

## FRANCE: L'IMPRESSIONISTE – CLASSIC BURGUNDY CRUISE

7-day / 6-night Hotel Barge cruise & GUIDED sightseeing – from/to Fleurey-sur-Ouche to Escommes



<b>Cruise departs:</b>	<b>Paris every Sunday from 5<sup>th</sup> April to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020</b>
<b>Fully inclusive costs from:</b>	<b>\$7625</b> per person twin share (Stateroom) or <b>\$7850</b> (Junior Suite)
<b>Value season departures:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> April, 19 <sup>th</sup> July to 23 <sup>rd</sup> August, & 4 <sup>th</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2020
<b>High season supplement from:</b>	<b>\$1375</b> per person twin share
<b>High season departures from:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> April to 12 <sup>th</sup> July & 30 <sup>th</sup> August to 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
<b>Single cabin supplement from:</b>	\$2785 (High Season \$3280)

L'Impressionniste is a luxurious 12 passenger hotel barge in cruising in Burgundy, offering an onboard ambience that combines traditional and more modern French influences. Her light and airy interior features picture windows and prints reminiscent of the era after which she has been named. In the spacious saloon with its rich-coloured teak flooring and soft lighting, there are balloon-backed dining chairs and comfortable leather sofas that complete the effect.

The cabins, each bearing the name of a renowned Impressionist painter, offer a choice of accommodation in two junior suites or four staterooms, with modern en suite shower rooms. Twin or double beds are available.

L'Impressionniste glides gently through the Ouche Valley in Southern Burgundy through locks with their charming lock-houses. You will see medieval villages perched on hilltops and may discover a region famed for its history and viticulture, with visits to such places as Beaune, the '*wine capital*', and a tour of the elegant city of Dijon and its markets. Other highlights include a visit Clos de Vougeot, home of the Chevaliers du Tastevin, a Private Falconry display & tour at the Château de Commarin, and a Gastronomic private lunch and wine tasting at Château de Beaune. Perhaps, as the weather allows, take an optional flight in a hot-air balloon at dawn over the lush green Burgundian countryside followed by a Champagne breakfast.

Cycling? If you're feeling more active, take one of the free onboard bikes or take a stroll after dinner or as the barge cruises to the next mooring point, the crew will be happy to point out favourite trails and cycle paths.

**Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations**



## Suggested itinerary \*

### **Sunday Day 1 Fleurey-sur-Ouche**

Guests are met at our meeting point in Paris and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to the elegant L'Impressionniste. A champagne reception welcomes you on board and the opportunity to meet the captain and crew. Welcome dinner on board.

### **Monday Day 2 Fleurey-sur-Ouche to Sainte Marie-sur-Ouche**

This morning, experience our first day of cruising along this enchanting canal, which also promises a walk or cycle along an ever-present towpath past sleepy villages and pretty lock houses. After lunch we visit Clos de Vougeot, headquarters of the esteemed Chevaliers du Tastevin, who award a special prized label to the finest Côte d'Or vintages every year. On the way back to the hotel barge we enjoy a tour of the cellars and a private tasting of fine Burgundy wines at another long-established domaine. Dinner on board.

### **Tuesday Day 3 Sainte Marie-sur Ouche to La Bussière**

After breakfast, a walking tour of old Dijon, including the vivid produce markets, mustard shops and impressive Notre-Dame de Dijon, enjoy some excellent shopping time. Return to the barge for lunch and a leisurely afternoon cruise to La Bussière and perhaps a walk or bicycle ride to the next lock or two. Dinner on board.

### **Wednesday Day 4 La Bussière to Pont d'Ouche**

After a short morning cruise, we set off on a drive through the vineyards, stopping en route at the "vigne d'enfant Jesus", a famous vineyard owned by the Domaine Bouchard Père et Fils. There, a wine expert will give us a real insight into the domaine's production of its Grand Cru and Premier Cru wines. We continue to Beaune, capital of Burgundy wine country, for a winery tour and private tasting of Bouchard Père et Fils wines before enjoying a gastronomic lunch in the orangery of Château de Beaune, owned by the winery since 1820. Afterwards, we visit the fascinating 15<sup>th</sup> Century Hôtel-Dieu Hospice and explore the town, before returning to the barge for a short evening cruise to Pont d'Ouche. Dinner is served on board.

### **Thursday Day 5 Pont d'Ouche to Vandenesse**

After breakfast, we cruise to Vandenesse-en-Auxois, passing grazing white Charolais cattle, rolling hills and picturesque villages, crossing the only aqueduct on the Burgundy Canal. After lunch on board, we visit the medieval village, craft shops and castle of Châteauneuf-en-Auxois, once an outpost of the Dukes of Burgundy and offering a fine overview of the feeder lakes, canal and surrounding countryside. Dinner on board.

### **Friday Day 6 Vandenesse to Escommes**

Cruise to the canal summit, 1,250 feet above sea level, just before the Pouilly tunnel. After an early lunch, we visit the Château de Commarin for a private demonstration of the medieval sport of falconry\*\*. The close up encounter with these majestic birds against the backdrop of the castle grounds is an amazing experience and afterwards, we meet Count Bertrand de Vogue, the current resident and 26<sup>th</sup> generation of the de Vogue family to maintain continuous residence since the 13<sup>th</sup> Century, who will give a fascinating insight into the Château's history. This is followed by a private tour of the building. Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.

### **Saturday Day 7 Escommes**

After breakfast, guests are transferred to Paris.

*\* This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change and is weather dependant. On alternate weeks the cruise will be in the reverse direction. \*\* The falconry display is weather dependent.*

Other hotel barge cruises available from **Outdoor Travel** in **Ireland** on the River Shannon, Windsor on the **River Thames** near London, Scotland on the **Caledonian Canal**, in **Holland** for the tulips in springtime, the **Loire Valley**, **Bordeaux** region, **Provence** or on the **Canal du Midi** in the south of France or **Venice** in Italy.

## Contact Outdoor Travel for more itinerary details and reservations

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