



Tanya Aitken's Trip to France

13 Nights | 4 People

3 Nights in Bordeaux (September 28th – October 1st 2023)
3 Nights in Avignon (October 1st – 4th 2023)
2 Nights in Aix En Provence (October 4th – 6th 2023)
5 Nights in Nice (October 6th – 11th 2023)

September 28th 2023 – October 11th 2023

BALLPARK QUOTE to be sent to you once you have approved the itinerary

A 100% tailor-made itinerary for you visiting France!



A world-renowned city, **Bordeaux** is famed for its vineyards, gastronomy, and unique art de vivre. But there's more! Offering an intoxicating mix of rich historical heritage and modernity, the city is home to stunning contemporary architectural works. To explore the city and its heritage, you will be spoilt for choice.



Avignon invites you for a stay beyond all imagination. The historic city centre, the Popes' Palace, all the episcopal buildings and the Saint Bénézet Bridge are listed as world heritage sites by UNESCO. The historic centre radiates from the Place de l'Horloge.



There are many reasons to visit **Aix-en-Provence** (Aix for short, pronounced like the letter "x"). Its art, buildings, history and food are among France's most alluring, with 17th-century mansions lining tree-framed boulevards and squares decorated with stone fountains.







– MORNING: Arrival in Bordeaux and Private Transfer to your Hotel. Upon your arrival at International Airport in Bordeaux, you will be welcomed by your private driver who will escort you to your sumptuous hotel in Bordeaux. You may check-in to your hotel or drop off your luggage if too early for check in.

Important note: Please be advised that the hotel check in is normally at 3 pm. I always call the hotel manager before the arrival of my travelers and ask them to do the best they can to have your room ready at your arrival. BUT NO GUARANTEE

> Hotel Recommendation: <u>Le Palais Gallien</u> <u>Yndo hotel</u> <u>Saint James hotel</u> <u>Le Boutique Hôtel Bordeaux</u>

- AFTERNOON : Les Bassins de Lumière Self-guided Tour

The Bassins de Lumières, the largest digital art center in the world, hosts exhibitions that immerse us in the masterpieces of the great names in art history. After Klimt, Monet, Renoir, Chagall, the new exhibition highlights Venice, its architectural gems and the great artists of Italian painting. Whatever the theme, it is a veritable ballet of dazzling colors that amazes visitors. Your artist friend will enjoy this too much!



Visitors stayed for an average duration of 2 hours here

- EVENING: Accommodation at Your Hotel.



Inclusions: Private Transfer as Mentioned Above, Le Bassin de Lumiere Entrance Tickets & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Flights, Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



 MORNING: Private Guided Walking Tour in The Medieval Village of Saint-Emilion.

Your private driver will escort you to explore the UNESCO World Heritage Listed historic city of **Saint-Émilion** on a **2-hour private walking tour.** Stand outside the **Monolithic Church** and imagine the life of monks in the **ancient monasteries.**



- AFTERNOON: Bordeaux Highlight Private Tour.

Let a local show you the best spots in town! Let's visit some of France's most beautiful squares and architectural wonders on permanent display in a modern city filled with medieval and even **Gallo Roman structures.**





- EVENING: Accommodation at Your Hotel.

Inclusions: Private Transfer as Mentioned Above, Guided Walking Tour to Saint Emilion, Bordeaux Highlight Private Tour & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Flights, Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



- MORNING/AFTERNOON: "SLOW TOURISME" Experience.

After your hearty breakfast at your hotel, your **private driver** will escort you to discover "Slow tourism" experience of the Arcachon basin to appreciate the slowness and sweetness of this preserved and magical environment! **Boat cruise and oyster tasting** at a local producer with a glass of white wine! **Private or Group Tour.**



- AFTERNOON: Discover Dune du Pilat.

After that, your **private driver** will escort you to discover the "Dune du Pilat" the **highest sand dune in Europe** with its breathtaking view over the Atlantic Ocean. Your **private driver** will escort you back to the hotel afterward.





- EVENING: Accommodation at Your Hotel.

Inclusions: Slow Tourism Experience, Private Transfer Mentioned Above & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Flights, Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



- MORNING: Departure to Avignon.

After your hearty breakfast at your hotel, you will be escorted by **your private driver** to **Bordeaux airport** for your departure to Marseille. Upon your arrival in Marseille, your **private driver** will escort you to your hotel in Avignon.

- AFTERNOON: Check-in hotel.

