

Bordeaux, Provence, Monaco & Montecarlo

10 Days 8 Nights

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1 Sun Oct 1 Departure from Louisville to Paris.

Day 2 Mon Oct 2 Morning arrival in Paris, meet your driver and Tour Director for transfer to Bordeaux. En route we stop for Lunch at a local restaurant before check in at **Mercure Bordeaux centre** or similar for 2 nights. Spend the rest of the day relaxing or discovering this beautiful city. Bordeaux, a port city on the Garonne River, the capital of the Aquitaine region. Welcome to The Bordeaux wine region **(L)**

Day 3 Tue Oct 3 Bordeaux Spend the day exploring and tasting the finest wines of the region: from Medoc, the heart of Bordeaux's great reds to the great whites of Sauternes and Bersac. We have selected for you the best visits & wine tasting in 3 famous Medoc regions (Margaux, St Julien, Pauillac or St Estephe) and top Grands Crus estates. **(B)**

Day 4 Wed Oct 4 Bordeaux – Lourdes (*Aprox 170 miles*) This morning our travel will lead us south to venerated title of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Lourdes lying in the foothills of the Pyrenees. You will enter the French Pyrenees and arrive in Lourdes, which is one of the biggest Christian pilgrim places in the world. Check in at your hotel. In the afternoon you will visit the beautiful church standing on the top of St. Bernadette's grotto. Evenings are free for optional Blessed Sacrament Procession before dinner at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Lourdes 1 night Hotel La Solitude or similar

Day 5 Thu Oct 5 Lourdes – Carcassone – Arles (*Aprox 300 miles*) Morning departure for Arles. En route we explore Carcassonne located in the Aude plain between two great axis of circulation linking the Atlantic to the Mediterranean sea. Carcassonne is a medieval fortress restored and added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites in 1997. Enjoy a city tour on a private guided tour. In the afternoon travel to Arles an ancient important Phoenician trading port, before being taken by the Romans. The Romans took the town in 123 BC and expanded it into an important city, with a canal link to the Mediterranean Sea. **(B)**

Arles 3 nights Atrium Hotel or similar

Day 6 Fri Oct 6 Arles Morning walking tour of the footsteps of Van Gogh during his stay in Arles between February 1888 and May 1889. In the city, the places where Van Gogh set up his easel are pointed out by panels representing his works. The Arena and the Alyscamps were also depicted in several paintings. Time at leisure for lunch. In the afternoon private cooking class session. Tonight enjoy dinner that you have prepared during your cooking class session. **(B,D)**



Day 7 Sat Oct 7 Southern Rhone valley, Avignon, Pont du Gard (*aprox 60 miles*) Departure for the Southern Rhone valley to explore one of the most famous appellation Châteauneuf-du-Pape AOC. Enjoy a included wine tasting session. Departure for the beautiful fortified city of Avignon. Enjoy a leisurely before a guided tour through the narrow stone streets of Avignon's historic center. Enjoy a visit to the famous **Popes palace**, as well as a visit to the beautiful Saint-Bénézet Bridge. In the afternoon stop in Pont du Gard, located in Vers-Pont-du-Gard. The famous aqueduct was constructed by the Roman Empire in the mid first century. The bridge is 164 feet high and has 3 levels. Late afternoon return to Arles for overnight. **(B)**

Day 8 Sun Oct 8 Arles – Aix En Provence Departure for Nice. (*Aprox 150 miles*) Drive through splendid vineyards of Languedoc-Roussillon. En route we visit Aix en Provence a city that will reveal its elegant mansion houses, beautiful architecture and monuments, all reminders of its prestigious past one of France's most elegant cities. We also visit the birthplace of painter Cézanne. Time at leisure before traveling to Nice. Welcome to the French Riviera, upon arrival enjoy the Promenade des Anglais passing its famous landmarks and "Belle Epoque" buildings before check in at your centrally located hotel. **(B)**

Nice 2 nights Mecure Grimaldi or similar

Day 9 Mon Oct 9 This morning Immerse yourself in Nice's history on Place Garibaldi in the Old Town and marvel at the modern New Town. End your Nice City Sightseeing Tour with a visit to the flower market in Cours Saleya home. Time at leisure. In the afternoon departure for Monaco & Montecarlo. On the way we will be stopping at Eze for a visit to Fragonard. Upon arrival in Monaco we will take a walk to the Rock (Old Town and the Palace area) - free time for those also interested visiting the Montecarlo Casino area before our farewell dinner at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 10 Tue Oct 10 Departure for Cote d'Azur airport or TGV train for your return connecting flight home (post stay extensions in PARIS available on request)

Cook with Mary

Southern France...

Bordeaux, Provence, Monaco & Montecarlo

10 days - 8 nights

Oct 1-10 2017

TOUR FEATURES

- ❖ Air transportation from Louisville
- ❖ Hotel accommodation for 8 nights
- ❖ Included meals consisting of (2 meals a day):
 - Daily buffet breakfasts
 - 2 local Lunches
 - 6 - dinners including special farewell dinner as per program
- ❖ Wine and mineral water will be served with dinners at hotels and restaurants
- ❖ 1 cooking classes + 1 wine tasting
- ❖ Touring by private luxury, air conditioned motor coach
- ❖ Professional multi-lingual Tour Director
- ❖ Sightseeing as indicated including local guides and entrance fees in **bold**
- ❖ All transfers
- ❖ Tipping for included restaurants meals

Not included:

- Items of a personal nature: telephone calls, faxes, laundry, room service and other items of a personal nature not specifically mentioned in daily travel itinerary.
 - Gratuities to Tour Director, driver, and local guides.
 - Trip cancellation/interruption insurance. (available and highly recommended).
 - Airport taxes, excess baggage, meals not included in attached itinerary.
 - **Passports and or visas necessary for entry into countries on itinerary.**
- (Note: passports must be valid 6 months beyond intended stay.)
- Hotel city tax to be paid locally.



COST

The following rates are based on LAND SERVICES & AIR

\$ 2950 LAND PACKAGE AND SERVICES RATE PP IN TWIN/DOUBLE

\$ 1400 AIR (taxes & fees included subject to change until ticketed)

\$ 300 TRIP PROTECTION PLAN & INSURANCE

Total Package: \$ 4550 (Land & Air + air tax/fees + travel insurance)

\$ 800 SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

(Prices are based on the current Euro rate of 1 Euro = \$1.25)

Final price depends on market fluctuations)

DEPOSITS

Checks preferred. Credit card + 3% additional charge.

\$ 750 DEPOSIT—\$100 non refundable air deposit

FINAL PAYMENT DUE: JUNE 1, 2015

PRE TOUR AND POST TOUR OPTIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

CONTACT/PAYMENT INFORMATION:

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Travel Arrangements: Travel Design Italy

