

Escorted Coach Tours

In France

—
2022



France à la Carte - French Incoming Travel Agency.
francealacarte.com
info@francealacarte.com

France à la Carte

France à la Carte is a French incoming travel agency.

Wich specialises in organising tailor-made high quality & luxury tours throughout France. We are a passionate, well-experienced team of professionals with bases in France delivering unique made-to-measure travel experiences.

Slow Tourism

We focus on the human side of traveling.

We will introduce you to the local producers, artisans, artists or farmers and all the fascinating people that make a region so much more than a simple destination.

We want your eco-footprint to be as light as possible and be a positive contribution to the local economy, which is why we choose partners who share those goals.





From left to right:
Elodie Alves, Dylan Butler & Sylvie Butler.



Who we are

France à la Carte is a family-run business.

- * **Sylvie Butler**, Created **France à la Carte** and has been running it successfully ever since and works with a range of long time partners and providers.
- * **Dylan Butler**, Her son is building on this legacy and leading the company by building on the **same foundations & principles** laid down by his mum, while adapting it to the realities of the current situation.
- * **Elodie Alves**, Highly skilled in the tourism industry, is in charge of sales in France and the **development of our Slow tourism** offer in Occitanie.



Our company

France à la Carte is a French incoming travel agency specialising in tailor-made, high quality & luxury tours throughout France.

Over the last 15 years, we have acquired a wealth of knowledge and on-the-ground experience and have discovered the truly authentic and rewarding culinary, cultural and natural treasures of France. We make sure to include a great variety of outdoor activities in the outstanding natural sites our destinations have to offer.

From the start, France à la carte has been offering short and long breaks for individuals, families and small groups from all over the world for leisure or professional purposes. Whether you are travelling as a group (Escorted Coach Tours) or as individual travellers (Private & Shared Escorted Tours), just tell us what you want to do, where/when you want to go and France à la Carte takes care of the rest.

Our standards

- * **We customize experiences** that are both intimate and fully-adaptable to your desires and requirements, and we take extra care that it all runs smoothly. Because we believe that true luxury also lies in serenity and peace of mind.
- * **We select** all our hotels, providers and guides with the same care a gifted artisan would in choosing their raw materials. Sustainability is also a core value of our company and is a key element in the vacations we design.
- * **We focus** on providers that meet the highest standards of safety and service. Accommodation is for the most part in four- and five-star hotels full of real charm, comfort, and character. Luxury is found in details and careful attention and so we make sure that happens, without ever losing sight of the standards any luxury travel company is expecting of us.
- * **We define high-end travel as unique, exclusive, comfortable and, above all, safe. That is why we only work with providers that meet the highest standards of safety and service.**
- * **We work exclusively with four- and five-star hotels full of charm, comfort, and character. And, of course, some of the finest gourmet restaurants Spain and France have to offer.**

Our services

We, at “France à la Carte”, have been organizing high-end escorted coach tours for more than 15 years now. Small scaled groups with tour leaders, exploring off the beaten tracks regions and offering the highest quality of services and hotels.

We do our best to transcend your stay into a real experience...

- * Our services cover everything from the pick-ups to and from the airport, transport, Tour Leaders, accommodation, restaurants, and all the activities and experiences you might be interested in. We do our best to transcend your stay into a real experience...
- * We are leaders in the sector and offer France, with the same expertise and the same attention to detail. Come with us to discover the most authentic and sophisticated tours.



Our Guides & Tour Leaders

Tour Leaders are essential to us.

- * **We know they do all the difference when it comes to making the magic happen.** The team of amazingly gifted people who lead our tours brings with them the energy and empathy we are looking for. Spontaneous, sensitive, knowledgeable, curious, multilingual,... they're all of this and way more.
 - * They're around 24/7 and pop up when you need them. They'll solve any hassles that might appear, and are ready with the good advice and tips you'll need on the way.
- All the local guides that we pick, are chosen according to the same criteria of gifted and bright people.**

Table of contents

Introduction

France

Introduction

- 02 France à la Carte
- 03 Slow Tourism
- 04 Who we are
- 05 Our company
- 06 Our standards
- 06 Our Guides & Tour Leaders
- 07 Our services

France

- 12 Bordeaux & The Basque Country
- 20 South Western France
- 28 Languedoc & Catalunya
- 36 Provence & Camargue
- 44 Provence & Riviera
- 52 Rhône & Burgundy
- 60 Champagne & Alsace
- 68 Brittany & Normandy

France

Iconic landmark and classic travel destination. France can offer you a vast sample of emotions. From the most sophisticated wine chateau estate to the most authentic bread maker, the country's cultural and geographical offer is just astonishing.

Bienvenue chez Vous!



Bordeaux & The Basque Country

At the estuary of the Gironde river and the Atlantic facade lies a town that has taken all the advantages of its climate, fertile soils, and Roman culture.

Bordeaux and its surroundings became, over the centuries, the symbol of excellence for winemaking worldwide. Saint-Émilion, Médoc, Côtes de Blaye, are some legends that will become reality to you by visiting this region. The Basque country is a world on its own that will offer to you its generous culture and gastronomy. Always on the edge, this incredibly beautiful and fascinating region is forged by contrasts: Mountains and ocean, France and Spain, sweet and spicy, complex and generous. From Biarritz to San-Sebastian you'll discover some of the best restaurants on earth, you'll meet authentic shepherds, witness to most contemporary architecture, and hear a language older than Latin. A real adventure in the heart of Europe.



Elegance facing the ocean



Day 1 - La cité du Vin

We are delighted to welcome you to Bordeaux! A vibrant, elegant, gorgeous city with a rich architectural and historical past. To start your journey, you will first explore La Cité du Vin and immerse yourself in a sensory adventure to discover how wine evolved through cultures and civilizations. A unique moment through the many and varied facets of wine across time and space. You will access La Cité du Vin's Belvedere, where you will experience a 360° view of Bordeaux and taste a delicious glass of world-class wine.

You will then embark on a 2-hour Bordeaux River Cruise to discover the city and its UNESCO-listed World Heritage architecture. You will cruise under the lifting bridge of Chaban-Delmas and in front of the Cité du Vin and admire other emblematic bridges such as the 'Pont de Pierre' and 'Pont d'Aquitaine' while sipping a glass of local wine. Right in the middle of Bordeaux, the modern and comfortable 4-star Mercure Centre Ville Hotel will host you for the night and for a well-deserved Welcome Dinner.



Day 2 - A pearl next to the ocean

After having enjoyed your buffet breakfast at the hotel, you will head to the Arcachon basin located some sixty kilometers southwest of Bordeaux. This little inland sea opening onto the ocean is also known for its exceptional natural heritage & beautiful oyster villages that have remained authentic and untouched over the years. There you will embark on a "Pinasse", the traditional long and narrow wooden boats, and meet Thierry, your skipper for the day. You are going on a private cruise around the bay and admire the iconic "cabane tchanquée", cabins built on stilts with their feet in the water.. Of course, you will enjoy some local oysters and wine degustation on board.

Your afternoon will be dedicated to the visit of Arcachon city that counts a great number of villas built in the late 19th century in an eclectic range of styles, ranging from a Swiss chalet to Neo-Gothic manor through English cottage. The most splendid include Villa Toledo, Villa Trocadéro, and Villa Alexandre Dumas. On your way back to Bordeaux, you will drive past the impressive Dune du Pilat, the highest sand dune in Europe: the spectacular views at the top await the bravest amongst you!



Day 3 - Oaky wines vs rocky coastline

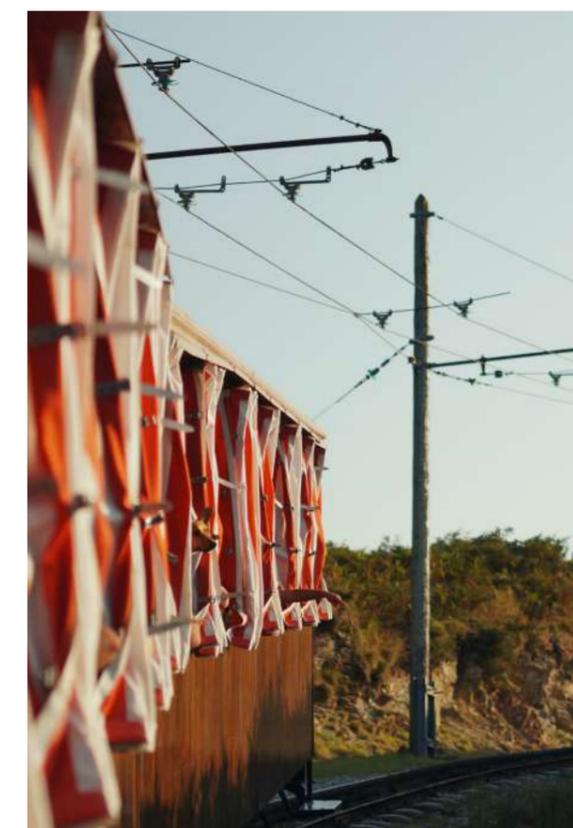
This morning, get ready to travel north of Bordeaux to the plateaux of the renowned Saint Estèphe Grands Crus. You will get the chance to visit the great vineyard of Château Phélan Ségur covering 70 hectares of magnificent clay-gravels on the hillocks. Located in the heart of the village of Saint-Estèphe, it has been overlooking the Gironde with a certain majesty since the beginning of the 19th century with its unique architecture and the nobility of its terroir. From the vineyard to the cellar, the visit of the property will allow you to discover the spirit of a family, the lands of St Estèphe, and the secrets of wine making. The tasting, conducted by a manager of the Château, will include a selection of 3 vintages.

To complete this wonderful experience, lunch in the clearing will be set for you, in the shade of the oak and lime trees, with a view over the vineyards. You will enjoy the seasonal dishes cooked by the chef and served with the Château's finest wines, before heading south to the Basque Country. Upon your arrival in Bayonne, you will encounter Pierre Ibaïalde, a popular ham artisan and you will be introduced to all the secrets of the production of his star dish. In a friendly atmosphere, a tasting of the best Ibaïalde products will be prepared so that everyone remembers the flavors of the Basque country. Your day will end in Hôtel Radisson Blu in Biarritz : a wonderful 4-star building beside the ocean.

Day 4 - The Basque Himalaya

With your generous breakfast by the oceanshore over, you will head to the lovely village of Sare: Napoleon III and Eugenie, Winston Churchill, Pierre Loti all loved the authentic Basque feel of this village with its red half-timbered, white houses, some of which date from the 16th century. From there, you will be embarking on a unique experience: the "Petit Train de La Rhune". This authentic vintage cogwheel train dating back to 1924 will take you to the mythical summit of the Basque Country at an altitude of 905 meters. From the top, you will contemplate the French and Spanish coasts and the Pyrenees as far as the eye can see. Pottok, robust little Basque ponies living in total freedom, Manech sheep and griffon eagles, emblematic birds of prey of the Pyrenean mountains, will be all there in the heart of wild nature and for your greatest pleasure...

The beautiful coastal town of Saint Jean de Luz will be the next destination on your tour. You will be charmed by the beach promenade and its charming houses with footbridges, examples of the architecture which has been appreciated since the Belle Epoque. To end your day, you will then discover Abbadia, the Château-Observatory, an enchanting highlight overhanging the sheer cliffs of Hendaye. Built between 1864 and 1884 by Viollet le Duc, with its neo gothic architecture and its eclectic decoration, it is one of the most famous sites and museums of the Basque Country. Patrimony lovers will be seduced!



Day 5 - A shell on the atlantic coast

This morning, we will take one of the most scenic roads to San Sebastian over the famous Jaizkibel mountain overlooking the ocean. On arrival, we will meet our captain, Miss Iratxe, who will be waiting for you onboard her sailing boat, ready to show you the basque way of sailing...

After a lovely 1h30 cruise you will disembark in the small harbor of Getaria, a fishing port that was also home to the great fashion designer Balenciaga. For a better discovery of the Basque country, you should not miss a "Pintxos lunch" and there's no better place for that than Txoko Guetaria. This pintxos bar proposes dishes from the new Basque cuisine - "haute cuisine in miniature" - and accompanies them with top Spanish wines from the nearby Rioja area. Iñaki, our local guide, will then take care of us and lead us through the streets of San Sebastian for a splendid bike tour, where we will enjoy all the main landmarks of the city, the harbor and the beach neighborhood. The best way for sure to get to know this fabulous town.



Day 6 - In the footsteps of the witches.

This morning you better be ready for an adventurous day. We will discover the Baztan Valley, famous for being the most representative place for the traditional Basque way of life and also for being one of the places where Basque mythology is still very much alive. There we will start to walk a trail that runs through Erratzu, one of those typical Basque villages, towards a beautiful 12-meter waterfall. The Xorroxin waterfall, considered one of the sources of the Bidasoa river, which marks the border with France, is a beautiful and mysterious place, which is home to the "Lamias" (characters of the Basque mythology that have the shape of a beautiful woman from the waist up and a fish from the waist down), an easy and gorgeous hike through the verdant nature of the Basque country.

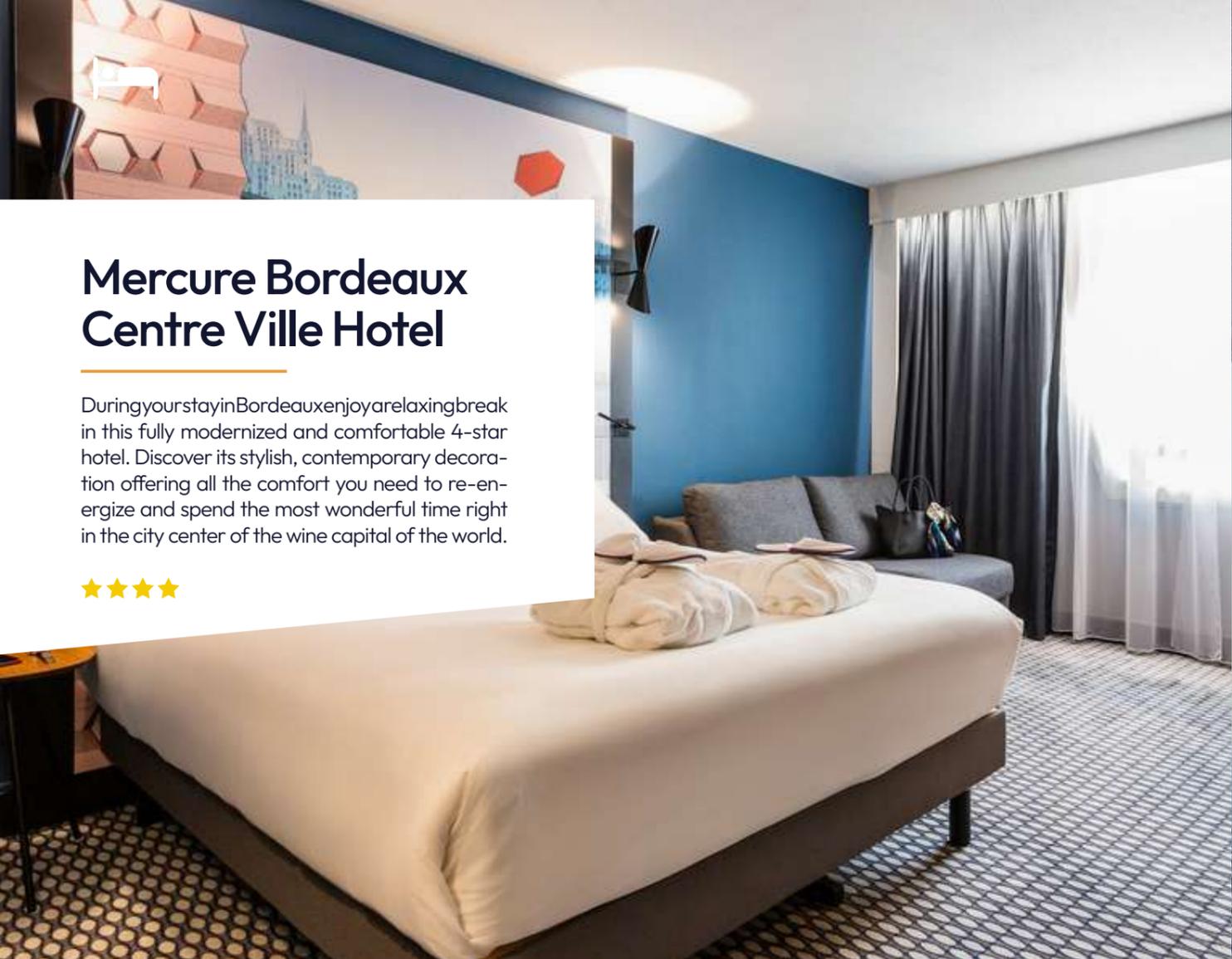
We will then explore an open-air museum of the Basque sculptor (yes another one) Xabier Santxotena, who according to his own words "develops nature, art, and expression, through cosmogonic characters, pantheistic protectors, atmospheric elements in a cosmos of earth and sky, under the will of the sun and the moon." Whether you adhere or not to his explanations his work will not leave you indifferent.. To keep us in the mysterious and magical atmosphere of today we will go to Zugarramurdi, in the heights of the valley, a beautiful village famous for having been one of the centers of magic and witchcraft and a place where the Spanish Inquisition was particularly active. Here, we will witness what remains of these stories and myths. We will then get back to reality descending back to our hotel in San Sebastian for a Farewell dinner and overnight.

