

# RIVER, COASTAL & CANAL CRUISES







Discover a wide variety of escorted river, canal and ocean cruises with Jules Verne. Cruises are a wonderful way to travel, allowing you to relax and watch the ever-changing scenery as you cruise by, travelling in style and comfort without the repetitive necessities of hotel formalities. The need to only unpack once is a welcome benefit.

Our choice of vessel is deliberate to reflect the flavour and ambience of the routing and our carefully selected partners share our ethos for a boutique style cruising experience, ideal for the discerning traveller with an interest in culture, history and nature.

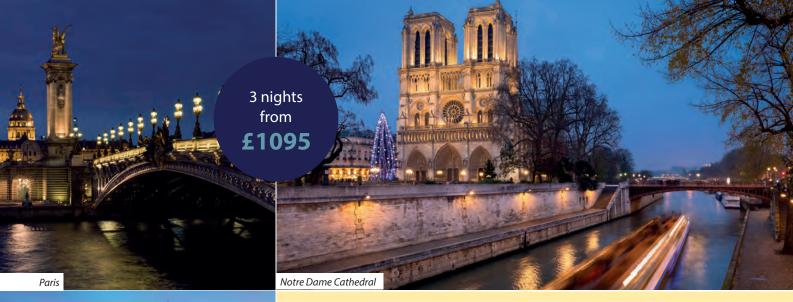
Each vessel has an experienced captain, a professional and knowledgeable cruise director and an attentive crew to look after your needs and ensure the smooth running of the cruise.



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**OVERVIEW** Paris (Days 1 - 4)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**New Exclusive Small Ship Cruise Complimentary Cabin Selection UNESCO Heritage Site Excursions & Drinks Included UK Tour Manager** 'No Flying' Group Size: 10 - 20

### **DEPARTURE & PRICES**

per person in a twin Lower Deck cabin Furostar from London St. Pancras

2022 – Saturday (Péniche Raymonde) £1095

Dec 3

#### Supplements per person

Single supplement – £645 Eurostar Standard Premier Class – £195

#### Extra Nights - Paris

Stay in central Paris for independent exploration after your cruise at the 4-star Hotel Chess near the Opera. Includes breakfast.

Hotel Chess (per night) – £145 Single supplement – £125 Arrival or departure transfer – £45

Rail travel, all port charges, transfers, 3-night cruise, full board and drinks on cruise vessel, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated rail fares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

Cabins are available from 5pm on arrival and until 9am on departure (before/after this, luggage storage on board is possible).

#### PÉNICHE RAYMONDE

Launched in 2014, a surprisingly spacious barge, owned by the innovative French cruise company, CroisiEurope. Reception, elegant dining room, lounge bar, sun terrace with Jacuzzi and sundeck, WiFi (free/limited). Bicycles available for use. Enjoy International and French cuisine with a choice of wines in an elegant one-sitting dining room. Breakfast is a buffet, lunch and dinner waiter service. 10 air-conditioned lower deck cabins with picture window, private facilities, hairdryer, safe and satellite TV. For more details see vjv.com.

## **FESTIVE BARGE IN PARIS**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

At night, Paris comes alive with the glow of millions of lights. With nearly 300 illuminated sites around the city, including statues, fountains, monuments, churches, hotels and an impressive 33 major bridges, there is no more magical place than the City of Light to celebrate the Christmas period.

The banks of the Seine, a UNESCO heritage site, tells the history and evolution of the city. Many of its major monuments are built alongside the river with a succession of architectural and urban masterpieces dated from the Middle Ages to the 20th century, all harmoniously exposed.

Stay in the very heart of Paris on board a charming barge, exclusive to Jules Verne, and cruise past legendary sites from the Canal Saint-Martin to the Seine and its splendours. Explore the old Paris with its covered arcades and renowned districts, where history was made and creativity cultivated. Drinks and meals are included for a truly festive experience and unforgettable memories.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Travel from London to Paris by Eurostar. Embark on the barge at the Bassin de la Villette in the very heart of Paris, only ten minutes from the Eiffel Tower. Welcome cocktail and crew introduction followed by a traditional Titi Parisien show on board. (D)

DAY 2 Morning cruise along the Canal Saint-Martin through the very heart of the "real Paris", all the way to the Eiffel Tower.

Cruise towards République, as the canal opens out onto wide avenues lined with ancient trees, reaching the Seine, cruising past the Trocadero gardens, Tuileries Park and Ile Saint Louis. Afternoon guided walking tour of Paris, starting from the Palais-Royal, passing République, the large boulevards, the Opera, the Madeleine, the Place Vendôme and the Louvre. Cruise through Paris at night and moor near the Eiffel Tower. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Morning guided tour by coach from the Trocadéro, driving along the Voie Triomphale, the Arc de Triomphe, the Champs-Elysées and the Place de la Concorde before reaching Saint-Germaindes-Près, known for the literary and artistic celebrities who lived there, being the meeting point for existentialists, painters, and writers. Afternoon cruise on the Seine, relax and admire the beautiful monuments. Gala dinner on board. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Disembark at the Bassin de la Villette for your return journey to London by Eurostar. (B)





Basel / Strasbourg (Day 1) Strasbourg / Waltenheim (Day 2) Waltenheim / Saverne (Day 3) Saverne / Lutzelbourg (Day 4) Lutzelbourg / Arzviller Plane (Day 5) Sarrebourg / Lagarde (Day 6) Basel (Day 7)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**Exclusive Small Ship Cruise Complimentary Cabin Selection UNESCO Site: Strasbourg Excursions & Drinks Included UK Tour Manager** Group Size: 2 - 20

# **PÉNICHE ALSACIENNE**

#### INTRODUCTION

The 'Great Canal Journey' TV programme of Prunella Scales and Timothy West revealed a fascinating journey through beautiful scenery of the Marne-Rhine Canal. This inspired us to offer a barge cruise through the scenic heart of Alsace from Lagarde to Strasbourg. Cruise for up to six hours per day through small villages, traversing 40 locks with the opportunity to walk or cycle between some locks. A unique highlight will be the Péniche traversing the Arzviller inclined plane which in 1969 replaced 17 locks and functions according to the Archimedes principle!

The historic town of Strasbourg, capital of Alsace is criss-crossed by canals of the III river and the impressive Gothic cathedral was once described by Goethe as 'a most sublime wide-arching tree of God'.

The Alsace 'Route du Vin' is a good preview to the cruise which will also showcase the fine food and wine of the region at Riquewihr, a well-preserved village of medieval and renaissance houses, surrounded by vineyards.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Fly from London Heathrow to Basel. Transfer to Strasbourg, calling in at Riquewihr and embark your vessel for a six-night cruise. Welcome cocktail and small boat cruise around Strasbourg by night. (D)

DAY 2 A walking tour of historic Strasbourg. Afternoon cruising towards Waltenheim. Dinner at a local restaurant with the opportunity to enjoy "tarte flambée", a local specialty. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Cruise to Saverne passing the charming villages of Hochfelden and Schwindratzheim. Afternoon visit to the Château du Haut Barr, often called 'the Eye of Alsace' for panoramic views over the Alsatian plains. Free time to explore Saverne. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Sightseeing of Saverne including the Grand Rue, Katz House, the Notre Dame Church with its 12th-century steeple and the 14th-century Récollets Monastery. Continue to Lutzelbourg. Afternoon excursion by foot to its Castle (approx. 30 min walk uphill), perched over 980 feet above sea level in the Zorn Valley. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Cruise towards the Arzviller inclined plane to experience this unique feat of engineering. Visit the local crystal workshop. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 Cruise towards Lagarde passing though Réchicourt lock, one of the largest in France. Afternoon visit to Sarrebourg located at the foot of the Vosges. Take the Chagall trail and view his dramatic stained glass windows. Arrive at the charming village of Lagarde. Gala dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Disembark and transfer to Basel for the return flight. (B)



#### **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin Lower Deck cabin British Airways from Heathrow

#### 2022 - Fridays

Aug 19	LZIJJ	3eb 10	LZZ9J
2023 – Tues	days		
May 30	£2395	Sep 19	£2395
Jul 11	£2395		

Péniche Madeleine

#### Supplements per person

Single supplement – £995

#### **Price Includes**

Air travel and taxes, all port charges, transfers, 6-night cruise, full board and drinks on cruise vessel, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated airfares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### **Independent Arrival**

Save £200

Arrival and departure transfers with group included

Cabins are available from 5pm on arrival and until 9am on departure (before/after this, luggage storage on board is possible).

