

# 8-14 Day Saint-Remy de Provence & The Château des Alpilles Itinerary



Château des Alpilles- Highlights

# CUSTOM ITINERARY – YOUR DATES – FLEXIBLE INCLUSIONS – 8-14 DAY ITINERARY

This special estate, close to **St. Remy de Provence**, was once a chapel in the countryside. Now a grand house surrounded by large landscaped gardens it is used as an elegant hotel. It has a formidable history: in its time it has hosted many famous diplomats, policitians and literary celebrities - and now you may enjoy its elegant bar where antique coffee tables share the space



with Corbusier chairs and wonderful art. There are guestrooms in the castle, in the Cypress Farm and in the small houses.

The rooms in the castle are of varying sizes but they are all elegantly furnished with good bathrooms. A beautiful staircase accesses the fourteen rooms in the castle, all with a fireplace and high ceiling.

The old Mas de Gaillard has four suites and one apartment, more contemporary in style.



You may enjoy dining in the

restaurant (closed Wednesday and Thursday for lunch) where the focus is on light recipes, fish or vegetable-based, olive-oil flavoured with a provencal flair. In the summer months you may dine under the terrace's planetrees.

The swimming pool is located in the heart of the lush garden The hotel's restaurant serves delightful cuisine

with typical specialties from Provence.

The ideal place for a relaxing stay in the Provence region, Château des Alpilles offers easy access to Saint-Rémy-de-Provence, where you can visit the archaeological site of Glanum and the archaeological museum.



Restaurant, Bar, 24-Hour Front Desk, Newspapers, Garden, Non-Smoking Rooms, Rooms/Facilities for Disabled Guests, Elevator, Safety Deposit Box, Heating, Luggage Storage, All Public and Private spaces non-smoking, Airconditioning.



# Customized Private Tours and Excursions for this itinerary include:

Saint-Remy de Provence, Arles, Nîmes, Avignon, Aix-Provence
The exact itineraries will be crafted based on your passions and interests and information we develop in our Creative Planning Session for your journey.

Special Venues – Celebrity Hosted Events – Exclusive Inclusions – VIP Behindthe-Scene Experiencs – Unique Adventures - Specialty Passions & Themed Programs

Below are just a few sample experiences to get your own ideas motivated. Visit to a private château near Aix.

Visit the private chateau de la Mignarde. Famous for having sheltered Pauline Borghese in 1807, this bastide is one of the most representative of the Aixois spirit of the 18th century. The first house, property of a confectioner, was sumptuously remodelled and decorated in the Louis XVI style by his son, Sauveur Mignard by 1770. The facade, embellished with elements in dressed stone dominates a garden ornamented by ponds and statues.



## Cooking class near Aix-en-Provence

You begin the day for a walking tour of Aix market with a local chef where you will purchase produces for the hands-on cooking class that will take place in a countryside bastide located at the outskirts of Aixen-

Provence (15 minutes drive). You will prepare a three course Provencal meal that will be followed by lunch. You will also enjoy a guided visit of the beautiful gardens of the estate.



### Olive oil tasting near Saint-Rémy

Meet with a family in their olive oil mill near the Baux de Provence. The family owns 25ha of olive trees that produce one of the best olive oil in France.

After a visit and an explanation of the olive oil making process you will have the opportunity to taste the oil of high quality and



classified as "Extra Virgin". Depending on the time of the year you taste it, the taste can be extraordinary fresh in Winter, then more fruity in the Spring.

# Painting workshop in Aix-en-Provence

Be welcomed by Monique in her studio and house downtown Aix-en-Provence. There, easels will be set for each one of you and you will be introduced to painting techniques and impressionism. You will start your work helped by the professor and after this two hour lesson; you will be able to go back to the USA with your fabulous work!



#### Hot air ballooning in the Luberon



The newest balloon base is located half way between the Alps and the Mediterranean at Forcalquier, in Haute Provence. Come and discover this landscape of hilltop villages, lavander fileds, wild sage and other hidden treasures which only a balloon ride can reveal! Balloon rides in Provence only take place in the morning, as in the afternoon weather conditions are not favourable.

