

Western Europe & Scandinavian Grand Journey



Tour Name: Western Europe & Scandinavian Grand Journey

Tour Code: CF2C

Days: 61

Day 1

Wed, 24 Jun

Basel (D)

Welcome to Basel, widely known as the 'cultural capital' of Switzerland, where the crew of your Scenic Space-Ship will warmly greet you. Raise your glass to the marvellous cruise ahead of you at this evening's welcome reception.

Please book your flight to arrive into Basel prior to 03:00 PM.

Day 2

Thu, 25 Jun

Breisach (B,L,D)

We will arrive in Breisach this morning. Located between the Rhine River and the Black Forest, Breisach is a food and wine destination that shares its border with the Alsace region. It was almost destroyed during World War II but was meticulously rebuilt with its traditional cobbled streets and pastel houses.

Freechoice:

Choose from a wonderful selection of Scenic Freechoice experiences:

Excursion to Colmar: Take an excursion over the French border to the colourful town of Colmar, a unique Alsatian town that is often referred to as 'Little Venice' for its network of canals and bridges, originally used by fishermen and market gardeners. These quaint waterways are lined with half-timbered houses in an array of pastel colours, and its town centre is charming with cobblestoned streets and traditional architecture.

Wine tasting at Kaiserstuhl: Volcanic rocks make up a large part of the central and western Kaiserstuhl region thanks to numerous volcanic eruptions more than 16 million years ago. Because of its loose covered volcanic soils, the Kaiserstuhl is known as a very good wine-producing region. During your visit, sample some of these delicious drops.

Excursion to Freiburg: Located on the edge of the Black Forest, Freiburg is a picturesque city. Enjoy a guided walking tour through the lively medieval town centre to see the Freiburg Minster, a 13th century cathedral that was one of few in Germany to survive WWII bombings.

Chateau du Haut-Koenigsbourg: Sitting on a hilltop in the Alsace region of France, this 'royal castle' was constructed in the 12th century but was burnt down during the Thirty Years War in the 1600s. Left for 200 years in ruins, the castle was restored in the early 20th century and was classified as an historical monument. Visiting the castle will feel like stepping back to the Middle Ages.

Day 3
Fri, 26 Jun

Rastatt (B,L,D)

Today your Space-Ship will dock in Rastatt, your base for today's explorations. Set on the northern edge of the Black Forest region, it has a well-preserved Baroque centre and a vibrant modern arts and theatre scene. After a morning luxuriating on board your Scenic Space-Ship, set off on an afternoon of sightseeing.

Freechoice:

Decide how you want to spend your day with these Scenic Freechoice options.

Excursion to Baden Baden: This luxurious town was a favoured summer escape during the Belle Epoque and is World Heritage-listed as part of the Great Spa Towns of Europe. It oozes relaxation, features tranquil green spaces, picturesque public gardens and grand historical architecture. Enjoy a walking tour, taking in the opulence of the town, including its famous casino and the remains of Roman baths.

Visit Schloss Favorite: This grand palace was originally built as a hunting lodge and summer palace for Margravine Sibylla Augusta, who ruled Baden-Baden in the early 18th century after her husband Louis William, Margrave of Baden-Baden, died of a war injury. The palace was only used for several weeks each year, and houses a large collection of fine porcelain. It is the oldest of the German 'porcelain palaces' and the last still intact.

Walking tour of Strasbourg: Enjoy a guided walking tour of the charming town of Strasbourg, seeing many of the most important sights of the city including the Cathedral, Petit France, the Grand Ile, and its many half-timbered houses and beautiful canals. Strasbourg is located on the border of France and Germany and ownership of the town has changed hands many times between the two countries. Due to this, Strasbourg is a unique mixture of both French and German architecture and culture. Drive to Strasbourg passing by many notable sites including the European Parliament. Please note: this is an active walk.

Day 4
Sat, 27 Jun

Rüdesheim (B,L,D)

Your Scenic Space-Ship will dock in the charming town of Rüdesheim this morning. Surrounded by steep vineyards that have been cultivating wine for a staggering two millennia, Rüdesheim is filled with half-timbered houses lining cobbled streets, quaint shops selling trinkets such as traditional Christmas ornaments and cuckoo clocks, as well as a smattering of wine taverns and open-air beer gardens.

Freechoice:

Explore Rüdesheim your way with your choice from today's Scenic Freechoice options.

