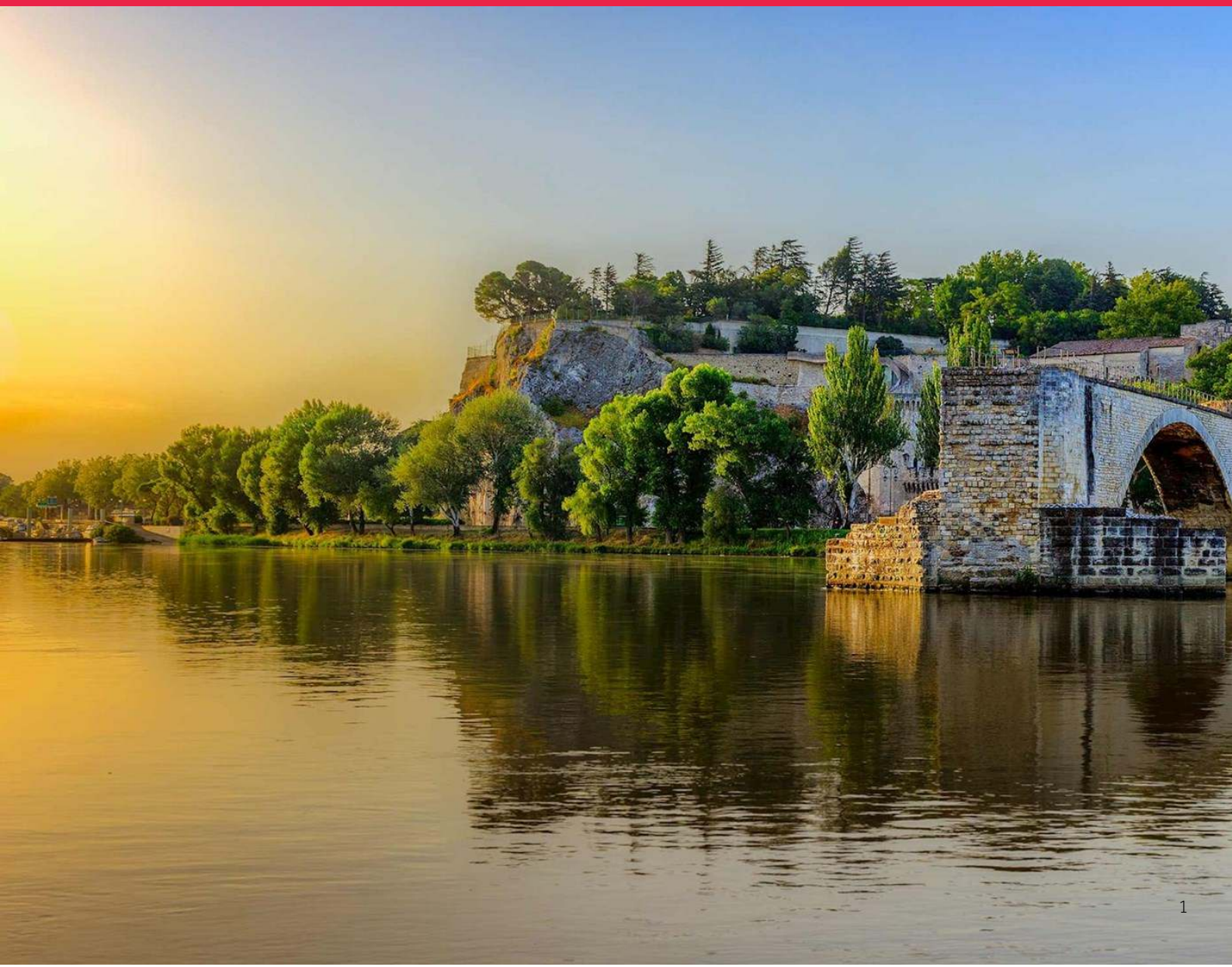


# Your best trip starts *here.*

Highlights of France and Barcelona



# Your itinerary



- Start Location
- Visited Location
-  Plane
- End Location
-  Cruise
-  Train
- 1 Over night
-  Ferry

## Day 1 | Welcome to Paris



This capital city is your launch pad for an epic adventure through the highlights of France and magnificent Barcelona. Spend your first day in the 'City of Lights' exploring the art, architecture and culture of this romantic city on your own. Visit the Mona Lisa in the Louvre or relax in manicured gardens watching the world go by. This evening, join your fellow travellers and Travel Director for a Welcome Reception and orientation drive past some of the city's most impressive sights, including the grand Champs-Élysées and Arc de Triomphe.

