



## FRANCE

# PARIS AND PROVENCE EXPLORER (TOUR CODE: 12864)

### STARTS AND ENDS

Paris to  
Aix-en-Provence

### TRAVEL PERIODS

01 Mar 24 - 31 Oct 24

### EXPERIENCE

Cultural  
Rail

### TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

Embark on an unforgettable journey through France, from the vibrant charms of Paris to the picturesque countryside of Provence.

## Highlights

- Explore the famous site of the **Pont du Gard**
- Fall in love with **Fontaine de Vaucluse**
- Discover **Roussillon**, the “Provençal Colorado” for its warm colour and landscapes
- Visit one of the most charming French villages: **Les Baux-de-Provence**
- Walk around the most ancient village of **Marseille, the “Panier”**
- Explore the little port of **Cassis**, a UNESCO World Heritage for its white cliffs and turquoise water

Embark on a 6-day tour starting in Paris and journeying to Avignon and Aix-en-Provence.

Explore charming villages, ancient monuments, and stunning landscapes in Provence, and immerse yourself in the cultural delights of Aix-en-Provence before concluding the tour.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

## INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights in Avignon at Hotel de l'Horloge - 4\*
- 3 nights in Aix-en-Provence at Hotel Aquabella - 4\*
- TGV train from Paris to Avignon
- TGV Train from Avignon to Aix-en-Provence
- Return Private transfers from Station to Hotel in Avignon
- Private transfer from Train Station to Aix-en-Provence Hotel
- Daily Breakfast
- Half day Small Group Tour to Saint Remy, Baux de Provence, Pont du Gard
- Half Day Small Group tour to Luberon Villages
- Small group tour to Cassis and Marseille
- Entrances' tickets included: the Palace of Popes

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Paris Avignon

Welcome to Paris! Board your TGV train from Paris to Avignon, where you will be met and escorted to your hotel in the centre of Avignon.

In the afternoon, you will be provided with tickets for visiting **The Palace of the Popes**, the biggest Gothic palace in the world! It was built in less than 70 years by the Popes, and today there are 25 rooms open to your visit. It also served as a military barracks, and is used as a theatrical stage, a cultural setting for prestigious exhibitions. Rest of the day is at leisure.

Overnight stay in Avignon at **Hotel de L'Horloge**.



## Day 2 Paris Avignon

After breakfast, transfer to the train station to board your TGV train from Paris to Avignon, where you will be met and escorted to your hotel in the centre of Avignon.

Overnight stay in Avignon at **Grand Hotel** or similar.

Breakfast



## Day 3 Avignon Luberon Avignon

After breakfast, walk to the Avignon Tourist Office (6 min away from your hotel) to start your small group tour. Discover **Roussillon**, the famous perched village, located on a rocky promontory, dominating the ochre quarries. Nicknamed the "Provençal Colorado", there is a surprising amount of rich warm color in these unusual cliffs! Enjoy an open-air provençal market on Thursdays, a must-do in Provence! Next step is **Gordes**, classified as *one of the most beautiful villages in France*, famous for the white stone architecture. You will enjoy an incredible panoramic viewpoint for a photo stop. Fall in

love with Fontaine de Vaucluse and discover the resurgence of the Sorgue River. Return to Avignon and the evening is at leisure.

Overnight stay in Avignon at **Hotel de l'Horloge**.

Breakfast



#### Day 4 Avignon Aix-en-Provence

Check out after breakfast and take a private transfer to the train station.

Board your TGV train to Aix en Provence, where a representative will escort you to your hotel.

Overnight stay in Aix-en-Provence at **Best Western Le Galice** or similar.

Breakfast



#### Day 5 Aix-en-Provence

After breakfast, enjoy your day at leisure in the beautiful village of Aix-en-Provence.

Overnight stay in Aix-en-Provence at **Hotel Aquabella**.

Breakfast



Day **6**

Aix-en-Provence Cassis & Marseille Aix-en-Provence

Morning at leisure, then meet at 11:30am for your day excursion. Discover the little port of **Cassis** and its Calanques listed by UNESCO World Heritage area for its white cliffs and turquoise water. Then you will reach the highest sea cliff in Europe named Cape Canaille located 400 metres above sea level to enjoy an exceptional view over the bay. Free time at leisure for lunch in the village, relax on the beach or on board a motor boat for a 45mn mini-cruise in the main creeks.

Later, you will enjoy a drive to **Marseille** and the old port. Then visit Notre Dame de la Garde Basilica and discover a panoramic view on the Phocian City. See the Abbey Saint Victor and the crypt which houses 4th century marble sarcophagus. Enjoy free time to walk around the most ancient district of Marseille, the "Le Panier". Explore the new museum of Marseille, the Mucem, the Villa Méditerranée and reach the Fort Saint John and the Cathedral La Major. Your driver will drop you at Aix-en-Provence Tourist Office.

Overnight stay in Aix-en-Provence at **Hotel Aquabella**.

Breakfast



Day 7

## Aix-en-Provence

After breakfast, check out of your hotel. End of the service.

Breakfast



# ACCOMMODATION

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## Hotel Aquabella

### Aix-en-Provence

A true haven of peace, our 4-hotel in Aix-en-Provence is surrounded by a magnificent Mediterranean garden which invites tranquility. It has been designed to create a soothing atmosphere that marvelously combines the sweetness of Provence with the historical richness of the city of Aix. Modern and spacious, the Aquabella Hotel & Spa has 112 renovated rooms, including 4 Belvédère suites offering the choice of a view of the "Tourreluque" tower, the cathedral or the roofs of the Old Town.



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## Hotel De l'Horloge

### Avignon

Located in the city centre of Avignon, close to the Square de l'Horloge and near the Pont d'Avignon, the Hotel de l'Horloge is a 4-star hotel, full of charm, with an ideal location for visiting Avignon centre, discover its culture and the art of Avignon. The rooms offer a decor in warm tones, where different materials come together to offer refinement, authenticity and softness. Wood, wrought iron, seagrass or wicker harmonize and guide us in this framework of plenitude. Some rooms are also equipped with a terrace.



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French

## LOCAL CURRENCY

EUR

- We work with a selection of hotels in each location. All bookings are subject to availability, which means our team will confirm your specific hotels upon confirmation and payment of deposit. The package price is based on 4-star accommodation.

Blackout dates may apply during festive season.

## Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package