

ESSENCE OF FRANCE

12 Nights / 13Days

Chamonix * Lake Annecy * Lyon * Nice * Paris

Day 01:Arrive Chamonix

Arrive at the village of Chamonix which is famous for its Mont Blanc. Check in and relax. The rest of the day is free for you to enjoy all this delightful village has to offer you. Overnight at hotel in Chamonix.

Day 02:Chamonix

After breakfast, we take an excursion from Chamonix by Montenvers train , this famous rack and pinion railway brings you to the Montenvers site at 1913 m. An imposing panorama of the Mer de Glace for a visit to the Ice Grotto. The Mer de Glace, which means Sea of Ice, is a glacier located on the northern slopes of the Mont Blanc massif, in the Alps. Afternoon, we proceed for an excursion up the Aiguille du Midi, from the centre of Chamonix at 1035 m, the Aiguille du Midi cable car carries you to 3842 m into the realm of high mountain peaks. A unique 360 degree panorama of the Mont-Blanc chain awaits you by cable car from where you can get spectacular aerial views of the village and the surrounding mountain ranges. Overnight at hotel in Chamonix.

Day 03:Chamonix – Lake Annecy

After breakfast, we proceed to Lake Annecy, The 12th century old town of Annecy, with its picturesque canals, buzzing shops and restaurants is also known as the Venice of the Alps. Lake Annecy claims the title of France's most beautiful lake. It is the second largest lake in France. Arrive in Annecy, after check in at the hotel, walk around the old city of Annecy and discover Le Palais De l'Ile (the mediaval prison – 12th century) presents one of the most unusual architecture in France, today converted in museum and exposition hall Le Château & La Cathedral St Pierre (12th & 16th century) – a mix of Renaissance gothic style, the small roads on the bank of the river, arcade houses, shops and outdoor market, Lovers Bridge and enjoy the cruise on the Lake Annecy (duration -1 hr). Overnight at the hotel in lake Annecy.

Day 04:Lake Annecy - Lyon

After breakfast, its time to make your way to the train station and board the train to the UNESCO World heritage city of Lyon. Upon arrival, please make your way to the hotel and check in. The evening is free for you. At nightfall, Lyon is illuminated with a thousand lights! 100,000 projectors illuminate 300 sites to truly highlight the city's heritage and create an enchanting backdrop for night-birds. At the heart of the city, life does not stop at nightfall for those who are caught up in the whirl of Lyon's nightlife. Lyon holds the number 2 place among French cities for its nightlife! Overnight in Lyon.

Day 05:Lyon

After breakfast, explore the city With the Lyon city card, which enable you to enjoy unlimited access to all the public transit in the city, free entrance to over 20 museums and temporary exhibitions and lots of shopping discounts. Take a free ride with Lyon city tours accompanied by professional guides from Lyon Tourism & Conventions and relax on one of Lyon city boats - daily cruises on the Saône and Rhône – the best way to experience the city – Take the funicular to reach the top of the Fourvière hill. Once there, visitors can capture the spectacular panoramic views of France's second major city. So be sure to visit the basilica. Located nearby are the old Fourvière roman theatres which you can go and visit for no admission fee. At the bottom of the hill there is the old Renaissance area of Vieux Lyon, which goes from Saint George's right up to Saint Paul, so be sure to visit Saint Jean Cathedral while discovering the area. Make your way through the traboules (silk workers passageways) while you admire the magnificent interior courtyards, wells and spiralling staircases. Cross the footbridge across the Saône river to reach the Palais

de Justice. Walk around the Presqu'île, from Place Bellecour up to Place Terreaux passing „Carré d'Or“ along the way for a luxury shopping venture. The city's leading buildings are found throughout the Presqu'île area including Ainay abbey, Hôtel Dieu, Célestins Theatre, Printing museum, Beaux Arts gallery, St Nizier church, Hôtel de Ville and the Opera house amongst others - Few of our recommendation is City Aventure and Fourvière Aventures acrobatic parks, Grand Lyon Aquarium - the large safari parks and zoos, and the Domaine de Lacroix - Laval park are areas particularly for family. Overnight in Lyon

