



THE FRENCH RIVIERA & PROVENCE

June 6 – 18, 2017

OVERVIEW

Bonjour! Memories to last forever are guaranteed on this spectacular holiday. The south of France feels like home to me and along with writing about the beauty, history and culture of this breath-taking part of the world, or capturing it in photography, there is nothing I enjoy more than showing it off to others.

Our trip is planned perfectly to experience the exquisite Mediterranean setting of the Côte d'Azur as well as the brilliant Provençal landscape with its mosaic of fields of sunflowers and lavender. It will not take long to feel as enchanted and inspired as have writers, artists and travellers for centuries.

Each daytrip while in Nice offers diverse experiences that share one certainty... stunning views! Each is a gem! Step out of our hotel into the heart of the old town in one direction and bask in the turquoise glow of the Mediterranean in the other.

Our stop in Aix-en-Provence marks the transition from the coast to the interior. Pat will take us on a stroll through the beautiful town. Then, we settle into Avignon for the second part of our trip; its ancient cobbled streets lined with inviting boutiques and its leafy squares overflowing with café tables lend a very special feel. From here we'll be exploring the magic of the Provençal countryside.

The pleasing walks with Susan in Nice and the countryside add a unique aspect to the tour and I have a special reading list to send you that will only enhance the pleasure of your holiday.

Susan and I look forward to sharing this trip of a lifetime with you!

A bientôt!

Patricia



TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY

WorldwideQuest

EXPERIENTIAL TRAVEL SINCE 1970



Celebrating International Women's Day and Holi in India, 2015



A WORD ABOUT **Womens Travel Network**

Bringing women together on great travel adventures since 1990. Our tours are expertly designed by women, for women. Whether you're joining us on your own or with a friend, a sister or a mother you will enjoy the camaraderie and security of being with a great group of women, who explore, discover and experience the world. Friendships that develop on our trips last for years....

What makes our women's tours so special?

- Expertly designed by women for women- single or married
- Dedicated escort from Canada PLUS local tour guides
- 4-5* accommodations in the heart of the destination
- Small groups of 10 – 16 women per tour
- Women- oriented experiences
- Full program of activities balanced with down time
- Roommate match program for the solo traveller
- Repeat guest reward
- Inclusive of all activities, entrance fees

“The world is such an incredible place,
so step out of the ordinary into extraordinary
on the journey of your dreams.”

SIGNATURE MOMENTS

Exploring
breathtaking
hilltop villages

Browsing the
tempting stalls
of colourful
markets

Getting to
know an
insider's Nice

Photographing
spectacular fields
of lavender

Walking in
Van Gogh's
scenery

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DAILY ITINERARY

Tuesday, June 6: Arrive Nice

Upon arrival at Nice airport, we will be transferred by private coach to our city centre hotel for a six-night stay. There's time to freshen up and explore the quartier before our welcome dinner at one of Pat's favourite restaurants. Please refer to our Joining Instructions below.

Overnight: Overnight: Hotel Ellington, Nice

Meals: Dinner

Wednesday, June 7: Nice

This morning our guide will take us on a walking tour of Vieux Nice; the old town has scarcely changed since the 1700s and the atmospheric quarter is a delight to explore. The afternoon is free to explore this lovely town with its fascinating mix of old-world opulence and seaside views.

Overnight: Overnight: Hotel Ellington, Nice

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

[Read more >](#)



Thursday, June 8: Excursion to Grasse and St. Paul de Vence

Explore one of the most beautiful corners of the Cote d'Azur today. Start in Grasse, the capital of French perfume making to visit a fragrance studio and learn the techniques involved in creating a signature perfume. The scent of the Riviera is yours to take home! Then we travel up into the hills to the gorgeous village of St. Paul de Vence. Enjoy a guided walk and then some time at leisure to stroll in the village and discover the boutiques and art galleries.

Overnight: Overnight: Hotel Ellington, Nice

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Friday, June 9: Excursion to Èze and Monaco

Today's full day excursion with our guide takes us to old Monaco and medieval village of Èze. Enjoy picture perfect views of the Monaco harbour and explore the lovely unspoilt streets of the old town. Then we visit picturesque Eze-Village located on a rocky peak overlooking the sea for a guided walk in the village guarded by two 14th century towers leading into the charming narrow streets.

Overnight: Overnight: Hotel Ellington, Nice

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Saturday, June 10: Excursion to Antibes

Antibes is the quintessential Mediterranean town with its boat filled harbour, its 16th century ramparts and narrow cobblestone streets. The daily Provençal market will be the focus for the morning, with a visit to the nearby Picasso museum for those interested. Antibes is one of Pat's favourite places and she will take us on a walk around town in the afternoon, pointing out places she wrote about in her novel.

