

THE PILGRIM PATH THE ART OF ASKING THE BEAUTIFUL QUESTION

A Week Following the Byways of Southern France

OCTOBER 11 = 18, 2018



Join David Whyte for autumn in Provence, a new sojourn at a magnificent chateau hidden in the depths of the French countryside.

Morning sessions will be poetry and insight, afternoons walking the paths of a very ancient, storied, and particular history and geography. Evenings will be spent enjoying the delights of Provencal cuisine, harvested from the autumn landscape, either out in a local establishment or in our home at the chateau.

THE PARTICIPANTS.

This trip will be smaller than David's other walking trips, with an eclectic group of 15-20 fellow adventurers.

ACCOMMODATIONS.

Your home for the week will be a luxurious chateau that was in the same noble family for 400 years, until 2005. The family line can be traced back to the Capetian dynasty, the largest and oldest European royal house.

The chateau dates back to the 16th century, when the main structure of the castle was built. In the 18th century, the main-castle, chapel, orangerie and ballroom were built. The architecture of the main façade is unique, the only one in Provence. The area boasts 18 fountains and several waterfalls descending from high rocks, and is known for its world-famous restaurants and truffles.

THE WALKING AND HIKING.

Participants, besides contributing imaginatively to the conversation, should be physically fit and able to hike for three to five hours over hilly terrain. Please be as realistic as possible in assessing your abilities, as the walks are an important part of the trip experience.

A WORD ABOUT MEALS AND DIETARY RESTRICTIONS.

Most meals are provided, however, you will need to be prepared to buy one or two meals on your own, depending on the day's activities. Meals will be buffet feasts, with the possibility of a generous packed lunch, depending on our walks or travels on a particular day. There will always be a hearty vegetarian option, as well as fruit and vegetables. We do our best to cover all bases, however, if you are gluten-free, vegan, or have other food intolerances, please bring along a few things to fill in the occasional gap, as there is not a shop in the immediate vicinity.

AMENITIES.

The chateau has wifi throughout.

ARRIVAL.

We will pick you up at the Gare d'Avignon TGV station in Avignon at 2:30pm on Thursday, October 11, 2018.

DEPARTURE.

We will transport you to the Gare d'Avignon TGV station in Avignon between 11am and 1pm on Thursday, October 18, 2018.

PASSPORT.

You will need a valid passport.

COST.

Total cost for the tour is \$5665.

If all payments are made by check, the cost is \$5500.

WHAT THE TRIP PRICE INCLUDES.

David's services as seminar leader and local guide. Private room. (Please note we are not able to guarantee a private or en-suite bathroom.) All accommodations for the nights October 11 - 17th, 2018, inclusive. All but one or two meals, at David's discretion, depending on the day's activities. All transport in-country during the trip and round trip transportation to Avignon TGV.

NOT INCLUDED. Airfare. One or two meals.

APPLICATION PROCESS.

We do not accept participants on a first come, first served basis. Instead, we collect applications and notify you of the status of your application on or before March 1st, 2018. We do not deposit your check or process your credit card until you are notified of your acceptance on the trip.

CANCELLATION POLICY.

If, after you are accepted on the trip, you should need to withdraw your application prior to April 1st, we retain \$565. After April 1st, any refund will depend upon whether we are able to find someone else to fill your place, but in any case, will be subject to the \$565 retention fee.

CURRENCY AND SPENDING MONEY.

The currency in France is the Euro. Credit cards are not as widely accepted as in the U.S., so it is best to use the ATM at the airport, prior to arrival in Avignon, to obtain cash.

WE STRONGLY ADVISE THAT YOU COVER YOURSELF FOR BAGGAGE, ACCIDENT AND TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE.