



# La Belle France!

## Paris and Provence with WUSF

Château de Vaux-le-Vicomte

Join WUSF, in partnership with The Grand Tour Travel Company, for a spectacular ten-night, eleven-day tour to sunny Provence and the incomparable city of Paris this fall.

From Roman generals and painters to poets, writers and gourmands of all stripes, Provence has long been an inspiration for good living. We will savor it all in town and countryside, with excursions in four directions: epic Roman monuments, charming hill towns, picturesque landscapes, outstanding food and wine in Michelin-starred restaurants. Our base is the luxurious 5-star Hotel L'Europe in the medieval town of Avignon, home of the Papacy during the 14th century and one of the most powerful cities of the time. We also visit the town of Arles with its splendid Roman remains and traces of Van Gogh, the pretty canals in L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue and its famed Sunday antique market, and some of Provence's lovely perched villages, such as Roussillon, surrounded by red-ochre cliffs that give it its name. We'll indulge in the legendary wines of the Rhône valley, including fine Châteauneuf-du-Pape reds; sample the prime olive oils made on a 12th century farm; and enjoy many more culinary delights.

In Paris, with the five-star Westminster, rich in history, as our base and one of the city's best guides leading the way, we will immerse ourselves in the city's textured history, culture and art in specially designed walking tours and private guided visits. From the splendid Musée d'Orsay and Musée Carnavalet to the beautifully restored Notre Dame and charming Place des Vosges, we'll explore notable museums and historical sites medieval and modern. From our base in the 2nd arrondissement, known for its vibrant culinary scene, we will trace the movements of both the French and American Revolutions (the 250th Anniversary of the latter will call for special attention on our walking tours) in the renowned Latin Quarter, and uncover some of the hidden delights of the distinctive Marais, Paris' 4th arrondissement. Outside the city, we will visit two of the finest Chateaus in France, whose architects both ushered the Italian Renaissance into the "barbaric" north and later took the lead in designing Versailles. All this combined with some of the best food Paris and Provence have to offer, an optional concert in a beautiful, historically unique venue, an optional cooking class in Paris, and the wit, insight, and experience of two of the best guides available, and the sum is an experience abroad one cannot afford to miss. Please join us!



★★★★★

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Guided tours of historic sites in Paris and Provence with expert private guides
- Excursions from Avignon to Arles, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, the Petit Luberon, and Pont du Gard
- Excursion from Paris to the Château Fontainebleau and Château Vaux-le-Vicomte
- Private wine tastings near Châteauneuf-du-Pape
- Olive oil tasting at one of the finest producers in Europe
- Deluxe accommodation in five-star hotels in Paris and Avignon
- Fine dining at some of the region's top restaurants
- First class travel on the TGV, France's high-speed train
- Travel by private air-conditioned motorcoach on all excursions
- Plenty of free time to relax, shop and sightsee!

LIMITED TO  
25 PARTICIPANTS



Pont du Gard

**Sept. 23 – Oct. 4, 2026**

\*Tour begins September 24 in Paris



Paris night panorama

# Daily Itinerary

Wednesday, Sep 23

Flights from the US, arrival the following day

Thursday, Sep. 24 *Avignon*

## Bienvenue!

On arrival at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, we board France's high-speed train, the TGV, for first-class passage to Avignon. Our home the next five nights is the Hotel L'Europe, the 16th century mansion of the Marquis de Graveson, where Napoleon, Charles Dickens, Victor Hugo and other luminaries have stayed. After a rest from your journey, you will join your guide Nina for a private tour of Palais des Papes, the massive Gothic fortress where seven French Popes and three anti-Popes based the Papacy in Avignon during the Great Schism in the Catholic Church. Our **Welcome reception** and **dinner** will follow nearby.

Friday, Sep. 25 *Avignon*

## City of Popes

Breakfast daily at both hotels We spend our first morning in Avignon taking in some of the picturesque streets and monuments of the old town with Nina. After **lunch** in town, a trip to the imposing Pont du Gard awaits us, arguably the most famous, and certainly the best preserved, aqueduct in the Roman world. We return to our hotel in the late afternoon, and your evening is free.

Saturday, Sep. 26 *Avignon*

## Roman Arles

This morning we head down the Rhone to the ancient city of Arles. On the way, we pass St. Paul de Mausole, and the sanitorium little changed from when Vincent Van Gogh was its patient in 1889-90. Then it's on to sample the products of an award-winning producer of olive oil. **Lunch** is nearby at a superb Michelin-starred restaurant below the village of Les Baux. We continue to Arles and visit its huge Roman amphitheatre, the Romanesque church of St. Trophime with its elaborate carved facade, and trace the steps of Van Gogh before stopping to enjoy a cocktail at a spiffy bar. We return to our hotel in the late afternoon, and your evening is free.

Sunday, Sep. 27 *Avignon*

## Luberon Countryside

We set off to explore the Luberon region of picturesque villages, lavender fields, and rocky landscape. L'Isle sur la Sorgue, with its charming canal-lined streets, is famous for its Sunday antique market, antique shops and Provençal market. **Lunch** is near the perched village of Gordes, then we visit the Abbaye de Senanque and, time permitting, travel on to Roussillon, a pretty town named for its red clay cliffs upon which it lies. We return to our hotel in the late afternoon, and your evening is free.

