

# Cruising Provence by Barge

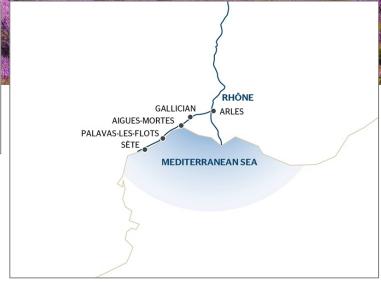
2023 | September 13-2



From Arles to Sète, join us on a cruise through breathtaking sceneries. Discover 2,500 years of history in Arles before visiting Aigues-Mortes, a medieval fortified town with a prestigious heritage in the heart of one of the most beautiful natural sites of Provence. You will also have a chance to explore the Camargue and Saint-Guilhem-le-Désert, one of the jewels of the Languedoc known as one of the Most Beautiful Villages of France.

# **Featuring**

- Arles and Olive Oil Production
- The Fortified City of Aigues-Mortes
- Salt Mines
- Traditional Camargue Safari
- Complimentary Bike Use
- Etang De Thau
- Oyster Farm
- Lavander Experience
- Saint-Guilhem-le Desert



Price (pp dbl occupancy)

Double Occupancy: \$4,099

Single Occupancy: \$5,599

Activity Level |



**Passport Required** 

For Information & Reservations 1-800-426-4324 | mytour@toursofdistinction.net toursofdistinction.net



# Cruising Provence by Barge – Your Itinerary

### Day 1 | Depart for Marseille, France

Arrive at your departure airport and check-in for the overnight flight to Marseille, France.

### Day 2 | Arrival in Marseille - Aix en Provence

Upon arrival in France, we transfer to our hotel in Aix-en-Provence. Once check-in to our hotel the remainder of the day is at leisure to discover this dense and easily walkable town.

Located at the foot of Mount Sainte-Victoire and surrounded by impeccably preserved countryside and dotted with Provençal fortified towns, lies Aix-en-Provence. Founded by the Romans in 123 BC it is considered the historical capital of the region. Aix today shows off its rich architectural heritage through the superbly restored and maintained bourgeois homes, small squares bursting with flowers, private mansions, and ancient fountains. Paul Cézanne, whom many consider the father of modern art, was born here on January 19, 1839.

### Day 3 | Aix en Provence – Arles - Embarkation on the M/S Anne-Marie

Lavender awaits today! After breakfast, we journey into the French countryside for a tour of its famous and beautiful lavender fields. We travel on countryside roads passing colorful lavender fields on the Plateau of Valensole with our local guide. There is plenty of time for photos!

We continue to the estate of a lavender farmer and learn the cultivation, distillation, and the properties of pure lavender and lavadin (a hybrid plant).

Later, we transfer to the M/S Anne-Marie for embarkation. After comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll be introduced to our crew at a welcome cocktail reception. Tonight, we'll enjoy dinner on board and remain in port.

## Day 4 | Arles - Gallaecian

Our day begins as we set off on foot for a guided visit of Arles. Arles is over 2000 years old with exceptionally well-preserved ancient architectural masterpieces and is a real open-air museum. This important cultural site welcomes visitors with open arms. During our visit, we will see the Roman Amphitheatre (or Arena), the Theatre Antique and St Trophime Square with its cloisters and church that were part of the Arles Route, one of three routes leading to Santiago de Compostela. We'll continue our tour with a visit to the Forum Square and finally the Roman Baths of Constantine.

We return for lunch on board the M/S Anne Marie and then head off by coach for the Grand Servan estate in Tarascon, a traditional olive farm which produces the famous Provençal olive oil. Here, at the foot of the Montagnette and set around a traditional Provencal farmhouse (or bastide) from the 18th century, the owners have planted a large orchard of some 150,000 olive trees. We tour the estate in hay trailers, pulled along by tractors. The owners will give you an explanation on how to plant and cultivate olive trees and how the Provençal "yellow gold", or olive oil, is produced. The visit finishes with a tasting of the products on the estate.

Afterwards, we'll return to the MS Anne-Marie and spend the afternoon cruising to Gallician on the Rhône River and the Rhône à Sète Canal.

# Cruising Provence by Barge – Your Itinerary

(continued)

### Day 5 | Gallician – Aigues-Mortes

Today, the beauty of Provence comes alive as wet off on a panoramic safari of the Camargue. We admire the rivers, marshland and lakes, the pink flamingos, bulls and the famous white Camargue horses.

We later stop in les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, renowned as a pilgrimage center for gypsies from all over Europe. The town of Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer acts as the capital for those who are passionate about the Camargue and are entranced by its wild, natural beauty, its culture and its lively, authentic traditions.

