



La Belle Epoque cruising the Burgundy Canal



FRANCE

LA BELLE EPOQUE - NORTHERN BURGUNDY CRUISE (TOUR CODE: 9876)

STARTS AND ENDS

in Paris

TRAVEL PERIODS

22 Mar 26 - 25 Oct 26

EXPERIENCE

Cruising
Food & Wine
Cultural

TRAVEL STYLE

Barge Cruising

La Belle Epoque takes you on a gentle voyage of discovery through a region studded with traditions and history along the Burgundy Canal.

Highlights

- Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Abbaye de Fontenay**
- Private **tasting of Chablis** wines
- Visit to the **Château de Commarin** for a unique falconry display
- Private **Champagne Tasting** at the Maison Taisne Riocour
- **Dine** with the Baron & Baroness Segolene de Taisne at the magnificent **Château de Ricey-Bas**
- Excellent towpath for walking & biking

Cruising the scenic Burgundy Canal, La Belle Epoque offers a relaxing journey through rolling countryside, with a towpath ideal for walking or cycling. Built in the Netherlands in 1930 to transport timber from Burgundy to Paris, she was converted into a luxury hotel barge in 1995. Accommodating up to 12 guests, La Belle Epoque features two Junior Suites and four ensuite staterooms, a spacious salon and dining area and a sun deck with a spa pool. A dedicated crew of six, including a master chef, ensures an unforgettable experience.



INCLUSIONS

- 6 nights onboard the Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque in a Stateroom
- Crew of 6 (Captain, tour guide, chef and hostesses)
- Transfers by an air-conditioned minivan
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily prepared by your chef
- Captains farewell dinner on your last night
- Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Excursions as per itinerary
- Use of barge facilities

ITINERARY

Deck Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque

Deluxe | 12 Passengers | 6 Crew

- 126 Feet Long
- 2 Twin/Double Junior Suites (150-165sq ft incl. en suite)
- 4 Twin/Double Staterooms (125-130sq ft incl. en suite)
- Spa Pool
- Air-Conditioned / Centrally Heated



Day 1

Paris Venarey-les-Laumes

Guests are met at The Hotel Westminster in central Paris* and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to La Belle Epoque, where a warm welcome with champagne and canapés awaits. After time to settle into cabins, the first dinner on board introduces guests to the exquisite cuisine of Burgundy.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Dinner



Day **2**

Venarey-les-Laumes Montbard

Following a leisurely breakfast, the barge cruises through woodlands and rolling fields, with excellent towpath walking and cycling opportunities past the canalside villages of **Nogent**, **Courcelles** and **Les Granges**. After an early lunch, a visit to the moat-encircled **Château de Commarin** offers a private demonstration of falconry, providing a close-up experience with these majestic birds. Guests are then given a guided tour of the château, steeped in centuries of history. Dinner is served on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Époque** in a Stateroom.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **3**

Montbard Buffon

The morning cruise heads towards Buffon, passing the 18th century Forges de Buffon with excellent walking and cycling along the towpath. After lunch, guests visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Abbaye de Fontenay**, founded in 1118. This

exceptionally preserved Cistercian abbey offers insight into monastic life, featuring tranquil gardens, ponds, cloisters, dormitories and a scriptorium. Return to the barge for dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **4**

Buffon Ravières

After breakfast, the day begins in **Les Riceys**, the only wine-growing region in Champagne to hold three Appellation d'Origine Contrôlées. Guests visit Maison Taisne Riocour for a tour of the vineyards and winery, before exploring the **Château de Ricey-Bas** with its 12th century vaulted cellars. A champagne aperitif and gourmet lunch are served in the private family salon, followed by time to stroll the gardens or admire the château interiors. The afternoon cruise to **Ravières** offers further walking and cycling along the towpath or relaxing on deck with a glass of bubbly. Dinner is served on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day **5**

