

FRENCH FÊTE ON THE RHÔNE & SAÔNE

AVIGNON TO LYON – 11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS



LYON

This grand journey includes two of France's greatest rivers, plus Burgundy, Provence, and the Camargue wetlands. Embark in dramatic Avignon and end in the foodie paradise of Lyon, where the Saône and Rhône majestically converge. Along the way are Arles with its 1st-century AD Roman amphitheater; Viviers for truffle and prehistoric cave art encounters; the fine wines and chocolates of Tain l'Hermitage; unforgettable Mâcon; and other ports. You can also personalize your cruise through RIVERSIDE CHOICE with the ultimate treat – scenic cruising through the Rhône Delta – très magnifique!

ITINERARY

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



DATES IN 2025

25 May



RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT

Further enhance your cruise with unforgettable experiences – like an exclusive outing into the legendary Châteauneuf-du-Pape wine region. Travel into the heart of the scenic Rhône Valley for a VIP tour of a celebrated wine estate and the chance to learn about the stony terroir that produces the wines' distinguished flavors. Then, join a sommelier for a curated tasting of several splendid Châteauneuf-du-Pape wines, expertly paired with traditional French cheeses and breads.

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 Discover Avignon walking tour. Tonight, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions during your first onboard dinner. Ship remains in port overnight.

DAY 2 – AVIGNON

You may have gotten glimpses of Avignon on the way to your ship yesterday, but today you get to fully engage this historic wonder through a RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions. To get oriented, you might appreciate a guided stroll through the Old Town. Other options are a tour through the awe-inspiring Palace of the Popes; an invigorating eBiking tour; or the chance to explore Pont du Gard, the 1st-century Roman aqueduct – including kayaking along the Gardon River below the monument! Later, as your ship departs Avignon, admire the medieval arches of Saint-Bénézet Bridge, inspiration for the 16th-century song “Sur le pont d’Avignon”. Ship departs before dinner.

DAY 3 – ARLES / RHÔNE DELTA SCENIC CRUISING

Spend today enveloped by Arles, where Vincent van Gogh spent more than a year capturing the beauty of the area on canvas. A full program of RIVERSIDE CHOICE excursions is on offer, like 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. Another outing whisks you off to Aix-en-Provence or the Camargue with its pink flamingos and wild horses. This evening, an UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE Al Fresco Dinner is prepared and served on the Vista Deck as your ship passes through the scenic Rhône Delta. Ship cruises overnight.

DAY 4 – TARASCON / CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

Rise and shine! Begin the day with breakfast before heading into the Provençal town of Tarascon. How about a guided tour of its medieval castle, whose dungeons once held prisoners executed during the French Revolution? Or, maybe a walking tour or a refreshing guided bike ride is more your style. With RIVERSIDE CHOICE, see the sights the way you like! After lunch on the ship and time to admire the passing scenery, arrive in Châteauneuf-du-Pape for a RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE EVENT at a featured wine estate. Surrounded by an unforgettable atmosphere,

you'll be treated to an exclusive tour to learn how the aromas of berries, plums, and earthy spices are achieved. Along the way, enjoy free-flowing Châteauneuf-du-Pape wines and hear how historical popes were associated with the famous appellation. Ship remains in port until late.

DAY 5 – 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 awe-inspiring Ardèche 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.



VINEYARD AT CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

DAY 6 – TAIN L'HERMITAGE

Your time today in Tain l'Hermitage is an absolute treat. You might enjoy a guided walk through neighboring Tournon to see its striking hilltop castle; or visit Cheval Palace, the whimsical 19th-century creation of a simple postman who stumbled on a stone. Or, for a more sensory experience, attend the tasting of your choice: rich French chocolate at Valrhona, or an unforgettable wine tasting. The afternoon is ideal for relaxing as your ship makes its way to Lyon.

DAY 7 – LYON

The options are endless today, so what's your pleasure? RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers a guided walk through the Old Town; 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 Chardonnay 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 shop or explore a bit on your own. 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 lets you join the excursion you prefer – and you'll find a full menu of options here: 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, a lovely UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE Al Fresco Dinner is prepared and served up on the Vista Deck. Ship departs late and 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.



CHALON-SUR-SAÔNE