Cruise Details

Name:	Colors of Provence (Wine Cruise)
Reference:	AMAFG271216FBT
Operator:	Ama Waterways
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	AmaKristina
Regions:	Rhone and Saone
Departs On:	16 Dec 27
Departs From:	Lyon
Arrives On:	23 Dec 27
Arrives At:	Avignon
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	7

Itinerary

Day 1: Lyon (France)

EMBARKATION – LYON, FRANCE. Board the ship for your Colors of Provence cruise. (D)

Arrives On: 16 Dec 27

Day 2: Lyon (France)

LYON – TREVOUX. 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." Alternately, indulge in rich cheeses, fresh breads and charcuterie in Les Halles Market or join a guided bike tour through the city designed with cyclists in mind. In the afternoon, travel to the Beaujolais wine region—known as the Pays d'Or or "land of the golden stones." Indulge in a wine tasting at a traditional winery and learn about the history and techniques of their vineyard.

(B,L,D)

Arrives On: 17 Dec 27

Day 3: Lyon (France)

VILLEFRANCHE. Travel to the Beaujolais wine region—known as the Pays d'Or or "land of the golden stones." Indulge in a wine tasting at a traditional winery and learn about the history and techniques of their vineyar (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 18 Dec 27

Day 4: Vienne (France)

VIENNE – TOURNON. 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. Take 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 bike tour along a portion of the ViaRhôna bike route or a guided hike from the ship to the Monastery at Mount Pipet. During the evening, be treated to a delicious pairing of red wine and chocolate at the 15th-century Le Château de Tournon, located on the banks of the Rhône, in the heart of town. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 19 Dec 27

Day 4: Tournon-sur-Rhône (France)

Arrives On: 19 Dec 27

Day 5: Tournon-sur-Rhône (France)

TOURNON. Walk through the steep vineyards as you learn about the history and techniques of winemaking in this area. Following the guided tour, join your host for a tasting of the Hermitage wines for which this region is celebrated. Alternatively, take an exclusive private train ride past magnificent landscape carved along the Gorge du Doux stopping at the charming little station of Colombier le Vieux-Saint Barthélemy le Plain, where the train maneuvers in preparation for its return journey. For a more active adventure, enjoy 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. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 20 Dec 27

Day 6: Avignon (France)

AVIGNON. 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 and the well-preserved medieval walls surrounding the historic center of town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Depending on your interests, you have two choices of excursions for the morning. You can enjoy a bike tour along the Rhône where you will see the Avignon ramparts, or you can visit three venues around Avignon to taste regional specialties including macarons, cheese and wine, and tapenades. You can also go in search of the highly prized “Black Diamond” truffles with a farmer and his trustworthy canine companion. You can go to another UNESCO World Heritage Site, the impressive Pont du Gard, a Roman aqueduct that is a masterpiece of ancient engineering. Alternatively, visit a winery in the famed Châteauneuf-du-Pape wine region, where viticulture has been promoted since the 14th century. The unique soil composition here has earned the area a reputation for producing distinctive wines that are now popular the world over. Join a specialist from the winery on a private tour of the wine cellars and vineyards, an exclusive opportunity to learn about centuries-old winemaking methods. Following your tour, enjoy a tasting of the vineyard’s specialty wines. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 21 Dec 27

Day 6: Avignon (France)

Arrives On: 21 Dec 27

Day 6: Arles (France)

Arrives On: 21 Dec 27

Day 7: Tarascon (France)

TARASCON - ARLES. Provençal town Tarascon is known for its medieval architecture and charming tales – especially the legend of the Tarasque monster. Join a guided walking tour where you’ll visit the Roman ruins of Arles such as its Roman Amphitheater and the Church of Saint Trophime, famous for its Romanesque architecture. Alternatively, you can enjoy a bike ride along the Rhône, through town to the Langlois Bridge, a famous subject from several Vincent Van Gogh paintings. And for those who 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. During the afternoon, you’ll visit the enchanting medieval fortress, the Castle of Tarascon – a fortress designed to protect but surprises all with its elegant interior, fit for royalty. Or venture to the medieval hilltop village, Les Baux de Provence and then delve deeply into the Carrières de Lumières, where you’ll be treated to a spectacular presentation of art, sound and history projected on the former limestone quarry walls of caves. In the evening, enjoy a short cruise to Pont d’Avignon bridge, illuminated

against the night sky. (B,L,D)

Arrives On: 22 Dec 27

Day 8: Avignon (France)

AVIGNON – DISEMBARKATION. Bid farewell to Avignon and prepare for your flight home. (B)

Arrives On: 23 Dec 27

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

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