

L'ART DE VIVRE - BURGUNDY FAMILY CRUISE Chevroches to Auxerre (or reverse)

Sunday, Day 1 Chevroches

Guests are met at the designated meeting point and transferred to the barge moored in Chevroches. The Captain and crew welcome you aboard with a glass of Champagne. Dinner on board.

Monday, Day 2 Clamecy to Lucy sur Yonne

This morning we leave Chevroches and enjoy a gentle cruise to Clamecy. We depart the barge and visit the Le Château de Bazoches-du-Morvan, whose illustrious visitors included Richard the Lionheart and which was later renovated Maréchal Vauban. Alternatively we can visit Chateau Guedelon. A team of fifty people have taken on an extraordinary feat to build a castle using the very same techniques and materials used in the Middle Ages. Work on the site began in 1997 and is scheduled to take 25 years to complete. Guédelon offers a unique opportunity to witness the different stages of a castle's construction. Let yourself be transported from the present day, back to the sights and sounds of a 13th century construction site. Lunch on board and then we continue our cruise to Dinner aboard Lucy sur Yonne with wonderful cycling and walking opportunities. 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. There is also an opportunity for the whole family to enjoy canoeing or rafting on the River Cure. Alternatively, for the very young, we can visit Cardoland where the sculptor, Cardo, has created this wonderful prehistoric world of life size dinosaurs. It has a museum, caves, exhibition and prehistoric play area. We then cruise to the renowned Saussois cliffs with their international climbing centre and then on to Le Saussois. There is ample opportunity for walking and cycling today. Dinner on board.

Wednesday, Day 4 Le Saussois to Mailly la Ville

We start the day with a visit to the caves of Arcy sur Cure. The site of Arcy sur Cure, a major one for the medium and late Palaeolithic age in northern France, is located between Auxerre and Avallon. It includes a set of caves dug out by the Cure River into a coral massif that emerged at the end of the secondary era. Then we tour the charming mediaeval village of Noyers sur Surein on market day, one of the most beautiful villages in France. After lunch we cruise to the sleepy village of Mailly la Ville, through delightful countryside. Dinner ashore tonight at a local auberge

Thursday, Day 5 Mailly la Ville to Vincelles

This morning's cruise takes us through some delightful locks and past vineyard-clad hillside to Vincelles. The afternoon excursion is to St Bris with its extraordinary network of subterranean mediaeval passages. A wine tasting in Chablis introduces us to outstanding Chardonnay and Pinot Noir wines. If you prefer we can arrange a trip to the adventure park at Loisirs en Morvan in Saint Pere. You can choose quad biking (12+), potholing (10+) or Pony riding (3+) (Payment is made on the day by clients, directly to the operator) Dinner on board.

Friday, Day 6 Vincelles to Auxerre

This morning we take in the rustic beauty of vineyard-clad slopes as we cruise to Auxerre. In Auxerre visit the cathedral of St Etienne and wander the streets lined with half-timbered houses. Shopping opportunities abound in Auxerre. There is a choice of other excursions either swimming or "Go Ape" tree climbing. A sumptuous Captain's Farewell Dinner completes the day.

Saturday, Day 7 Auxerre

Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the designated drop off point.

*On alternate weeks the cruise will be in the reverse direction.
This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change.*