

## Timeless Europe Grand Journey: Barcelona to Lyon



**Tour Name:** Timeless Europe Grand Journey: Barcelona to Lyon

**Tour Code:** CB2L

**Days:** 80

### Day 1

**Fri, 15 May**

#### **Barcelona (D)**

Welcome to Spain and the vibrant city of Barcelona. Renowned for its stunning beaches, innovative cuisine, edgy art scene and buzzing nightlife, it attracts visitors from across the globe.

Your journey begins here as soon as you step on board Scenic Eclipse II. Be warmly welcomed by the crew before your butler shows you to your luxurious verandah suite. As the sun sets over Barcelona, join your fellow guests on the Sky Deck for a pre-dinner cocktail with stunning city views.

Please book your flight to arrive into Barcelona prior to 02:00 PM.

### Day 2

**Sat, 16 May**

#### **Marseille, France (B,L,D)**

The oldest city in France, Marseille dates back to 600BC. Today, it's a fast-paced, modern city brimming with multicultural flavours, and flanked by breathtaking natural scenery and golden beaches. This is a place where grit and grandeur meet, offering a fascinating insight into contemporary French culture. Explore its ancient streets and diverse neighbourhoods, marvel at iconic landmarks such as the Basilique Notre-Dame de la Garde and treat yourself to the freshest seafood and traditional delicacies. Marseille is also the gateway to the region of Provence, famous for its wine and cuisine.

### Day 3

**Sun, 17 May**

#### **Pampelonne Beach > St. Tropez, France (B,L,D)**

Pampelonne Beach is a pristine stretch of coastline nestled along the French Riviera near Saint-Tropez. With its shimmering azure waters and soft golden sands, this is the epitome of Mediterranean paradise. Scenic Eclipse II will spend the morning anchored offshore, so you can bask in the warm sunshine as you relax on your beach towel or indulge in a refreshing swim in the crystal-clear sea. Explore the vibrant beach clubs and chic restaurants that line the shore, offering exquisite cuisine and stylish ambiance.

This afternoon, you'll sail the short distance to Saint-Tropez. Once a sleepy fishing village, it was transformed into a luxury hotspot for international travellers in the 1950s. Today, it still retains all the glitz and glamour, alongside impossibly blue seas, stunning beaches and a bohemian art scene.

Scenic Eclipse II will be docked here overnight, so you can see Saint-Tropez come alive after dark. Join the beautiful people along the waterfront, listen out for the sounds of live music and keep an eye out for visiting celebrities.

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**Day 4**  
**Mon, 18 May**

**Cannes, France (B,L,D)**

Welcome to the cinematic capital of the world. We'll arrive right in the middle of the famous Cannes Film Festival, so expect to see movie stars and their mega yachts. Feel the excitement as you explore the picture-perfect streets exuding subtle movie magic.

Explore haute-couture boutiques, relax on striped sun loungers along the beach, or sip cocktails at chic beachside bars. There's plenty of history and culture to be found in this coastal enclave, but it's really a place to relax and soak up the champagne lifestyle that plays out alongside the sparkling Mediterranean every day.

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**Day 5**  
**Tue, 19 May**

**Portofino > Santa Margherita, Italy (B,L,D)**

You'll call at two neighbouring ports today, tucked into a quiet curve of the Ligurian Coast. Portofino, one of Italy's most famous resort towns. Postcard-perfect and oozing Mediterranean charm, Portofino is a place to soak up la dolce vita. Brightly coloured buildings sit against crystal-clear water with lush pine-covered hills in the distance. Another late departure means there's plenty of time to explore the luxury boutiques, swim in the turquoise bay, dine on exquisitely fresh seafood and look out for celebrities at the exclusive bars set around the Piazzetta.

Santa Margherita is one of the more relaxed towns along the Italian Riviera, a place where people still live and work rather than a spot designed for tourists. Pretty pastel buildings line the shore, hundreds of fishing boats sit in the marina, and the imposing 16th century castle looks out over it all. Wander the narrow streets this morning and feel immersed in history.

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**Day 6**  
**Wed, 20 May**

**Monte Carlo, Monaco (B,L,D)**

Monte Carlo is the epitome of luxury and elegance, nestled within the principality of Monaco. Renowned for its iconic Casino de Monte-Carlo, this glamorous enclave offers a wealth of indulgent experiences. Explore the opulent streets lined with designer boutiques and bask in the Mediterranean sun along the picturesque coastline. With its world-class entertainment, exclusive clubs, and prestigious events like the Monaco Grand Prix, Monte Carlo captivates visitors with its timeless allure and sophistication. Whether you're seeking excitement at the casino or relaxation in the lap of luxury, Monte Carlo promises an unforgettable day.

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**Day 7**  
**Thu, 21 May**

**Nice > Dublin (B)**

Today bid farewell to the luxurious Scenic Eclipse and join an included flight to Dublin where your exploration of Ireland and the United Kingdom will begin.

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**Day 8**  
**Fri, 22 May**

**Dublin (B,D)**

This morning your local guide will help you discover the history and charm of Dublin on a walking tour. See The Mansion House, the official residence of Dublin's Lord Mayor, Dublin Castle, which was constructed in the 13th century on the site of a Viking Settlement, and the old Post Office, the heart of Dublin's history and culture for more than 800 years. You will also see 19th century Fitzwilliam Square, St. Stephen's Green Park, the Molly Malone statue, the old Parliament House and City Hall.

**Freechoice:**

Choose how you want to conclude your morning exploration with Scenic Freechoice:

Historical Ireland: Discover Dublin's fascinating past on a guided tour: learn about the Irish Revolution, 'the Irish War of Independence', a decade long conflict between the British state and Irish republican guerrillas and visit the EPIC – The Irish Emigration Museum to gain a deep understanding of what it means to be Irish.

Guinness Storehouse: Visit the Guinness Storehouse and factory to learn how this famous brew is made. After your guided tour, learn how to pull the perfect pint and enjoy a tasting from the 7th floor, which has a spectacular vantage point overlooking the city of Dublin.

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**Day 9**  
**Sat, 23 May**

**Dublin > Killarney (B,D)**

Today you will travel to Killarney, stopping along the way to visit the 600-year-old Blarney Castle. Explore the castle ruins and see the legendary 'Stone of Eloquence', more commonly known as the Blarney Stone. Legend says if you kiss it, you will receive the 'gift of the gab'. Over the years, famous people such as Sir Winston Churchill, Ronald Reagan and Mick Jagger have puckered up to the ancient stone.

Afterwards, continue to Killarney for a two-night stay, a charming town nestled in a valley surrounded by Ireland's highest mountain range, the McGillycuddy Reeks.

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**Day 10**  
**Sun, 24 May**

**Ring of Kerry (B)**

Today you will experience the gob-smacking scenery of the Ring of Kerry, renowned as one of the most picturesque landscapes in Ireland. Here, the Iveragh Mountains dramatically drop into the Atlantic Ocean, where rolling green hills dotted with cows and sheep, are punctuated by sparkling lakes, grand houses and ancient castles. Watch as tiny fishing villages and off-shore islands come in and out of view as you wind along this 100-kilometre route, which will captivate you at every bend.

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**Day 11**  
**Mon, 25 May**

**Killarney > Galway (B)**

Today, you will drive along the spectacular Wild Atlantic Way to the Cliffs of Moher, a wind-whipped geological wonder that stretch for eight kilometres and soar to 214 metres above the crashing sea below. Arrive in the vibrant city of Galway for an overnight stay. The only city along the entire 2,500-kilometre Wild Atlantic Way, Galway is a remote, bohemian city that is rich in creative culture. Its cobbled streets are lined with candy-coloured shopfronts, cafes and bars, which serve exceptional Irish food and are alive with traditional music.

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**Day 12**  
**Tue, 26 May**

**Galway > Belfast (B,D)**

Today you will be making your way to Northern Ireland, stopping enroute to visit the Monastery of Clonmacnoise. Founded in the 6th century, it was a university of its time with students travelling here from all over Europe. The ruins offer a rare insight into the monastic life of this period. The site includes the ruins of a cathedral, seven churches, three high crosses and the largest collection of Early Christian grave slabs. Continue to Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland, where you will stay for two nights. Set on the shores of the Belfast Lough and overlooked by rugged Cave Hill, this lively city is the gateway to the dramatic Causeway Coastal Route, is where the Titanic was built and more recently has served as several filming locations for Game of Thrones.

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**Day 13**  
**Wed, 27 May**

**Belfast (B)**

Belfast is a port city with a fascinating history. Learn about its troubled past during a guided tour. Afterwards discover the story of Titanic, from its design and build to its fateful ending. You will have the opportunity to hear some fascinating facts about the great ship and learn about the architectural design from the spot where the ship was launched.

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**Day 14**  
**Thu, 28 May**

**Belfast > Loch Lomond (B,D)**

This morning, cross the Irish Sea by ferry to Scotland, where you will travel to Loch Lomond, one of Scotland's best-known lakes (loch means lake in Scotland) and the largest in Great Britain by surface area. This evening, check into your historic hotel for a two-night stay.

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**Day 15**  
**Fri, 29 May**

**Loch Lomond (B)**

Loch Lomond may be known for its breathtaking waterway, but Stirling Castle is one of the region's most iconic castles. Home to multiple generations of Scottish royalty, including the childhood home of Mary Queen of Scots, you will walk through the ancient halls of this castle, which possesses a rich storied history. You will see the Great Hall, the largest medieval banqueting hall ever built in Scotland, and the elaborate Royal Chapel.

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**Day 16**  
**Sat, 30 May**

**Loch Lomond > Inverness (B,D)**

Journey to Loch Ness, a corner of the Scottish Highlands that is known for its dramatic scenery and the fabled Loch Ness monster. Keep an eye out for this elusive creature, also known as 'Nessie', a large prehistoric reptile believed to be living in the loch. There have been thousands of alleged sightings since the 1930s, including photographs emerging all the time, though there is no scientific evidence that Nessie exists. Nonetheless, the great folklore of the Loch Ness continues to draw in visitors far and wide.

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**Day 17**  
**Sun, 31 May**

**Inverness (B)**

Known as Scotland's Highland Capital, Inverness sits where the River Ness meets the Moray Firth, an inlet of the North Sea. Its history dates to the early Middle Ages when it was inhabited by the ancient Picts tribe. Their name is thought to mean 'the painted ones', and there is suggestion that they decorated themselves with tattoos and dyed their skin blue. Today you will visit the Battle of Culloden Visitors Centre, where you will learn about the 1745 Jacobite rising and hear tales of the battle that is often described as one of the most brutal in Scottish history. Then you will discover 14th century Cawdor Castle, which is still inhabited by the Cawdor family and comprises a moat, drawbridge, turrets and turnpike stairs.

