



PRINTEMPS EN PROVENCE

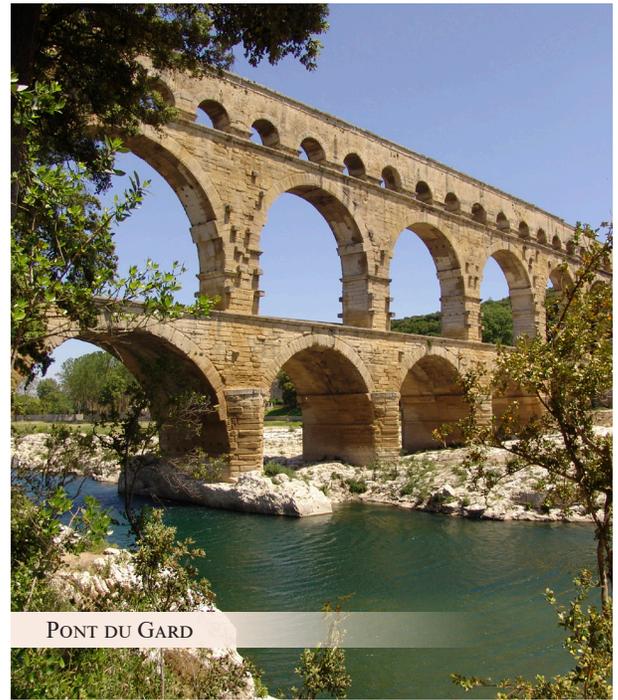
LET'S UNPACK IN ARLES - EXPLORING PROVENCE IN THE SPRING APRIL 6TH - 14TH 2018

Come visit a region that has everything! Find stunning countryside full of contrasts, with the finest food and wine, beautiful cities, and a cultural heritage that stretches from the prehistoric to the avant-garde. Whether you're a first-time traveler to France, or have visited many times before, this trip adds a fresh perspective to a timeless region.

Provence has been a magnet for painters from Van Gogh to Matisse, a special region that has never lost its power to enliven and invigorate the traveler with fragrant lavender fields and clear, bright light. You will be able to unpack on this *One-Stop Tour* in the Roman city of Arles, with its superb Roman amphitheater.

We'll explore Avignon, the city of the Popes, the colossal aqueduct - the Pont du Gard - Roman Nimes, ancient hilltop villages, unchanged for centuries, and the elegant city of Aix-en-Provence, a city whose avenues, squares, markets, shops and cafes create an unforgettable buzz of sophistication and excitement.

Join Discover Europe this spring and walk in the footsteps of artists who worked to capture the essence of the region. Travel on a journey into the heart of Provence, you're guaranteed to leave a piece of your heart behind in this vibrant land of color and light.



PONT DU GARD



PALAIS DES PAPES

THE COST OF THIS ITINERARY, PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IS:

LAND ONLY (NO AIRFARE INCLUDED)	\$3550
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:	\$ 780

Airfares are available from many U.S. cities. Please call for details.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

HOTELS: 7 nights' accommodation in a first-class hotel, all hotel taxes and service charges included
COACHING: All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
MEALS: Breakfast daily, 4 dinners
GUIDES: Discover Europe tour guide throughout
BAGGAGE: Porterage of one large suitcase per person
ENTRANCES: Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary

*Please note that travel insurance is not included on this tour.
Insurance information will be mailed to each registration on receipt of deposit.*

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FRIDAY, APRIL 6TH - Departure from your chosen US gateway city. **OVERNIGHT: PLANE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH - Morning arrival in Marseilles, where you will be met for the short drive to Arles. After checking in there will be time to unpack and relax, before your guide introduces the neighborhood and the region. This evening we'll enjoy the first of many great meals together. **(D) OVERNIGHT: ARLES**

SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH - The ancient Roman city of Arles was once the capital of Gaul, Britain and Spain and today is home to one of the best preserved Roman arenas in Europe. We'll have a gentle walking orientation of the city this morning, including a visit to the Cathedral, St. Augustine was consecrated bishop of the English here in 597, and the monumental Roman amphitheater. The afternoon and evening are free to pursue individual interests **(B) OVERNIGHT: ARLES**

MONDAY, APRIL 9TH - A morning excursion to the Pont du Gard, the vast Roman aqueduct built without an ounce of mortar and still standing intact after two thousand years! We continue to Avignon, the papal city during the fourteenth century, for a walking tour of its highlights with a local guide, including a visit to the Palais des Papes. Return to Arles for a free evening and a chance to sample a traditional French meal in a local restaurant. **(B) OVERNIGHT: ARLES**



TUESDAY, APRIL 10TH - After a drive through the Vaucluse Region of Provence, we'll have a walking tour of Aix-en-Provence, the elegant and honey-hued former capital with "the most satisfying street in France." The Cours Mirabeau, canopied by soaring plane trees and decked with fountains, is lined with an abundance of cafes and patisseries. Our tour leads us through the mansions of the Mazarin district, past the famous dolphin fountain, to the church of Ste-Marie-Madeleine with its controversial Triptych of the Annunciation, and then the Gothic cathedral of Saint-Sauveur. We'll visit the Atelier Paul Cezanne – the studio kept just as it was when he died in 1906. The narrow lanes in Vieil Aix feature some of Provence's finest architecture and most delightful shopping, and the afternoon is free before we return to Arles for dinner. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: ARLES**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11TH - A free day to enjoy this magnificent city. **(B) OVERNIGHT: ARLES**

THURSDAY, APRIL 12TH - Today we begin our explorations at the 11th-century fortified hilltop village of Les Baux. We continue to St-Remy-de-Provence, a dreamy and unspoiled town where Van Gogh painted, and we'll explore the old town before we visit the monastery of St. Paul-de-Mausole. This afternoon we visit the fascinating settlement of Glanum just outside St. Remy. Originally a Neolithic homestead, Glanum was later built on by the ancient Greeks and the Romans. We return to Arles for dinner this evening. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: ARLES**



FRIDAY, APRIL 13TH - Our final excursion today takes us first to the city of Nimes. Our walking tour of the old city will include a visit to the incredibly-well preserved Roman temple known as the Maison Carree. After time for lunch, we'll drive to the coast to the ancient walled town of Aigues-Mortes and then head back through the salt-marsh, nature preserve of the Camargue to Arles. We'll enjoy a farewell dinner together this evening in Arles. **(B, D) OVERNIGHT: ARLES**

SATURDAY, APRIL 14TH - Morning transport to Marseilles Airport for returning flights to the U.S. **(B)**

Key to included meals: B = breakfast, D = dinner