# SLOW TOURS

Full Itinerary and Tour details for

# Provence to Burgundy 8-day Bike & Barge Tour



Prices starting from. **1865** €

Trip Duration.

8 days

Max Passengers.

49

Start and Finish.

**Arles to Lyon** 

Activity Level.

1

Experience.

Bike & Barge Tours Europe

Tour Code. #B1/2701



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# Tour Details and Description

#### **Deluxe tour in the south of France**

Bike and Barge Tour in the south of France. Guests enjoy the beautiful countryside of the Rhône valley and cities founded by the Romans more than 2.000 years ago. This part of France is home to some of the best and most expensive French wines, for example Châteauneuf-du-Pape.

#### Accommodation:

Designed specifically for the Rhône river, this custom-built ship has all outside cabins and provides an especially intimate cruising experience—carrying just 49 passengers.

Take time to relax after your biking day, in the bar and lounge, library, and Sun Deck. Your hotel style cabin features a flat-screen TV with CNN, radio, direct-dial telephone, individual heating and air-conditioning controls, twin beds, and private bathroom with shower and hair dryer. Plus, complimentary wireless internet access is available in all cabins, in additional to all common areas.

#### **Specific Cabin Features:**

8x Imperial Suite Main Deck: Outside cabins with sliding doors to the private balcony overlooking the river. The cabins are approx. 20 square meters + balcony. The cabins are on the highest deck. Private bathroom with shower and separate toilet, single beds (can be combined to form a double bed)

11x Lavender Suite lower deck: outside cabins with large portholes that cannot be opened. The cabins are approx. 20 square meters and are located on the main deck, one deck below the restaurant and lounge. Private bathroom with shower and separate toilet, single beds (can be combined to form a double bed)



4x Soleil Suite lower deck: outside cabins with large portholes that cannot be opened. The cabins are approx. 20 square meters and are located on the main deck, two decks under the sundeck and one deck under the bar, lounge and dining room, near the stairs and under the bar. Private bathroom with shower and separate toilet, single beds ( can be combined to a double bed)

3x single suite lower deck: outside cabins with large portholes, these cannot be opened. The cabins are approx. 6 square meters and are located on the main deck, two decks under the sundeck and one deck under the bar, lounge and dining room, near the stairs and under the bar. Private bathroom with shower and separate toilet, single bed.

# Included in the Bike and Barge Tour:

General on board:

Food and drinks on board:

**Cultural:** 

On the bike:

# Not included in the tour:

To rent a bike (95 EUR) or e-bike (1850EUR) please contact our office when booking sales@slowtours.com

Bikes:

After arrival on board you will be allocated a bike suitable to your height. This hybrid bike, is at your disposal during your trip. Your bike has 24 speeds, hand brakes, pannier bags and a lock. Before your first tour, the guide will give you instructions about the bike. We draw your attention to the fact that you will

be held responsible for damage to or theft of the bike, as long as the bike is not on board. Never leave it unattended and unlocked. Please note that helmets are mandatory on this tour. We suggest you to bring your own, or buy one on board. Helmets are not available for rental.

**E-bikes:** are available on board, but be aware that these are booked early. Your E-bike has 8 speeds, hand brakes, a pannier bag and a lock.

#### **Arrival / departure:**

Airport: Lyon - From here you can take a taxi or the Rhône express. The Rhône express is a tram shuttle service that goes between Lyon airport and Lyon Part-dieu train station.

#### Train:

From almost all major cities in France you can reach Lyon as well as Arles with a TGV. Paris to Lyon by TGV is less than 2 hours; Paris to Arles by TGV is less than 4 hours.

#### **Mooring places:**

Lyon: Quai du Dr. Gailleton

Arles: rue Jean Gorodliche



#### WHAT SLOW TOURS OFFERS YOU:

Customer Service: Hand-picked partners in whom we trust to deliver great service.

Best Selection: The best range of escorted and self-guided tours in Europe

Secure payment: Secure booking onsite through Stripe, the largest online provider of financial payment services.

Support: Contact us for support services on any Slow Tour - email or telephone support.

Reviews: Customer reviews available, and being constantly updated

# **Itinerary**

#### Day 1

Embarkation at Arles You can check into your cabin around 5p.m., but you can bring your luggage on board starting from 2 p.m.