<b>Day 18</b> <b>Mon, 01 Jun</b>	<b>Inverness &gt; Edinburgh (B,D)</b> This morning you will depart the Highlands bound for Edinburgh. On the way, you will enjoy a Scenic Enrich experience at Scone Palace. <b>Enrich</b> Falconry Display: Travel to Scone Palace, the capital of the Pict kingdom, the seat of parliaments and the crowning place of Scottish kings including Macbeth. In the palace grounds you will be treated to a delicious morning tea accompanied by an impressive demonstration of Falconry. Known as the 'sport of Kings' this ancient art has a history that dates back almost 4,000 years. Afterwards, continue to Edinburgh, on arrival visit a local distillery to learn how famous Scottish Whiskey is produced. One of the most architecturally beautiful cities in the world, Edinburgh has been Scotland's capital since the 15th century.
<b>Day 19</b> <b>Tue, 02 Jun</b>	<b>Edinburgh (B)</b> Explore Edinburgh's ancient, cobbled streets and well-preserved medieval and classical architecture today during a guided tour. This historic city was founded upon volcanic Castle Rock, where Edinburgh Castle – one of the oldest fortified castles in Europe – sits today. You will visit this impressive castle, as well as Royal Yacht Britannia, the former royal yacht of Queen Elizabeth II. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Perhaps, wander down the city's Royal Mile, which is buzzing with stores, cafes, bars, and often street performers. This road connects the two royal residences, stretching from Holyrood Palace to Edinburgh Castle.
<b>Day 20</b> <b>Wed, 03 Jun</b>	<b>Edinburgh &gt; York (B)</b> Travel to the English city of York today on a First Class train journey. This fascinating medieval city is nestled within ancient city walls and has Roman and Viking roots.
<b>Day 21</b> <b>Thu, 04 Jun</b>	<b>York (B)</b> This morning you will meet a local guide who will escort you through this delightful city seeing all the Roman and Viking heritage that is on offer. Walk along The Shambles, the narrow medieval street lined with half-timbered houses and traditional shop fronts and see the impressive York Minster, said to be one of the most beautiful gothic churches in the world.
<b>Day 22</b> <b>Fri, 05 Jun</b>	<b>York &gt; Bath (B)</b> Enroute to the Roman city of Bath, you will stop in the charming town of Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Enjoy an orientation tour to see where the famous Bard was born, learn about his life and see his final resting place. This afternoon you'll arrive in Bath and check into your hotel for a two-night stay. The city of Bath has been a spa town since Roman times thanks to the mineral waters with restorative properties that bubble beneath its surface. It was also the home of Jane Austen and was frequented by Charles Dickens.
<b>Day 23</b> <b>Sat, 06 Jun</b>	<b>Bath (B)</b> Discover beautiful Bath on a guided walking tour. The UK's only city designated as a World Heritage-listed Site, the town is resplendent in honey-coloured Georgian architecture, stately Palladian townhouses and the renowned Roman Baths, constructed in 70AD. This afternoon is at leisure to explore the city at your own pace. Perhaps you would like to pack your swimsuit and make your way to the contemporary Thermae Bath Spa, to experience the therapeutic waters that make this city world-famous, or climb the 212 steps to the top of Abbey Tower for a panoramic view over the ancient city and surrounding countryside.
<b>Day 24</b> <b>Sun, 07 Jun</b>	<b>Bath &gt; London (B)</b> On your way to London, you'll have the opportunity to discover the mythical wonders of Stonehenge, perhaps the world's most famous prehistoric monument. It is estimated that this World Heritage Site is around 5,000 years old. See the Stone Circle, neolithic villages and learn more at the exhibition. Afterwards, you will continue to the English capital, London. This inimitable city needs little introduction, being home to some of the most recognisable historic landmarks in the world, including Big Ben, the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace. Among the city's 2,000-year history, you'll find bustling pubs, the charismatic West End theatre district, world-class museums, and the glorious River Thames that snakes through its centre.

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**Day 25**  
**Mon, 08 Jun**

**London (B,D)**

Today you will explore London with a local guide, seeing highlights such as Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace, the King's official London residence and where the world-famous Changing of the Guard ceremony takes place. You'll also visit the Tower of London, a fortress built by William the Conqueror in 1070, which has been used as a prison, a palace, and is now the home of the Crown Jewels, the nation's most precious treasure, which we most recently saw at the coronation of King Charles III.

This afternoon is at leisure to explore the city on your own. Perhaps you'd like to take a cruise along the River Thames, make a visit to one of the city's world-class art galleries, relax in Hyde Park, or step inside Westminster Abbey, where some of the most important events in Royal history have occurred.

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**Day 26**  
**Tue, 09 Jun**

**London > Amsterdam (B,D)**

Join an included flight to Amsterdam where you will board your Scenic Space-Ship for a journey along the Rhine, Main, Danube.

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**Day 27**  
**Wed, 10 Jun**

**Amsterdam (B,L,D)**

Amsterdam is a treasure trove of architectural beauty, masterpiece-filled galleries, tranquil scenes of boats putting along 16th century canals, narrow cobbled laneways filled with boutiques and cafes, and streets busy with cyclists criss-crossing their way about town. Often referred to as the Venice of the North, much of the World Heritage-listed canal system exists today as it did hundreds of years ago, lined with well-preserved canal houses and intersected by charming bridges.

**Freechoice:**

Today choose one of the following Scenic Freechoice:

**Canal cruise:** Amsterdam has more than 100 kilometres of canals and today you will see some the prettiest sights of the city from these historical waterways. This one-hour cruise takes you along the Gentleman's Canal, where you will see The Skinny Bridge and The Prince's Canal, which was known for its warehouses. You will go past the Old Lord Mayor's House, The Seven Bridges, Anne Frank's House and head to the Brewer's Canal. As the historic centre glides past, you can admire the elegant merchant's residences, churches and warehouses, dating from the Golden Age.

**Walking tour of Amsterdam:** Explore Amsterdam on foot today, discovering the maze of canals and bridges in the city centre. Your guide will be covering history, modern lifestyle and Dutch culture. You also get to taste herring, a local delicacy not to be missed.

**Cycling tour:** Take a small ferry to the outskirts of the city for a biking tour. Amsterdam is known as the bicycle capital of the world, with more bikes than cars and over 35,000 kilometres of cycle paths. Your local guide will be at hand to offer information about everyday life of the Dutch people, many of whom you will see getting around on two wheels. Hop on one of Scenic's complimentary eco-friendly e-bikes (electronically assisted bicycles) and let it do the hard work for you as you take in the sights of the region.

**Excursion to Schermerhorn & Alkmaar:** Step outside of Amsterdam to visit the village of Schermerhorn, home to authentic windmills dating back to the 16th century. Take in the idyllic views of the sweeping Dutch countryside and learn about the importance of the windmills. You will also head to Alkmaar, a charming town with historic buildings and picturesque canals.

This afternoon we set sail towards the cosmopolitan metropolis of Cologne, Germany.

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**Day 28**  
**Thu, 11 Jun**

**Cologne (B,L,D)**

Perhaps enjoy a leisurely morning starting with coffee in your suite, delivered by your personal butler, followed by breakfast in Crystal Dining. You will arrive in Cologne, Germany, later this afternoon.

On arrival, discover Cologne during a walking tour. With your local guide, wander the laneways of the historical Old Town, which is home to breweries serving up draft Kolsch beer and enjoy free time to visit the city's centrepiece and icon, Cologne Cathedral.

**Enrich**

Tonight you will enjoy a magnificent Scenic Enrich event

**Classical Concert in the Beethoven Room at La Redoute recital hall:** Attend a lavish dinner and classical concert where live music from Beethoven and Mozart will be played in the spectacular La Redoute recital hall in Germany's former capital, Bonn. Built by the last Elector of Cologne in 1792, this beautiful hall has hosted many important dignitaries over the centuries, including the Queen, Princess Diana and multiple US Presidents. Tonight, this elegant venue is just for you.

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**Day 29**  
**Fri, 12 Jun**

**Rhine Gorge > Rudesheim (B,L,D)**

After breakfast, relax on the Sun Deck and admire the landscape as you cruise along the spectacular World Heritage-listed Rhine Gorge in the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, a 65-kilometre stretch of the river that is dotted with some 40 hilltop castles and fortresses that span a period of 1,000 years. Sailing down this section of the river is like being transported through the pages of a fairy tale book.

The Rhine is abounded in myths and legends that have been passed on for generations, like the story of Lorelei. This enchanting female was betrayed by her sweetheart and spent her days bewitching men. As her punishment, she was sent to a nunnery, however, on her way she jumped to her death in the river. Legend has her spirit casting spells on sailors who passed the rock, where a bronze statue sits today.

After lunch, you will disembark in Rudesheim, a pretty town surrounded by steep vineyards that have been cultivating wine for a staggering two millennia. The charming town centre is filled with half-timbered houses lining cobbled streets, quaint shops selling trinkets such as cuckoo clocks, as well as a smattering of wine taverns and open-air beer gardens.

**Freechoice:**

Select one of this afternoon's Scenic Freechoice activities:

**Siegfrieds Musikkabinett & Cable Car:** Take a mini train from the pier to Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum, where some 350 musical instruments from the 18th and 19th century play themselves for your enjoyment. Then board a return cable car that soars over the vineyards to a hilltop where the historic Neiderwald Monument stands. This 17th century statue was built to commemorate the unification of Germany.

**Hike & Cable Car:** Join a local guide for a hike through the rolling vineyards of Rudesheim, a wine region famous for its Riesling, and enjoy spectacular views of the countryside and Rhine River below. After your hike, board the cable car to return to town.

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**Day 30**  
**Sat, 13 Jun**

**Miltenberg to Wertheim (B,L,D)**

This morning you will continue cruising towards Miltenberg. You may wish to spend the morning in the exclusive Salt Therapy Lounge, which provides natural anti-viral, anti-inflammatory and anti-bacterial properties.

Today you will arrive in Miltenberg. Located on the banks of the River Main, this historic town is one of the best preserved in Germany, home to hundreds of pastel-coloured half-timbered houses and one of Germany's oldest inns, Zum Riesen.

**Freechoice:**

Choose from the following Scenic Freechoice tours:

**Wertheim tour and winery:** Transfer by coach to the nearby town of Wertheim am Main, another historic town filled with half-timbered houses. Enjoy an orientation tour and some free time to wander around town before being transferred to a local winery. Here you will meet the winemaker and gain an understanding of how wine is produced in this region of Germany.