#### PÉNICHE MADELEINE

Launched in 2014, a surprisingly spacious barge, owned by the innovative French cruise company, CroisiEurope. Reception, elegant dining room, lounge bar, sun terrace with Jacuzzi and sundeck, WiFi (free/limited). Bicycles available for use. Enjoy International and French cuisine with a choice of wines in an elegant one-sitting dining room. 10 airconditioned lower deck cabins with picture window, private facilities, hairdryer, safe and satellite TV. For more details see vjv.com.





Paris / Nevers (Day 1)
Nevers / Marseilles-les-Aubigny (2)
Apremont-sur-Allier / Herry (3)
La Charité-sur-Loire /
Menetreol-sous-Sancerre (4)
Pouilly-sur-Loire / Léré (5)
Sancerre / Briare (6), Paris (7)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

New Exclusive Small Ship Cruise Complimentary Cabin Selection Excursions & Drinks Included UK Tour Manager No Single Supplement 'No Flying' Group Size: 2 – 20

## **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin Lower Deck cabin Eurostar from London St. Pancras

#### 2022 – Thursday (Péniche Déborah)

Aug 18 £2195

#### 2023 - Tuesdays (Péniche Raymonde)

May 9	£2395	Sep 26	£2395
Aug 1*	£2295		

## Supplements per person

\*NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (limited availability)
Single supplement – £995
Eurostar Standard Premier Class – £195

#### Extra Nights - Paris

Stay in central Paris for independent exploration after your cruise at the 4-star Hotel Chess near the Opera. Includes breakfast.

**Hotel Chess** (per night) – £145 Single supplement – £125 Arrival or departure transfer – £45

#### **Price Includes**

Rail travel, all port charges, transfers, 6-night cruise, full board and drinks on cruise vessel, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated rail fares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### Note

Cabins are available from 5pm on arrival and until 9am on departure (before/after this, luggage storage on board is possible).

#### PÉNICHE DÉBORAH/ PÉNICHE RAYMONDE

Spacious barges owned by the innovative French cruise company, CroisiEurope. Reception, elegant dining room, lounge bar, sun terrace with Jacuzzi and sundeck, WiFi (free/limited). Bicycles available. 10 airconditioned lower deck cabins with picture window, private facilities, hairdryer, safe and satellite TV. For more details see vjv.com.

## PÉNICHE SUR LOIRE

### INTRODUCTION

An exclusive new barge (péniche) cruise along the Loire Canal through the heart of France to authentic Terroirs and beautiful villages of character and heritage, revealing a traditional way of life and regional specialities.

Nevers reveals exceptional history and important architectural and artistic heritage. It is an important pilgrimage site where Bernadette, a simple country girl from Lourdes who claimed to have seen the Virgin 18 times passed her final years.

The medieval hilltop town of Sancerre is known for its Sancerre wine with appellation d'origine controlee and Pouilly-sur-Loire reveals the well-known Pouilly-Fumé wines.

Explore the varied ports of call and enjoy relaxed cruising through wonderful countryside, whilst for the more energetic bikes are available to ride along the canal.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Travel by Eurostar to Paris. Head southwards to the historic town of Nevers (3 hrs) and embark on MS Déborah. Welcome drink and crew introduction. Enjoy a walk around Nevers by night. (D)

DAY 2 Visit Nevers including Espace Bernadette Soubirous, the Ducal palace, cathedral and old quarter. Enjoy a tasting of local products. Afternoon sailing to Marseilles-les-Aubigny. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Visit Fontmorigny Abbey, revealing monastic history from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution.

Visit to Apremont-sur-Allier, one of France's most beautiful riverside villages with stunning views of its castle. Cruise to Herry. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Travel to La Charité-sur-Loire, an important crossing point on the Loire, to visit the Romanesque priory. Then visit a farm deep in the countryside and sail towards Ménétréol-sous-Sancerre. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Enjoy a visit of Pouilly-sur-Loire. At Pouilly-Fumé wine centre explore the vineyards and wine cellars, then learn about its fine wines at a tasting. Cruise towards Léré. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 A short drive to the beautiful medieval city of Sancerre overlooking the Loire Valley and set in the historic Berry region. View the Fief Tower and visit a goat farm with tasting of its goat cheese and the local Sancerre wine. Sail to Briare via the Briare Aqueduct over the Loire river. The Briare Aqueduct is one of the most prestigious waterways in France, built by the Eiffel Company and once the longest navigable in the world! Gala dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Disembark in Briare. Transfer to Paris (2 hrs) for your train journey to London. (B)





Avignon / Arles (Day 1) Gallician (2) Saintes-Maries-De-la-Mer / Aigues-Mortes (3) Palavas Les Flots (4), Sète (5) Etang de Thau (6) Avignon / Return Journey (7)

**Exclusive Small Ship Cruise Complimentary Cabin Selection 3 UNESCO World Heritage Sites Excursions & Drinks Included UK Tour Manager** 'No Flying' Group Size: 2 - 20

# **PÉNICHE PROVENÇALE**

#### INTRODUCTION

A unique and exclusive barge (péniche) cruise along the Canal du Rhône.

The small vessel enables the exploration of some of the lesser known waterways of the Camargue area. Rewarding excursions and fine French food and wine are balanced by afternoons of gentle cruising in a sociable atmosphere with refreshments to hand. Take a leisurely walk, explore by bike or try your hand at a game of Pétanque!

This area of Provence conjures up images of herb scented hills, vivid landscapes of lavender fields, Camarque salt flats and historic towns such as Arles admired by the Romans and Van Gogh.

Aigues-Mortes is a historic, fortified crusader town with a rich heritage, located in the middle of the salt marshes and one of the most beautiful sites in Provence.

Avignon is a charming town with a famous bridge, once the home of popes. Pont du Gard Roman bridge and aqueduct is designated a UNESCO World Heritage site and Roman Nîmes reveals a well-preserved amphitheatre and temple.

## **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Travel from London to Avignon by Eurostar. Transfer to Arles and embark on the barge. Arles was once a provincial capital of ancient Rome with many remains from that era including the impressive amphitheatre still intact, the attractive town also inspired Van Gogh and his paintings. Jules Verne welcome drinks party and crew introduction. (D)

DAY 2 Enjoy a walking tour of the Provencal town of Arles viewing its Roman sites, Espace Van Gogh and market. Cruise on the Rhône à Sète and Rhône canals to Gallician. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Morning excursion to Pont du Gard and the town of Nîmes. Afternoon sailing to Aigues-Mortes to moor by the medieval walls. Tour of Aigues-Mortes with time for a walk in this medieval city in the marshes, surrounded by well-preserved city walls. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Tour of the Camargue visiting the small fishing village of Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, the capital of the Camarque. Afternoon sailing to Palavas les Flots on the Rhône à Sète Canal and enjoy free time at this seaside and spa resort. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Visit Montpellier, elegant capital of Languedoc Roussillon, lying just a short distance from our mooring point. Sail to the historic port of Sète, where the canal meets the Atlantic and from where ships set sail as far afield as to Morocco. Arrive in the early evening. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 Visit Etang de Thau, famous for oyster farms and local fishermen, visit the museum and enjoy a tasting. Afternoon drive up into the hills to visit the delightful village of Saint-Guilhem-le-Désert. Jules Verne farewell drinks party and Gala dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Disembark in Sète. Transfer to Avignon for a sightseeing tour including the Palace of the Popes and bridge before the return train journey to London. (B)

#### DEPARTURES & PRICES

per person in a twin Lower Deck cabin Eurostar from London St. Pancras

#### 2022 - Saturdays

May 28	£2295	Aug 20	£2195
Jun 11	£2295		

Pont du Gard

May 12	£2395	Aug 18*	£2295
Jun 23	£2395	Sep 1	£2395

#### Supplements per person

\*NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (limited availability) Single supplement - £995 Eurostar Standard Premier Class – £195

Rail travel, all port charges, transfers, 6-night cruise, full board and drinks on cruise vessel, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated rail fares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### **Notes**

Cabins are available from 5pm on arrival and until 9am on departure (before/after this, luggage storage on board is possible).

