Cruise Details

Name:	Nice & Sensations of Lyon & Provence
Reference:	EMERALDEFRN140827-1V
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Liberte
Regions:	Saone
Departs On:	14 Aug 27
Departs From:	Lyon
Arrives On:	24 Aug 27
Arrives At:	Nice
Cruise Nights:	10
Total Vacation Days:	11

Itinerary

Day 1: Lyon (France)

Fly from the UK for the start of your cruise.

Welcome to France and Lyon, a historic city situated halfway between Paris and the Côte d'Azur, at the confluence of the Rhône and Saône rivers. Upon arrival, you'll be met at the airport and transferred to the luxurious surrounds of your Emerald Star-Ship, where your friendly captain and crew will be waiting to welcome you on board. Later, enjoy dinner on board with your fellow guests. DiscoverMORE
Lyon by night (extra expense)
Experience Lyon in a whole new light as this enchanting city comes magically alive after dusk. Stroll through illuminated streets, where centuries of history blend with modern vibrancy. From the glowing façade of Old Lyon to the shimmering reflections on the Saône, every corner tells a story. Marvel at the breathtaking view from Fourvière Hill, where the cityscape sparkles beneath the starry skies. Discover the charm of the World Heritage-listed Presqu'île, adorned with beautifully lit squares and fountains

Arrives On: 14 Aug 27

Day 2: Lyon (France)

France’s third-largest city and a flourishing trading city since Roman times, Lyon is steeped in history. With its superbly preserved historic quarters, a significant section of Lyon has been designated a World Heritage Site. Lyon is arguably most famous for its outstanding cuisine and culinary heritage, considered the heart of gastronomy in France and one of the world’s premier food capitals. Home to traditional Lyonnaise cuisine, you’ll enjoy sampling an array of exceptional culinary delights, accompanied by some of Europe’s finest wines. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Lyon
Today, a guided city tour of Lyon awaits. Stroll through the city and soak up the vividly illustrated history, admiring the striking buildings spanning the eras along narrow cobblestone streets. One of your highlights is a visit to the World Heritage-listed Basilica Notre-Dame de Fourvière, part of the inscribed historic site of Lyon. EmeraldACTIVE
Guided e-bike tour of Lyon
Alternatively, those feeling more active can explore the highlights of Lyon on two wheels, as part of a guided e-bike tour through the city. DiscoverMORE
Excursion to Pérouges (extra expense)
Located on a hill overlooking the Ain River Valley north of Lyon, this small medieval walled town thrives on its local wine and weaving industries. Considered one of the most beautiful villages in France, several fascinating buildings, including a fortified church and the house of the Princes of Savoy, await along the cobblestone streets. Explore from the upper gate to the 15th-century church, the main street ‘Rue des Rondes’ and the Maison du Sergent de Justice. This picturesque location has provided the backdrop for numerous films, including ‘The Three Musketeers.’

Arrives On: 15 Aug 27

Day 3: Mâcon (France)

Nestled in the heart of Burgundy, the Beaujolais region is well known for its distinctive wines produced here, particularly the world-famous Beaujolais Nouveau. The Beaujolais wine region is renowned for its vibrant, fruity wines produced with the Gamay grape variety. The extensive planting of Gamay grapes makes Beaujolais, one of several regions across the world that focus solely on a single grape variety. Red wine accounts for 99 percent of the total wine production in the Beaujolais wine region. Included Excursion
Beaujolais wine tasting
Experience the signature flavours of the renowned Beaujolais region with a guided wine tasting. You’ll visit a local vineyard, learn about the wine-making process, and sample a selection of wines that capture the essence of this picturesque region. Whether you're a seasoned wine connoisseur or a casual enthusiast, this tasting offers a marvellous first-hand introduction to the world of Beaujolais.

Arrives On: 16 Aug 27

Day 4: Tournon-sur-Rhône (France)

Today, you'll arrive in Tournon, a charming village that borders the gently meandering Rhône. Picturesque Tournon is dominated by a 16th-century castle that overlooks the village and several iconic landmarks, including a set of ancient watchtowers and impressive Roman relics. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Tournon with wine tasting
Led by an expert local guide, enjoy a walking tour that highlights the village's intangible cultural heritage. You'll also learn about the area's rich history of viticulture and enjoy a special tasting of the local wines. EmeraldACTIVE
Guided hike through the vineyards
Alternatively, for those feeling more active, join a guided hike through the verdant local vineyards. As you take in the bucolic splendour that surrounds you, marvel at the rows upon rows of grapes that are selected to produce some of the finest wines in Europe.