**Gamburg Castle tour:** Transfer to the town of Gamburg, where we will have a guided tour of Gamburg Castle. Here you will also meet the Baron and Baroness for a private reception and learn about their modern aristocratic life over a glass of sparkling wine.

**Miltenberg tour and local farm visit:** Enjoy a tour of Miltenberg before visiting a local farm where you will meet the friendly family who own and operate the property. Gain an understanding of daily farm life, see the animals and sample some of the local delicacies produced on site.

**Schnapps tasting:** After an orientation tour and free time in Miltenberg, visit a local Schnapps distiller to understand how this fruit brandy is produced. Enjoy a tasting of the multiple flavours.

After touring, you will embark your luxury Space-Ship in Wertheim am Main and set sail for Würzburg.

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**Day 31**  
**Sun, 14 Jun**

**Würzburg (B,L,D)**

Today you will arrive in Würzburg. This Baroque city straddles the Main River in the heart of Franconian wine country. Surrounded by undulating vineyards, Würzburg is home to a World Heritage-listed palace, a dominating hilltop fortress, the 15th century Old Main Bridge, and three universities, including Bavaria's oldest.

**Freechoice:**

Spend your day at your preferred pace with one of the following Scenic Freechoice options:

**Guided city tour & Würzburg Residence:** A short transfer via coach is needed to get to the Würzburg Residence, a Baroque palace surrounded by manicured gardens. Upon arrival, guests will be taken on a guided tour of the palace to see its most beautiful rooms, many of which feature valuable paintings, tapestries and period furniture. Afterwards, take a short stroll into the city, where you will have some free time. Explore the shopping area and the many coffee houses, pubs and restaurants; if you're feeling energetic, you can climb up to Marienberg Fortress.

**Romantic Road to Rothenburg:** From Würzburg, drive by coach to Rothenburg along the so-called Romantic Road, an important trading route during the Middle Ages. Your guide will regale you with the history and legends of some of the towns and villages you pass, some of which are more than 1,000 years old. Take a guided tour in Rothenburg, famous for its well-preserved medieval old town, to see the Gothic and Renaissance City Hall as well as the famous City Councillors' Tavern, where various clocks will show you the legendary story of the "Master Draught". After the guided walking tour, you will have free time to discover the city on your own.

This afternoon, sit back with a drink on the Sun Deck or in the privacy of your suite as you enjoy the scenery while sailing towards to city of Bamberg.

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**Day 32**  
**Mon, 15 Jun**

**Bamberg (B,L,D)**

The ship will dock in Bamberg after lunch. Choose to spend your morning in your Space-Ship's wellness centre enjoying a soothing massage<sup>A</sup>, or perhaps join an informative lecture to learn more about the culture and history found along the fascinating Main River.

Built on seven hills, this World Heritage-listed town has surprises at every turn. Intersected by rivers and canals, enchanting Bamberg has an Old Town resplendent with cobblestoned streets and well-preserved medieval buildings. A charming Old Town Hall which occupies an island on its own, a Gothic and Romanesque-style cathedral and the Old and New Residences – comprising an episcopal palace, a pretty 'Little Venice' and a 12th century castle that teeters on the highest of the seven hills – are some of the incredible places you'll see during your guided city tour.

**Freechoice:**

Stay in Bamberg or choose to explore further afield with this afternoon's Scenic Freechoice tours:

**Bamberg Old Town Tour:** Bamberg is known for its charming World Heritage-listed Old Town, one of Europe's largest intact old town centres. Learn about its fascinating history as you wander through stunning Medieval and Baroque buildings on a guided city tour.

**Excursion to Coburg:** Journey via coach to Coburg. The city overlooked by an impressive castle, often considered one of the largest and best-preserved forts in Germany. Visit the castle which now houses a fascinating museum showcasing a large collection of carriages, weapons, armoury and paintings by many renowned artists.

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**Day 33**  
**Tue, 16 Jun**

**Nuremberg (B,L,D)**

You will arrive in Nuremberg, Bavaria's second-largest city, early this morning. Boasting an Old Town protected by an ancient city wall, where the most enchanting Christmas Markets are held every December, this city is dominated by one of the most significant imperial forts of the Holy Roman Empire, the 12th century Imperial Castle, which was the preferred residence of German kings.

Behind its charming façade, Nuremberg also has a turbulent history. During WWII, the city was favoured by the Nazis for party rallies; the boycotts of Jewish businesses began here, as did the laws that denied Jewish people German citizenship – known as the 'Nuremberg Laws'. By 1945, the city was reduced to rubble, including large sections of the Imperial Castle and Old Town. Allied powers – the US, Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union – held the Nuremberg Trials here between 1945 and 1946, when Nazi Germany leaders were tried for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

**Freechoice:**

Make your choice from this today's Scenic Freechoice experiences:

**Walking tour of the Old Town:** You will drive into Nuremberg's city centre, passing by the city walls and courthouse before arriving at Augustinerstrasse. From here, your local guide will take you on a walking tour of Nuremberg to see the Imperial Castle, which overlooks the city, St. Egidien's Church and the market square.

**The trials and tribulations of WWII Tour:** Join your local guide and learn about the horrific events that occurred in Nuremberg during Germany's Nazi regime. Start by taking a drive to the Rally Grounds and explore the Memorium Nürnberger Prozesse, where subsequent trials of Nazi party members took place (on dates where Courtroom 600 is not available, this tour will visit the WWII Art Bunker instead).

**Nuremberg's Castle and City Walls:** The historic city of Nuremberg is yours to explore during this active walking tour. Explore the cobblestone streets surrounding the Imperial castle and admire the impressive city walls that remain since medieval times.

This afternoon you will sail towards Regensburg. Sip on a specialty tea or coffee in the Panorama Lounge & Bar or relax in your suite watching life on the riverbanks from your Scenic Sun Lounge.

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**Day 34**  
**Wed, 17 Jun**

**Regensburg (B,L,D)**

You will arrive in Regensburg after lunch today. Boasting a staggering 2,000-year history, Regensburg has one of Germany's best preserved medieval town centres, with more than 900 of its Romanesque and Gothic buildings listed as World Heritage sites. Within its narrow laneways, the city lays claim to having the highest concentration of bars in the country.

**Freechoice:**

Today, Regensburg offers up a selection of Scenic Freechoice touring activities to choose from:

**Walking tour of Regensburg:** On the confluence of three rivers in Bavaria, Regensburg is known as the best-preserved medieval city in Germany. Guests will join a walking tour with a local guide to see the old stone bridge, the Church of St James, and the Porta Praetoria.

**Weltenburg Abbey:** Take a ferry through the Danube Gorge to Weltenburg Abbey, the oldest monastery in Bavaria, founded by monks in approximately 600AD. Explore the Abbey and Cloister Church, then sample the award-winning beer produced on site, which has been produced here since the year 1050 making it the oldest monastic brewery in the world.

**Thurn and Taxis Active Walking Tour:** Join an active walking tour from the ship to Thurn und Taxis Castle, where you'll enjoy a guided tour followed by free time. Thurn und Taxis is a German noble family who can trace their history back to the 12th century.



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**Day 35**  
**Thu, 18 Jun**

**Passau > Schlägen (B,L,D)**

**Freechoice:**

Take your pick from the following Scenic Freechoice excursions.

Full day excursion to Salzburg: This morning you will disembark your Scenic Space-Ship in Passau, from where you will cross the border into Salzburg, Austria. Surrounded by alpine peaks and on the banks of the Salzach River, Salzburg is best known as the home of Mozart and The Sound of Music. This storybook city has a thriving art scene, music and concert halls filled with classical music, a Baroque old town where you'll find Mozart's birthplace, and Hohensalzburg, Central Europe's largest intact fortress, which sits high above the rooftops with panoramic views of the city. During a guided tour, explore this incredible city before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant and some free time at your leisure. You will return to your Scenic Space-Ship in the Austrian town of Schlägen.

Full day excursion to Cesky Krumlov: From Passau, journey via coach to the Czech town of Cesky Krumlov. This delightful World Heritage-listed town is brimming with charm. Sitting on the banks of the Vltava River, Cesky Krumlov is considered one of the best-preserved medieval towns in Europe with its vast array of well-preserved Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture. Wander this fairy-tale location with your local guide and explore the historic centre before delighting in a delicious lunch at a local restaurant and some time at leisure.

Highlights of Passau: Join your local guide on a walking tour, admiring the brightly coloured buildings that line the waterways. Visit St. Stephens Cathedral: originally built in the year 450, the church proudly stood in Passau's Old Town until a devastating fire ripped through it in 1662. It was rebuilt in its current form with an Italian-style exterior complete with a Baroque stucco interior, and nowadays houses the world's largest Catholic church organ, which boasts 17,974 pipes and 233 registers.

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**Day 36**  
**Fri, 19 Jun**

**Dürnstein > Krems (B,L,D)**

Your Scenic Space-Ship will dock in the small and picturesque town of Dürnstein, located in Austria's scenic Wachau Valley. Enjoy some freetime to explore the charming town at your leisure before we set sail to Krems.

**Freechoice:**

Today offers a variety of Scenic Freechoice excursions to choose from:

Göttweig Abbey: Visit the magnificent Göttweig Abbey. Founded in the 6th Century, the abbey was burned down during the 18th Century and rebuilt to be one of the most magnificent in the Wachau Valley. Your local guide will take you through various rooms where you will see the magnificent frescoes that decorate the Abbey as well as its staircase, the largest Baroque Staircase in Austria."

Wachau Valley wine tasting: The Wachau valley is one of the prominent regions for wine growing in Austria. Today you'll visit a local winemaker and learn about the age old traditions of wine making while sampling delicious wines produced on site.

E-biking from Dürnstein to Krems: Join your guide on a bicycle tour along the Danube to the quaint village of Krems. Pass by charming villages and scenic vineyard landscapes. You will have time to stop along the way to enjoy the breathtaking views of the Danube.

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**Day 37**  
**Sat, 20 Jun**

**Vienna (B,L,D)**

We arrive early in Vienna this morning. Also known as the City of Music, Austria's imperial capital fostered the musical geniuses Mozart and Beethoven, among others. The city oozes charm with magnificent Baroque buildings, ample green spaces from parks to vineyards, a vibrant coffee-house culture and masterpiece-filled galleries and museums.

Today join your local guide and take a coach ride from the ship to Vienna's city centre, where you will embark on a walking tour to see highlights such as the Opera House, St. Stephen's Cathedral and Belvedere Palace. The ship will be docked overnight, so this afternoon you are free to wander around the city or relax on board your Scenic Space-Ship.