The Avignon sightseeing may be organised on the arrival day (Day 1) instead of Day 7.

#### PÉNICHE ANNE MARIE

Launched in 2014, a surprisingly spacious barge, owned by the innovative French cruise company, CroisiEurope. Reception, elegant dining room, lounge bar, sun terrace with Jacuzzi and sundeck, WiFi (free/limited). Bicycles available for use. Enjoy International and French cuisine with a choice of wines in an elegant one-sitting dining room. Breakfast is a buffet, lunch and dinner waiter service. 10 air-conditioned lower deck cabins with picture window, private facilities, hairdryer, safe and satellite TV. For more details see





Paris (Day 1), Paris / Lagny-sur-Marne (2)
Lagny-sur-Marne / Meaux /
Saint-Jean-Les-Deux-Jumeaux (3)
Saint-Jean-Les-Deux-Jumeaux /
Chateau Thierry (4)
Chateau Thierry / Dormans (5)
Reims / Epernay (6), Epernay / Paris (7)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

New Exclusive Small Ship Cruise Complimentary Cabin Selection UNESCO: Reims Cathedral Excursions & Drinks Included UK Tour Manager 'No Flying' Group Size: 2 – 20

### **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin Lower Deck cabin Eurostar from London St. Pancras

#### 2022 - Thursday (Péniche Raymonde)

Aug 18 £2195

#### 2023 – Wednesdays (Péniche Déborah)

May 3	£2395	Sep 20	£2395
Jun 28	£2395		

#### Supplements per person

Single supplement – £995 Eurostar Standard Premier Class – £195

#### Extra Nights – Paris

Stay in central Paris for independent exploration after your cruise at the 4-star Hotel Chess near the Opera. Includes breakfast.

**Hotel Chess** (per night) – £145 Single supplement – £125 Arrival or departure transfer – £45

#### **Price Includes**

Rail travel, all port charges, 6-night cruise, breakfast daily, full board and drinks on cruise vessel, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated rail fares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### Note

Cabins are available from 5pm on arrival and until 9am on departure (before/after this, luggage storage on board is possible).

#### PÉNICHE RAYMONDE/ PÉNICHE DÉBORAH

Spacious barges owned by the innovative French cruise company, CroisiEurope. Reception, elegant dining room, lounge bar, sun terrace with Jacuzzi and sundeck, WiFi (free/limited). Breakfast is a buffet, lunch and dinner waiter service. 10 air-conditioned lower deck cabins with picture window, private facilities, hair-dryer, safe and satellite TV. For more details see vjv.com.

## PÉNICHE CHAMPAGNE

#### INTRODUCTION

The majestic Marne canal flows through the picturesque Montagne de Reims Natural Park and links with the Marne River. This is part of an important waterway linking the Paris Basin to the Champagne region and the Rhine river.

This cruise allows full enjoyment of the peace and quiet of the French countryside and local charm. Visit small villages and historic towns plus the great cities of Paris and Reims. Indulge in tastings of local produce including champagne and cheese on included excursions.

Discover 'The Pearl of Champagne', the village of Hautvillers, birthplace of Champagne where Dom Perignon perfected a method to produce 'the best wine in the world'.

Of course Champagne is a vital ingredient of a Champagne cruise, so Jules Verne has specially arranged for our guests to enjoy daily a Champagne tasting or Champagne toast before the fine food and wines served at dinner.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Travel from London to Paris by Eurostar. Embark on the barge near the Eiffel Tower. Welcome Champagne reception and crew introduction. (D)

DAY 2 Enjoy a tour of Paris from Place de la Republique, main boulevards, the Opera, Place Vendôme to the Louvre. Travel back through time and history on an original walk along some of the prettiest covered arcades in Paris. Afternoon cruise through central Paris towards Lagny-sur-Marne. Enjoy a glass of Champagne before dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Morning cruise to Meaux. Afternoon visit of the town including the Cathedral and the Bishops' Palace, passing the Gallo-Roman ramparts and the magnificent Bossuet Garden, traditionally believed to be an early work of Le Nôtre. Taste the Brie de Meaux cheese, hailed as "the King of Cheeses". Return on board at Saint-Jeanles-Deux-Jumeaux where the barge will be moored. Enjoy a glass of Champagne before dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Morning cruise through the heart of the Seine-et-Marne countryside and its Champagne vines. At the riverside town of Château-Thierry visit the Hôtel-Dieu and enjoy a Champagne tasting. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Sail towards Dormans. Afternoon excursion along the famous Champagne route with a visit to the picturesque village of Hautvillers located in the Montagne de Reims Regional National Park and birthplace of Champagne. Champagne tasting in a prominent Champagne house. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 Morning sailing towards Epernay. Afternoon excursion to Reims, known as the 'City of Coronations'. Guided visit of the historic centre and the Cathedral Notre-Dame where Kings of France were crowned for more than 1,000 years. A Champagne toast to your cruise and special farewell dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Disembark in Epernay. Transfer to Paris for your train journey to London. (B)



Paris/Dijon (Day 1)
Dijon/Petit-Ouges (Day 2)
Petit-Ouges /Saint-Jean-De-Losne (Day 3)
Saint-Jean-De-Losne /Dole (Day 4)
Dole/Ranchot (Day 5)
Ranchot/Besançon (Day 6)
Besançon/Paris (Day 7)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

New Exclusive Small Ship Cruise Complimentary Cabin Selection Excursions & Drinks Included UK Tour Manager No Single Supplement 'No Flying' Group Size: 2 – 20

# Peniche Jeanine

# PÉNICHE BOURGOGNE

#### INTRODUCTION

Drift lazily through landscapes of infinite charm steeped in history in a relaxed and soothing atmosphere. Each day heralds a new journey through beautiful scenery sprinkled with chateaux, cathedrals, towns and sleepy villages. The Petite-Saône river and Canale du Rhone au Rhin take you through the heart of French cuisine and culture and Burgundy's wine-producing estates, famous since the time of Philip the Bold. Magnificent Dijon, famous for its mustard and architectural grandeur was the capital of the Dukes of Burgundy who built one of the most powerful states in Europe in the 13th century. The city is a great display of gothic, medieval and renaissance with its many ancient houses, 'bourgeois' homes and parliamentary buildings.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Eurostar from London to Paris and by road to Dijon, calling at Troyes for a walk around this historic town, situated within the Champagne wine region, and known for its churches and stained glass. Embark your vessel for a six-night cruise. Welcome cocktail before dinner. (D)

DAY 2 Excursion along the Grands Crus wine route passing through the finest and most prestigious of the Burgundy vineyards. Enjoy a wine tasting. Return on board and cruise to Petit-Ouges, a charming country village, discovering the magnificent lush, green landscapes of the Saône Valley.