Day 7 - Agur, agur.

After a generous breakfast at your hotel, you will head to Bilbao to explore the city and its stunning Guggenheim Museum. Designed by Canadian-American architect Frank Gehry, this sculptural and spectacular work of art is a magnificent example of 20th-century avant-garde architecture. 9,000 m2 of its space is dedicated to exhibitions. The building, thanks to its bold configuration and innovative design, perfectly integrates the urban fabric of Bilbao and its surrounding area.

After having visited this wonder of Arts and Architecture, you will enjoy a final lunch near Gure Toke. The bus will then leave you at Bilbao's international airport.





A modern hotel room with a large bed, a grey sofa, and a blue wall. A window with grey curtains is on the right. A small icon of a bed is in the top right corner of the image.

Mercure Bordeaux Centre Ville Hotel

During your stay in Bordeaux enjoy a relaxing break in this fully modernized and comfortable 4-star hotel. Discover its stylish, contemporary decoration offering all the comfort you need to re-energize and spend the most wonderful time right in the city center of the wine capital of the world.



A hotel room with a bed, a green wall, and a white table with a vase of white flowers. A window with grey curtains is on the left.

The radisson Blu Hôtel

The Radisson Blu Hotel Biarritz is ideal if you are looking for sun-drenched beaches, great shopping and magnificent views of the Basque countryside. Situated in the centre of Biarritz, on the edge of the ocean, this hotel with a resort atmosphere offers ideal comfort and easy access to Biarritz activities.



A terrace with white tables and chairs overlooking a bay and mountains. People are sitting at the tables. A small icon of a bed is in the top left corner of the image.

Mercure San Sebastián Monte Igueldo

The Mercure San Sebastián Monte Igueldo hotel is ideally located on Mount Igueldo, offering panoramic views over the sea and the Bay of La Concha. It is connected to the city by a century-old funicular railway, one of the main tourist attractions in the area. The hotel is located very close to the amusement park and the Monte Igueldo funicular, which takes you to the most beautiful beaches on the Bay of Biscay and to the city.





South Western France

Europe Actually is playing home here...be sure we know our way to the artisans, wine producers, or to the cutest unspoiled small town where you'll find the local producer of the best foie-gras in the world.

So please do us a favor and come to visit us in the "Ville rose" of Toulouse. We know how to be the perfect hosts. Further on at the estuary of the Gironde river and the Atlantic facade lies a town that has taken all the advantages of its climate, fertile soils, and Roman culture. Bordeaux and its surroundings became, over the centuries, the symbol of excellence for winemaking worldwide. Saint-Émilion, Médoc, Côtes de Blaye, are some legends that will become reality to you by visiting this region.

From mountain mystic



Day 1 - The pink-bricked cities

Welcome to France! Upon your arrival at Toulouse-Blagnac airport, your driver-guide will be waiting for you to transfer you to Gaillac. You will visit the beautiful Domaine Vayssette, a family-owned estate where two generations combine their knowledge to give their utmost in the production of Gaillac wines. You will sample some of their best wines, followed by a buffet lunch including local products. A real treat!

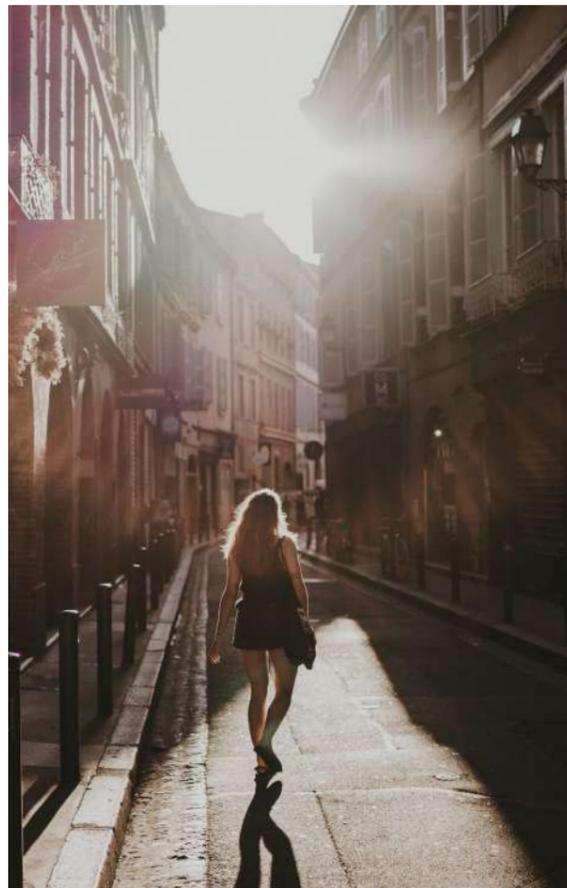
You will then travel to the Maison des Métiers du Cuir to visit the industrial heritage of the city of Graulhet. This institution offers a fascinating journey inside the old leather factory where you will be told all the secrets of the metamorphosis of the skin and the trade of leather workers. You will of course meet those leather "sewers" who help establish the reputation of the French Haute Couture. Your day will end in Albi, a magnificent, pink-bricked town on the banks of the Tarn. You will appreciate a stroll into the old city through its winding streets and half-timbered houses. Accommodation will be at the Mercure Albi Bastides**** housed in an ancient 18th-century watermill right in the heart of Albi. You will then enjoy a welcome dinner at your hotel.



Day 2 - The Cathar legacy

After a generous breakfast, let's go and wander around Albi's local market! This place of character, located in a charming building of «Baltard» style built in 1903, is a meeting place loved by all the residents of Albi and visitors. During a three-hour tour with your guide, you will then visit the fortified Cathedral of Sainte-Cécile, a masterpiece of the Southern Gothic style, and pay your respects to Albi's most celebrated son: Toulouse Lautrec. Located in the Palais de la Berbie, the museum dedicated to the artist has on display more than 1000 original works - the largest collection in France after the Musée d'Orsay in Paris.

After a lunch break taken on your own, it will be time to head to Cordes-sur-Ciel. Perched on a hill-top with fortified gates, ramparts, sculpted gothic façades, and little hidden corners, this town will conquer your heart for sure. Another gourmet break will take place at Musée des Arts du Sucre et du Chocolat, a permanent and unique exhibition of sugar and chocolate masterpieces on such themes as the Middle Ages, mythology, tales, and legends. You will be welcomed by Yves Thuriès, twice elected "best ouvrier of France" and you will discover most of the techniques of his unusual art work.



Day 3 - Stairway to heaven

This morning, get ready to head to Saint-Cirq-Lapopie, a stunning village at the crest of a sheer cliff high above the Lot river. At the bottom of this very picturesque site, you will embark on a Cruise on-board authentic wooden barges where you will get an unrivaled view of Saint Cirq-Lapopie. Your journey will carry on to Rocamadour, an extraordinary village offering several exceptional sites: the Chapelle Notre Dame, the Grand Escalier (more than 200 steps, once climbed by pilgrims on their knees), and the Hospitalet, that you will explore with your local guide. After this emblematic tour, let's stop at La Borie d'Imbert to spend some time at Marc and Sophie Villard's farm. This lovely couple will teach you about their passion for the land and their goat cheese AOP production. You will of course be able to enjoy a delicious picnic basket of tasty homemade products.

To help digest, we will then transfer you to Padirac to visit the famous Gouffre de Padirac: 103m deep and 10,000 years old, one of the most visited abysses of concretions in France with its impressive Salle du Grand Dôme. At the end of the day, we will head to Sarlat, in Dordogne where your charming 4-star hotel Plaza Madeleine lies right in the town center. After a well-deserved rest, you will stroll through the spectacular streets of Sarlat, a remarkable city in terms of cultural and architectural heritage. Your steps will take you to Le Bistrot de l'Octroi for a traditional "Périgourdin" dinner.



Day 4 - Rock arts and art that rocks

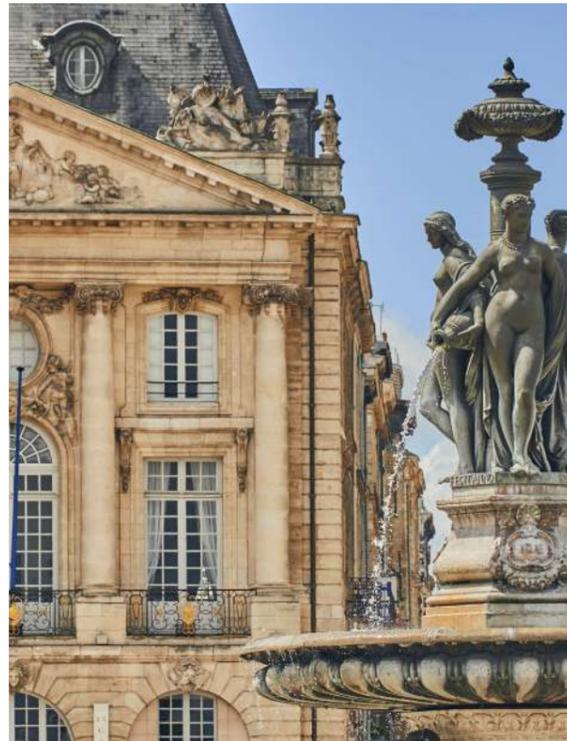
After breakfast at your hotel, you will walk into the medieval old town with its maze of picturesque narrow streets embellished with Gothic and Renaissance mansions and historical monuments. The Saturday market is the perfect place to wander around: it is particularly lively and should not be missed, as well as the Sainte Marie church, restored by the French architect Jean Nouvel in 2001 that opens its gigantic doors to unveil its indoor market. Your adventure in Dordogne does not end here as you will then head to Montignac. This charming and peaceful village by the river Vézère is home to the Lascaux cave, one the most famous ornamented caves in the world, with paintings dated from around 17000 to 19000 years old. Today the International Centre for Cave Art that hosts a replica of the Lascaux cave and a museum is one of the most complete interpretation sites for Paleolithic archeology.

After this huge dive into the depths of the earth and humanity, you will have the pleasure to meet Stephane, a black truffle producer, in Domaine de Lascaux. He will share his passion for the truffle with you. You will learn everything about this particular and mysterious mushroom, discover the truffle plantation and the ancestral technique of hunting «à la Mouche» before tasting a truffle-flavoured dinner cooked by your host. An unforgettable moment!

Day 5 - The grand cru's day

A new day, a new destination: following the Dordogne river towards Bordeaux, you will enter one of the most renowned vineyards in the world: Saint Émilion, UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1999. The 18th century Château Ferrand is opening its doors for you to experience the art of blending and crafting your own vintage with Adrien Baudry, the estate's sommelier. He will educate your palate and help you understand the different grape varieties and the best way to combine them into the perfect blend. There is no better way to end this morning than to enjoy a buffet lunch of local specialities at the same Chateau Ferrand.

In order to stretch your legs a bit after lunch, you will have a gentle bicycle ride through the vineyards and get to know the "châteaux", family-run estates where you might have to taste some more of those superb local wines. Bordeaux, the elegant metropolis, renowned worldwide for its wines, is then awaiting you and you will spend a well-deserved night at 4-star Mercure Bordeaux Centre Ville.



Day 6 - A pearl in the ocean.

Bordeaux is well-known for its mix of rich historical heritage and modernity, its vineyards, its gastronomy and unique art de Vivre. After a generous breakfast at your hotel, you will explore the historical city center with your local guide as you head towards the Marché des Capucins. In this popular, colourful and vibrant local market, you will sample a whole range of regional product. You will discover stalls overflowing with a wide range of flavorsome specialties to taste on the spot or to take away.

In the afternoon, we will head to the Arcachon basin located some sixty kilometres south-west of Bordeaux, which contains a great number of villas built in the late 19th century in an eclectic range of styles. There you will embark on a "Pinnasse", the traditional long and narrow wooden boats, and meet Thierry, your skipper for the day for a private cruise around the bay to admire the iconic "cabane tchanquée", cabins built on stilts with their feet in the water. Of course, you will stop along the way for a local oyster and wine lunch, with a nice couple of young oyster producers that will tell you everything about their work. A couple of hours later, on your way to Andernos-les-Bains, do not miss the opportunity to climb the famous Dune du Pilat, the highest sand dune in Europe, as you will have plenty of time to rest afterwards at Chez Huguette's seafood restaurant.



Day 7 - La cité du Vin

To end your voyage in Bordeaux, you will first explore La Cité du Vin and immerse yourself in a sensory adventure to discover how wine evolved through cultures and civilizations. You will access the Belvedere where you will experience a 360° view of Bordeaux whilst tasting a glass of world class wine. Then for lunch, you will embark on a 2-hour Bordeaux River Cruise to enjoy local specialties in the boat's restaurant. During this trip on the Garonne river, you will cruise under the lifting bridge of Chaban-Delmas and admire other emblematic bridges such as the 'Pont de Pierre' and 'Pont d'Aquitaine'. After this epicurean break, it will be time to say goodbye and transfer you to Bordeaux-Mérignac airport.



Mercure Albi Bastides

Located in an 18th-century water mill. This listed historical monument is a perfect mix of modernity, comfort, and authenticity located right in the heart of Albi. Situated on the banks of the Tarn river, Mercure Albi Bastides is the ideal place from which to explore the Palais de la Berbie, the Toulouse-Lautrec museum, and the enchanting medieval districts. The restaurant with a terrace offers panoramic views over the city and exquisite local gastronomy.



Plaza Madeleine Hotel & Spa

Situated in the heart of the old town, at the very entrance to the medieval city with its listed monuments, markets and shops, numerous restaurants, street shows and performances PLAZA MADELEINE Hotel & Spa is assuredly the best place for a charming stay in the Dordogne and Perigord regions. You can enjoy its facilities such as a heated pool with a terrace and a sun lounge, a relaxing space with a sauna, steam room, jacuzzi and themed shower. The hotel is fully air-conditioned and offers access to a complimentary high speed Wi-fi connection and the best equipment to meet the high expectations of an international clientele.



Mercure Bordeaux Centre Ville Hotel

During your stay in Bordeaux enjoy a relaxing break in this fully modernized and comfortable 4-star hotel. Discover its stylish, contemporary decoration offering all the comfort you need to re-energize and spend the most wonderful time right in the city center of the wine capital of the world.