**Enrich**

Tonight's Scenic Enrich:

Classical concert at Palais Liechtenstein: Breathe in the opulence and luxury of Palais Liechtenstein this evening as you relish an exclusive private classical concert. Enjoy a glass of fine Austrian Sekt and listen to the timeless music of Strauss and Mozart performed by a renowned orchestra. An experience only shared with your fellow Scenic guests, you'll be seated in Vienna's largest secular baroque hall, an ornate space where royals and nobles have sat for centuries. Accompanied by ballet dancers and vocalists and surrounded by world-famous art, this will be a concert that you'll remember for a lifetime.

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**Day 38**  
**Sun, 21 Jun**

**Vienna (B,L,D)**

Wake this morning with Vienna on your doorstep. A city full of grandeur, Austria's imperial capital is famous for having the world's most beautiful boulevard, The Ringstrasse, and for the legacy of the Habsburg monarchy.

**Freechoice:**

Spend the day exploring the city or venture into neighbouring country Slovakia for a tour of Bratislava. The choice is yours from today's Scenic Freechoice activities:

**Schonbrunn Palace:** Explore Schönbrunn Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburg family, one of the most prominent dynasties in European history. Wander its countless ornately designed rooms, hear tales about the royal family that lives here and see the impressive gardens.

**Cycle to Danube Island:** Explore a different side of Vienna on a guided e-bike tour to Danube Island, a recreational playground where locals come to enjoy bathing, boating, cycling and relaxing on its beaches and open spaces.

**Excursion to Bratislava:** Take a coach to Bratislava, Slovakia's capital since independence in 1993. Bratislava is a modern multicultural metropolis with an intriguing history. Its Old Town is glorious in medieval and Gothic architecture and its well-preserved hilltop castle, which has history dating back to the 9th century, still dominates the town. These charming historic sites contrast with its brutalist socialist architecture, which is evident around the city. Take a tour with a local guide to see Bratislava Castle, the Hlavné Námestie, the main square and the Old Town Hall.

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**Day 39**  
**Mon, 22 Jun**

**Budapest (B,L,D)**

This morning we arrive in Budapest, one of Europe's most diverse and vibrant cities. Divided by the Danube, with Buda on one side and Pest on the other, this city became united in 1873 when a newly built bridge connected the two. The city is an architectural treasure trove comprising styles from Gothic to Art Nouveau and everything in between. It is also well known for its hot springs and thermal baths and has a vibrant nightlife scene.

**Freechoice:**

A range of Scenic Freechoice activities are on offer to choose from this morning:

**Budapest in Depth:** Explore this magical city by coach. Visit both Buda and Pest, the two districts that are separated by the Danube that make up the city. Starting on the Buda side see the Várkert Bazár before crossing the Margaret Bridge to the Pest side where you will see Széchenyi square and Elizabeth square. End your tour with a mesmerising piano recital at the Institute for the Blind.

**Budapest's Past & Present:** This walking and coach tour will give insight on Budapest's communist past and life today as part of the European Union, including the 1956 Hungarian revolution and the significant Jewish events that have shaped modern culture.

**Hospital in the Rock:** Experience the labyrinths of the Hospital in the Rock, set underneath the city's Castle district. The complex was built as a secret hospital during WWII and was later converted to a nuclear bunker. Discover the underground former hospital that is furnished with wax figures to give you the spirit of the place. This is an exciting part of history. The underground is moderately flat but there are a few stairs to get there and then again once inside.

**Thermal Baths:** Budapest is known for its thermal waters and today you can relax in the natural hot springs at Gellert Baths. The baths are said to have medicinal properties and are warm year-round allowing for a luxurious soak no matter what the season.

**Guided hike of Buda:** Strap on your walking shoes for a beautiful hike through the Buda district of the city. On your walk, see Varket Bazar and beautifully landscaped gardens, all while enjoying great views over the Danube River and the city architecture.

This afternoon is at leisure. Perhaps set out to explore the Central Market Hall – the largest market in the city, built in neo-gothic style for a combination of shopping and sightseeing.

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**Day 40**  
**Tue, 23 Jun**

**Budapest > Lisbon (B)**

Today join an included flight to the vibrant city of Lisbon, your home for the next 3 days.

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**Day 41**  
**Wed, 24 Jun**

**Lisbon (B)**

Your first morning in Lisbon starts with a guided tour. The city has a long and fascinating history; founded in 1200BC, it was ruled by the Moors for more than 400 years, led the oceanic Age of Exploration and was almost completely rebuilt after a devastating earthquake in 1755.

**Freechoice:**

Today's Scenic Freechoice options:

High seas history: Visit the Maritime Museum and learn the nautical history of this once dominant seafaring nation. Set inside the Jerónimos Monastery, the museum is home to more than 23,000 pieces that chart Portugal's maritime triumphs across seven centuries.

Visit Sintra & Palacio Nacional: Board your coach and visit the hilltop town of Sintra, around 45 minutes outside of Lisbon. Explore Sintra on an orientation tour and visit the national monument, Palacio Nacional. Perched high above the town, the palace is a glorious blend of Moorish and Portuguese Gothic architecture topped with twin conical chimneys. This well-preserved medieval palace was a favourite location of Portuguese Nobility and was a royal residence for nearly 500 years.

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**Day 42**  
**Thu, 25 Jun**

**Lisbon (B,D)**

Today is yours to enjoy. Perhaps hop aboard the number 28 tram, which winds through the city's narrowest streets, up steep hills and incredibly close to buildings.

Art lovers can head for the Museum of Art, Architecture, and Technology (MAAT), spread across an historic power station and a new futuristic building on the bank of the Tagus river. Inside, you'll find the country's most impressive collection of Portuguese contemporary art alongside regular rotation of visiting exhibitions.

This evening you will join your Tour Director and fellow travellers for a delicious dinner.

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**Day 43**  
**Fri, 26 Jun**

**Lisbon > Porto (B,D)**

Your journey via Coimbra takes you to Porto where you'll board the luxurious Scenic Azure.

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**Day 44**  
**Sat, 27 Jun**

**Porto > Pinhão (B,L,D)**

Relax as your Scenic Space-Ship meanders its way through the spectacular Douro Valley towards Pinhão. Admire the beauty along the steep riverbanks lined with terraced vineyards and majestic quintas as you cruise along the Douro River.

This afternoon you will dock in Pinhão, set on one of the prettiest parts of the Douro River. This small village is surrounded by terraced vineyards and produces exceptional port wine. Look out for the charming riverside train station, which is decorated with azulejos (hand-painted tiles) depicting the annual grape harvest.

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**Day 45**  
**Sun, 28 Jun**

**Pinhão > Barca d'Alva (B,L,D)**

This morning, you have the special opportunity to visit the charming village of Provesende, located on a plateau with spectacular views of the region's fertile rolling landscape. Wander through the village and visit the church, discover the old bakery, learn how traditional handicraft is made, and look inside the historic manor house, Morgadio da Calçada, where you'll enjoy a tasting of delicious bola.

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**Day 46**  
**Mon, 29 Jun**

**Barca d'Alva > Pocinho (B,L,D)**

**Freechoice:**

Explore your way with one of today's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Salamanca Full Day Excursion: Known as the 'golden city' for its honey-coloured sandstone architecture, Salamanca is famous for its university, which is the third oldest in the world, founded in 1218. Salamanca is a vibrant place with a young population – around one-fifth of its residents are students. It's home to two cathedrals, one dating to the 12th century and the other to the 16th century, which you will see on today's guided tour. You will also visit a market to taste local delicacies such as olives, cheese and smoked ham, and you'll have free time to explore and enjoy lunch at your leisure.

Freixo de Espada à Cinta with silk museum: Visit the village of Freixo de Espada à Cinta, a town with a curious name that translates to 'ash tree girded with sword'. Legend has it the Dinis King of Portugal founded the town in the 14th century, then tied his sword to an ash tree before having a rest, hence the unusual name. The town is also the only place in Portugal where handcrafted silk is still processed entirely by hand, and on this guided tour you will visit a silk museum before returning to the ship for lunch.

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**Day 47**  
**Tue, 30 Jun**

**Pocinho > Regua (B,L,D)**

Wake in the village of Pocinho. There's not much to the village, which was established as the terminus of the Douro Railway in 1887, though it's a great location to explore more of the Douro Valley. Perhaps savour a coffee delivered to your suite by your personal butler before heading off for the day.

**Freechoice:**

Explore your way with one of this morning's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

**Côa Valley Museum:** Transfer by coach to the Côa Valley Museum. Opened in 2010, this museum is one of the largest in Portugal, housed in a contemporary building designed to blend into the landscape. The museum is a great introduction to the region's paleolithic rock art sites through original artefacts and digital technology; on your visit you'll also enjoy a pre-historic workshop.

**Tastes of the Côa Valley:** Visit Casa Painova estate for a demonstration on how sweet almonds are produced and learn how these nuts are harvested and used in desserts and pastries. Enjoy a tasting of almonds, olives and fruit products.

This afternoon, relax as you cruise towards Regua, perhaps enjoy a regional port wine in the Panorama Lounge & Bar or spend some time in your suite. Many have a window that converts into a Scenic Sun Lounge, allowing you uninterrupted views to watch a rolling tapestry of river life as you cruise the Douro. Regua is the largest of the riverside towns and is an excellent base for exploring the Douro Valley. This region is famous for producing Port wine, with rolling vineyards on the terraced hillsides and wineries dating back to the 18th century.

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**Day 48**  
**Wed, 01 Jul**

**Regua > Porto (B,L,D)**

Awake in Regua, where the ship has remained docked overnight. Why not ask your butler to bring coffee to your suite if you would like a slower start to the day?

Explore the Douro Valley today with a choice of excursions that including visiting one of the most beautiful towns in Northern Portugal, exploring an enchanting palace or kayaking along a scenic river.

**Freechoice:**

Choose from this morning's Scenic Freechoice activities:

**Excursion to Lamego:** Take a coach to the town of Lamego, nestled among terraced vineyards that were the first to produce world-famous port wine. The city prospered in the 18th century and is a fascinating place to wander, with its many fine Baroque structures. Your tour will culminate at the stunning Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption, standing gracefully overlooking the town. The front of the cathedral is lined by a zigzagged staircase decorated in traditional blue and white tiled mosaics leading down to the town centre. You will have the option to take a self-guided tour of the museum and will be offered a tasting of local produce.

**Kayaking along the Pinhao River:** Explore this beautiful region from a different perspective as you glide past impressive landscapes of terraced vineyards, patchworked farmland and sprawling estates via kayak on the Pinhao River, a tributary of the Douro.

