

BEST OF FRANCE

13 DAYS

2 COUNTRIES

19 MEALS

FROM A\$4795 PP*

A ROUND-TRIP FROM PARIS, BLAZING A TRAIL PAST AVIGNON, CARCASSONNE AND THE LOIRE VALLEY. MARVEL AT THE BEACHES OF BIARRITZ, SEE THE D-DAY LANDING BEACHES IN NORMANDY AND VISIT CLAUDE MONET'S HOME IN GIVERNY.

GUEST
REVIEW
RATED:

feefo 
4.6/5

ICONIC HIGHLIGHTS

- **SIGHTSEEING TOUR** with a Local Specialist in Paris and Carcassonne
- **ORIENTATION** of Paris, Beaune, Lyon, Avignon, Monaco, Nice, Arles, Lourdes and Bordeaux
- **VISIT** the Hospices de Beaune, Château Villandry, the D-Day Museum, Claude Monet's home at Giverny and the Saint-Sulpice Church in Paris
- **VIEW** the Papal Palace in Avignon, the Royal Palace and Cathedral in Monaco, Promenade des Anglais and Place Massena in Nice, St Bernadette's Grotto in Lourdes, Esplanade des Quinconces in Bordeaux, the Abbey of Mont St. Michel and the D-Day Beach of Omaha in Normandy and the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris
- **SEE** the Roman Amphitheatre and the Cathedral in Arles
- **SCENIC DRIVE** through Dordogne and the Loire Valley



● START ● END ● OVERNIGHT ● SIGHTSEEING

Bordeaux wine

DAY

1 ARRIVE PARIS All the flavours of France come to life on this unforgettable journey that kicks off in Paris, the 'City of Lights'. Join your fellow travellers and Travel Director for a Welcome Reception and an orientation drive through the city. **(WR) Hotel: Mercure 17 Batignolles**

2 PARIS – BEAUNE – LYON We travel south to Burgundy, past the Côte d'Or vineyards of Gevrey-Chambertin and Nuits St. Georges. The colourful geometric roof tiles of the 15th-century Hospices are a sight to behold as we arrive in the medieval town of Beaune before continuing to Lyon, the gourmet capital of France. Perhaps spend your evening delving into the epicurean delights for which Lyon is justifiably famous. **(B) Hotel: Mercure Centre Saxe Lafayette**

3 LYON – AVIGNON – MONACO – FRENCH RIVIERA (2 NIGHTS) We stop in the heart of Provence and the city of Avignon. See the Papal Palace and bridge made famous in the song - *Sur le pont d'Avignon*. Journey through the fields of Provence to the sophisticated Principality of Monaco, where we'll view the cathedral where Prince Rainier and Princess Grace were married. This evening, we enjoy a Regional Dinner in Monaco before arriving at our hotel. **(B, RD) Hotel: Best Western Plus Masséna/Holiday Inn**

4 FRENCH RIVIERA FREE DAY The sun-kissed shores of the French Riviera are yours to explore today. Consider relaxing on the beach with your fellow sun-worshippers or an Optional Experience could see you visit the hilltop town of Saint-Paul-de-Vence, a popular haunt for actors seeking a relaxing retreat. In your free time, soak up the fresh sea air and perhaps indulge in a delicious *Salade Niçoise*. **(B)**

5 FRENCH RIVIERA – ARLES – CARCASSONNE Visit Arles with its honey-coloured façades, Roman ruins and Camargue culture, and enjoy some time at leisure to explore this beautiful city. Alternatively, choose an Optional Experience to gain a deeper understanding of Vincent Van Gogh and local history with our resident expert, before winding your way to the fortified city of Carcassonne. Join a 'Local Specialist' to explore this ancient town, view the Cité, and see the double ring of ramparts and 52 towers. **(B, D) Hotel: Mercure La Cité**

6 CARCASSONNE – LOURDES – BIARRITZ We drive toward the Pyrenees this morning and arrive in Lourdes, the global centre of the Marian pilgrimage. You will have an opportunity to see the Basilica, perched atop St. Bernadette's Grotto, where the young girl turned saint is said to have seen visions of the Virgin Mary. We travel west to the Basque Coast, where we spend the night. **(B) Hotel: Radisson Blu**

7 BIARRITZ – BORDEAUX (2 NIGHTS) We arrive in the wine capital of Bordeaux whose stunning riverfront and age of Enlightenment history and architecture have made it one of France's most visited cities. Spend some time seeing the sights during your orientation of the city. **(B) Hotel: Novotel Centre**

8 DORDOGNE EXCURSION The lush green valleys and hills of the Dordogne take centre stage today during a scenic half-day excursion. We drive to Saint-Émilion, whose wine heritage dates back to Roman times and return to Bordeaux this evening for some free time to explore the city. Perhaps, tease your taste buds with delicious Bordelaise cuisine or stroll through the city's historical centre, admiring its beautiful architecture by night. **(B)**

9 BORDEAUX – LOIRE VALLEY We journey through the Garden of France, before we 'Connect With Locals' for a delicious 'Be My Guest' lunch. 'Dive Into Culture' and visit the remarkable gardens at Château Villandry before arriving at our special hotel for the night - one of Trafalgar's 'Stays With Stories'. **(B, BMG, D, ☕, 🍷, 🍷, 🍷)**
Hotel: Château de Beauvois



The Château de Villandry is the last of the great chateaux of the Loire built during the Renaissance and is especially known for its beautiful ornamental flower gardens.

