FRENCH SALUT: AVIGNON TO LYON AVIGNON TO LYON - 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS



CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

Fall in love with the fine wines, sublime scenery, and riveting history of southern France! Begin in majestic Avignon; dine al fresco up on your ship's Vista Deck; stop in tiny Viviers for a truffle or prehistoric cave art encounter; and spend time in Lyon with its remarkable cuisine. Chocolate or wine tasting awaits in Tain l'Hermitage, while Chalon-sur-Saône attracts attention with its Art Nouveau style and Mâcon's Louis XV-era apothecary offers a peek at 18th-century medicine. You can also personalize your cruise daily with RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursions – including activities designed to get up and go!



DATES IN 2025

11 Jun, 25 Jun*, 9 Jul, 23 Jul, 6 Aug, 20 Aug, 3 Sep, 17 Sep, 1 Oct *departure during lavender season



UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE

Uniquely Riverside features an authentic destination experience that leaves an unforgettable impression – like a relaxed evening stroll to experience the lovely lighting of day's end in Old Town Viviers, along with a special, scene-setting performance by a masterful local artist.

DAY 1 – AVIGNON / Châteauneuf-du-pape

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 Discover Avignon walking tour. As your ship pulls out of port this afternoon, see the medieval arches of Saint-Bénézet Bridge, inspiration for the 16th-century song "Sur le pont d'Avignon". This evening, arrive in stunning Châteauneuf-du-Pape, where you can join a wine tasting in this legendary region. Ship cruises overnight.

DAY 2 – VIVIERS

Viviers greets you with a friendly "Bonjour" and a lot to see! Your RIVERSIDE CHOICE menu of excursions offers an incredible lineup of options, where you can visit an authentic French truffle farm and Château de Grignan; join a brisk hike through the lovely Ardéche Gorge, Europe's Grand Canyon; encounter prehistoric Europe and an exceptional collection of cave art at Chauvet Cave 2; or maybe take a relaxing guided stroll through Viviers with music and an introduction to Pétanque (lawn bowling). Crowning the day are this evening's gourmet dinner up on the Vista Deck and the 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 3 – 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 4 - LYON

The options are endless today, so what's your pleasure? Join a RIVERSIDE CHOICE guided walk through the Old Town and visit the Roman amphitheater; investigate the traboules (secret passageways), followed by a funicular ride up Fourvière Hill; or enjoy wine tastings in the Beaujolais or Chardonnay regions. Other options are a trip back in time in medieval Pérouges, or eBiking through Lyon. Your ship remains in port this evening.

DAY 5 - 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 shop or explore a bit on your own. Ship departs late and cruises through the night.

DAY 6 – 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 special UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE event as local musicians treat you to a wonderful private performance. Back on your ship, an UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE AI Fresco Dinner is prepared and served up on the Vista Deck. Ship cruises overnight.

DAY 7 – 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 8 - LYON

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