Day 06:Lyon

After breakfast, explore the street of Lyon for shopping. This simple pleasure is deeply rooted in the Lyon lifestyle. There are several areas to choose from, no matter what you may be looking for Luxury, high street fashion, exclusive and original creations of up and coming designers, antique or modern items, furnishings, silk, all is offered! area of Le Carré d'Or, which is home to over 70 different designer labels. Be sure to go to rue Edouard Herriot, where you will see luxurious boutiques such as Dior, Louis Vuitton, Hermès, Mont Blanc, Escada, Cartier . The area between rue Victor Hugo and rue de la République serves as one of Europe's largest commercial and pedestrian zones or Excursion from Lyon to the Beaujolais vineyards : the land of Golden Stones and the Wine Road. Discover the charming villages: Gleize, Bagnols, Chessy les mines and Oingt..Stop and visit the cloister of Salles Arbussonnas (12th and 14th century). Learn all about wine in the Wine Museum in Romaneche Thorins . Discover the wine Road -Saint Amour, Julienas, Moulin à vent, Chenas, Chiroubles, Morgon... A wine grower will take you on a guided tour of his wine cellar and offer you a wine-tasting session. Return to Lyon, Overnight at the Hotel in Lyon.

Day 07:Lyon – Nice

After breakfast , we proceed to the train station to board the train taking you to the capital of the French Riviera, “Nice” . Arrive, make your own way to the hotel, check in at the hotel. Rest of the day is free to explore on your own. Overnight at the hotel in Nice.

Day 08:Nice

After breakfast, we proceed for full day excursion of French Riviera - the tour begins with the village of Eze, visit the artisan shops delight in the medieval ambiance of this picturesque hillside town, enjoy a guided visit to the Fragonard Perfumery to discover the secrets of some of the world's best perfume! continue to Monaco, resting high upon the rocks, some 200 feet above the French Riviera. On arrival, walk the town's narrow streets and witness the changing of the Palace Guard at the Prince's Palace, before visiting the Neo-Romanesque cathedral Cathedral where Princess Grace is buried, the Palace and for a drive along the Formula One race circuit. Of course any Monaco tour would not be complete without a stroll around Monte-Carlo with its Casino, superb hotels and beautiful gardens. and its Princess Grace Memorial, continue to Nice. Overnight at the hotel in Nice.

Day 09:Nice

After breakfast, we recommend you make your way to the Promenade des Anglais to board the Tourist train which takes you through the the old town and long stone wall along the port, flower market, Castle Hill Park. Here you will have time to walk the narrow streets and see the Port Vauban, the largest pleasure port in the French Mediterranean. Afternoon suggest to take an optional tour of Cannes - covering - Cap d'Antibes, along the coast enroute to Cannes. On arrival, enjoy a drive along the flashy Boulevard de la Croisette to see the famous Film Festival Centre. Overnight at the hotel in Nice.

Day 10:Nice – Paris

It is time to head to the train station to board the TGV to Paris this morning. You are in the fashion capital of the world! Upon arrival make your way to the hotel. Check in and relax. Later in the evening at an optional cost - reach Quai De La Bourdonnais, where you will board a Bateaux Parisiens vessel for a delightful one-hour Seine River cruise. Enjoy commentary detailing the many historic bridges of Paris as you cruise. When the cruise terminates, visit the Eiffel Tower and enjoy a panoramic view of France's unforgettable capital. Your guide will point out the principal landmarks of the city from the Tower's second floor observatory. At the end of the tour you may choose to explore the city on your own boat cruise along the Seine and take in Paris by night, Overnight at the hotel in Paris.

Day 11:Paris

After breakfast, Paris Tour Cityrama - Discover the beauty of Paris from the comfort of a double-decker coach. See the principal landmarks of this fashionable city, beginning with the Place des Pyramides and continuing to the Opéra, Place Vendôme, Concorde Square, Champs-Élysées Avenue, Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Invalides, Orsay Museum, The Louvre, Notre-Dame Cathedral, Sorbonne, Pantheon Church and the Hotel Saint-Germain-des-Prés, in the heart of the Latin Quarter. Overnight at the Hotel in Paris.

Day 12:Paris

After breakfast, explore Paris at your own pace with the Paris one-day Hop On & Hop Off pass - visit the Montparnasse Tower, visit Grevin Museum, Cinequa are some of the must visit attractions in Paris(entrance not included), later this afternoon you could spend time at any of the great shopping malls like the Printemps or the Galleries Lafayette for the best lifestyle products that they have to offer. Evening you can enjoy the dinner show at the Lido or Moulin Rouge at an optional rate. Overnight at the hotel in Paris.

Day 13:Return Home

After breakfast, check out of the hotel for your flight back home.