



# Route N°21 - Oloron-Montory, les collines du Pays basque

## OLORON-SAINTE-MARIE

### CYCLING



Green meadows and country roads are on the menu of this rural circuit that links the Barétous valley and the Basque province of Soule. After a flat start at the exit from Oloron Sainte-Marie, ideal for warming up your legs and finding your cruising speed, you will begin by climbing the quiet banks of the "Vert" river. Head to the villages of Barétous, Féas, Ance, Aramits and then Lanne, with views of the forested foothills and even the Pic d'Anie massif to be seen on the horizon. Some hills make it necessary to stand up when approaching Montory or Barcus, but the challenges are quickly overcome and throughout the loop you will have plenty of time to appreciate the quality of the landscapes, the flocks of sheep and cows in the pasture and the great value of the heritage of each of these villages.



📍 Départ : OLRON-SAINTE-MARIE  
Arrivée : OLRON-SAINTE-MARIE

📏 Distance : 52 km

🏔️ Dénivelé : 460 m

🕒 Durée : 1/2 jour

**P** Parking piscine et collège Tristan Derème

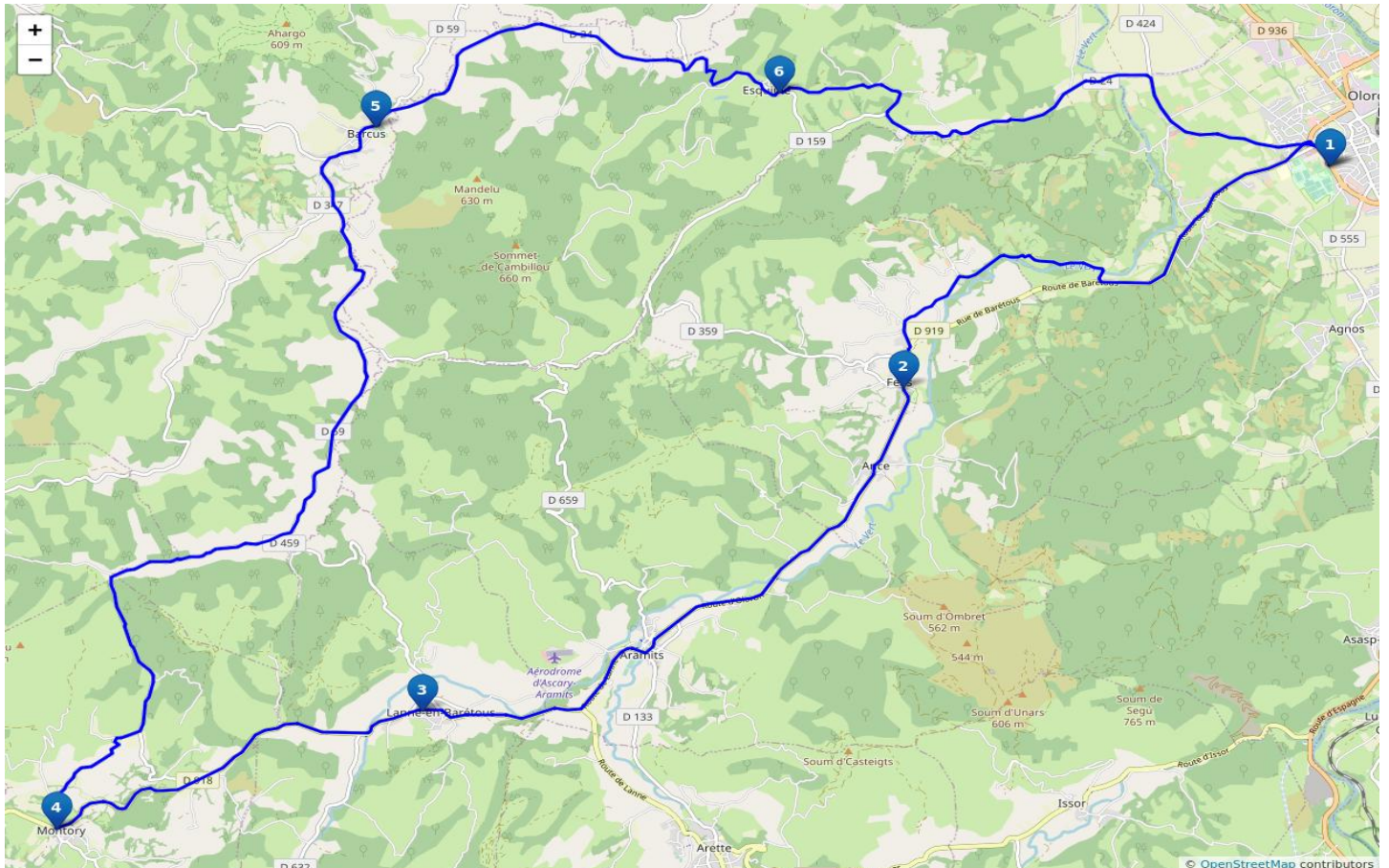
☎️ Appel d'urgence : 112

⚠️ Les montagnes basques et béarnaises sont des espaces pastoraux. Evitez de partir avec votre chien. Dans tous les cas, tenez-le en laisse. Merci !

