



Itinerary

Journey through Southern France from Provence to Bordeaux

Oct 3, 2020 - Oct 12, 2020

Day 1: Overnight Flight



Allons-! Ignite the senses on a journey to chromatic Provence. Then, continue through the French countryside to the Dordogne Valley and Bordeaux – two of the world’s most decadent wine regions.

Day 2: Saint-Rémy, France - Tour Begins



Welcome to the historic village of Saint-Rémy. Settle in for a 3-night stay in this quaint provincial town with pretty, narrow streets and charming boulevards. Tonight, meet your fellow explorers over dinner as you toast to the beginning of a grand adventure.

Hotel

Hotel Le Vallon De Valrugues
St. Remy-de-Provence

Culinary

Dinner

Weather

High 69°
Low 53°
Rain 2"

Day 3: Saint-Rémy



Join your Tour Manager this morning for a short orientation of Saint-Rémy. Next, let an unforgettable epicurean adventure commence with a truffle hunt led by a local chef and trained, truffle-sniffing dogs. Avant hunt, savor the unique experience of a farm tasting in the countryside, among landscapes said to have inspired van Gogh, Picasso, and Renoir.

Hotel

Hotel Le Vallon De Valrugues
St. Remy-de-Provence

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 69°
Low 53°
Rain 2"

Day 4: Saint-Rémy - Gordes - Saint-Rémy



Depart this morning for the picturesque town of Gordes. Along the way, visit the lavender museum and learn the origin of this beautiful, fragrant flower that the village is famous for. Then, enjoy some free time in Gordes to explore its vibrant local market. The afternoon is yours to explore Saint-Rémy at leisure or you may choose an optional tour to the hilltop town of Les Baux-de-Provence where you will experience one of the world’s most impressive multimedia presentations: the Carrières de Lumières. Making use of a former quarry, iconic works of art are projected onto the surrounding rock and the images are accompanied by stirring music.

Hotel

Culinary

Weather

Day 5: Saint-Rémy - Avignon - Pont du Gard - Carcassonne



Today you travel to the incredible village of Avignon (UNESCO), often called the "City of Popes." Gain an inside look at all this village has to offer during a walking tour with your local expert guide. End with a visit to the dramatic Popes' Palace, the seat of the European papacy from 1309 to 1377. Next, depart for Carcassonne. En route, marvel at the Pont du Gard, a surviving stretch of aqueduct built in the 1st century A.D. Get an up-close look at the ancient structure with an exclusive bridge crossing before enjoying some free time for lunch. Later, we arrive in Carcassonne, a UNESCO World Heritage site and virtual storybook replete with drawbridges, towers and cobblestone streets.

Hotel

Hotel De La Cite
Carcassonne

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 66°
Low 52°
Rain 1"

Day 6: Carcassonne - Dordogne Valley



This morning, it's your choice! You can enjoy leisure time to explore the city as you wish, perhaps visiting the 12th-century castle on your own -OR- you may embark on a medieval themed walking tour with a gallant knight or noble lady who will highlight the legends, mysteries, and architecture of the Middle Ages. After enjoying free time for lunch, we continue our journey to the Château Des Vigiers,* known as "Petit Versailles." Tonight, enjoy a fine dining experience in this 16th-century estate.

Hotel

Chateau Des Vigiers
Monestier

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 7: Dordogne Valley



Venture to the countryside to explore some of the Dordogne Valley's quaint villages. Make your first stop at the inspiring village of Issigeac; then it's off to Eymet, one of Southern France's iconic "bastides" (fortified towns). Next, you are in for a treat when you visit a wine cooperative and symbol of the Bergerac region since the 16th century – best known for its dessert wine. This afternoon, explore the château grounds at leisure. Perhaps you will take in a round of golf or relax and enjoy the luxurious spa.**

Hotel

Chateau Des Vigiers
Monestier

Culinary

Breakfast

Day 8: Dordogne Valley - Saint-Émilion - Bordeaux



Travel to Saint-Émilion, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of France's largest winemaking areas. Take a guided walking tour of the Old Town featuring a visit to the underground Monolithic Church. Once you are acquainted with the village, enjoy time to take in this perfectly compact French village. Complete your Saint-Émilion adventure with a walk through a winery to absorb the atmosphere of the vineyards, discover its coveted grapes, and taste this highly prized wine. Bid adieu as you depart for your hotel in Bordeaux, a region known as much for its vibrancy and dynamism as its world-renowned wine. Enjoy the evening at leisure to take in the sights and sounds of Bordeaux.

Hotel

Intercontinental Le Grand Hotel De Bordeaux
Bordeaux

Culinary

Breakfast

Day 9: Bordeaux



This morning, discover a local's perspective of Bordeaux during a guided walking tour. Embark on an interactive journey through a world of wine and culture at La Cité du Vin. Referred to as the "Guggenheim of wine," this sensory adventure takes you on a fascinating discovery of wine, culture and history. Then enjoy some free time to explore the city on your own. A local restaurant famous for its sélection de vins and regionally sourced meat invites you to a culinary adventure expertly pairing locally sourced foods and wine. Compare notes and experiences with fellow travelers as you say au revoir to the magic of Southern France.

Hotel

Intercontinental Le Grand Hotel De Bordeaux
Bordeaux

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 10: Bordeaux - Tour Ends



Your tour of Southern France comes to an end today.

Post Night: Intercontinental Le Grand Hotel de Bordeaux



Would you like to end your vacation with an additional Hotel in Bordeaux?