Important note: Please be advised that the hotel check in is normally at 3 pm. I always call the hotel manager before the arrival of my travelers and ask them to do the best they can to have your room ready at your arrival.

BUT NO GUARANTEE

Hotels recommendations in Avignon: <u>Hôtel Le Prieuré Baumanière</u> <u>Les Jardins de Baracane</u> <u>La Divine Comedie</u>

Important note: Please be advised that the hotel check in is normally at 3 pm. I always call the hotel manager before the arrival of my travelers and ask Him/her to do the best he/she can to have your room ready at your arrival. **BUT NO GUARANTEE.**



- AFTERNOON: Discover The Popes' Palace of Avignon, and the Saint Bénézet Bridge (3 Hours).

Discover with **your private guide** the Popes' Palace of Avignon, one of the most visited monuments in all of France.

The Palace of the Popes stands as the mighty symbol of the church's influence throughout the western Christian world in the 14th century.

You will then visit the bridge of Saint-Bénézet which attracts more than 300 000 visitors per year, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.



- EVENING: Accommodation at Hotel.

Inclusions: Train Tickets to Avignon, Private Transfer as Mentioned Above, Private Guide of The Pope's Palace and Saint Bénézet Bridge & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Flights, Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



MORNING: Discover the Hilltop village of Gordes (Self-guided or private guided).

After your breakfast, **your private driver** will pick you up at your hotel and escort you to Gordes to discover in 2 hours one of the "Most Beautiful Villages of France", dominated by its fortified castle, and its winding cobbled streets.

It will take 50 minutes' drive from Avignon to Gordes.





- MORNING/AFTERNOON: Explore Les Baux de Provence (Self-guided or private guided).

Your private driver will take you to visit a medieval village, Les Baux de Provence. Explore in 2 hours this immense and superb stone fortress, it is without doubt one of the must-sees on your Provençal trail!

It will take 1 hour drive from Gordes to Les Baux de Provence.



- AFTERNOON: Experience tasting olive oil.

Taste olive oil from a mill in Les Baux de Provence. You will admire one of the most beautiful olive groves in Provence. After your oil experience, **your private driver** will take you back to your hotel. It will take 45 minutes' drive from Les Baux de Provence to Avignon.

- EVENING: Accommodation at Hotel.

Inclusions: Self Guide or Private Guide to Gordes and Les Baux de Provence, Experience Tasting olive oil, Private Transfer as Mentioned Above & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



- MORNING: Discover the Pont du Gard aqueduct.

After your breakfast, **your private driver** will pick you up at your hotel and escort you to discover the Pont du Gard aqueduct: a pure marvel!

The Pont du Gard is an ancient Roman aqueduct bridge built in the first century AD. It will take 30 minutes' drive from Avignon to The Pont du Gard.



- MORNING/AFTERNOON: Family winery and cellar visit (1,5 hours).

Visit of the modern cellar, Domaine de Poulvarel in Sernhac, made with stones from the « Pont du Gard » and a modern barrage which has been designed to maintain a perfect temperature to age and keep wines. During the tasting you will have the opportunity to taste 3 types of wines that we produce at the winery. You will also visit the antic tunnels located in Sernhac. It will take 9 minutes' drive from The Pont du Gard to Sernhac.



- AFTERNOON: Visit Nimes city.

Then, **your private driver** will take you to Nimes to meet **your private guide** in the city center. It will take 35 minute drive from Sernhac to Nimes.

You will discover in 2 hours with **your private guide** Nimes city and its gorgeous Roman amphitheater.



After your guided visit, **your private driver** will take you back to your hotel. It will take 55 minute drive from Nimes to Avignon.



- EVENING: Accommodation at hotel.

Inclusions: Private transfer to the Pont du Gard aqueduct, private transfer to Sernhac, Family winery and cellar visit, Private transfer to Nimes, Visit Nimes city with private guide, Private transfer to Avignon & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Flights, Meals and drinks & all personal expenses



- MORNING/AFTERNOON: Cooking masterclass in Aix en Provence.

After your early breakfast, **your private driver** will pick you up at your hotel in Avignon at **8:30 am** and escort you to meet our Chef Gilles (or Stéphane) in Aix en Provence. You will learn how to cook the fish soup specialty, La Bouillabaisse. Awesome cooking experience! **From 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.**

It will take 1 hour drive approximately from Avignon to Aix en Provence.





- AFTERNOON: Check in hotel.

