

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River Cruise

Discover Paris, Champagne & the French Countryside
on board the *MS Deborah*

October 3 – October 15, 2024



Highlights

Paris & Montmartre

Explore the enchanting city of Paris, a timeless beacon of art, culture, and romance. From the iconic Eiffel Tower to the world-renowned Louvre Museum, every corner reveals history and elegance. Indulge in culinary delights at charming cafes, stroll along the Seine River, and immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of Montmartre. Paris, with its breathtaking beauty and unparalleled charm, offers an unforgettable experience for every traveler.

Moët & Chandon

Journey through the renowned Moët & Chandon cellars, followed by an exclusive lunch in the Orangerie, reserved for Journeys by Van Dyke guests. After exploring the impressive cellars, wander along the Avenue de Champagne to reach the Orangerie, designed by Lorraine painter Isabey in 1807. Symbolizing Moët & Chandon's art of entertaining, this unique architectural gem, set amidst a formal garden, was once the residence of Jean-Rémy Moët's children in the 19th century. Indulge in a Champagne "aperitif" before a full meal, expertly paired meal that creates an unforgettable culinary journey.

MS Deborah

Cruise the MS Deborah, a private chartered barge for Journeys by Van Dyke guests, offering premium comfort and solitude as you traverse the serene Seine River. Enjoy ample daytime cruising, soak in the breathtaking scenery, indulge in the refined ambiance of the lounge, sun deck, and embrace the enchanting French charm at every turn.

Limited to 20 guests. Reserve your cabin today!

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Your 15-Day Journey



Day 1
**Depart for
Paris, France**

Have a relaxing start to your journey with a private car home pick up service to bring you to the airport. Guests departing from the Toronto airport are assisted with their check-in. Meet your Journey Manager alongside your fellow guests, and board your flight to Paris, France. Our Journey Manager travels with you to take care of all the details throughout, enabling you to focus on creating memories and enjoying the experience.

Overnight:

Flight

Meals:

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River



Day 2 **Bonjour, Paris & Montmartre!**

Upon arrival in Paris, our local guide greets us warmly as we settle into the city of light. Start by enjoying a delicious lunch at a local restaurant before the journey officially begins and we venture to Montmartre, a quintessential district of Paris.

We'll board a funicular to reach the summit of Montmartre Hill, where breathtaking panoramic views of Paris await, accompanied by the magnificent Sacre-Coeur Basilica and the historic St-Pierre de Montmartre church. A guided tour provides insight into the area's rich history before allowing free time to discover the energetic main square. Here, let yourself be enveloped in the lively ambiance filled with painters, caricaturists, street artists, and quaint souvenir shops.

As night falls, unwind and soak in the Parisian atmosphere with a tranquil evening and dinner at our hotel, to conclude our first day in this enchanting city.

Overnight:

Paris, Hotel Maison
Astor

Meals:

Lunch, Dinner

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River



Day 3 **Paris & The Louvre**

In store today is a full-day of exploring Paris, starting with a guided bus tour that unveils the city's most renowned landmarks such as the Opera House, Place Vendome, Champs Elysees, Conciergerie, Eiffel Tower, and Concorde Square. Take note of your favourite sights as you'll have ample time later to revisit and encounter them at your leisure.

Following your morning adventure, immerse yourself in the world of art with a private VIP tour of the Louvre. Admire timeless masterpieces including The Mona Lisa, the Winged Victory of Samothrace, and the Venus de Milo, gaining insights from expert guides along the way. Conclude your Louvre excursion with a tranquil walk through the Tuileries Gardens, offering a serene escape amidst the bustling city.

Overnight:

Paris, Hotel
Maison Astor
Breakfast,
Lunch, Dinner

Meals:

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River



Day 4 Paris Free Day & Dinner on the Seine River

Today, take what you learned and liked most about the city yesterday and make the most of this free day to explore Paris at peace. Seek out a charming café to indulge in French delights, wander through a Parisian park, capture memorable photos beneath the iconic Eiffel Tower, browse local boutiques and art stores, or seek out hidden gems like 'The Wall of Art'. This final day in the city is yours to discover and savor every moment.

