

Rhône Valley

LUXURY FOOD & WINE TOUR



TRAVELEX
INTERNATIONAL
A Virtuoso Member Travel Agency

Rhône Valley Wine Tour
September 9 - 17, 2025

Lyon to Avignon

Mediterranean Crystal Cruise
September 17 - 25, 2025

Monte Carlo to Barcelona



Join us for one or both of these superb food & wine experiences!

**Enjoy the best culinary experiences & vineyards of the Rhône River Valley
With One Of Chicago's Leading Wine Experts, Jim Bryant**

Visit many of the very best winery estates such as E. Guigal, Domaine Degache Frères, Domaine Jean-Louis Chave, La Compagnie de l'Hermitage, Augusta Clape, Domaine du Pegau, Clos des Papes, Château La Nerthe, Domaine Vieux Télégraphe, Château de Beaucastel, Caveau du Gigondas, Château de Saint Cosme, and Le Clos du Caillou.

For more information, please contact Dee Dee Werner at (847) 519-4795 or deew@travelexinternational.com.



2025 Côtes du Rhône Wine Tour

September 9 – 17, 2025 (Depart Sept. 8 -- Lyon to Avignon, France -- 9 Days / 8 Nights)

Discover the diverse terroir of Côtes du Rhône wine of the beautiful Rhône River Valley wine region featuring Lyon and Avignon with one of Chicago's leading wine experts, **Jim Bryant**.

We meet in Lyon and enjoy a walking tour of the historical city center. Before checking into the 5-star Intercontinental hotel. Meet your fellow travelers for a cocktail toast. The following days we explore up to 17 select wineries with private tastings lunches with wine pairings and gourmet dinners!

This tour includes:

- Luxury 5-star accommodations:
 - 4 Nights **InterContinental Lyon – Hotel Dieu**, 3 Nights **Hotel d'Europe** in Avignon
- Up to 17 premier winery/vineyard visits with tastings.
- Breakfast daily, 5 lunches with wine, 4 dinners with wine.
- Hosted by Chicago area wine expert Jim Bryant.
- Escorted by Greg Pearson of Travelex International.
- All transportation within France.
- All taxes, portorage at hotels and gratuities.

Côtes du Rhône Wine Tour Itinerary

Depart the United States on September 8, 2025

Day 1: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 (Lyon)

- Meet the group directly at the hotel in Lyon – Check into your 5-star hotel **InterContinental Lyon**
- Afternoon **walking tour** of the historical city center of Lyon – Back to your hotel
- **Welcome cocktail** at your hotel followed by **dinner in a private salon** - your guide will present you with your itinerary
- Overnight in Lyon

Day 2: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 (Lyon)

- Breakfast at the hotel – Meet your guide in the lobby and board your private coach
- 10:00 AM - start your day with a visit at **E.Guigal** . Start your experience with a visit to the museum at your own pace followed by a commented tasting of 4 references from their most prestigious Rhône Valley appellations
- **Lunch** at a restaurant which holds a cellar with over 600 references on the wine list
- Afternoon visit at the **domaine Pierre Rostaing**
- Second possible **visit and tasting at the Domaine Degache Frères**
- Back to the hotel- time to refresh
- Meet your guide in the lobby and board your private coach
- 6:30 pm Board your **private boat and cruise** on the Saône river
- Disembark in front of **Paul Bocuse famous restaurant**
- **Dinner** at the restaurant – Back on your coach and transfer to your hotel
- Overnight in Lyon

Day 3: Thursday, September 11, 2025 (Lyon)

- Breakfast at the hotel – Meet your guide in the lobby and board your private coach
- 8:00am Transfer to Burgundy
- Meet your **expert local guide** upon arrival
- Full day with visit of 2 wineries
- Lunch at local restaurant or vineyard – Back to the hotel
- Dinner at leisure – Overnight in Lyon

Day 4: Friday, September 12, 2025 (Lyon)

