

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

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 stop in Arles to bask in the special lighting that captivated Van Gogh; Viviers, France's tiny city that packs a lot of surprises; and Tain l'Hermitage, where chocolate or wine tasting awaits. Additional visits include Lyon with its secret passageways and world-class cuisine; popular Mâcon; and Art Nouveau Chalon-sur-Saône. Among the highlights are the colossal Palace of the Popes, unforgettable Châteauneuf-du-Pape, a truffle-hunting lesson, and a special al fresco dinner as you pass through the mesmerizing Rhône Delta.

## ITINERARY

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



## DATES IN 2025

8 Jun, 22 Jun\*, 6 Jul, 20 Jul, 3 Aug, 17 Aug, 31 Aug, 14 Sep, 28 Sep

\* departure during lavender season



## RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Escape into an unrivaled world of flavors and South-of-France ambiance at Domaine 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 groves, followed by a multi course Dinner.



TARASCON CASTLE

## DAY 1 – AVIGNON

Welcome to Avignon, one-time home to Europe's powerful 14th-century pontiffs. Embark the luxurious Riverside Ravel and relax as you settle in – or, if you arrive early, join us for a short orientation of 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”. Tonight, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner.

## DAY 2 – ARLES / RHÔNE DELTA SCENIC CRUISING

Today is dedicated to Arles' warm embrace – the very place where Vincent van Gogh spent more than a year capturing the beauty of the area on canvas. Your RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions includes a guided walk that follows in the artist's footsteps, a tasting of the area's amazing wines, or a spectacular sound and light show. Outings are also available to Aix-en-Provence or the Camargue with its pink flamingos and wild horses. This evening, head up to the Vista Deck for unhindered views of the scenic Rhône Delta and a delicious al fresco gourmet dinner aboard one of the only river vessels that prepares and serves **UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE** Al Fresco Dinner on the top deck while cruising. Ship cruises overnight.

## DAY 3 – TARASCON / AVIGNON

The pleasant Provençal town of Tarascon greets you early this morning. How about a guided tour of its medieval castle, whose dungeons once held prisoners doomed during the French Revolution? Or, maybe a walking tour with wine tasting or eBiking to Avignon with a picnic en route! After lunch on the ship, return to Avignon for more 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 enjoyable eBiking tour – or head out on your own for some shopping. Tonight, your ship remains in port for a RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE cellar tour and tasting event followed by a multi course dinner at the beautiful Domaine de Panéry winery.

## DAY 4 – AVIGNON / CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

Additional time in Avignon allows you to further explore this amazing city. Take advantage of another RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursion, or you can head out to shop or explore a bit on your own. The ship departs this afternoon for an evening arrival in stunning Châteauneuf-du-Pape – the perfect setting for dining al fresco up on the Vista Deck! Ship cruises overnight.





RIVERSIDE RAVEL

## DAY 5 – VIVIERS

Viviers greets you with a friendly “Bonjour” and a lot to see! RIVERSIDE CHOICE has an incredible lineup of options: visit an authentic French truffle farm and Château de Grignan; hike through the lovely Ardèche Gorge, Europe’s Grand Canyon; encounter prehistoric Europe through an exceptional collection of cave art at Chauvet Cave 2; or take a relaxing guided stroll through Viviers with music and an introduction to Pétanque (lawn bowling). Crowning the day? The chance to dine al fresco up on the Vista Deck, followed by our 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 brilliant local artist. Ship departs late and cruises overnight.

## DAY 6 – TAIN L’HERMITAGE

Get to know charming Tain l’Hermitage today with RIVERSIDE CHOICE. How about a tasting of local wines or decadent Valrhona chocolate? You might also enjoy a walk through neighboring Tournon to see its photogenic hilltop castle, or a visit to whimsical Cheval Palace, the 19th-century creation of a simple postman who stumbled on a stone. Back on board, enjoy a relaxing afternoon and evening of socializing, dining, and scenic cruising.

## DAY 7 – LYON

The options are endless today, so what’s your pleasure? RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers a guided walk through the Old Town and visit to the Roman amphitheater; or time to investigate Lyon’s traboules (secret passageways), followed by a funicular ride up Fourvière Hill. Alternatively, wine tastings are available in the Beaujolais or Charonnay regions, as well as a trip back in time in medieval Pérouges, or even guided eBiking through Lyon. Your ship remains in port this evening, so you’re free to check out Lyon’s dazzling nightlife!

## 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, or head out to investigate Lyon’s well-deserved foodie reputation yourself. Ship departs late and cruises through the night.

## DAY 9 – MÂCON / TOURNUS

Relax with breakfast as you admire the beauty during your ship’s arrival into Mâcon. RIVERSIDE CHOICE has a full menu of options: a guided walk

through Old Town Mâcon or the quaint Burgundian village of Brancion; a visit to moated Château de Cormatin, one of Burgundy’s prettiest castles; the chance to hunt for (and then taste) genuine French truffles; or an active hike to Pouilly-Fuissé’s Rock of Solutrè or guided biking tour. This afternoon, arrive in Tournus in southern Burgundy for a guided stroll through its medieval Old Town filled with narrow alleyways, ancient stone houses, and the 10th-century Benedictine Abbey of Saint-Philibert. Along the way, stop and enjoy a UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE event as local musicians treat you to a wonderful private performance. Back on your ship, an UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE Al Fresco Dinner is prepared and served up on the Vista Deck. Ship cruises overnight.

## DAY 10 – CHALON-SUR-SAÔNE

Rise and shine! Begin with breakfast and then it’s an exciting day in Chalon-sur-Saône, birthplace of photography and a place you’ll definitely want to have your camera! With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, a guided walk explores Chalon’s Old Town and regal cathedral – some parts of the structure date back to the 8th century! Other choices include an outing to Beaune along the Burgundy Wine Road for an exclusive tour, meal, and tasting of the region’s celebrated wines, or a bike ride into the Côte de Beaune for a beautiful afternoon wine tasting. Ship departs in the afternoon and cruises overnight.

## DAY 11 – LYON

After breakfast, disembark the Riverside Ravel and enjoy complimentary transfers to the airport, train station, or central hotel.



LYON