## ★ À ne pas manquer

- **Porthos' Castle, in Lanne (16.6 km).** Behind the church, this castle with its sober and harmonious architecture from Bearn is known to have been the last home of Isaac de Portau. Appointed the king's musketeer in 1643 and better known under the name of Porthos, he became famous alongside D'Artagnan and Aramis in the Alexandre Dumas' novels.

- **Montory (22,4 km)**. When traveling from Bearn to the Basque Country, Montory is the first Basque town we come across, located in the province of La Soule (Xiberoa). Surrounded by mountains (Arguibelle, Bégousse, Erretzu) and wooded hills, undoubtedly the origin of its name, the town is known for its imposing fortified church.
- **Carved lintels (35,5 km)**. Crossing through the Burgia de Barcus neighbourhood offers excellent examples of traditional Basque-Béarnaise architecture. White houses attached to the main street, carved stone door and window frames with excellent lintels.



## Étapes

**Step 1. From Oloron Sainte-Marie to Féas.** From the swimming pool roundabout, follow the direction of Bayonne and, at the next roundabout, turn left towards Féas and Arrette (D24 and D919 on the left). The route begins horizontally in the Saint-Pé d'en Haut neighbourhood. Just after a car garage (4 km), turn right onto a secondary road and, after the bridge, continue left on the road to Costadarre, quiet on the banks of the Vert. At the T-junction (6.2 km), keep left onto the Cournas de Mont road. 600 m later, leave a lane on the left (bridge) to drive straight on Route du Moulin (take a left twice in the small park). At the D919 roundabout, turn right onto Féas.

**Step 2. From Féas to Lanne-en-Barétous.** Cross Féas to pass the town hall (8.2 km - water point) and the castle. Keep the D919 that continues towards Ance, then to Aramits. Climb up with the beautiful views of the forested mountains of Barétous. In Aramits, leave the heart of the village on the right and continue towards the crossroads of the town hall (13.7 km): continue towards Lanne. After a small climb, the path leaves Aramits; Stay on the main road towards Lanne (D918). A more serious slope marks its entry into Lanne-en-Barétous. After the church, pass a path "Barcus" (bakery) signposted on the right and reach the town hall.

**Step 3. From Lanne-en-Barétous to Montory.** Cross the Place de la Pastorale de Lanne (town hall, water point) and leave the village on the main road (D918). Pass the road to Issarbe on the left and continue straight towards Tardets. Then a false plain begins (3.5% over 1.5 km) where we will see from afar the cliffs of Pic d'Arguibelle. Cross the highest point and set out on a fast, winding descent to the village of Montory.

**Step 4. From Montory to Barcus.** At the main Montory junction (22.4 km), take the D59 right towards Barcus. Cross a

bridge, go right again, at the intersection, then start Lasalle hill, short but lively at the end (400 m - 10%). After the break, switch to the other downhill slope in a wooded valley. At the Boucau junction (26.9 km - ruin - Madeleine view), take the road on the right (bridge). Now drive through a long rural valley in the direction of Barcus, leaving the D453 (29.1 km) on the right, then the D159 (32.2 km), still in a straight line in the undergrowth. On a climb (34.7 km), ignore the Tardets road on the left and enter Barcus on the right. Cross the Burgia district on the right (Chilo restaurant) and reach the town hall square.

Step 5. **From Esquiule to Oloron Sainte-Marie.** From the town hall square (36.3 km), leave Barcus on the main road and then, on the Y, take the D24 right towards Oloron. After a flat 4 km portion in the Joos valley, tackle a new rather undulating hill, drawing wide curves (5.5% in 1.5 km). At the top (cross), enter Esquiule on the right, then go right again at the church junction to go under the town.

Step 6. **From Esquiule to Oloron Sainte-Marie.** In front of the town-street of Esquiule (43 km), continue on the D24 that passes through a high panoramic point, and then embark on a beautiful, fast and winding descent. At the bottom, stay on the main road at the bottom of the valley. After a right-angle bend in the middle of the fields of the Oloron plain, the path crosses the Saint-Pé d'en Bas neighbourhood all the way and find avenues to avoid the city. After the stop sign, at the Free Tibet roundabout, turn right towards Huesca (bike path) to reach the pool parking lot.

## ★ Équipements

- Water point
- Water point
- Water point
- Ablutions
- Power Point (supermarket, restaurants)

## ★ Attention

- Oloron Sainte-Marie, Free Tibet roundabout and D6, heavy traffic.
- From Féas to Montory, route along the D919 and D918, major traffic

pour bien préparer sa rando  
et adopter les bons gestes  
en montagne,  
rendez-vous sur 



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