**Mateus Palace:** Transfer by coach to Mateus Palace, considered one of the best examples of Baroque civil architecture in Portugal. Built in the first half of the 18th century, the former family home features rooms with original furniture and ornately carved ceilings; a library that contains one of the first illustrated editions of Os Lusíadas, Portugal's most significant epic poem; and a manicured garden dotted with statues, hedges, a cypress tunnel and reflective ponds.

This afternoon your luxurious Scenic Space-Ship will make its way back to Porto in time for your magnificent Scenic Enrich event.

**Enrich**

**Classical concert in Sao Francisco Church:** From the ship, take a short walk (with some stairs) to Sao Francisco Church, which is one of the most iconic sites in Porto. Built in the 13th century, the Gothic church has gilded interiors and breathtaking altars. All guests will be seated in the church for a performance of classical music.

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**Day 49**  
**Thu, 02 Jul**

**Porto (B,L,D)**

Wake in the city of Porto, a 2,000-year-old city that lent its name to the nation of Portugal. And while it is awash in history, it has a youthful vibe. Porto is both hip yet opulent, where street art adorns ancient city walls and historical buildings are decorated with intricate colourful tiles.

**Freechoice:**

Explore the region with one of this morning's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Guided tour of Porto: Discover the rich culture, history and food of Porto on this guided tour, which includes a visit to the iconic Palacio da Bolsa. Located in the heart of the city, this 19th-century neoclassical building boasts stunning architecture and intricate detail, including the Arab Room, adorned with stunning Moorish-inspired decorations and with a ceiling made entirely of gold leaf. After your guided tour you have ample free time so why not explore the Bolhão Markets? This historic market has been in operation since 1914 and offers visitors a glimpse into the local food and culture. It's a great way to mingle with locals and enjoy the bustling atmosphere.

Excursion to Guimarães: Fondly referred to as the birthplace of Portugal, Guimarães was the seat of the first King of Portugal and home to the impressive Ducal Palace. Visit the well-preserved UNESCO World Heritage-listed city and explore the Ducal Palace, which dates to the 15th century and displays an historic collection of tapestries, furniture, ceramics, weapons and more. You will also have free time to explore the city on your own.

Quinta da Aveleda: Transfer by coach to this 150-year-old wine producer for a tour and tasting. Explore the fairytale-like property of Quinta Aveleda, a renowned sparkling wine producer set on an impressive estate. A highlight of this tour are the enchanting gardens.

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**Day 50**  
**Fri, 03 Jul**

**Porto > Madrid (B)**

Disembark Scenic Azure this morning and take an included flight to Madrid where you will enjoy a three night stay at your centrally located hotel allowing you to explore Madrid's rich cultural heritage, stunning architecture and delicious cuisine.

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**Day 51**  
**Sat, 04 Jul**

**Madrid (B,D)**

There's so much to discover in just a short time in Madrid, so spend this morning on a guided tour of the highlights. Start in Madrid de los Austrias (the Austrian Quarter), the most historic area of the city that dates back to the reign of the Habsburgs. Discover the iconic Plaza Mayor, a 400-year-old square surrounded by neat rows of brightly coloured buildings; the impossibly picturesque Plaza de la Villa; and the bustling Plaza de la Paja, lined with restaurants and bars. Wander through the elegant Sabatini Gardens, built in front of the Royal Palace in the 1930s and admire the formal garden, fountains and statues. More classic fountains await in the leafy plaza near the famed Prado Museum, the 19th-century Cibeles and Neptuno fountains.

**Freechoice:**

Today's Scenic Freechoice:

Get arty at The Prado: The Prado Museum is renowned as one of the best in the world, with more than 1,500 artworks on display from a collection of over 7,000. See works from Spanish grand masters Goya and Velázquez as well as other prominent European artists like Rubens, Bosch, Rafael and more.

Explore the spectacular Royal Palace: Covering more than 135,000 square metres, Madrid's exquisite 18th-century Royal Palace is the largest in Western Europe. Walk through the grand rooms and airy courtyards, admire the incredible artworks on the walls, and see the weapons and armour on display in the armoury. Tonight, enjoy a special Spanish dinner with your fellow guests and toast a wonderful day of exploring.

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**Day 52**  
**Sun, 05 Jul**

**Madrid (B)**

Today is yours to enjoy at leisure. Madrid is truly one of Europe's most inclusive, engaging and entertaining cities, meaning there is something that appeals to every type of traveller. If the sun is shining (as it usually is), head for the lake at the centre of El Retiro Park. Rent a rowboat to paddle lazily past the grand monuments, water features and leafy forest that line the shores.

There's an excellent crop of museums and galleries where you can while away the day, like the Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Museo Lazaro Galdiano and the National Archaeological Museum. If you'd prefer to be able to buy the beautiful things on display, join the crowds at Gran Vía, look for luxury labels in Barrio de Salamanca, or find vintage treasures in the Chueca and Malasaña districts. Foodies should make their way to the Mercado de San Miguel, a century-old cast iron covered market filled with the finest produce from all over Spain. The market draws more than 10 million visitors a year to sample meat, cheese, fruit, vegetables, ice cream and more.

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**Day 53**  
**Mon, 06 Jul**

**Madrid > Paris (B,D)**

Bid farewell to Spain before joining an included flight to Paris where you will embark on the luxurious Scenic Gem for your cruise along the magnificent Seine River.

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**Day 54**  
**Tue, 07 Jul**

**Conflans (B,L,D)**

Wake this morning in Conflans, a medieval town located at the confluence of the River Seine and Oise. Though it's just a short distance from the centre of the city, it feels a world away. A castle was built here by monks in the 9th century to protect the relics of Saint Honore, from whom the town gets its name. It became a popular pilgrimage site in the 11th century, a practice which lasted for more than 700 years. Wander the quiet streets and the riverside pathway, sip coffee at an open-air café, and admire the beautiful ancient church. From here, you can explore some of the outer regions of Paris.

**Freechoice:**

Today, choose one of our Scenic Freechoice activities:

**Visit to Auvers-Sur-Oise:** Transfer to the village of Auvers-Sur-Oise, the place where Vincent Van Gogh painted his final masterpieces, by coach. Throughout the town you will see landmarks that were immortalised by Van Gogh in some of his well-known artworks such as the famous Notre Dame de l'Assomption church. The tour includes entry to Van Gogh's room, an attic that he rented during his final months. The artist was the last occupant of this room, which has sat empty since 1890. Enjoy free time afterwards to wander through the village.

**Chantilly Castle and Gardens:** Chateau de Chantilly is a magnificent tribute to France's cultural heritage, built by Henri D'Orleans, the son of the last King of France. Take a guided tour of the castle and gardens, including some free time to explore the grounds. The chateau showcases some of the fine collections D'Orleans amassed during his life, which you can see displayed elegantly in the large gallery as well as the grand living areas used by this family.

This afternoon you'll spend time on board as your Scenic Space-Ship cruises back to Paris. Relax with a regional wine or beer in the Panorama Lounge & Bar; take some time out in the wellness centre, where you can enjoy a massage, or head to the state-of-the-art gym for an invigorating workout.

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**Day 55**  
**Wed, 08 Jul**

**Rouen (B,L,D)**

Rouen is the vibrant capital of the Normandy region. With a fascinating history of Roman and Viking settlement, it has also played a pivotal place in history as the town where Richard the Lionheart was crowned Duke of Normandy and Joan of Arc was burnt at the stake. Much of Rouen was sadly destroyed in World War II, but much of the city has been faithfully restored, including the exquisite Old Town. It's an engaging and historically rich destination, packed with museums, stylish bistros and coffee shops, and a wealth of churches, including the famed 12th century Rouen Cathedral.

**Freechoice:**

Explore your way with one of this morning's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

**Rouen city tour:** Victor Hugo once described Rouen as 'the city of a hundred spires' – find out why on a guided tour of the city, which takes you to the cathedral district, the old marketplace and Saint Maclou Quarter, home to another striking church. Feel as though you've stepped into a fairytale as you walk the winding medieval laneways and admire the half-timbered houses. Learn about Joan of Arc and see where she was tragically put to death after being tried for heresy and sorcery in 1431. Enjoy free time afterwards to explore on your own.

**Guided tour of Rouen with Rollo the Viking:** Authentically dressed as Viking warlord Rollo the Walker – who was famously too tall to ride a horse – your guide will take you around the city to learn about the Viking raiders who made Rouen their capital. This tour focuses on the city's medieval past and you will enjoy some free time afterwards to explore.

**Tastes of Normandy:** The region of Normandy is as diverse as it is abundant. The dairy industry makes way for the numerous and delicious soft creamy cheeses that are popular in this area and often regarded as some of the best in France. The high number of quality orchards allow the production of Cider and Calvados. Try some of the best this region has to offer during this tour.

Back on board this evening, join a lecture about WWII to gain a better understanding ahead of your full-day excursions tomorrow.

**Lecture on WWII:** History comes alive tonight with an interactive lecture on the battles of WWII. Discover what life was like during the campaigns of D-Day, learn about Operation Fortitude, the plan created to deceive the Germany Army on the location of D-Day, and see how technology had evolved since WWI.

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**Day 56**  
**Thu, 09 Jul**

**Honfleur (B,L,D)**

This morning your Scenic Space-Ship will dock right in the centre of Honfleur, a colourful coastal town that has been described as having one of the prettiest harbours in France, Le Vieux Bassin. Over the years the town has captured the imaginations of countless artists and was the birthplace of Impressionism. The bustling harbour and cobbled streets are a confection of half-timbered houses, restaurants, gourmet shops and art galleries. It's an easy walk from the ship to explore the harbour area and network of laneways beyond. You can choose to explore Honfleur or take an excursion today to the Normandy Beaches to learn about the D-Day Landings, where tens of thousands of allied troops came ashore on June 6, 1944, to free north-western Europe from Nazi occupation. Six weeks of heavy fighting and losses followed, but this strategic campaign ultimately ended the war.

**Freechoice:**

Choose from today's Scenic Freechoice activities:

**Walking tour of Honfleur:** From the ship, join a guided walking tour of Honfleur's harbour. You will see the Church of Sainte-Catherine, which dates to the 15th century and is France's largest church to be made entirely of wood with a separate belfry. Then visit the Garden of Personalities, a 10-hectare landscaped garden that features the busts of important French figures over time, including painters and navigators.

**Excursion to the Normandy Beaches Including Omaha Beach (US Focused):** Start at the memorial on Utah Beach, where more than 20,000 US troops landed, before a visit to Sainte-mere-Eglise, where 30 US Paratroopers landed during the invasion. After lunch at a local restaurant, visit the Normandy American Cemetery and Visitor Centre before a short stop at the Omaha Beach Memorial. Omaha Beach is often referred to as 'Bloody Omaha', as it resulted in the most casualties during the operation, with 2,400 dead.