Siegfried's Musikkabinett Museum: From the pier, take a mini train through the quaint winding streets of Rüdesheim to Siegfried's Musikkabinett Museum where a local guide will introduce you to the weird and wonderful mechanical musical instruments. Afterwards, enjoy free time to wander around town or take the cable car up to the Niederwald Monument, where you'll have breathtaking views over the river. 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 Rüdesheim, a wine region famous for its Riesling, and enjoy spectacular views of the countryside and Rhine below. After your hike, board the cable car to return to town.

Day 5
Sun, 28 Jun

Cochem (B,L,D)

You'll arrive in Cochem this morning. A historic gem resting on the banks of the Moselle River, Cochem appears straight out of a medieval romance. The traditional town is nestled on the riverbanks, with pastel-coloured buildings, half-timbered houses, cobbled laneways and an enchanting medieval hilltop castle surrounded by sloped vineyards.

Freechoice:

Experience Cochem on foot or by bike with your choice from today's Scenic Freechoice experiences:

Walking tour of Cochem: Take a short transfer to Reichsburg Castle, which dates to the Middle Ages. Enjoy a guided tour of the castle, which features a knight's hall, trophy room and cellars, before wandering down to the Old Town, seeing many historic buildings along the way.

Cycling tour of Cochem: Join a local guide and hop on one e-bike to explore the town of Cochem and the surrounding region. See the impressive Reichsburg Castle towering above the city and ride through winding streets past half-timbered houses.

Return to your luxurious Scenic Space-Ship this afternoon and relax with a regional wine or beer in the Panorama Lounge & Bar as you cruise along the Moselle. If you feel like really winding down, head to the Wellness Centre for a relaxing massage^.

Day 6
Mon, 29 Jun

Bernkastel (B,L,D)

Your Scenic Space-Ship will dock in Bernkastel today. A wonderfully preserved riverside town, Bernkastel is home to an atmospheric market square with buildings that date to the 13th century. You'll find one of the world's most famous Riesling vineyards, Bernkasteler Doctor, and the ruins of Landshut Castle, where archaeological remains from the 4th and 5th centuries were discovered in 2012.

Freechoice:

Elevate your Bernkastel visit with your choice of the following Scenic Freechoice experiences:

Walking Tour of Bernkastel: Your expert local guide will explain the local architecture and culture of Bernkastel, and you'll also have some time to discover the town on your own. Highlights include perfectly preserved half-timbered houses and the Renaissance-style Rathaus (Town Hall).

Wine tasting along the Moselle: The fertile banks of the Moselle River are home to a plethora of vineyards. Learn about the varieties grown here on a tour where you'll sample some of the delicious drops, including Riesling, for which the region is best known.

Day 7
Tue, 30 Jun

Koblenz (B,L,D)

Perhaps enjoy a leisurely morning starting with coffee in your suite, delivered by your personal butler, as you start your day in Koblenz, a melange of French and German cultures and one of Germany's oldest cities. Located where the Rhine and Moselle meet, Koblenz has a history spanning 2,000 years. Start your day with a coffee delivered to your suite by your butler, followed by breakfast in Crystal Dining.

Freechoice:

Enhance your time in Koblenz with your choice from the following Scenic Freechoice activities:

Koblenz walking tour: Join your guide through one of the oldest cities in Germany. Explore the Florinsmarkt, the former political and economic centre of the city. On your way through the winding streets of the old town, you'll see impressive townhouses, charming squares and historic churches.

Burg Eltz guided tour: Considered one of the most magical castles in Germany, Burg Eltz is perched on a rocky outcrop deep in a valley of the Eltz Forest. Unscathed by wars that have crumbled so many other castles in Germany, Burg Eltz is the epitome of a fairytale castle with eight towers and turrets. It has been under the ownership of the same family for more than 850 years and contains many original furnishings and interiors to this day, including 15th century murals. Inside the castle walls, you can visit the treasury and armoury, which exhibits nine centuries of artefacts.

Koblenz biking tour: Ride along the Moselle and Rhine River on your guided cycling tour using e-bikes*. Let your bike do most of the hard work while you glide past many city attractions and cross over the Rhine River twice, while learning the historic background of Koblenz from your expert local guide.

Day 8
Wed, 01 Jul

Frankfurt > Munich (B)

Today join an included flight from Frankfurt to Munich, where you will enjoy a two night stay in one the cities finest hotels before discovering the Bavarian region of Germany during and handcrafted 4 night extension.

