Map & Itinerary





Insider Experiences

Designed exclusively for our guests

ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY

Travelmarvel provides further opportunity to pursue your special interests and enhance your holiday with a range of optional experiences

INSIDER EXPERIENCE

Enjoy an included special or unique excursion or event

DAY 1

Arrive Lisbon

Your adventure begins as you fly into Lisbon today, Portugal's invigorating capital. Upon arrival, be transferred to your centrally located hotel and enjoy free time.

Stay: Three Nights, Lisbon, Altis Grand Hotel or similar

DAY **2**

Lisbon

On a guided tour, explore the alleyways of the Alfama district and marvel at the Manueline-style Jeronimos Monastery. Then, visit World Heritage-listed Belem Tower and admire the beautiful Castelo de Sao Jorge.

Daily: • Breakfast

DAY Lisbon

ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY - Sintra

Travel to the mountain range of Serra de Sintra. After a guided tour of the charming town of Sintra, visit the World Heritagelisted Pena National Palace (additional expense).

Today, delight in a full day at leisure to explore this vibrant city.

Daily: • Breakfast



Lisbon, Vila Nova De Gaia, Embark Ship

This morning after breakfast, you will travel by coach to Vila Nova de Gaia where you'll board your river ship. Later this evening, meet your fellow travellers at a Welcome Reception as you take in the sights along the Douro River on a sunset cruise.

Stay: Seven Nights, aboard your river ship, the MS Estrela

Daily: • Breakfast • Dinner



Regua, Lamego, Pinhao

★ INSIDER EXPERIENCE – Portuguese Quinta Dinner

Enjoy a sumptuous dinner of traditional dishes and dessert at a picturesque local quinta, a Portuguese winery.

Begin cruising along the spectacular Douro River. Flowing from the northern reaches of Spain, through Portugal and into the Atlantic, this river is bordered by countless vineyards. As you cruise this morning, you'll take part in a Portuguese language lesson, during which you'll learn some essential phrases of this beautiful language. This afternoon, you'll visit the picturesque village of Lamego and the elaborately decorated baroque cathedral, the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies. While in Lamego, visit one of Portugal's best museums. You may also like to sample one of the town's famous specialties, Bola de Lamego, a delicious smoked ham roll.

On arrival in Pinhao, you will enjoy an Insider Experience.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner



Vega De Terron, Castelo Rodrigo

Today, cruise across the border into Vega de Terron in Spain. Enjoy some time at leisure before joining an excursion to Castelo Rodrigo. This tiny village sits atop a hill overlooking both Spain and Portugal, and features a number of well-preserved ruins, an impressive castle and a magnificent stone statue of Santiago Matamoros. After exploring this charming little town, you'll board a coach and return to your ship.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

DAY Salamanca, Barca D'Alva

★ INSIDER EXPERIENCE – Flamenco Show

Enjoy a flamenco show and lunch and be entranced by captivating flamenco dancers as they astound you with their stomping feet in a fiery performance.

Today you'll board a coach and set off for Salamanca, a glorious Spanish city that boasts sunlit sandstone buildings along with a majestic city square. Here you'll enjoy an Insider Experience. Afterwards, return by coach back over the border to Barca d'Alva, the last Portuguese village along the Douro, where your ship awaits. Back on board this evening, enjoy a traditional Portuguese barbecue dinner.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner



Pinhao, Regua

★ INSIDER EXPERIENCE - Portuguese Quinta Port Tasting

Head to a local quinta, which boasts outstanding views over the Douro Valley. Here, you'll enjoy a tasting of local port wine, Portugal's most famous tipple.

This morning, enjoy a fascinating history lecture as your ship cruises past Pinhao to Regua. After your Insider Experience on arrival in Regua, this afternoon, enjoy a guided tour in Regua followed by free time to visit the Douro Museum.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner



Regua, Mateus Palace, Entre-Os-Rios

Join an excursion to the splendid Gardens and Palace of Mateus. Tour this living museum which is still owned by the Count of Vila Real. Discover the connection between this beautiful 18th Century palace and Mateus Rose wine for yourself.

Afterwards, continue to the riverside town of Entre-os-Rios. On arrival, enjoy free time to explore this gorgeous, vibrant town as you please.

Tonight, be treated to an energetic performance of traditional Portuguese folk music back on board at a special Captain's Dinner.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

DAY Vila Nova De Gaia, Porto

ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY – Guimaraes

Tour the town of Guimaraes, known as the 'cradle of the Portuguese nationality'. See Guimaraes Castle and the residence of the President of Portugal (additional expense).

After breakfast, cruise back to the enchanting city of Vila Nova de Gaia. On arrival, join a fascinating tour of nearby Porto, which sits just across the river. Here you'll be led past a collection of the city's most famous attractions, and visit a local port winery for a tour and tasting. This afternoon, there's ample time for you to step back out to explore Porto at leisure. You may choose to take an optional excursion to the World Heritage-listed city of Guimaraes. This evening back on board your ship, enjoy a final Farewell Dinner.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

DAY
11

Depart Porto, Fly To Paris

After breakfast, disembark and be transferred to the airport in Porto for your flight to Paris. Arrive in Paris, where you'll be met and transferred to your hotel in the city's historic centre. Later this evening you'll have the chance to get to know your fellow travellers and Tour Director at a Welcome Reception.

