FRANCE RIVER CRUISE



www.mytravelxp.com hello@mytravelxp.com 1300 168 910





France Seine River Cruise with Paris & Flights

Duration: 11 days

Stay: 7 nights outside cabin, 2 nights hotel

Travel style: Escorted river cruise with flights from Australia

Booking code: FRCG11M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

11 Days France Seine River Cruise & Paris

About the holiday

Discover the magic of France on this stunning river cruise that ticks all the boxes!

Sail the Seine River from Paris to Rouen, seeing the picturesque French countryside that inspired great artists, like Van Gogh and Monet. Enjoy an extended stay in Paris, where you'll have a panoramic tour of the city and take a guided visit to the treasure-filled Louvre Museum, home of the Mona Lisa and other celebrated masterpieces.

River cruising offers the unique opportunity to visit Europe's historic cities and charming villages as you sail the world's most beautiful waterways. Cruise aboard an intimate floating hotel, equipped with features and amenities to make your voyage comfortable and carefree.

Why you'll love this trip...

- In Auvers-sur-Oise, view Ravoux Inn where Van Gogh spent the final days of his life
- Explore Chateau Gaillard, built by Richard the Lionheart
- Visit the historic city of Rouen with its beautiful medieval quarter
- Tour the home of Claude Monet in Giverny and view the tranquil gardens that inspired his masterpieces
- Tour Paris, the historic City of Lights and view the Eiffel Tower, Les Invalides and the Latin Quarter
- All meals are included on board the ship, with locally inspired recipes, wine and beer with dinners

Travel dates

2024 - Thursdays from 25 April to 24 October

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price will vary depending on your travel date and please ask us current rates.

Want to stay longer & see more of Europe?

Email hello@mytravelxp.com for more information or call 1300 168 910



Escorted River Cruise includes:

- Return economy airfares from Australian capital cities to Paris
 - Including checked luggage, taxes & fees
- 9 nights First Class accommodation
 - 7 nights outside cabin aboard the Deluxe Monarch Countess
 - o 2 nights Paris
- River port charges of \$190 per person
- Cruise & hotel porterage
- 22 meals: 9 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners
- Cruise director & activities host throughout cruise
- Services of local guides in all major cities
- Local Host in Paris
- Shore excursions per itinerary
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring during excursions

Package excludes:

Airport & cruise port transfers - can be pre-purchased on request Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary Optional tours & activities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.

Gratuities for tour manager, guides & drivers

Travel insurance is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by airlines, hotels, river cruise company & local operators.

Cancellation fees & booking conditions apply.

Call 1300 168 910 to ask about upgrading your cabin or adding flights

River cruise features & amenities:

- Welcome Dinner and farewell dinner
- Wine and beer with dinners
- Locally inspired recipes
- Early riser breakfast in addition to buffet breakfast
- Complimentary Wi-Fi access in public areas
- Self-serve coffee and tea station
- Lounge serving premium spirits (extra charge)
- Fitness centre
- Non-smoking ship interior
- Shore excursions conducted exclusively in English

Itinerary:

DAY 1, Thursday - Depart for France

DAY 2, Friday - Cruise Embarkation in Paris

Arrive in Paris and make your own way to the ship. Embarkation begins at 2 PM. After arrival formalities, time to relax on board. Tonight, meet your Cruise Director and enjoy dinner, as it sets the mood for your delightful river cruise

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Dinner

DAY 3, Saturday - Arrive in Conflans, Auvers-Sur-Oise

This morning, arrive in Conflans. Embark on a tour of the quaint town of Auvers-sur-Oise, and learn about Van Gogh's troubled life. View Ravoux Inn, where he rented a room, and spent the final months of his life. During his time in Auvers-sur-Oise, Van Gogh was very prolific and painted over 70 works. View the cemetery where he is buried and return to the ship for lunch. This afternoon perhaps, join the *optional* tour to magnificent Versailles to witness the grandeur of French classical architecture

Optional: Palace of Versailles (PM)

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4, Sunday - Les Andelys

Enjoy an informative presentation on Château Gaillard this morning, as the ship sails towards Les Andelys. Disembark and head up to Château Gaillard, built by Richard the Lionheart. Explore the grounds and admire the panoramic views of the Seine and of the charming town at the foot of the hill before returning to the ship. On board, attend a lecture on the life of Joan of Arc

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5, Monday - Caudebec

Spend the day at leisure in the quaint town of Caudebec. Take a stroll along the riverfront promenade and continue to the historic center. Admire the intricate carvings in the entranceway and the ornate bell tower of the 15th century Gothic church of Notre-Dame. Perhaps, join the *optional* full day tour to Normandy Beaches. Immerse yourself into World War II history during this tour. View Utah Beach, and then make a stop at the Ranger Memorial at Pointe du Hoc. Continue east to visit Omaha Beach and the site of the Normandy American Cemetery and memorial. The cemetery covers 172.5 acres and contains the graves of 9,387 American soldiers

