

## L'ART DE VIVRE - CLASSIC CRUISE IN BURGUNDY

### Auxerre to Chevroches

#### Sunday, Day 1 Auxerre

Guests are met at our meeting point in Paris\*\* and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to the pretty L'Art de Vivre. Following a champagne welcome, you are free to explore the medieval town of Auxerre or take a stroll along the banks of the River Yonne before returning for dinner on board.



#### Monday, Day 2 Auxerre to Vincelles

Our morning cruise starts early and takes us through some delightful locks and past vineyard-clad hillsides to our rural mooring at Vincelles. Following lunch on board, we head to the quarry of Aubigny, a subterranean wonderland of stonework which is famous for the limestone used on buildings such as the Paris Opera House, here we explore this uniquely atmospheric underground space. Afterwards, we visit the cellars of Bailly-Lapierre, also carved out of the rock, to taste some their sparkling Crémant de Bourgogne. Dinner on board.



#### Tuesday, Day 3 Vincelles to Mailly-la-Ville

Following an early breakfast, we discover the medieval town of Auxerre. Later, we tour the centre of what was originally the capital of Lower Burgundy, with its lavish Renaissance houses, fine churches and particularly its magnificent cathedral situated close to the river. We then return to the hotel barge for a cruise southward through rich pasturelands and past grazing Charolais cattle, to the sleepy village of Mailly-la-Ville. After your relaxed lunch on board, perhaps this is a good time to enjoy a walk or bicycle ride along the towpath. Dinner on board.



#### Wednesday, Day 4 Mailly-la-Ville to La Saussois

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we head to the celebrated wine village of Chablis. After viewing the vineyards, we make a private visit to the prestigious Domaine Laroche for a wine-tasting, followed by a tour of the 1000 years old Obédiencerie; originally part of the monastery of St. Martin, this is where the monks developed the craft of winemaking in the Middle Ages and to this day it remains the location for aging the wines. Lunch will be served by a private chef in the Domaine's dining hall. Later in the afternoon we return to the barge to cruise past the cliffs at Le Saussois, a stunning natural setting with an international climbing centre. There will also be the opportunity to enjoy delightful walks or bicycle rides along the towpath. Dinner onboard.



#### Thursday, Day 5 Le Saussois to Lucy-sur-Yonne

Our morning cruise is through the picturesque Yonne Valley to our mooring at Lucy-sur-Yonne. After lunch on board, we enjoy an excursion to the pilgrimage town of Vézelay, one of Burgundy's most famous treasures with the Romanesque Basilica of St Mary Magdalene, craft shops and fine views of the surrounding countryside. Dinner on board.



### Friday, Day 6 Lucy-sur-Yonne to Chevroches

A morning cruise through beautiful countryside takes us to our final mooring at the pretty canal-side village of Chevroches, where we visit the elegant Château de Bazoches, built in the 12th century and whose illustrious visitors included Richard the Lionheart. The château was later remodelled by Maréchal Vauban and there are wonderful views from its elevated hillside setting. After lunch, enjoy an afternoon at leisure – perfect for a bicycle ride, or a walk along the towpaths before the Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.



### Saturday, Day 7 Chevroches

After breakfast, guests are transferred to Paris\*\*.

This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change.

On alternate weeks, the cruise will be in the reverse direction.

\*\*Other locations available for private Charter bookings.

## L'ART DE VIVRE - CLASSIC CRUISE IN BURGUNDY

### Chevroches to Auxerre

#### Sunday, Day 1 Chevroches

Guests are met at our meeting point in Paris\*\* and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to the pretty L'Art de Vivre. The Captain and crew welcome you aboard with a champagne welcome and there is time for a stroll along the towpath before dinner on board.



#### Monday, Day 2 Chevroches to Lucy-sur-Yonne

After breakfast, we leave Chevroches and enjoy our first gentle cruise along the canal, through the town of Clamecy and on to our mooring at Lucy-sur-Yonne. From here, we'll take a drive to visit the elegant Château de Bazoches, built in the 12th century and whose illustrious visitors included Richard the Lionheart. The château was later remodelled by Maréchal Vauban and there are wonderful views from its elevated hillside setting. After lunch on board, enjoy an afternoon at leisure – this is a perfect time for a walk or a bicycle ride along the towpath. Dinner on board.



#### Tuesday, Day 3 Lucy-sur-Yonne to Le Saussois

This morning we visit the town of Vézelay, one of Burgundy's most famous treasures with the Romanesque Basilica of St Mary Magdalene, craft shops and fine views of the surrounding countryside. After lunch back on board, we continue our cruise past the renowned cliffs at Le Saussois, a stunning natural setting with an international climbing centre, and then moor nearby for the evening. Dinner on board.



### **Wednesday, Day 4 Le Saussois to Mailly-la-Ville**

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we head to the celebrated wine village of Chablis. After viewing the vineyards, we make a private visit to the prestigious Domaine Laroche for a wine-tasting, followed by a tour of the 1000 years old Obédiencerie; originally part of the monastery of St. Martin, this is where the monks developed the craft of winemaking in the Middle Ages and to this day it remains the location for aging the wines. Lunch will be served by a private chef in the Domaine's dining hall. Later in the afternoon, we return to the barge to cruise through delightful countryside to the sleepy village of Mailly-la-Ville and again there is ample opportunity to enjoy delightful walks or bicycle rides along the towpath. Dinner onboard.



### **Thursday, Day 5 Mailly-la-Ville to Vincelles**

This morning's cruise takes us through some charming locks and past rich pasturelands with grazing Charolais cattle to our mooring at Vincelles. Following lunch on board, we head to the quarry of Aubigny, a subterranean wonderland of stonework which is famous for the limestone used on buildings such as the Paris Opera House, here we explore this uniquely atmospheric underground space. Afterwards, we visit the cellars of Bailly-Lapierre, also carved out of the rock, to taste some their sparkling Crémant de Bourgogne. Dinner on board.



### **Friday, Day 6 Vincelles to Auxerre**

This morning, we cruise to the medieval town of Auxerre and moor below the three magnificent churches that dominate the steep hillside by the river. Enjoy free time to perhaps wander the town's cobbled streets. After lunch on board, we tour the centre of what was originally the capital of Lower Burgundy, with its lavish Renaissance houses, fine churches and particularly its magnificent cathedral. Time at leisure before the Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.



### **Saturday, Day 7 Auxerre**

After breakfast, guests are transferred to Paris\*\*.

This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change.

On alternate weeks, the cruise will be in the reverse direction.

\*\*Other locations available for private Charter bookings.

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