Day 9
Thu, 02 Jul

Munich (B)

Explore Munich at your leisure or simply relax in your luxurious 5 star hotel, located in Munich's city centre.

Day 10
Fri, 03 Jul

Munich > Schwangau (B,D)

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before embarking on a panoramic tour of Munich. You'll pass by some of the city's top sights including the former Olympic site, Nymphenburg Palace, the National Theatre, Maximilianstrasse and the Parliament. After a quick stop to sample some delicious local beer, you'll stroll the Marienplatz Square and see the famous Glockenspiel.

After lunch, you'll transfer via coach to the village of Schwangau. Renowned for its top-tier air quality, relaxing atmosphere and spectacular castles, Schwangau is a remarkable gem amid the mountains. Enjoy a two-night stay. Surrounded by spectacular forest landscapes at the foot of two incredible castles, your hotel is a wonderful sanctuary in this magical region.

Day 11
Sat, 04 Jul

Schwangau (B)

After a delicious breakfast, prepare for an excursion to a truly iconic fairytale castle. Neuschwanstein was built in the 19th century for King Ludwig II and inspired by an opera by Richard Wagner. One of the most photographed buildings in the world, you'll have the opportunity to explore this magnificent castle inside and out during a guided tour.

Day 12
Sun, 05 Jul

Nuremberg (B)

This morning you'll head to Nuremberg, Bavaria's second largest city, with a stop at Augsburg. One of the oldest cities in Germany and certainly one of the most beautiful, Augsburg is a glamorous blend of Old World architecture, magnificent fountains and watercourses and a rich musical legacy. Upon arrival enjoy an orientation tour before some free time to explore and have lunch in the city.

Afterwards, you'll continue to Nuremberg, a city steeped in history and culture that stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of Bavaria. Nestled in the heart of Germany, Nuremberg is a place where medieval charm meets modern vitality. Its well-preserved medieval old town, encompassed by formidable city walls, boasts architectural treasures that transport visitors back in time. Beyond its historic facades, Nuremberg's dynamic spirit shines through in its thriving arts scene, bustling markets, and vibrant culinary culture.

On arrival in Nuremberg, take a walking tour of the medieval city with an expert local guide on hand to immerse you in the history of the city. You'll visit the Imperial Castle before making your way to Old Town, where you'll see St. Lawrence Church and the lively market square.

Stay overnight at your historic hotel which combines the elegance of a classic grand hotel with modern conveniences.

Day 13
Mon, 06 Jul

Nuremberg > Regensburg (B,D)

Wake up in Nuremberg and enjoy a sumptuous breakfast at your hotel. Afterwards, take the morning to explore the city before boarding a coach for Regensburg where your cruise begins. Toast to the occasion during an evening reception on board your state-of-the-art Scenic Space-Ship.

Day 14
Tue, 07 Jul

Regensburg (B,L,D)

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 UNESCO World Heritage listed. Within its narrow laneways, the city lays claim to having the highest concentration of bars in the country.

Freechoice:

Choose from a selection of Scenic Freechoice touring activities:

Walking tour of Regensburg: Join your local guide for an afternoon walking tour of the Old Town of Regensburg. You'll be in awe of the many perfectly preserved medieval buildings that have been standing sentinel over the Danube for centuries.

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.

Day 15
Wed, 08 Jul

Passau > Schlögen (B,L,D)

Set on the confluence of the Danube, Inn and Ilz rivers, Passau has been an important trading city since medieval times, particularly for salt, commonly known as 'white gold'. Each river is distinct in colour and some days you can clearly see the green, blue, and black hues where the waters meet. At the centre of the Baroque city, the 13th century Italianate Old Town is packed with tight laneways tunnels and archways, including an 'Artist's mile' where old buildings are occupied by artist studios, workshops, and galleries.

Freechoice:

Decide how you will spend your day from the following Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Highlights of Passau walking tour: 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.

Full day excursion to Salzburg: This morning you will disembark your Scenic Space-Ship in Passau, from where you will journey via coach to 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 to explore at your leisure. You will return to your Scenic Space-Ship in the Austrian town of Schlögen.

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.

Day 16
Thu, 09 Jul

Melk > Dürnstein (B,L,D)

Your Scenic Space-Ship will dock early this morning in the small and picturesque town of Melk, located in Austria's scenic Wachau Valley. The city's breathtaking UNESCO-listed Benedictine Abbey built high over the city is the most spectacular building in the region.