Languedoc & Catalunya

You might not be familiar with the name of this region although we assure you this is a real digest of France.

From the Pyrenees to the Mediterranean coast, from the Cathars castles in Carcassonne to the Roman aqueduct of Le Pont du Gard this region will blow your mind away. Here Europe Actually is playing home here...be sure we know our way to the artisans, wine producers, or to the cutest unspoiled small town where you'll find the local producer of the best foie-gras in the world. So please do us a favor and come to visit us in the "Villeroze" of Toulouse. We know how to be the perfect hosts.

Mediterranean quintessence



Day 1 - Two gems linked by a canal

Let's start your day in Toulouse where your driver and your guide will pick you up and drive you to explore the city's main historical sites such as the Capitole: the current City Hall and the National Theatre of Toulouse housed in a magnificent building on the renowned Place du Capitole square, and St-Sernin Basilica, the largest romanesque church in Europe and compulsory halt on the pilgrims' way to Santiago de Compostela.

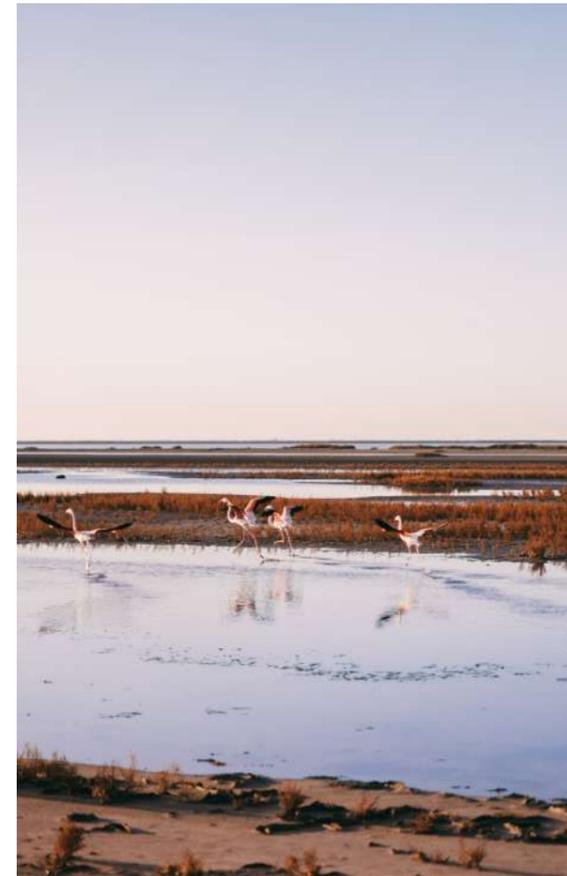
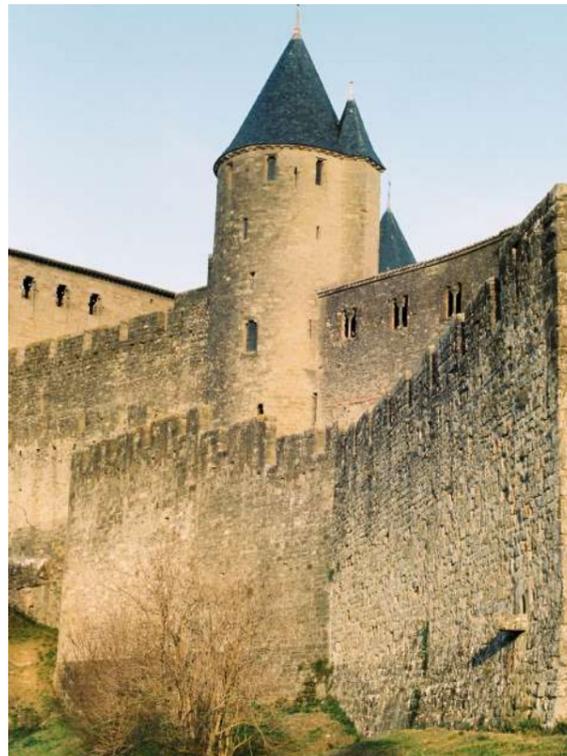
You will then travel to Carcassonne making a first "refreshing" river break at Port Lauragais & Naurouze. Seuil de Naurouze, the highest level of the Canal du Midi (190m), is the watershed point where the water falling on its western side flows to the Atlantic and on the eastern side flows to the Mediterranean. You will definitely appreciate this calm and pleasant place ! St Ferreol Lake, which was created as a reservoir to feed the Canal with water will be the second stop on your route to the stunning Medieval Citadel of Carcassonne. Classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this medieval village is a maze of narrow cobbled streets within severe ramparts of thick walls and turreted towers, bustling with life and colors. At the center of the Citadel lies the Chateau Comtal, an impressive castle where the lords of Carcassonne used to live and rule. Time to retreat to your cozy 4-star hotel Mercure in Carcassonne, with its refined decor, outdoor swimming pool, tree-filled terrace and views over the Citadel and to enjoy your Welcome Dinner.



Day 2 - Water elevator

After a delicious breakfast at your hotel, get ready to leave for Béziers to board a barge for a peaceful cruise on the Canal du Midi. During this river trip, you will discover the Locks of Orb (the highest of the Canal), Pont du Canal Sur Orb, the Malpas tunnel, and the locks of Fonserannes, a masterpiece of creativity, achieved by Pierre Paul Riquet. Your morning on board will be enhanced by meal-offering local specialties. Your tour will continue with a visit to Maison Noilly Prat Factory, located in the enchanting port of Marseillan for an unforgettable Vermouth wine tasting and also an occasion to purchase this famous French wine.

After a transfer to the Canal du Midi last lock "Les Onglous" you will leave the channel which continues to the majestic oyster Lake of Thau to go back to the mainland with a medieval ending to your day! You will be charmed by the inspiring atmosphere of the old stones of Fontfroide Abbey and the serenity of its gardens, a treasure of the Middle Ages in the heart of the Corbières.



Day 3 - The salt and the flour

This morning, your coach driver will transfer you to the salt fields of Salin de l'Île Saint Martin, an amazing and colourful site adjacent to the Clape massif, outside the old and unspoiled village of Gruissan. On a bucolic stroll along the terraced piers and earthen paths on the edge of the pond, in the charming village of Peyriac-de-Mer, you will come upon unspoiled nature, pink flamingos, cranes and wild ducks, a jewel carefully protected!

You will then take a step up with a guided tour of the Cathar Castle of Queribus. Perched on a narrow rocky outcrop at an altitude of 728 m, this impressive fortress overlooks the Corbières, Fenouillèdes, and Roussillon plains. A few kilometers away you will then reach the well-known and picturesque village of Cucugnan. A short walk to the very top of the village will lead you to the mill built into the sloping rock, above three ancient threshing floors. A gourmet break will be most welcome to savor the tasty bread and visit the mill. Later on, in the heart of Occitanie and the Pyrénées-Orientales, you will head to your 4-star Eco-lodge Hotel Domaine de Riberach, at the foot of the medieval castle of 'Bélesta de la frontière', a haven of peace in harmony with the surrounding nature. During your dinner at the restaurant of Domaine de Riberach you can admire the sunset over the valley.

Day 4 - Wine Safari in Domaine de Riberach

The best way to start the day is with a copious breakfast! Afterward, you will board a Land Rover 4wd to explore the Domaine de Riberach vineyards. This wine safari is an opportunity for lovers of wine tourism to discover not only a territory, a landscape, but also a history. Over generations, men and women came together and shared their strength and courage. They shaped the mountain and built terraces on the slopes. The land was cleared, turned over, and planted with vines. Then, you will visit the cellars, learn about wine production and enjoy a wine tasting. A pleasant "déjeuner sur l'herbe" will complete your discovery of the vineyards.

In the afternoon, you will have plenty of leisure time to wander around the beautiful Riberach estate in the middle of nature or to take advantage of the many relaxing services offered by this prestigious place: a Spa, Sauna, Hammam and optional Balneotherapy or a natural Swimming Pool, you will be spoilt for choice!



Day 5 – Mountains falling into the sea

Fully satisfied with a generous breakfast at your hotel, you will be ready to travel to Banyuls, an old fishing village, with quaint narrow streets and excellent beaches. The steep slopes of the surrounding hills are covered with vineyards, producing natural sweet wines. You will visit La Métairie Museum, a typical country house where Aristide Maillol, the famous sculptor, who was born in Banyuls in 1861, lived from 1910 until his death in 1944. This house is now a museum open to the public. It contains the tomb, decorated with the statue «La Méditerranée», but also ceramics, bronzes, and paintings. You will also discover Maillol's workshop and learn more about his daily life.

Your guide will then show you to a crescent of colorful houses and palm trees on the edge of its large beach. The Anse de Paulilles or Bay of Paulilles, a classified natural and protected environment, will open onto landscapes between sea and mountains, terraced vineyards, and cork-oak forests. Of course, you cannot stay in the Banyuls area without tasting its renowned wine! You will explore all the secrets of the winegrowers and cellar masters in the elaboration and maturing of the great wines of Banyuls and Collioure, at Terre des Templiers. The charming hotel Casa Pairal will accommodate you for the next two nights, you will fall under the spell of this beautiful historical establishment.

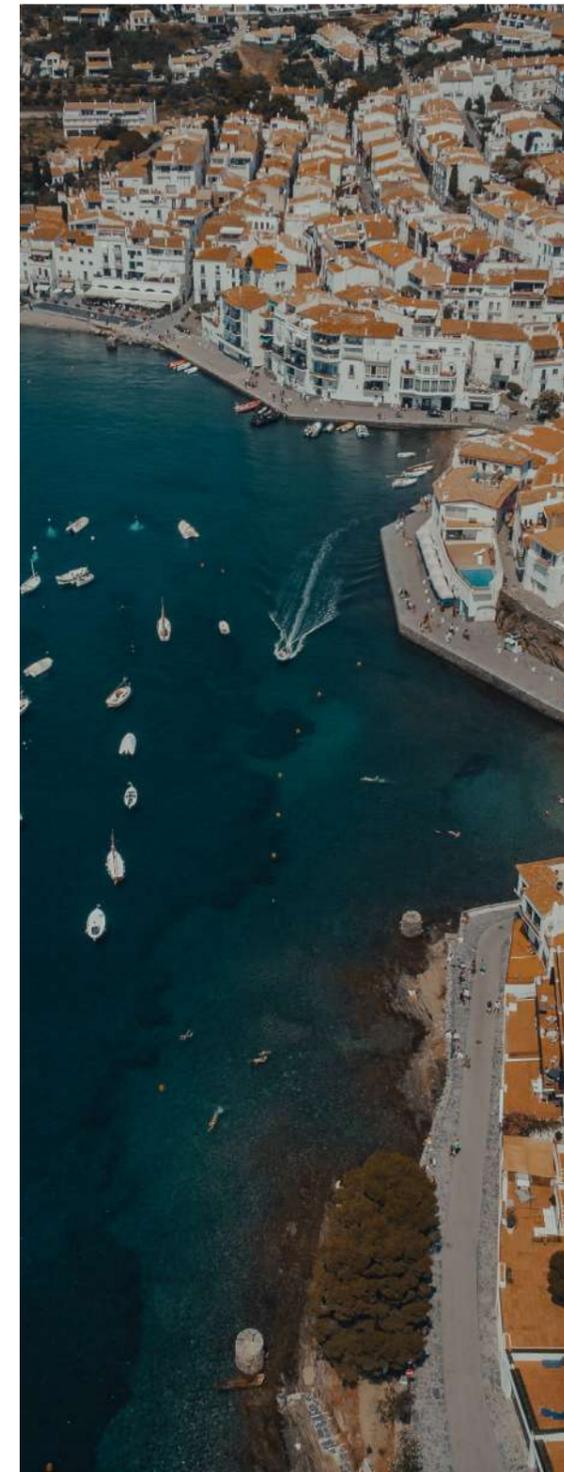


Day 6 – Weird moustaches

Today, along the rocky coastline of the Pyrenees, Collioure, a jewel of the Côte Vermeille on the Mediterranean sea awaits your visit. Already a haunt for painters at the turn of the last century, Collioure remains a favorite site for budding artists looking to recapture the magic of Matisse, Derain and other fauvist artists who enjoyed the sea and light so particular to this coastline.



You will then make the scenic coastline drive over the border and into Spain to Cadaques, admire the pretty seaside Costa Brava villages, and on to Portlligat. In this coastal village where Dali built a private retreat now converted into a museum which offers a look into his eccentric life, you will explore the house-museum, window-frame windows, and its kitschy decor. So as to close your day on a gourmet note, you will enjoy a Farewell Dinner in a fine local restaurant within walking distance from your hotel.



Day 7 – Viva Barcelona

“Last day” but not the least: you are going to the beautiful city of Girona, a medieval town that will take your breath away. One of the most interesting in Catalonia, the historic city of Girona invites you to trace its more than 2000 years of history through two fortified enclosures, the Força Vella and the Medieval Quarter. The Força Vella dates back to the Roman foundation while the medieval extension of the city walls was carried out during the 14th and 15th centuries. The city's artistic heritage has been preserved in the numerous monuments that have survived until today. The highlights of Girona are rounded off by the impressive old Jewish Quarter or Call, with its beautiful streets and porticoed squares, and by the exuberant baroque spaces and Noucentisme-style buildings by architect Rafael Masó. After this immersive guided tour of the city, we will transfer you to Barcelona airport.



Eco-lodge Hotel Domaine de Riberach

Luc Richard and Karin Pühringer, a couple of passionate architects are the owners of a wonderful hotel and vineyard at the foot of the eastern French Pyrenees. They like to think that each and every visitor feels at home in Riberach. The old wine cooperative cellar in the village had been abandoned for 10 years, Karin and Luc are rehabilitating it to house not only the Riberach wine cellars but also a luxury, contemporary hotel- restaurant, inspired by their urban culture. Impregnated with eco-friendly architecture, Karin and Luc put their convictions into practice and make Domaine Riberach an innovative and environmentally friendly place. You'll feel at home in this small eco-paradise.



