

Comfortable Hiking Holidays

Hike an adventure. Rest in Comfort.

Trip Itinerary: Provence & Cote d'Azur Holiday

April 2 to 15, 2019

- Day 1** BIENVENUE EN FRANCE!
Upon arrival, our bus will take us from the airport to Avignon.
- Day 2** LES BAUX TO VAN GOGH
Begin with a visit to the hilltop village of Les-Baux-de-Provence. As we head out of town, get a magnificent view across the Val d'Enfer as an easy trail leads us to Barrage des Peirou (a lake). On the other side of the lake, scramble up and through the rock face, descend the other side where the road leads us first to the archeological site of Glanum, and then to Saint-Paul de Mausole, where painter Vincent van Gogh was hospitalized. (Moderate, 11 km)
- Day 3** L'ISLE-SUR-LA-SORGUE & ROUSSILLON
Visit L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, the Venice of Provence, in the morning.
In the afternoon, visit Roussillon, best known for the ochre deposits in the clay surrounding the village. Do a self-guided walk along the Sentier des Ocres - surrounded by red and yellow cliffs, you'll think you're in Arizona! (Light, approx. 3km)
- Day 4** GORGES DU GARDON
From the town of Sanilhac Sagries, a rocky trail descends to the ruins of La Baume at the head of Gorges du Gardon. Our trail snakes alongside the Gardon River, which, over the course of millennia, has carved out this deep winding canyon. Afterwards, we visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Pont du Gard. (Moderate, 9 km, 165m descent)
- Day 5** DAY OF LEISURE
Avignon was the capital of the Christendom in the Middle Ages, and its main attraction is the Palais de Papes, a short walk from our hotel. You will also, no doubt, wish to see the famed Pont d'Avignon and Place de l'Horloge. Nearby by public transit are the towns of Arles and Nimes.
- Day 6** DENTELLES DE MONTMIRAIL
The Dentelles de Montmirail is a small chain of mountains with dramatically jagged peaks. Our hike begins in the town of Gigondas passing vineyards to Col du Cayron, where we start climbing to some of the highest points in the Dentelles. Afterwards, a combination of dirt tracks and trails wind around the back of the Dentelles and eventually emerge back at our starting point. (Moderate-challenging, 13 km, 350m ascent & descent)
- Day 7** TRANSFER TO COTE D'AZUR
Our own private bus will transfer us this morning to Beaulieu-sur-mer, stopping in Aix-en-Provence along the way.
- Day 8** CAP-FERRAT
This delightful seafront walk starts right at our hotel's front door and contours the coastline of the Cap-Ferrat peninsula, which juts out into the Mediterranean between Nice and Monaco. (Light-moderate, 14 km, hiking boots not necessary)
- Day 9** BIRD'S EYE VIEW
From Col Villfranche, a short ascent brings us to Fort Mont Alban, which looks down on Cap-Ferrat. Then our trail circles the moat of the old fort at Mont Boron before descending to the port at Baie des Anges in Nice. We'll take an elevator up to the Chateau de Nice for some

free time. (Moderate, 11 km, 237m ascent & 387m descent, hiking boots not necessary)

Day 10

DAY OF LEISURE

You may wish to visit the museums in Nice, or stroll and shop around Cannes, jet-set in Monte Carlo, or if you are a perfume aficionado, visit Grasse, the perfume capital of the world.

Day 11

PEILLON TO PEILLE

From the quarry in Peille, a steady climb takes us to the "village perche" of Peillon. From Peillon, a lovely trail goes through a verdant gorge, until we reach the D22 for the rest of the way into Peille. (Moderate-challenging, 12 km, 600m ascent, some road-walking)

Day 12

DAY OF LEISURE

You may wish to visit the museums in Nice, or stroll and shop around Cannes, jet-set in Monte Carlo, or if you are a perfume aficionado, visit Grasse, the perfume capital of the world.

Day 13

EZE

Today's hike begins in La Turbie, with our first stop being the Trophy of Augustus. After some time to explore, we shall take to the trails and hike to the Maison de la Nature for superb views of the coastal panorama. Then it's a rocky descent to the jewel of a town called Eze. (Moderate-challenging, 9 km, 200m ascent & 650m rocky descent)

Day 14

AU REVOIR ET A BIENTOT!