Freechoice:

This morning offers a variety of Scenic Freechoice excursions to choose from:

Glorious Melk Abbey: No visit to Melk would be complete without a guided tour to its magnificent 18th-century Benedictine Abbey. Wander its 900-year-old hallowed halls, visit the decorated Marble Hall and the library, which is filled with more than 80,000 books, and be awed by the Abbey Church, which is adorned in frescoes and intricate statues.

E-biking from Melk to Dürnstein: Embark on a guided e-bike ride to soak up the scenery along the Danube as you cycle from Melk to the quaint village of Dürnstein. You'll pass by small villages and through rolling vineyards, stopping along the way to enjoy the river views.

Artstetten Castle: Meet the current owners of Artstetten Castle, which dates to the 13th century. It was once home to the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, whose assassination sparked the beginning of WWI in 1914. See the family crypt and visit the on-site museum.

Sailing the Wachau Valley, you will be mesmerized by the sloping vineyards and charming villages. This afternoon we are docked in the quaint town of Dürnstein, where you have ample free time to wander at your leisure. Surrounded by vineyards, the town has historical buildings that date back to the 12th century, including the hilltop ruins of Dürnstein Castle where Richard the Lionheart was famously imprisoned between 1192 and 1193.

While you indulge in the spectacular views, it's also the perfect opportunity to indulge in some delicious local produce from the Wachau Valley. Your Cruise Director will organise a special treat for you and invite a local producer on board to share some regional delicacies that are famous in this region. Sample some Apricot dumplings and local schnapps among other delights in this breath-taking location.

Day 17
Fri, 10 Jul

Vienna (B,L,D)

Wake up in Vienna this morning. Also known as the City of Music, Austria's imperial capital fostered the musical geniuses Mozart and Beethoven, among others. This 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.

Freechoice:

Spend the day exploring the city and take your pick from a selection of 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, as you wander its countless ornately designed rooms, hear tales about the royal family that lives here and see the impressive gardens.

Central Vienna with extended Free time: The city centre of Vienna is brimming with history, elegance and diverse architecture. During this tour your expert local guide will delight you with stories from the city before allowing you free time to explore the city as you wish.

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.

Belvedere Museum: Visit one of Europe's most stunning Baroque landmarks and explore the greatest collection of Austrian art dating from the Middle Ages to the present day, complemented by the work of international artists such as Claude Monet, Vincent van Gogh, and Max Beckmann.

This afternoon is free to wander around Vienna, so perhaps join one of the provided shuttles to the city centre or simply relax on board your Scenic Space-Ship. This evening, join an unforgettable Scenic Enrich experience.

Enrich

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.

Day 18
Sat, 11 Jul

Bratislava (B,L,D)

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.

Freechoice:

As we dock in the city centre, this morning's Scenic Freechoice excursions are just steps away:

Walking tour of Bratislava: Explore Bratislava with a knowledgeable local guide to see all the highlights of the city such as the Hlavné Námestie, the main square and the Old Town Hall while learning about the history of the city including what everyday life was like under the Iron Curtain era, the political boundary that divided Europe after WWII.

Wines of Slovakia: Slovakian's Wines are quite young but, all over the world, wine experts are starting to praise their flavour and quality. After the fall of Communism, new viticulturers were born on the Banks of the Danube and all over this country, taking advantages of the cold weather and optimal soils. Embark on a journey through the different regions of Slovakia while tasting various wines in one of Bratislava's cellars.

Day 19
Sun, 12 Jul

Budapest (B,L,D)

This afternoon 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 Jewish history: Discover Jewish history on a guided tour with an expert local guide and learn about the significant Jewish events from history that have shaped the culture of today. The tour includes Synagogue, cemetery, memorial park and guided tour of the Jewish Museum (not available on Saturday).

Excursion to Szentendre: Journey to the riverside town in Pest County, Szentendre. Known for its museums, galleries and artists, this charming city will captivate you during a guided tour.

Guided hike of Buda Hill: Strap on your walking shoes for a beautiful hike up to the World Heritage-listed site of Buda Hill. On your walk, see Varket Bazar and beautifully landscaped gardens, all while enjoying great views over the Danube River and the city architecture.

Day 20
Mon, 13 Jul

Budapest > Paris (B,D)

Today bid farewell to the Danube river before joining an included flight to Paris, the starting point of your Seine river cruise.