**Meals:** Welcome Reception

**Hotel:** Pullman La Défense

## Day 2 | Explore the Sights of Paris



Spend the morning in the company of a Local Specialist, who will share with you the hidden squares and secret lanes of Paris, revealing how Parisians live and shop. Visit the remarkable church of Saint-Sulpice, then enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. Walk along the Seine and admire the talents of street artists and performers, amble through the scenic hilltop village of Montmartre or relax with a café au lait watching the world go by. This evening, consider soaking up the pageantry of Paris with an Optional Experience to a popular Parisian cabaret.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Pullman La Défense

### Optional Experiences:

**Montmartre Village and Artists' Square** - Many people go to Paris, but only a few are lucky enough to experience what it's really all about. Join us for a stroll with our Local Specialist through Montmartre – an artists' village once home to Picasso and Toulouse Lautrec, tucked away from the modern city. The paint will still be wet on the canvasses, as we watch apprentices work before our eyes in the famous Artist's Square. Mingle, barter, and stand in awe of Sacré Coeur Basilica in this historic, bohemian neighbourhood.

*Adult: 37.00 EUR*

**Moulin Rouge Cabaret and Dinner** - It's world famous for a reason, and this is your chance to see the real-life inspiration behind the award-winning movie. This Parisian institution features 60 dancers and entertainers with over 1,000 costumes to create a dazzling spectacle. You'll enjoy wine, dinner and Champagne during this unforgettable soirée at the original Parisian Cabaret!

*Adult: 165.00 EUR*

## Day 3 | Chartres and Châteaux in the Loire Valley



Visit Chartres, an important place of pilgrimage on 'Way of Saint James', with its inspiring French Gothic Art cathedral which is renowned for its stained glass windows and two contrasting spires. We journey through the rolling landscape of the Loire Valley, past beautiful villages and castles. View the impressive Château de Chambord, a marvel of French Renaissance architecture, then visit Château de Chenonceau. Later, Connect With Locals, joining your travel companions and the de Montferrier family on their farm near the famous Château de Villandry for a traditional three-course Tourangelle Be My Guest dinner experience paired with local wines.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Be My Guest

**Hotel:** Château de Beauvois

## Day 4 | Onwards to Renaissance Lyon



Travelling through the heart of France, we arrive in the gastronomic capital of Lyon where we'll join a Local Specialist for a tour of the old city revealing its rich cultural heritage. Wander through the traboules of France's largest Renaissance city and marvel at the magnificent skyline from Fourvière hill. We dine at our hotel this evening, with the rest of the night free to explore the city. See the glittering Renaissance façades lit up at night, attend a world-famous opera or stroll along the river – a peaceful end to a busy day.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Novotel Gerland Musée des Confluences

## Day 5 | Journey to Papal Avignon and on to the French Riviera



From Lyon, we drive to Avignon, a Papal Seat in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. See the Popes' Palace, one of the largest and most important medieval Gothic buildings in Europe, and the famous bridge immortalised in the French song – Sur le Pont d'Avignon. Dive Into Culture as you indulge in a glass of the local vintage on a Provençal terrace. This afternoon we arrive in the seaside retreat of Nice, where an orientation tour will introduce you to this coastal city, a favourite retreat among aristocrats for centuries. Walk along the famous Promenade des Anglais and across the checker-board pavement of Place Masséna, before spending the rest of the evening at leisure.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Novotel Aéroport Cap 3000

## Day 6 | Enjoy a Day in Monaco



Relax on the sun-kissed shores of the Côte d'Azur today. Retreat to the beach with your fellow sun-worshippers, relax at a café overlooking the Bay of Angels or take a stroll along the promenade. You could choose instead to embark on an Optional Experience to the medieval hill-top village of Saint-Paul-de-Vence. Later, we'll enjoy an excursion through splendid seaside scenery to Monaco where you'll view the cathedral where Prince Rainier and Princess Grace were married.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Novotel Aéroport Cap 3000

### Optional Experiences:

**St Paul, Corniche Drive, Perfumery and Meal** - Today, with our Local Specialist, let's discover the artists' and shoppers' paradise that is medieval St. Paul, consistently named the most beautiful hilltop town in this region. Next, we'll travel the Corniche roads, to witness spectacular views of the area's gorgeous landscapes and lavish villas. We'll then pay a visit to a traditional French perfumery and finish our excursion at a local restaurant for a delicious meal with wine.