Ravières Ancy-le-Franc

The morning cruise continues along the Burgundy Canal to moor at Ancy-le-Franc. In the afternoon, guests visit the **Château d'Ancy-le-Franc**, a perfectly symmetrical 16th century masterpiece featuring France's largest collection of Renaissance murals, set within magnificent gardens and parkland. Dinner is served on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



CHATEAU D'ANCY-LE-FRANC

Day 6 Ancy-le-Franc Lézinnes

After breakfast, guests explore the vineyards and town of **Chablis**, dating back to Roman times, followed by a private wine tasting at Domaine Laroche and a visit to the 1000-year-old Obédiencerie, part of the original monastery of St Martin where Chablis wines have been aged for centuries. Lunch is served, then a leisurely cruise takes the barge to its final mooring at **Lézinnes**, with opportunities to walk or cycle into the picturesque village of Saint-Vinnemer. The journey concludes with the **Captain's Farewell Dinner on board**.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Belle Epoque** in a Stateroom.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DOMAINE LAROCHE

Day 7 Lézinnes Paris

After breakfast, you are transferred to Paris.

Breakfast

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE	LOCAL CURRENCY
French	EUR

Departure Dates and Pricing:

2026 Cruise Rates		
Rates are for 6 nights either: per person based on double occupancy per cabin or on a whole barge charter basis. Prices below are in Euros.		
Accommodation	Value	Regular
Stateroom	€6,150	€7,190
Junior Suite	€6,650	€7,750
Single Supplement	€2,300	€2,600
Charter (Whole Barge)		
Charter 8 passengers	€62,800	€73,000
Charter 9 passengers	€64,700	€75,300
Charter 10 passengers	€66,300	€77,200
Charter 11 passengers	€67,900	€79,100
Charter 12 passengers	€69,500	€81,000
Departure Dates (Sunday)	Rates	Cruise Region
Mar 22, 29; Apr 5, 12, 19	Value	France - Burgundy
Apr 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Jun 7, 14, 21, 28; Jul 5	Regular	France - Burgundy
Jul 12, 19, 26; Aug 2, 9, 16	Value	France - Burgundy
Aug 23, 30; Sep 6, 13, 20, 27; Oct 4, 11, 18	Regular	France - Burgundy
Oct 25th	Value	France - Burgundy

- This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change. On alternate weeks, the cruise will be in the reverse direction.
- Approximate transfer duration between Paris & La Belle Epoque is 2.5 hours.
- Burgundy & Champagne departing 28 July, 4 & 11 August (during the Paris Olympics) special pick up/drop off arrangements will apply as our drivers will not be able to access the Hotel Westminster during that time – please ask us for details.
- This barge is available for charter bookings and theme cruises. Contact us for more details.

Pick-up Point

- Cabin bookings - The Hotel Westminster, Paris at 2:00 pm
- Charter bookings - One location of the groups choice in Paris at 2:00 pm OR a TGV train station close to the barge after 4:00 pm

Drop-off Point

- Cabin bookings - The Hotel Westminster by 12:00 noon
- Charter bookings - One location of the group's choice in Paris by 12:00 noon OR at a local TGV train station by 10:00 am

Booking / Payment Process

- On our website the Barge Cruise prices are show in Euros
- All payments will be made to us in Australian Dollars
- The current exchange rate will be used at the time of deposit and balance
- Our invoice will make this clear and our team is here to assist you

Supplier Booking Conditions Apply

Due to the boutique nature and limited capacity of this travel experience, under our Bookings Conditions this package classifies as “Booking

Type 2 – Travel Experience where we act as agent only". Your contract for the delivery of travel arrangements will be with the principal supplier and will be subject to their Booking Conditions. We will advise you prior to confirming your booking the full details and Booking Conditions of the principal supplier. Our responsibility to you where we sell travel arrangements as agent for the supplier is specified in the 'Responsibility' section of our Booking Conditions.

* This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change - Blackout dates may apply during festive season.

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.)
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package