Trip to Bastia – Travel Around

# Bastia

Bastia, the capital of the north part of the island and the second largest city of Corsica, makes a wonderful stop to start a trip in Corsica. The 'new' harbour is busy, with ferries arriving from France and commercial activity. Nearby is the lovely Vieux Port, surrounded by colourful building, nice restaurants and bars. The ambiance is very serene and authentic. The town is classified as a 'City of Art and History' and the old part, called Terra Vecchia is home of beautiful monuments and Baroque churches. Perched above the old port is Terra Nova quarter, and its 15th century citadel. It is easy to discover both gorgeous districts on foot from the old port.

## Football Trip to Bastia – How to Get to the Match

### Football Trip to Bastia – The Stadium



Stade Armand-Cesari, also known as the Stade de Furiani is able to hold 16,000 people and opened in 1932

It was the venue for the first leg of the 1978 UEFA Cup Final, which saw a 0-0 tie between SC Bastia and the Dutch-side PSV Eindhoven. Eventually, PSV won the Final with a 3-0 victory on their home ground Philips Stadion.

The record attendance at the stadium was set on 1 September 2012, when 15,505 people saw Bastia lose against by St. Etienne (0-3) in league matches.[3][4] This broke the record set on 26 April 1978, when 15,000 people saw Bastia draw 0-0 against PSV Eindhoven in the first leg of the 1978 UEFA Cup Final.

The stadium is mostly known outside Corsica for the Furiani disaster, which took place on 5 May 1992 when one of the four terraces fell, causing the death of 18 people and injuring more than 2,300 others. When they reached the semi-final of the Coupe de France 1991-92, the draw gave Bastia a tie against Olympique de Marseille, the Division 1 leader at the time. In order to accommodate more fans, the club board decided to create a temporary terrace instead of the old Tribune Claude Papi which could only take 750 fans. The new capacity of the terrace was 10,000. An hour before the start of the match, problems were already noticeable, such as the instability of the structure. At 8:20 p.m., the whole structure collapsed, with supporters and journalists in the wreckage. Every medical option on the island was exhausted. The victims were eventually evacuated to the mainland, including Marseille. Poretta Airport was quoted as resembling more of a hospital than an airport that night.

## **Football Trip to Bastia – Getting to the Stadium**

Stade Armand Cesari is located south of the city of Bastia just outside the city limits. It lies slightly under 5 kilometres from Bastia's city centre not far from the Mediterranean coast.

You can catch Bus number 5 which departs from Bastia City centre. Heading southwards in the direction of Furiani stadiums. There doesn't look to be a service on a Sunday, Bank Holidays or after 7pm – <http://www.bastiabus.com/pdf/L5R.pdf>

## **Football Trip to Bastia – Getting Tickets**

You should be able to buy tickets online via the [club website](#) however there seems to be a virus on the website so I could not access.

Tickets can also be bought via [Viagogo](#).

## Football Trip to Bastia – Fixtures

When planning your football trip please note that the dates shown represent the weekend that the game is scheduled to take place and games are likely to change through the season and be moved for TV scheduling.

Plan your Football Trip to Bastia with our list of fixture on the [Ligue 1 website](#) when planning your football trip to France for latest fixture information.

The schedule for kick-off times in France can be found our Planning a Football Trip to France page (COMING SOON)

## Football Trip to Bastia – Where to stay. What to See. Where to Eat. Where to Drink

[Booking.com](#)

### Football Trip to Bastia – Where to stay

Bastia is a vibrant, living, magnetic city. The kind of place you'd imagine would be a great place to live, as well as visit. This busy port might not be as pretty as some of Corsica's other towns, but there is plenty of charm to its fading beauty – especially in the old town and the harbour. Some of the best places to stay in Bastia, are all slightly out of town, but still easily accessible.

In many cities the most cost effective accommodation choice for groups is to hire an apartment. Our sponsors [Citybase apartments](#) specialise in serviced apartments. The link below offers online apartment search and booking for destinations

around the world.

## **Football Trip to Bastia – What else to see & do**

When planning a football trip to Bastia it is always good to know what else there is to see and do in the city. Here are a selection of the best things which I found using our [sponsor Lonely Planet](#). Lonely Planet also has maps of the city, details of all the best pubs, bars and restaurants and travel information from the city.

There are three sections of particular interest to visitors to Bastia: the old town, the citadel, and the old harbour.

### **Bastia old town**

It is to the old town that you will be drawn with its faded charm of narrow streets and alleys, where washing still hangs drying from ancient shuttered windows in the tall, often almost crumbling, buildings, dating largely from the 18th century.

It is the character of this part of Bastia, culminating at the old port, which is the most fascinating aspect of Bastia so allow time to explore rather than rushing from 'monument to monument'.

One of the main squares in the old town or the 'Terra Vecchia' is the Place du Marche which is home to a morning market and the large Saint-Jean-Baptiste church, an imposing church built in the 16th century. The interior of the church was renovated in baroque style in the 18th century. Nearby on Rue Napoleon is the Oratoire St Roch with a great Baroque interior and also the Oratoire de l'Immaculée Conception which has a particularly sumptuous interior including crystal chandeliers.

Exploring this part of town you might give a thought to Victor Hugo, who lived here as a child.