This evening, we embark on a Seine River dinner cruise, a perfect way to bid adieu to this enchanting city. Step aboard a modern riverboat boasting panoramic glass windows and a roof, providing unobstructed views of Paris's iconic landmarks. As you glide along the Seine, witness the pages of Paris's history come to life under the starry night sky. Share tales from the day's adventures with fellow travelers as you pass under 33 of the 37 Seine River bridges, marveling at the illuminated beauty of Paris surrounding you.

Overnight:

Paris, Hotel
Maison Astor
Breakfast, Dinner

Meals:



Day 5 **Macaroons & Champagne**

Today promises a delightful journey into the heart of French indulgence, as we enjoy classic delicacies and the renowned Champagne region. Prepare to create lasting memories and treat your palate with our exclusive Journeys by Van Dyke private macaroon making course. Under the guidance of expert chefs, you will master the art of creating these iconic French treats, infusing them with your own creativity and flair. As the aromas of baking macaroons fill the air, anticipation builds for the culinary delights to come.

After working up an appetite and indulging in our freshly made macaroons, we enjoy a delectable lunch before continuing to Epernay, the beating heart of France's famous Champagne region. Here, amidst picturesque vineyards and historic cellars, we delve into the world of champagne production, learning about the meticulous process that yields the world's most celebrated sparkling wine.

Overnight:

Champagne, Hotel La
Briqueterie
Breakfast, Lunch,
Dinner

Meals:

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River



Day 6 **Moët et Chandon**

The iconic Moët & Chandon cellars await our arrival, with deep historic roots and a household name – these cells epitomize Champagne luxury. Our tour of Moët & Chandon is concluded by a private lunch at the celebrated Orangerie, reserved solely for Journeys by Van Dyke guests.

Discover the secrets of Moët & Chandon as you explore their renowned cellars, followed by an easy stroll along the charming Avenue de Champagne to reach the historic Orangerie. Built in 1807 by Lorraine painter Isabey, this architectural gem once housed Jean-Rémy Moët's children in the 19th century. Today, it stands as a testament to Moët & Chandon's renowned hospitality.

Experience the essence of Champagne with a delightful aperitif, before savoring a delectable meal expertly paired with a selection of exclusive Champagnes. Prepare for an unforgettable culinary journey, where local flavors perfectly complement the exquisite taste of Champagne.

Overnight:

Champagne, Hotel La
Briqueterie

Meals:

Breakfast, Lunch,
Dinner



Day 7 Reims & Sens

Begin your day in Reims, the historic city of royal coronations and Champagne. Our journey starts with a visit to the renowned Notre-Dame Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage-listed landmark that has witnessed the coronation of 33 French kings and the baptism of Clovis, the first king of the Franks, in 498. Marvel at its Gothic architecture and magnificent statuary, including the iconic angels with outstretched wings.

After immersing ourselves in the rich history of Reims, we'll have the opportunity to uncover the city center, soaking in the vibrant atmosphere and admiring its Art Deco marvels.

As evening descends, we'll embark on the MS Deborah, our private French barge reserved exclusively for Journeys by Van Dyke guests. This will be our home for the remainder of the journey, offering unparalleled comfort and relaxation as we glide down the Seine River. Prepare to unwind and indulge in the beauty of the French countryside as we continue our exploration aboard the MS Deborah.

Overnight:
Meals:

MS Deborah
Breakfast, Lunch,
Dinner

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River



Day 8 Sens & Montereau- Fault-Yonne

Start your morning with a captivating exploration of Sens, a city steeped in history and adorned with impressive architecture. Our first stop is the magnificent Sens Cathedral, the pioneering masterpiece of Gothic architecture in France. This cathedral served as the inspiration for many others, including the renowned Canterbury Cathedral in Great Britain. As we walk through the streets and promenades, you'll be enchanted by the remarkable homes, buildings, and facades that bear witness to the town's rich heritage. Don't miss the opportunity to visit the local market and sample some of the region's delightful products.