Stay: Four Nights, Paris, Les Jardins du Marais

Daily: • Breakfast

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Paris

Paris is the perfect city to begin your European journey. This morning, open the door to some of the city's best-loved sights on a guided tour, including the Avenue des Champs-Elysees and Arc de Triomphe. Enjoy the afternoon to further explore Paris at your leisure.

Daily: • Breakfast

ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY – Culinary Walking Tour

Set out on a walking tour of the charming Marais district, one of the city's oldest neighbourhoods. Along the way, sample some culinary gems (additional expense).

⊕ ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY – Moulin Rouge

Visit the iconic Moulin Rouge for dinner and a Parisian cabaret show. See a range of breathtaking acts and dances, including the legendary French Cancan (additional expense).

Today, you're bound to fall head over heels for the 'City of Love' during a full day of exploration. Will you enjoy a whirlwind romance with the bohemian fervour of the Latin Quarter? Or cement an enduring devotion to the art at the Louvre Museum? Alternatively, you may wish to join some exciting optional experiences.

Daily: • Breakfast

DAY **14**

Paris

Travel to Giverny, former home of the French Impressionist painter, Claude Monet. Here, visit Monet's House and Garden. As you wander the gardens, take in lovely scenes that inspired many of Monet's famous paintings. See the water garden with its Japanese bridge, water lilies, wisteria and azaleas.

Daily: • Breakfast

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Paris, Lyon, Embark Ship

Farewell Paris after breakfast and enjoy a scenic drive to Lyon by coach, where you'll embark your ship. Explore the impressive social spaces and settle into your suite this evening. Later, enjoy meeting your fellow travellers and dedicated crew at a welcome cocktail reception.

Stay: Six Nights, aboard MS Van Gogh

Daily: • Breakfast • Dinner

DAY Lyon, Collonges-Au-Mont-D'Or

INSIDER EXPERIENCE – French Gastronomic Experience at Paul Bocuse's Abbaye de Collonges

Delight in an authentic French meal at Paul Bocuse's Abbaye de Collonges. Discover the innovative and unique approach to cuisine that Paul Bocuse was renowned for, earning himself three Michelin stars. Taste exceptional dishes reflecting the gourmet chef's love for fresh, high-quality ingredients, all meticulously prepared by world-class chefs. Accompanied by a spectacular setting, this experience is sure to tantalise your tastebuds.

This morning, embark on a guided tour of Lyon, a city known for its delectable array of cuisine. Traverse the city and ascend Fourviere Hill to the Basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourviere, known to locals as the upside-down elephant. Next, visit Vieux Lyon to admire the alluring buildings of the Old Town. Indulge in a tasting at Paul Bocuse's Les Halles de Lyon and savour the best regional fare including local sausage, cheese and a glass of wine. Return to the ship and set sail along the Saone River to Collonges-au-Mont-d'Or for a special Insider Experience later this evening.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner



Tain L'Hermitage, Avignon

ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY – Cite du Chocolat

Delve into the world of chocolate on a tour of the Cite du Chocolat. Learn all about this popular treat with interactive exhibits and taste samples at the Valrhona Discovery Centre (additional expense).

Arrive in the port of Tain L'Hermitage this morning. Perhaps embark on an optional tour of the Cite du Chocolat. Cruise to the attractive city of Avignon, rich in Provencal character and history. Relish an evening of lively onboard entertainment.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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Avignon, Arles

Today, set out on a guided tour of Avignon, once an integral location of the Catholic Church. Visit the medieval Palace of the Popes, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site along with Avignon's historic city centre. Learn about the history of the palace as a fortress, church and residence to popes and soak in the breathtaking architecture. Reboard your ship and head towards Arles.

Daily: • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY – The Camargue

Explore the coastal region of Camargue and witness the incredible flora and fauna that call this vast flatland home. The marshes, ponds and seashore provide an environment rich in sustenance for a variety of creatures in the area. Visit a traditional manade, a farm where herders train horses and raise cattle (additional expense).

Spend time at leisure today in the beautiful city of Arles and discover this World Heritage-listed site celebrated for its collection of ancient Roman relics. Perhaps set off on a full-day excursion to the Camargue.

Daily:

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner



Viviers

• ENHANCE YOUR JOURNEY – Gorges de l'Ardeche

Embark on a panoramic coach tour to the Gorges de l'Ardeche. Discover the incredible 30 km canyon, naturally carved by the tide. Be awed by the sheer force of the water shaping deep valleys, cliffs and captivating limestone formations. Stop to see the Pont d'Arc, an incredible arch measuring a height of 100 feet and indulge in extraordinary views (additional expense).

This morning, head out on a tour of Viviers, accompanied with an expert guide. Immerse yourself in the history of this attractive city and visit the House of Knights to admire the intricate detail of its Renaissance-style facade, despite its title as the smallest cathedral in France. Next, stop at Saint Michel Tower and the Great Seminary before taking in the sensational vista of Viviers at the overlook. After, relax on board as you cruise towards La Voulte. Alternatively, join an optional tour by coach to the Gorges de l'Ardeche. Enjoy a Gala Dinner on board your ship tonight.

Daily: ● Breakfast ● Lunch ● Dinner



Disembark Ship, Depart Lyon

After breakfast, it is time to depart your Rhone River cruise. Be transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

Daily: • Breakfast