Cruise Details

Name:	Colors of Provence (Taste of Christmas)
Reference:	AMAFG271209FCX
Operator:	Ama Waterways
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	AmaKristina
Regions:	Rhone and Saone
Departs On:	09 Dec 27
Departs From:	Arles
Arrives On:	16 Dec 27
Arrives At:	Lyon
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	7

Itinerary

Day 1: Arles (France)

ARLES – EMBARKATION. Board the ship for your Colors of Provence cruise. (D)

Arrives On: 09 Dec 27

Day 2: Arles (France)

ARLES. Arles is considered one of the most beautiful cities in France. Let your experienced guide lead you to the top sights, including the Romanesque cathedral and Roman amphitheater. Enjoy free time to wander its quaint Christmas Markets. Or, if you wish to delve further into Van Gogh's Arles, join a special walking tour along with a visit to the Vincent van Gogh Foundation, showcasing his legacy. Alternatively, you may take a guided bike tour through town. Later in the day, enjoy a walking tour in Avignon, aptly named the "City of Popes," that includes the Papal Palace and the well-preserved medieval walls surrounding the historic center of town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. For a more flavorful experience, visit three venues around Avignon to taste

regional specialties including macarons, cheese and wine, and tapenades. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 10 Dec 27

Day 3: Avignon (France)

AVIGNON. Depending on your interests, you have three choices of excursions for the morning. Avignon, aptly named the “City of Popes,” was the center of the Catholic Church in the 14th century when its “Palais des Papes” was the equivalent of today’s Vatican. Discover the history of Avignon on a guided walking tour that includes the Papal Palace. You will also have time to enjoy the lively Christmas markets with their cheerful atmosphere and delicious regional specialties. Those looking to indulge in local cuisine can visit three venues around Avignon to taste regional specialties including macarons, cheese and wine, and tapenades, along with a visit to the Christmas Markets. More active guests can enjoy a bike tour through the city. In the afternoon, you can go to another UNESCO World Heritage Site, the impressive Pont du Gard, a Roman aqueduct that is a masterpiece of ancient engineering. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 11 Dec 27

Day 4: Viviers (France)

VIVIERS. Take in the quaint surroundings of Viviers, a charming commune that sidles up to the right bank of the Rhone. From Viviers, travel to a magnificent hilltop village, and go in search of the highly prized “Black Diamond” truffles with a farmer and his trustworthy canine companion. You can also explore Viviers on a guided walking tour, where you’ll see iconic sights such as Saint-Vincent Cathedral. Alternatively, see the sights on an active walk through town and up towards a belvedere with a panoramic view of the Rhône Valley below. You may also set off on a guided bike tour, exploring the beauty of Southern France as you ride along the Rhône River. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 12 Dec 27

Day 5: Tournon-sur-Rhône (France)

TOURNON. Embark on an exciting and nostalgic steam train ride through the magnificent landscape carved along the Gorge du Doux. Lovers of wine and chocolate will instead wish to visit Le Château de Tournon for a presentation and tasting on the pairing of red wine and chocolate. For a more active adventure, take a hike through the vineyards of Tain l’Hermitage, followed by a visit to a local winery where you’ll sample some of the wines. You’ll also have many opportunities to taste Provence’s regional specialties, including its traditional 13 desserts of Christmas throughout your journey. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 13 Dec 27

Day 6: Vienne (France)

VIENNE. Situated between the wine regions of Beaujolais and Côtes du Rhône lies Vienne with a Roman past that can be seen in its marvelously preserved ruins. Follow the footsteps of the ancient Romans on a walking tour to see the amazingly well-preserved Augustus and Livia Temple, the Saint Maurice Cathedral, a Gothic church that took more than 500 years to build, and St. Pierre Abbey—one of the oldest surviving churches in France, and now an Archaeological Museum. For those wishing to be more active, you can either take a guided hike from the ship to the Monastery at Mount Pipet or a guided bike tour along a portion of the ViaRhôna bike route. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 14 Dec 27

Day 7: Lyon (France)

LYON. Discover dynamic Lyon, starting in Fourvière Hill, part of the city's historic region that is now a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to the 19th-century basilica Notre-Dame de Fourvière. Continue on to the old town of Lyon, followed by a guided walk through the St. Jean district, where you will be introduced to the city's unique covered walkways, known as "traboules." Your time in Lyon also includes time to browse the Lyon Christmas Markets and watch the city sparkle in festivities and tradition. You can also visit the famous indoor market hall Les Halles de Lyon – Paul Bocuse, named after the late chef renowned for his Michelin-starred l'Auberge du Pont de Collonges restaurant. There you'll have a chance to sample of the delicacies offered by butchers, bakers, chocolatiers and cheesemongers while taking in the colorful sights and enticing aromas around you. For a more active excursion, join a guided bike tour through the city designed with cyclists in mind. Spend your afternoon traveling to the Beaujolais wine region—known as the Pays d'Or or "land of the golden stones." While there, indulge in a wine tasting at a traditional winery. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 15 Dec 27

Day 8: Lyon (France)

LYON – DISEMBARKATION. Disembark the ship and bid farewell to Lyon as you prepare for your flight home. (B) B,L,D – Indicates Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner are included on this day.

Arrives On: 16 Dec 27

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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