



Essential France

October 18-November 1, 2025

15 days for \$7,497 total price from San Francisco
(\$6,895 air & land inclusive plus \$602 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.



An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Commonwealth Club World Affairs



Dear Club Travelers,

We invite you to join us on an exclusive 15-day journey through France. From the port city of Marseille, to historic Lyon, to cosmopolitan Paris, you will experience the art, culture, and cuisine that make these cherished spots so renowned.

Begin in Aix-en-Provence, the “City of Fountains,” where you admire the city’s rich architectural heritage. Then continue on to Arles and Roman-influenced Nîmes, embarking on a walking tour that features the well-known two-tiered Roman Amphitheater and Place du Forum. In Avignon, take a private Provençal cooking class; then head north to Lyon, where you see the beloved Basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourvière, the Gallo-Roman theater, and the well-preserved Renaissance district. Enjoy a cruise on pristine Lake Annecy before making your way to the Burgundy wine region; then travel to historic Dijon, known for its rich history and culture. End your tour with two wonderful nights in Paris, the city of love.

Space is limited to 24 guests, and we expect this tour to fill quickly. Book today!

Sincerely,

Kristina Nemeth, Director of Travel

CLUB TRAVEL RESERVATION FORM: ESSENTIAL FRANCE

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Club Travel at (415) 597-6720 or e-mail travel@commonwealthclub.org.** Please have the information outlined below available to share with a Club Travel representative.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Commonwealth Club World Affairs’ office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Commonwealth Club World Affairs**
Attn: Club Travel
110 The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94105

ESSENTIAL FRANCE • OCTOBER 18-NOVEMBER 1, 2025

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an air upgrade to _____

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability) ☐

Post-Tour “Paris – On Your Own” Extension: Please sign me/us up ☐

We require membership in Commonwealth Club World Affairs to travel with us. Please check one of the following options:

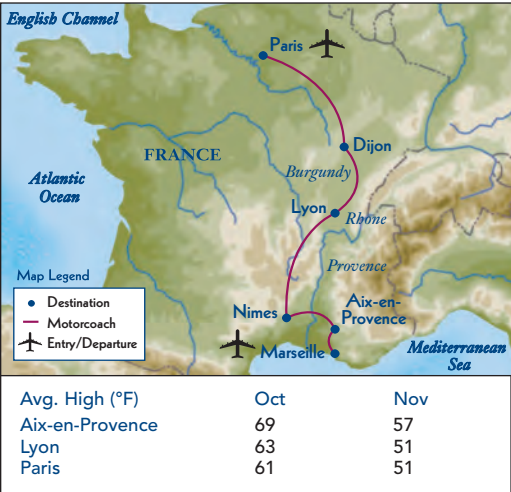
☐ I am a current member of Commonwealth Club World Affairs.

☐ I will visit commonwealthclub.org/membership to sign up for a membership.

Essential France

15 days for \$7,497 total price from San Francisco
(\$6,895 air & land inclusive plus \$602 airline taxes and fees)

We explore regional gems and cosmopolitan cities alike in this essential – and alluring – discovery of La Belle France. As our small group travels from Provence to Lyon, Burgundy to Paris, we bask in the history and art, culture and cuisine that mark these cherished spots.



Saturday, October 18: Depart U.S. for Marseille, France

Sunday, October 19: Arrive Marseille/Aix-en-Provence We arrive in Marseille and transfer to Aix-en-Provence (“Aix”). This evening we meet our Odysseys Tour Director and fellow travelers at a briefing about the journey ahead, followed by a welcome dinner at our hotel. D

Monday, October 20: Aix-en-Provence Today we discover this lovely “City of Fountains” on a walking tour, admiring Aix’s rich architectural heritage and the *Vieille Ville* (Old Town). After a guided visit to the Atelier Cézanne, where artist Paul Cézanne worked from 1902 to 1906, we have lunch at a local restaurant. The remainder of the day is free to enjoy Aix as we wish. B,L

