



FRANCE

LA BELLE EPOQUE - NORTHERN BURGUNDY CRUISE (TOUR CODE: 9876)

STARTS AND ENDS

in Paris

TRAVEL PERIODS

23 Mar 25 – 26 Oct 25

EXPERIENCE

Food & Wine
Cultural

TRAVEL STYLE

Cruise

La Belle Epoque takes you on a gentle voyage of discovery through a region studded with traditions and history along the Burgundy Canal.

Highlights

- Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Abbaye de Fontenay**
- Private **tasting of Chablis** wines
- Visit to the **Château de Commarin** for a unique falconry display
- Private **Champagne Tasting** at the Maison Taisne Riocour
- **Dine** with the Baroness Segolene de Taisne at the magnificent **Château de Ricey-Bas**
- Excellent towpath for walking & biking

La Belle Epoque meanders along the Burgundy Canal with its undulating countryside, you will find that the towpath is always there for spot of **walking** or **cycling**.

La Belle Epoque was built in Netherlands in 1930 carrying timber from Burgundy to Paris. She was renovated and converted to a luxury hotel barge in 1995. She now cruises from Veneray-les-Laumes to Tanlay through the lovely Burgundy Canal.

This Hotel Barge can accommodate up to 12 passengers. It features 2 Junior Suites and 4 staterooms with en-suite facilities and a choice of twin or double beds, all with marble en-suite facilities, spacious salon/dining room and sun deck with spa pool. Your captain leads a friendly crew of six including a master chef, deck hand, tour guide and two hostesses.



INCLUSIONS

- 6 nights onboard the Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque in a Stateroom
- Crew of 6 (Captain, tour guide, chef and hostesses)
- Transfers by an air-conditioned minivan
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily prepared by your chef
- Captains farewell dinner on your last night
- Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Excursions as per itinerary
- Use of barge facilities

ITINERARY

Deck Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque

Deluxe | 12 Passengers | 6 Crew

- 126 Feet Long
- 2 Twin/Double Junior Suites (150-165sq ft incl. en suite)
- 4 Twin/Double Staterooms (125-130sq ft incl. en suite)
- Spa Pool
- Air-Conditioned / Centrally Heated



Day 1

Paris Venarey-les-Laumes

You are met at your meeting point in central Paris** and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to La Belle Epoque. A **full crew Welcome Aboard with champagne and canapés**. After time to settle into your cabin you will enjoy your first dinner on board and an introduction to Burgundy's excellent cuisine.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.

Dinner



Day **2**

Venarey-les-Laumes Montbard

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, then cruise through woodlands and rolling fields with great towpath biking and walking opportunities past the tiny canalside villages of Nogent, Courcelles and Les Granges.

After an early lunch, visit the moat-encircled **Château de Commarin** to be treated to a private demonstration of the medieval sport of falconry***. The close-up encounter with these majestic birds against the backdrop of the castle grounds is an amazing experience and afterwards, meet **Count Bertrand de Vogüé**, the current resident and 26th generation of the de Vogüé family to maintain continuous residence since the 13th century. This is followed by a private tour of the building. Dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Époque** in a Stateroom.

Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **3**

Montbard Ravières

Morning cruise with excellent towpath walking or cycling, passing the 18th century **Forges de Buffon**. Then after lunch you will be escorted to the exquisite UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Abbaye de Fontenay** founded by St Bernard in 1118. Representing a distinctive example of early Cistercian architecture and virtually intact, Fontenay allows an exceptional glimpse of Cistercian life and industry with its peaceful gardens, ponds and fascinating cloisters, dormitories and scriptorium. Return to the barge and cruise to Ravières. Dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 4

Ravières Ancy-le-Franc

A truly unique day lies ahead. Following breakfast aboard, head to **Les Riceys**, the only wine growing area of the Champagne region to have 3 *Appellation d'Origine Contrôlées*. Here you will visit **Maison Taisne Riocour**, viewing the vineyards and winery with the Baron, before tasting some of their champagnes.

You then head to **Château de Ricey-Bas**; with its 12th century vaulted cellars and thousand's year history it's the ideal location to appreciate the rolling vineyards and enjoy a glimpse of family life in a rural château. Here you will be greeted for a **champagne aperitif and a gourmet lunch with the Baron and Baroness** herself, which you will take in either the private salon or the atmospheric 15th century kitchen.