**Excursion to the Normandy Beaches Including British Normandy Memorial (UK Focused):** The small town of Bayeux was the first to be liberated after the D-Day Landings and became the French capital for the summer of 1944, until the liberation of Paris. Visit the Bayeux War Cemetery, the Museum of the Battle of Normandy and the new state-of-the-art Landing Museum at Arromanches, located across the artificial harbour that was built to dispatch reinforcements. After lunch at a local restaurant, you will visit the British Normandy Memorial, which records the names of 22,442 fallen servicemen and women; the Pegasus Bridge & Museum, site of an important battle; and the Ranville War Cemetery.

**Excursion to the Normandy Beaches Including Juno Beach Centre (Canadian Focused):** Begin at Abbey d'Ardenne, which was founded in the 11th century and is now a memorial to Canadian Prisoners of War from D-Day. Explore the Juno Beach Centre, a memorial to where 20,000 Canadian troops, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, and then visit the poignant Bény-sur-Mer Canadian cemetery and Pegasus Bridge & Museum, site of an important battle.

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**Day 57**  
**Fri, 10 Jul**

**Caudebec-En-Caux (B,L,D)**

Your Scenic Space-Ship will arrive in Caudebec-En-Caux this morning. This small town is set on a curve of the Seine and the riverfront is lined with handsome homes, stately gardens and crumbling stone walls. Caudebec dates back to the Middle Ages and a handful of historic buildings survived the bombardments of WWII, including the ornate 15th century Notre Dame Caudebec-En-Caux. From where you'll set out to explore more of the Normandy region.

**Freechoice:**

Explore your way this morning with one of these Scenic Freechoice excursions:

**Normandy Abbey Trail:** Spiritual health and wealth have been important in the Normandy region since the Middle Ages, and evidence of this remains through the many abbeys in the region. Today you will travel via coach to see some set along the river, including the ruins of Jumièges Abbey, a Benedictine Abbey that dates to the year 654 and was once home to a thousand monks. It was rebuilt many times over the centuries but eventually met its demise during the French Revolution.

**Rural e-bike cycling:** Join your local guide as you ride through the spectacular scenery surrounding Caudebec-En-Caux. Cycle across historic bridges, pass traditional houses with straw roofs and get an insight into local life.

**Normandy's secret Roman past:** History tells us that William the Conqueror was in his castle at Lillebonne in 1066 when he made his decision to invade England. Visit the ruins of this castle during an interactive guided tour, led by one of Caesar's soldiers who will tell you about the secret Roman past of the region.

**Fecamp and Benedictine Palace:** Take a coach transfer to Fecamp, an historic seaside town surrounded by some of the tallest cliffs in Normandy. You will join a guided tour of the Benedictine Palace, an architectural masterpiece built in the 19th century, famous for the Benedictine liquor that is produced on site and is said to contain 27 plants and spices. Enjoy a tasting during your visit.

Return to your Scenic Space-Ship for an afternoon at leisure. You may wish to spend the afternoon in the exclusive Salt Therapy Lounge, which provides natural anti-viral, anti-inflammatory and anti-bacterial properties.

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**Day 58**  
**Sat, 11 Jul**

**Vernon > La Roche Guyon (B,L,D)**

This morning your Scenic Space-Ship will arrive in Vernon, an historic border town between the Duchy of Normandy and the Kingdom of France. Today it's a great base to explore nearby Giverny, known for its most famous resident, artist Claude Monet, who turned this quiet riverside town into an artist pilgrimage.

**Freechoice:**

Monet's House and Garden: Claude Monet is renowned as the founder of French Impressionist painting and today you will visit his house and gardens. Built by Monet, the gardens comprise a Japanese-inspired water garden with lilies, which inspired his most famous works. On arrival in Giverny, you will enjoy a guided tour of the town and visit Monet's residence, followed by free time to explore at your own leisure. The town is surrounded by hillsides and features many walking paths that are fringed by wildflowers.

Self-guided cycle from Vernon to Giverny: Take a self-guided biking tour from the ship in Vernon to Giverny (approximately five kilometres each way). When you arrive, you may wish to visit Monet's House and Garden or wander about the charming town, before returning to the ship.

After this morning's touring, you will return to your Scenic Space-Ship and sail towards La Roche Guyon, where this evening's exclusive Scenic Enrich experience will take place.

**Enrich**

Chateau de La Roche Guyon: All guests will take a short walk from the ship to Chateau La Roche Guyon, which is built into a chalk hillside and dates to the 16th century. It features decorative walls and ceilings as well as tapestries, and during WWII was the headquarters for German field marshal Erwin Rommel, known as Desert Fox. On your way to the chateau you will pass through the manicured orchard and vegetable gardens, which are kept by nine on-site gardeners, then walk uphill and across cobblestones. On arrival you'll enjoy a drink and sit for a splendid classical concert that focuses on music by French composers.

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**Day 59**  
**Sun, 12 Jul**

**Paris (B,L,D)**

Welcome back to Paris. Spend the day exploring some of the hidden treasures of this city, like the trendy district of the Marais, or venture south-east of the city to an exquisite chateau. You will also enjoy some free time to tick off big name sites like the Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame Cathedral.

**Freechoice:**

Choose from today's Scenic Freechoice options:

Trendy Marais with a local Parisian: Enjoy a guided walking tour of the Marais district with a Parisian guide. A melting pot of cultures, fascinating history, opulent architecture, an eclectic arts scene and high-end fashion, the Marais is one of the most diverse districts in Paris.

Highlights of Paris city tour: Join your local guide as you coach through the city seeing many of its most famous sights. Marvel at Paris' most iconic landmark, the Eiffel Tower, drive the famous Champs Elysee as well as seeing the Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame Cathedral and Concorde Square. This is a great introduction to Paris for guests who have not been before.

Chateau Vaux-le-Vicomte: Take a coach to the Chateau Vaux le Vicomte, located an hour's drive from Paris. This chateau is credited as the founding French formal garden that was the inspiration for Versailles. The property is laid out in a typical symmetrical fashion with its stunning gardens creating a theatrical setting.

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**Day 60**  
**Mon, 13 Jul**

**Paris > Bordeaux (B,D)**

Board your included flight from Paris to Bordeaux where you will be welcomed on board by the friendly crew of the Scenic Diamond.

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**Day 61**  
**Tue, 14 Jul**

**Bordeaux > Saint-Émilion (B,L,D)**

This morning is spent on board relaxing as you cruise into the beautiful 13th century port of Libourne. Head up to the Sun Deck to bask in the sunshine and enjoy the scenery along the Dordogne River rolling by. Or perhaps drop into Scenic Culinare for a French cooking class.

Spend the afternoon in the nearby town of Saint-Émilion, a World Heritage-listed medieval village with world-famous wineries, beautiful architecture and historic monuments. You will enjoy a guided tour of the caves and catacombs beneath the city, including a Monolithic church built from limestone, whose 38-metre-long bell tower can be seen above ground.

This evening your Scenic Space-Ship will be docked overnight in Libourne.



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**Day 62**  
**Wed, 15 Jul**

**Libourne > Fort Medoc (B,L,D)**

**Freechoice:**

Choose from one of these Scenic Freechoice activities:

Walking tour of Libourne: Join your local guide for a walking tour of Libourne, the fortified harbour town with a rich history linked to the trade of wool, wine, salt and wood.

Wine tasting at Château Siaurac: Located in the prestigious Pomerol wine-growing region, Château Siaurac is the largest and most iconic estate of the appellation.

Biking and tasting at Château Siaurac: Cycle through this acclaimed wine-growing region to the impressive estate of Château Siaurac where you will learn about the wines produced at this property and enjoy a tasting.

Paint and Pour: Join a local artist for a class on the Sun Deck of Scenic Diamond. Enjoy the magnificent river views, learn watercolour techniques and create your own masterpiece while sipping on delicious local wines. This afternoon your Scenic Space-Ship will sail onwards to Fort Medoc where you will dock overnight.

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**Day 63**  
**Thu, 16 Jul**

**Fort Medoc (B,L,D)**

The name Médoc is synonymous with exceptional wines. Considered the world's leading red wine producer, Médoc has been a winemaking region since the 18th century. Today you will have the chance to explore this remarkable wine region.

**Freechoice:**

Explore your way with a Scenic Freechoice excursion:

Medoc wine tasting by coach: With more than 16,000 hectares of vineyards across eight appellations, Medoc is home to the epic 'Route des Chateaux', or 'Route of Castles'. On this coach tour you will travel through this scenic region to a local winery and enjoy a tasting of their wines.

Medoc wine tasting by bicycle: Discover the spectacular Médoc countryside by e-bike today and see many grand aristocratic châteaux in the world's leading red wine producing region. Afterwards, sample the region's finest at one of the prestigious estates.

**Enrich**

Tonight, enjoy an exclusive Scenic Enrich experience:

Classical Concert at Chateau d'Agassac: Set in spectacular surrounds in the Médoc countryside, Château d'Agassac is truly enchanting. Dating back to the 13th century the Château is one of the oldest winemaking establishments in the region and is the venue for your unforgettable evening concert.

Wander through the château and its gardens and soak in the ambiance of this magnificent property before a string quartet performs classical masterpieces for your enjoyment.

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**Day 64**  
**Fri, 17 Jul**

**Cadillac (B,L,D)**

This morning will be spent cruising towards Cadillac.

Founded in the 13th century, the charming, fortified city of Cadillac is centred around its magnificent château. Seventeenth century French explorer Anthony Laumet rose high in the French fur trade and in 1701 established the port of Fort Pontchartrain du Détroit, which would become modern day Detroit where the American auto industry began. The Cadillac car is named in his honour.

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**Day 65**  
**Sat, 18 Jul**

**Cadillac (B,L,D)**

Today you have the choice between many different experiences in the region surrounding Cadillac, from its bucolic countryside to its historic castles.

**Freechoice:**

This morning explore your way with one of these Scenic Freechoice excursions:

**Sauternes by coach:** Venture into the Sauternes region with a visit to either Château Rayne Vigneau or Château La Tour Blanche (the group will be split into two). Enjoy a delicious tasting of the chateau's fine wines as you take in the stunning views of the vineyard and surrounds.

**Sauternes by bike:** Cycle through the rolling vineyards of Sauternes to the Grand Cru Classé estate of Château Mayne la Merci for a tasting. Learn the history of winemaking here and the process involved in production from time of harvest, grape to wine, length of maturing and, of course, the tasting pleasure.