Tuesday, October 21: Aix-en-Provence/Les Baux/Saint-Rémy-de-Provence/Nîmes En route to Nîmes today, we first visit Les Baux, a gem of a medieval village perched atop a rock spur. Here we see the Carrières des Lumières immersive multimedia art and music exhibit set in a former stone quarry. Then we explore Les Baux itself, with its restored ancient houses, Renaissance-era façades, and stone citadel. We continue on to Saint Rémy, where we enjoy lunch together before visiting the Romanesque jewel of St-Paul de Mausole, the monastery where artist Vincent Van Gogh was confined after severing his ear. Late this afternoon we reach Nîmes, where we dine together tonight. B,L,D

Wednesday, October 22: Nîmes/Arles After a morning walking tour of this “most Roman city outside of Italy,” we visit Arles, once part of Roman Gaul and then a clarion of Christianity. We encounter the city’s rich history on our walking tour, which includes a visit to the 1st-century Roman Amphitheater, a UNESCO site; and Place du Forum, setting for Van Gogh’s painting *Le Café de Nuit*. Then we have free time for lunch on our own before we return to Nîmes. B

Thursday, October 23: Nîmes/Avignon This morning is free for independent exploration in this city known for its Roman monuments, including the 2,000-year-old Nîmes Arena; the perfectly preserved Maison Carrée, inspiration for La Madeleine in Paris;

Physical Activity Level



Moderate

Walk 2-4 miles per day often uphill, on uneven terrain, or cobblestones; occasional long walks from motorcoach drop-off to sights; several long days of travel via motorcoach

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Marseille		
2-3	Aix-en-Provence	Renaissance Aix-en-Provence Hotel	Sup. First Class
4-6	Nîmes	Maison Albar L’Imperator	Sup. First Class
7-9	Lyon	Hotel Carlton Lyon	Sup. First Class
10-12	Dijon	Grand Hotel La Clochue	Sup. First Class
13-14	Paris	Hotel Edouard 7	Sup. First Class
15	Depart Paris for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



The 1st-century Pont du Gard aqueduct

and the Tour Magne, the only remaining tower of the original city walls. Later we depart for Avignon, capital of Christendom in the Middle Ages. Here we visit the historic city center with its 12th-century Romanesque Cathedral; the remains of the Saint-Bénézet Bridge; and the *Palais des Papes* (Papal Palace), one of the world's most important Gothic structures. Tonight: a small group highlight as we join a local chef for a Provençal cooking class followed by dinner. *B,D*

Friday, October 24: Nîmes/Pont du Gard/Lyon Heading north this morning, we stop at Pont du Gard, the 1st-century Roman aqueduct whose three graceful tiers of arches span the Gardon River. Then we travel on to Lyon, France's third largest city set at the confluence of the Rhône and Saône rivers. We dine tonight at a local restaurant in this region famed for its gastronomy. *B,D*

Saturday, October 25: Lyon Today's tour begins at the beloved Basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourvière, overlooking riverside Lyon from its hilltop perch. Next: the ruins of the Gallo-Roman theater, built in 15 BCE and still in use today. We then visit Vieux Lyon, the city's well-preserved Renaissance district, followed by a look at some of Lyon's jaw-dropping *trompe l'oeil* street art. The remainder of the day is at leisure before we dine tonight at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Sunday, October 26: Lyon/Annecy We set out today for the French Alpine town of Annecy on the shores of its namesake lake. Streetside canals and the Thiou River run through the picturesque Old Town, which we discover on a walking tour along the narrow lanes flanked by pastel-colored houses. We visit the town's vibrant market then enjoy a cruise on Lake Annecy, fed by the pristine waters of the surrounding Alps. *B*

Monday, October 27: Lyon/ Pérouges/Dole/ Dijon Our first stop today is in medieval hilltop Pérouges, another of France's most beautiful villages with its cobblestone streets and byways lined with half-timbered houses. Next, we visit untouristed Dole, boasting a well-preserved historic center and where we enjoy a walking tour. After lunch together, we tour the one-time home of scientist Louis Pasteur. Then we continue on to Dijon and our hotel, where we dine together tonight. *B,L,D*