- Breakfast at the hotel – Meet your guide in the lobby and board your private coach
- Morning visit and tasting at **M.Chapoutier**
- Lunch at **M.Chapoutier** for a wine pairing meal
- Afternoon visit and tasting **Delas frères domain**
- Back on your coach and transfer to your hotel
- Dinner at leisure – Overnight in Lyon

Day 5: Saturday, September 13, 2025 (Lyon to Avignon)

- Breakfast at the hotel – Meet your tour guide in the lobby and board your private coach
- Drive to the domaine **Auguste Clape** for a visit and tasting
- **Lunch** at leisure on route
- Afternoon visit and tasting at **Domaine Gourt de Mautens - Jerome Bressy**
- Drive to your 5-star **Hotel d'Europe**
- **Dinner** at the hotel Michelin-starred restaurant – Overnight in Avignon

Day 6: Sunday, September 14, 2025 (Avignon)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Meet your tour guide in the lobby and board your private coach
- Morning visit and tasting at **the domaine du Pegau**
- Continue on to le **Clos des Papes** for a visit and tasting
- **Lunch** at a restaurant in Châteauneuf du Pape
- Minivan service at disposal for the afternoon
- Afternoon visit at **Château La Nerthe** for a visit and tasting
- Extra visit of the day: **Domaine Vieux Télégraphe** for a visit and tasting
- **Dinner** at leisure – Overnight in Avignon

Day 7: Monday, September 15, 2025 (Gigondas)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Meet your tour guide in the lobby
- **Day in Gigondas**
- Morning visit and tasting at the **Chateau de Beaucastel**
- Continue on to the **Caveau du Gigondas**
- Lunch at **L'oustalet** restaurant
- Minivan service at disposal for the afternoon
- Afternoon visit and tasting at **Chateau de Saint Cosme** – Drive back to the hotel
- Dinner at leisure – Overnight in Avignon

Day 8: Tuesday, September 16, 2025 (Courthézon)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Meet your tour guide in the lobby and board the private coach
- Morning visit and tasting at the **Chateau Rayas**
- Continue on to **Le Clos du Caillou** for a visit and tasting
- **Lunch** at a restaurant in Courthézon – Back to the hotel
- **Farewell dinner** at the hotel Michelin-starred restaurant – Overnight in Avignon

Day 9: Wednesday, September 17, 2025 (Depart to Monaco)

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Check-out
- Transfer to Monaco
- **Farewell Lunch** at the Chevre d'Or - Les Remparts restaurant
- Drop off at Monaco pier





2025 Mediterranean Cruise on Crystal Symphony September 17 – 25, 2025 (8 Nights – Monte Carlo to Barcelona)

Flanked by two big-hitting cities, this eight-night cruise meanders from Monaco to the Balearic Islands before arriving on the coast of Spain.

We start with an overnight in Monte Carlo, ample time to roll the dice in the world-famous casino. Next, we sail southwest along the French Riviera to ritzy Cannes, to follow in the footsteps of movie stars along the promenade and sample the food of a Michelin-starred chef.

Onward to Toulon for fine art and fine sands before a leisurely day at sea on our way to Spain's Balearic Islands.

At Palma de Mallorca, tours range from walking around the city to kayaking along the coast, while yoga sessions are on offer in Ibiza.

Northwards now to the Spanish mainland for an overnight in our final destination, the lively Catalan port of Barcelona.



Mediterranean Crystal Cruise Itinerary

Day 1: September 17, 2025 (Monte Carlo, Monaco - OVERNIGHT)

An ancient principality steeped in rich and colorful history, Monaco was bought from the Genoese in 1309 by the Grimaldis, who still rule as the world's oldest monarchy - presided over today by Prince Albert.

