



Fabulous France: Exquisite, Delicious, and Chic

Join us on an incredible journey through the French countryside to admire the landscape, explore the culture, and delve into the rich history of this western European nation.

After flying into Nantes, our program begins in Angers, where you will immerse yourself in the history and culture of the Loire Valley. Explore fairytale-like châteaux, stroll medieval hilltop towns, and visit the site of a World War II tragedy. You'll visit UNESCO World Heritage sites, including a medieval, fortified city, meeting with locals along the way, who will share their culture and cuisine. And you'll do - and dine - as the French do: Venturing to the French countryside and eating your way through Lyon, France's culinary epicenter.

Then, cap it all off with two nights in chic Paris where you will enjoy the iconic sites of the Eiffel Tower and the River Seine.

For more information and registration, visit us at

www.uaf.edu/summer/travel

or call (907)474-7021

Important notes:

Travel insurance is always recommended for any travel out of the United States. There are several ways to purchase coverage. Some credit card companies insure trips that are purchased with their card. Another option is to check with a local travel agency.

Note about Mobility: Our tours are designed for people who are able to walk comfortably for up to 3 miles per day, sometimes on uneven terrain, as well as handle stairs easily. If you have any concerns about this tour, please contact Summer Sessions.

Tour Dates:

September 19 -
October 4, 2026

Tour Cost:

\$8,950.00

Single supplement: \$950.00

Extra room night, 9/18/26:
\$200

Inclusions:

- 24/7 Tour Director/Guide
- Accommodations
- In country transportation
- Entry fees
- Gratuities
- Educational programs
- Three meals per day
- Transfer to and from the airport

Transportation costs to and from France is NOT included in this tour price. All travelers must arrange their own transportation to and from the starting and ending cities.

Day 1, September 19: Angers

- Arrival in Nantes. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel in Angers, known as the gateway to the Loire Valley.
- In the afternoon, we'll gather for an introductory walk around the vicinity of our hotel.
- Later, we'll meet up for the tour orientation and Welcome Dinner.

Day 2, September 20: Angers

- In the morning, a local guide will take us on a walking tour of Angers.
- You're free to make your own discoveries in Angers this afternoon. You might choose to delve into the history of Angers by exploring the city's chateau.
- Later, we'll engage in a short French language lesson before walking to a nearby restaurant for dinner.

Day 3, September 21: Angers

- In the morning we'll drive to the 16th-century Château de Villandry for a guided tour, followed by some free time to explore the château and its lovely gardens on your own.
- Afterwards, we'll drive to Bouchemaine, where we'll learn all about Boule de fort, a beloved local game played exclusively in this region of France.
- Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 4, September 22: Limousin

- We'll check out of our hotel early this morning and begin our overland drive to the historical region of Limousin. The first leg of our drive is just over four hours, so we'll break up the journey with a coffee stop at a small village along the way. Then, we'll continue our drive to Oradour-sur-Glane, stopping along the way for lunch.
- Following lunch, we'll make our way to Oradour-sur-Glane, where we'll have some free time to explore and learn about the town's tragic history.
- Afterwards, we'll set off for Limousin, arriving late this afternoon. Here, we will check into a family-owned chambre d'hôte, the French equivalent of a bed and breakfast. During our stay here, we'll enjoy a home-hosted dinner. This will be a great opportunity to ask them about life in Limousin, any special customs they practice, and more.

Day 5, September 23: Sarlat

- We'll bid adieu to our hosts this morning and board our bus to begin the next leg of our adventure to Sarlat, in France's picturesque Dordogne region. Along the way, we'll stop in the historic city of Limoge, whose porcelain craftsmanship dates back to the Middle Ages, where we'll visit one of the porcelain workshops.
- Upon arrival in Sarlat, we'll check into our hotel and have some leisure time, before setting off on a walking tour through Sarlat's medieval old town with an expert local guide.
- Dinner at a local restaurant.