In the morning we set out on an excursion to the Camargue. Afterwards, you can enjoy some free time in this splendid city before cruising to Aigues-Mortes; arriving in the early evening.

### Day 6 | Aigues-Mortes - Palavas-Les-Flots

After breakfast, we travel to the old walled town of Aigues-Mortes. This city's rich and preserved heritage located in the marshlands is one of the loveliest, natural settings in Provence. You board a train which will take you on a 90-minute guided journey through the salt tables, finishing at the Museum of Salt.

Afterwards, we'll return to the barge and spend the afternoon cruising to Palavas-Les-Flots. This spa resort town has a rich identity reaching back more than three centuries. The remainder of the day is at leisure to stroll through this charmingly romantic Mediterranean seaside town.

### Day 7 | Palavas-Les-Flots – Sete

Your adventure begins today as you discover a 'manade' and the life of its herders during a visit by wagon and participate in a bull-sorting. Before returning to the barge, we'll have a delicious snack with fresh products from the farm.

Later, a relaxing afternoon and night is spent cruising towards Sète Tonight, be entertained with local performers and an occasion to enjoy some dancing.

### Day 8 | Sète

Known the world over for its shellfish, we head to Étang De Thau. Here, we'll discover the shellfish farmers and fishermen and taste some of the shellfish while taking in the beauty of the basin from a terrace.

Your afternoon is dedicated to a tour of Saint-Guilhem-le-Désert, one of the most beautiful villages in France. We'll depart from Sète with our guide towards the Pont du Diable (Devil's Bridge), located at the heart of the Hérault Gorges. You'll be delighted by this picturesque town and its abbey (exteriors only). Afterwards, we'll visit a wine estate followed by a tasting of wines from the Languedoc region.

Afterwards, we return on board for our gala dinner and final evening.

## Day 9 | Depart Sète

Enjoy one last breakfast on board before disembarking at 9:00 am and transferring to the airport for the journey home.

# Cruising Provence by Barge – The Details

Roundtrip International Airfare I 1-Night Pre-Accommodation Aix-en-Provence
Aix Lavender Experience I 6-Night Rhône River Cruise with Tours on the M/S Anne-Marie
6 Guided Shore Excursions with Audio Headsets
18 Meals: 7 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches & 6 Dinners
Unlimited Beverages (Beer, Wine, Spirits, Soft Drinks & Specialty Coffees)
Complimentary Bike Usage & WiFi I France Airport & Pier Transfers I 6 Member Crew
Tours of Distinction Cruise Concierge I Gratuities for Cruise Concierge I Port Charges & Taxes

\*Not included in tour cost: Gratuities for M/S Anne Marie Crew

#### **PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

Deposit: \$750 per person due at time of reservation

Final Payment: 90 days prior to departure

### **OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION:**

Optional Travel Protection is offered through Travel Insured International. Based on their new program, you have the option of booking your travel protection by following one of links below. Or, please contact our office for assistance.

https://www.travelinsured.com/agency/?p=TTP46218 http://travelinsured.com/agency?agency=46218 (For passengers from NY, PA, WA, MO & MT)

IF CANCELLING FOR A MEDICAL REASON, YOU MUST SEE YOUR DOCTOR AND PROVIDE SUPPORTING MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION WHEN SUBMITTING A CLAIM.

<u>CANCELLATION POLICY</u>: A cancellation fee of \$500.00 per person will be charged for any cancellation received from time of booking to 90 days or more prior to departure. A cancellation fee of 50% of the total tour cost will be charged for cancellations 89-60 days prior to departure. A cancellation fee of 100% of the total tour cost will be charged for cancellations received 59-0 days prior to departure.