Day 21
Tue, 14 Jul

Les Andelys (B,L,D)

This morning will be spent cruising towards Les Andelys. This riverfront medieval town is set on one of the prettiest bends of the Seine, resplendent with well-preserved Norman-era houses and exquisite public buildings and overlooked by the imposing ruins of King Richard the Lionheart's castle, Château Gaillard. Take a stroll alongside the river, admiring the striking limestone cliffs rising from it, or through the charming centre of town where the buildings are a living catalogue through time.

Freechoice:

Choose from today's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Hike to Château Gaillard with 'Richard the Lionheart': Step back to the age of Robin Hood. This Medieval-themed walking tour will follow in the footsteps of King Richard the Lionheart. Explore the historical secrets of Les Andelys and venture up to Lionheart's castle of Château Gaillard to wander among the ruins. From here you will have a panoramic view of the river and surrounding countryside.

Tour of Les Andelys with Chateau Gaillard: Explore the picturesque Norman town of Les Andelys on the banks of the river Seine with your local guide before reaching the Chateau that look over the city.

Excursion to Lyons la Forêt: Today you will discover Lyons la Forêt, regarded as one of the most beautiful villages in France. This delightful town is surrounded by one of the largest beech forests in Europe and comprises half-timbered houses dating to the 17th and 18th century in typical Normandy style. After exploring the town, you will visit Le Pressoir d'or where you will learn how local cider is produced as well as enjoying a sample.

Day 22
Wed, 15 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 a 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.

Photography discovery: Join a local photographer to learn the secret of this century's old art form. Use Rouen as the landscape of your digital portrait like a modern impressionist artist.

Back on board this evening, listen to a fascinating lecture about WWI with an expert.

WWI Lecture – Day in the life of Tommy: Join a lecture on WWI with a speaker who is dressed up in a soldier's uniform. During this interactive evening, you will be able to gain understanding into the life of a soldier on the Western Front and learn why this was known as 'the Great War'. From the curious 1914 Christmas armistice football match to the horrors of trench warfare involving machine guns, tanks, mining and the deadly flamethrower, you will experience the war through the eyes of an allied soldier, 'a Tommy'. Try on his equipment and weapons and taste his rations. This immersive journey is bound to be an emotional one that will bring the history of war to life.

Day 23
Thu, 16 Jul

Rouen (B,L,D)

Today you'll have the opportunity to join an excursion to the Somme Battlefields or take a walking tour from the ship to Rouen's Fine Art Museum.

Freechoice:

Excursion to the Somme Battlefields including Newfoundland Memorial Park: Take a full day excursion to the Somme Battlefields, the location of the infamous Battle of the Somme which claimed the lives of more than 150,000 soldiers from Britain and the Commonwealth. This tour will take you to the Australian National Memorial (Sir John Monash Centre) to pay tribute to the 10,773 Australian soldiers killed in WWI in France who have no known graves (with the exception of Fromelles). Afterwards you will visit the Franco-Australian Museum, which pays homage to the close relationship between the French and Australians soldiers during and after the war.

After lunch, you will visit the Lochnagar Crater, which was created by a large mine placed beneath the German front lines on the first day of the Battle of Somme, and the Newfoundland Memorial Park, one of the largest areas on the Western Front where you can still see shell holes and trenches.

Please note: The Sir John Monash Centre is a state-of-the-art immersive sensory experience that uses technology to tell the story. In order to maximise your experience, we suggest you download the Sir John Monash Centre app from the Apple or Google Play store prior to embarking on your cruise.

Excursion to the Somme Battlefields Including Thiepval: This full-day excursion will follow the same itinerary as the tour above, visiting the Somme Battlefields, the Australian National Memorial (Sir John Monash Centre) and the Franco-Australian Museum.

After lunch, you will be transferred to Caterpillar Valley Cemetery, which contains more than 5,500 Commonwealth graves from WWI, then visit Thiepval Memorial to the Missing and Visitor's Centre, and Lochnagar Crater, which was created by large mine placed beneath the German front lines on the first day of the Battle of Somme.

Please note: The Sir John Monash Centre is a state-of-the-art immersive sensory experience that uses technology to tell the story. In order to maximise your experience, we suggest you download the Sir John Monash Centre app from the Apple or Google Play store prior to embarking on your cruise.

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

Day 24
Fri, 17 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. Originally built for trade, the port was chosen for its strategic position on the southern bank of the Seine estuary. 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. 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.

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

History comes alive 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.