Arrives On: 17 Aug 27

Day 5: Viviers (France)

Welcome to Viviers, a small walled village in southern France that dates back to Roman times. This delightful village is best known for its medieval cathedral – one of the oldest in France – as well as romantic views across the Rhône River. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Viviers
Today, your included walking tour with a local guide through charming Viviers will highlight many of the village's striking monuments, distinctive for their ornate windows and
lavish façades. DiscoverMORE
Visit to Chauvet Pont D'Arc (extra expense)
Embark on a transformative journey as you delve into the fascinating Caverne du Pont-d'Arc Museum, an awe-inspiring testament to the indomitable spirit of human creativity. Let the luminosity of knowledge guide your steps as you traverse this cavernous expanse. You'll be accompanied by a local guide who breathes life into the ancient canvases that adorn the largest decorated cave replica in the world.

Arrives On: 18 Aug 27

Day 6: Avignon (France)

Set along the banks of the Rhône River in the celebrated region of Provence, the fortified city of Avignon bears a rich and illustrious history – from Celtic beginnings to the residence of seven successive Popes between 1309 and 1377. This legacy is evident today in the massive Palais des Papes (Popes' Palace), which is surrounded by medieval stone ramparts and an assortment of grand palaces and courtyards. Avignon also played a major role in the nation-defining French Revolution during the late 18th century. Included Excursion
Visit to Chateauneuf du Pape with wine tasting
Experience the charm of Châteauneuf-du-Pape with a guided visit and exceptional wine tasting. Delve into the

region’s distinctive terroirs and age-old winemaking traditions, then savour expertly curated tastings that highlight the depth, elegance, and character that make Châteauneuf-du-Pape one of the Rhône Valley’s true treasures. EmeraldPLUS
Provençal dinner & wine pairing hosted by local chef Fabien Morreale
This evening, you’ll enjoy an exclusive Provençal dining experience on board your Emerald Star-Ship, expertly prepared by France's Top Chef finalist, Fabien Morreale. This celebrated French chef will prepare a special Provençal dinner menu for you to enjoy and savour the authentic flavours of the gastronomic region of Provence, highlighted with fine wine pairings. EmeraldPLUS
Classical concert in Avignon
Enjoy a classical concert set within a historic chapel where centuries-old stone walls create exceptional acoustics and a truly atmospheric setting. As the gentle light glows and music fills the space, a talented local trio performs timeless works, offering a moment of elegance, reflection, and cultural immersion. This exclusive experience blends Provence’s rich heritage with the beauty of live classical music for an unforgettable evening. DiscoverMORE
Guided tour of the Pont du Gard (extra expense)
At the heart of Provence, the World Heritage-listed Pont du Gard Aqueduct presents one of humankind’s great masterpieces. Technically and architecturally impressive, this three-level Roman aqueduct served as an aqueduct until the 6th century, transporting thousands of gallons of water per day. Later, it was used as a toll gate before transforming into a road bridge. On this fascinating guided tour, you’ll also visit the small Roman town of Uzès. Explore the circular streets that once protected the medieval castle and sample some of the region’s exceptional cuisine in the local restaurants.

Arrives On: 19 Aug 27

Day 7: Arles (France)

The glorious past is yours to uncover in Arles, a once-important Phoenician trading port that was captured by the Romans, who liberally peppered the city with iconic monuments that are still clearly evident today. Included Excursion
Guided tour of Arles with arena visit
Today, your included tour of Arles will showcase some of the World Heritage-listed Roman and Romanesque monuments, which illustrate how this ancient city has evolved over the centuries. Visit the 2,000-year-old Arles Amphitheatre and follow in the footsteps of world-renowned artist, Vincent van Gogh. DiscoverMORE
In the footsteps of Van Gogh with a painting workshop (extra expense)
Follow in the footsteps of celebrated artist Vincent van Gogh as you explore the beautiful landscapes that inspired his iconic works. Afterwards, take part in a painting workshop, where you can try your hand at recreating the vibrant scenes that captured the artist’s imagination. You’ll get to keep your own masterpiece inspired by Van Gogh’s legacy and then take it home with you as a unique souvenir. DiscoverMORE
Excursion to Les Baux de

Provence (extra expense)
Set at the heart of the Alpilles regional country park, the World Heritage-listed Les Baux de Provence is recognised as one of the most beautiful villages in France. Situated at a fortified rocky site between Arles and St. Remy-de-Provence, explore the Old Village with its narrow cobblestone streets and medieval stone buildings. Compact and brimming with shops and restaurants, the village retains a traditional lifestyle, while being regarded as an outstanding attraction. The high, rocky pinnacle of Château-Fortress des Baux extends to the southwest of the village and reveals incredible views from the hilltop.