Day 2: September 18, 2025 (Monte Carlo, Monaco - Departure at 11:00PM)

Day 3: September 19, 2025 (Cannes, France – 8:00AM – 7:00PM - Anchor)

One of nature's miracles, the Cote d'Azur is blessed with superb natural beauty. This sun-drenched slope stretches some 60 miles westward from the border of the fairy-tale Kingdom of Monaco. And here in glamorous Cannes, where yachts dot the harbor and chic striped sunloungers line the beach, be sure to take some time to explore the designer bars and couture shops of La Croisette.

Day 4: September 20, 2025 (Toulon, France – 9:00AM – 6:00PM)

Often overshadowed by its more bustling Riviera counterparts, Toulon has long been hitting the high notes for travelers looking for a taste of authentic France. The streets are heaving with history; a stroll through the Old Town's narrow streets and local markets is testament to traditional Provencal life that is very much part of the present day. History enthusiasts can delve into the city's naval heritage at the Musée National de la Marine, showcasing maritime artifacts and stories, while beach bunnies should wander to the Mourillon for long ribbons of Mediterranean sandy beach. Do not forget to taste the region's specialty fish soup, at less than 40 miles from Marseille, the bouillabaisse is worth tasting!

Day 5: September 21, 2025 (Day at Sea)

Day 6: September 22, 2025 (Palma de Mallorca, Spain – 8:00AM – 9:00PM)

Palma de Mallorca, rich in monuments of many ages, was founded by the Romans more than 2,000 years ago. A magnificent rose-colored Gothic cathedral dominates the palm-fringed waterfront of its urban center. Mallorca, known as the "Island of Tranquility," is the largest and most developed of the Balearic group. Steep mountains, serene valleys and wide plains form its varied landscape. Visit the island's quaint villages and the monastery where George Sand and Frederic Chopin spent a winter.

Day 7: September 23, 2025 (Ibiza, Spain – 8:00AM – 6:00PM)

Flower power was once as prevalent on this "White Isle" as are today's glitzy nightclubs, for Ibiza was a hub of hippie culture in the 1960s. But dig deeper and you'll find a heritage more suitable for an island gem in the Mediterranean. Ibiza Town's UNESCO-listed Dalt Vila chronicles much of this history, with monuments and architectural vestiges of nearly 1,000 years.

Day 8: September 24, 2025 (Barcelona, Spain – Arrival at 8:00AM -- OVERNIGHT)

Barcelona is a vibrant city on the northeastern coast of Spain known for its stunning architecture, and rich cultural heritage. Barcelona's seaside beauty, sprawling beaches, eclectic architecture, world-class tapas and Tempranillo are all reasons to fall in love with the city of Gaudí.

Day 9: September 25, 2025 (Barcelona, Spain – Departure)



About Our Host, Jim Bryant

Barrington resident Jim Bryant is pursuing his passion and love of wine as an international wine consultant.

This follows a 30-year career in senior financial and general management positions at two Fortune 100 companies.

He writes a bi-monthly article called "[Down Cellar with Jim Bryant](#)" for Quintessential Barrington.

Jim has hosted Travelex International's series of wine cruises and land tours for many years.

Côtes du Rhône Wine Tour Pricing

\$10,995 per person/double occupancy

Single Supplement: \$2,150

We strongly advise purchasing Travel Insurance at the time of deposit!
Airfare is additional. Ask us for a quote!

Deposit Due at Booking:

\$3,500 Per Person

(deposit refundable until final payment less \$250 non-refundable administrative fee)

Final Payment:

June 01, 2025

Mediterranean Crystal Cruise Pricing

Choose either a Sapphire Veranda Suite or Aquamarine Veranda Suite.

From \$10,375 per person/double occupancy

Single Rate: \$12,775

We strongly advise purchasing Travel Insurance at the time of deposit!
Airfare is additional. Ask us for a quote!

Deposit Due at Booking:

\$3,500 Per Person

(deposit refundable until final payment less \$250 non-refundable administrative fee)

Final Payment:

June 01, 2025

Make checks payable to TRAVELEX INTERNATIONAL and mail to 2500 W Higgins Road, Suite 850, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169.
After you make your deposit, you will receive a paid invoice.