#### Day 2

Arles – Tarascon / Arles, approx. 21-50 km Get ready for incredible scenery, tastes, and fragrances! For those who want to start easy with this trip, or stay a bit more in Arles to explore all the cozy corners Van Gogh once painted, we have prepared a nice short route of only 21 kilometres. If you want to spend your first day cycling and see some unique nature, the option is to have an interesting ride into the

Camargue, the river delta of the Rhône. Here you will find salt marshes and century old traces of human population. You might even see the famous Camargue wild horses.

#### Day 3

Tarascon / Arles – Avignon approx. 50-58 km Many choices today on the ride to the ancient city of Popes, Avignon. The longer and easier route takes you on a relaxed ride along the river on the Via Rhôna. The shorter but more strenuous route is a breathtaking stage, which brings you to the Alpilles, with the perched villages of Les-Baux-de-Provence and Saint Rémy de Provence. A landscape of limestone cliffs and olive trees will accompany the trip. For the very keen cyclists we have the option of a long ride inland (more than 70 km) that brings you to the best preserved Roman aqueduct in Europe: Pont du Gard.

#### Day 4

Avignon – Viviers, approx. 40 km You start the day with a ride on an almost completely flat bike path along the river. From here you gradually climb into the village of Châteauneuf-du-Pape. You might want to purchase a bottle of wine of the same name to take home! Once you pass the hilly landscape around Châteauneuf-du-Pape, you are rewarded with a ride down to the river and to the village of Roquemaure. Here the bikes will be put on board for the cruise to Viviers.

#### Day 5

Viviers – Le Pouzin, approx. 42 km The first part of the ride takes you to the city of Montélimar, the city of nougat. From here you ride to Rochemaure where you will be crossing a memorable rope bridge. Though built by Marc Seguin in 1858, the architect was inspired by the castle ramparts. This bridge can be seen as a symbolic passing from old to new, from



history to the future. Later in the day the tour brings you past the medieval abbey of Cruas. At the end of the day you will be parking your bike again on the boat for a leisurely cruise to the village of Le Pouzin.

#### Day 6

Le Pouzin – Tournon sur Rhône, approx. 33-58 km On the short route today you have a nice ride featuring the typical small villages of the Ardèche, historic sites, and the green meadows of a nature reserve towards Valence. In this city with its colorful markets and its historic "Quartiers" you will meet the barge. The long route takes you inland to the Drôme region and the ancient city of Crest with its imposing defense tower that overlooks both the river and the city. From the mooring site in Valence the captain and his crew end the day with a sailing dinner to bring you to Tournon-sur-Rhône.

#### Day 7

Tournon sur Rhône – Lyon, approx. 42 km We start with an easy cruise from Tournon to Andance. From the mooring place here we start the bike ride through the green landscape of the Ardèche countryside. The landscape slowly changes into that of vineyards, as you enter the land of the Côte Rôtie. The vineyards are unique because of the steep slopes facing the river and their stone walls. Later on you bike into the nature reservw Île au Beurre, where you can enjoy the peace and quiet of nature before entering the very nice town of Vienne where the barge is moored. During dinner, the ship will navigate to our final destination, Lyon.

#### Day 8

Lyon Disembarkation at approx. 10 a.m.. Independent homeward travel.

# WHY SLOW TOURS EUROPE?

Slow Tours offers a selection of tours in Europe for unique experiences, active or relaxed, so you return home feeling relaxed, refreshed & re-energised.

Connect with the locals, take time to genuinely experience another culture, relax with the easy flow of life, enjoy fresh air and freedom from crowds. Savour the experience of our hand-picked tours of Europe!

# 3 BIG BENEFITS OF BOOKING WITH US



TIME BECOMES A FRIEND

Yes, you'll see and do many wonderful things, but at a relaxed, easy pace that invites conversation and reflection.



DISTINCTIVE QUALITY

There's not a village you'll explore, or table at which you'll dine, that you won't remember with a smile.



PEACE OF MINE

Whether travelling directly with Slow Tours or one of our carefully selected, kindred-spirit partners, you'll have our complete and constant support.

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