Upon arrival in Petit-Ouges, you can explore the "Path of the Three Wash Houses", a 4km stroll in the heart of the village, and discover three wash houses and a charming village dated back to the 7th century. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Enjoy cruising towards Saint-Jeande-Losne passing picturesque vineyards and enchanting countryside. Perhaps relax on the sundeck admiring the scenery. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Visit Saint-Jean-de-Losne with its prestigious past and capital of canal barging in France, which lies at the heart of the French waterways and canal system in southern Burgundy. Cruise towards Dole, a hilltop city and birthplace of Louis Pasteur. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Enjoy an original and unique excursion, following the "trail of the Chat Perché", referring to the famous tales written be Marcel Aymé who lived in Dole as a child. Cruise towards Ranchot. Perhaps enjoy a bicycle ride along the banks. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 Morning cruise towards Besançon. In the afternoon, travel by road to Arc-et-Senans for a tour of the Saline Royale, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Evening gala dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Disembark and travel to Auxerre for a walk around the old town. Continue to Paris for your Eurostar to London. (B)

#### **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin Lower Deck cabin Eurostar from London St. Pancras

#### 2022 - Saturdays (Péniche Danièle)

Jun 11 £2395 Sep 17 £2395

#### 2023 - Thursdays (Péniche Danièle/Jeanine)

May 25\* £2495 Jul 6\* £2395

#### Supplements per person

\*NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (limited availability)
Single supplement – £995
Eurostar Standard Premier Class – £195

#### Extra Nights – Paris

Stay in central Paris for independent exploration after your cruise at the 4-star Hotel Chess near the Opera. Includes breakfast.

**Hotel Chess** (per night) – £145 Single supplement – £125 Arrival or departure transfer – £45

#### **Price Includes**

Rail travel, all port charges, 6-night cruise, breakfast daily, full board and drinks on cruise vessel, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated rail fares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### Note

Cabins are available from 5pm on arrival and until 9am on departure (before/after this, luggage storage on board is possible).

## PÉNICHE DANIÈLE/ PÉNICHE JEANINE

Surprisingly spacious barges, owned by the innovative French cruise company, CroisiEurope. Reception, elegant dining room, lounge bar, sun terrace with Jacuzzi and sundeck, WiFi (free/limited). 10 airconditioned lower deck cabins with picture window, private facilities, hairdryer, safe and satellite TV. For more details see vjv.com.

# **ROYAL BARGE ON** THE DOURO

Cruise deep into the mountain landscapes of Portugal to discover wine estates, sun-drenched vineyards, idyllic villages, baroque castles and hilltop medieval ruins

7 nights from



#### **OVERVIEW**

Porto (Day 1) Entre-os-Rios (2) Pinhão (3) Barca D'Alva (4 - 5) Régua (6), Porto (7) Return Flight (8)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**Culture & Riverscapes Jules Verne Sightseeing Exclusive Historic Small Ship Complimentary Cabin Selection UK Tour Manager** Group Size: 2 - 28

## INTRODUCTION

A 2,000-year legacy of winemaking awaits you throughout Portugal's lush Douro River Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Douro Valley is a region of stunning natural beauty, a serene landscape of hillsides lining the winding riverbanks. Sail deep into the mountain landscapes of Portuguese wine country to find estates and sun-drenched vineyards, many of which are centuries old, that cascade down to the riverside. Discover baroque castles, hilltop medieval ruins, white-washed quintas and the idyllic, bucolic villages that retain a medieval simplicity. The fertile valley is home to estates that produce the region's 'rich gold', award-winning wines and port. The Douro River has played an important part in Britain's history, as the source of port from the vineyards lining the upper river valley. The fortified wine was originally brought down the 60 miles to Porto in flat-bottomed wooden craft, braving the dangerous rapids enroute, but there are now a series of dams and locks that have tamed the river allowing its navigation for 120 miles into Spain. Enjoy this unique cruise that contrasts with the Douro's other much larger passenger ships.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Fly from your chosen airport to Porto. Baroque churches, bell towers and beaux-art buildings seem to sit on each other's shoulders on Porto's riverbank hills, straddling the Douro. Embark on the MS Spirit of Chartwell for seven nights. (D)

DAY 2 City tour of Porto including a visit to a port wine cellar. Cruise upstream crossing the Crestuma-Lever Dam and flood gate enroute to Entre-os-Rios. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Cruise to Régua via Carrapatelo Dam. Visit the 18th-century Mateus Manor House, a beautiful small palace with impressive gardens. Overnight in Pinhão. Dinner at a local Quinta. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Morning cruising, passing the Valeira Dam. Visit the hilltop medieval village Castelo Rodrigo, with its gilded Baroque church and curiously ornamented public fountain. Overnight in Barca d'Alva. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Optional visit to Salamanca by road (£50) with free time to explore Plaza Mayor, enjoy a guided tour of Salamanca's medieval old city and the 16th-century Gothic 'new cathedral'. Alternatively, relax on board or explore the riverside village. (B, L, D)

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### **Quinta Dinner & Tastings**

Enjoy port tastings and a traditional Portuguese dinner at the Quinta da Avessada, an ancient site producing Douro wines in the vineyard village of Favaios.



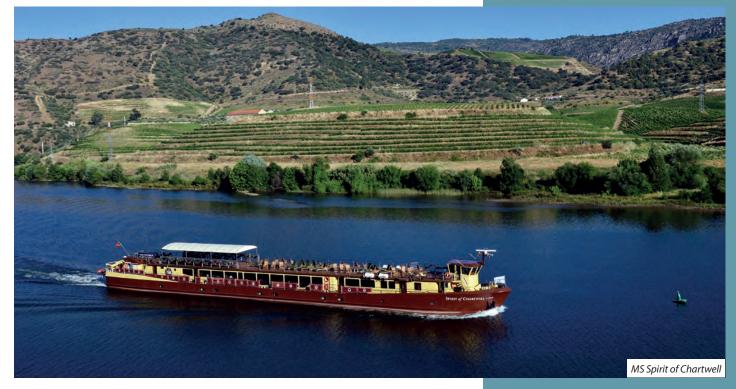
DAY 6 Sail towards Régua, passing the Pocinho, Valeira and Régua Dam. Visit a hillside Quinta for a port wine tasting. Special Portuguese dinner onboard. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Visit picturesque Lamego, with the 18th-century pilgrimage site of our Lady of the Remedies, reached via an impressive staircase of blue and white tiles. Sail to Porto for overnight. Farewell dinner. (B, L, D) DAY 8 Return flight or extend your stay. (B)

#### MS SPIRIT OF CHARTWELL

The Spirit of Chartwell was restored for and used by Her Majesty The Queen for her Diamond Jubilee in 2012. Now owned by Douro Azul, this royal river barge is the flagship vessel on the Douro. Offering a spacious and sumptuous design with a fabulous interior. Enjoy fine furnishings and classic elegance in a comfortable and stately ambience, inspired by the Orient Express. Professional and attentive crew members provide unequalled service during this calm passage along the Douro River. The vessel has 15 air-conditioned cabins with private facilities, a restaurant, piano bar, observation deck, shop and WiFi (free/limited). The ship normally sails in daylight hours only.







## PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION – THE CRADLE OF PORTUGAL

Stay pre-cruise at the 4-star Hotel do Parque perched high on a hilltop overlooking Braga and surrounded by gardens, with access into the town by road and funicular. Visits include medieval Guimarães, Braga & Viana do Castelo ad Ponte de Lima. Breakfast daily.

