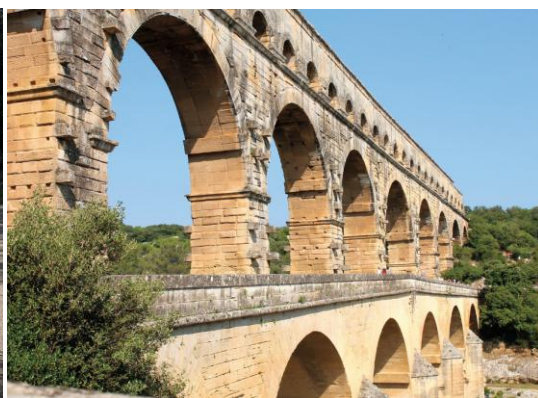


FRANCE – THROUGH THE RHÔNE VALLEY TO PROVENCE

8-days / 7-nights Moderate **PREMIUM PLUS** GUIDED cycling cruises with **E-BIKES**



Discover the Rhône Valley by bike, from Lyon to Arles, following riverside trails through vineyards, medieval villages, Roman landmarks and the heart of Provence. Enjoy the best of Provençal scenery as you ride past olive groves and lavender fields, historic bridges and Roman architecture, visit Châteauneuf-du-Pape, the UNESCO listed old town of Avignon, view the Roman engineering marvel that is the Pont du Gard and explore the impressive Roman amphitheatre at Arles.

This holiday offers comfortable e-bikes flatten out the hills and adds the flexibility to choose between longer or shorter rides on many days, with both options showcasing the region's highlights. Unpack just once and return each evening to the comfort of your Premium Plus barge, where a welcoming crew, delicious meals and your own ensuite cabin await.

Departs: Selected Fridays from 16 April to 22 October 2027

Lyon to Arles: 23 April, 7, 21 May, 4, 18 June, 3, 17 September, 1, 15 October 2027

Arles to Lyon: 16, 30 April, 14, 28 May, 11, 25 June, 27 August, 10, 24 September, 8, 22 October 2027

Cost from:

Lower-deck cabin:	\$4,295 per person twin share
Upgrade to upper-deck cabin:	\$1,095 per person twin share
Lower-deck Cabin for single occupancy:	\$6,120 per person
Season Supplement applies on selected departures:	\$735 - \$1095

Includes: 7 nights' accommodation in twin cabin with ensuite; 7 breakfasts, 6 packed lunches (or lunch on board), 6 dinners; welcome drink; cycling tour guide; **e-bike** hire with water bottle, pannier and helmet; e-bike insurance; support van on 2 cycling days; maps and route information (1 set per cabin); guided city walk in Avignon; wine and chocolate tastings, Pont du Gard & Palais des Papes entrances; other entries and excursions as listed on the itinerary; ferry fees.

Not included: Dinner in Avignon; personal expenses, gratuities, other drinks on board, entrance fee and excursions not mentioned on the itinerary; transfers to/from ship mooring point.

Special diets may be available at a supplement – ask for details and request when making your booking.

Difficulty: Moderate cycling with mostly flat terrain, combined with a few hillier sections that are made much easier with the e-bikes. Daily distances can be longer, but shorter ride options are often available, allowing you to choose the distance that best suits your energy levels. The route mainly follows quiet secondary roads, with occasional short sections on semi-paved paths.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 03 5750 1441 for details or reservations



Here is a suggested itinerary - the cruise operates in the reverse direction on alternate weeks.

The day to day itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the captain / cycling guide (where necessary). Cycling distances shown are approximate:

Day 1 - Friday: Arrival in Lyon

Make your own way to the barge in Lyon during the afternoon. After settling into your cabin, join the rest of the passengers for a welcome drink. This will be the perfect opportunity for the crew and guides to introduce the barge, as well as the itinerary and highlights of the week ahead. Depending on your arrival time and the schedule of the other passengers, there may also be a chance to head out for a short warm-up ride to get familiar with your e-bike.