# Visit private garden in the Alpilles

Visit the Jardin de l'Alchimiste, a blooming evocation on the theme of Alchemy. There are three main steps to visit the garden: The Berechit maze, Magic garden, and the Alchemic Garden, which is based on 3 other steps: the Black Work garden, The White Work garden, and the Red Work Garden... The visit starts with a maze formed by the letters of the first word of the Bible: "Berechit"; then the garden of magical herbs explains the secrets and



the therapies supposed to be cured through these plants in Provence; finally, the alchemical garden shows the three Works through this vegetal and symbolic evocation made of plants, elements, flowers and lights...





# Visit the Camargue with an expert

Your ornithologist guide will accompany you along a 5 km footpath, across a mosaic of protected landscapes (salt meadow, reed bed, mud flat, ephemeral water body) to discover the diversity of European water birds:
All nine European Heron species (among which Purple Heron, Squacco Heron, Little Bittern, Great Bittern...), Greylag Geese & Red-crested Pochard Gull, tern & wader nesting colonies (Black-winged Stilt & European Avocet)

Reed-living passerines (Moustached Warbler, Bearded Tit, Reed Bunting)

# The Gardon river in a canoe

In the charming village of Collias, located by the Gardon River you will take your canoe and will be led by an English-speaking coach for a descent from the village to reach the Pont du Gard, part of an impressive system of channels and tunnels and it has survived intact over a period of some 2000 years.



It is a technical as well as an artistic masterpiece which was added to UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites in 1985. This activity is perfect for the families who wish to enjoy sports activities doable by every member of the family aged from 6-year old! A fun way to discover the Gardon lascapes and to learn about Roman history.

# **Cooking class with Michelin starred chefs**

Meet your driver in the lobby of your hotel and drive to a private villa whose kitchen offers the same technologies as in gourmet restaurants.

You will be welcome with coffee and croissants before starting the cooking class with one of the most renowned chefs of the region: either René Bergès (Le Relais Sainte Victoire) or Dominique Frerard (Les Trois Forts), or two-michelin starred chefs Jean-André Charial, Sylvestre Wahid (Oustau de Baumanière), Michel Portos (Saint-James Bouliac) or 1 michelin starred chefs Lionel Lévy (Une Table au Sud), Pierre Reboul.

You will prepare a gourmet menu with the best regional products which makes you feel as if you were in a gourmet restaurant.



You will also follow a wine-pairing course with a renowned sommelier.

The cooking class will be followed by a lunch or dinner with the chef (depending on the schedule)".





# Personal shopper in Aix

After breakfast, our stylist will meet you at your hotel where she will give you a very personal service of a Style and Colour Consultation.

You will discuss everything from the colours you look incredibly in, to your hair, make-up, style preferences, cuts and fits of clothing, that are so specific to you.

Our stylist will also create a shopping list of items to work with your suitcase and holiday requirements.

After a light lunch at leisure, you will be taken into the city of Aix-en-Provence where you will be shown a wonderfully calm and relaxing shopping experience in Aix's very unique and elegant choice of boutiques.

After a couple of successful hours shopping you will return to your hotel where our Stylist will prepare your clothes and arrange for your hair to be styled and make-up to be applied, all to perfection and ready for your evening agenda. A full day dedicated to shopping and beauty!







# Cooking class with a chef in Avignon

Upon arrival at the restaurant located in a quiet street of Avignon, meet with Chef Jean-Marc, who has worked with Michelin starred chefs like Troisgros or Chibois.

You will be given technical sheets to perform the recipes. First, Jean-Marc will make a theoretical presentation before giving you the opportunity to prepare 3 different dishes.

The hands-on cooking class will be followed by an aperitif during which you will take a lesson on pairing food & wine. You will then lunch with the chef and debate on the cooking class. **End of Services.** 

Ready to plan your journey? Contact us today! 678-500-9548

Schedule Your Creative Planning Session Now!