Optional: Full Day Normandy Beaches with Lunch

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6, Tuesday - Rouen

This morning, continue sailing towards Rouen or join the *optional* Half Day Honfleur. Discover the historic city of Honfleur. View Vieux Bassin, the old harbor with its half-timbered houses, and colourful boats, Church of Saint-Etienne, Sainte-Catherine Church, built entirely out of wood, and the Lieutenancy, an ancient medieval fortification. Conclude the tour with a tasting of local cider and fresh crepes. After lunch onboard take a walking tour of the medieval quarter of Rouen. View the Gothic Notre-Dame Cathedral that inspired Claude Monet to paint the cathedral series and the famous Gros Horloge, a 16th century astronomical clock. Walk through the cobblestone streets lined with half-timbered storybook houses and view the courthouse and the Market Square where Joan of Arc was martyred

Optional: Half Day Honfleur (AM)

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7, Wednesday - Vernon, Giverny

Arrive in Vernon this morning and disembark the ship for your excursion to Giverny, home of Claude Monet, one of the world's greatest impressionist painters. Walk through the famous gardens that inspired many of his masterpieces, including his famous "water lilies" series of paintings. In the afternoon, free time to discover Vernon, before you set sail for Paris

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8, Thursday - Panoramic Tour of Paris

Begin the day in Paris, the City of Light, with a panoramic tour, including a drive along the Champs Elysées to the Arc de Triomphe. View the iconic Eiffel Tower, Les Invalides, the Latin Quarter, and the lively Opera district. Spend the afternoon at leisure or join the *optional* half day tour to Montmarte. Explore Montmartre with its bohemian vibe.

View the Moulin Rouge and walk along the winding lanes to mingle with street artists selling their wares at Place du Tertre. Spectacular views of the city await you from the steps of the Sacré-Coeur Basilica. Afterward, enjoy a drink at a local bistro

Optional: Half Day Montmartre (PM)

Overnight: River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9, Friday - Louvre Museum

This morning, visit the incomparable Louvre, one of the world's most famous museums. Of the many exhibitions found therein, view the medieval fortress, Venus de Milo, Winged Victory of Samothrace and the museum's most reputed masterpiece, Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa. Afternoon is at leisure to further explore this fascinating city on your own

Overnight: Paris Meals: Breakfast

DAY 10, Saturday - Full Day in Paris

Spend the day at leisure or join the *optional* Champagne region tour. Travel to the heart of the Champagne region, which is famous for the sparkling white wine that bears its name. Drive along the elegant Avenue de Champagne, in Epernay, home to many of the world's most celebrated Champagne houses. Visit one of the wine cellars learn more about the champagne process and savour tastings of this expensive delight. Then, on to Reims with its Gothic cathedral adorned with striking stained glass windows, where many of France's kings were crowned. Return to Paris and spend the rest of the evening at leisure

Optional: Full Day Champagne Region (AM)

Overnight: Paris Meals: Breakfast

DAY 11, Sunday - Depart France

Today it's time to check out of your hotel in the morning and make your own way to the airport for your departure flight

Meals: Breakfast

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, river levels, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

Would you like to extend your stay & see more of the Continent? For more information & a personal quote, please call 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com



About Monarch Countess

The Monarch Countess is a first class river cruise vessel. Built in 2010, with a maximum capacity of 136 passengers, the ship features 64 spacious cabins and 4 suites. Each cabin is fully air conditioned with private bath facilities, shower, telephone, flat screen satellite TV, direct dial telephone, safe, individual climate control, hairdryer and mini-fridge.

Ship amenities include a bar-Lounge, restaurant, aft lounge, sundeck with jacuzzi, fitness centre, basic wi-fi throughout ship, 24/7 coffee and tea station.

French Balconies: A French balcony is a cruise industry term to describe floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors. A railing is located directly outside of the door. It is not possible to "step" outside of the door onto a balcony landing.

Important to know

This moderately active trip covers a fair amount of ground each day. Expect from three to four hours walking every touring day. The pace is moderate, however you will encounter some uneven surfaces, stairs, steps and significant slopes. There is a potential for some sailings to be impacted by river water levels, or other factors which may impact safe navigation. This may cause part or all of the cruise itinerary to be operated by motor coach and may also involve hotel accommodations.

Docking: In some ports, where there are limited docks available for the number of visiting ships, you may find your ship docked adjacent to another and may have to walk across one or more other river cruise ships before reaching the dock area. Double and even triple docking, meaning that two or more ships are tied to one another for access to a single dock, is common practice. Views will be compromised and you will be obliged to pass through one or more ships to access the dock.

Affordable Holidays - How do we do it?

With over 30 years' in the business, we know the travel industry better than anyone and have tracked down the best experiences around the world. We go directly to local suppliers to source the best price and holiday for you. Dealing directly with local operators is why our holidays are more affordable. We work with reputable travel professionals that offer exceptional service and safe travel policies. If you think you are paying too much for your travel arrangements, please give us a call, we will work hard to find the ideal holiday for you - that's My Travel Experience!



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BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be <u>viewed and downloaded on our website</u>, or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

This is a summary in brief for our customers:

- 1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
 - 2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
- 3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
 - 4. 120 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
- 5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents electronically via email.
- My Travel Experience manages a professional client operating account. All booking payments are held securely to pay for your travel services. We do not retain your money and funds are distributed promptly to travel service providers, including but not limited to, airlines, tour operators, cruise lines and hotels. We are required to pay the providers deposits and final payments and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

Phone 1300 168 910 Kew VIC 3101, Australia Email hello@mytravelxp.com www.mytravelxp.com