

Essential France: Provence to Paris

15 days for \$6,997 total price from Washington, DC

(\$6,395 air & land inclusive plus \$602 airline taxes and fees)

We explore regional gems and cosmopolitan cities alike in this essential – and alluring – discovery of La Belle France. As our small group travels from Provence to Lyon, Burgundy to Paris, we bask in the history and art, culture and cuisine that mark these cherished spots.



Physical Activity Level



Moderate

Refer to page 5 for more information.

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Marseille		
2-3	Aix-en-Provence	Renaissance Aix-en-Provence	Sup. First Class
4-6	Nîmes	Maison Albar Imperator	Sup. First Class
7-9	Lyon	Hotel Carlton Lyon	Sup. First Class
10-12	Dijon	Grand Hotel la Cloche	Sup. First Class
13-14	Paris	Hotel Edouard VII	Sup. First Class
15	Depart Paris for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



We visit canal-laced Annecy, the “Venice of the Alps,” on Day 9.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Marseille, France

Day 2: Arrive Marseille/Aix-en-Provence We arrive in Marseille and transfer to Aix-en-Provence (“Aix”). This evening we meet our Odysseys Tour Director and fellow travelers at a briefing about the journey ahead, followed by a welcome dinner at our hotel. *D*

Day 3: Aix-en-Provence Today we discover this lovely “City of Fountains” on a walking tour, admiring Aix’s rich architectural heritage and the “Vielle Ville” (Old Town). After a guided visit to the Atelier Cézanne, where artist Paul Cézanne worked from 1902 to 1906, we have lunch at a local restaurant. The remainder of the day is free to enjoy Aix as we wish. *B,L*

Day 4: Aix-en-Provence/Lex Baux/Saint-Rémy-de-Provence/Nîmes En route to Nîmes today, we first visit Les Baux, a gem of a medieval village perched atop a rock spur. Here we see the Carrières de Lumière immersive multimedia art and music exhibit set in a former stone quarry. Then we explore Les Baux itself, with its restored ancient houses, Renaissance-era façades, and stone citadel. We continue on to Saint Rémy, where we enjoy lunch together before visiting the Romanesque jewel of St-Paul de Mausole, the monastery where artist Vincent Van Gogh was confined after severing his ear. *Late*

afternoon we reach Nîmes, where we dine together tonight. *B,L,D*

Day 5: Nîmes/Arles After a morning walking tour of this “most Roman city outside of Italy,” we see the Maison Carrée, one of the earliest examples of a Roman temple, and the inspiration for the Virginia State Capital, which was designed by Thomas Jefferson. We then visit Arles, once part of Roman Gaul then a clarion of Christianity. We encounter the city’s rich history on our walking tour, which includes a visit to the 1st-century Roman Amphitheater, a UNESCO site; and Place du Forum, setting for Van Gogh’s painting “Café du Nuit.” Then we have free time for lunch on our own before we return to Nîmes. *B*

Day 6: Nîmes/Avignon This morning is free for independent exploration in this city known for its Roman monuments, including the 2,000-year-old Nîmes Arena, and the Tour Magne, the only remaining tower of the original city walls. Later we depart for Avignon, capital of Christendom in the Middle Ages. Here we visit the historic city center with its 12th-century Romanesque Cathedral; the remains of the Saint-Bénézet Bridge; and the *Palais des Papes* (Papal Palace), one of the world’s most important Gothic structures. Tonight: a small group highlight as we join a local chef for a Provençal cooking class followed by dinner. *B,D*

Day 7: Nîmes/Pont du Gard/Lyon Heading north this morning, we stop at Pont du Gard, the 1st-century Roman aqueduct whose three graceful tiers of arches span the Gardon River. Then we travel on to Lyon, France's third largest city set at the confluence of the Rhone and Saône rivers. We dine tonight at a local restaurant in this region famed for its gastronomy. *B,D*

