

Provincial French Countryside

15 days for \$6,097 total price from Washington, DC

(\$5,495 air & land inclusive plus \$602 airline taxes and fees)

Experience the beauty, allure, and hospitality of provincial France, at an easy pace and in a unique style. Anchored by stays in vibrant Toulouse and enchanting Paris, the journey features diverse Languedoc, the remote Dordogne, the lovely Loire Valley, and historic Normandy as we stay in charming rural inns and small country hotels. It's a small group tour de force!



Avg. High (°F)	May	Jun
Toulouse	69	75
Paris	68	74

Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Medieval Carcassonne • Market town of Albi, including Toulouse-Lautrec Museum • Cliffside village of Rocamadour • Caves at Lascaux IV • Dordogne River cruise • Chateau at Chenonceau • Medieval Mont-St-Michel • Bayeux Tapestry • Tours of Normandy's Landing Beaches and D-Day sights • American Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach • Memorial Museum, Caen • Monet's gardens at Giverny • Paris city tour

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Toulouse		
2-3	Toulouse	Plaza Hotel Capitole Toulouse	First Class
4-6	Sarlat-en-Périgord (Dordogne)	Au Grand Hotel de Sarlat	Not rated
7-9	Saumur (Loire Valley)	Hotel Anne d'Anjou	Not rated
10-12	Crépon (Normandy)	Manoir de Mathan	Not rated
13-14	Paris	Hotel Chateau Frontenac	Sup. First Class
15	Depart Paris for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference. Unrated hotels may be too small, too new, or too remote to be listed.



Street scene in the rural Dordogne region, with its villages, castles, and limestone cliffs

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

Day 2: Arrive Toulouse After arriving in Toulouse in the Midi-Pyrénées today, our time is at leisure until we meet our tour director this evening for a welcome dinner and a briefing about the journey ahead. *D*

Day 3: Toulouse/Carcassonne Today we tour nearby Carcassonne, the quintessential medieval town with the longest city walls in Europe. Sitting atop a hill overlooking vast green plains that stretch all the way to the Pyrénées, Carcassonne boasts battlements and ramparts dating to the 1st-century Romans. We return to Toulouse mid-afternoon for time at leisure. *B*

Day 4: Toulouse/Albi/Sarlat We travel today to the historic market town of Albi in the Midi-Pyrénées. Hometown of Belle Époque artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Albi was built with rose-colored bricks that cast a warm glow over the medieval streets and ramparts. Our city tour here includes the medieval Cathedral and Palais de la Berbie, an ancient fortress now a museum of works by Toulouse-Lautrec. Leaving Albi, we travel to the rugged, unspoiled countryside of the Périgord region and the Dordogne Valley. We continue on to Sarlat-la-Canéda, one of France's prettiest villages and one of Europe's best preserved

medieval gems, with more registered historic sites than anywhere else on the continent. We're in the land of the truffle and *foie gras*, so *bon appétit!* *B,D*

Day 5: Sarlat/Lascaux IV This morning we tour the International Center for Cave Art at Lascaux IV, showcasing reproductions of the original pre-historic cave paintings found nearby. After lunch at a charming local inn, we spend the afternoon on a leisurely cruise along the Dordogne River, life-blood of this fertile region and redolent with history. As we pass cliff-top castles and fortified medieval towns, the historical region of Aquitaine comes to life – this is where beloved Eleanor of Aquitaine reigned in the 12th century. We return to Sarlat, where dinner tonight is on our own. *B,L*

Day 6: Sarlat/Rocamadour This morning we take a brief walking tour then have time at leisure to visit some of Sarlat's museums or art galleries – or simply to wander the atmospheric cobblestone streets. After lunch on our own we visit nearby Rocamadour, a revered pilgrimage site and medieval village whose three tiers cling almost impossibly to a sheer limestone cliff. We take a guided walking tour then enjoy some free time before we return to Sarlat mid-afternoon and dine together tonight. *B,D*

Day 7: Sarlat/Le Dorat/Saumur This morning we depart for the Loire Valley, stopping in the small market town of Le Dorat for lunch at a local restaurant. From here we travel on to picturesque Saumur and our hotel, a converted 18th-century mansion on the banks of the Loire River. *B,L*