*Adult: 86.00 EUR*

## Day 7 | Off to Colourful Arles and Carcassonne



We travel west to the Camargue centre of Arles, with its colourful façades and Roman ruins, before continuing through the landscapes of Provence immortalised in the works of Cézanne and Van Gogh. Arriving in the fortified city of Carcassonne, we join a Local Specialist for a sightseeing tour of the Cité which spans some 3km and features 52 towers.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

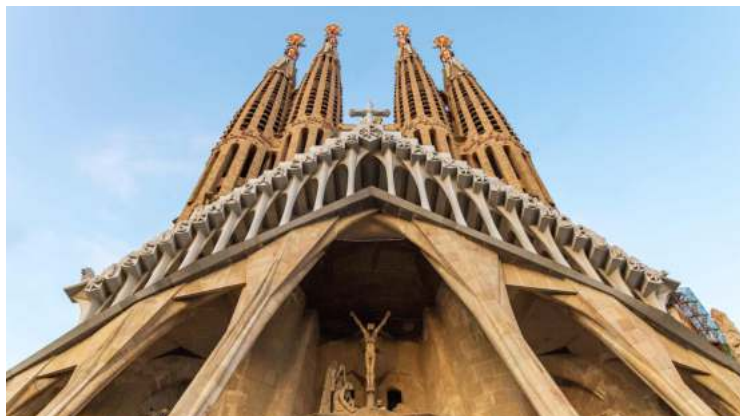
**Hotel:** Best Western Le Donjon

### Optional Experiences:

**On the trail of Vincent Van Gogh** - You simply can't come to France without seeing all of the treasures the Romans left behind. Marvel at the Amphitheatre they built 2000 years ago. Then, switch gears with your Local Specialist to learn about Arles' other great claim to fame – the locations where Vincent Van Gogh produced some of his most famous works in Provence, including The Starry Night.

*Adult: 23.00 EUR*

## Day 8 | Pass the Pyrenees to Barcelona



Driving past the foothills of the Pyrenees, we stop in Figueres to visit the Dalí Theatre and Museum where we will Dive Into Culture and gain insights into the fascinating world of Salvador Dalí. See his work in this impressive building, before arriving in Barcelona this afternoon for an included sightseeing tour. We'll see the Columbus Monument and Antoni Gaudí's unfinished La Sagrada Família, with a Local Specialist. The evening is yours to explore this Mediterranean gem. Consider an Optional Experience to enjoy traditional Spanish cuisine and entertainment, or enjoy a delicious tapas feast on your own at one of the city's fine restaurants.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Fairmont Rey Juan Carlos/Hyatt Regency Tower

### Optional Experiences:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

**Catalonian Dinner and the Dancing Fountains** - Join us for drinks and a Catalonian meal in the bustling city of Barcelona. After dinner, we'll take you to see the spectacle of the famous Dancing Fountains, which were built for the 1929 World's Fair and are one of the wonders of the modern world. *As the fountains do not operate every day, on occasion we will admire several of Barcelona's iconic beautifully-illuminated buildings instead.*

**Adult: 59.00 EUR**

**Flamenco Spectacular With Dinner** - Come and experience the passion and spirit of Spain at a spectacular flamenco evening. This modern interpretation of Spain's most famous entertainment is one of the best shows in town, and we've even included dinner and drinks.

**Adult: 88.00 EUR**

## Day 9 | Discover Lively Barcelona



Spend the day soaking up the vibrant spirit of Barcelona. Ramble up Las Ramblas and people-watch in the Plaça de Catalunya, explore the whimsical architecture of Gaudí dotted across the city or consider an Optional Experience to Barcelona's Gothic Quarter. A further option is a meander up to Montserrat to visit its Benedictine monastery and see the mysterious Black Madonna, the patron saint of Catalonia. This evening, join your Travel Director and travel companions for a memorable Farewell Dinner with wine at a traditional Spanish restaurant.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

**Hotel:** Fairmont Rey Juan Carlos/Hyatt Regency Tower

### Optional Experiences:

**Barcelona, Past and Present** - Step back in time to uncover the history of the Barcelona from its Roman beginnings to the modern day. With your Local Specialist, stroll the maze of narrow streets and courtyards, home to gothic churches, the Kings Square, and the Jewish Quarter. Spain's Golden Era will come alive as we visit sites from Columbus' return from the Americas, the Spanish Inquisition, and the Spanish Civil War. We'll finish at a local food market to shop

like the locals and perhaps try traditional tapas.

*Adult: 29.00 EUR*

**Mystical Montserrat** - Today, with our Local Specialist, take a drive to the enchanting and mystical mountain of Montserrat, with its breathtaking views and spectacular scenery. While there, visit the Benedictine monastery to view the famed Black Madonna. At the daily farmer's market, perhaps sample and purchase their homemade cheeses, honeys, and other local specialties.

*Adult: 46.00 EUR*

*\*This optional involves reservation and entrance pre-payments. Cancellation within 24 hours will incur a 50% cancellation fee.*

## Day 10 | Journey Home



It's time to close the curtain on an unforgettable holiday in France and Barcelona. Say adiós to the bustling streets of Barcelona and your travel companions. Find out more about your free airport transfer at [trafalgar.com/freetransfers](https://trafalgar.com/freetransfers).

**Meals:** Breakfast