

PROVENCE & THE FRENCH RIVIERA



The South of France. Rarely does any other location evoke such romantic images of olive groves, sloping vineyards along the Rhône River, pristine beaches and fields of lavender. Hilltop villages beckon travelers with their charm, and cities showcase Roman ruins and splendid architecture from the subsequent centuries. Provence and the French Riviera have long been the chosen destinations of painters, writers and other artists in search of idyllic inspiration. Is it the perpetual sunshine and the Mediterranean breezes? The time has come to discover for yourself the allure of Provence and the French Riviera.



INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- **Five nights** in Avignon, France, at the first-class **Mercure Pont d'Avignon Centre Hotel**.
- **Four nights** in Nice at the first-class **Hotel Aston La Scala**.

Transportation

- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land Program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.

Activities and Events

- **Informative educational programs** presented by **local experts** will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary.
- **Personal VOX listening device** to hear every word from your expert English-speaking guides.
- Attend a **Welcome Reception & Dinner**, gather for a **Farewell Reception** and **Graduation Ceremony** followed by **Dinner**.

Extensive Meal Program

- Enjoy nine breakfasts, four lunches and four dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** during select meals at featured local restaurants.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Travel Director** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of excursion guides & drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



- Marvel at **four UNESCO World Heritage sites**: Arles, Roman and Romanesque Monuments; the Roman Theater and its Surroundings and the Triumphal Arch of Orange; the Pont du Gard; and the Historic Center of Avignon: Papal Palace and Avignon Bridge.
- Discover the charm of **Provence** and the glamour of the **French Riviera**.
- Sample the famous wines of Châteauneuf-du-Pape during a **winery tour**.
- Enjoy a **Rhône River cruise**.
- Admire **Roman ruins** and the legacy of one of the world's greatest empires.
- Delve into the region's artistic heritage through the contributions of **Matisse, Chagall and many other artists**.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ IN TRANSIT

Depart for Marseille, France.†

† Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.

DAY 2 ~ MARSEILLE/AVIGNON

Upon arrival, transfer† to Avignon and the hotel.

Tonight, attend a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

DAY 3 ~ AVIGNON

Educational Focus: *Avignon's Papal History.*

Excursion: *All About Avignon.*

Spend the morning exploring Avignon and visit the Palace of the Popes.

Excursion: *Rhône River Cruise.*

Relax and admire the scenic views along the riverbanks. Enjoy lunch on the cruise.

DAY 4 ~ AVIGNON

Independent Exploration: Pursue your own interests in Avignon.

Local Flavor: Enjoy dinner in Avignon.

DAY 5 ~ ORANGE/

CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

Excursion: *Roman Ruins and*

Rhône Wine. Visit Orange to see the Roman amphitheater and the village of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, where the famous Rhône wine is produced, for a wine tasting.

Educational Focus and Excursion: *Wines of Provence.*

Local Flavor: Enjoy a winery lunch.

Excursion: *Pont du Gard.* Marvel at this three-tiered Roman aqueduct.

DAY 6 ~ ARLES/LES BAUX/ST. REMY

Educational Focus: *The Romans in Provence.*

Excursion: *Arles, Les Baux and St.*

Rémy. Visit Arles, where the Roman arena and theater are spectacular sights. Visit Les Baux-de-Provence, atop one of the hills of the Alpilles mountains. Continue to Saint-Rémy-de-Provence to visit the monastery hospital where Vincent van Gogh once lived and created some of his greatest work. See reproductions of his famous landscape paintings at the site of their creation.

DAY 7 ~ AIX-EN-PROVENCE/ NICE

Enjoy beautiful vistas of olive groves, lavender fields and vineyards as you

make your way to Nice.

Excursion: *Aix-en-Provence.* Take a fascinating tour of this quintessential Provençal town.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch in Aix.

Upon arrival in Nice, check in to the Hotel Aston La Scala.

DAY 8 ~ NICE

Educational Focus: *Matisse and Chagall.*

Excursion: *Nice.* See the highlights of Nice. Visit the Chagall Museum and the Russian Orthodox Church.

Independent Exploration: The afternoon is at leisure in Nice.

DAY 9 ~ MONACO

Excursion: *The French Riviera.*

Visit Monaco and St.-Jean-Cap-Ferrat. Stroll through the grounds of Villa Rothschild, a jewel of the Riviera.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch in Monte Carlo.

Educational Focus: *Contemporary France.*

DAY 10 ~ NICE

Independent Exploration: The day is at leisure in Nice.

Join a Farewell Reception, Graduation Ceremony and a Farewell Dinner.

DAY 11 ~ IN TRANSIT

Transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.†

NOTE: The information presented is preliminary. Itineraries, included features and schedules are subject to change. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.

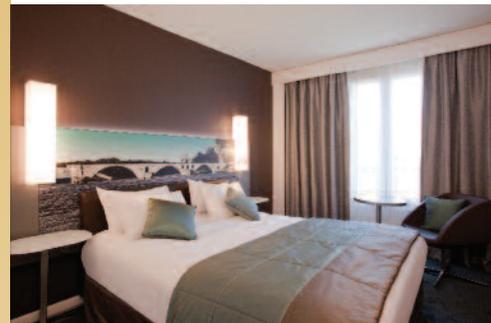
ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Available at an additional cost

L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue. On Day 4, spend the morning at leisure in one of the most charming towns in Provence. Browse through the shops, sip a coffee at a sidewalk café and enjoy a bit of life in Provence.

Art and Perfume. On Day 10, admire the art at the Maeght Foundation in St. Paul de Vence. Continue to Grasse, the center of France's perfume industry and tour a perfume factory. Enjoy lunch in St. Paul. Learn about Provence's perfume business during an engaging lecture.

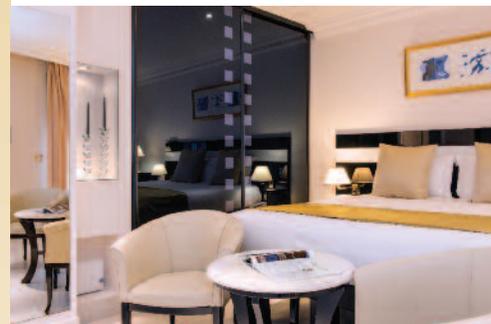
ACCOMMODATIONS



MERCURE PONT D'AVIGNON CENTRE HOTEL

Avignon

This first-class hotel is just minutes from the Opera in Avignon, the Palace of the Popes and the city's iconic bridge. At the end of a busy day, relax in the hotel's garden or share the highlights of the day over a drink at the bar. Each evening, unwind in your comfortable, well-appointed guest room and emerge refreshed the next day. Wi-Fi is available.



HOTEL ASTON LA SCALA

Nice

The best of Nice is at your doorstep when staying at this first-class property in the heart of the city. Place Massena, shops, restaurants and the beaches are just a short stroll away. The hotel has an outdoor pool. Enjoy an excellent restaurant, and meet your friends for cocktails at the bar. Savor the well-appointed guest rooms and excellent service while enjoying your time on the Riviera. Wi-Fi is complimentary.

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Nice



Our mission is to provide you with the most up-to-date information at all times. While the information in this flier is correct at the time of creation, we encourage you to visit our website to ensure that you receive the most current information.