



## **DISCOVERING PROVENCE**

**OCTOBER 18th - 24th, 2024**

Expanding on our love of food and table, A'Tavola will be offering yet another unforgettable trip this year, to experience first hand that which inspires us. Through travel, food and the making of new friendships, we will explore all that the spirit of Provence has to offer.

**Experiencing a culture's food is one of the best and most enjoyable ways to understand and appreciate its people.**

**Join our small group for an intimate & memorable experience of the Provencal countryside. We will spend a week exploring the culture through food, breathtaking landscapes, a cooking class, wine tastings and private tours of some of Southern France's most charming villages.**

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### **DAY 1 | AIX EN PROVENCE - L'ISLE SUR LA SORGUE**

**Friday, October 18th**

Bonjour! Welcome to Provence...we are delighted to have you!

Today we will meet you, along with our driver, at the Aix En Provence TGV Station at 2:00 pm to transport you to our Provencal Mas (a charming Farmhouse built in the 1800's which has been completely modernized) near the charming village of L'Isle Sur la Sorgue. On arrival, you will then have time to settle in, unpack & explore the lovely grounds that we will call home for the next week. This evening a local chef will prepare a welcome dinner for us. This will be a great opportunity to connect with the other travelers & to start getting to know one another.

Dinner

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\*We recommend guests fly into either Paris or Marseille a day or two in advance in order to recover from the journey and to take advantage of your time in France. If you arrive via Paris there are trains that run frequently to Aix En Provence TGV which is very near (15 minutes) to the Marseille airport as well. Please consult us before finalizing your travel arrangements if you have any questions.

## **DAY 2 | APT - ROUSSILLON**

### **Saturday, October 19th**

Saturday is a special day in the Luberon Valley, as many local markets take shape....our favorite being the one in Apt, which first began over 900 years ago. Apt is a place for food lovers, and visiting its Saturday market will allow us an opportunity to discover the region's culinary character. After exploring Apt, we will be off to lunch at one of our favorite venues in the valley. After lunch, we will continue with our guide to explore more of the Luberon, including Roussillon with its red cliffs and orange soil that distinguishes it from the surrounding villages. This village sits atop large Ochre deposits which, until 1930, were mined for their unique pigments. We will explore the village where shops, galleries, and cafes line the cobblestoned streets. Ending this day of exploration, we will head back to our Farmhouse to unwind before dinner.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## **DAY 3 | L'ISLE SUR LA SORGUE**

### **Sunday, October 20th**

Today we will have breakfast at the Farmhouse and make the short drive to the traditional Sunday market in L'isle Sur La Sorgue. Our picturesque host village, nestled along the banks of the Sorgue River, is transformed into a mecca for antique lovers every Sunday. Upon our arrival we will highlight some of our favorite features of the village & our guests will have time to explore and shop on their own. We will gather together again for lunch at one of our favorite restaurants in the region, Le Jardin du Quai, which is adjacent to the village antique galleries. After lunch, we will continue to explore the town and visit more of the region together.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## **DAY 4 | SAINT RÉMY, LE BAUX & CARRIERES DE LUMIERES**

**Monday, October 21st** After breakfast at our Provencal retreat, we will journey to Saint Rémy - one of the must see towns in Provence. The town is built on one of the oldest archeological sites in Europe, dating back to the 3rd century B.C. We will have free time to explore Saint Rémy and visit some of our favorite chocolate & linen shops! Next, we will head to Les Baux-de-Provence to wander through the ancient cobblestone streets, adorned with stone houses and charming shops. Discover the village's rich history, preserved through its well-preserved architecture and impressive landmarks. Admire the imposing ruins of Château de Baux, a fortress that offers panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. Later in the day we will have an awe-inspiring audiovisual experience at the Carrières de Lumières. Step inside an ancient quarry transformed into an immersive art exhibition space, where works of art are projected onto the massive stone walls.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## **DAY 5 | AVIGNON - CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE**