Overnight: Overnight: Hotel Ellington, Nice

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Sunday, June 11: Nice

Today enjoy a full day at leisure to do as you please, or join Pat for an informal tour of her favourite places. The Flower Market in the Cours Saleya is one of France's very special markets and a photographic must-see!

Overnight: Overnight: Hotel Ellington, Nice

Meals: Breakfast

Monday, June 12: Aix en Provence, Avignon

Today we bid 'au-revoir' to the French Riviera and make our way to dreamy Provence. En-route we stop in the absolutely delightful town of Aix. Pat will take us on a stroll through town; leafy boulevards and cobblestoned squares are lined with 17th and 18th century mansions and punctuated with gurgling fountains. Continue on to Avignon for a six-night stay.

Overnight: Hotel Novotel Centre Avignon

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Tuesday, June 13: Avignon

Begin with a guided visit of the town; visit the Palace des Papes, an architectural 'tour de force' where an opulent palace overlaps a sober fortress, linger in the Square Agricola Perdiguier with its lovely collection of Mediterranean plants, stroll the rue des Teinturiers with its paddle wheels on the Sorgue canal which flows through the city, and admire the beautiful façades of the 18th and 19th century mansions. The afternoon is free to explore this vibrant, sophisticated, very French town.

Overnight: Hotel Novotel Centre Avignon

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Wednesday, June 14: Excursion to St. Rémy

Today is market day in nearby St. Remy – Pat will take us to explore the stalls offering everything from shoes and handbags, to Provençal cottons, to housewares. It's a delightful way to spend the morning. Be sure to pick up some treats for friends and family. On our way back to Avignon, visit a local oil mill to learn about the many types of olive oil and enjoy a tasting of their products.

Overnight: Hotel Novotel Centre Avignon

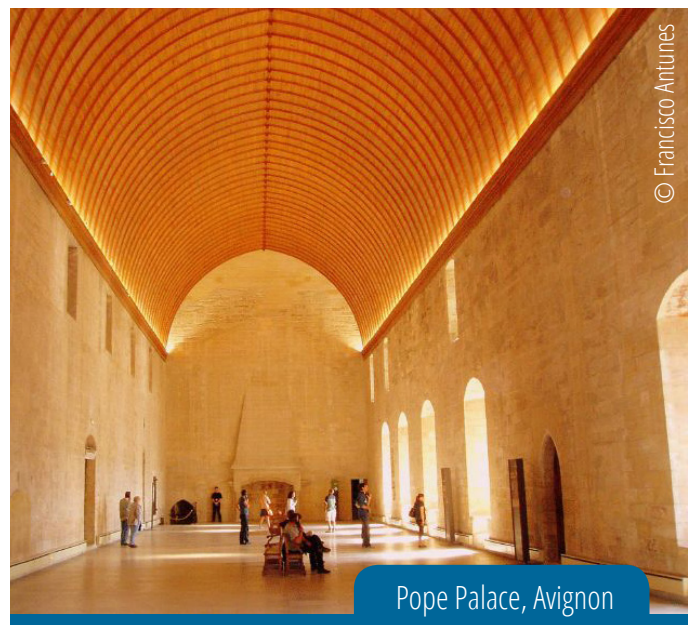
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Thursday, June 15: Excursion to Les Baux

Travel through the windswept world of limestone peaks, roads lined with pine and cypress trees, olive orchards and vineyards of the Alpilles. Climb the narrow cobblestone footpaths and investigate the castle ruins at the medieval village of Les Baux perched high on a rocky plateau above the mysterious Val d'Enfer. Visit the Carrieres de Lumiere to see the spectacular presentation of Chagall paintings displayed in an ancient rock quarry.

Overnight: Hotel Novotel Centre Avignon

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



© Francisco Antunes

Pope Palace, Avignon

Friday, June 16: Excursion to the Luberon

We start the day at the Lavender Museum and then admire the rows of lavender at the 12th century Abbey of Senanque, one of the purest examples of primitive Cistercian architecture, still functioning as a monastic community. Marvel at the vibrant feel of the village of Roussillon, adored by artists for its striking palette of colours.

Overnight: Hotel Novotel Centre Avignon

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Saturday, June 17: Excursion to Arles

The colourful town of Arles is our destination today. Stand in the middle of one of the best-preserved Roman monuments in France – the 20,000 seat amphitheatre “Les Arenes” where bullfights carry on the ancient tradition. See the Place du Forum and the Café de la Nuit where Vincent Van Gogh painted his Starry Nights. Return to Avignon to enjoy a farewell dinner together, celebrating our stay in southern France.