3 nights – £355 (2023 £385) Single supplement – £105 (2023 £115)



## POST-CRUISE EXTENSION – POUSADAS OF OF PORTUGAL

Extend post-cruise and stay in charming historic Pousadas in a former monastery and palaces; all in magnificent settings in Condeixa-a-Nova & Queluz. Includes 6 UNESCO sites with visits to Coimbra, Fátima, Batalha, Tomar, Nazaré, Alcobaça, Óbidos, Lisbon and Sintra. Breakfast daily. 5 nights – £795; Single supplement – £275



## **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin Main Deck cabin TAP Air Portugal from Gatwick

#### **2022 - Fridays**

Apr 29	£2295	Jun 24	£2645
May 13	£2745	Sep 2	£2745
May 27	£2695		

#### **2023 - Fridays**

May 5	£2895	Jun 23	£3195
May 19	£3095	Sep 15	£3095
Jun 16	£3195	Sep 22	£2995

## Supplements per person REDUCED SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

(limited availability) 29 Apr & 13 May 2022 &

2023 – £795

Single supplement – £1550 (2023 £1895)

Royal Suite – £495

Drinks Package – £80

TAP Air Portugal Business Class – from £195 easyJet Gatwick/Ryanair Stansted – nil

## **Price Includes**

Air travel and taxes, port charges, transfers, 7-night cruise, full board on cruise vessel, complimentary tea/coffee on board, drinks at dinner, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated airfares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### **Independent Arrival**

Save £200 Arrival or departure transfer £20

#### Notes

The programme may be altered due to navigational factors with locks, water levels or congestion at

The drinks package includes selected house white, red, rosé or sparkling wine by the glass, selected beer, house spirits and soft drinks all day.



#### SPECIAL EVENT

#### **Croatian Heritage Evening**

Wine tasting at Grgic Vina, a renowned winery established by legendary Napa Valley winemaker, Miljenko "Mike" Grgic.

On the Pelješac Peninsula enjoy our Heritage Evening in a typical village with a dinner of rustic Croatian fare.

#### **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin/double Lower Deck cabin Croatia Airlines from Heathrow

#### 2022 – Saturdays

May 14	£1725	Sep 10	£2045
Jun 18	£1995	Oct 1	£1675

#### 2023 – Saturdays

May 13	£1745	Sep 9	£2075
Jun 17	£2025	Oct 7	£1725

#### Supplements per person

Single cabin – £100 (2023 only)
Twin/Double for sole use – £795 (Jun 2023 £835;
Sep £945; Oct £725)
Main Deck Cat. A – £195
Main Deck Cat. B – £295
Upper Deck – £345
easyJet from Gatwick – £50
easyJet from Manchester – £50

#### Extension - Split Decision (post-cruise)

Stay in exuberant Split at the stylish 4-star Hotel Jupiter in the historic centre. Breakfast daily. 2 nights – £285 (Sep 2022 £345; Oct £265; Sep 2023 £375)

Single supplement – £155 (Sep £245; Oct £115)

#### **Price Includes**

Air travel and taxes, all port charges, transfers, 7-night cruise, breakfast daily, 5 lunches and 6 dinners, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated airfares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### **Independent Arrival**

Save £200 Arrival or departure transfer £30

#### Notes

# Groups are divided for sightseeing. The cruise vessel takes 39 quests.

At some moorings you may need to walk through vessels anchored alongside to go ashore.

Most excursions are on foot including some with uneven surfaces and inclines.

## **OVERVIEW**

Split (Day 1)
Korčula (2)
Mljet (3)
Dubrovnik (4)
Pelješac Peninsula (5)
Hvar (6), Pučišća/Split (7)
Return Flight (8)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

Culture & Natural Wonders
Exclusive Small Ship Sailing
Free Cabin Selection
3 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
UK Tour Manager
Guaranteed Departure
Group Size: 2 – 20#

# THE COAST OF EXPLORERS & EMPERORS

#### **INTRODUCTION**

We invite you to take a delightful seven-night cruise aboard the elegant and exclusive Motor Vessel Admiral to discover historic towns that were once centres of the Greco-Roman, Byzantine and Renaissance worlds.

The great city of Split reveals an abundance of Roman architecture within the monumental palace complex of the Roman Emperor Diocletian. Discover historic Korčula, reputedly the birthplace of legendary explorer Marco Polo. Enjoy the forested idyll of Mljet, the lavender-scented island of Hvar and the rural Pelješac Peninsula. The cruise would not be complete without time to discover the medieval walled city of Dubrovnik.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Fly from your chosen airport to Split. Transfer to MV Admiral. Overnight in Split. (D)

DAY 2 Sail to Korcula island to enjoy a walking tour followed by a wine tasting. Dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight in Korčula. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Sail south to the Island of Mljet. Stroll along the famous salt lakes in the Mljet National Park and enjoy a boat ride to St. Mary Isle for the ancient Benedictine monastery. Sail to Dubrovnik for an evening cruise around the old city walls. Overnight in Dubrovnik. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Take a cable car for incredible views of the ancient city walls and the Elaphiti Islands. On a walking tour explore the splendours of the old town's limestone

streets and baroque buildings. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight in Dubrovnik. (B, D)

DAY 5 Cruise towards Pelješac peninsula and marvel at its craggy mountains, sweeping valleys, idyllic coves and fine wines. Taste the wine of the renowned Grgic winery and enjoy our Croatian Heritage Evening. Overnight on Pelješac peninsula. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 Cruise towards Hvar, known for its lavender fields. Walking tour of the old town with a stop at the Benedictine Convent. Overnight in Hvar. (B, L)

DAY 7 Sail to the Island of Brač and cruise around Zlatni Rat. Sail to Pučišća and visit the famous stone masonry school. Walking tour of Split including the magnificient Diocletian Palace. Captain's farewell dinner. Overnight in Split. (B, L, D)

DAY 8 Disembark. Transfer to Trogir for independent exploration before transferring to Split for return flight. (B)

#### **MV ADMIRAL**

The 141 ft. MV admiral, built in 2015, is a Croatian registered vessel. Sun Deck, hot tub, restaurant, bar and WiFi (free). 20 air-conditioned cabins with private facilities, hairdryer, safe and TV. Eight twin/double cabins (172 sq. ft.) on the lower deck with two portholes. Five twin/double cabins Cat. A (150-172 sq. ft.) with one window, five twin/double cabins Cat. B (150-172 sq. ft.) with two windows and one single cabin (107 sq. ft.) with one window on the Main Deck. One double cabin (139 sq. ft.) with one window on the Upper Deck.



Split (Day 1) Trogir / Rogoznica (2) Krka NP / Šibenik (3) Kornati NP / Sali (4) Zadar (5) Plitviče Lakes NP (6) Split (7), Return Flight (8)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**Culture & Natural Wonders Exclusive Small Ship Sailing Complimentary Cabin Selection 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites UK Tour Manager Guaranteed Departure Group Size: 2 - 20#** 

## **SECRET WONDERS OF CROATIA**

#### INTRODUCTION

Combine four UNESCO heritage sites with three national parks on a private Jules Verne cruise. Visit Split with its abundance of Roman architecture, the medieval coastal gem of Zadar the ancient Dalmatian capital, Šibenik and the coastal towns of Primošten, Skradin and Sali. Founded by the Greeks (Trau to the Venetians), the delightful old town of Trogir has a profuse collection of Romanesque and Renaissance buildings. Stunning Krka National Park runs from the Adriatic to the mountains of the Croatian interior, a magical place of magnificent waterfalls and gorges, dotted with monasteries. Kornati National Park is composed of uninhabited islands, islets and reefs, the largest and most dense archipelago in the Adriatic. Blue Adriatic. Plitvice Lakes are Croatia's oldest National Park, established in 1949, a wonderland of karst rock formations with a chain of 16 terraced lakes, joined by waterfalls that extend into a limestone canyon creating vibrant colours.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Fly from your chosen airport to Split and transfer to MV Admiral. (D)

DAY 2 Depart to the old Dalmatian town of Trogir for a walking tour of this tiny island, linked by bridges to the mainland. Cruise to Rogoznica. Dinner ashore. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Cruise to Šibenik and travel to Lozovac the starting point to explore Krka National Park where there are 17 cascading waterfalls, guided tour to 'Skradinski Buk' in the park. Continue by boat to Skradin.

