

# SOUTHERN FRANCE SOJOURN: LYON TO AVIGNON

LYON TO AVIGNON – 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS



TAIN L'HERMITAGE

Just mention the South of France and colorful images flood the imagination. Those images become reality on this week-long luxury cruise! Begin in 2,000-year-old Lyon with its world-class cuisine, then stop at Mâcon for a peek at a Louis XV-era apothecary; visit historic Hôtel-Dieu in Tournus; Chalon-sur-Saône; and Viviers for truffle hunting or prehistoric cave art encounters. Dine al fresco on the Vista Deck; join an outing to Aix-en-Provence, Western Europe's largest river delta; or see the sights in an active way. A RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions has you covered!

## ITINERARY

Day 1 – Lyon	Day 6 – Tain l'Hermitage
Day 2 – Mâcon/ Tournus	Day 7 – Viviers/ Châteauneuf-du-Pape
Day 3 – Chalon-sur-Saône	Day 8 – Avignon
Day 4 – Lyon	
Day 5 – Vienne	



## DATES IN 2025

1 Jun, 15 Jun, 29 Jun\*, 13 Jul, 27 Jul,  
10 Aug, 24 Aug, 7 Sep, 21 Sep, 5 Oct

\* departure during lavender season



## 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 – LYON

Welcome to 2,000-year-old Lyon, France's exciting gastronomic capital. Embark the luxurious Riverside Ravel and settle in – or, if you arrive early, join us for a guided stroll in the historical district. Later, meet your crew and fellow traveling companions at an onboard welcome dinner. Ship departs late and cruises through the night.

## DAY 2 – 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, an UNIQUELY RIVERSIDE Al Fresco Dinner is prepared and served up on the Vista Deck. Ship departs late and cruises overnight.

## DAY 3 – 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 4 – LYON

Today is all about Lyon! RIVERSIDE CHOICE offers a guided walk through the Old Town and visit to the Roman amphitheater; time to investigate the traboules (secret passageways) and ride the funicular up Fourvière Hill; or wine tastings in the Beaujolais or Chardonnay regions. You can also take a trip back in time in medieval Pérouges, or see Lyon's sights by eBike.

## DAY 5 – VIENNE

Your day begins with breakfast as you cruise toward Vienne, a city with a long history as a colony of the Roman Empire. With your RIVERSIDE CHOICE selection of excursions you can join a guided walk through the Old Town, featuring the 1st-century Gallo-Roman Temple, cathedral, and 13,000-spectator amphitheater, one of the largest in Gaul. Time at the Gallo-Roman Museum might also be interesting or the chance to see the sights from the seat of an eBike!

## DAY 6 – TAIN L'HERMITAGE

Spend time today in Tain l'Hermitage, with a RIVERSIDE CHOICE of excursions. You might join a guided walk through neighboring Tournon to see its striking hilltop castle; visit whimsical Cheval Palace, the 19th-century creation of a simple postman who stumbled on a stone; or attend a tasting of rich French chocolate at Valrhona. The ship departs by early afternoon, with many great ways to make the most of your time on board. You can take advantage of the Riverside Ravel's wonderful amenities, socialize with new friends, or maybe attend an enriching talk or mixology event!

## DAY 7 – VIVIERS / CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

Arrive early in tiny Viviers for some big RIVERSIDE CHOICE experiences! How about a truffle-hunting lesson and visit of 17th-century Château Grignon; a guided hike through the Ardèche Gorge; or a prehistoric cave art encounter at Chauvet Cave 2, the world's largest cave replica? Later, reboard your ship for a lively onboard food and wine tasting with an informative and entertaining local expert. Then, arrive in Châteauneuf-du-Pape for a RIVERSIDE SIGNATURE tasting of the region's famous wines. Hear how historical popes were associated with the famous appellation, and how the wines are created with notes of berries, plums, and earthy spices. Ship remains in port overnight.

## DAY 8 – AVIGNON

After breakfast, disembark the Riverside Ravel and enjoy complimentary transfers to the airport, train station, or central hotel. Flights must depart Marseille after 10 am.