After immersing ourselves in the charm of Sens, we'll return to our barge and set sail on the tranquil waters of the Yonne River, a picturesque tributary of the Seine. Along the way, we'll be treated to scenic views of several lakes and ponds, enhancing the serenity of our journey. Our cruise will culminate in the charming town of Montereau-Fault-Yonne, where we'll arrive in the late afternoon.

With the evening ahead of us, you're free to unwind and explore as you'd like. Whether you choose to walk along the riverbanks, indulge in local cuisine, or simply relax on board the barge, the choice is yours. Appreciate the freedom to make the most of this enchanting evening in Montereau-Fault-Yonne.

Overnight:

Meals:

MS Deborah

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 9 **Moret-Sur-Loing**

Enjoy a tranquil morning sail down the river to the charming town of Moret-sur-Loing, where our afternoon journey awaits.

In the afternoon, we'll disembark to unearth Moret-Loing-et-Orvanne, a picturesque town nestled on the edge of the Fontainebleau forest. This royal town is renowned for its exquisite barley sugar and the breathtaking landscapes immortalized by the Impressionist painter Alfred Sisley. During our visit, we'll wander through the town's fortified medieval gates, admire the splendid Renaissance facades, and savour in the serene beauty of the Loing River and Notre-Dame Church.

After our guided tour, you'll have time to explore Moret-sur-Loing at your leisure. Take a walk along the cobblestone streets, soak in the charming atmosphere, and perhaps indulge in a visit to the barley sugar shop to savor this sweet delicacy, which has delighted palates since the reign of Louis XIII.

As evening sets in, we'll return to our barge, where you'll have free time to relax and unwind. Whether you choose to have a quiet evening on deck or roam the town further, the choice is yours. Take advantage of this opportunity to be absorbed by the serenity and beauty of Moret-sur-Loing.

Overnight:

Meals:

MS Deborah
Breakfast, Lunch,
Dinner



Day 10 **Fontainebleau & Melun**

Savor the morning as we cruise along the peaceful waters to Melun, taking in the charming scenery that lines our route.

In the afternoon, lose yourself in the history and grandeur of Fontainebleau and its magnificent gardens with a guided tour. This iconic palace holds a storied past, having been inhabited by all the kings and queens of France at some point in history. Marvel at the architectural splendor and intricate details of the château, which has stood as a symbol of French royalty for over eight centuries. As you meander through the French gardens, adorned with fountains and vibrant flowerbeds, you'll be transported back to the palace's days of grandeur.

After our visit, we'll tour the charming town that has blossomed around the château, offering a glimpse into its cosmopolitan atmosphere and glowing culture.

As the day comes to a close, we'll return to our barge, where you'll have the evening free to relax and unwind. Whether you choose to reflect on the day's adventures on deck or roam the town further, the choice is yours. Enjoy the freedom to make the most of this enchanting evening in Melun.

Overnight:

Meals:

MS Deborah
Breakfast, Lunch,
Dinner

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River



Day 11 **Barbizon & Evry**

As the sun rises, we set off on another tranquil morning cruise to the charming town of Evry, allowing you to bask in the serene beauty of the surrounding landscape.

In the afternoon, prepare for a cultural immersion as we venture to the historic village of Barbizon. Steeped in artistic heritage, Barbizon became a haven for renowned painters in the early 19th century. Edmée and François Ganne's humble grocer's shop served as a catalyst for the village's artistic renaissance, attracting luminaries such as Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot, Théodore Rousseau, and Jean-François Millet. Inspired by the idyllic surroundings, these artists pioneered the "plein air" painting movement, leaving their studios to capture the essence of nature firsthand.

Promenade through Barbizon's cobbled streets, where art galleries and quaint shops await your exploration. Immerse yourself in the village's enchanting atmosphere, soaking in the same sights and landscapes that inspired generations of artists.