Drive to Etno Selo, a journey to the heart of Dalmatian culture for a wine tasting and lunch. Return to Šibenik with its glorious old town and the remarkable UNESCO listed Cathedral of St. James, a Gothic masterpiece. Overnight in Šibenik. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Cruise around Kornati National Park, made up of 100 islands and reefs. Overnight is in Sali (Dugi Otok). Enjoy olive oil tasting at 'Zlata Kap' mill. View the churches of St. Mary, St. Rocco and St. Nicholas. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Depart for Zadar and a walking tour including the Roman forum, the church of St. Donatus, the Church of the Holy Ghost and the Romanesque Cathedral of St. Stošije. Special Event – 'Klapa' at a 16th-century Palace. (B, L)

DAY 6 Full-day excursion to Plitvice Lakes to explore the National Park, Re-ioin the cruise at the delightful fortified town of Primošten. (B, D)

DAY 7 Cruise towards Split, enjoying fabulous views of the Riviera's coastline and islands. Walking tour of Split including Diocletian's palace. Captain's dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 8 Morning free to explore Split independently before transferring to the airport for the return flight. (B)



#### SPECIAL EVENT

#### Klapa - Group of Friends

Enjoy a 'Klapa' performance in a 16th-century Palace in Zadar. Klapa music is a form of traditional acappella singing. The word 'Klapa' translates as "a group of friends" and traces its roots to littoral church singing with general themes to celebrate love, wine, the country and sea.

#### **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin/double Lower Deck cabin Croatia Airlines from Heathrow (May 28 easyJet from Gatwick)

#### 2022 - Saturday

May 28 £2145

#### 2023 - Saturdays

Jun 3 £2025 Sep 30 £1895

#### Supplements per person

Single cabin – £100 (2023 only) Twin/Double for sole use - £745 (May £825; Jun

Main Deck Cat. A – £195 Main Deck Cat. B - £295 Upper Deck – £345

easyJet from Gatwick - £50 (2022 nil) easyJet from Manchester – £50 (2023 only)

#### **Extension - Split Decision**

Stay in exuberant Split at the stylish 4-star Hotel Jupiter in the historic centre. Breakfast daily. 2 nights - £285 (Sep 2023 £255) Single supplement – £155 (Sep 2023 £125)

#### **Price includes**

Air travel and taxes, all port charges, transfers, 7-night cruise, breakfast daily, 5 lunches and 6 dinners, excursions, UK Tour Manager, local expert guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated air-fares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### **Independent Arrival**

Save £200 Arrival or departure transfer £30

# Groups are divided for sightseeing. The cruise vessel takes 39 guests.

At some mooring points you may need to walk through vessels anchored alongside to go ashore.

Most excursions are on foot including some with uneven surfaces and inclines.

# THE ORIGINAL NILE BY ROYAL STEAMER

An exclusive Jules Verne sailing on the classic Nile route from Cairo and the Pyramids to ancient Thebes and Aswan on board the restored deluxe paddle steamer SS Misr

13 nights from f 5495



#### **OVERVIEW**

Cairo (Days 1 - 3), Beni Suef (4), Minya (5), Beni Hassan / Tuna el-Gebel (6), Amarna / Asyut (7), Sohag (8), Abydos / El Balyana / Qena (9), Denderah / Luxor (10), Luxor / Edfu (11), Kom Ombo (12), Aswan (12 & 13), Return Flight (14)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**Culture & Riverscapes New Exclusive Small Ship Sailing Jules Verne Sightseeing 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites Egyptian Tour Manager / Egyptologist On Board Lectures Group Size: 6 - 24#** 

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Luxor Temple by Night, Winter Palace Cocktail & Afternoon Tea at the Old

A private cocktail reception at the Victorian Lounge in the Old Winter Palace. Visit the illuminated Luxor Temple. Tea at the historic Old Cataract Hotel.



#### INTRODUCTION

A 'Royal Invitation' to join an exclusive Jules Verne group of travellers on a unique journey in the most atmospheric and luxurious conveyance for the long Nile cruise, following in the footsteps of the 19th-century British excursionists who travelled by steamer to Thebes.

SS Misr is a propeller steam vessel was originally built in Preston by the Royal Navy, then converted for King Farouk and used for his birthday party. The restoration was initiated by Jules Verne and our Egyptian partners a few years ago.

The Nile flows the whole length of Egypt linking its civilisations and peoples, a green line through the desert providing water and livelihood. The ancient capital moved between Upper (Thebes) and Lower Egypt (Memphis), sometimes split and sometimes united, except when Akhenaten and Nefertiti moved the capital to Amarna between the two kingdoms.

This cruise offers a rare opportunity to observe an old way of life little changed and ancient sites largely unvisited.

**ITINERARY** 

DAY 1 Fly from Heathrow to Cairo. Transfer to the SS Misr for a 13-night cruise. (D)

DAY 2 Visit the Great Pyramids and Sphinx. Lunch at the Mena House with views of the Pyramids. Visit the new Grand Museum (subject to government approval) or Egyptian Museum. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Visit the Sultan Hassan Mosque, close to the majestic Citadel, an impressive Islamic structure. Visit Ibn Tulun, Gayer Anderson Museum and Coptic Cairo. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Enjoy a relaxing day on the river as we sail from Cairo towards Beni Suef. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Visit Maydom Pyramid and the brick built mastabas nearby. Sail to Minya. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 View the Beni Hassan tombs and catacombs at Tuna el-Gebel. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 At Amarna, visit the Royal Tomb, the Northern Tombs, and the Great Temple of Akhenaten. Sail to the town of Asyut, viewing en route the monastery of Prince Tawadros from the Nile. (B, L, D)

DAY 8 A talk on board on Egyptian culture and later, view pharaonic antiquities at the newly opened Sohag Museum. (B, L, D)

DAY 9 Sail to El Balyana. At Abydos, visit the New Kingdom Temple of Seti I. Pass two locks and the railway bridge at Naga Hammadi en-route to Qena. (B, L, D)

DAY 10 Visit the Temple of Hathor at Denderah. Sail to Luxor. Special Event: 'Luxor Temple by Night and Cocktail at the Old Winter Palace'. (B, L, D)

DAY 11 Visit the Temple of Hatshepsut, Valley of the Kings, (option to visit the tomb of Tutankhamun or Seti I – subject to viewing restrictions, at extra charge), Colossi of Memnon and Carter's House. Afternoon visit Karnak Temple. Cruise to Edfu. (B, L, D)

DAY 12 Sail to Kom Ombo to visit the riverside temple. Continue to Aswan for afternoon tea at the Old Cataract Hotel with fine Nile views. (B, L, D)

DAY 13 View the High Dam and visit Kalabsha Temple, Philae Temple and by boat to Kitchener Island and Soheil Island for sunset and tea in a Nubian village. (B, L, D)

DAY 14 Return flight to London via Cairo. (B)

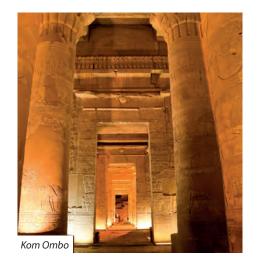
#### SS MISR

Converted for King Farouk, Misr means 'the Kingdom of Egypt' with public rooms and cabins exquisitely decorated in colours and styles linked to the history of the vessel and Egypt. A 5-star deluxe propeller steam vessel with 63 crew and a high level of service. Lower Sun Deck with wicker chairs or upper Sun Deck with sunbeds and plunge pool. WiFi (free/limited). 24 air-conditioned outside cabins with private facilities, balcony, hairdryer, mini-bar and TV.

**Notes:** #Whilst the vessel carries more, sightseeing will be limited to 24 guests.

Temple, tomb and pyramid visits are on foot with steps and uneven surfaces.

The programme may be altered due to navigational factors, water levels or congestion at certain sites.









#### PRE-TOUR EXTENSION - CAIRO

Why not travel out a little earlier. Fly to Cairo and spend two nights at the Luxury Nile Ritz Carlton, set on the Banks of the Nile, with breakfast included. Discover Memphis, Saqqara and Dahshur on an included tour, accompanied by an Egyptologist. Free time to explore Cairo independently.

