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Home &gt; BURGUNDY &amp; PROVENCE

## BURGUNDY & PROVENCE

Tour: WLJ • ARLES → CHALON

8

DAYS

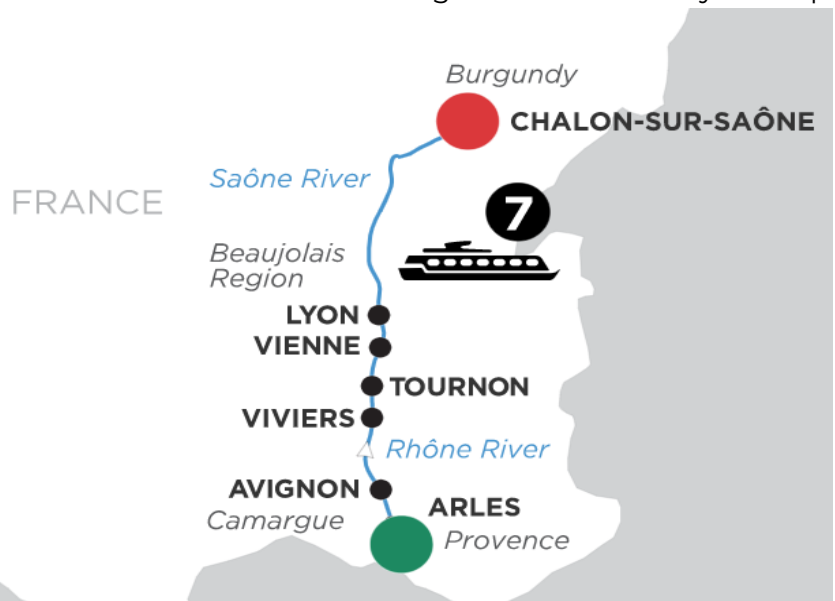
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COUNTRY

CJN\_SE001\_BURGUNDY Arles-Chalon\_Apr-Jul 2024

Take a wondrous journey through beautiful views of France along the Rhône and Saône Rivers with guided sightseeing in the well-known French treasures and some hidden gems too! Embark your ship in Arles—famous for inspiring the paintings of Van Gogh and its 1st-century Roman Amphitheatre, which hosts plays and concerts to this day. On a guided tour of historical Avignon, see the 14th-century Palace of the Popes—the largest gothic fortress in the world.

The city of Tournon is beautifully nestled among vineyards and you'll go on a guided walk of this medieval treasure with plenty of Roman ruins and a fascinating 16th-century castle. Lyon, France's gastronomic capital sits at the junction of the Rhône and Saône Rivers and is a showcase of medieval and Renaissance architecture. Visit the popular Place des Terreaux and stand in front of the famous fountain you've seen on postcards.





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### Meals

Breakfast: 7 Lunch: 6 Dinner: 7

### Transport

State-of-the-art, luxurious river cruise vessels with modern services and amenities

### Accommodation

Deluxe outside accommodations with Avalon's exclusive Comfort Collection Beds

## HIGHLIGHTS



### ITINERARY

#### **DAY 1: ARLES, FRANCE (EMBARKATION)**

Welcome to France. Your Suite Ship is Ready for Boarding. Flights into Marseille must arrive by 3 pm. Guests must be on board ship by 5 pm. DOCKING IN ARLES (D)

#### **DAY 2: ARLES**

Inspiring Sights and Avant-Garde Lights Visit the Adventure centre for today's activities with your Adventure Host. ACTIVE - Get your daily dose of exercise through nordic walking in Arles with your Adventure Host. OR: DISCOVERY - Attend a Painting Workshop to learn techniques of Vincent van Gogh. Create your own painting in the style of the legendary artist, OR: CLASSIC - Enjoy a Guided Walking Tour of Arles-the captivating city of the Provence region. You'll visit the Roman Amphitheater in this visually stunning city. Consider a Guided Optional Excursion to the Carrieres de Lumieres (Cathedral of Images) a unique experience of art, sound, and light in the old quarries of Val d'Enfer. Take free time to stop in Le Cafe Van Gogh for a glass of wine. , before sailing to Avignon. OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN AVIGNON (B,L,D)

**DAY 3: AVIGNON**

The City of Popes in Picturesque Provence CLASSIC - Take a Guided Sightseeing Tour of the fortress city of Avignon-with its ramparts encircling the city-and a visit to the amazing Palace of the Popes. Guided Optional Excursions include a visit to the ancient Roman aqueduct of Pont du Gard, or a trip to the famed wine cellars of Chateauneuf-du-Pape for a true taste of the Rhone wine region. Explore Avignon on your own for the city's art and culture, theatre, and museums. Be sure to snap photos of the captivating countryside, historic monuments, and the medieval Pont Saint-Benezet. Later, enjoy onboard live entertainment. OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN AVIGNON (B,L,D)

**DAY 4: VIVIERS**

World History in a Charming French Country Village Enjoy a leisurely morning sail to Viviers. ACTIVE - Walk your way up to Vivier's hilltop Cathedral with your Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - Explore the pale-stone buildings of Viviers on a late afternoon Guided Walking Tour of this charming village. You'll see its Romanesque cathedral and Old Town with a mix of historical Christian, Roman, and medieval influences. EVENING/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO TOURNON (B,L,D)

**DAY 5: TOURNON**

A Rendezvous with Castle Views and Vineyards Join your Adventure Host for today's special activities. ACTIVE - Bike along the Rhone river with your Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - Take a morning Guided Walking Tour to explore Tournon-one of France's oldest medieval cities. See its 16th-century castle, and Roman ruins between the Rhone River and the granite slopes of the Hermitage. In the late morning cruise to Vienne. VIENNE: Roman and Middle Age History ACTIVE - See Vienne from atop, hike up to a viewpoint with your Adventure Host, OR: CLASSIC - Join a Guided Walking Tour of Vienne and discover this charming little town surrounded by steep hills. OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN LYON (B,L,D)

**DAY 6: LYON**

Adventures in Food and Wine in the Gastronomy Capital of France CLASSIC - Join a Guided Sightseeing Tour to survey Lyon from Fourviere Hill with its numerous churches. You'll also explore the Old Town with its maze of medieval alleyways, and the lively cafes, monuments, and famed fountain of Place des Terreaux. Spend free time riding a bike through Lyon's town squares, over bridges, and along the banks where the Rhone and Saone rivers meet. Enjoy live entertainment while sailing to Tournus. EVENING/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO TOURNUS (B,L,D)

**DAY 7: TOURNUS- CHALON-SUR-SAÔNE**

Wine and Cheese on the Stunning Saone Consider a Guided Optional Excursion to a Chardonnay wine cellar, or to the Castle of Cormatin. DISCOVERY - Later, enjoy a delicious Cheese Tasting on board your ship. Enjoy live entertainment on board this evening. OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN CHALON-SUR-SAÔNE (B,L,D)

**DAY 8: CHALON-SUR-SAÔNE (DISEMBARKATION)**

Your cruise ends with breakfast this morning. Flights should not leave Lyon airport before 8 am. (B)