Day 25
Sat, 18 Jul

Honfleur (B,L,D)

Why not ask your butler to wake you with a coffee delivered to your suite, followed by a leisurely breakfast at Crystal Dining before heading off on your Scenic Freechoice excursions.

You could choose to learn about the D-Day Landings, where tens of thousands of allied troops came ashore 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:

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 on June 6, 1944, before a visit of Sainte-mere-Eglise, the town where 30 US Paratroopers landed during the Normandy 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 town 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 and the Museum of the Battle of Normandy, which describes the chronological events from D-Day in detail. Then explore 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 under British command; the Pegasus Bridge & Museum, site of an important battle; and stop at 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 the Canadian Prisoners of War from the D-Day landings. Next you will head to Juno Beach Centre, a memorial to where 20,000 Canadian troops landed on that day. After lunch at a local restaurant, visit Bény-sur-Mer Canadian cemetery where the 335 Canadian men who were killed in the D-Day Landings and the early stages of the campaign are buried. You'll also visit Pegasus Bridge & Museum, site of an important battle.

Bayeux tour with tapestry visit: If your interest sits in a different era in history, join a guided tour of Bayeux, including the Notre Dame Cathedral of Bayeux, built between the 11th and 14th centuries and considered a masterpiece of Norman Romanesque and Gothic architecture. You will also visit the Bayeux Tapestry, an 11th century embroidered cloth nearly 70 metres long and 50 centimetres tall, which tells the story of the conquest of England by the Duke of Normandy. You will have free time afterward to explore the town of Bayeux.

Day 26
Sun, 19 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 -En-Caux 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:

Cycle to Villequier with Victor Hugo Museum: Enjoy an active biking tour to the charming village of Villequier, cycling along the banks of the River Seine, following a flat eight-kilometre-each way route. Visit the museum dedicated to Victor Hugo, the famous French poet, playwright and novelist before returning to the ship.

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.

Tales of the French Resistance: Set off on a walking tour and hear stories of the French Resistance, who fought against the Nazi Occupation of France during World War 2. Hear local stories of heroism and daring missions as you explore the historic city.

Normandy Abbey Road: Spiritual health and wealth has been important in the Normandy region since the middle ages and evidence of this remains through the number of Abbeys in this region. Join a local guide on a tour of the abbeys along the meandering River Seine. Appreciate the Jumièges Abbey ruins, formally a Benedictine Abbey that dates back to the year 654 and also the 11th century Romanesque Abbey and its' romantic garden.

Day 27
Mon, 20 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. Journey via coach from Vernon to Giverny, on arrival 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 this charming town, before returning to the ship.

After exploring these beautiful gardens during this morning's touring, you may feel inspired to create a masterpiece of your own during an on board painting class.

This afternoon your Scenic Space-Ship will sail towards La Roche Guyon, where this evening's exclusive Scenic Enrich experience will take place.

Enrich

Château de La Roche Guyon: Take a short walk from the ship to Château 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 château, you will pass through the manicured orchard and vegetable gardens, which are kept by nine on-site gardeners. On arrival you'll enjoy a drink and sit for a splendid classical concert that focuses on music by French composers.

Day 28
Tue, 21 Jul

Conflans > Paris (B,L,D)

Wake this morning in Conflans-Saint-Honore, 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 guests 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: Château 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 château 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.

Kayaking on River Oise: Explore this beautiful region from a different perspective as you glide along the River Oise, which flows into the River Seine at Conflans. Paddle past impressive landscapes and estates via kayak.

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.

Day 29
Wed, 22 Jul

Paris (B,L,D)

Welcome back to Paris, where you will spend the day exploring this great city. First timers will love the highlights tour, which allows you to tick off bucket-list items such as the Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame Cathedral, while return visitors may want to discover the trendy Marais District or Opera Garnier, an opulent architectural masterpiece built in the 19th century. Or take a tour south-east of the city to an exquisite château.

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 a local guide on a coach tour of the city to see some of its most famous sites. Marvel at Paris' most iconic landmark, the Eiffel Tower, which was built in 1889 for the World Exhibition; drive along the famous Champs Elysee, the world's most beautiful avenue; and see the Arc de Triomphe and Concorde Square. You will also view the 1163-built Gothic Notre Dame Cathedral, which has been closed since the 2019 fire and is currently undergoing a painstaking restoration process.

Opera Garnier: Located in the theatrical heart of Paris, the spectacular Opera Garnier is resplendent with ornately decorated rooms, grand staircases, and glistening chandeliers. Tour this opera house and learn about the magnificent building that was commissioned by Emperor Napoleon III.