Mercure Carcassonne la Cité Hotel

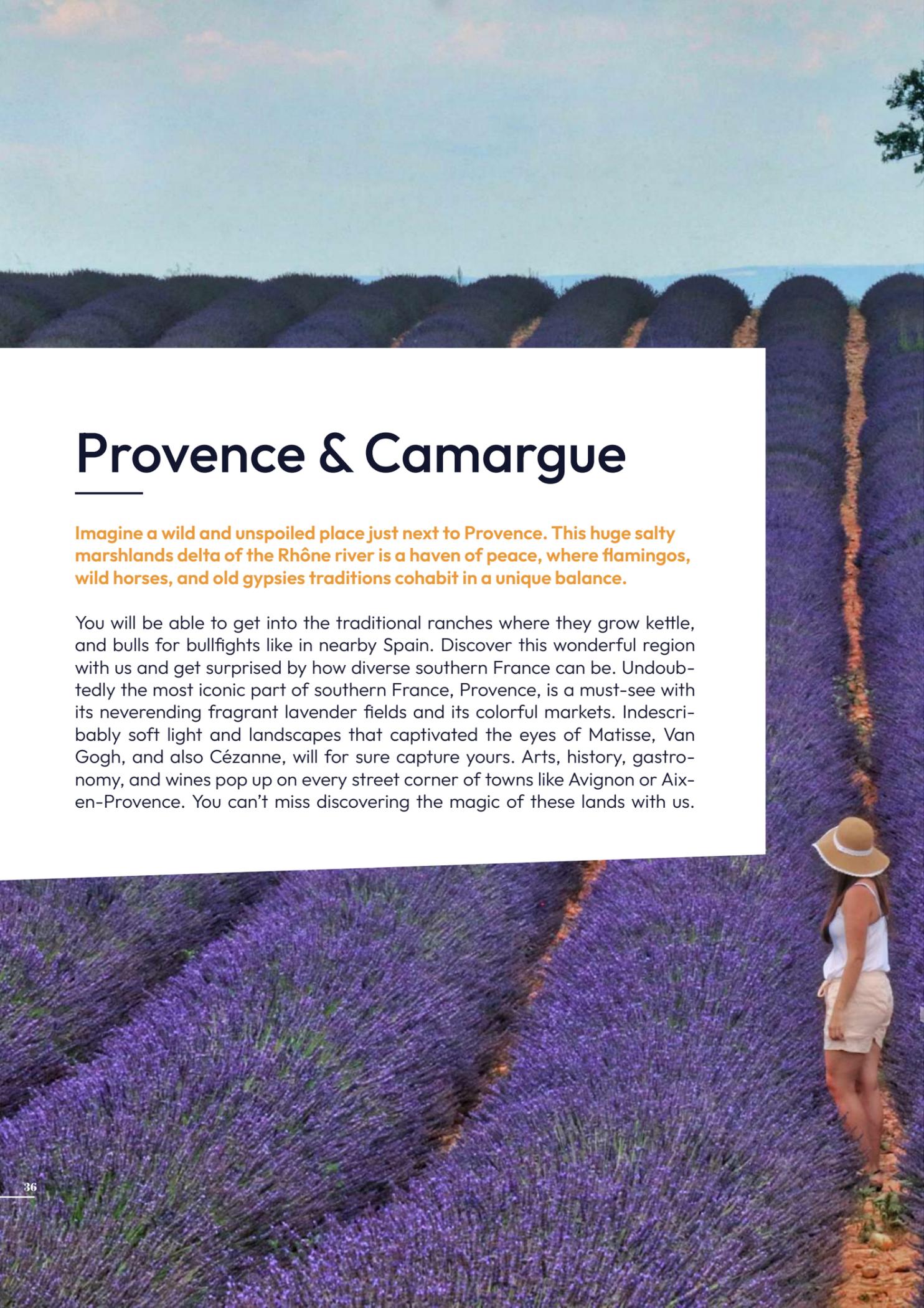
A 5-minute walk from the Medieval City and the city center, 4-star Mercure Carcassonne la Cité hotel looks just like a farmhouse in the Languedoc with its flowered patio and large rooms looking out over the lush gardens. You will feel welcome all year round thanks to the establishment's numerous facilities. It is ideally located for visiting two UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the Medieval City, a one-of-a-kind fortified city, and the Canal du Midi.



Hotel La Casa Pairal

One of Collioure's historic and iconic buildings, the building dates from 1870. Its architecture is reminiscent of Andalusia: patio and central fountain, welcoming arches, wrought iron in arabesques and "azulejos" (Hispano-Moorish earthenware and tiles). All of the rooms at Hôtel are decorated differently and offer a unique, chic and peaceful atmosphere so that each vacation is a truly personal experience. A few hundred meters away from Collioure's beaches, this charming luxury boutique hotel will transport you into another world.





Provence & Camargue

Imagine a wild and unspoiled place just next to Provence. This huge salty marshlands delta of the Rhône river is a haven of peace, where flamingos, wild horses, and old gypsies traditions cohabit in a unique balance.

You will be able to get into the traditional ranches where they grow kettle, and bulls for bullfights like in nearby Spain. Discover this wonderful region with us and get surprised by how diverse southern France can be. Undoubtedly the most iconic part of southern France, Provence, is a must-see with its neverending fragrant lavender fields and its colorful markets. Indescribably soft light and landscapes that captivated the eyes of Matisse, Van Gogh, and also Cézanne, will for sure capture yours. Arts, history, gastronomy, and wines pop up on every street corner of towns like Avignon or Aix-en-Provence. You can't miss discovering the magic of these lands with us.

Take a walk on the wild side



Day 1 - Marseille: The urban adventure

Let's start your journey with a panoramic tour in the sun and the singing accent of Marseille! You will follow the Corniche, a magnificent road overlooking the sea and offering a beautiful view of the Frioul islands and the Château d'If. Continuing to the Old Town, you will stop at the Basilica of Notre-Dame-de-la-Garde, built in the mid-19th century in the Roman-Byzantine style, on the highest point of the city. It offers an incomparable panorama of the whole city of Marseille. During your visit, notice the numerous ex-votos that local sailors came to deposit. Its 60-metre high bell tower is crowned with the famous golden statue of the Virgin Mary - the «Good Mother».

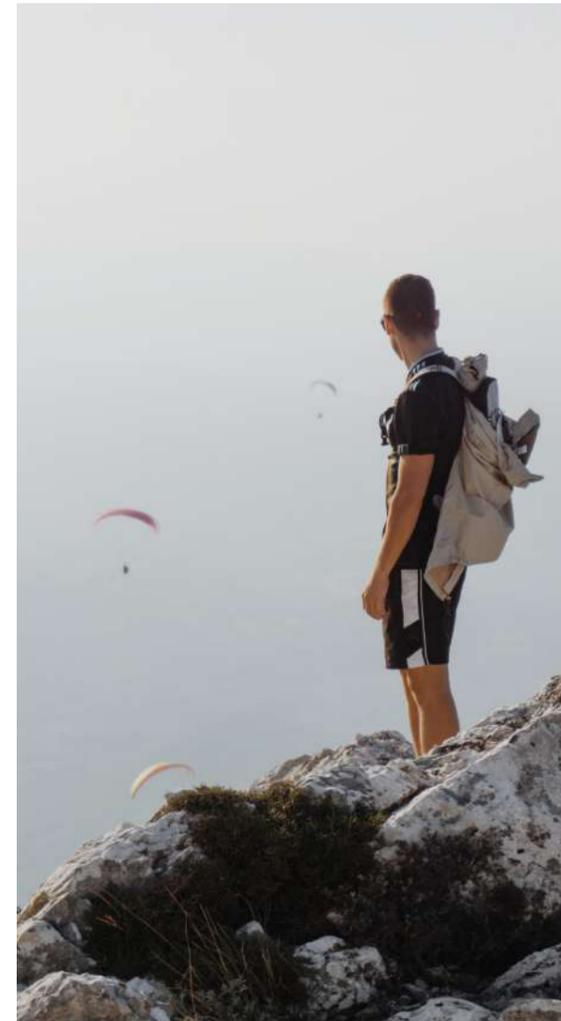
You will then proceed along the Quai du Port to the new ports of La Joliette, witnesses of Marseille's commercial past - they are nowadays the expression of successful rehabilitation. Your adventure in Marseille will continue with the architectural discovery of the MuCEM, Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilizations. It is composed of a contemporary building, a dark structure covered with a lace of concrete, and of Fort St-Jean, whose ochre silhouette bears witness to the city's long past. An impressive footbridge links the two. This museum offers a multidisciplinary setting where anthropology, history, archaeology, art history and contemporary art converge and provides a cultural, social, scientific and political view of the plurality of civilisations. Charming 4- star Aquabella hotel will then welcome you right in the heart of Aix-en-Provence for a Welcome dinner and a peaceful and relaxing night.



Day 2 - Calanques: The mediterranean wonder

After a generous breakfast, you will leave your hotel for an excursion in the sumptuous Calanques Massif. Listed as a National Park, it stretches for almost 20 km between Marseille and Cassis and boasts a dazzling white limestone landscape spiked with rocks. Its exceptional charm is mainly due to the creeks that deeply carve its coasts. You will travel along the Route des Crêtes which overlooks the sea from impressive cliffs, the highest in France, and you will discover the fishing port of Cassis, built between Cap Canaille and the Calanques, on a lovely amphitheatre site. From this fishing port with its special atmosphere, you will start your unforgettable cruise in the natural and well-preserved Calanques Massif. On your return, you cannot miss a delicious seafood lunch!

In the afternoon, the Cheynan family will host you in their château Virant to show you around their wine and olive oil production. Pascal, the owners' son and the head winemaker, will relate the philosophy the family value and apply in their domain regarding their wines and olive oils. Back in Aix en Provence, you will walk through the city and admire the elegance of its private mansions, the beauty of its architecture and its monuments, testimonies of its prestigious past. Also known as the «City of 100 fountains», discover the secrets of the town's fountains and gardens...



Day 3 - Light and texture, when landscape inspires

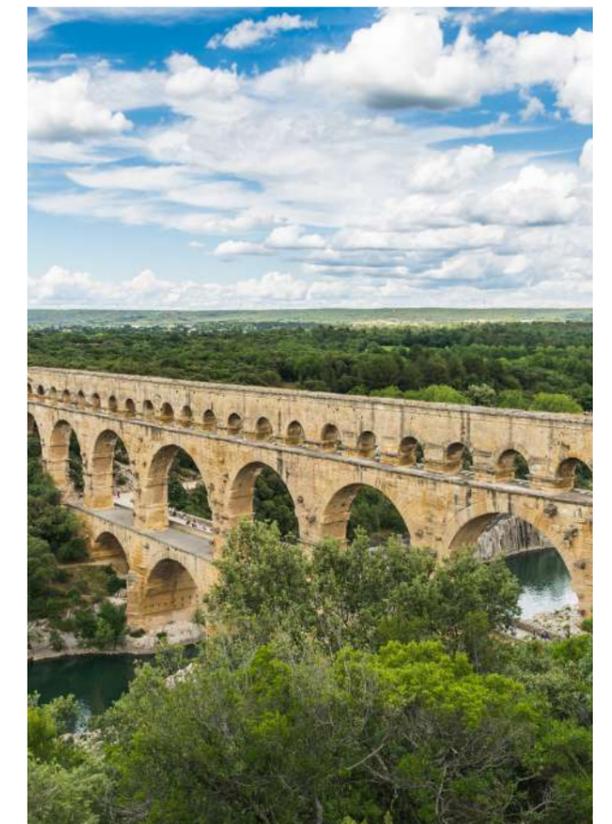
How about opening your day with a hike around the beautiful cliffs of Mont Sainte Victoire this morning? On this gentle trail, with our local guide, in the countryside around Aix-en-Provence, you will have the opportunity to admire the different views from the Mont Sainte Victoire, just as the great Cézanne once did. At the end of our walk, you will enjoy a very pleasant picnic lunch with plenty of local specialties: cold cuts, cheese, bread, wine, everything catered by local producers.

After this thoroughly bucolic time, you will head to Les Baux-de-Provence, a beautiful medieval town with a rich architectural heritage and magic that you will explore through its narrow cobbled streets. Your route will continue on to visit the unique Carrières de Lumières, a multimedia contemporary art installation housed with works by Van Gogh and other iconic artists. A true wonder ! Your day will be brought to a wonderful ending in your 4-star Horloge Hotel after your transfer to the historical city of Avignon.

Day 4 - Bridging the gap.

Once your breakfast is over, you will leave for the Pont du Gard, the highest aqueduct of the Roman Empire. Composed of three independent levels with outstanding arches, it is the main vestige of the Nîmes aqueduct built by the Romans in the 1st century. Completing your visit with a guided tour of the Roman city of Nîmes, you will discover the magnificent monuments built in the 1st century BC by the emperor Augustus, founder of the city: the Maison Carrée, a classical building with harmonious lines, built for the imperial cult, and the famous Arena of Nîmes. This amphitheater, where fights and circus games were once held and which today hosts corridas and concerts, is one of the best-preserved in the Roman world.

Traveling back to Avignon, your guide will introduce you to the «Medieval Majesty» whose ramparts conceal an important historical heritage: the Saint-Bénézet bridge, the Popes' Palace, and its narrow streets surrounded by private mansions and renowned museums. Avignon is also well-known for its annual Drama Festival. For dinner we will arrange a cooking class in La Mirande's old kitchen which houses the «Le Marmiton» cooking school. Some of the greatest chefs of the region are invited to give cooking classes for all enthusiasts, from those who want an introduction to the art of Provençal cooking to those who wish to improve their knowledge of gastronomy. Bon appétit !



Day 5 - Flamingos Safari

Today you are heading south to the Camargue region, the delta of the Rhône River and its beautiful flat-lands, so you better be ready for an adventurous day! You will explore the Camargue Regional Park with a safari tour in 4wd land rovers and discover the ponds and marshes where flamingos and many other birds live or stop on their migratory routes. We will then head to Sainte Marie de la Mer, an amazing town built on the very southern point of the Camargue, surrounded by sea and marshes. A pretty unreal and singular place with stunning architecture.

Carrying on with a cruise on the sea and the small Rhone, you will be lucky to come across egrets, herons, swans but also bulls, horses, saltbushes, and ponds under exceptional colors. The city of Arles will be the next and last stop of your day. With its exceptional ancient Roman heritage, this charming and picturesque town with Provençal ambiance has today the ambition of becoming a city of images, supported by new technologies. The 3-star Hotel Le Calendar, housed in a 17th-century building, will then be hosting you for a delicious welcome dinner and overnight.



Day 6 - Wild, wild horses

After having enjoyed your breakfast, you will head to the nearby Vaccares pond in the heart of the Camargue Regional Nature Park. On the Cabanes de Cacharel site, Olivier, your host for the day, and owner of one of the oldest equestrian stables in the area will be waiting for you with his Camargue breed horses and bulls to guide you for a unique tour of his breeding farm. You will thus experience the life of the "Manade" and be taken around the property in a trailer pulled by a slow-moving tractor to see the bulls in their natural environment. A traditional Camarguais meal, composed of rice and beef will be organized for you to taste the ranch's products.

Your afternoon will then be devoted entirely to discovering the extraordinary biodiversity of the Lower Camargue, with its mosaic of environments with reed beds, marshes, ponds, its characteristic flora, and its emblematic fauna, with plenty of waterfowl including the famous pink flamingo. Exploring this unique and unspoilt nature spot in the best possible way, on horseback or on a carriage ride.

Day 7- Roman heritage at its best

For your last morning in Camargue, stroll through the streets of the ancient city of Arles and come across its cultural highlights : the Place de la République. With the church and cloister of Saint-Trophime, the Antique Theatre of Arles, the Roman Amphitheatre and Constantine's baths. There are of course the famous arenas that were built around the year 80, on the model of the Colosseum in Rome. While walking around the city, art lovers will no doubt enjoy finding the places that inspired Vincent Van Gogh during his stay in Arles at the end of the 19th century. After this gentle walk, it will be time to say goodbye and leave for Marseille airport.