After your cooking experience, you will have free time to explore the city on your own.

Hotels recommendations in Aix En Provence <u>Renaissance Aix-en-Provence Hotel</u> <u>Boutique Hôtel Cézanne</u> <u>La Maison D'Aix</u> <u>Hôtel Aquabella & Spa</u>

- EVENING: Accommodation at Hotel.

Inclusions: Private transfer to Aix en Provence, Cooking masterclass & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.

	OCTOBER 5 -	DAY 8	
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- MORNING/AFTERNOON: Guided hiking tour in the gorgeous calanques of Cassis with your local guide Vaninha (3 hours).

After your breakfast, **your private driver** will pick you up at your hotel and escort you to les Calanques, near Marseille. It will take 1 hour drive approximately from Aix en Provence to les Calanques. Calanques National Park is renowned for its beauty with a jagged shoreline and cliffs that plunge into the sea. The hiking trails that hug the coast lend themselves to impressive views.



- AFTERNOON: Boat trip experience in the Calanques.

Discover the most beautiful geological sights of Marseille with our boat trip in the heart of the Calanques. You will enjoy a unique view of the largest Calanques. You will embark on



a journey of about one or two hours, in the middle of nature. These treasures are preserved places, so you can observe intact flora and admire landscapes that you have never seen before, due to their difficult access.



After your boat trip experience, **your private driver** will take you back to your sumptuous hotel in Aix en Provence.

- EVENING: Accommodation at hotel

Inclusions: Private transfer to les Calanques, Guided hiking tour in the gorgeous calanques of Cassis, Boat trip experience in the Calanques, Private transfer back to Aix en Provence & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.

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OCTOBER 6-	DAY9	
AIX-EN-PROVENCI	E - NICE	

- MORNING: Private Transfer to Nice & Check in hotel.

After your hearty breakfast, **your private driver** will pick you up at your hotel in Aix en Provence and escort you to your hotel in Nice Center. It will take 2 hours approximately by car.

Hotels suggestions in Nice : <u>Aston La Scala</u> <u>Hotel Palais Saleya</u> <u>Hyatt Regency</u>



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- AFTERNOON: Free Time.

Free time to relax.

- AFTERNOON/ EVENING: EVENING HIKE APERO at sunset!

Go for an Aperitif Hike at the end of the day and taste the most beautiful panoramas of the Côte d'Azur from the Massif de l'Estérel (From 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm).

Important note: You may take the train to go to Mandelieu La napoule and meet your guide at the train station or we can arrange a private transfer for you.



- EVENING: Accommodation at Hotel.

Inclusions: Private transfer to Nice, Evening Hike Apero at sunset & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



- MORNING/AFTERNOON: Food Tour.

Discover the gems of Nice, its cuisine, wine and history with **Nadia our expert**. We invite you to relish genuine Niçoise flavours and a wide variety of sights in the heritage setting of the old town. By the end of the tour you'll have seen and tasted the best Nice has to offer. The best food tour in Nice! **From 9:30 am to 2:00 pm.**





- AFTERNOON: Free Time.

Free time to relax or stroll on the city on your own.

- EVENING : Accommodation at Hotel.

Inclusions: Food Tour & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



MORNING/ AFTERNOON: Full day in Saint Tropez: Boat cruise from Nice to Saint Tropez.

Follow the coastal curve of the French Riviera to Saint Tropez on a day trip from Nice. Enjoy panoramic ocean views across the Mediterranean Sea to the glamorous town of Saint Tropez. Spend a day exploring at your leisure and discover enticing attractions like the Church of Saint-Tropez and the Citadel of Saint-Tropez. You can also browse sophisticated designer clothing boutiques, sample seafood specialties at gourmet restaurants and lounge on the soft, powdery sands of the city's pristine beaches. Return to Nice by boat at the end of your relaxing day. **From 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.**





- EVENING: Accommodation at Hotel.

Inclusions: Full day in Saint Tropez: Boat cruise from Nice to Saint Tropez & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



- MORNING: Private guided visit at Matisse and Chagall museums.

Discover with **your private guide** the museum of Matisse and its superb collection of works by the great French artist Henri Matisse. Then **your guide** will bring you to visit the Marc Chagall national Museum, created during the artist's lifetime, houses the masterly cycle of the Biblical Message. **From 10:00 am to 1:30 pm.**





- AFTERNOON: Small group guided tour of Cannes, Palais des Festivals, Antibes and Saint Paul de Vence.