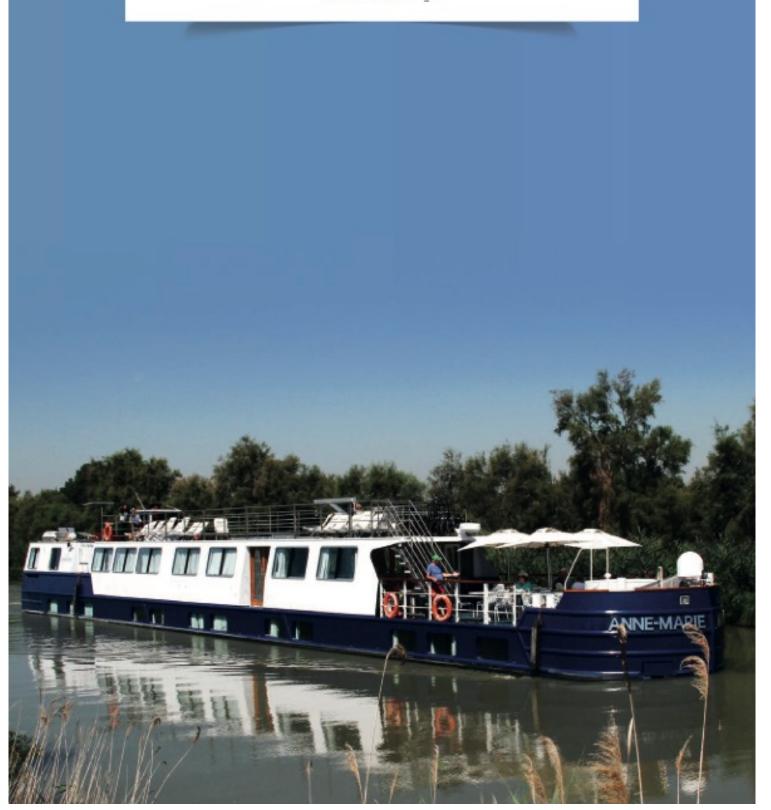




# MS ANNE-MARIE

11 cabins • French canals

SHIP CODE: AMA\_VI



TOURS Of Distinction
Since 1971

# MS ANNE-MARIE

A cruise aboard a canal barge promises a peaceful break where you take the time to discover "la douce France" in a different way. The MS Anne-Marie, a true cocoon of charm, sails on the French canals and offers its passengers an original and authentic experience.







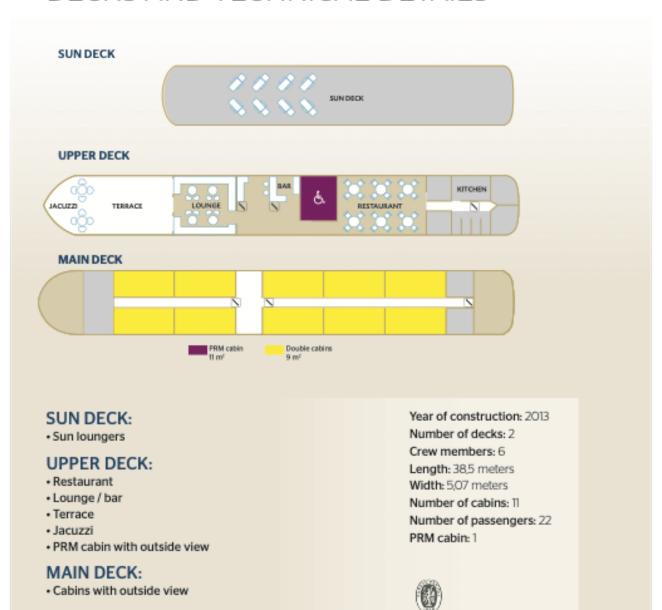
The MS Anne-Marie is a beautiful Premium canal barge, measuring 38,50 meters long and 5,07 meters wide. It can accommodate 22 passengers, in 11 cabins spread over two decks. The size of the cabins is 9 m² (including a PRM cabin of 11 m²) offering amenities and providing guests with all the comforts they need during their stay. On board, everything has been taken care of down to the smallest detail and the 6 crew members guarantee a personalized service. The decoration is stylish with an elegant and intimate at-

mosphere. Located on the upper deck are the restaurant, which offers delicate cuisine in a refined setting, the lounge bar and a relaxation area with a jacuzzi. Comfortable sun loungers are provided on the sun deck, the ideal place to relax and admire the surrounding landscapes.

A journey aboard the MS Anne-Marie promises an unforgettable getaway on the water.

#### MS ANNE-MARIE

# **DECKS AND TECHNICAL DETAILS**



# CABINS

#### UPPER DECK - 1 CABIN with high windows

• 1 PRM cabin - 1 large bed - 11m2

### MAIN DECK - 10 CABINS with high windows

•10 double cabins • 2 single beds • 9m2

#### AMENITIES

- TV
- · Bathroom with shower and toilet
- Towels
- Hair dryer
- · Telephone (for internal calls only)
- Safe
- Independent air-conditioning
- Electricity 220V
- Wi-Fi

Please note that there is no laundry service on board the ship.