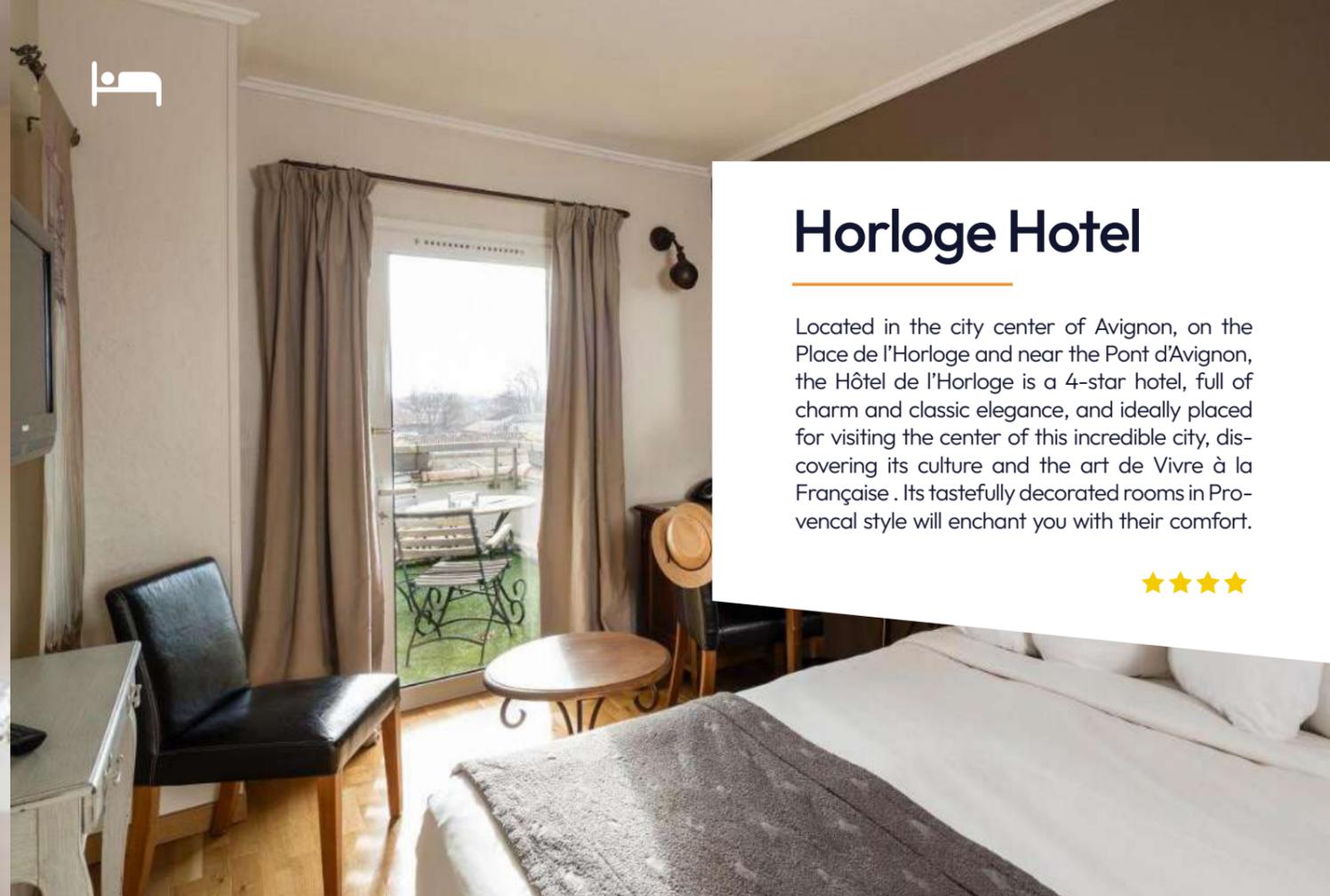
Aquabella Hotel

In the old city center of Aix-en-Provence lies this luxury hotel and spa. A complex dedicated to your relaxation, the Aquabella Hotel & Spa boasts a Sensory Spa that is free for hotel guests, a heated outdoor swimming pool which allows you to enjoy a moment of lazing in the Provençal sunshine. Hidden away in a Mediterranean garden, the whole hotel is conceived to bring together the provençal “douceur de Vivre” and the most modern accommodations and services.



Horloge Hotel

Located in the city center of Avignon, on the Place de l'Horloge and near the Pont d'Avignon, the Hôtel de l'Horloge is a 4-star hotel, full of charm and classic elegance, and ideally placed for visiting the center of this incredible city, discovering its culture and the art de Vivre à la Française. Its tastefully decorated rooms in Provençal style will enchant you with their comfort.



Hotel Le Calendal

Quintessential Provence, the spa & hotel Le Calendal in the center of town will enchant you with its authenticity and beauty. This large 17th-century house, situated in the historic center of Arles, has been tastefully transformed into a hotel full of charm. It offers a comfortable, spacious and bright atmosphere to all lovers of Provence. And some rooms of the hotel are directly overlooking the ancient Roman amphitheater. The other and blue tones of Provence, its spa, and its restaurant honoring local cuisine will have no problem transporting you to another state of mind.



Provence & Riviera

Undoubtedly the most iconic part of southern France, Provence, is a must-see with its never-ending fragrant lavender fields and its colorful markets. Indescribably soft light and landscapes that captivated the eyes of Matisse, Van Gogh, and also Cézanne, will for sure capture yours.

Arts, history, gastronomy, and wines pop up on every street corner of towns like Avignon or Aix-en-Provence. You can't miss discovering the magic of these lands with us. Still one of the trendiest places ever, the most glamorous stretch of the French Mediterranean coast with Cannes, Saint-Tropez, Monaco, or Antibes was at the origins of the expression "the place to be" come with us to discover the French Riviera.

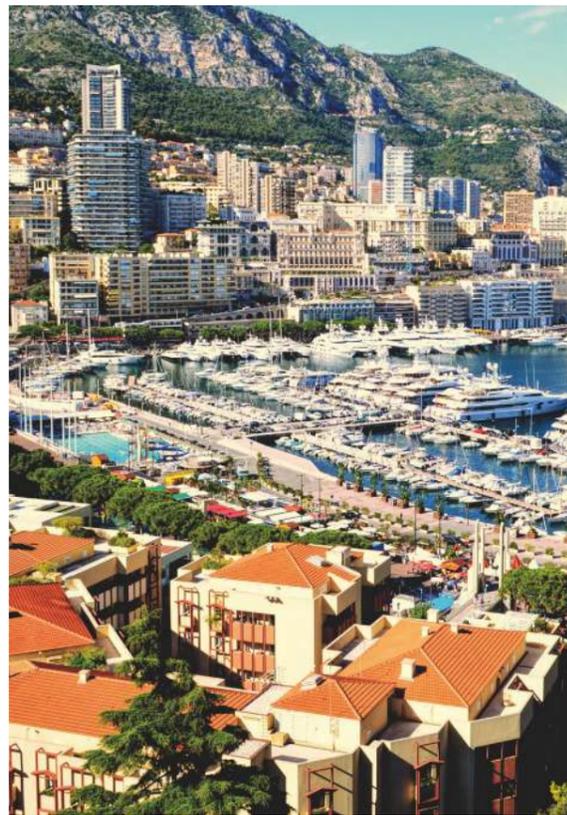
Where glamour is natural



Day 1 - Nice is nice

For this first encounter with the renowned French Riviera, you will enjoy a panoramic tour of Nice city centre. After a drive along the Promenade des Anglais, the waterfront boulevard that is one of the most famous avenues in France, you will then discover different districts: Cimiez with the Regina Palace, the Monastery and the Russian Cathedral, the Place Massena. Behind the pebbly beach is the old town with its rambling old lanes and its famous Marché aux Fleurs. This is the charismatic heart of the city and it is in stark contrast with the “Belle époque” buildings that line the waterfront and the west of the city.

You will enjoy an hour-long cruise on the Mediterranean coastline with spectacular views. During this trip around the Cap de Nice, you will explore the waters of Baie des Anges and the Rade (harbor) de Villefranche-sur-Mer. Later on, you will return to your 4-star Hotel Aston La Scala, overlooking the Promenade Paillon and the Place Massena in an idyllic setting where you will be greeted with a Welcome Dinner.



Day 2 - Monaco is the synonym of chic

Today, get ready to reach the luxurious Principality of Monaco with the Prince's Palace and high-end casinos. Monaco is most famous for its yacht harbor and its prestigious Formula 1 Grand Prix which takes place on the streets once a year. You will explore the beating heart of the city, the Rocher which is located on the heights of Monaco. With its pretty houses dating from the 16th to 18th centuries, its narrow streets and ramparts, this district will dazzle you with its beauty. A timeless visit, which will allow you to discover, among other things, the chapel of the Visitation, the cathedral, and the Palace. You can also admire the breathtaking view of the Mediterranean Sea. Monte Carlo Casino will also open its doors for a guided tour and for gamblers and Roulette lovers, but please be aware that formal clothing is required for this very special occasion!

In the afternoon, let's travel to Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat where you will discover the Villa Ephrussi Rothschild and visit the opulent building and impressive gardens overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. This rose-colored villa once belonged to wealthy French woman Béatrice Ephrussi de Rothschild who commissioned the villa from French architect Aaron Messiah during the Belle Époque era. You will savor a delicious tea time break in the room that Beatrice Ephrussi de Rothschild used as a dining room.



Day 3 - Open-air art gallery

Your tour continues in Saint Paul de Vence, where you will walk around the cobble stone streets of one of the oldest medieval towns, on the French Riviera. It is well-known for its modern and contemporary art museums and galleries. This beautiful village has been home to artists and writers from all over the world, Modigliani, Matisse and Yves Montand, to name but a few... To discover this picturesque village in an unusual and entertaining way, you will experience a Treasure Hunt and Quiz. We will arrange a questionnaire and our guide will give you hints during the coach trip between Nice and St Paul that will help you answer the game. Playing Petanque is also an activity that cannot be ignored in this part of France so you must definitely try it on Charles de Gaulle square !

On your way back to Nice, you will reach the village of Gourdon on its rocky promontory. Following the vertiginous Gorges du Loup, dominated by 700-meter high cliffs, you will take time to stop at the beautiful Saut du Loup waterfall, for a refreshing stop in summer, and to cross the hamlet of Pont du Loup, with its orange groves, olive trees, and perfume plants. Gourdon is a remarkably harmonious group of medieval white stone houses which are gathered around its medieval castle, all perfectly restored and maintained.

Day 4 - Fragrances and vapors

This morning, Grasse, the world capital of perfumery also known as a City of Art and History, is awaiting your group. You will be welcomed at the Fragonard Perfumery - Fabrique des Fleurs that began in 1926, where we will arrange a 1 hour workshop to “Create your personalized fragrance”. With the help of a professional “nose” who masters the art of fragrance, you will learn about the history of the perfume. You will see which raw materials are used and how they are extracted. By the end of the workshop, you will be able to compose your own Eau de Toilette (100ml) and customize it with aromatic notes, citrus family, and orange blossom. A fascinating experience! To carry on feeling the southern atmosphere of the small perfume town, you will explore the charming and colorful streets of Grasse, a town perched on top of a hill with a magnificent view over the region and the sea.

Late afternoon you will head to Chateau du Bellet to enjoy a wine tasting session. The Bellet wines are greatly appreciated by connoisseurs, as they go extremely well with regional culinary specialities. They grow in narrow terraces made up of stones in excellent conditions that bring out the best and the full maturity of the grapes in harmonious red, white and rosé wines. The vineyard is currently being converted to organic production methods.



Day 5 - The alliance of water and stones

Today let's get ready to drive along the Verdon scenic route or Route des Crêtes. This is a magnificent 23 km circuit that runs through the peaks above the Grand Canyon with fabulous panoramic views. Indeed, no less than 14 belvederes offer unforgettable views of the canyon from up to 700 m high! But the gorges are also spectacular for their flora and fauna, notably the famous griffon vulture that will swirl around you. Peregrine falcons and golden eagles might add to the scenery!

For lunchtime, a gourmet break in the magnificent village of Moustier Sainte Marie will naturally be a must! It has been listed as one of the most beautiful villages in France. The church, the old village walls, the chapels, the aqueduct, the fountains represent an alliance of water and stones, and all of it is located in a stunning setting. Charming 4- star Aquabella hotel will then welcome you right in the heart of Aix-en-Provence for a Welcome dinner and a peaceful and relaxing night.



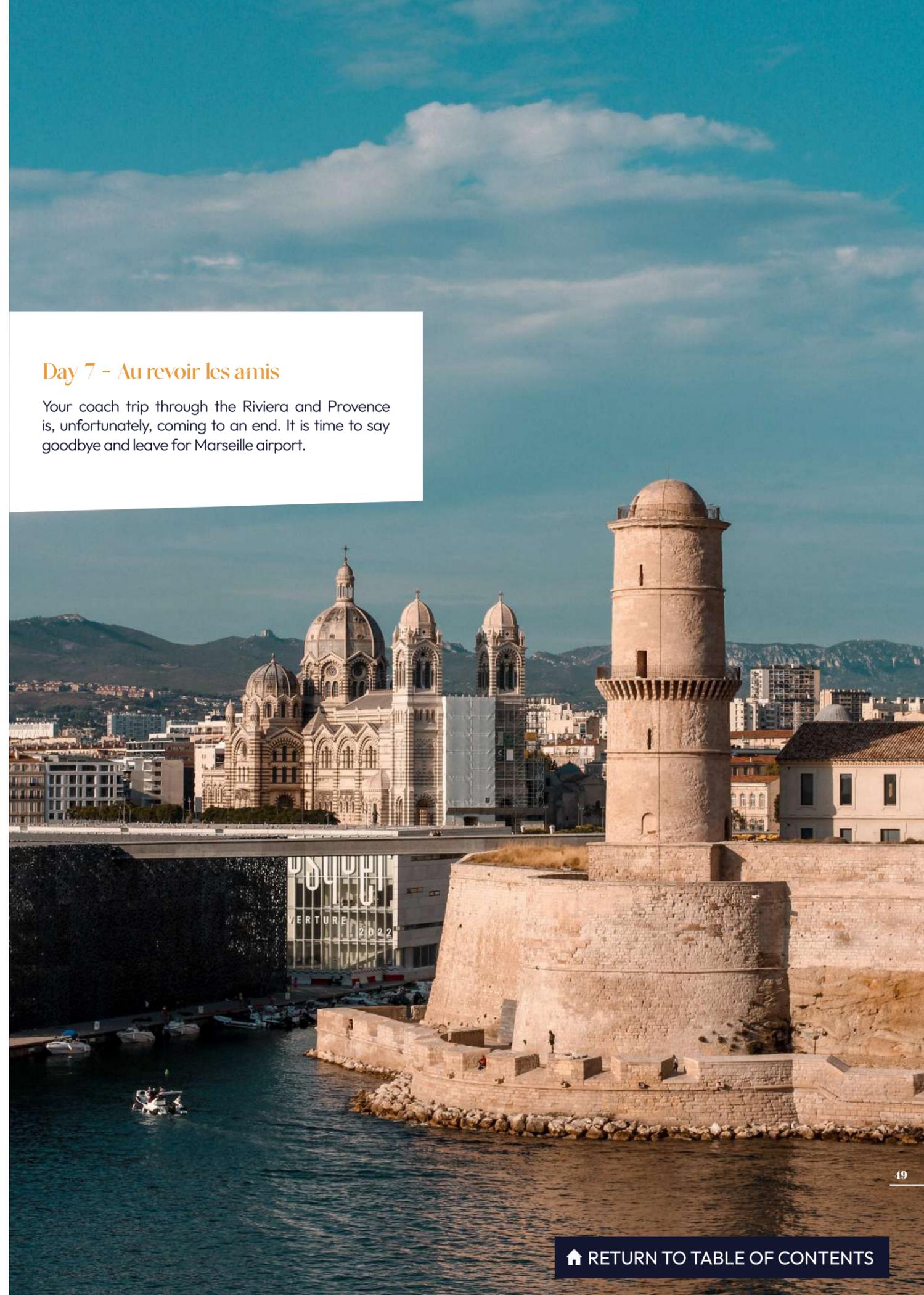
Day 6 - Provence quintessential

After a good night's sleep and hearty breakfast at our hotel, you will discover the historic center of Aix en Provence and walk along the famous Cours Mirabeau which is lined with many trees, fine houses, and fountains. Aix has a sumptuous 17th and 18th century architecture, mansions, and ornate fountains springing everywhere, lively streets and lovely squares. Another great feature of Aix-en-Provence lies in its numerous public markets: there are as many markets as there are days in the week ! From the vegetable market to the antique book market, not forgetting the flower market and the clothes market, they enliven the city with colours, sounds and local specialties. Whether you are shopping for real or simply strolling around, Aix-en-Provence's welcoming markets are a genuine enchantment.

Your afternoon will end with a Culinary Workshop with a great Chef who will give you the secrets of French food. For two hours, you will cook a starter, main course, and dessert, supervised by the Chef. At the end of the preparation, you will taste your delicious cuisine with the Chef, in a "just like at home" vibe where everybody participates in the service, and in a friendly and joyful atmosphere.