Arrives On: 20 Aug 27

Day 8: Arles (France)

This morning, after breakfast, it’s time to disembark your Emerald Star-Ship for your transfer to the coastal city of Nice. Enjoy your included three-night stay in the beautiful capital of the Côte d’Azur - also known as the French Riviera – in the beautiful South of France. This evening, meet your tour director and fellow guests for a welcome drink.

Arrives On: 21 Aug 27

Day 8: Nice (France)

Arrives On: 21 Aug 27

Day 9: Nice (France)

Take in the sights of the French Riviera’s glitzy Monaco on your included morning tour. Later, you may wish to join an optional Emerald DiscoverMORE excursion or explore Nice at your own pace. Perhaps take a stroll along the iconic Promenade des Anglais, beside the Mediterranean’s dazzling shores, or delve into the city’s esteemed art scene. Your tour director will be more than happy to help you plan your memorable day in Nice. Included Excursion
A city tour of Monaco and Monte Carlo
The stunning seaside surrounds of the French Riviera are yours to explore with your local guide on today's insightful tour of the Principality of Monaco - the world's second smallest country - and its jet-setter district of Monte Carlo.

Famously portrayed in classic films such as 'Never Say Never Again' and 'To Catch a Thief,' glamorous Monte Carlo offers much in the way of its charming past and is home to one of the most recognisable Grand Prix tracks in the world. Witness the impressive Prince’s Palace of Monaco, originally a Genoese fortress with a dramatic past and the home of beloved actress and Princess of Monaco, Grace Kelly. DiscoverMORE
Tastes of Nice (extra expense)
Discover the vibrant heart of Nice on a guided walking tour through the enchanting Old Town, where centuries of history meet Mediterranean charm. From the elegant Neoclassical buildings of Place Massena to the winding alleys lined with art galleries and Baroque chapels, this immersive stroll reveals local legends, customs, and

culinary delights – such as Fleurs de courgettes (zucchini flowers) and Tapenade d’olives niçoises (Nice olive spread). Marvel at the opulent Lascaris Palace and explore the colourful Cours Saleya market and hidden gems like Sainte Rita and the Chapel of the Holy Shroud. Follow in the footsteps of the celebrated artist, Matisse, who found endless inspiration here for his esteemed artworks. Your tour culminates at the majestic Nice Opera House, a testament to the city’s rich cultural legacy.
Duration: 2.5 hours, Activity level: Moderate

Arrives On: 22 Aug 27

Day 10: Nice (France)

Nice has long held a reputation for its glamour, where striking beaches and lavish surrounds create a unique atmosphere unlike any other. Today, explore more of Nice at your leisure and later, perhaps choose to join an optional Emerald DiscoverMORE excursion.

Your tour director will be available again to help you plan another day in this vibrant seaside city. DiscoverMORE
Visit to Saint-Paul de Vence (extra expense)
If you love charming villages with a wealth of historic monuments and art galleries, Saint-Paul-de-Vence is definitely somewhere you should put on your must-see list. Located in the Alpes-Maritime region along the French Riviera, this medieval village is one of the prettiest hilltop towns of Provence. Amid one of the most beloved villages in southern France, enjoy exploring the many cobbled streets, centuries-old buildings, quaint squares, vaulted passageways and ancient fountains galore.
Duration: 4 hours, Activity level: Easy

Arrives On: 23 Aug 27

Day 11: Nice (France)

This morning, after breakfast, it’s time to bid farewell to your fellow guests as you prepare to be transferred to the airport for your return flight to the UK, taking memories of Roman amphitheatres, sublime gastronomy and the idyllic surrounds of the French Riviera with you. This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions for further information.

Arrives On: 24 Aug 27

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

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