

Places you visit



Day 1: Chalon-sur-Saône

Located in the heart of Burgundy, Chalon-sur-Saône is an important centre for France's wine trade. Its quays border the river Saône. The two lofty steeples of the 17th century Church of St Pierre can be seen from anywhere in the city.

Day 2: Beaune & Burgundy Wine Tour

As the wine capital of Burgundy, your excursion in Beaune will be an interesting and informative experience. Many of the region's vineyards are still owned by the Hôtel Dieu, which was founded in 1443. Its beautiful tiled roof is a magnificent example of the traditional architecture of Burgundy. Enjoy a wine tasting at one of Beaune's famous wine cellars, then lunch on board and the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 3: Lyon

Nestled in the heart of France's Provence region is Lyon, a fascinating 2,000-year-old town of cobbled streets, with the magnificent St Jean Cathedral at its heart. View this beautiful city from the top of Fourvière Hill, then continue to the Basilica of Notre Dame. Lyon is also widely known as the gastronomic capital of the country. You can sample the many local specialties, or enjoy fine French cuisine in a local restaurant.

Day 4: Lyon & Vienne

Your morning is free to further explore this remarkable city, which is also listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. On to Vienne, gateway to the Lyon countryside and the marketing centre for the Rhône River valley's agricultural industry. Vienne is surrounded

by steep hills and filled with lush gardens. A visit to the Temple of Augustus and Livia will reveal its ancient Roman past. Also visit the Cathedral of St Maurice, ending your tour with a mini-train ride to the top of Mount Pipet for panoramic views.

Day 5: Tournon & Viviers

Your guided tour will take you first to Chateauneuf-sur-Isere near Tain L'Hermitage where you will learn about the region's winemaking traditions and taste some famous regional red wines. Then visit the Musee de Tain L'Hermitage located in the oldest house in the region. Cruise on to Viviers, a quaint town in a mountainous setting and enjoy an evening stroll through the Old Town with its medieval and Renaissance buildings.

Day 6: Arles

Arles' diverse architectural highlights include many Gallo-Roman ruins, the Church of St Trophime and Les Arènes, an ancient amphitheatre with 20,000 seats that is still used today for plays and bullfights. The city's vibrant colours and quality of light were an inspiration for Vincent van Gogh, who utilised Arles as a backdrop for many works.

Day 7: Avignon

Known as the 'City of Popes', Avignon was home to seven popes from 1309 to 1377. The city's Palais des Papes, a maze of Gothic architecture, served as papal residence, church and palace. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 8: Avignon

Disembark.



Provence, lavender fields



Avignon