



PICTURESQUE PROVENCE

September 21 - 28, 2024

Your 8-Day Itinerary



Day 1-2: September 21 - 22

Home/Nice, France

Depart home independently on an overnight flight to Nice. Transfer to the Best Western Plus Hotel Brice Garden Nice. Later this afternoon enjoy a guided walking tour of Nice. Explore the Old Town and enter the Cathedral. Continue along the renowned Promenade des Anglais. This evening gather for a welcome dinner. D

Day 3: September 23

Nice

Today continue your exploration of Nice. Visit the Matisse Museum and learn about the artistic evolution of the painter who lived in Nice from 1917 until his death in 1954. Continue to learn about this area during a private cooking class to discover the traditional recipes of the niçoise cuisine. Feast on your creations for lunch, and then enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. B, L

Day 4: September 24

Aix-en-Provence - Avignon

Depart for Avignon and stop in Aix-en-Provence along the way. Discover this lovely university town known for the beautiful Cours-Mirabeau, the plane tree-lined main boulevard bordered by stately homes, and the many elegant Roman fountains decorating city squares. After some time at leisure for lunch, enjoy a guided walking tour and admire Aix's rich architectural heritage and the "Vieille Ville" (Old Town). Continue to the Atelier Cézanne, the studio where artist Paul Cézanne worked from 1902 to 1906. Proceed to Avignon and check in to the Hotel De Cambis for the next four nights. B



Day 5: September 25

Avignon - Nimes - Beaucaire

Today, embark on a real journey back in time and discover Avignon (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), the result of its vivid past as the Capital of the Christian world. Visit the majestic Palace of the Popes, the biggest Gothic palace in the world. After the visit, drive to Nîmes and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant upon arrival. Continue to explore the ancient Maison Carrée temple and the renowned amphitheater: built shortly after the Colosseum of Rome, it is one of the best-preserved Roman amphitheatres in the world. Before returning to Avignon, stop at a local winery for a visit of the wine cellars and taste the fragrances of fine local wines. B, L, wine tasting

Day 6: September 26

Avignon - Arles - Bellegarde

Today, drive to Arles and visit the Roman necropolis of Les Alyscamps, one of the most famous of the ancient world. Then, continue to the city center. After Rome, it is in Arles that we find the largest number of Roman remains. The Amphitheater is remarkable, both for its dimensions and for the ingenuity of its galleries, horizontal passages, and stairs arranged alternately. Close by is the Roman Theater, which still preserves part of its bleachers and its orchestra. After lunch at leisure in Arles, visit a distillery of organic essential oils & cosmetics: learn about aromatic plants developing thanks to organic farming based on the lunar cycles, the soil preparation, step-by-step cultivation, and transformation into essential oils. B



Day 7: September 27

Avignon - Alpilles - Les Baux

Set out this morning for Les Baux, a gem of a medieval village perched atop a rock spur. First stop at the the Carrières de Lumières multimedia/art exhibition set in a former stone quarry. Then explore Les Baux itself, considered another of the country's most beautiful villages, with its restored ancient houses, Renaissance-era façades, historic monuments, and stone citadel. Continue on to the picturesque village of Saint Rémy, in the heart of the Alpilles where, between May of 1889 and May of 1890, Vincent van Gogh painted Starry Night, among other of his most acclaimed paintings. After lunch at leisure, visit the Romanesque jewel of St-Paul de Mausole, the former monastery turned asylum where van Gogh was confined after severing his ear. Return to Avignon late this afternoon before gathering for a final farewell dinner. B, D

Day 8: September 28

Departure

This morning transfer to Marseille or Nice airport or continue on for a 3-night extension to Paris.

Paris on your own

Spend two additional nights in Paris, allowing you to encounter this thrilling city on your own time, at your own pace. The extension includes two nights accommodations at the Mercure Paris Alesia; daily breakfast, services of local tour manager, a high-speed train ticket from Avignon to Paris, and transfers from the train station to the hotel and from the hotel to the CDG airport.



Program Rate

\$3,960 (per person, double occupancy)

Single supplement: \$850

The tour is based on a minimum of 15 travelers. Should the group not reach 15 travelers, an additional per-person surcharge will apply.

Inclusions

6 night accommodations as per itinerary; Breakfast daily, 2 dinners, 2 lunches, and 1 wine tasting; Meals as indicated in the itinerary; Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits; Airport/Hotel transfers for all participants on suggested group flights; Taxes, service charges, and baggage handling; Pre-departure materials

Terms and Conditions

Reservations & Payments: To reserve your space on the tour a \$600 deposit is required per person.

Cancellation Policy: All cancellations must be made in writing to the offices of Winding Way Travel and are subject to a \$100 non-refundable administrative fee. Final payment is due by May 24, 2024 (120 days prior to program start). From 119 to 45 days prior to arrival: Deposit fully non-refundable. From 45 days - arrival: No refund.