

France, an Epicurean Journée

Sept. 20th - 26th, 2017

Provisional Wine Itinerary

Wednesday, September 20th

Arrive and enjoy the gardens at the Rhône Retreat in Gaujac, France... you have made it to our little slice of paradise! Decompress poolside and enjoy "dinatoire" (evening cocktail) with garden delights including anything from gazpacho to local favorites like tapenade and eggplant caviar, with winetasting onsite from a local secret, [Chateau Juliette](#).

Thursday, September 21st

Early risers can walk through the local vineyards surrounding Gaujac and after breakfast, we'll take a step back to the days of the Popes of Avignon.

To begin, wine tasting at Châteauneuf du Pape, [Font de Michelle](#). Then, we'll take in delicious food, views and history during lunch within the ruins of Châteauneuf du Pape.

When in Châteauneuf... you must do like Châteauneuf, which means more wine tasting at [Chateau Nerthe](#), for example.

As we head back to the Rhône Retreat, we'll happen by the King of Rosés, Tavel, at one of the more pristine labels, [Chateau d'Aqueria](#)

Friday, September 22nd

Today, we will explore the lesser known but extremely rich Camargue (or Rhône River Delta), known for the Gypsies (also the Gypsy Kings), bulls, horses and even flamingos.

We'll take a visit to the Vin des Sables (Sand Wines), then on to St. Marie de la Mer to see the Black Madonna, dip our toes in the Mediterranean, and lunch within the walls of the fortified city, [Aigues Mortes](#).

The afternoon includes a visit and wine tasting at the fabulous [Chateau Puech Haut](#).

Saturday, September 23rd

With Uzès a stone's throw away, we'll go to market day and it is perfect. We'll hunt and gather what we need to fill our bellies after a hike into the most spectacular Roman aqueduct left in Europe, the [Pont du Gard](#).

Now we've earned it... organic wine tasting with either the Americans who've converted to winemakers at [La Gramiere](#), or the avant-gardiste winemaker [Domaine de Malaigue](#).

Sunday, September 24th

A day for troubadours! We'll start with a morning stroll through the streets of St-Rémy-de-Provence. Then, a look into the Carrières de Lumières and a stop into the up-and-coming Arles, with its Roman amphitheater and coliseum. Great wine will be right around the corner with [Chateau Romanin](#) and [Domaine de Valdition](#).

Monday, September 25th

Today, we start Monday in the best way possible with a tour of the Grand Crus of the Rhône Valley. We will visit Vacqueyras, Gigondas et Beaufort de Venise along the route of perhaps one of the most famous stages of the Tour du France - Mont Ventoux. The views are almost as good as the wines!

Tuesday, September 26th

Whatever wine we have not finished may be tucked in your checked bags as we say our goodbyes... but the memories will stay on. As we say here at the Rhône Retreat, "Once you Gaujac, you always go back!"