Château Vaux-le-Vicomte: Take a coach to the Château Vaux le Vicomte, located an hour's drive from Paris. This château 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. This afternoon is free to explore Paris at your own leisure. Perhaps you'd like to people-watch on the Champs-Elysee from a sidewalk café, head to the top of the Eiffel Tower for a bird's-eye view of the city, or venture to Montmartre, the artist's district and where the famed Moulin Rouge is located. Otherwise you can relax back on board your luxurious Scenic Space-Ship.

Day 30
Thu, 23 Jul

Paris > Bordeaux (B,D)

From Paris is a short flight to Bordeaux where your friendly crew will welcome you aboard the Scenic Diamond for a cruise through the Bordeaux region.

Day 31
Fri, 24 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 Culinaire 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.

Day 32
Sat, 25 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.

Day 33
Sun, 26 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 Château 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.

Day 34
Mon, 27 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.

Day 35
Tue, 28 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.

Day 36
Wed, 29 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.

Day 37
Thu, 30 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.

Day 38
Fri, 31 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.

Day 39
Sat, 01 Aug

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 Chateau 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.

Day 40
Sun, 02 Aug

Bordeaux > Lyon (B,D)

Today, after an included flight to Lyon board the Scenic Sapphire to start your journey through the spectacular south of France.

Day 41
Mon, 03 Aug

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).

Day 42
Tue, 04 Aug

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.

Day 43
Wed, 05 Aug

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.

Day 44
Thu, 06 Aug

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.

Day 45
Fri, 07 Aug

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 Markert is closed on a Monday)

Day 46
Sat, 08 Aug

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.

Day 47
Sun, 09 Aug

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.

Day 48
Mon, 10 Aug

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[^]. 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.

Day 49
Tue, 11 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.

Day 50
Wed, 12 Aug

Lyon > Stockholm (B,D)

Another incredible journey awaits, today join an included flight from Lyon to Stockholm, where you will embark on the magnificent Scenic Eclipse.

Day 51
Thu, 13 Aug

Stockholm, Sweden (B,L,D)

Spend the day exploring Stockholm's treasures, from the enchanting medieval streets of Gamla Stan to the imposing Royal Palace and the fascinating Vasa Museum, home to the world's only intact 17th century ship. Learn about Swedish traditions at Skansen Ecomuseum, join the band at the entertaining and interactive ABBA Museum, and ride the Skyview, a glass-encased gondola, for incredible panoramic views over the city. This afternoon, Scenic Eclipse II will set sail to cruise through the breathtaking Stockholm Archipelago, made up of more than 30,000 islands and islets. Admire the stunning views from your suite's private verandah.

Day 52
Fri, 14 Aug

Tallin, Estonia (B,L,D)

Cross over the Baltic Sea to the Estonian capital, Tallinn, a beautifully preserved medieval town that was once at the centre of the Hanseatic League. Its World Heritage-listed old town is packed with grand public buildings, merchant's houses and churches, with the imposing Toompea Castle at its centre. Learn about the city's military history at Kiek in de Kök tower and admire the ornate architecture of the Orthodox Alexander Nevski Cathedral. In this incredibly picturesque city, you'll be immersed in history under the fresh Baltic breeze.