Day 8: Saumur We visit a local winery this morning then the day is free to enjoy this town of half-timbered houses and cobblestone streets as we wish. Options include exploring the town's old quarter; visiting the Cavalry Museum; or tasting the renowned locally made sparkling wine at Maison du Vin. *B,D*

Day 9: Saumur/Chenonceaux We're in chateaux country, where England battled for control of France; where Joan of Arc triumphed; and where a great opulence reigned during the 16th century. Originally built as fortresses to keep intruders out, the Loire Valley's grand chateaux now welcome visitors from around the world. We tour a most impressive one today: Chenonceau, the Renaissance masterpiece considered the most romantic chateau of all. Lunch today is at a local restaurant. *B,L*

Day 10: Saumur/Mont-St-Michel/Crépon Traveling north this morning, we stop at Mont-St-Michel, Normandy's famed Gothic abbey that sits atop a 264-



Typical French scene

foot-high rock formation at the edge of the sea and was constructed between 1017–1521 of granite hauled stone by stone from Brittany. After a guided tour and some free time for lunch and to explore on our own, we return to our hotel for time at leisure. Tonight, we dine together at our hotel. *B,D*

Post-Tour Extension

May 20-22, 2024

Paris – On Your Own

3 days/2 nights for \$495 total price

Single Supplement: \$345

*Savor the City of Light
on your own time, at your own pace.*

Your Tour Price Includes

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

“ I WAS A FREE MAN IN PARIS.
I FELT UNFETTERED AND ALIVE.”

– JONI MITCHELL

Day 11: Crépon/Bayeux/Caen Miraculously spared wartime bombing, medieval Bayeux is our first stop today. Here we visit the Tapestry Museum, home of the 1,000-year-old Bayeux Tapestry depicting the exploits of William the Conqueror. Later we visit Caen's Memorial Museum devoted to “history for peace.” Time permitting, we may visit Arranches late this afternoon. *B,D*

Day 12: D-Day Landing Beaches A poignant, inspiring day is ahead as we travel to the very places where Allied forces overcame overwhelming odds to alter the course of World War II. We visit Pointe du Hoc, where American Rangers scaled towering cliffs to establish a beachhead; Utah Beach; and Ste-Mère-Eglise, where the 82nd Airborne Division successfully parachuted on June 5, 1944. We end the day at the American Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach in Colleville. It's a particularly moving site; row upon endless row of white marble crosses and Stars of David honor the nearly 10,000 American troops who lie here. *B,L,D*

Day 13: Crépon/Giverny/Paris This morning we visit the village of Giverny and the home and gardens of Impressionist artist Claude Monet. Here we see the familiar lily pond and wisteria-covered Japanese footbridge of Monet's paintings, as well as his home, now restored to its original design. Then we travel to Paris, reaching our hotel late afternoon. We are free for dinner on our own in this culinary capital. *B*

Day 14: Paris Today we get acquainted with one of the world's great cities, seeing the highlights on this morning's city tour, including a visit to the renowned Louvre Museum or the Musée d'Orsay of Impressionist artwork, depending on availability. This afternoon is free for independent exploration, perhaps to spend additional time at the museum, take a boat ride on the Seine, or to stroll the Champs Elysees. Tonight we gather for a farewell dinner to bid “*adieu*” to France. *B,D*

Day 15: Depart for U.S. This morning we depart for the airport and our connecting flights to the U.S. *B*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights' accommodations in Superior First Class, First Class, and unrated hotels
- 25 meals: 13 breakfasts, 4 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



On Day 12, we visit the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach.

Tour Departs: May 6, 2024

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

Boston, New York \$5,897

Charlotte, Philadelphia, Washington, DC \$6,097

Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Tampa \$6,197

Denver, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle \$6,297

Land Only (transfers not included) \$5,095

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 \$1,195. All 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 – \$1,595 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking up hills or stairs, and on uneven or cobblestone streets. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.



Important Information About Your Tour

General Terms and Conditions

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Tour Prices

Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2024, 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, inoculations, and COVID-19 testing; 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 Egypt & the Eternal Nile, Machu Picchu to the Galapagos

<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. **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.** 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 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.

Air Transportation

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway 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. 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)

I/We request an upgrade to cabin category _____ (for *Patagonian Frontiers* only)

I/We request an upgrade to a Highland Villa (for *Machu Picchu to the Galapagos* only)