



STEF

HOW TO PLAN A ROUTE

The nature of multiday journeys off the beaten track means some basics need planning. With rugged terrain more of an attraction than an obstacle for bikepackers, route planning—the finest armchair going—is about unlocking the finest places to ride and reach by bike, and seeking and connecting outlying points of interest with the best roads, tracks, and trails...

TRIP PLANNING CHECKLIST

- Solo or squad—abilities and objectives
- Length—time and distance
- Route inspiration—ideas, places, and established routes
- Research—seasons/climates, history, gastronomy, and wildlife
- Start/end points—point-to-point or circular?
- Transport options
- Terrain—rough roads, technical singletrack, tarmac, and hike-a-bike
- Cultural/interest route points
- Challenge route points
- Stages—daily distances, elevation, and overnight options
- Food/water resupply options
- Backup route options
- Route finalization
- Weather check—day/night temperatures and trail conditions
- Bike, bags, and kit list
- Navigation
- Language
- Currencies
- Permits/visas/vaccinations