Day 6, September 24: Sarlat

- This morning, we'll travel to Rocamadour, an important pilgrimage site with UNESCO World Heritage status, built into the side of a cliff. We'll walk down the way of the cross to the cliffside sanctuary that is home to the town's most famous religious icon, the Black Madonna. Then, we'll get a glimpse into the intricate craft of restoring old stained glass windows.
- Lunch at a local restaurant in Rocamadour.
- We'll have time in the afternoon to further explore both Rocamadour and Sarlat. Dinner will be at a local restaurant in Sarlat.

Day 7, September 25: Sarlat

- Today we'll have an opportunity to experience the wonders of the Dordogne. In the morning, we'll take a drive to explore Lascaux IV, a near-perfect replica of the Paleolithic cave that holds one of the world's most impressive examples of prehistoric paintings.
- Lunch will be at a local restaurant in Sarlat.
- In the afternoon, we'll visit the ruins of medieval Commarque Castle and then drive to a local farm, where we'll learn about foie gras, a specialty food product popular in French cuisine. Finally, we'll sit down with the farmer for a traditional dinner.

Day 8, September 26: Carcassonne

- We'll begin our 5-hour drive to Carcassonne, located in southern France's Languedoc region. Our route will take us through the Parc Naturel Regional Des Causses du Quercy, an area of outstanding natural beauty. En route, we'll stop in Albi, a small town stretching along the Tarn River, and enjoy a walking tour along Albi's cobbled, medieval streets. Albi was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2010.
- After lunch, we'll resume our drive south to Carcassonne. When we arrive, we'll check into our hotel and, after settling in, take a brief orientation walk around the hotel's vicinity.
- Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 9, September 27: Carcassonne

- Morning discovery walk of Carcassonne with a local guide. We'll stroll La Cité, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that overlooks Carcassonne's winding, narrow streets.
- In the afternoon, we'll tour the Chocolaterie Nougat, a factory on the outskirts of Trèbes, that has been producing a variety of chocolate confections since 1951.
- Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 10, September 28: Carcassonne

- This morning, we'll drive to the village of Pennautier, to the Château Auzias, a boutique domaine (wine-producing territory) where we'll meet with a local winemaker, learn about the domaine and create our own special wine blend to take home. We'll enjoy a grillade vigneronne (winemaker's grill) with local community members.
- We'll return to Carcassonne in the afternoon and you'll have the remainder of the afternoon to explore the walled city.
- Dinner in a local restaurant.



Day 11, September 29: Lyon

- We'll depart for the train station this morning for our transfer to Lyon aboard a TGV—a high-speed French train.
- Upon arrival in Lyon, we'll eat lunch at a local restaurant, then drive to the hotel and take a vicinity walk before checking in.
- The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. Dinner is at a local restaurant.

Day 12, September 30: Lyon

- Lyon is known as France's culinary capital, so mid-morning, we'll embark on a 3-hour walking tour, which will include samples of typical Lyonnaise fare and a visit to a bouchon, an eatery that is part of a centuries-old Lyonnaise tradition, rooted in local workers seeking out warm, home-cooked meals in a friendly setting.
- The rest of the day is at your leisure. Lyon stretches across two rivers—the Rhône and the Saône; strolling across the many elegant bridges that connect the city's banks is a great way to see the sights.
- Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 13, October 1: Lyon

- In the morning, we'll set off on a walking tour of the historic sites associated with the French resistance during Lyon's dark days of occupation and deportation.
- Lunch will be in a local restaurant.
- After lunch, you have free time to explore Lyon on your own.
- Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 14, October 2: Paris

- After checking out of the hotel, we drive to the Lyon train station and board another high-speed train to Paris.
- Lunch at a local crêperie.
- We should arrive at Paris's Gare de Lyon station a little after midday. Then, we'll take the metro to the center of Paris where we'll set off on a discovery walk in the heart of the city.
- Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 15, October 3: Paris

- We start the day by taking the Metro to the pier to enjoy a sightseeing boat ride along the Seine river.
- For lunch, and for the rest of the afternoon, we have free time to discover Paris on our own. Stroll the Left Bank, enjoy the architecture, or visit a world-class museum.
- Farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 16, October 4: Paris

- If you are not opting for the Provence add-on, you will have a transfer to the airport and catch your return flight home.