Explore Cannes and discover its magnificent palaces along the Croisette boulevard, the Carlton, the Majestic or the Martinez where the stars are staying during the Film Festival.

Then take the opportunity to walk on the famous red carpet covering the world-famous steps of the Palais des Festivals. And after following the seaside toward Antibes and discover the old town surrounded by ramp.

In the last step, explore one of the most visited places in France: Saint Paul -de- Vence. This magnificent, fortified village dating from the 11th century became over time the appointment artists painters (Chagall, Picasso, Matisse). **From 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm.**



- EVENING: Accommodation at Hotel.

Inclusions: Private guided visit at Matisse and Chagall museums, small group guided tour of Cannes, Palais des Festivals, Antibes and Saint Paul de Vence & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



MORNING: Small group guided tour of medieval Eze village and Monaco.

Your tour starts on the scenic roads of the "Moyenne Corniche" offering a splendid view over Villefranche -sur-mer and the peninsula of Saint Jean Cap Ferrat."

En route to Monaco, make a first stop to discover the medieval village of Eze, one of the most picturesque sites of the French Riviera. Dating from the Middle Ages, the village was built on top of the rocky outcrop for security reasons.

Go through the village of La Turbie, also called the "Monaco terrace" because of the panoramic view of the Principality of Monaco. Admire the ruins of an imposing monument.



You will then reach the Principality of Monaco, the old town on "Le Rocher" (the rock) overlooking the sea and harbor (60 meters high), where you will discover the Prince's Palace, the Carabinieri Barracks, the Cathedral of neo-Roman style, the Justice Palace... At the end you will reach Monte-Carlo in the most beautiful way by taking the famous Grand Prix track of Formula One. **From 8:30 am to 1:00 pm.**



 AFTERNOON: Private cruise along the Bay of Billionaires with a solar boat.

You will have the opportunity to admire the coast from the sea.



Inclusions: Small group guided tour of medieval Eze village and Monaco, Private cruise along the Bay of Billionaires with a solar boat & Accommodation at Hotel with daily breakfast.

Exclusions: Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.





- MORNING: Private Transfer to Airport.

Your private driver will pick you up at your hotel in the morning after your breakfast and escort you to Marseille International Airport for your return flight. **2 hours' ride.**

Inclusions: Private Transfer to Marseille International Airport **Exclusions:** Meals and drinks & all personal expenses.



- PACKAGE PRICE

Please note that flight and accommodation prices always fluctuate and may differ at time of booking.

- INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation 11 nights in a handpicked hotel, with daily breakfast
- All guided tours, visits and transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Train Tickets Mentioned Above
- 24/7 Ground support from Artoo Travel team
- All hotel taxes

- EXCLUSIONS

- International flights
- Travel Insurance
- Meals / Drinks
- All personal expenses

- WE OFFER PEACE OF MIND FOR EVERY TRAVELER

Our team is available 24/7 to make sure everything is working properly and to make you feel truly unique. We often receive and make calls after normal business hours because we always want to make sure our clients' itineraries go according to plan. Upon arrival at CDG airport, you will get my personal phone number:

+33 650 238 195

We will also provide you with the names and phone numbers of drivers and guides.

Important note: The name and phone number of your personal driver will be sent to you 24 or 48 hours prior to arrival.

- PAYMENT TERMS

We accept all credit cards: Visa, MasterCard, American Express. If you decided to pay by wire transfer, we will send you the wire instruction.

- PASSPORT VALIDITY

Make sure that your Passport is valid for minimum **of 6 months** at the time you fly out back to the United States.

- PAYMENT STRUCTURE

A non-refundable deposit of 30% is requested at the time of confirmation. Payment of the balance, that is, the remaining 70% shall be paid at least 45 days prior to arrival in France. Payment can be made by bank transfer or credit card.

- TRIP UNSURANCE

For your travel insurance, we recommend you subscribe this insurance with **Artoo Travel** or Zicasso.

- CANCELLATION POLICY

Artoo Travel must be promptly informed, by means of email, of any cancellation of reservation. The official date of receipt of the cancellation shall be used for calculating the compensation due to Artoo Travel, in accordance with the following conditions:

- 60-31 days prior to arrival: 30% of the total price
- 30-15 days prior to arrival: 50% of the total price
- 14-7 days prior to arrival: 70% of the total price
- Less than 7 days prior to arrival: 90% of the total price



BON VOYAGE