### 3D PLAN DOUBLE CABIN



# 2023 Cruise **RESERVATION FORM**

One Form Per Person

## Tours of Distinction 8 Day Cruising Provence by Barge 2023 | September 13-21

GUEST DETAILS	
Name*:	Date of Birth:
* Important: Name listed here MUST match the name on your passport  Address:	City, State:
Zip Code:	Phone #:
Email Address:	Cell #:
Passport issue date:	Passport Exp Date**:
Passport issued in what country:	Passport #:
TRAVELER DETAILS	
Occupancy: Single   Double	
Travel Partner/Roommate(s):	
<b>Special Needs</b> (wheelchair, diet, handicap, etc.):	
Additional Information (KTN #, frequent flyer #, etc.):	
PAYMENT DETAILS	
Mail this form & Deposit to: Tours of Distinction   P.O. Box 577   3 Massaco St.   Simsbury, CT 06070	
Optional Travel Protection Plan: You can now book your travel protection online by following one of these links.	
http://travelinsured.com/agency?agency=46218&p=TTP46218	
http://travelinsured.com/agency?agency=46218 (for travelers from NY, MO, MT, WA. PA)	
Travel Protection:   Handling on own or Request help from Tours of Distinction	
I am paying by: ☐ Check (Payable to Tours of Distinction) or ☐ Credit Card	
Total Amount Enclosed: \$	
If requesting help for travel protection, and / or, paying by credit card, Tours of Distinction will reach out to you upon receipt of this reservation form.	
I acknowledge that I have read the Disclaimer and Cancellation Policies on the reverse of this page and understand all information given to me.	
Guest's Signature:	Date:



PO Box 577, Simsbury, CT 06070

Phone: 860.627.0199 Toll-Free: 800.426.4324

Fax: 860.627.5113

### Disclaimer and Cancellation Policies

### **RESPONSIBILITY:**

Tours of Distinction and its affiliates act only as an agent for the passenger with respect to transportation and hotels and exercise every care possible. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, delay, loss, accident or irregularity in connection with the services of any airplane, ship, motor-coach, train or other conveyance used in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, acts of God, or by other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make alterations to this published itinerary. Tours of Distinction reserves the right to cancel the tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. No refund will be made for any unused portion of the tour.

#### GROUP PROTECTION PAYMENTS ARE DUE WITHIN 14 DAYS OF TOUR DEPOSIT TO COVER PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS

THE PURCHASE OF TRAVEL PROTECTION WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH A REFUND WHEN CANCELING FOR A COVERED REASON. COVERED REASONS ARE LISTED IN THE 'CERTIFICATE OF TRAVEL PROTECTION' PROVIDED TO YOU WITH YOUR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS PRIOR TO TOUR DEPARTURE. THE TRAVEL PROTECTION IS NON-TRANSFERABLE AND NON-REFUNDABLE. IN CASE OF LATE BOOKINGS, IT WILL BE ACCEPTED WITH FULL PAYMENT. THE TRAVEL PROTECTION FORM MUST BE SIGNED IN ORDER FOR THE COVERAGE TO BE IN PLACE. BY SIGNING THE FORM YOU ARE AGREEING TO ACCEPTANCE OR DECLINE OF THE PRETOECTION. RECEIPT OF PAYMENT WITHOUT THE SIGNED FORM DOES NOT ENTITLE YOU TO COVERAGE UNDER THE TRAVEL PROTECTION OPTION.

Travel Protection Coverage Provided By: TRAVEL INSURED INTERNATIONAL, Glastonbury, CT 800.243.3174

#### **PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

**Deposit:** \$750 per person due at time of reservation **Final Payment:** 90 days prior to departure

#### **CANCELLATION POLICY:**

A cancellation fee of \$500 per person + non-refundable tour expenses will be charged for any cancellation received from time of booking to 90 days prior to departure. A cancellation fee of 50% of the total tour cost +non-refundable tour expenses will be charged for cancellations 89-61 days prior to departure. A cancellation fee of 100% of the total tour cost will be charged for cancellations received 60-0 days prior to departure.

Passports are required for all International Travel
Passports need to be obtained no later than the final payment date of the tour.

Rooms are available on a first come, first serve basis.

Disclaimer: We are in the business that plans far ahead of the tour's start date which can, at times, leave us with a change of itinerary, attraction, meal or accommodation. Due to any unforeseen circumstances, Tours of Distinction, Inc., must reserve the right to change the booked itinerary, attractions, restaurants or accommodations. In such an event, the alternative will be of equal or greater value. In the event a tour does not meet the minimum required of participants to operate the tour, Tours of Distinction reserves the right to cancel the tour and will do so no less than 45 days from departure. Any refunds to be issued from the company will be processed and sent no later than 30 days after the initial refund request. For full tour terms and conditions please visit: <a href="https://www.toursofdistinction.net/travel-info/terms-and-conditions/">https://www.toursofdistinction.net/travel-info/terms-and-conditions/</a>