



## FRANCE

## ALOUETTE - CANAL DU MIDI CRUISE FROM CARCASSONNE TO BEZIERS

(TOUR CODE: 14921)

## STARTS AND ENDS

Carcassonne to  
Beziers

## TRAVEL PERIODS

12 Apr 26 - 21 Jun 26

## EXPERIENCE

Food & Wine  
Luxury

## TRAVEL STYLE

Cruise

Tour ruined castles and restored monasteries, enjoy exquisite wine tastings.

### Highlights

- Visit Medieval Carcassonne and explore Europe's largest fortress with double ramparts, panoramic battlements and captivating medieval charm
- Wander through Narbonne's celebrated covered market, savouring the vibrant colours, aromas and flavours, then enjoy a tasting of fine local wines or artisanal olive oils
- Discover Fontfroide Abbey and tour a serene 11th-century Cistercian monastery with peaceful cloisters and a stunning rose garden

Step aboard the Alouette - an intimate barge for a personalised cruise along the scenic Canal du Midi, journeying from Carcassonne to Béziers. Embrace the gentle rhythm of the waterways as you unwind in comfort, indulging in gourmet meals, fine wines and laid-back luxury. Along the way, disembark for private tours of historic châteaux, atmospheric monuments and local wine tastings. Discover hidden gems and timeless villages tucked into the heart of the South of France, where tradition and tranquillity meet. This is slow travel at its most refined and rewarding.

*Kindly note: The Alouette is exclusively available for private charter for up to 4 guests & available in the reverse direction.*

# INCLUSIONS

- 6 nights onboard the Alouette in your own private sanctuary - with a capacity to welcome up to four guests
- A dedicated tour guide and an itinerary tailored to your preferences
- All excursions including exclusive use of the onboard bicycles alongside the river
- Dedicated Host service
- Roundtrip transfers to/from the luxury barge within France & Geneva
- Table d'hote meals and complimentary beverages, daily breakfast and French fine dining experience served onboard

# ITINERARY

## Facilities Alouette onboard

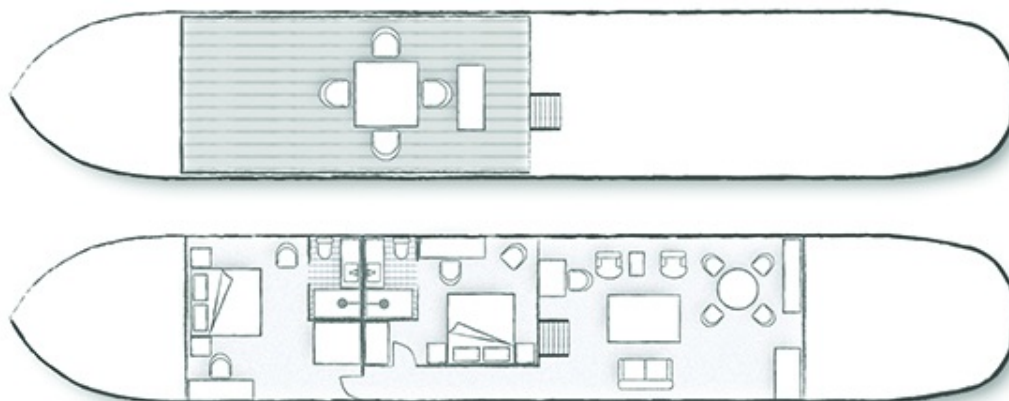
### Welcome onboard!

Enjoy the finest of river cruises and lounge in understated luxury aboard Alouette. Perfect for a tranquil South of France summer or a romantic holiday, Alouette has just two cabins, one twin and one double — each boasting an ensuite shower room featuring L'Occitane toiletries.

Relax in intimate accommodations, where soft lighting, warm pastel tones and airy marble bathrooms set the scene for a restful stay. Cool off with an afternoon siesta or stretch out with a classic cocktail as you watch the sun set through your picture windows.

Each meal is tailored to your own taste. Consult personally with your chef, picking from regional specialities and fine ingredients. Pair the region's finest fish dishes with delightful wines nurtured to maturity by local vineyards.

## DECK PLANS



Cabin 1

Cabin 2

DECK PLANS

Day  
2, 3  
& 4

Homps Le Somail

Awake to a beautiful day on the water and a breakfast of local delicacies. Alight in the walled city of Carcassonne, a UNESCO classified World Heritage Site and return to the barge for lunch and a relaxing cruise along Canal du Midi. Arrive at this evening's countryside mooring, enjoy a cocktail or two before heading a charming local restaurant for dinner.

After breakfast, your guide will escort you to the village of Lagrasse, a preserved treasure nestled between the foothills of the Corbières mountains. Return to the barge for lunch and a leisurely cruise to Le Somail, your mooring over the next two nights. Tonight, enjoy a sumptuous dinner on board.

On the fourth day, visit Narbonne – a lively Mediterranean city and pivotal wine-importing centre. Take time to stroll through the wonderful covered market, voted amongst the most beautiful in France. Enjoy a traditional lunch at a charming bistro, then, opt to visit a local olive mill or winery enroute to Alouette. Back on board, aperitifs whet your appetite for a peaceful dinner as the sun begins its descent.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## Day 5 & 6 Minerve Capestang Béziers

After breakfast, visit Minerve, a beautiful medieval village that overlooks the wild gorges beneath, and return to Alouette for lunch as it drifts along Canal du Midi to the port of Capestang. Relax and soak up the ever-changing views or take a stroll perhaps along the towpath. This evening, dinner is served on board.

On Day 6, the barge navigates the journey's final stretch to Béziers. After lunch, disembark with your guide to visit Fontfroide Abbey. This 11th-century Cistercian monastery, now privately owned, delights with its tranquil chapter hall, refectory and well-kept rose garden. Rejoin Alouette for refreshing cocktails and a farewell gala dinner. Sit out on the balmy deck, sharing stories and highlights while indulging in exquisite seasonal delicacies.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## Day 1 Trèbes

Enjoy a warm welcome and champagne reception onboard, in the company of your dedicated guide and crew. Take in the 360° views on deck whilst your chef prepares your first tailored feast of the cruise, a spread of vibrant dishes crafted from flavourful ingredients. As delicious wines are uncorked, raise a toast to the start of a sublime vacation.

Dinner

## Day 6 & 7 Final cruise to Lyon

An early morning cruise gets you to your final destination, Lyon, in ample time to explore. France's third-largest city is known for its outstanding cultural scene, adventurous gastronomy and fantastic shopping. Dominating the skyline is the ornate Basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourvière, which offers sweeping panoramas from its hilltop perch. Enjoy a walking tour with your guide to discover the secret passageways, or 'traboules' of the old town, the Roman ruins and famous city murals. Afterwards there's time to stroll, explore or shop at leisure. Back on board your buoyant luxury villa, Chef is preparing an epicurean farewell feast.

On day 7, check out this morning by 09:00am. After breakfast, your crew bids you farewell as you disembark for your travel arrangements, either towards the nearest airport or the next location of your choice.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## Day 7 Disembark in Béziers

After breakfast, your crew bids you farewell as you disembark for your onward travel arrangements. Please note that your check-out time is scheduled for 09:00am.

*Please note, in exceptional circumstances it may be necessary to alter the route without prior notice.*

Breakfast

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French

## LOCAL CURRENCY

EUR

- This itinerary may be subject to change. On alternate weeks, the cruise will be in the reverse direction.

### **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.

### **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
- Drinks from the premium list, or drinks ordered during excursions
- 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