

# RESPLENDENT RHÔNE & SAÔNE WITH PONT DU GARD & RHÔNE DELTA

AVIGNON TO LYON – 11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS



AVIGNON

When the South of France calls, this luxury cruise answers with gusto! Embark in stately Avignon, then investigate Arles' special lighting that captivated Van Gogh; tiny Viviers; and Tain-l'Hermitage with its amazing chocolate and wine. Also visit Lyon with its intriguing traboules (secret passageways) and out-of-this-world cuisine; Mâcon, home to a Louis XV-era apothecary; and Art Nouveau Chalon-sur-Saône. Highlights are the colossal Palace of the Popes, a truffle-hunting lesson, and a special al fresco dinner as you pass through the mesmerizing Rhône Delta.

## ITINERARY

Day 1 – Avignon	Day 7 – Lyon
Day 2 – Arles/ Rhône Delta	Day 8 – Lyon
Day 3 – Tarascon / Avignon	Day 9 – Mâcon/ Tournus
Day 4 – Avignon	Day 10 – Chalon-sur- Saône
Day 5 – Viviers	Day 11 – Lyon
Day 6 – Tain- l'Hermitage	



## DATES IN 2026

7 Jun, 21 Jun\*, 5 Jul, 19 Jul, 2 Aug,  
16 Aug, 30 Aug, 13 Sep, 27 Sep

\* departure during lavender season



## RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Escape into an unrivaled world of flavors and South-of-France ambiance at Château de Panéry winery. As atmospheric music welcomes you, tour the estate's wine cave to learn about the process behind its award-winning organic reds, whites, and rosés. Then, enjoy a tasting surrounded by the delightful gardens, vineyards, and olive orchards.



PALACE OF THE POPES, AVIGNON

## DAY 1 – AVIGNON

Welcome to Avignon, one-time home to Europe's powerful pontiffs in the 14th century. Embark the luxurious Riverside Ravel and relax as you settle into your Suite. If you arrive early, join us for a guided walking tour through this fascinating city. The ship departs this evening – be sure to watch for the medieval arches of Saint-Bénézet Bridge, inspiration for the 16th-century song “Sur le pont d’Avignon”. Later, meet fellow guests during your first gourmet dinner on board.

## DAY 2 – ARLES / RHÔNE DELTA SCENIC CRUISING

Today is dedicated to Arles’ warm embrace. A magnet for artists, this was the very place where Vincent van Gogh spent more than a year capturing the beauty of the area on canvas. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, select the excursions that are most meaningful to you! How about spending time experiencing the rugged ranch culture of the Camargue wetlands, or fabulous Aix-en-Provence, including tastings of delectable local treats? Other exciting options are also available – see the Riverside website for details. This evening, the Vista Deck is the place to be for

unhindered views of the scenic Rhône Delta as you dine al fresco aboard one of the only river vessels that prepares and serves outside while cruising.

## DAY 3 – TARASCON / AVIGNON

The pleasant Provençal town of Tarascon greets you early this morning. You might enjoy a guided tour of St. Rémy with its fascinating Nostradamus and Van Gogh associations, or eBiking along the famous ViaRhôna route. After lunch on the ship, return to Avignon for some wonderful RIVERSIDE CHOICE options at the 1st-century Roman aqueduct, Pont du Gard, including kayaking along the Gardon River below the monument. You can also remain in Avignon for an eBike tour – or explore on your own. Tonight, your ship remains in port for a RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE cellar tour and tasting event at the beautiful Château de Panéry winery.

## DAY 4 – AVIGNON

Enjoy more time to explore Avignon on your own, or join another enriching RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion. Ship cruises overnight.





BURGUNDY VINEYARDS

## DAY 5 – VIVIERS

Bienvenue à Viviers. RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers a morning visit to an authentic French truffle farm; afternoon kayaking or hiking through the Ardèche Gorge, Europe's Grand Canyon; and other fantastic excursions. Crowning the day later is dinner up on the Vista Deck, followed by a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE evening stroll. See Old Town Viviers in its prettiest light as the sun dips down over the horizon, accented by an outstanding performance by a talented local artist.

## DAY 6 – TAIN-L'HERMITAGE

Today, get to know one of the Rhône's popular wine and chocolate destinations: Tain-l'Hermitage! With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, attend chocolate or wine tastings, or you might enjoy a visit to the unusual Cheval Palace, the passion project of a 19th-century postman who stumbled on a stone. Back on board later, enjoy your ship's amenities before a wonderful evening of socializing and gourmet dining.

## DAY 7 – LYON

Step ashore today in lovely Lyon, one of Europe's true treasure troves of history, culture, and outstanding food. From an outing to medieval Pèrouges or the re-imagined Hôtel-Dieu to an exclusive boat tour to Barbe Island to visit its beautiful abbey, RIVERSIDE CHOICE will help make the most of your time here. Your ship remains in port overnight.

## DAY 8 – LYON

Another day in Lyon gives you the chance to really get to know this amazing city. You can join another RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion, like private wine tasting in Beaujolais or a unique tour focused on the colorful street art of Lyon, or head out on your own to investigate Lyon's well-deserved foodie reputation. Ship departs this evening and cruises through the night.

## DAY 9 – MÂCON / TOURNUS

A delicious breakfast starts your day right, from hearty to healthy and everything in between. Once the java has kicked in, step off the ship in Mâcon for a day to remember! How about an invigorating hike up to the Rock of Solutré, created 160 million years ago from fossilized coral, when warm seas covered the region. You could also learn the fine art of French truffle-hunting lesson or spend time in the quaint Burgundian village of Brancion. Return to the ship for lunch and scenic cruising to Tournus in southern Burgundy. There, you'll discover a charming, medieval Old Town



SAINT PIERRE CHURCH, BRANCION

filled with narrow alleyways, ancient stone houses, and the 10th-century Benedictine Abbey of Saint-Philibert. Begin your evening with an elegant al fresco dinner on the Vista Deck. Afterwards a special treat also awaits: a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE private performance by talented local musicians.

## DAY 10 – CHALON-SUR-SAÔNE

Be sure to bring your camera because a thrilling day awaits in Chalon-sur-Saône, birthplace of photography. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, consider an excursion along the Burgundy Wine Road to Beaune. Your ship departs in the afternoon, providing free time to do as you like on board.

## DAY 11 – LYON

Disembark after breakfast and enjoy complimentary transfers to the airport, train station, or central hotel.