Day 2 - Saturday: Lyon to Tournon-sur-Rhône

cycling @ 45km

This first morning is all about relaxing on board as the barge cruises through the Rhône Valley. After lunch, it's time for your first bike ride. The route starts in Chavanay, surrounded by vineyards, before following the Rhône through a series of charming riverside villages. Along the way, you'll pass through Sablons and Serrières on the way to Andance, home to one of the oldest suspension bridges across the Rhône.

Day 3 - Sunday: The Rhône and/or the Ardèche

cycling @ 40 km or 75 km

Today, you have two cycling options. The first follows the river. Mainly on bike paths from Tournon to La Voulte-sur-Rhône. Along the way, visit the historic centre of Valence, see Marc Seguin's suspension bridge and discover the Valrhona Chocolate Museum. If you're looking for a longer ride with more challenge, the second option begins with a trip aboard the Ardèche Historic Train (subject to availability). From Lamastre, you'll follow a former railway line through tunnels, forests, viaducts and countless viewpoints overlooking the river before rejoining the barge in La Voulte-sur-Rhône. This evening, the barge continues cruising south towards Viviers.

Day 4 - Monday: Viviers to Châteauneuf-du-Pape

cycling @ 65 km

Today, the support vehicle will accompany the group throughout the day. Your ride begins in the medieval village of Viviers. Today's route offers views over the Rhône Valley as you cycle through vineyards, olive groves, lavender fields and truffle country, with a stop near the Château de Suze-la-Rousse. The ride then continues towards Orange, where you'll have time to admire its famous Roman Theatre. From there, make your way to Châteauneuf-du-Pape, where you can opt to take part in a wine and chocolate pairing. The barge will be waiting for you before cruising on to Avignon.

Day 5 - Tuesday: Avignon

(Optional) 50 km

This morning is dedicated to a guided tour of the UNESCO listed old town of Avignon, including a visit to the imposing Palais des Papes. After lunch on board the barge, you once again have two options. The first gives you the freedom to explore Avignon at your own pace. The second offers a ride through the countryside surrounding the city, following quiet country roads, canals and picturesque villages. Your evening in Avignon is at your own arrangements, giving you the chance to discover one of the town's local restaurants for dinner.

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Day 6 - Wednesday: Avignon to Tarascon via the Pont du Gard**cycling @ 60 km**

Once again today, the support vehicle will accompany the cycling group, as you ride into the heart of Provence, through vineyards, historic villages and, to the day's highlight: the Pont du Gard, the famous Roman aqueduct. You'll have plenty of time to enjoy the UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you'll also stop for lunch. In the afternoon, the route becomes mostly flat, following quiet country roads alongside the Rhône before rejoining the barge in Tarascon.

Day 7 - Thursday: Tarascon to Arles**cycling @ 25 km or 65 km**

Today is the last cycling day and again offers two route options. The shorter ride follows the Rhône river, arriving in Arles in time for lunch on board the barge. In the afternoon, you'll join a guided walking tour of the city, including entry to Arles' Amphitheatre and Roman Theatre. If you're still eager to ride (or if you're planning to explore Arles after the trip), you can take on the longer route through the Provencal hills and olive groves. Along the way, you'll pass Saint-Paul-de-Mausole, where Vincent van Gogh lived and painted some of his most famous works. Depending on the route chosen by your guide, you may also have the chance to visit Montmajour Abbey, the Château des Baux-de-Provence or the Monastery of Saint-Paul-de-Mausole before returning to Arles for your final dinner on board the barge.

Day 8 - Friday: Arles

After breakfast, it will be time to disembark the barge.

We recommend spending extra time in Arles. It's a fascinating and historic city with much to explore.



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Outdoor Travel offer similar cruises in France, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Austria, Romania or Hungary. Bike & Boat holidays are offered in Italy, Croatia, Greece, Turkey and Vietnam. We offer inn-to-inn guided or self-guided cycling tours, walking holidays or river and canal hotel barge cruises in many areas of Europe.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

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