Day 7 - Au revoir les amis

Your coach trip through the Riviera and Provence is, unfortunately, coming to an end. It is time to say goodbye and leave for Marseille airport.





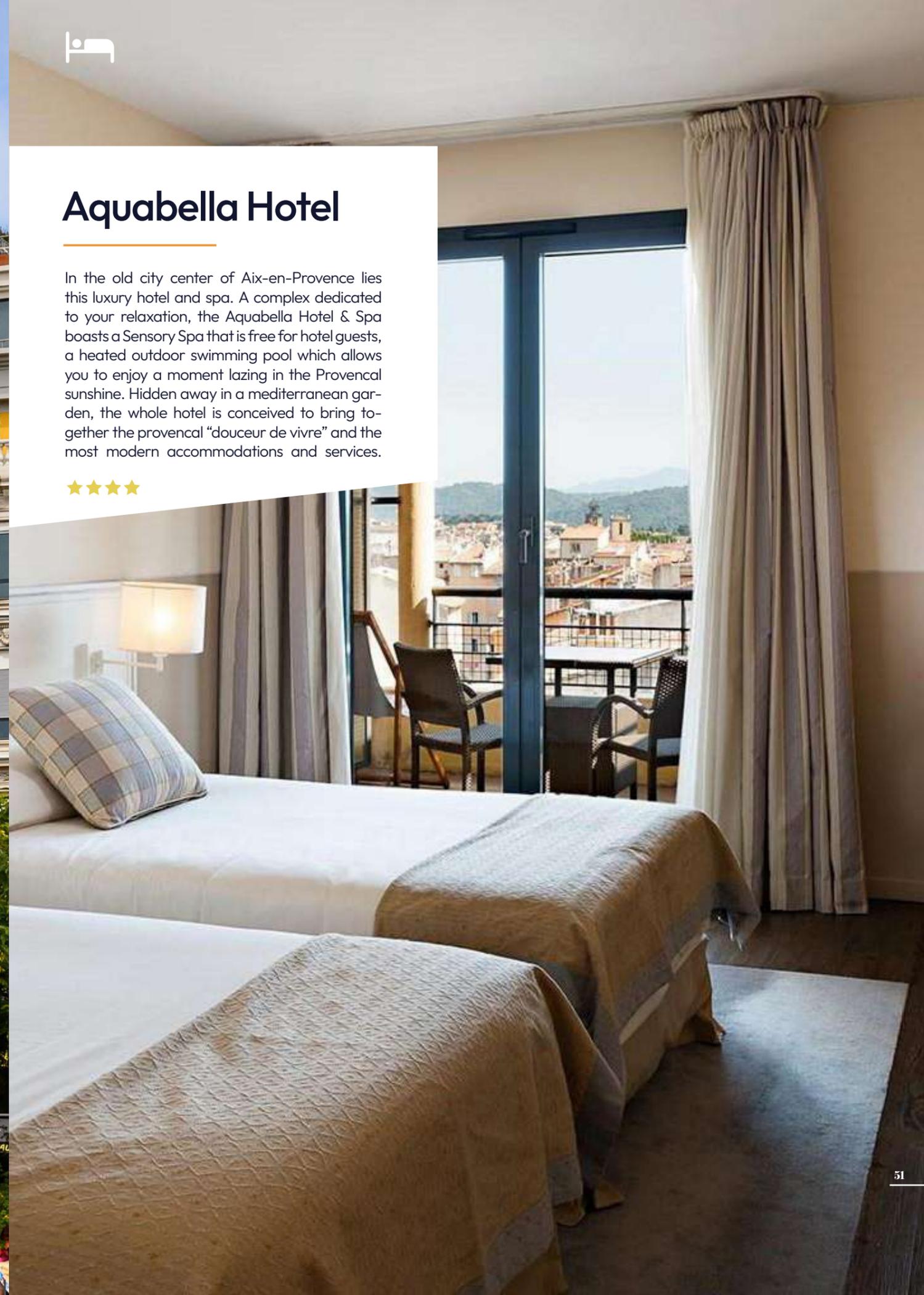
Hotel Aston La Scala

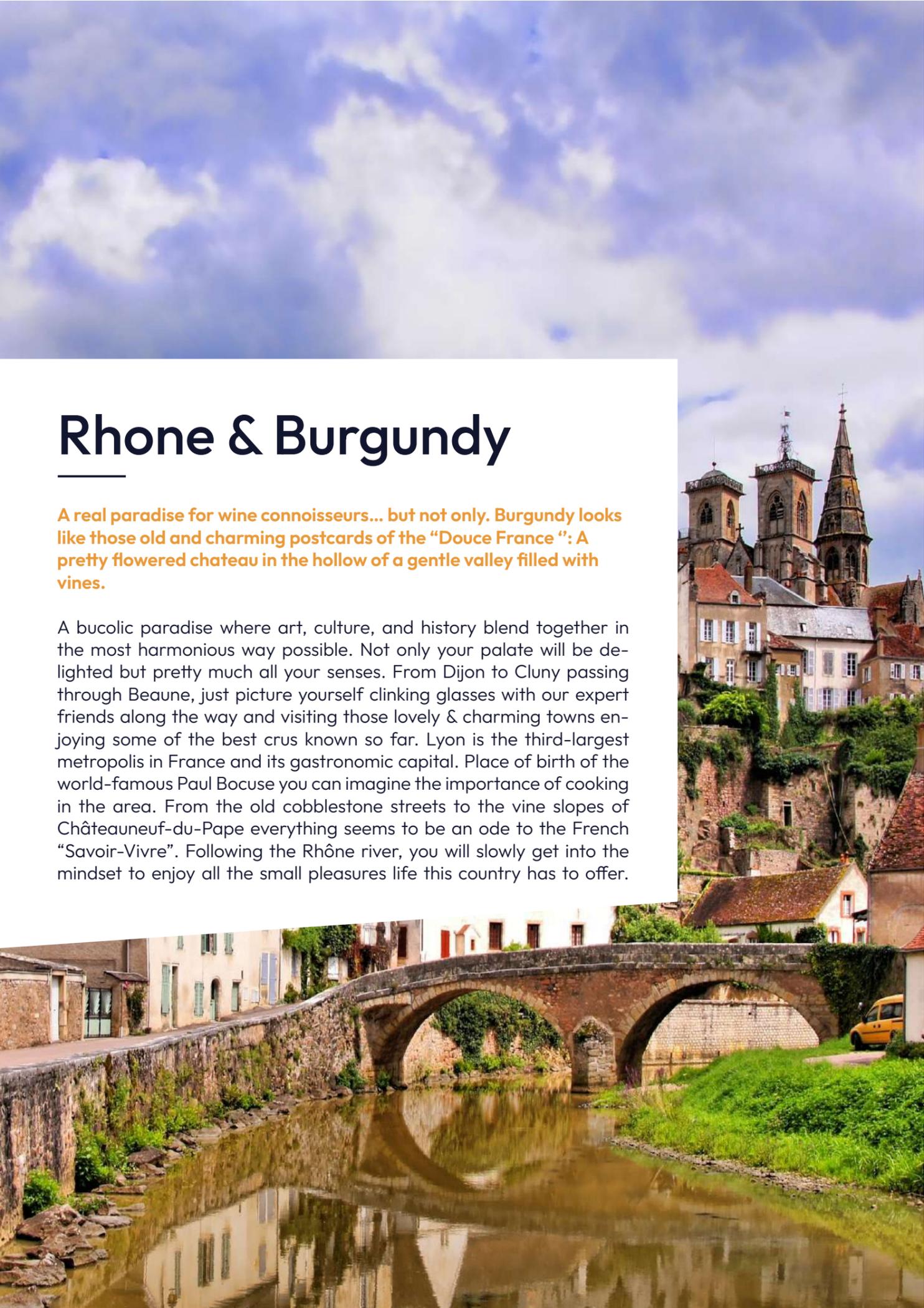
Situated in the heart of Nice on the French Riviera, the Hotel Aston La Scala is 5 minutes from the beaches. This hotel is ideally located for discovering the wonderful region of the riviera. Midway between St Tropez and Monaco, the comfortable accommodations and services this elegant hotel offers will be the setting for a memorable stay on the Côte d'Azur.



Aquabella Hotel

In the old city center of Aix-en-Provence lies this luxury hotel and spa. A complex dedicated to your relaxation, the Aquabella Hotel & Spa boasts a Sensory Spa that is free for hotel guests, a heated outdoor swimming pool which allows you to enjoy a moment lazing in the Provençal sunshine. Hidden away in a mediterranean garden, the whole hotel is conceived to bring together the provençal "douceur de vivre" and the most modern accommodations and services.





Rhone & Burgundy

A real paradise for wine connoisseurs... but not only. Burgundy looks like those old and charming postcards of the “Douce France “: A pretty flowered chateau in the hollow of a gentle valley filled with vines.

A bucolic paradise where art, culture, and history blend together in the most harmonious way possible. Not only your palate will be delighted but pretty much all your senses. From Dijon to Cluny passing through Beaune, just picture yourself clinking glasses with our expert friends along the way and visiting those lovely & charming towns enjoying some of the best crus known so far. Lyon is the third-largest metropolis in France and its gastronomic capital. Place of birth of the world-famous Paul Bocuse you can imagine the importance of cooking in the area. From the old cobblestone streets to the vine slopes of Châteauneuf-du-Pape everything seems to be an ode to the French “Savoir-Vivre”. Following the Rhône river, you will slowly get into the mindset to enjoy all the small pleasures life this country has to offer.

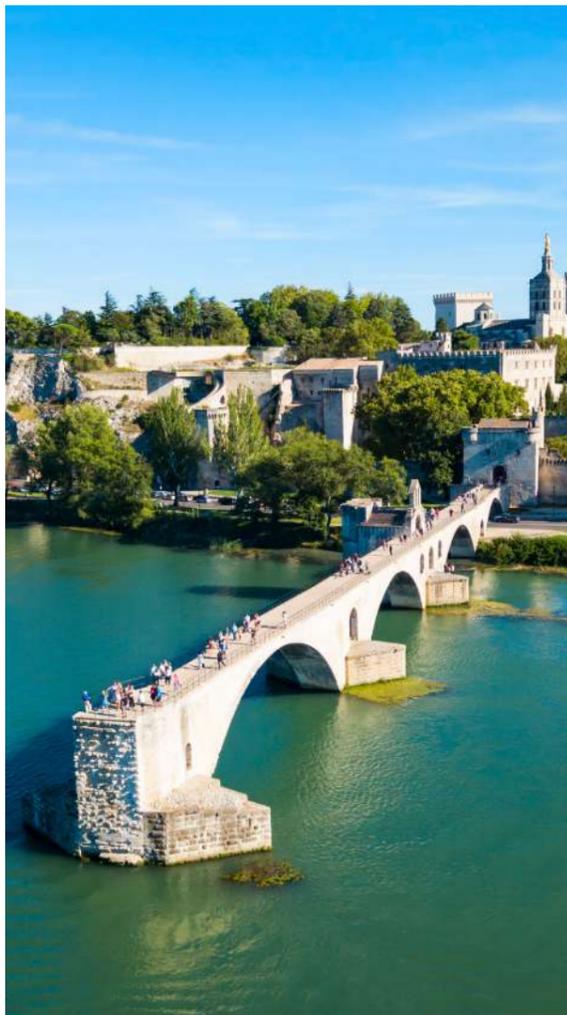
Travel to the source of french winemaking



Day 1 - Essence of Provence

Welcome to France! This morning we will come to pick you up at your hotel in Marseille, ready to start a great adventure into one of the most celebrated wine regions of this beautiful country. You will start by exploring one of the most impressive wine estates in Provence, Château La Coste, where you will visit a highly original art exhibition spread out over the vineyard. This stunning contemporary art exhibition will surprise you and awaken your senses, leaving you ready for a lovely lunch in Château's restaurant where the meal will be accompanied by their finest wines.

After lunch, you will head to the ancient papal city of Avignon, world-famous for its papal palace and the ruins of its 12th-century bridge: Le Pont d'Avignon... you will discover this amazing town with your local guide who will reveal all the plots and mysterious histories that occurred within the walls of this legendary city. Still in the heart of this historical site, just a few steps away from the prestigious Popes Palace, the chic and refined 4-star Hôtel de l'Horloge will, later on, open its doors for a cozy and well-deserved overnight stay.



Day 2 - Every day a new castle!

Leaving Avignon, you will head to one of the pillars of French wine regions: Châteauneuf-du-Pape. A huge variety of grapes has been cultivated there since the Roman Empire and the wines of the region are deservedly some of the most renowned in the world. Upon your arrival, you will be warmly greeted by the Jaume family who has been producing some of the region's finest wine for more than 4 generations. They will take you on a tour around their estate and invite you to sample some of their choicest bottles.

For lunch, you will head to the nearby town of Châteauneuf-du-Pape where you will savor the local cuisine at Laurent Manson's "La Table des Vignerons" restaurant. This young local chef will prepare his best dishes in his cosy restaurant right in the heart of the medieval town. For dessert, you will walk to a fabulous ice-cream place with one of the best views over the Rhône valley and enjoy a sweet moment from above. Obviously, you cannot travel through the area without paying a visit to the famous Pont du Gard, one of the most well-preserved Roman aqueducts in the world, and was part of a 52 km long aqueduct that carried water from Uzès to the Roman city of Nîmes. You will not only be amazed by this 2000-year-old authentic masterpiece of art and engineering but also by its remarkable natural beauty on the banks of the river Gardon and in the majesty of the Garrigues. Your route will carry on to Nîmes: home of the best-preserved Roman amphitheater and Roman Temple where you will have the opportunity to explore the town through the narrow streets flanked by 17th and 18th-century private mansions, large squares, and lovely shops selling Provencal specialties.



Day 3 - Côtes du Rhône unveils its secrets for you

This morning after a generous breakfast, you will head north to Tain-l'Hermitage and the estate of one of the finest winegrowers of the Rhône valley, the Maison Chapoutier. Michel Chapoutier likes to call himself a daredevil. He plants his vines in the most unlikely places and often where most winegrowers would be daunted. You will enjoy a 60 minute visit to discover the estate, and enjoy sampling Michel's five different wines. Then, you will have the opportunity to understand this complex wine region by exploring a domain of 24 hectares and three appellations, where the Montez family have been planting, vinifying, and selling their wines since the 16th century.

Close by, the Domaine Degache & Frères will be your hosts for another session of wine tasting where you will appreciate the work of three generations of winemakers. Listed as a Unesco World Heritage City and located at the junction of the Rhône and Saône Rivers, Lyon will be your next remarkable destination. Lyon is renowned for its historical Canuts, specialized in the work of silk, its traditional winter Light Show, but also for its gastronomy that has become an Art de Vivre... From the silk workers' mâchons to the contents of the cooking pots of the Mères Lyonnais, Lyon has earned itself a reputation as a town in which the "art of cooking" has turned into a True Religion. Paul Bocuse has inspired this heritage by adding his own expertise as a top chef of international influence. So as to bring this eventful day to a close, 4-star College Hotel, ideally located in the Old Lyon district, will host you in a singular "back to school place", enhanced by the contrast of vintage elements and modern facilities. You will as well appreciate your Welcome dinner in a typical Lyonnais Bouchon-Bistrot.

Day 4 - Lyon: where flavors come together

Today let's embark on a complete discovery of the capital of gastronomy: first through its markets and local craftsmen. You will start with a walking tour of the Paul Bocuse Indoor Food Market, a major crossroads of tastes and delights during which local people will show you their products and tell you how to taste each of them. Your chef will help you choose the seasonal vegetables and dishes that you will use during your cooking class. After preparing and cooking all the ingredients you have bought at the market, you will of course savor the fruits of your own labor.