2 nights – £450 Single supplement – £405



## **DEPARTURE & PRICES**

per person in a Main Deck cabin EgyptAir from Heathrow

#### **2022 – Tuesday**

Sep 13

#### Supplements per person

Main Deck single cabin – £795
Main Deck (double for sole use) – £1695
Upper Deck – £395
Upper Deck (double for sole use) – £1995
Suite (Upper Deck) – £895
Panorama (front) Suite – £1295
EgyptAir Business Class – from £695

£5495

#### Extra Nights - Cairo / Aswan

**Steigenberger Pyramids Cairo** (per night)

Standard (twin/double) – £65 Standard (single) – £100 Pyramids View (twin/double) – £85 Pyramids View (single) – £120 Arrival or departure transfer – £15

**Sofitel Old Cataract** (per night)

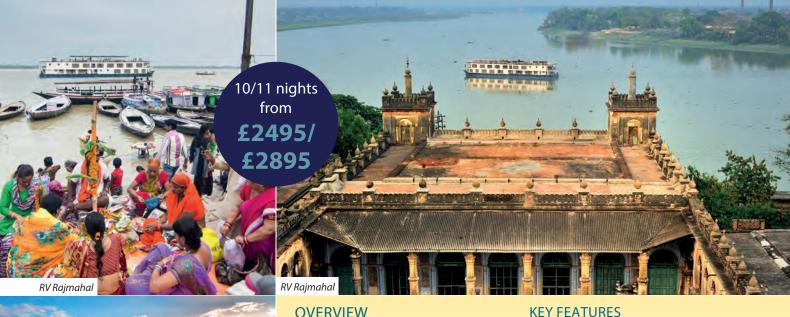
Standard Premium Nile Wing (twin beds) – £135 Standard Premium Nile Wing (single) – £240 Luxury Nile Wing (king bed) – £165 Luxury Nile Wing (single) – £290 Arrival or departure transfer – £15

#### **Price Includes**

Air travel and taxes, transfers, 13 night-cruise, full board and drinks on cruise vessel, itinerary as described, excursions, Egyptian tour manager and Egyptologist, local representatives. If our specially negotiated airfares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### **Independent Arrival**

Save £550 Arrival transfer or departure transfer £15





Flight (Day 1), Kolkata (2) Farakka / Cruise Start (3), Gaur (4) Baranagar / Murshidabad (5) Khushbagh / Katwa (6) Matiari / Mayapur (7), Kalna (8) Chandernagore / Barrackpore (9) Kolkata (10), Return Flight (11)

**Culture & Riverscapes Exclusive Cruise Complimentary Cabin Selection No Single Supplement Excursions Included Full Board on Cruise** Group Size: 6 - 22#

#### **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin/double room – Main Deck cabin British Airways from Heathrow

#### 2022/2023 - RV Rajmahal Downstream (10 nights)

£2495 Oct 15\* (Sat) £2795 Apr 11\* (Tue) Feb 14\* (Tue) £2845

#### 2023 - RV Rajmahal Upstream± (11 nights)

£2895 Oct 23\* (Mon) Feb 27\* (Mon) £2895

#### 2024 - RV Rajmahal Downstream (10 nights)

Feb 17\* (Sat) £2845 Apr 16\* (Tue) £2595

#### Supplements per person

\*NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (limited availability)

Double for sole use - £695 Upper Deck – £295 Upper Deck (double for sole use) – £990 Emirates from Heathrow, Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham or Glasgow – nil

#### **Extra Nights / Extensions**

Discover more of India or relax in a resort on one of our great range of extensions. Alternatively, add extra nights pre-tour to draw breath after the flight or stay on post-tour to reflect, relax or explore independently. For details see vjv.com.

#### **Price Includes**

Air travel and taxes, all port charges, transfers, 7-night cruise, 2/3 nights' hotel, breakfast daily, 1 dinner, full board on cruise, excursions, cruise director, local guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated airfares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### **Independent Arrival**

Save £600; Arrival or departure transfer £24

#### Notes

± The upstream itinerary operates in reverse and has an extra night in Kolkata. See details on vjv.com.

#While the vessel carries more, the group size specified refers to transfers and excursions.

## **ALONG THE BANKS** OF THE HOOGLY

#### INTRODUCTION

Much has been written about the British love affair with India, manifesting itself in many ways; the rhythm of tranquil days in rural communities, ancient temples and cities, medieval towns and palaces. All these and more can be found in this unique cruise of some 250 miles through rural countryside away from the tourist trail, affording the less common opportunity to observe Indian life from the comfort of a charming small river vessel.

Discover monuments from the East India Company, the Mughals and one of India's most romantic places - the ancient capital of the Nawabs of Bengal, Murshidabad, now a village, its mansions, mosques and tombs surrounded by rice paddies and mango orchards.

#### ITINERARY (DOWNSTREAM)

DAY 1 Fly overnight from your chosen airport to Kolkata via Delhi or Dubai.

DAY 2 Visit the Jain temple, college street, book market and take a tram ride. Welcome drink, dinner and overnight at the 5-star heritage Oberoi Grand hotel. (D)

DAY 3 By train to Farakka (6 hrs). Embark on the RV Rajmahal for a seven-night cruise. (B, D)

DAY 4 Full-day excursion to Gaur, close to the English Bazaar (now the town of Malda), once one of India's great cities, which has many mosques and palace remains. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Sail down the Hoogly proper to Baranagar. Continue to Murshidabad to visit the Nawab's Hazarduari Palace, Katra Mosque and the 18th-century palaces of Nashipara and Katgola. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 Walk to Khushbagh, a Moghul-style garden. Cruise to the battlefield of Plassey, where in 1757 Clive of India defeated Siraj-ud-Daulah. Visit the obelisk and moor near Katwa. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Visit the brass-working village of Matiari and the temples of Mayapur. (B, L, D)

DAY 8 Sail to Kalna. Travel to the terracotta temples by rickshaws. Visit Imambara on the outskirts of Kolkata. (B, L, D)

DAY 9 Sail to Chandernagore and visit its museum and sail past the Dutch settlement of Chinsura. At Barrackpore, walk through the cantonment past the Semaphore Tower, Government House, the Temple of Fame and Flagstaff House. (B, L, D)

DAY 10 Sail under the Howrah Bridge to central Kolkata for overnight. Drive around colonial Calcutta and visit Victoria Memorial, Dalhousie Square and St. John's Church. (B)

DAY 11 Return flight to your chosen airport via Delhi or Dubai. (B)

#### **RV RAJMAHAL**

Operated by Assam Bengal Navigation and built with extra-shallow draught to enable it to cruise further upstream than most vessels. Saloon, bar, dining room, spa and vast canopied sun deck. Food is a mixture of Assamese and continental. Tea, coffee and water are complimentary. 22 Main and Upper Deck cabins with four Main Deck single cabins, all are air-conditioned with private facilities, safe and French balconies.



Flight (Day 1), Kolkata (2 & 3) Guwahati / Steemer Ghat (4) Kaziranga NP / Vishnath (5) Cruising (6), Kaziranga NP (7) Cruising (8), Majuli Island (9) Sibsagar (10), Dibrugarh / Delhi (11), Return Flight (12)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

Wildlife & Riverscapes
Exclusive Small Ship Cruise
Complimentary Cabin Selection
Jules Verne Sightseeing
UNESCO Site: Kaziranga National Park
Group Size: 6 – 19#

# RV Charaidew II

# ASSAM & THE BRAHMAPUTRA

#### INTRODUCTION

Venture deep into rural Assam. Sail past temples, tea plantations, alongside wildlife sanctuaries and historical monuments and meeting tribal peoples whose exposure to tourism has been minimal. Discover the vibrant former colonial capital of Calcutta (Kolkata), still known for its colonial-era avenues, grand Victoria Memorial and cricket ground. Visit Kaziranga National Park, the unique home for the one-horned rhinos, as well as elephants, deer, buffalo and outstanding birdlife.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Fly overnight to Kolkata.