Day 8: Lyon Today's tour begins at the beloved Basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourvière, overlooking riverside Lyon from its hilltop perch. Next: the ruins of the Gallo-Roman theater, built in 15 BCE and still in use today. We then visit Vieux Lyon, the city's well-preserved Renaissance district, followed by a look at some of Lyon's jaw-dropping *trompe l'oeil* street art. The remainder of the day is at leisure before we dine tonight at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Day 9: Lyon/Annecy We set out today for the French Alpine town of Annecy on the shores of its namesake lake. Streetside canals and the Thiou River run through the picturesque Old Town, which we discover on a walking tour along the narrow lanes flanked by pastel-colored houses. We visit the town's vibrant market then enjoy a cruise on Lake Annecy, fed by the pristine waters of the surrounding Alps. *B*



We travel Burgundy's wine route.

where we enjoy a walking tour. After time for lunch on our own, we tour the one-time home of scientist Louis Pasteur. Then we continue on to Dijon and our hotel, where we dine together tonight. *B,D*

Day 10: Lyon/Pérouges/Dole/Dijon Our first stop today is in medieval hilltop Pérouges, another of France's most beautiful villages with its cobblestone streets and byways lined with half-timbered houses. Next, we visit untouristed Dole, boasting a well-preserved historic center and



NO ONE IS EVER SATISFIED
WHERE HE IS."

— ANTOINE DE ST-EXUPÉRY

Day 11: Dijon/Beaune/Route des Grands Crus This morning we travel to Beaune, gateway to the Burgundy wine region. We take a leisurely walking tour of this walled town then visit the renowned Hôtel Dieu Museum, part of the Hospices de Beaune complex. One of the finest surviving Renaissance buildings in France, the museum is home to the Beaune Altarpiece (often called "The Last Supper"). We then embark on a tour highlight: the journey along the Route des Grands Crus, Burgundy's fabled trail through the vineyards and villages comprising one of France's most treasured wine regions. We have the opportunity to sample some area vintages as we stop for lunch and at a local winery before we return to Dijon. *B,L*

Day 12: Dijon Known for its rich history and culture – and of course, its wine and namesake mustard – Dijon boasts a prized architectural heritage ranging from Gothic to art deco, which we see on today's tour of the Burgundian capital. Following our tour, we're free to explore as we wish. Tonight, we visit a local restaurant for dinner together. *B,D*

Day 13: Dijon/Chablis/Paris En route to Paris today, we stop in Chablis, renowned for its signature dry white wines. We enjoy a walking tour of the medieval village and visit the 13th-century Collégiale Saint-Martin church. Then we have time on our own for lunch and to explore as we wish, maybe visiting one of wineries in the town center. Mid-afternoon we travel on to Paris, where an orientation tour takes us past many of the city's highlights. Dinner tonight is on our own in this city of fine cuisine. *B*

Day 14: Paris This morning we visit the Opéra Garnier, the opulent theater that stands as a symbol of the city (and as the setting for *The Phantom of the Opera*). If Opéra Garnier is not available, we'll tour the Musée Rodin, dedicated to the works of sculptor Auguste Rodin. Our afternoon is free for independent exploration; tonight we celebrate our Gallic sojourn over a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 15: Depart for U.S. We transfer to the airport this morning for our return flight to the U.S. *B*



The 1st-century Pont du Gard aqueduct

Tour Departs: September 27, 2025

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees

Boston, New York \$6,697

Chicago, Washington, DC \$6,997

Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia \$7,097

Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa \$7,197

Land Only (transfers not included) \$5,895

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$602, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,895. All 2025 tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class - \$3,795 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,795 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Post-Tour Extension

October 11-13, 2025

Paris – On Your Own

3 days/2 nights for \$495 total price

Single Supplement: \$395

Enjoy this splendid city as you wish.

Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights' accommodations at Hotel Edouard VII (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights' accommodations in Superior First Class hotels
- 24 meals: 13 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Important Information About Your Tour

General Terms and Conditions

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve a tour with Odysseys Unlimited. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal.

Tour Prices

Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2025, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, surcharges, and fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation; meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

Gratuities

Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour) are not included. These tips are optional and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Gratuities are not included on "On Your Own" optional extensions.

Not Included in Your Tour Price

Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; immunizations and inoculations; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only

package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Registration and Payment

A deposit of \$500 per person confirms your reservation. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

Cancellations and Refunds

If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

For all tours (except as noted)

<u>Prior to departure</u>	<u>Charge</u>
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	25% of tour price
64-45 days:	50% of tour price
44-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

For Africa's Wildlife

<u>Prior to departure</u>	<u>Charge</u>
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	50% of tour price
64-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. If due to unforeseen circumstances Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Pre-Departure

Upon reservation, you will be able to access all information regarding your tour in My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal. This material includes your invoice, a detailed day-by-day itinerary, visa requirements (if applicable), Travel Protection Plan information, and more. Your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers), will be available in the portal two to three weeks before departure.

Single Travelers

We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

Changes to Your Reservation

We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason or at any time, you will be charged the single supplement. **Please note that no changes to your name(s) or departure date are allowed within 95 days of departure. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.**

Required Information

Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight program (for details, please visit www.tsa.gov), as well as for our international travel partners: **your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender; for domestic tours – your full name as it appears on the accepted form of government-issued photo identification that you plan to use, date of birth, and gender.** In addition, airlines may require that we provide them with your contact information prior to departure. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Travel Documents

A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on all of our international tours. For all domestic tours, where we fly into a U.S. city to begin the tour or out of a U.S. city at the end, you must present a valid U.S. government-issued photo identification. Starting on May 7, 2025, your government-issued photo ID must be REAL ID-compliant (or you can present an alternate form of ID, such as a passport). Visit www.dhs.gov/real-id or contact your local DMV for more information. If your tour requires a visa(s), we strongly recommend that you have at least six blank visa pages available; for tours not requiring a visa(s), we recommend that your passport have at least three blank visa pages. We will send you specific visa and entry requirements after you make a reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you need to obtain a visa, we recommend our preferred provider G3 Global Services. If you are traveling with a minor, please contact us for special entry requirements. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.

Health and Medical Issues

We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. **You must be able to**

get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire, and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have.

We ask that all guests review our guidelines for health on tour, which can be found on our website: www.odysseys-unlimited.com/travel-health.

We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. While we do our best to accommodate food allergy concerns, we cannot guarantee zero cross-contamination.

Travel Protection Plan

Odysseys Unlimited makes available an optional Travel Protection Plan that is available for purchase until your final payment. We strongly recommend that you protect yourself and your investment in the event you have to cancel or interrupt your tour. Your Plan payment is fully refundable if you cancel outside of the final payment due date. In order to provide you with the most effective coverage, the policy exclusion for "Pre-Existing Conditions" will be waived if you purchase this plan within 14 days of making your initial deposit/payment for your trip and are medically able to travel at the time the plan is purchased. Information on this Travel Protection Plan will be included with your tour confirmation package. To review full plan details please visit www.tripmate.com/wpGR350.

Air Transportation

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated departure cities as shown and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. Airline upgrades at additional cost may be available on request for the round-trip trans-Atlantic or trans-Pacific portion of your flights. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your**

international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour "Land Only" is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Responsibility

The liability of VMFA, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers.

We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary or staff changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions.

VMFA Member Travel reserves the right to use photos that might include you in marketing materials and for other purposes unless you specify otherwise.



RESERVATION FORM

To reserve your place on tour, please call **Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and mail it to Odysseys Unlimited’s office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**
Attn: **Special Interest Groups**
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

Tour Name _____
Departure Date _____
Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): Please sign me/us up

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an air upgrade to _____

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)