In the afternoon you will receive the perfect introduction to the city, with a private local guide to show you around Lyon's historical center. Your tour will begin with the 19th-century jewel basilica Notre Dame de La Fourvière perched on the crest of Fourvière Hill offering the best views across the city and surrounding Rhone Valley. Your tour will continue with a walk through the narrow cobbled alleyways and famous Traboules! These passageways, which lead from one street to the next, reveal superbly renovated architectural treasures: internal courtyards, Italian-style galleries, wells, spiral staircases... Your guide will tell you all the secrets and anecdotes which have made the reputation of this historical district, the first preserved sector in France to have been inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List.



Day 5 - The Old, the Young : everybody is meeting round Beaujolais Wine

This morning, you will enjoy a trip through the world-famous Beaujolais region and discover the richness of its terroir, its numerous traditions and vineyards, its beautiful landscapes, and fascinating geology including its Golden stones. On your route, you will come across several picturesque villages, such as the medieval village of Oingt, listed as one of the «Most Beautiful Villages of France». The prestigious Château de Corcelles and its 92 hectares domain will be your next gourmet stop. You will experience a magnificent guided tour and wine-tasting moments in the renovated Barrel Room and the splendid gardens. The whole visit is an exploration of the terroirs of the Beaujolais region, through the tasting of four appellations: Beaujolais, Beaujolais Village, Brouilly & Morgon.

After a transfer to Beaune, in the heart of the Côte d'Or vineyards, a sumptuous hospital foundation dating back from the Middle Ages will be your next discovery: the Hospices de Beaune or Hotel Dieu, one of France's most prestigious historic monuments. Its flamboyant Gothic architecture, its polychrome roofs and renowned vineyard make this museum one of Burgundy's gems. To make your day even sweeter and memorable, you will have the exclusive privilege of settling in the 5-star Hostellerie Cèdre & Spa Beaune **** reflecting the French art of living, offering a sense of well-being and elegance, as well as a wealth of history and culinary experiences. Your evening will culminate at the gourmet restaurant of Hostellerie Cedre, where you will enjoy an unforgettable dinner.



Day 6 - A network of Legendary Crus

The best estates that Burgundy has to offer are awaiting you for an exceptional day ! The Route des Grands Crus is the kind of road you want to follow: from Gevrey-Chambertin to Chassagne Montrachet via Vosne-Romanée, all those famous names will finally become reality to you. You will be lucky to stroll through the vineyards and learn about the mythical plots of land classified as Grands Crus: Romanée Conti, Richebourg, La Tâche, Echezeaux, Chambertin, Clos de Vougeot, Corton-Charlemagne, and Montrachet. A private visit to a famous estate in Côte de Beaune with a great tasting of different vintages will enable you to meet the winemaker. A must for a complete oenological trip!

This dazzling vintage waltz will be continuing throughout the afternoon with the prestigious appellations of Côte de Nuits: Vosne-Romanée, Gevrey-Chambertin, Nuits-Saint-Georges, Chabolle-Musigny, and Morey-Saint-Denis. Then, a Grands Crus tasting in a private cellar in an intimate and relaxed atmosphere will unveil the wines of several estates selected by a circle of local experts and you will be able to learn about oenology in Burgundy.



Day 7 - Dijon Gourmet's Gourmet

After a glorious breakfast at your hotel, your route will lead you to Dijon, one of France's most attractive cities with its elegant medieval and Renaissance buildings. As you will stroll through the historic center, during a 2-hour guided tour, you will discover the half timbered houses and polychrome tile roofs which are part of the architectural features of Burgundy's capital. Be sure to make a visit to the wonderful market "Les Halles", a treat for the eyes! You will be fascinated by its warm and friendly atmosphere and by the multitude of regional products. You will also enjoy a Gourmet Tour to taste Burgundy's local gastronomy such as their finest "charcuterie" (cold cuts) and cheeses, macaroons, truffle products, Pain d'épices (local gingerbread), blackcurrant, Flavigny Abbaye sweets (anise) without forgetting of course, the world-famous Moutarde de Dijon. After this tasty tour, you will then transfer to Dijon's train station to get your TGV train back to Paris.





Hostellerie le Cèdre & Spa

Hostellerie Cèdre & Spa is the perfect place to enjoy a peaceful and relaxing stay. Decorated with soft and silky fabrics, the rooms and suites beautifully blend tradition and modernity, the ancient and the contemporary. Hostellerie Cèdre & Spa is also home to a restaurant housed in a magnificent 19th-century wine grower's mansion adjoining the hotel, where the refined cuisine will undoubtedly delight even the keenest gourmets.

★★★★★



College Hotel

The Collège Hotel is ideally located in the Old Lyon district, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The hotel is within walking distance of most of the city's best attractions: the Renaissance Old Town, the Traboules, the Gallo-Roman Theatres, the main museums, as well as the Presqu'île and its prestigious shops. This 4-star hotel, combining harmonious design and nostalgia with a « back to school » theme., Some rooms have balconies and terraces with breathtaking views over the city.

★★★★★



Horloge Hotel

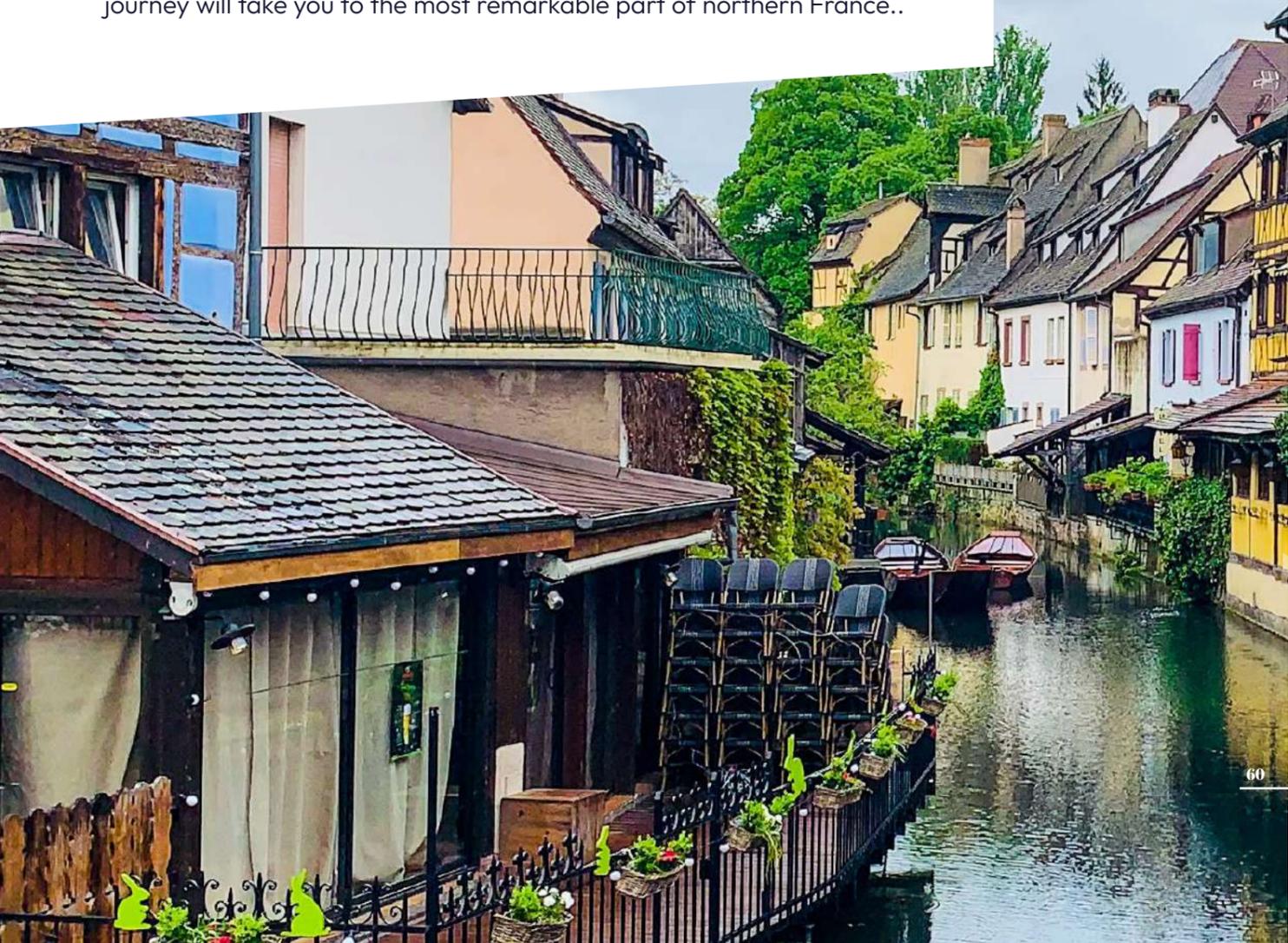
Right in the city centre, on the Place de l'Horloge close to the Pont d'Avignon, the Hôtel de l'Horloge in Avignon is a charming 4-star establishment in an ideal location for visiting the ancient Papal city and discovering its art and culture. A fine stone building of the XIX century, the Hôtel de l'Horloge rooms are highlighted with the warm colors of the region. Some feature balconies offering a panoramic view over the Pope's Palace and the surrounding countryside.

★★★★★

Champagne & Alsace

An hour and a half away from Paris driving along the Marne river you arrive in a beautiful hilly area where bubbles and wine have come together to form one of the most refined and elegant products known to date.

The Champagne area will reveal all its secrets to you and you will visit & taste some of the most renowned estates in the world: Veuve Clicquot, Mœt & Chandon, Laurent Perrier,...are some legends that will become reality to you along this trip. A bit closer to the German border lies one of the most sumptuous wine valleys is the Rhine river valley in the Alsace region. Cradle of the Riesling, Gewurztraminer or even the Muscat, lovers of white wines will find a home here. This place will seduce you with the charm of its typical architecture of half-timbered houses, and its proximity to Germany which has influenced it so much in its gastronomy and traditions. From Strasbourg to Colmar your journey will take you to the most remarkable part of northern France..



The wonders of the North-East



Day 1 - The capital of champagne

For your first morning in France, you will be driven east of Paris along the beautiful Marne river valley up to Hautvillers. Situated in the heart of the Reims Mountain vineyards, the village of Hautvillers is the cradle of champagne. Indeed, it is here in the ancient Benedictine abbey of Hautvillers that a Benedictine monk, Dom Pérignon, introduced the method of creating sparkling wine first discovered by his fellow Benedictine monks in Limoux in the south of France, thus giving birth to Champagne in the early 18th century. Dom Pérignon's tomb is to be found in the chancel of the Saint-Sindulphe abbey church. Hautvillers is also a charming wine-producing village with houses decorated with beautiful forged iron shop signs. Here you'll be treated to a private tour and tasting at the domain of a Champagne producer in the Marne Valley. You will be welcomed to the magnificent domain of this independent producer, whose vineyard extends around an outstanding castle, overlooking the Marne River. After a commented walk through the vineyards and the cellars, you will taste three different Champagnes from the domain.

Designated City of Art and History since 1987 and counting no less than four Unesco listed sites, Reims will be your next destination. Your day will end in the 4-star Best Western Hotel de La Paix, ideally located in the heart of Reims, it perfectly combines modernity and cultural heritage offering a sober but well-designed decoration. Your overnight will be preceded by a tasty Welcome Dinner.



Day 2 - The champagne avenue

After a generous breakfast buffet at your hotel, get ready to carry on your Champagne tour and tasting in Epernay! Considered the Capital of Champagne, its prestigious « Avenue de Champagne » is home to the most famous Champagne Houses in the world such as Moët & Chandon or Mercier... This majestic avenue is considered to be the vibrant epicenter of the Champagne vineyard. Stretching over one kilometer long, it has a total of 100 kilometers of cellars built in the chalk rock on which the city is situated and housing millions of bottles in long galleries at a constant temperature of 9-12°C, ideal to store bottles. In order to satisfy your great thirst and your taste buds, you will enjoy a wonderful Champagne tasting in two prestigious houses.

Your tour will continue on a more bucolic path, through the Sentier des Vignerons. A lovely walking loop in the vineyards will enable you to discover Champagne in a different way. This guided tour will be punctuated by amusing and instructive stops, visiting the traditional press and cellars, and informing you about the work of the vine over the different seasons, the history of vine growing, and the preservation of the environment. In the peaceful and quiet atmosphere of the vineyards, your experience will obviously end with a nice glass of Champagne in the family-run boutique winery. Driving back to Reims, you will explore the streets of this ancient Roman city, formerly called Duorcortorum and known as the capital of the Roman Gallia-Belgica province. Reims is mainly renowned for its Cathedral. Built in the 13th century, Notre-Dame de Reims cathedral is a masterpiece of gothic architecture.



Day 3 - "Échappée Bulles !"

This morning, let's be sporty: put your sneakers on and hop on your saddle! Enjoy an electric bike ride in Reims's vineyards. Your passionate guide will lead you through a 2 or 3-hour e-bike tour where you will be able to visit and taste Champagne at the winemakers. An original and entertaining experience that you won't forget! The ride is done at your own pace, so you can fully enjoy the landscape. On two wheels you will discover places that are inaccessible by car: a listed forest, steep vineyards, unforgettable viewpoints, you will know everything about Champagne! This adventure will be completed by a lovely picnic in the heart of the vineyards...

Late afternoon, Chef Eric Geoffroy will welcome you into his kitchen for a private cooking workshop. He will share with you the secrets and keys to Gourmet French Cuisine. Not only will this chef introduce you to his favorite recipes but he will also reply to any questions you might have on the art of French cuisine. After the class, it will be time for you to savor the fruit of your labor. A 2-course lunch served with the unique cuvées of Champagne.

Day 4 - In the Heart of the Sparkling Venice

On your route to Alsace, you will make the first stop in Châlons-en-Champagne for boating in the middle of the city! What a strange idea! Yet it is one of the most popular activities in Châlons-en-Champagne, which hides some real treasures in the many canals that criss-cross the city. This one-hour boat trip will allow you to discover the city from a different angle. As the water flows by, before your eyes, the lights bring the scenery to life: the underground vaults, monuments, gardens and emblematic bridges of the city are artistically illuminated. A unique moment, full of poetry and surprises.

Nancy, the French Capital of Art Nouveau, will be the second cultural and sightseeing halt on your journey. You will experience a surprising guided tour of private mansions and Art Nouveau buildings, starting for instance from the famous L'Excelsior brewery or from Rue des Dominicains to explore the sites which made up the business world around the year 1900. You will also combine the pleasant with the useful during your visit by mixing your cultural discovery with a nice gourmet promenade. Nancy has about twenty types of sweets, snacks, cakes, or desserts, all linked to its history and traditions. The last transfer to the prestigious metropole of Strasbourg will drive you to your charming Hannong Hotel, reminiscent of the 1930s but with all the contemporary facilities.



Day 5 - Alsatian True wonders

This morning, we will be heading to another emblematic Alsatian monument: Koenigsbourg Castle. In front of you, will arise the majestic silhouette of Haut-Koenigsbourg. Built in the 12th century, it has been the witness of conflicts and rivalries between lords, kings, and emperors. Passing through the high gate of Haut-Koenigsbourg means plunging into the world of the Middle Ages. Its walls house a rich medieval interior decoration, as well as an exceptional collection of weapons and furniture, mainly from the 16th and 17th centuries. Riquewihr, a lovely medieval village hidden in the hills, will then welcome you for a leisurely tour of its traditions and beautiful half-timbered architecture. You will enjoy local specialties on your own.

In the afternoon, you will visit a very famous Alsatian winery in Ribeauvillé. The Bott frères will open their estate and explain what makes this region so special for white wines and crémants. You will, of course, need to taste them to fully understand! To complete your day on a romantic and relaxing tone, you will visit the pretty city of Colmar from a flat-bottomed boat. You will flow on a quiet river named the Launch and you will let yourself drift slowly along the water...



