

PROSPÉRITÉ CLASSIC ITINERARY

Travel from Auxonne to Cusey

Saone River/Champagne-Burgundy Canal

Beautiful rural France awaits you as Grand Cru takes you on a cruise from Auxonne, on the River Saone to the Champagne-Burgundy canal Sit back and see the peaceful, quaint villages pass by as Grand Cru Meanders its way along this charming waterway, one of the last to be completed in 1907. The Champagne-Burgundy canal connects the Marne and Saone rivers and, indeed, two of France's most iconic regions, Champagne and Burgundy.



SUNDAY: Welcome Aboard

Travel: Arrival at Plombieres-les-Dijon Meals: Dinner onboard

In the afternoon, you will be greeted by our driver at your designated meeting point and chauffeured to Grand Cru, moored in Auxonne. Auxonne now sits peacefully on the calm river Saone but was once a defensive garrison of the Marquis de Vauban, one of the most important military engineers in European history. A traditional champagne welcome and introduction to Grand Cru and her crew await you, before your first gourmet dinner onboard.

MONDAY: Burgundian Village of Bèze

Travel: Auxonne to Pontailler Meals: Breakfast, lunch, & dinner onboard

Grand Cru starts your voyage this morning with a river cruise from Auxonne to Pontailler sur Saone. The perfect time to sip a cup of coffee on deck and watch the countryside slip by. After lunch on board, take an afternoon tour to the charming Burgundian village of Bèze. Discover the caves, the village and the Abbey before returning to Grand Cru for cocktail hour as Chef prepare tonight's dinner.

TUESDAY: Destination Dijon

Travel: Pontailler sur Saone to the village of Cheuge Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner onboard

This morning, exploring the noble town of Dijon offers a pleasurable excursion ashore. Preserved palaces and beautiful churches recalling the reign of the Dukes of Burgundy, vie for attention with specialty boutiques, small cafes, and serene gardens. Shop, sip, and stroll your way through this small city brimming with authentic Burgundian life. Return to Grand Cru for lunch as the journey continues with an afternoon cruise on the Champagne-Burgundy canal from Pontailler sur Saone to the village of Cheuge. Laze on deck in the hot tub or explore the countryside via bicycle along the tow path that follows the entire length of the canal or around the quiet country lanes.

WEDNESDAY: Private Tour of Hospice de Beaune

Travel: Village of Cheuge Meals: Breakfast & dinner onboard, lunch ashore

Today we propose a full day out to the iconic Burgundy vineyards. Starting in Beaune, the region's wine capitol, your tour guide will accompany you through the Hospice de Beaune, a prestigiously preserved medieval hospital built in the 15th century. Lunch is proposed at "Le Bistro d'Olivier Leflaive" in Puligny Montrachet for a wine tasting lunch and cellar tour. Return to Grand Cru in Cheuge for more gourmet delights from Chef.

THURSDAY: Medieval Fortress of the Chateau de Rosières

Travel: Cheuge to Pouilly sur Vingeanne Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner onboard

This morning, Grand Cru continues cruising along the winding Champagne-Burgundy canal from Cheuge to Pouilly sur Vingeanne. After lunch, explore the medieval fortress of the chateau de Rosières. This fascinating castle, just a few minutes from the canal, dates from 1321. Completed in 1445, it is now owned by Monsieur Bertrand Bergerot, who opens his doors to you, to share his passion for medieval architecture.

FRIDAY: You've Tasted the Wine – Now Taste the Cheese!

Travel: Pouilly sur Vingeanne to Cusey Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner aboard

Grand Cru enters further into the beautiful rural countryside as she cruises from Pouilly sur Vingeanne to Cusey. It is from here that, after lunch, we propose a visit to the "ferme de Montsaugéon" This farm produces goats milk cheese amongst other regional produce. Meet the goats and the charismatic Valérie for an explanation of the cheese making process, a tasting of the produce and a wonderful insight into local life. Back to Grand Cru where Chef presents a candlelit multi-course final farewell dinner, culminating your private luxury barge cruise in style.

SATURDAY: A Sad Farewell

Travel: Transfer from Vandenesse-en-Auxois Meals: Breakfast onboard

After breakfast, you will be chauffeured to the designated drop off point.

*Please note: This is a sample itinerary which may be subject to change depending on local conditions.
Cruises will run in the reverse direction in alternating weeks.*