Overnight: Hotel Novotel Centre Avignon

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Sunday, June 18: Depart Avignon

Transfer to Marseilles airport for the return flight, or ask us about extending your stay in Paris, a comfortable three-hour train ride away!

Note: The itinerary and accommodation described here are subject to change due to logistical arrangements and to take advantage of local events.



TOUR LEADERS

Patricia Sands has written three novels set in the south of France. The Promise of Provence was a USA Best Book 2013 Finalist – Women’s Fiction. With a focus on travel, women’s issues and ageing, her stories celebrate the feminine spirit and the power of friendship.

Susan Sommers is a “Fitness over 45” motivational speaker and strategist, a two-time marathoner. During our daily outings in Provence, Susan will show you how easy it is to take 10,000 steps while enjoying exquisite scenery.





Streets of Provence

TOUR DETAILS

Tour Cost (per person): C\$4995

Taxes and Gratuities (per person): C\$325

Single Supplement: C\$1399

If you are travelling on your own and would like to share accommodation, we would be happy to try to match you with a suitable roommate. If we are unable to do so, the single cost applies.

Group Size:

16 participants

What's Included:

- Airport transfers on arrival
- Accommodation in double occupancy, based on hotels listed or similar
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Wine with dinners
- Transportation by private air conditioned coach
- All activities as indicated in the itinerary
- All entrance fees
- Services of specialized English speaking guides
- Gratuities for escort, local guides, drivers, hotel and group meals (as indicated above)
- Taxes (as indicated above)
- Fully escorted by your Women's Travel Network leader

Not Included:

- Roundtrip airfare from your home
- Items of a personal nature
- Meals other than those mentioned above
- Beverages other than wine with meals
- Travel insurance
- Any item not mentioned in "included features" above

Payment Details:

A deposit of US\$500 per person is required to reserve your space on this tour. A payment of US\$1000 is due six months prior to departure. The balance is due 90 days prior to departure.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Joining Instructions

This tour begins with our briefing and welcome dinner at 6PM on June 6th. Please ensure that you arrive in Nice by 3PM to join the group. When you make flight arrangements or any pre-trip night booking with Worldwide Quest, your transfer from the airport to our group hotel on arrival is included. If you are making your own flight or pre-trip hotel arrangements, this transfer can be provided at additional cost. The tour concludes with a single included transfer from the hotel to the airport on June 18th. Please contact us to verify timing of this transfer prior to making any flight arrangements.

Level of Activity: Moderate

A good level of fitness is important for this trip as we will be doing a lot of exploring on foot. You must be comfortable walking on uneven terrain and irregular paving and climbing stairs for about 90 minutes at a stretch.

Accommodation

We are staying in comfortable three and four-star accommodation.

Transportation

We will be travelling in a comfortable air-conditioned vehicle driven by a professional driver.

Weather

We expect clear sunny skies with average daytime temperatures between 25 and 30°C and overnight lows of about 18°C.

Travel Documents

You will require a passport for this trip. Please ensure it is valid for at least three months beyond your scheduled return home.

ADDITIONAL INFO

Terms and Conditions

For additional information about our terms and conditions, please refer to your booking form, the current brochure or our website. All participants booking with Worldwide Quest are covered by the terms of the Ontario Travel Industry Act (Worldwide Quest International, Ontario - License # 2667946).

Cancellation Policy

All payments are non-refundable, however you may transfer your initial deposit for any land tour to another tour 90 days or more prior to your scheduled departure date. Initial deposits for cruises are non-refundable and non-transferable. Your second payment and your final payment are non-refundable and non-transferable. If you cancel within 90 days prior to trip departure, all associated trip costs are non-refundable. The tour price is quoted as a package. No partial refunds or credits will be given for services not used. In the event of a cancellation, you must notify Worldwide Quest immediately and in writing.

Travel Insurance

We urge you to ensure that you have adequate cancellation and medical insurance in place, should an unexpected event cause you to cancel or interrupt your trip or should the tour not be operable per our terms and conditions. We will offer you Manulife insurance coverage. Medical insurance including emergency medical evacuation coverage is mandatory on all our tours.

Womens Travel Network Reward Program

We'd like to make sure that you know about the WTN Reward Program. Bring a friend on their first WTN tour and you receive \$100 off your trip. Book your second, third or fourth trip and receive \$100 off your trip.

HOW TO BOOK

Please contact Kerry at the Worldwide Quest Office for any questions and to secure your booking.

1-800-387-1483 | 416-633-5666
kerry@worldwidequest.com