10 LOIRE VALLEY – MONT ST. MICHEL – NORMANDY BEACHES We travel through the patchwork landscapes of Brittany to the extraordinary island settlement of Mont St. Michel on the Normandy coast, where we visit the island town and view its impressive Norman Benedictine Abbey. Follow the Liberty Highway to St. Lô and on to Omaha Beach. Reflect on the bravery of the young men who sacrificed their lives for freedom and visit the D-Day Landing Zone to learn how the operation was planned and executed. **(B, D) Hotel: Mercure Omaha Beach**

11 NORMANDY BEACHES – GIVERNY – PARIS (2 NIGHTS) We travel west towards Paris, stopping at Giverny to see the house and gardens that once inspired Claude Monet's exquisite Impressionist works of art. This evening, consider a trip to one of the city's renowned cabarets. **(B) Hotel: Mercure 17 Batignolles**

12 PARIS SIGHTSEEING AND FREE TIME Join your 'Local Specialist' on a journey through the historic neighbourhoods of Paris to see where the locals live and shop. Visit the remarkable church of Saint-Sulpice. This evening, we celebrate an epic adventure with our Travel Director and newfound friends at a Farewell Dinner. **(B, FD)**

13 DEPART PARIS For now it's time to bid a fond *au revoir* to the Best of France and your fellow travellers at the end of a magical and memorable holiday. Airport transfers are available. Conditions apply. **(B)**

MORE ABOUT YOUR TRIP

* All prices are per person, twin share.

Airport Transfers: On arrival at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport transfers will operate at 8am, 11am and 2pm. Guests arriving later should make their own way to the hotel. Return transfers on the last travel day will arrive at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport at 8am and 11.30am.

Gratuities: Option to pre-pay gratuities for Travel Director and Driver, A\$162 per person.

Drinking Water: Tap water is safe to drink in all of the destinations on this trip. Please remember to bring a water bottle.

Trip code: FBOF



YOUR HOLIDAY PLANNER

Price PP			Price PP		
Start Paris	End Paris	Twin Share	Start Paris	End Paris	Twin Share
+ SU 29 MAR	FR 10 APR	4795	▲ SU 12 JUL	FR 24 JUL	4825
SU 05 APR	FR 17 APR	4795	SU 19 JUL	FR 31 JUL	4825
+ SU 12 APR	FR 24 APR	4795	SU 26 JUL	FR 07 AUG	4825
SU 19 APR	FR 01 MAY	4795	SU 02 AUG	FR 14 AUG	4825
SU 26 APR	FR 08 MAY	4850	SU 09 AUG	FR 21 AUG	4825
SU 03 MAY	FR 15 MAY	4850	SU 16 AUG	FR 28 AUG	4825
TU 05 MAY	SU 17 MAY	4850	+ SU 23 AUG	FR 04 SEP	4850
SU 10 MAY	FR 22 MAY	4850	SU 30 AUG	FR 11 SEP	4850
SU 17 MAY	FR 29 MAY	4850	TU 01 SEP	SU 13 SEP	4895
TU 19 MAY	SU 31 MAY	4850	SU 06 SEP	FR 18 SEP	4895
SU 24 MAY	FR 05 JUN	4850	TU 08 SEP	SU 20 SEP	4895
SU 31 MAY	FR 12 JUN	4850	SU 13 SEP	FR 25 SEP	4895
SU 07 JUN	FR 19 JUN	4850	TU 15 SEP	SU 27 SEP	4895
SU 14 JUN	FR 26 JUN	4850	SU 20 SEP	FR 02 OCT	4895
SU 21 JUN	FR 03 JUL	4850	SU 27 SEP	FR 09 OCT	4895
SU 28 JUN	FR 10 JUL	4850	SU 04 OCT	FR 16 OCT	4795
▲ SU 05 JUL	FR 17 JUL	4850	+ SU 11 OCT	FR 23 OCT	4795
			+ SU 18 OCT	FR 30 OCT	4795

Single Supplement (add to price above): A\$1370 PP

▲ **Bastille Day** is a national holiday in France. Celebrations will be taking place throughout the country on 14 July.

+ **Special Rate Solo Rooming:** These departures include 20 - 100% discount on our standard single supplement. Please see [trafalgar.com](https://www.trafalgar.com) for pricing.



**PAY EARLY SAVINGS
SAVE UP TO A\$490 PP**

OTHER GREAT SAVINGS

- Young Traveller Savings **SAVE A\$480**
- Multi Trip Savings **SAVE UP TO A\$122**
- Triple Share Savings **SAVE UP TO A\$60 PP**
- VIT** (Very Important Traveller) Benefits for past guests

HANDCRAFTED HIGHLIGHTS

Here's just a sample of the many special Trafalgar highlights included in your trip.



CONNECT WITH LOCALS

Return to 17th-century France and join the de Montferrier family on their farm near the famous Château de Villandry for a delightful 'Be My Guest' lunch. **(Day 9)**



STAYS WITH STORIES

Step back in time with a stay in the regal 16th and 17th-century Château de Beauvois. **(Day 9)**



DIVE INTO CULTURE

Visit Château Villandry in the Loire Valley and admire the exquisite Renaissance gardens that surround the elegant estate. **(Day 9)**



Connect With Locals



Stays With Stories



Dive Into Culture



Make A Difference

WR Welcome Reception

L Lunch

RD Regional Dinner

BMG Be My Guest

B Breakfast

D Dinner

FD Farewell Dinner

GET INSPIRED

#TTBESTOFFRANCE