SANTA BARBARA ON THE RHÔNE

JOIN THREE RENOWNED SANTA BARBARA WINERIES AS YOU CRUISE FRANCE'S LEGENDARY RHÔNE RIVER

SS CATHERINE · 7 NIGHTS · AVIGNON TO LYON · MAY 8-15, 2022

DAY 1
EMBARKATION – AVIGNON
Arrive at Marseille International Airport. If your cruise package includes a group arrival transfer or if you have purchased a private arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the ship docked in Avignon.

DAY 2
TARASCON / ARLES
Explore a sun-drenched Provençal town today with an allure all its own. Known for its remarkable Roman ruins, Arles so inspired Van Gogh that he painted some 200 paintings there. Arles has existed since the sixth century BC, when the ancient Greeks founded it and named it Theline. It was here that the Romans built their first bridge across the Rhône River, creating a vital overland route between Italy and Spain. Featured Excursion: Arles walking tour.

DAY 3
AVIGNON
The walled city of Avignon is one of the most fascinating towns in southern France, with a host of historic gems to explore—including the fortress residence of rebellious popes who broke from Rome and once lived and ruled here. You'll see the Palace of the Popes and much more today, and also have a chance to kayak under a 2,000-year-old Roman aqueduct. Choice of Avignon walking tour with Palace of the Popes or Pont du Gard Roman aqueduct visit or "Let's Go" kayak ride on the Gardon River. A special Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner will be prepared for you this evening.

DAY 4
VIVIERS
An enchanting village where time seems to have stopped centuries ago, Viviers has a long and storied past that goes back more than 1,600 years—and a splendid architectural heritage to match. At one time, Viviers was divided along religious lines—the clergy lived in the upper part of the town, the laity in the lower part. Your exploration of the town will take you through both parts, as you begin at the crest and make your way to the riverbank. Featured Excursion: Intimate Viviers "Village Day"

DAY 5
TOURNON / TAIN-L'HERMITAGE
If you love fine wine, you'll love the twin villages of Tournon and Tain-l'Hermitage. Tournon may be a small town, but stirring events took place here: A castle was raised on the hilltop in the 10th century to protect the region, and new fortifications were added over the centuries, including two "new" towers built to defend against Protestant attacks in the 16th century. You'll see the handsome houses constructed by wealthy merchants and garrison officers when you walk through the Rue de Doux area, and you'll pass the 14th-century church and the oldest secondary school in France. Choice of Tournon and Tain-l'Hermitage twin villages stroll with wine tasting or "Let's Go" Hermitage terrace vineyards hike with wine tasting.

DAY 6
LYON
As the epicenter of French gastronomy, Lyon is a city of tantalizing contrasts. There's much to explore here, from the work of culinary visionaries to silk weavers' secret passageways. After your choice of excursions, embrace the locals' favorite mode of transportation with a bike ride—a great way to see the sights. Choice of Lyon Capital of Gastronomy tour or Silk weavers walking tour or "Let's Go" Lyon peninsula bike tour.

DAY 7
MÂCON / BEAUNE
The pace of life is decidedly more relaxed in Burgundy, where endless rows of grapes hang heavy on the vine. The capital of the region's wine trade, Beaune is renowned for its history, beauty and highly prized wine, as well as its medieval-era hospital—the Hospices de Beaune. Choice of Burgundy landscapes, Beaune and the hospices or Mâcon walking tour
A special Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner will be prepared for you this evening.

DAY 8
LYON (DISEMBARK)
Disembark the ship. If your cruise package includes a group departure transfer or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to Lyon-Saint Exupéry Airport for your flight home. Alternatively, you can continue your adventure with an extension to Paris.

Itinerary subject to change.