

GRAND CRU CLASSIC ITINERARY

Traveling 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 Auxonne Meals: Dinner onboard

In the afternoon, our driver will greet you at the designated meeting point. Relax in our transfer vehicle to Grand Cru, moored in Auxonne on the River Saone. The Champagne-Burgundy Canal connects two of France's most iconic regions. Our route offers sublime cruising in the heart of rural France as well as excursions to important sights in nearby Burgundy. Enjoy a traditional champagne welcome and introduction to Grand Cru and her crew before your first of many gourmet dinners on board.

MONDAY: An Enchanting Medieval Village

Travel: Auxonne to Potailler-sur-Saone Meals: Breakfast, lunch, & dinner onboard

Grand Cru cruises this morning on the River Saone. As your world slows down, there's time to notice small things: the smell of bakeries drifting from town or the flash of sunlight on tiled roofs. This afternoon our Tour Guide introduces the Medieval village of Bèze, criss-crossed by waterways. With its ancient riverside residences and picturesque wash houses, Beze is one of France's most photogenic villages. Discover the Grottes (caves) and remains of the Abbey before returning to Grand Cru for cocktail hour and dinner.

TUESDAY: Destination Dijon

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

This morning, Dijon offers a pleasurable assault on the senses. 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 French life. Return as Grand Cru slips onto the peaceful Champagne-Burgundy Canal. Chef has been busy creating another epicurean dinner to be enjoyed onboard.

WEDNESDAY: A day in Burgundy Wine Country

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

With our tour guide, encounter the best of Burgundy wine country. Starting in Beaune, where millions of bottles are still stored under cobblestoned streets, experience Hospice de Beaune, an immaculately preserved Medieval hospital. Then it's on to Le Bistro d'Olivier Leflaive in Puligny Montrachet for a wine tasting, lunch, and cellar tour and tasting at Louis Jadot. Relive this elegant day over cocktails and dinner – and what about digestives while lazing under the stars in your hot tub?

THURSDAY: Medieval Fortress of the Chateau de Rosières

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

This morning, as Grand Cru continues to cruise, relax on deck or explore the towpath and country lanes by bicycle. This afternoon, our tour guide introduces Chateau de Rosières. This fascinating castle, located just a few minutes from the canal, dates from 1321. Meet owner Bertrand Bergerot, who, with his youthful family, is restoring the castle and grounds; he'll share his passion for Medieval architecture. Back on board, enjoy cocktails and a chef-driven dinner menu.

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

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

After a morning cruise, our tour guide chauffeurs you to Ferme de Montsaugeon. This farm produces goats milk cheese amongst other regional produce. Meet the goats and charismatic owner Valérie for a demonstration of the cheese making process, a cheese tasting, and her insights into local life. Back on board, Chef is creating a candlelit multi-course Farewell Dinner, ending your cruise in style.

SATURDAY: A Sad Farewell

Travel: Transfer from Cusey 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.*