DAY 2 Transfer to the 5-star Oberoi Grand for two nights. Welcome dinner. (D)

DAY 3 Visit the flower market and take a cruise on the Hoogly. Visit Victoria Memorial, Dalhousie Square, St. John's Church and a panoramic drive around colonial Calcutta. Visit the book market and Jain temple. (B)

DAY 4 Fly to Guwahati. Transfer to Steemer Ghat (4 hrs) close to Kaziranga National Park to board the RV Charaidew II for a seven-night cruise. Traditional Assamese dance performance on board. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Early morning jeep safari in Kaziranga's Central Range, home to the world's largest population of the Indian One-horned Rhinoceros. Cruise upstream along the park border, looking out for wildlife. Arrive at Vishnath for a walking tour and visit its Shiva temple. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 Full-day sailing up the Brahmaputra,

opportunity to sight Gangetic dolphins while passing remote villages. Evening arrival at Dhansiri Mukh. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Jeep safari in the Kaziranga Eastern Range, a grassland favoured by rhinoceros. (B, L, D)

DAY 8 Sail upstream calling at a small village for an insight into rural India. (B, L, D)

DAY 9 Arrive at Majuli Island, known for its Hindu monasteries and dance-drama performance. Visit a monastery at Auniati with an eclectic museum. Dance performance at Kamalbari Monastery. Sail to Neamati Ghat on the opposite bank. (B, L, D)

DAY 10 Visit a tea estate. Drive to Sibsagar, capital of the kings of Assam until the 1820's. Visit the temples with stupa-like profiles and palaces. (B, L, D)

DAY 11 Disembark. Transfer to Dibrugarh airport (5 hrs) passing through the colonial town and major base for American flights to China in WWII. Fly via Guwahati to Delhi for overnight at the 5-star ITC Maurya. (B)

DAY 12 Return flight. (B)

#### **RV CHARAIDEW II**

Operated by Assam Bengal Navigation and launched in early 2019. 18 air-conditioned cabins with private facilities, hairdryer, safe, mini-bar, tea/coffee making facilities and French balconies. The vessel has a comfortable saloon and bar, dining room, open sun deck, spa and gym. Food is a mixture of Assamese and continental. Wines, beer and spirits are available. Tea, coffee and water are complimentary.

#### **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin/double room – Main Deck cabin Emirates from Heathrow or Gatwick

#### 2022 - Wednesday

Nov 2 £2995

#### 2023 - Wednesdays

Mar 22 £2795 Apr 19 £2595

#### Supplements per person

Single supplement (Double for sole use) – £995 Upper Deck (twin or double) – £295 Upper Deck (double for sole use) – £1295 (Apr £1095)

Upper Deck Luxury cabin – £795 Emirates from Manchester or Birmingham – nil London-Kolkata/Delhi-London Emirates Business Class – from £2095 British Airways from Heathrow – nil

#### **Extra Nights / Extensions**

Discover more of India or relax in a resort on one of our great range of extensions. Alternatively, add extra nights pre-tour to draw breath after the flight or stay on post-tour to reflect, relax or explore independently. For details see vjv.com.

#### Price Includes

Air travel and taxes, all port charges, transfers, 7-night cruise, 3 nights' at 5-star hotels, breakfast daily, 1 dinner, full board on cruise, excursions, cruise director, local guides and representatives. If our specially negotiated airfares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.

#### **Independent Arrival**

Save £650 Arrival or departure transfer £24

#### Notes

Embarkation is sometimes at simple landing stages

The programme may be altered due to navigational factors with locks, water levels or congestion at certain sites.

#While the vessel carries more, the group size specified refers to transfers and excursions.





Glasgow (Day 1) Oban (Day 2) **Tobermory (Day 3)** Banavie (Day 4) Fort Augustus (Day 5) Inverness (Day 6)

#### **KEY FEATURES**

**Scenic Landscapes Unique Luxury Yacht Internal Waterways Cruise** Free Cabin Selection **Exclusive Small Ship Sailing** Group Size: 15 - 52

#### **DEPARTURES & PRICES**

per person in a twin/double Lower Deck Cabin Standard Class Rail Travel from London Euston

#### 2023 - Monday/Thursday

£1995 Oct 19 Apr 24

£2045

#### Supplements per person

Single supplement – £795 (limited availability) Standard Middle Deck cabin – £295 Superior Middle Deck cabin – £495 Top Deck cabin – £495 First Class rail - £150

#### Extra Nights - Glasgow/Inverness

Carlton George, Glasgow (per night) – £90 Single supplement – £60 The Royal Highland Hotel, Inverness (per night)

Single supplement – £60

#### **Price Includes**

Rail travel, taxes and port charges, 1 nights' hotel accommodation with breakfast and dinner, 5-night cruise, full board on cruise vessel with complimentary tea/coffee on board, excursions, boat manager, local expert guides and representatives.

#### **Independent Arrival**

Save £150

On occasion, due to ferry movements, the vessel cannot moor overnight at Tobermory, mooring instead in Oban after the visit to Tobermory.

#### MV LORD OF THE GLENS

At just 150 feet, this elegant vessel can explore the region with ease. Featuring polished wood, teak decks and sumptuous furnishing. 27 outward facing State Cabins spread over three decks. Lower Deck Cabins have two port holes, Middle Deck and Upper Deck Cabins have a picture window. Each State Cabin has rich hardwood finishes, plush carpeting, dressing table, stool, wardrobe, satellite TV, en-suite facilities and air-conditioning/heating. WiFi free/limited.

## **LORD OF** THE GLENS

#### INTRODUCTION

Across millennia, the Scots remain fiercely proud of a landscape where high mountains meet deep lochs and a thousand islands rise above dramatic seas. Wonderful scenery awaits on this journey of Scotland's inland Waterways. Explore, as few have, on this enchanting highland cruise from Oban to Inverness. Travelling from lock to loch, along the scenic seas and the narrow Caledonian Canal. Enjoy this panoramic voyage through the very heart of Scotland.

#### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Travel by train from London to Glasgow. Short transfer to the Carlton George Hotel (or similar). Dinner, with time to explore the Victorian and art nouveau architecture, a rich legacy of the city's 18th-20th-century prosperity. (D)

DAY 2 Transfer to Oban for a late afternoon embarkation. The 'Gateway to the Isles', Oban is a Victorian town on a delightful bay, with sweeping views to Kerrera and Mull. Evening welcome reception and dinner. Moor in Oban overnight. (B, D)

DAY 3 Explore Oban on foot including a visit to McCaig's Folly. Later, sail to Craignure on the Island of Mull for a visit to Duart Castle, home of Clan MacLean sited on a high crag at the end of a peninsula, commanding the channel between Mull and the mainland, entrances to Lochs Linne and Etive and the neck of the Firth of Lorne. Moor in Tobermory overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 Tobermory is best explored on foot with time in the morning to visit the famed gaily painted waterfront. Cruise the Sound of Mull and Loch Linnhe to Corpach and the entrance to the Caledonian Canal. From sea level, Lord of the Glens ascends the spectacular eight inter-connected locks of 'Neptune's Staircase'. Built by Thomas Telford between 1803 and 1822, it is the longest staircase lock in Scotland. Moor in Banavie overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 From Banavie, in the very shadow of Ben Nevis we take the West Highland train across the Glenfinnan Viaduct, Later, cruise through Lochs Lochy and Oich and the stunningly impressive treelined Laggan Avenue before descending the six inter-connected locks to Loch Ness. Moor in Fort Augustus overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 6 Free time to explore Fort Augustus before setting sail along Loch Ness. Stopping briefly to view the ruins of Urquhart Castle, we continue the 21-mile transit of Loch Ness and Loch Dochfour and along the first man-made section of the Caledonian Canal. The voyage concludes with an evening farewell reception and dinner. Moor in Inverness overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 7 Disembark. Transfer by road to Edinburgh, for the train to London. (B)