L'isle sur la  
Sorgues market

Monday, Sep. 28 *Avignon*

## Châteauneuf-du-Pape

This morning we head north to the famed wine-growing town of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, a name that inspires awe and reverence in wine lovers the world over. On our way, we visit the Roman Theatre at Orange, a jewel of Imperial Rome, and then stop for our first wine-tasting at a beautiful chateau property. We **lunch** nearby, and enjoy our second tasting at another Château, before returning to Avignon in the late afternoon. The evening is free.



Tuesday, Sep. 29 *Paris*

## City of Light

We bid adieu to Provence and board the TGV again for a trip back to Paris, where we check in to Hotel Westminster. Located in the heart of the city, this 5-star hotel was once the residence of the Duke of Westminster and still maintains a distinctive British flair. After a guided walk in the 2nd *arrondissement* (quarter), our first Parisian **dinner** is nearby.

Wednesday, Sep. 30 *Paris*

## Notre Dame

Our first full day in the City of Light begins with a visit to the glorious Cathedral of Notre Dame, splendidly restored after its recent conflagration. Afterwards our private guide James, one of the best



Village of Gordes



in Paris, artfully walks us through the 5th arrondissement to sites reflecting both the American and French Revolutions. We break for **lunch**, then enjoy a guided tour of the magnificent Musée d'Orsay, housed in the former Orsay railway station built for the 1900 Universal Exhibition. Attend an optional concert (details TBA) or spend the evening on your own.

Thursday, Oct. 1 *Paris*

## les Châteaux

Today we embark on a daylong excursion by private motor coach, stopping first at the Chateau Fontainebleau, built by Francis I—it was his architects and designers who introduced the Italian Renaissance to France. From there, it is off to the splendid 17th century Château Vaux-le-Vicomte, whose designers later built Versailles. We will **lunch** there and return to Paris by late afternoon. Your evening is free.

Friday, Oct. 2 *Paris*

## le Marais

Today we visit the Marais, one of the most beautiful and characteristic quarters in all Paris. After a tour of the fascinating Musée Carnavalet, devoted to the history of Paris, we take a walking tour including the Place des Vosges, a beautiful 17th century square. After **lunch** at a charming bistro nearby, you will have the option of joining your guide for a tour around the Musée Picasso, the artist's legacy to the city of Paris in the Hôtel Salé. The rest of the afternoon and the evening are free.

Saturday, Oct. 3 *Paris*

## Louvre Anyone?

Take the morning and afternoon to complete your shopping, stroll another quartier, visit another museum (the Louvre anyone? Tickets on TGT), or take part in an optional cooking class (details TBA). A **farewell dinner** at the elegant Café de la Paix completes the tour.

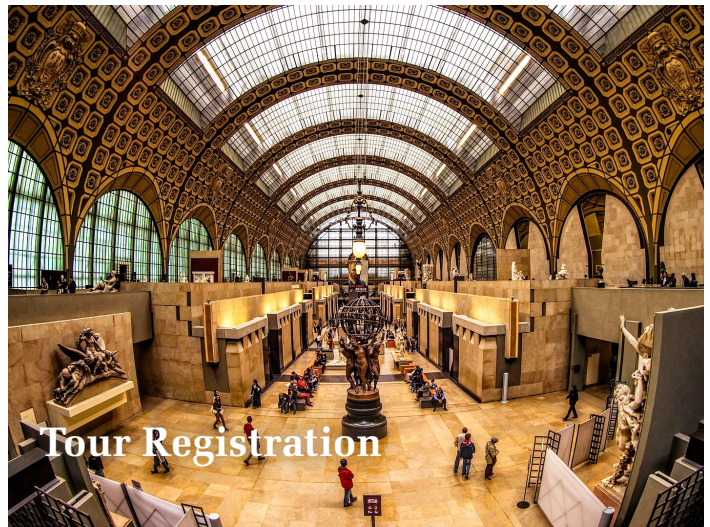
Sunday, Oct. 4 *Departures*

## Adieu!

*Itinerary is subject to change.*

*Meals in **bold** are included in the price of the tour.*

Paris view, Notre Dame



## Tour Registration

Musée d'Orsay

**Tour Cost:** \$11,495 per person, ground only, double occupancy. Single supplement: \$2,585.

**Deposit:** \$1,000 per person first come, first served.  
**Tour limited to 25 paying participants.**

**Balance Deadline:** Friday, July 24, 2026. After that date, call for availability.

**To reserve your place,** visit our website and locate the [WUSF Paris Provence tour](#). Enter the code 0714 in the box on the right to access your tour's full itinerary and the registration and payment portal page. Then simply follow the instructions to complete and submit your registration form and deposit payment.

If you prefer to complete your registration manually, please call or email us and we will email you a form. If you do not wish to pay your deposit through TGT's web portal, please call us with your credit card information, or mail a check to: WUSF Paris & Provence Tour/The Grand Tour, PO Box 274, Peterborough NH 03458.

**Questions?** Contact The Grand Tour: 800.727.2995 / [info@thegrandtour.com](mailto:info@thegrandtour.com), or Scott Nolan: 813-777-3568 / [SNOLAN@wusf.org](mailto:SNOLAN@wusf.org)

The Paris & Provence tour is an exclusive presentation by WUSF Travel Program, and is organized by THE GRAND TOUR Travel Company, Peterborough, New Hampshire.