You will spend the remainder of the afternoon strolling the beautiful gardens or exploring the regal chateau interiors. Return to the barge and begin your cruise to **Ancy-le-Franc**, with plenty of opportunity to walk or cycle along the towpath... or sit on deck with another glass of bubbly. Dinner on board. Dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **5**

Ancy-le-Franc Lezennes

This morning you will visit Château d'Ancy-le-Franc. This beautifully symmetrical, 16th century masterpiece contains France's biggest collection of Renaissance murals and is set in magnificent gardens and parkland.

In the afternoon, a gentle cruise as your hotel barge continues along the **Burgundy Canal** and descends through the picturesque locks to moor at Lézinnes. Dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **6**

Lezennes Tanlay

After breakfast you will have the **tour the vineyards and town of Chablis** dating back to Roman times, to enjoy a private wine tasting at the prestigious **Domaine Laroche**. Here, you also visit the 1000-year-old **Obediencerie**, originally part of

the monastery of St Martin – the founders of Chablis, where for centuries, the Domaine's wines have been aged. Following lunch, enjoy a leisurely cruise to your final mooring at **Tanlay**, with the opportunity to cycle or walk into the picturesque village of Saint Vinnemer. Later, return to the barge for the **Captain's Farewell Dinner**.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 7 Tanlay Paris

After breakfast, you are transferred to Paris.

Breakfast

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French

LOCAL CURRENCY

EUR

Departure Dates and Pricing:

2025 Cruise Rates

Rates are for 6 nights either: per person based on double occupancy per cabin or on a whole barge charter basis. Prices below are in Euros.

Accommodation	Value	Regular
Stateroom	€5,990	€6,990
Junior Suite	€6,450	€7,490
Single Supplement	€2,200	€2,500
Charter (Whole Barge)		
Charter 8 passengers	€60,900	€70,500

Charter 9 passengers	€62,900	€72,800
Charter 10 passengers	€64,600	€74,700
Charter 11 passengers	€66,300	€76,600
Charter 12 passengers	€68,000	€78,500
Departure Dates (Sunday)	Rates	Cruise Region
Mar 23, 30; Apr 6, 13, 20	Value	France - Burgundy
Apr 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25; Jun 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Jul 6, 13	Regular	France - Burgundy
Jul 20, 27; Aug 3, 10, 17	Value	France - Burgundy
Aug 24, 31; Sep 7, 14, 21, 28; Oct 5, 12	Regular	France - Burgundy
Oct 19 & 26	Value	France - Burgundy

- This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change. On alternate weeks, the cruise will be in the reverse direction.
- Approximate transfer duration between Paris & La Belle Époque is 2.5 hours.
- Burgundy & Champagne departing 28 July, 4 & 11 August (during the Paris Olympics) special pick up/drop off arrangements will apply as our drivers will not be able to access the Hotel Westminster during that time – please ask us for details.
- This barge is available for charter bookings and theme cruises. Contact us for more details.

Pick-up Point

- Cabin bookings - The Hotel Westminster, Paris at 2:00 pm
- Charter bookings - One location of the groups choice in Paris at 2:00 pm OR a TGV train station close to the barge after 4:00 pm

Drop-off Point

- Cabin bookings - The Hotel Westminster by 12:00 noon
- Charter bookings - One location of the group's choice in Paris by 12:00 noon OR at a local TGV train station by 10:00 am

Booking / Payment Process

- On our website the Barge Cruise prices are show in Euros
- All payments will be made to us in Australian Dollars
- The current exchange rate will be used at the time of deposit and balance
- Our invoice will make this clear and our team is here to assist you

Supplier Booking Conditions Apply

Due to the boutique nature and limited capacity of this travel experience, under our Bookings Conditions this package classifies as “Booking Type 2 – Travel Experience where we act as agent only”. Your contract for the delivery of travel arrangements will be with the principal supplier and will be subject to their Booking Conditions. We will advise you prior to confirming your booking the full details and Booking Conditions of the principal supplier. Our responsibility to you where we sell travel arrangements as agent for the supplier is specified in the ‘Responsibility’ section of our Booking Conditions.

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