Day 6 - Who wants to track through Strasbourg City?

After a good night's sleep, be ready for an amusing discovery of Strasbourg: explore, play and investigate thanks to a scavenger hunt and mystery investigations. At the game's starting point, you will be welcomed by a plain-clothes detective who is having trouble solving a mystery. He needs help - your help! Each team will be provided a road map and investigative accessories to help them find clues. While you explore, you discover the city's secret, historical, and tourism heritage. At the destination, the plain-clothes detective rewards the best team. Around Strasbourg's Cathedral, the Place de la République and the city's characteristic narrow streets, investigate to discover the identity of the murderer before a new crime occurs... Ready, set, go for about 2 hours of fun!

After these playful investigations, we invite you on a poetic journey through the world of Schaal's chocolate factory. From yesterday to today, from Ecuador to Alsace, from cocoa bean to chocolate, dive into the heart of their cocoa and hazelnut plantations, discover their chocolate-making secrets, share the passion and know-how of their chocolate makers. Through a workshop, you will taste their chocolate bonbons, old-fashioned pralines, sugar-coated delicacies, molded chocolates.. learn how to make a homemade praline, a ganache or a chocolate spread. A unique experience that will awaken all your senses! At the end of this amazing day, you will go back to Han-nong Hotel for a Farewell Dinner and overnight.



Day 7 - Transfer to Paris

After breakfast at your hotel, we will arrange your transfer to Paris airport.



Best Western Hotel de la Paix Reims

This hotel, anchored in the historic center of Reims in Champagne, a stone's throw away from the cathedral, has made a resolutely modern choice in the restoration of its rooms and common spaces. The clean and contemporary lines welcome you in the heart of the historic center of the capital of Champagne. Its restaurant, spa, and fitness services only confirm its 4 stars in the middle of thousands of bubbles.



The Hannong Hotel & Wine Bar in Strasbourg

Perfectly located in the heart of the city centre of Strasbourg, Jérôme and Anna have succeeded in preserving the charm of a 1930s-style decoration with the requirements of contemporary functionality. The hotel has a sumptuous wooden staircase and wide landings leading to the rooms. The rooms are equipped with comfortable furnishings and their bathrooms offer pleasant spaces for relaxation. The hotel's contemporary terraces provide charming and intimate settings for two or more guests to enjoy a wine from the rich wine bar menu before exploring the Old Town. The place to be for wine lovers, who like to blend the elegance of earlier times and the comfort of modernity.



Brittany & Normandy

Brittany is certainly one of the most beautiful coastal regions of France. Rugged coastline made out of pink granite and wild beauty sparkled with elegant manors facing the Ocean.

You will be surprised to discover this is the home to Merlin the wizard and the Knights of the Round Table. Land of the greatest sailors and fishermen, you'll be blown away by the beauty of its villages and delighted by its legends and by its gastronomy. Ready to eat tons of crepes?? Just next by lies these world-famous lands. It is hard to believe so much History comes alive in Normandy. From the Vikings normans kings to Richard the Lionheart, passing by the D-day disembarkment beaches. The destiny of a part of the world seems to have been played out here. From the chic seaside town of Deauville, all the way to Mont Saint Michel Normandy is unmissable on your wishlist. Also, you cannot miss discovering its gastronomical treasures, from the creamiest cheeses to the best Calvados liquors, all your senses will be challenged.



From legends to History



Day 1 - Impressive Impressionists

This morning, let's meet in Paris where you will be most welcome by your coach driver and guide. Together, you will head to Giverny for a guided visit to Claude Monet's wonderful house and gardens. Monet lived here for forty-three years, from 1883 to 1926. Walking through his former residence, you can still feel the atmosphere that reigned in the home of the Master of Impressionism and marvel at the floral compositions and water lilies, his greatest sources of inspiration.

After a transfer to Rouen, you will enjoy a walking guided tour of the city. Known all over the world for its medieval heritage as well as for its Impressionists, Pierre Corneille, Gustave Flaubert, and for Joan of Arc, Rouen will surprise you with the diversity and wealth of its historical monuments. Among them, you will be able to admire the Gros-Horloge clock, which shelters the bells and the town clock and overlooks the main shopping and pedestrian street of Rouen, the Cathedral of Notre Dame and the Church of Saint-Ouen. The beautiful city of Bayeux will be your last destination for the day. It was the first major town in mainland France to be liberated on 7 June 1944. While strolling in the medieval town of Bayeux, capital of Bessin, through the cobbled streets of the Episcopal city, you will discover half-timbered houses, mansions, welcoming shops and workshops, not to mention the towers of Notre-Dame Cathedral. Here, you will settle in the magnificent Domaine de Bayeux for 2 nights, a hidden 18th century gem located right in the heart of the Normandy Bessin, and enjoy a Welcome Dinner.



Day 2 - Celebrating heroes

Following your early and generous breakfast, you will start a full day guided tour to relive the Battle of Normandy Highlights and D-Day Landing Beaches. This emotional tribute to one of the largest amphibious and aircraft operations of all time will take place at Pegasus Bridge, Batterie Longues-Sur-Mer, American War Cemetery, Omaha Beach where you will be able to pay your respects to the thousands of soldiers who gave their lives to liberate France on June 6th, 1944.

Then, on the road to Caen, you will certainly appreciate a break at "Les vergers Fumichon" farm. Calvados's regional flavors will be introduced to you through a Calvados or Cider tasting by your friendly host, Thomas Pelletier. You will explore the history of this 17th century stone farmhouse, visit the 11 hectares orchard, and get explanations on the transformation of the different products, while enjoying their local drinks! As part of your commemorative itinerary, a visit to the Memorial of Caen is a definite highlight while in Normandy to help you understand this crucial and tragic period in French history. This museum, built on a former bunker, covers not only the Second World War, but also the trench warfare of World War I and the Cold War. From 1914 to 1989, you will be deeply immersed in history...



Day 3 - Mont-Saint Michel at The Pace of the Tide

Today, be ready to explore one of the most impressive sites in France: Mont Saint-Michel. Perched on a rocky island in the midst of vast sandbanks, exposed to the powerful tides between Normandy and Britain stands the 'Wonder of the West'. A magical island topped by a gravity-defying abbey, the Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay count among France's most stunning sights. For centuries one of Europe's major pilgrimage destinations, this holy island is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as is its breathtaking bay.

Another unique experience close to nature will then be awaiting you: in the company of a qualified naturalist guide and experienced ornithologist, you will observe the most prestigious birds in their natural environments. From the island of Ouessant to the northern Cotentin, via the seven islands and the many facets of the bay of Mont-Saint-Michel, you will also be fascinated by the marine fauna of the Normandy-Breton Gulf and be probably lucky to admire not only birds but also dolphins. Your coach will then lead you to the charming fishing village of Cancale, the pearl of the Emerald Coast. The constant coming and going of boats, the work of the oyster farmers and the rhythm of the tides constantly enliven this pretty little harbour bordered by piers. Cancale is as enjoyable for the eyes as it is for the palate. Awarded the title of Remarkable Site of Taste, Cancale has long been renowned for its oysters and shellfish. You will thus enjoy those iodized delicacies while visiting the Boutrais family's oyster farm and have a delicious tasting served with a glass of white wine. Afterward, heading to Saint-Malo, your 4-star hotel Le Nouveau Monde will accommodate you for a very restful night in a refined and contemporary design.

Day 4 - Saint-Malo or the Corsair City

What can be more instructive, gourmet and interesting than discovering the city of St Malo through its gastronomy! The smell of caramel butter pancakes, the cry of seagulls on the ramparts, the scent of seaweed, the sound of the waves...yes, you are in Brittany! To begin with, you will love strolling through the Corsair City, a sort of large fortress where the old town is located. The main entrance is St Vincent's door. There are many narrow cobbled streets, busy shopping areas and beautiful well-preserved buildings.

Now let's board a guided cruise and sail towards the splendid Cap Fréhel. From the 70 meters high cliffs falling steeply into the sea, you will be at the foot of this ornithological reserve where guillemots, penguins, oystercatchers, crested cormorants build their nests. You will fall under the charm of the Emerald Coast: St-Enogat, St-Lunaire, St-Briac, Lancieux, St-Cast and will sail along the whole coast to the Castle of Fort la Latte dating from the XIVth century. You will be able to admire the 103 meters high lighthouse dominating the sea. And watch out carefully as you might well be escorted by dolphins!



Day 5 - The pink granite coastline

After a generous breakfast served at your hotel, let's travel to the lovely village of Lannion. Built on a hillside, on the banks of the river Léguer, Lannion is a town of old timber-framed and slated houses with undeniable charm. It has a long and rich history, as shown by the Brélévez stairs and its 12th-century church. At the top of these stairs, a breathtaking panorama is revealed, a must-see! Being in Lannion is also the opportunity to learn Breton dancing on Friday evenings in summer during the musical event «Les Tardives». Your journey will progress from one wonder to another, as you will travel to Perros Guirec on the stunning coastline.

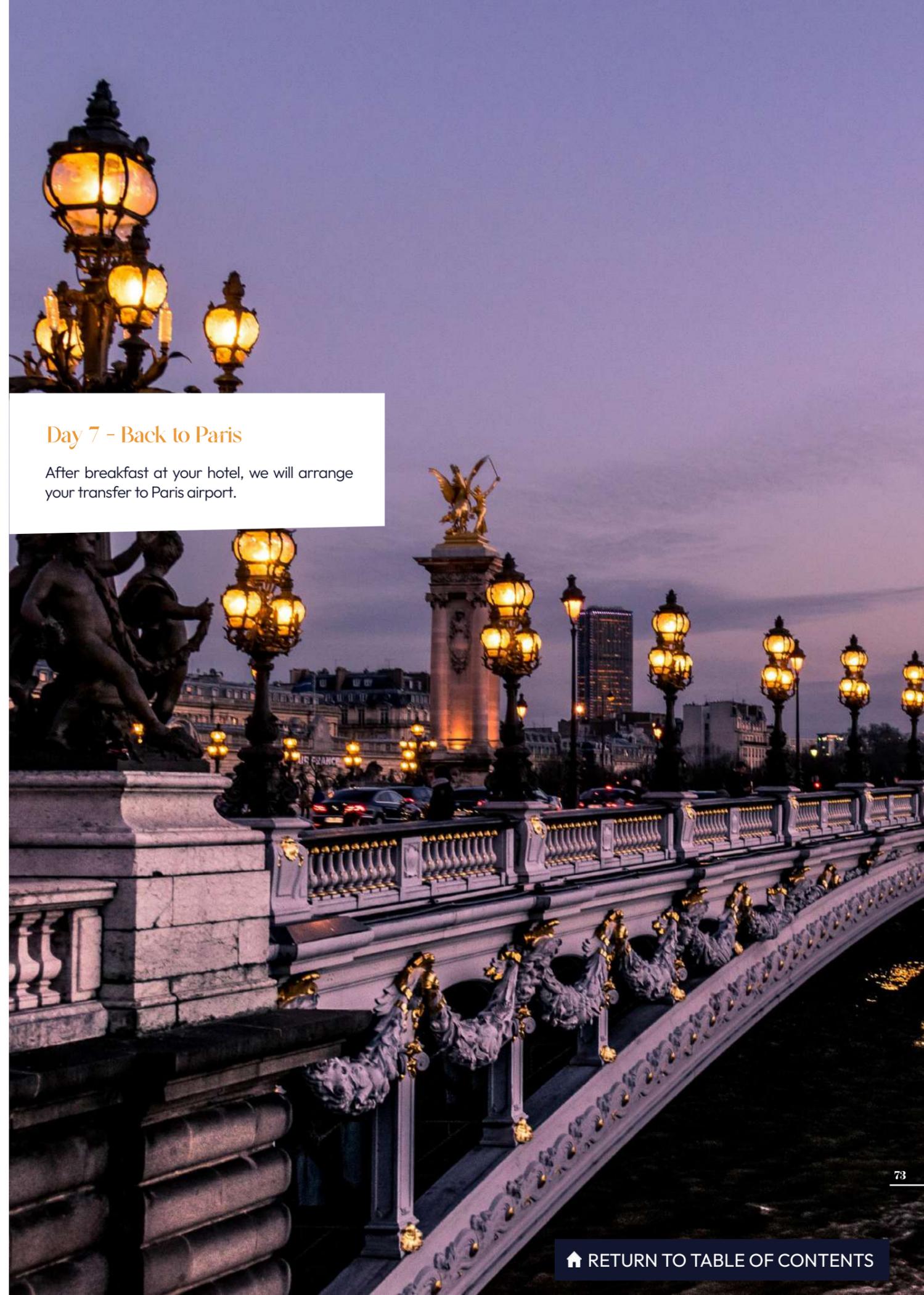
After a transfer to your elegant 4 stars Hotel Castel Beau Site, set against the backdrop of an enchanting cove on the Brittany coastline, you will leave your suitcase, take a deep breath of fresh air and leave for a unique site in the world: the Pink Granite Coast! Challenging the forces of balance, huge blocks of pink granite create an exceptional landscape. On the moor and on the sea, the coast takes on a copper color, and as if sculpted by the elements. There are only three similar sites in the world. The Pink Granite Coast is said to have formed some three hundred million years ago in a pocket of magma sitting beneath an imposing mountain range reaching 6000 m altitude - a fascinating scenery.



Day 6 - Onward shipmates

From Perros-Guirec or Trégastel, you will embark today on a magnificent traditional sailing boat to navigate to the Seven Islands, one of the most important natural Reserves along the French coast. You will get close to many marine species: 27 breeding species of birds including puffins and gannets, seals and sometimes, dolphins! You will also have the opportunity- but with no obligation - to take part in the maneuvers and learn about ancient navigation, in a warm and convivial atmosphere. Off the coast of the superb Pink Granite coast, dusty continents emerge just above the water. By boarding a speedboat, you can enter this magical kingdom of sea birds. An incessant ballet of wings and a fanfare of cries accompany your cruise between feathers and foam, a magical and natural show at the same time.

At the end of this full-day at sea, Castel Beau Site's restaurant will host you for a gourmet Farewell dinner: all the flavors of Brittany in a "Menu ephemera" but which should long remain in mouths and minds...



Day 7 - Back to Paris

After breakfast at your hotel, we will arrange your transfer to Paris airport.



Le domaine de Bayeux

A hidden and unique gem located in the heart of Bayeux. A true break away to relax, you will find the Domaine de Bayeux situated in the heart of the principal city in the Normandy basin. This magnificent, stylish house, built in 1791, steeped in history, is surrounded by a large French style centenary park. The main house is classically decorated, with woodwork weathered by time, and there is a more contemporary building in the orchard extension. A spacious lounge with its grand ornate carved wooden fireplace offers you a perfect place to relax.



The Nouveau Monde Hotel

In the center of the coastal town of St Malo, the soft and warm atmosphere within this charming hotel, is like an invitation to travel that takes you to the four corners of the world. The ocean views from the rooms are impressive and all the amenities of the establishment will transform your stay into a real experience where the sea will be the protagonist. St Malo will enchant your senses and conquer your hearts with its old port atmosphere, its taverns and seafood restaurants.



The Ti Al Lannec Hotel

Ideally located, offers a relaxing stay in comfortable rooms with beautiful views. Take advantage of its proximity to the sea to walk along the magnificent Pink Granite Coast. The hotel provides an ideal mix of value, comfort and convenience, it offers a romantic setting with an array of amenities.





Share those
unique
moments
with us.



France à la Carte - Incoming Travel

francealacarte.com
info@francealacarte.com

Legal entity
SARL France à la carte au capital social de 8200 EUROS - 39 rue des Orpellières 31200 Toulouse - SIREN 448 747 220 RCS TOULOUSE
Assurance responsabilité civile - Contrat HISCOX : HA RCP0086423 / Immatriculation Atout France 031120024