

France's Impressions Voyages

The Ultimate travel experience

PROVENCE



NAPOLEON

**Ultra Deluxe barge, 12 passengers,
Sunday to Saturday,**

The Napoléon cruises the Rhône in Provence between Arles and Tain l'Hermitage/Tournon. The region has a lot of archeological sites dating back to the Roman civilization and ruins of fortifications, arenas and aqueducts that continues to amaze modern engineers. The endless vistas of tiled roofs, lavender fields and

olive groves are synonymous with Provence.

The 12-passenger Napoléon is one of Europe's finest small river cruisers, combining all the amenities of a luxury hotel with the friendly ambience. This luxurious barge is dotted with large picture windows that provide magnificent views of the countryside. There are six luxurious cabins, each with its own ensuite bathroom, double basins, shower and heated towel rail. The main deck features a large, elegant salon and a separate dining room. An air-conditioned bus is available for excursions and touring bicycles are carried on board should you wish to bike into the countryside. The upper deck has an exterior, canopied dining area, spacious sun deck with loungers, jacuzzi and exercise equipment.

Highlights

- Excursions to the Pont du Gard a stunning Roman bridge built about 2,000 years ago, to the Pope's Palace in Avignon,
- Visit a truffle farm and discover the secret of the black diamond,
- Saint Rémy de Provence, birthplace of Nostradamus,
- The city of Arles, the Café Van Gogh, the Roman Amphitheater etc.
- Wine tasting in the charming village of Châteauneuf-du-Pape,



Itinerary

Provence: Rhone River, Tain L'Hermitage to Arles

Sunday - Tain l'Hermitage/Tournon.

Board the barge which will be moored at either Tain l'Hermitage or Tournon. Welcome aboard by the crew and enjoy a Champagne reception. Once settled, you will enjoy your first wine tasting at Mr. Ferraton's winery just steps away from the boat.

Monday - Cruise to Viviers.

Relax on the top deck and watch the beautiful scenery of the Rhône Valley glide by as the barge cruises to Viviers. Mid-afternoon, your guide takes you on a walking tour of this charming medieval town before returning to the boat. Opportunity to learn how to play "Petanque" the traditional Provençal game.

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Tuesday - Visit Nyons. Cruise to St. Etienne des Sorts.

This morning enjoy a scenic drive through the countryside to visit Nyons, a typical Provençal village, takes some time to discover a lavender distillery and an 18th century olive mill. Have lunch in a local restaurant of Grignan. Then, stop at a truffle farm have the chance to learn all about the black diamond and taste this expensive mushroom. Back on board continue the cruise south to St. Etienne des Sorts, passing through the lock of Bollene.

Wednesday - Visit Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Cruise to Avignon. Visit Pont du Gard.

This morning excursion to the village of Châteauneuf du Pape, so well famous for its wines and enjoy a memorable wine-tasting. Return to the barge for lunch and discover Le Pont St. Bénézet (the famous "Pont d'Avignon") before mooring-up in Avignon, near the walled city. Take an afternoon excursion to the magnificent Pont du Gard, part of the Roman aqueduct that transported spring water from Uzès to Nîmes.

Thursday - Tour of Avignon. Cruise to Arles. Visit les Baux.

Avignon was home of the Popes between 1309 and 1377. Enjoy a walking tour of the walled city, including a guided tour of the Palace of the Popes and enjoy this incredible architecture. There will be some free time to stroll in the shopping area, or just to enjoy a cup of coffee watching people going through. Return to the boat where lunch awaits. During the afternoon, the barge cruises to Arles while your guide takes you to the village of Les Baux-de-Provence for you to discover at your own pace.

Friday - Visit Arles. Cruise to Vallabrègues. Visit St Rémy.

After breakfast, opportunity to have a walking tour of Arles with your guide, to follow the footsteps of Van Gogh (he painted here between 1888 and 1890). Lunch will be served while cruising to Vallabrègues. Later in the afternoon visit the lovely town of St Rémy. On your way back to the boat, enjoy an olive oil tasting in a traditional 18th century "Provençal Bastide". Meanwhile chef is busy back on board preparing your farewell gala dinner.

Saturday - Avignon.

After breakfast disembark the barge for your onward travel arrangements.

Floor Plan



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Barge Features

Size of barge: Size: 129 ft by 16.5 ft

Number of Passengers: 12

Number of Cabins (all with private bath): 6

Crew: 6

Air Conditioning and Central Heating: Yes

Salon: Elegant salon with comfortable sofas and chairs and separate dining room with picture windows. Guest computer with internet access and BOSE iPod docking station

Bar: Open bar

Deck: Upper sundeck with jacuzzi, lounge chairs, covered dining area, exercise equipment

Spa Tub: Yes

Cabin Features: One main deck cabin 130 sq ft with large windows. Five lower deck cabins 140 sq ft. Cabins include twin beds or queen bed, DVD player, desk, and ensuite bathroom with oversized shower.

Vehicle for Transfers/Excursions: Air-conditioned mini-bus

Accessibility: One cabin on main deck with no steps, five cabins with steps from salon. Stairs to the upper level sundeck.

Bicycles: Yes



NAPOLEON 2011 SEASON PRICES in Euro €

Regular Season is April 3rd thru October 29

Cabin (per person, double occupancy) RS € 3,750

Single Occupancy Supplement Contact us

For further information please contact us.

Included in Cruise Price

- 7 days and 6 nights on the barge in a cabin with private bath
- Transfers from Avignon or Valence to the barge and return for charters or individual passengers with train transfers
- All meals, from dinner on Sunday through breakfast on Saturday
- Wines with lunches and dinners
- Escorted side-excursion
- Use of bicycles