**Freechoice:**

Choose from this afternoon's Scenic Freechoice activities:

**Roquetaillade Castle:** The first fortress here was built by Charlemagne, or Charles the Great, in the 10th century. Today, the architectural jewel of Roquetaillade Castle, which comprises two castles and a chapel, dates from around the 13th century. You'll tour the castle with the family whose ancestors have resided here for more than 700 years.

**Biking to Château Benauges:** Join a local guide as you cycle through the landscapes of the Gironde towards the impressive Château Benauges. The Château, which dates to the 11th century, maintains a strategic position at one of the highest points of the Gironde allowing for breathtaking views.

**Château Toulouse-Lautrec:** This historic estate dates back over five centuries and is considered one of the oldest estates in the region. Château Toulouse-Lautrec was the family home of renowned French artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. During a guided tour you will discover the historic rooms of the estate including the apartments of the famous painter, which still house some of his greatest works.

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**Day 66**  
**Sun, 19 Jul**

**Bordeaux (B,L,D)**

This morning you will wake in the fascinating city of Bordeaux, which you can explore by foot, bike or through a cooking class. It has been an important trading port since the Middle Ages, thanks to its strategic location on the river flowing to a sea port.

**Freechoice:**

The choice is yours with this morning's Scenic Freechoice:

**Guided tour of Bordeaux:** Join your local guide on a tour of Bordeaux. Discover the highlights of the city by coach and on foot, such as the magnificent Gothic cathedral and Place de la Bourse, which is home to the famous 'Water Mirror.' Along the way, you'll learn interesting facts about the city's history, culture and way of life. Afterwards you'll have free time to explore the streets and go shopping at your leisure.

**Cycling tour of Bordeaux:** Pedal through historic Bordeaux on a guided cycling tour. Cross bridges to see the Royal Gate and the Palais Rohan, relax in pretty public gardens and sample delicious treats such as canelé, a custard cake.

**Shop with a chef & Scenic Culinaire:** Gourmands can join Scenic's on board chef on a visit to a local food market where you will have an opportunity to shop for and taste the best ingredients this region has to offer. Upon returning to your Scenic Space-Ship, head to the Scenic Culinaire cooking school for an interactive cooking demonstration making some of France's most popular and delicious dishes using the ingredients you have just bought.

Back on board, your Cruise Director will organise a special treat for you, with a tasting of fresh Oysters delivered straight from the waters of Arcachon Bay.

**Enrich**

This evening's Scenic Enrich:

**Les Bassins de Lumiere:** You will be given after-hours access to Les Bassins de Lumières this evening, Bordeaux's former submarine base which has been transformed into an impressive art installation. On arrival, you will be welcomed with a glass of champagne and be immersed in the exhibit with an exclusive show.

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**Day 67**  
**Mon, 20 Jul**

**Bordeaux > Bourg (B,L,D)**

Today you'll continue your exploration of Bordeaux and its surrounding regions.

**Freechoice:**

Explore your way with one of this morning's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

**Cité du Vin Museum:** Take a local tram to the Cité du Vin Museum and enjoy an interactive journey of wine discovery. The Cité du Vin gives a different view of wine, across the world, across the ages, across all cultures and all civilisations.

**Tour Bordeaux by Motorbike & Sidecar:** Join your host as you cruise through Bordeaux in the side car and/or on the back of a motorcycle. Starting in the Chartrons district you will see the Place de la Bourse, the Porte Cailhau and Saint Croix before crossing to the right bank where you will explore the Saint-Pierre district.

**Visit Arcachon:** Join your local guide for a walking tour of the charming bayside town of Arcachon, finishing your visit at Baltard market, an undercover food hall where stallholders tout local delicacies. Enjoy some time at leisure to explore this elegant town yourself or wander to the seven-kilometre-long beach Plage d'Arcachon, which borders the main shopping and dining precinct.

This afternoon you'll enjoy time at leisure on board as you sail towards Bourg.

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**Day 68**  
**Tue, 21 Jul**

**Bourg (B,L,D)**

Your ultra-luxury Scenic Space-Ship will be docked in Bourg today, a picturesque town set on a rocky promontory. Built as a defensive château, it's a maze of ancient alleyways, moats and bell towers on the Dordogne.

**Freechoice:**

Choose from today's Scenic Freechoice activities:

**Bourg tour with carriages Museum:** Situated inside the grounds of Bourg Castle, visit the carriages Museum with a local guide and discover the unique collection of horse-drawn carriages on display. In addition, visit the 16th-century passageway to the guard's rooms and immense WWII oil tanks.

**Full day excursion to Cognac:** The fortified city of Cognac is renowned for producing some of the world's finest brandy. You'll be taken on a walking tour of the town and have some free time to explore on your own, followed by lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, you will travel to the breathtaking estate of famed Rémy Martin, which you will tour before sampling some of the cognacs.

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**Day 69**  
**Wed, 22 Jul**

**Blaye > Bordeaux (B,L,D)**

This morning you will sail towards Blaye. Most famously, this petite hamlet is home to a World Heritage-listed citadel that was constructed to protect Bordeaux city, from enemy attacks.

**Freechoice:**

This morning, choose your Scenic Freechoice activity:

**Walking tour of Blaye:** Stroll through the charming city of Blaye with a local guide, a World Heritage-listed monument that overlooks the Gironde Estuary.

**Active walking tour of Blaye:** Tour the fascinating citadel of Blaye on an active walking tour with a local guide. Gain an understanding of the defence system created by the famous architect Sébastien Vauban.

**Guided cycling along the Captain's Road:** Join an active cycling tour along the Captain's Road, which is named in honour of the WWI captains who chose to purchase their homes along this beautiful stretch of waterway in the early 20th century.

**Visit Château de la Roche Courbon:** In the 15th century, Château La Roche Courbon was built on a high cliff overlooking the River Bruant. Guests will discover this fortified castle transformed into a historic château with sprawling manicured gardens during a guided visit.

This afternoon your Scenic Space-Ship will make its way back to Bordeaux for your final evening on board.

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**Day 70**  
**Thu, 23 Jul**

**Bordeaux > Lyon (B,D)**

Board your included flight from Bordeaux to Lyon where you will embark the Scenic Sapphire for your 10 night cruise along the Rhône and Saône Rivers.

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**Day 71**  
**Fri, 24 Jul**

**Lyon > Chalon-sur-Saône (B,L,D)**

Perhaps wake up to a coffee delivered to your suite by your personal butler and enjoy a leisurely breakfast at Crystal Dining as your Scenic Space-Ship cruises along the Saône River. You will be sailing towards Chalon-sur-Saône. An idyllic base for exploring the Burgundy wine region, Chalon-sur-Saône is a charming town with half-timbered houses and a magnificent Gothic cathedral just south of Beaune, often referred to as the epicentre for oenophiles.

**Freechoice:**

Explore your way with a choice from these Scenic Freechoice experiences:

**Guided tour of Beaune and Les Hospices:** From Chalon-sur-Saône, you will travel through spectacular countryside past stone houses and vineyards to the beautiful town of Beaune, where you will join a guided tour. The highlight will be the spectacular Les Hospices de Beaune, a Gothic-style hospital founded in the Middle Ages, with decorative flamboyant roof tiles, surrounded by vineyards producing prestigious wine and now housing a museum. You will have free time to explore the town at your own leisure before returning to your Scenic Space-Ship.

**Local Estate Visit;** Visit a local estate situated in the heart of Burgundy. This Burgundy wine domain is a place full of history where you will be able to taste the wines from Côte de Beaune surrounded by unique architecture.

**Photography Museum;** Learn the history of photography in the town where it was first invented. The museum aims to explain photography since its invention through to the digital image, with a collection including almost three million photographs and objects, which you will observe during a guided tour. (Please note: This is closed on a Tuesday).

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**Day 72**  
**Sat, 25 Jul**

**Tournus (B,L,D)**

Your Scenic Space-Ship will depart Chalon-sur-Saône early this morning and sail to Tournus, a riverside town founded by the Romans, its dominating abbey a splendid example of Romanesque architecture.

**Freechoice:**

Make your selection for today's Scenic Freechoice experiences:

**Excursion to Chateau de Cormatin:** Transfer by coach from Tournus to the historic Château de Cormatin, built in 1606. The castle boasts a fascinating history and has been lovingly restored back to its original glory. Admire the castle's gilded rooms, moat, water features and more than 10 hectares of manicured gardens on a guided tour.

**Truffle Tasting:** Meet a local truffle farmer and his dog and learn the tricks and techniques of truffle farming before enjoying a tasting of his delicious produce.

**Cooking Class at the restaurant of Georges Blanc:** Take a short coach transfer to the villages of Vonnas where you will have a short orientation tour before visiting the restaurant of the three star Michelin Chef, Georges Blanc for a cooking demonstration. After the cooking demonstration, take the opportunity to visit the village museum, the Museum has been lovingly created by Georges Blanc in dedication to his family who have lived and worked in this region of France for 150 years, with his great-grandparents first settling in Vonnas in 1872 where they opened a lemonade cafe.

**Cooperage demonstration:** Just steps from your Space-Ship, witness the long-standing tradition of barrel making. Admire a skilled artisan as they show you the secret of this art and learn how this craft still plays a crucial role in wine and spirit making.

Tonight, your on board Chef has specially sourced local Truffles and will cook an extraordinary welcome dinner showcasing the regions Truffles.

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**Day 73**  
**Sun, 26 Jul**

**Tournon (B,L,D)**

This morning your Space-Ship will arrive in Tournon, a hillside village with terraced vineyards, an enchanting castle dating back to the 10th century and quaint cobblestoned streets.

**Freechoice:**

Spend this morning at your preferred pace with one of the following Scenic Freechoice experiences:

**Walking tour of Tournon:** Explore the riverside town of Tournon by foot. Discover its fascinating history and make a stop at the impressive castle built between the 10th and 16th centuries that dominates the town. Afterwards you have free time to wander the narrow streets of Tournon or cross France's oldest suspension bridge to the neighbouring town of Tain l'Hermitage, home to prestigious chocolatiers Valrhona Chocolate, which has been operating here since 1922.

**Hiking through the vineyards in Tournon:** Get close to nature as you hike through the sloping vineyards that overlook the Rhône River above Tournon. Learn about the local wine production and taste some of the delicious drops of the region.

**Biking along the Rhône:** Enjoy a guided cycling tour along the banks of the Rhône through picturesque villages to the charming recreational village of Glun.