Day 53 Sat, 15 Aug	Helsinki, Finland (B,L,D) A short hop across the Gulf of Finland, the compact Finnish capital of Helsinki is a cosmopolitan city that blends elegance and modernity. Winding around bays and inlets on shore, and fronting an archipelago of more than 300 islands, you're surrounded by the sea at every turn. A mix of Swedish and Russian influences creates a captivating urban tapestry, and the historical centre is filled with Neoclassical buildings and modern architecture. The Kallio district is the place for chic boutiques and restaurants, while Keskuspuisto Park offers tranquility. For an insight into the famed Finnish sense of style, visit the excellent Design Museum.
Day 54 Sun, 16 Aug	At Sea > Riga, Latvia (B,L,D) Relax and indulge in the serenity of a day at sea on board Scenic Eclipse II. Start with a yoga class in the PURE studio, swim in the temperature-controlled Vitality Pools, treat yourself to a massage# at the Senses Spa or simply graze the day away at the Azure Bar & Café, surrounded by newfound friends. Tonight, you'll arrive in Riga, known as 'The Heart of Baltics'. You may choose to go ashore tonight for drinks at one of the stylish bars that line the waterfront or watch the city lights sparkle from the Sky Deck.
Day 55 Mon, 17 Aug	Riga, Latvia (B,L,D) The largest of the three Baltic capitals, Riga is a modern European metropolis with a thriving food scene and a passion for art. It's known as the European capital of Art Nouveau, the decorative style of art and architecture that flourished between 1890 and 1910, and you can admire around 800 buildings throughout the city. Or visit Rundale Palace, one of Latvia's most exquisite monuments of Baroque and Rococo art. For delicious local delicacies, visit Riga Central Market, one of the largest and oldest in Europe. There are also excellent restaurants, trendy bars and sunny beer gardens tucked into former industrial estates.
Day 56 Tue, 18 Aug	Visby, Gotland Island, Sweden (B,L,D) Come ashore at Visby and you'll feel as if you've stepped into a fairytale. This World Heritage-listed town on the island of Gotland is an exquisite example of Hanseatic architecture and its well-preserved medieval streets will transport you to another time. Explore its narrow laneways lined with timbered houses, winding rose bushes and ancient churches. Marvel at the grand Visby Cathedral, dating to the 13th century, and walk along the striking city walls. There's also a fascinating Viking history to uncover, with hundreds of graves and treasure hordes discovered near the harbour.
Day 57 Wed, 19 Aug	Kalmar, Sweden (B,L,D) Dating back to the 13th century, Kalmar is one of Sweden's oldest cities. Set on the southeastern corner of the country, it was once a great centre of power and the streets of the old town are lined with many grand buildings from the 17th century. Admire Kalmar's Renaissance castle, city wall, cathedral and cobblestone streets, then relax in outdoor cafes, restaurants, and beautiful parks. Nearby is Öland Island, listed as a World Heritage Site for its pristine agricultural landscape. Officially the summer retreat of the Swedish Royal Family, its home to rolling fields, ancient ruins and picturesque windmills.
Day 58 Thu, 20 Aug	Rønne, Bornholm Island, Denmark (B,L,D) Bornholm Island is Denmark's eastern gem, promising a sun-kissed climate, white sand beaches and charming fishing villages. Explore four 12th-century churches and Northern Europe's largest castle ruin. Rønne is the largest town on the island, filled with half-timbered houses from the 16th century and the scent of lilac in the air. The island is famous for its glass blowers, who create unique pieces of art and stylish homewares. The island offers hiking and bike rides, with more than 235 kilometres of cycling trails, and culinary delights like wood-smoked herring and blue cheese.
Day 59 Fri, 21 Aug	Warnemünde, Germany (B,L,D) Looping back around the southern edge of the Baltic, Warnemunde offers a laidback escape from city life. Part of the German Riviera, this popular seaside resort is lined with white sand beaches and historic spa hotels. Its relaxed atmosphere and picturesque surroundings attract many European travellers in the summer months, though you may not meet many other English speakers. A short distance inland is Rostock, Germany's oldest university town and a respected centre for the Marienkirche (St Mary's Church) is worth a visit for its remarkable 15th century astrological clock.
Day 60 Sat, 22 Aug	Nyborg, Denmark (B,L,D) Nyborg is one of Denmark's oldest towns and was the nation's capital in medieval times. Today you can walk through more than 800 years of history, including the recently restored Nyborg Castle. Nearby is the town of Odense, Denmark's third-largest city and the birthplace of legendary author Hans Christian Andersen. Step into his fairytale world at Hans Christian Andersen's House, an immersive and interactive museum featuring artworks, a beautiful garden and even dress ups for the kids. Funen Village is a living piece of history where see how the people lived when Andersen was writing his stories.

Day 61
Sun, 23 Aug

Copenhagen, Denmark (B)

Your journey concludes today in Copenhagen, a city that epitomises Scandinavian cool. Denmark's vibrant capital is full of exceptional architecture, art, history and food.

Savour one last splendid breakfast on board, reminiscing on the unforgettable moments shared during your journey. Bid farewell to your fellow guests and the Scenic Eclipse II crew, then disembark to continue your travels or begin your journey home.

Please book your flight to depart out of Copenhagen after 12:00 PM.

+All drinks on board, including those stocked in your mini bar, are included, except for a very small number of rare, fine and vintage wines, Champagnes and spirits. #Spa treatments at additional cost.

Please note the itinerary is a guide and may be subject to changes for operational reasons. Please refer to our terms and conditions for further information.