

Burgundy and Provence
Saturday Sept 16-Saturday Sept 23



Day 1 - Saturday September 16th

* Our group will depart from CDG airport upon arrival of your flight. (For those who are already in Paris I can arrange a private pickup at your hotel to transfer you to the airport.) We will have a meeting place to gather and get on our bus. I will be there to greet you. Our private bus will pick us up (TBA but approx. 10:00 am) and drive us to our destinations. The first two nights will be spent in quaint town of Beaune in Burgundy.



The charming village of Beaune

* On the way to Beaune, we will have a lovely drive and enjoy the scenery of Burgundy, home to some of the finest reds in the world, and stop for a light lunch. Then we will have a half day tour by with our English speaking guide of a local winery complete with a tasting. I suggest you watch the Amazon film “A Year in Burgundy” to understand the trials and triumphs of producing wine in this region.

* After our tour, we will check into our 4 star hotel:

[Hotel de la Poste Beaune****](#)

* Welcome dinner at our hotel. Time and menu TBA.

Day 2 - Sunday, September 17th

*Breakfast.

*Morning at leisure to explore quaint Beaune.

*Gather in the hotel lobby and walk to the late afternoon demonstration cooking class at The Cook’s Atelier. The Cook’s Atelier is a marvelous cooking school begun by an American, Marjorie Taylor and her daughter, Kendall, who moved to Beaune from the U.S. when Kendall fell in love

and married a Frenchman. This school has fared so well, that Marjorie was able to buy a larger building and have a little shop in front as well as the school. It was featured in Williams Sonoma, Travel and Leisure, and has been written up by other worthy publications. Check it out here: <http://www.thecooksatelier.com>

*Dinner at the cooking class. The class will be a demonstration class and we will eat her dishes in various rooms of the house and peruse her *tres jolie* shop.



Marjorie holding une plus grande tart aux pommes. Je Faime.

Day 3 - Monday, September 18th

- *Breakfast in our hotel.
- *After breakfast, leave Beaune to travel to stunning Avignon, known for its fields of lavender.
- *Arrive and check into our 5 star hotel, [L' Hotel d'Europe](#)
- *Enjoy the town of Avignon.
- *Lunch on your own, perhaps in the courtyard restaurant.
- *Dinner TBA.



Avignon lavender fields.

Day 4 - Tuesday, September 19th

*Breakfast

*Day on your own to explore the town. Perhaps go to the Pope's Palace, which would be a great tour of an amazing old residence. I will have a small list of suggestions should you need any.

*Dinner on your own.



Nice view of Avignon, oui?

Day 5-Wednesday Sept 20

* Breakfast

* 9:00 "Treasures of Provence" Private all day tour with our bus and guide for the day, to visit the historic city of **Orange**.

-Visit of Orange: panoramic tour to discover its Roman Arch de Triumph, symbol of the Roman imperialism glory, and visit of its Antic Theatre, the most well-conserved theater in the Roman Empire. Also, It's just a pretty place....

- Wine tour through the vineyards between Orange and **Châteauneuf-du-Pape** and stop for panoramic view of the Rhône river valley from the Castle of Châteauneuf-du -Pape.

- We will partake in a wine tasting in the cellar of a 100 year old house in Châteauneuf-du-Pape, which is such a famous area for producing fine wine, even though it really only covers a small amount of acres relatively speaking. Then we will check out some traditional shops in the area, and you may find a wide range of wine and Provencal specialties to take back home—or eat later that night! We'll stop at the **Antiques of Saint Rémy de Provence** (Triumphal Arch and funeral monument) located in a field of olive-trees, whose landscape was painted several times by Van Gogh.

-We will visit **les Baux de Provence**, a village located upon a huge rock foothill. In its historical center there is the Museum of Santons, the Hôtel des Porcelets - a beautiful 16th century house - and the pretty Romanesque St Vincent Church. (The history of the Santons is very interesting, similar to the history of the gondolas. When the

government intervenes to stop creativity, man will find a way to continue his creative ideas!)

-**Walking tour in beautiful Arles**, another area once inhabited by those conquering Romans, with its famous amphitheatre, theatre and other ancient sites. Here Van Gogh painted several famous works: La Maison Jaune, Le Café, and La Nuit, Le Jardin de L'Hôtel Dieu.

*Return to our luxurious hotel in Avignon and enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure.

*Dinner on your own.



For me, Aix-en-Provence is the jewel of Provence.

Day 7 - Thursday, September 21st

*Breakfast in hotel.

* 10:00 Depart for Aix-En-Provence.

-On the way, our bus and guide will take us to the **Sainte-Victoire Mountain**, which was a source of inspiration for Paul Cézanne from 1880 to 1883. We will go to into Aix en Provence for a visit to the Cezanne workshop.

Free time will be given for lunch on your own in Aix en

Provence.

-The afternoon will be dedicated to the highlights of the Luberon Valley. We will have a photo stop in Lourmarin, one of the most beautiful villages in France, famous for its Renaissance castle.

We will discover Bonnieux, a pretty village dominated by The High Church at 425 meters above sea level, which commands the view of **La Combe of Lourmarin**, the unique road the winds through the Luberon Valley. Bicycle riders show no fear as they ride around the narrow, winding hills, but we fear for them!

*After our tour, we will check in to the beautiful 5 star hotel:

[Hotel Le Pignonnet Aix****](#)

* You may want to schedule a massage for the next day or I can do it for you way at the time of your deposit.

* Dinner on your own. There are many restaurants lining the streets with outdoor seating. You will love it here.



Look surreal? Non, you will be here soon!

Day 8 Friday September 22

- * Breakfast in Hotel
- * Day at leisure in wonderful Aix-en-Provence. Perhaps enjoy that massage or relax by the pool and soak it all in.
- * Farewell Dinner at Hotel. Time and menu TBA.

Day 8 - Saturday, 23

- *Boxed Breakfast for bus.
- *7:00 Private bus transfer from Aix en Provence to Marseilles airport.

Tour includes:

1. Private bus and guides for all the tours
2. Three private tours.
3. Hotels
4. Three dinners
5. Daily breakfast
6. Visits to two wineries and tastings there
7. Cooking class and dinner at The Cook's Atelier
8. Bus to Marseilles airport for morning departure
9. All gratuities, taxes and government fees

Not Included in the Tour:

1. Alcohol and any drinks, including sodas, bottled water, and coffee, **except** for the wineries and the wine at the farewell dinner
2. The hotel mini bar
3. Air Travel
4. Airport Transfers **except** to Marseilles.

5. Anything of a personal nature, including massage or spa treatments
6. Additional nights on either side of the trip

Price per person, sharing a room: \$6,400.00
Previous guest: \$6,200.00
Single Supplement: +800.00
*There are two classic double rooms for \$6,200.00 in one hotel.

Please let me know if you would like one of these two rooms.

These would be shared rooms.