**Tuesday, October 22nd.**

Today we will leave the Farmhouse and head to the beautiful city of Avignon. Avignon, a captivating city nestled in the southern region, offers a unique blend of historical significance, cultural richness, and natural beauty. We will embark on a guided tour of Avignon, wandering through the charming streets and admiring the medieval architecture. After the tour, you will have a chance to walk around the city and explore on your own. Later that day, we will enjoy a beautiful lunch and head to a winery in the nearby region of Châteauneuf-du-Pape - a renowned wine region in southern France, famous for its powerful, full-bodied red wines. This region produces some of the most sought-after wines in the world. Later in the evening, we will enjoy a French picnic at home, prepared by Lisa and our dear friend Charlene, a culinary treasure.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## **DAY 6 | AIX EN PROVENCE**

**Wednesday, October 23rd.**

Today we will have breakfast together before heading out to explore Aix En Provence, a beautiful town that dates back to 123 B.C., known for its traditional Provençal cuisine, picturesque architecture & vibrant culture! We will then have some free time to explore the city before meeting back up for lunch at one of our favorite restaurants in Aix. After lunch with our guide, we will explore more of what Aix has to offer and learn more about the history of the town. After this long day of exploring we will head back to our lodging and have time to pack for our departure the next day. While packing, our local chef will once again be preparing a dinner for us as a farewell celebration where we can take the time to reflect on the week we have spent together.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## **DAY 7 | FAREWELL - AIX EN PROVENCE TGV - MARSEILLE AIRPORT**

**Thursday, October 24th.**

As our week comes to a close we bid farewell to one another over a quick breakfast before our driver arrives to transport everyone back to the the Aix En Provence TGV train station. Those wanting to depart the Marseille airport can be dropped there as well. All travelers will be at their departure points prior to 11 am.

Breakfast

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**\*\*NOTE-**

Throughout the year leading up to our tour dates, we will continue to make various schedule changes and updates to this itinerary, including any newly discovered features and activities that become available. Final Itineraries will be provided to all travelers prior to departure.

This promises to be a wonderful trip for all; however, flexibility and a spirit of adventure are always appreciated! We will do our very best to stick to the itinerary but we may have to change it due to weather or any unexpected situations.

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**Tour Prices Include:**

\* 7 days / 6 nights lodging at a private Provencal Mas built in the 1800's.

\* Accommodations most always include en-suite bathrooms

- All breakfasts / all lunches & dinners with local wine / gratuities
- Small group travel / typically around 18 guests

\* Snacks and Beverages available at the villa

- Private transportation / Van or Coach & Driver for all excursions
- Local Guides / Various Private Tours

\* Entrance Tickets

- All excursions listed in detailed itinerary

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**Tour Price Does Not Include:**

\* Air Transportation.

\* Travel insurance for your trip. (which we recommend)

\* Anything that is not specified as included

- Any personal related expenses or travel related expenses outside of the scheduled itineraries.
- Any alcoholic beverages or any other wines that are not presented during scheduled meals.

\* Optional additional tips to restaurants, tour guides or drivers. We will pay gratuities to our various service providers. Any additional gratuities may be given at the sole discretion of each individual traveler.

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**Individual Tour Pricing - Provence 2024**

**\$7,495.00 per person / Double Occupancy**

**Single Supplement \$3,500.00 (Single booking opportunities are very limited and may not be available )**

**Individual Tour Pricing - Tuscany 2024**

**\$7,495.00 per person / Double Occupancy**

**Single Supplement \$3,500.00 (Single booking opportunities are very limited and may not be available )**

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

50% of total trip cost due at time of registration.

Remaining - 50% of total trip cost due by June 15, 2024.

**Schedule of Cancellation Fees -**

Canceling more than 160 days prior to tour start date:

Cancellation Fee - 25% of total trip cost

Canceling 120 to 159 days prior to tour start date:

Cancellation fee - 50% of total trip cost

Canceling less than 120 days or less prior to tour start date:

Cancellation fee 100% of total trip cost

No exceptions will be made.

**There is no refund or partial credit for leaving a program early or for arriving late.**