This afternoon enjoy a refreshing drink on the terrace of Tournon Castle. This ancient castle holds prime position overlooking the Rhône river and the surrounding terraced vineyards.

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**Day 74**  
**Mon, 27 Jul**

**Avignon (B,L,D)**

This morning you'll have time to relax on board as your Scenic Space-Ship cruises towards the city of Avignon in Provence. Known as the City of the Popes, Avignon is rich in history and astounding medieval architecture but has a youthful energy to it with a buzzing arts scene. The former 14th century papal capital is circled by city walls, home to the magnificent World Heritage-listed Palais des Papes (Pope's Palace), one of the largest surviving Gothic palaces in Europe, and the remaining four arches of the famous Pont d'Avignon bridge, which was once the only way to cross the Rhône between Lyon and the Mediterranean Sea.

**Freechoice:**

Choose from a selection of Scenic Freechoice options this afternoon:

**Guided walking tour:** From the ship, you will be guided on a walk in Avignon, to the historic city walls and the Pope's Palace, home to the Papacy and seat of Western Christianity in the 14th century. Avignon is filled with cobblestoned streets and the palace comprises numerous steps, so a moderate degree of fitness is required for this tour.

**Excursion to Pont Du Gard:** Visit the ancient Roman aqueduct, Pont du Gard, on a guided tour. Dating to the middle of the first century, this engineering masterpiece was designed to carry water to the city of Nîmes.

**Kayaking at Pont du Gard:** Paddle along the Gardon River towards the impressive and well-preserved Pont du Gard, the ancient aqueduct which dates to the Roman empire.

**Enrich**

This evening's Scenic Enrich:

**Private classical concert and dinner at the Pope's Palace:** You will be treated to a truly unforgettable classical concert at the prestigious Pope's Palace of Avignon. When the doors are closed to the general public, you'll have one of the most visited sites in France to yourself. Upon arrival, you will be ushered into the grandiose palace for an exclusive gala dinner and a concert by a trio of musicians. Be immersed in the beauty of famous classical pieces, which gain a new fascinating dimension inside the palace's walls.

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**Day 75**  
**Tue, 28 Jul**

**Avignon (B,L,D)**

Avignon is known as the gateway to Provence, a region blanketed in vineyards and lavender fields, rolling hills and historic villages. Today you will have the chance to explore more of this captivating part of southern France.

**Freechoice:**

Explore your way with one of today's Scenic Freechoice options:

Excursion to Luberon villages and Senanque Abbey: Visit the village of Gordes, considered "one of the most beautiful villages in France". Teetering high above the hills of Luberon, Gordes' stone buildings spiral around the rock on which it is perched, its church and castle at the apex. After Gordes, you will visit nearby Senanque Abbey, a picturesque Cistercian Abbey.

(Please note: Sénanque Abbey is not open to visitors on Sundays. On these days, the tour will include only an exterior visit.)

Wine tasting in Chateauneuf du Pape: The fertile banks of the Rhône are peppered with Côte du Rhône vineyards, including at the village of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, where centuries of wine production make for a very fascinating history. Take this opportunity to sample some of the region's most celebrated wines.

Lavender Museum with visit to the village of Roussillon: Roussillon and its Ochre Trail are among the main attractions on Luberon's ochre circuit, a landscape of ochre cliffs. Take a guided tour through this charming village before a visit to a local lavender producer where you will learn how lavender is grown, harvested and utilised in this region.

Shop with a chef & Scenic Culinaire: Gourmands can join Scenic's on board chef on a visit to a local food market where you will have an opportunity to shop for and taste the best ingredients this region has to offer. Upon returning to your Scenic Space-Ship, head to the Scenic Culinaire cooking school for an interactive cooking demonstration making some of France's most popular and delicious dishes using the ingredients you have just bought. (Please note: Avignon Market is closed on a Monday)

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**Day 76**  
**Wed, 29 Jul**

**Arles (B,L,D)**

Leaving Avignon early this morning, your Scenic Space-Ship will depart for Arles. Founded by Julius Caesar, this city is rich in Roman history and is thought to have the largest number of Roman ruins after The Eternal City itself. It was also home to Vincent Van Gogh in 1888, who drew inspiration from the landscape for a multitude of his paintings and drawings.

**Freechoice:**

Decide how you will spend your day with today's selection of Scenic Freechoice options:

Guided tour of Arles: Take a short walk from your Scenic Space-Ship to the heart of Arles. The city is home to some impressive Roman ruins, including Las Arenas, an amphitheatre that seats 20,000 and is still in use today. Experience the vibrant colours and striking quality of Arles' light - it will be easy to see why the city has inspired so many artists.

Visit Les Baux with Carrières de Lumières: Journey to the stunning medieval village of Les Baux, perched on a rocky outcrop and often regarded as one of France's most beautiful villages. Visit a former quarry in the Les Baux region that is now the site of Carrières de Lumières, an enormous 7,000 square-metre site that hosts a visual and musical production highlighting the works of notable world-famous artists.

Ancestry of the Kitchen: Visit a local olive farm where you will learn the techniques of olive oil production. Here you will meet with a local whose family have worked the land on this Olive Farm for centuries and who will share insight into everyday life in the region, as well as divulge traditional Provençal recipes.

Lavender Fields to Cream: A Provence Herbal Workshop: The Provence region is renowned for its stunning landscapes and the production of aromatic herbs, particularly lavender. At certain times of the year (typically from late June to mid-August), fields are transformed into a breathtaking sea of purple. On this excursion, you'll visit a local organic farm specializing in the production of essential oils from lavender, thyme, rosemary, and other Provençal herbs. Discover the health benefits of these plants, learn the process of essential oil extraction, and create your own lavender-based cream to take home.

This afternoon is free to explore Arles at your own pace or return to your Scenic Space-Ship and indulge in an on board painting class. Vincent Van Gogh once said that 'The whole future of art is to be found in the South of France' this is just one example of the high regard this region is held by artists the world over. Learn about the artistic heritage of this region while painting a masterpiece of your own.

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**Day 77**  
**Thu, 30 Jul**

**Viviers (B,L,D)**

This morning you will arrive in Viviers, often described as an open-air museum for its rich medieval heritage and architecture.

**Freechoice:**

Make your selection for this morning's Scenic Freechoice experiences:

**Walking tour of Viviers:** Enjoy a walking tour with your local guide to explore Viviers, a town with an important heritage and rich past. Admire the many monuments and architectural treasures such as the Cathedral of St. Vincent, which was first built in the 11th century and is resplendent in 18th-century gothic style and a Renaissance facade. Afterwards, enjoy some free time to explore Viviers at your leisure.

**French Resistance Walking Tour:** During a walking tour of Viviers, learn about the French Resistance, who fought against the Nazi Occupation of France during World War II. Hear local stories of heroism and daring missions as you explore the historic town.

**Freechoice:**

This afternoon, choose to explore your way with these Scenic Freechoice options:

**Ardèche Nature Park with Caverne du Pont-d'Arc Museum:** Explore the Ardèche Nature Park, which stretches from the Rhône Valley to the Ardeche Mountains and contains medieval fortress ruins. You will also be immersed in the Caverne du Pont-d'Arc Museum, the largest decorated Palaeolithic cave replica in the world. The original site was deemed too fragile for public access, so this replica cave was built only a few kilometres from the actual cave.

**Explore the caves in the Ardeche Nature Park:** Drive through the rugged natural beauty of Ardeche Nature Park, from the Ardeche Gorge to the equally impressive Madeleine Caves, where you can admire the intricate rock formations, stalagmites and stalactites, and underground lakes. (The Madeline caves are located underground and comprise of numerous steps, a moderate degree of fitness and sturdy shoes are required for this tour).

**Excursion to Grignan de Provence:** Join your local guide in an exploration of this beautiful town; see the mighty castle that dominates from a hilltop, as well as the Collegiate Church of the Holy Saviour, before enjoying some time at leisure.

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**Day 78**  
**Fri, 31 Jul**

**Cruising to Lyon (B,L,D)**

Enjoy watching a rolling tapestry of the Rhône River as you sail towards Lyon, the gastronomic heart of France, where you will arrive this evening. Soak up the uninterrupted vistas from your luxury suite, many of which have a window that converts into a Scenic Sun Lounge.

Perhaps you'd like to spend time in the state-of-the-art gym doing an invigorating workout or if you'd prefer to wind down, head to the wellness centre for a relaxing massage<sup>^</sup>. Savour regional cuisine in Crystal Dining or sharpen your skills on French cookery at a lesson in Scenic Culinaire.

**Enrich**

Tonight, admire the beauty of one of the city's grandest Baroque buildings, Trinity Chapel. Built in the 17th century, the interior is decadently covered in Carrera marble. As a special Scenic guests, you will be treated to an exclusive experience, join your fellow guests for a breath-taking acapella choir performance in this wonderful setting.

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**Day 79**  
**Sat, 01 Aug**

**Lyon (B,L,D)**

Wake up this morning in Lyon. This fascinating city rivals Paris in the culinary stakes, was home to prestigious chef Paul Bocuse and the Lumiere brothers who invented the cinematograph, has a long history of silk production, and comprises ancient Roman ruins and fascinating subterranean passageways that date to the 4th century.

**Freechoice:**

Make your selection for today's Scenic Freechoice:

Guided tour of Lyon: Traverse Lyon's hidden traboules, secret passageways that were built for easy transport of silk and other textiles. There are hundreds in the region and some date to the 4th century; they were used in World War II by the Resistance. You will also visit Notre Dame de Fourviere, a majestic basilica built in 1872 that also offers a fabulous vantage point for views across Lyon.

Silk painting workshop: Lyon has a rich heritage in silk production that dates back almost five centuries when Louis XI chose the city as a potential base for the silk weaving industry. In the 19th century, silk was one of the city's largest industries. During a workshop, learn about the history and process of its production.

Excursion to Perouges: Visit the medieval walled village of Perouges, perched atop a hill overlooking the Ain River. The village has been well-preserved since the 14th century and is one of the most picturesque villages in the region.

The afternoon is free to wander the cobbled streets of Lyon. Perhaps you'd like to spend time sampling local dishes in a bouchon 'local eating houses' or head to the Le Halles de Lyon Paul Bocuse, an undercover gourmet market that will tickle your tastebuds.

This evening, a local pâtissier will come on board with a selection of their finest desserts for your dining pleasure.

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**Day 80**  
**Sun, 02 Aug**

**Lyon (B)**

Depart after a wonderful farewell breakfast. Lyon is the end of your cruise, but it will be the start of a lifetime of wonderful memories.

This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions.

^Massage/spa treatments at additional cost.

Please note: Scenic Culinaire capacity is limited.

Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change.