Continue walking and at the other side of the Saint Jean Baptiste church is the charming port where the rather neglected buildings surround the harbour full of boats ranging from small fishing vessels to gleaming pleasure boats.



Bastia old harbour – There are two ports in Bastia – the original traditional one, and the more recent port where Corsica Ferries arrive with passengers from Italy and France (Nice is the most common departure point from mainland France to reach Bastia).

The old harbour is the 'in' place to spend your evenings in Bastia, in the many bars and restaurants, or simply promenading along the water front – be sure to walk out along the Quai des Martyrs de la Liberation for the best views of the harbour.

Dominating the old harbour is the view of the Church of Saint John the Baptist. The other buildings are painted in beautiful shades of ochre, salmon and shades of gold. Sadly nearly all

need a coat of paint and you have the feeling that if this was done the harbour would change from attractive to really quite stunning.

### Citadel and region

The other main part of Bastia to explore is on the other side of the old harbour around the substantial citadel. This part of the town is much trendier if slightly less impressive than its old town neighbour.

The walk to the citadel passes through the gardens (le Jardin Romieu) and passed the once-very-posh houses of the Terra Nova district.

The main 'notable' buildings within the citadel of Bastia are the grand 14th century Governor's Palace and a couple of churches: the church of Sainte-Marie de l'Assomption and the Baroque Oratoire-Sainte-Croix with its 'black Christ'.

The palace of the Governors was attacked and destroyed by Nelson in 1794 and rebuilt by the French when it was used as a prison. The Nazi's used the dungeons to imprison and torture Resistance fighters during the Second World War. It has now been renovated and is home to the Municipal Museum with exhibits including the history of Bastia and Corsica from its pre-Roman origins to its role in the second world war.

### Other things to see in Bastia

Venture a little further north to see Place Saint Nicholas (the large square behind the new port and one of the largest open squares to be found in France). While you are here you can pop into the Mattei shop to pick up a few local delicacies, and to see how shopping in the town was 100 years ago. The shop might not have changed much, the prices unfortunately have.

There is a small pebble beach in Bastia, but the long sandy beaches slightly south of the town are worth making the effort



to get to instead to avoid the over-crowding.

If you are looking to escape the town for a while, walk up the hill behind to the two old forts – Fort Starforello and Fort Lacroix

## **Football trip to Bastia – Where to Eat**

Popular Local Cuisine: Cross Italian tradition, the wild herbs and vegetables of the rugged island and through in a little French polish and you will run into the intersection that is Corsican traditional cuisine. Many of the most famous food items are simple cheeses and sausages. Brocciu is the local ricotta, richer and smoother than its Italian cousin. Salamu is the local variety of the famous Italian cousin. Prizuttu is a variation on the salty Italian version, thin sliced ham from chestnut and acorn fed half-wild boar. And there is a long list of sliced meats, mostly made from the famous Corsican pork, to be found on the island. If you prefer your meats blended with local produce, there is a famous wild boar casserole known as Civet de Sanglier. For a seafood based meal try Aziminu, the Corsican bouillabaisse. Many desserts are local variations of more famous originals which use the local chestnut flour to enhance the flavor. Examples are the famous chestnut tart called Torta Pisticcina, and cheesecake known as Fiadone.

Patrimonio wines from the north of Corsica are the most renowned from the island, especially the reds and roses made from the Nieluccio grape. A lighter red is produced near Ajaccio from the Sciacarello grape. In the south of the island lesser known wines are produced near Sartene and Calvi.

Restaurant le Baptiste (1 Rue José Luccioni) – Good Value Pizza Restaurant with Meal of the Day as well.

A Tana (2 B rue Posta Vecchia) – Good Value Pizzeria and Italian Food Restaurant



O Sud (Quai 1er Bataillon de Choc) – Pizza, Ice Cream, French Dishes, Pancakes

Le Bistro du Marche (5 rue Faggianelli) – Uncomplicated restaurant in a nice location in the center of Bastia.

Chez Adeline (1 Place Vincetti) – Good Value Restaurant and Pizzeria

Nova (Entree 2 2 Place Fontaine Neuve) – A bit more expensive than the restaurants above but top rated on tripadvisor. Try lunchtime for menu of the day.

Le Petit Zinc (1 rue de l Ancienne Poste) – Similar to Nova

Pizzeria Chez Vincent (12 rue Saint Michel) – Great choice of pizzas but also imaginative dishes based on French cuisine. Stunning backdrop with a view over the city.

Restaurant A Scaletta (4 rue Saint Jean) – traditional Corsican meal with a fixed menu, open air dining on a little terrace above the Vieux Port.

## **Football trip to Bastia – Where to Drink**

Black Sheep (1 Rue Saint-Erasmus) – Offers over 20 beers and different beers of the month. Also a place to watch football and other sports on TV

Bar Chez Pigalle (Quai Albert Gillio) – Historic Bar and Restaurant

Robaina Bar & Restaurant (3 place Fontaine Neuve)

Bar de la Citadelle (1 Rue de la Paroisse)

Brasserie de la Gare (13 Avenue Maréchal Sebastian) – Microbrewery

La Brass (8 Avenue Maréchal Sebastiani) – Microbrewery

Brasserie La Causerie (Restaurant in Furiani) – opens on evenings when the match is on as it is near the stadium

Bar a L'empire (21 Rue Napoléon) –

## **Football trip to Bastia – Useful links**