



Day 1: Fly to France

Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to Nice.

Day 2: French Riviera

Arrive in Nice: Welcome to the French Riviera. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to settle in and explore on your own.

Explore Nice: Stroll down the palm-lined Promenade des Anglais and get a taste of the Old Town. Soak up the scenery, from the whitewashed villas to the emerald waters of the Mediterranean.

Day 3: French Riviera

Monaco: Take an excursion to Monaco, a tiny principality that packs wealth, royalty and the famous Monte Carlo Casino into just 0.8 square miles. Pass by the Cathédrale de Monaco, where Prince Rainier wed movie star Grace Kelly, a union that ultimately sparked an influx of Hollywood stars and starlets to the French Riviera.

Cooking lesson: Get your first taste of French gastronomy during a cooking lesson. As you'll learn, the region's cuisine is flavored largely by its geography; here, garlic, olive oil and olives abound, while a Mediterranean influence brings recipes with hot spices and seafoods.

Day 4: Provence | Lyon

Lunch in Provence: Treat your palate to an unforgettable lunch in Provence. Inspired by the Mediterranean climate, local favorites include bouillabaisse, escabeche (fish—usually sardines—either poached or fried after being marinated overnight in vinegar or citrus juice) and Brandade de Morue (a milk-based blend of cod, garlic and other spices, served with bread or potatoes).

Travel to Lyon: Continue on to Lyon, the second-largest metropolitan area in France after Paris.

Day 5: Lyon

Culinary visit: Lyon is often said to be the French capital of gastronomy. Home to many of France's finest chefs, the city's surrounding area also includes two of France's most esteemed wine regions—Beaujolais and Côtes du Rhône. Wines from each area are commonly paired with the region's cuisine at bouchons, Lyonnais restaurants famous for their convivial atmospheres and culinary expertise. See a few for yourself on your guided tour, which will also shed light on regional specialties like local charcuterie (prepared meats).

Cooking demonstration: See a Lyonnais chef at work during this cooking demonstration. Traditional local dishes include Rosette lyonnaise and saucisson de Lyon (sausage), andouillette (a sausage of coarsely cut tripe), pistachio sausage, gras double (tripe cooked with onions) and salade lyonnaise (lettuce with bacon, croutons and a poached egg).

Day 6: Paris

Travel to Paris: This morning, board a high-speed train bound for Paris.

Explore Paris: Check out Paris on foot. Explore Île de la Cité, one of two natural islands in the Seine within the city. It is the center of Paris and the location where the medieval city was founded. You will also head to the Latin Quarter, so named because the language was once commonly spoken by the Sorbonne students that populated the area.

Notre Dame Cathedral: Admire Notre Dame's sculptured facade, stained-glass rose windows and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings. This evening, enjoy a dinner in the Latin Quarter.

Day 7: Paris

Sightseeing tour of Paris: Get a taste of Parisian style as you ride down the famous Champs-Élysées, an elegant boulevard packed with high-fashion boutiques. You'll pass by grand monuments, including the obelisk in the Place de la Concorde and the Arc de Triomphe. Next, strike a pose in front of the Eiffel Tower. Your guide shares insight into the city's military history when you continue past Les Invalides and the lush and beautiful gardens of Les Tuileries. Also, learn about political upheaval in Paris as you pass by the Conciergerie, a palace-turned-jail for prisoners of the French Revolution, and the École Militaire, where a promising young Napoleon launched his incredible rise to power.

☞ **Versailles:** Nobody does decadence like Louis XIV, and there's no better testament to this than Versailles. Under the direction of the Sun King, the châteaueau that began as a modest hunting lodge exploded into one of the largest palaces on earth. On your optional excursion to this lavish estate, explore the State Apartments of the king and queen and the magnificent Hall of Mirrors. Walk through the meticulously landscaped gardens and marvel at dozens of ornate fountains. Discover why Versailles was more than just a vacation home—Louis XIV hosted his royal court here to rein in its power and prevent its political rise. Those who do not choose to visit will enjoy free time in Paris.

Day 8: Paris

Parisian market: From artisanal cheeses to farm-fresh vegetables, from heavenly breads to mouth-watering wines, you are sure to find the food of your dreams during this visit to a Parisian market.

Cooking lesson: With so many ingredients fresh in your mind, learn from a Parisian chef during this cooking lesson.

Free time in Paris: Make the city your own during your free time this afternoon. You could savor a croissant at a local cafe or grab some friends and visit the stately public gardens. With world-class museums and attractions all around you, there's plenty to see and do.

Day 9: Reims | Paris

Reims: Considered the de facto capital of the province of Champagne, Reims is one of France's centers of champagne production.

Take a guided tour of a champagne cellar: Champagne ages in the many caves and tunnels under Reims, which form a subterranean maze that dates back to Roman times. See for yourself during your tour of a champagne cellar.

Dinner in Montmartre: Return to Paris and enjoy a final dinner in Montmartre.

Day 10: Depart for home

Your Tour Director will accompany you to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.