Tuesday, October 28: Dijon/Beaune/Route des Grands Crus This morning we travel to Beaune, gateway to the Burgundy wine region. We take a leisurely walking tour of this walled town then visit the renowned Hôtel-Dieu Museum, part of the Hospices de Beaune complex. One of the finest surviving Renaissance buildings in France, the museum is home to the *Beaune Altarpiece* (often called *The Last Judgment*). We then embark on a tour highlight: the journey along

Post-Tour Extension

November 1-3, 2025
Paris – On Your Own
3 days/2 nights for \$495 total price
Single Supplement: \$395

Enjoy this splendid city as you wish.

Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights' accommodations at Hotel Edouard VII (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport



NO ONE IS EVER SATISFIED
WHERE HE IS.”

– ANTOINE DE ST-EXUPÉRY

the Route des Grands Crus, Burgundy’s fabled trail through the vineyards and villages comprising one of France’s most treasured wine regions. We have the opportunity to sample some area vintages as we stop at a local winery before we return to Dijon. *B*

Wednesday, October 29: Dijon Known for its rich history and culture – and of course, its wine and namesake mustard – Dijon boasts a prized architectural heritage ranging from Gothic to Art Deco, which we see on today’s tour of the Burgundian capital. Following our tour, we’re free to explore as we wish. Tonight, we visit a local restaurant for dinner together. *B,D*

Thursday, October 30: Dijon/Chablis/Paris En route to Paris today, we stop in Chablis, renowned for its signature dry white wines. We enjoy a walking tour of the medieval village and visit the 13th-century Collégiale Saint- Martin church. Then we have time on our own for lunch and to explore as we wish, maybe by visiting one of the wineries in the town center. Mid-afternoon we travel on to Paris, where an orientation tour takes us past many of the city’s highlights. Dinner tonight is on our own in this city of fine cuisine. *B*



Typical French scene

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights’ accommodations in Superior First Class hotels
- 24 meals: 13 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers
- Club representative at 15 guests



We travel Burgundy’s wine route.

Friday, October 31: Paris This morning we visit the Opéra Garnier, the opulent theater that stands as a symbol of the city (and as the setting for *The Phantom of the Opera*). If Opéra Garnier is not available, we’ll tour the Musée Rodin, dedicated to the works of sculptor Auguste Rodin. Our afternoon is free for independent exploration; tonight we celebrate our Gallic sojourn over a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Saturday, November 1: Depart for U.S. We transfer to the airport this morning for our return flight to the U.S. *B*

Tour Departs: October 18, 2025

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland (OR), Seattle	\$7,497
Boston, New York	\$6,997
Dallas, Denver	\$7,397
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$6,195

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$602, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,895. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$3,795 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,795 per person (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change). Upgrade costs are in addition to the costs above.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve this tour. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on the secure on-line portal, My Odyssey.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: cancel 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

Eligibility: We require membership in Commonwealth Club World Affairs to travel with us. People who live outside of the Bay Area may purchase a national membership. To learn about membership types and to purchase a membership, visit commonwealthclub.org/membership or call (415) 597-6720.

Insurance: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event you must cancel your participation in the travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be your only source of reimbursement. You will be sent information about insurance upon registration.

Responsibility: The liability of Commonwealth Club World Affairs, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, are strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Commonwealth Club World Affairs and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and **you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own as well as keep pace with the tour group.** We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Commonwealth Club World Affairs and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of our operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. CST #2077973-40
Commonwealth Club World Affairs CST #2096889-40

COMMONWEALTH CLUB TRAVEL

Commonwealth Club World Affairs
Attn: Club Travel
110 The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94105



JOIN COMMONWEALTH CLUB WORLD AFFAIRS ON AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR TO FRANCE!

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Limited to 24 Guests

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