As the sun sets, we'll return to our barge to prepare for a special evening ahead. Tonight, we'll gather for our gala dinner, a culinary extravaganza celebrating the highlights of our journey thus far.

Overnight:

Meals:

MS Deborah
Breakfast, Lunch,
Dinner



Day 12 **Château de Vaux-le- Vicômte**

Today we soak in the grandness of the Château de Vaux-le-Vicomte. Designed by the celebrated architect Louis Le Vau in 1653, this magnificent estate showcases his mastery of the Italianate style and classical antiquity. As the Kings Principal Architect, Le Vau's innovative designs laid the foundation for French architecture for generations to come. After our tour, we'll return to Evry and spend the afternoon cruising to Paris.

In the evening, have a quintessentially Parisian experience aboard our barge, where you'll be treated to an evening of "Parisian titi" celebrations. Indulge in the charm and romance of the city of lights as you dine and relax in true Parisian style.

Overnight:
Meals:

MS Deborah
Breakfast, Lunch,
Dinner

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River



Day 13 **Retour à Paris**

Today we bid adieu to the MS Deborah as we return to Paris and prepare for our flights. A private car will bring you home upon arrival.

Overnight:

Meals:

Breakfast

All information contained in this itinerary is correct at time of printing and is subject to the terms and conditions as listed on our web site at www.jerryvandyke.com or available from our office on request. We must reserve the ability to make improvements.

Ports of call and shore excursions are subject to change at the discretion of the shipping operator, ground operators or Jerry Van Dyke Travel. While we endeavour not to make changes, when we must, changes are always intended to improve the journey experience.

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River

Your Journey Includes

First Class Accommodation

Paris	Hotel Maison Astor	3 nights
Champagne	Hotel La Briqueterie	2 nights
Cruise	MS Deborah	6 nights

Included Flights

Airline:	Air Canada
Outbound:	Toronto (YYZ) - Paris (CDG)
Inbound:	Paris (CDG) – Toronto (YYZ)
Class of Service:	Economy <i>Premium Economy and Business class is available on request</i>

Journeys by Van Dyke Inclusions

Journey Manager	Services of a professional Journey Manager throughout the journey
Home-Pickup Service	Private car home pick up & return service (where available) or a credit or
Hotel Overnight	Hotel overnight near Toronto Pearson International Airport
Gratuities	Tips included for all intermediaries: all ship staff, Journey Managers, local sightseeing guides, coach drivers, porters, etc.
Porterage	Porterage for one piece of baggage
Visas & Fees	All fees, visas, port & service charges
Gift with Every Journey	Branded overnight carry-on bag or backpack
Taxes	All taxes incl. HST, PST, VAT

Paris, Champagne & the Seine River

Journey Specific Inclusions & Experiences

- Complete pre-trip information & assistance
- 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 11 dinners
- Wine and beer included with all lunches & dinner
- All sightseeing & entrance fees as listed
- Montmartre – Guided Tour
- Montmartre – Funicular Ticker
- Paris – Panoramic City Tour
- VIP Louvre & Palais Royal Garden Visit
- Seine Dinner River Cruise
- Private Macaroon Making Class
- Private Tour & Lunch at Moët et Chandon, Orangerie
- Reims & Notre-Dame Cathedrale Visit
- Moret-Loing-et-Orvanne Discovery
- Tour of Fontainebleau Palace
- Visit of Château de Vaux-le-Vicomte

Fares

Cabin	Twin	Single
State Cabin	\$13,990 CAD	\$20,490 CAD

Fuel Surcharges - These journey fares include the current known fuel surcharges. Additional supplier fuel charges and or government fees may apply at final payment date.

MS Deborah



Step aboard the magnificent MS Deborah, a Premium canal barge spanning an impressive 38.50 meters in length and 5.07 meters in width. With accommodations for up to 22 passengers across 11 beautifully appointed cabins, every aspect of your comfort has been meticulously considered. Our attentive crew of six ensures a personalized approach, attending to your every need with care and expertise.

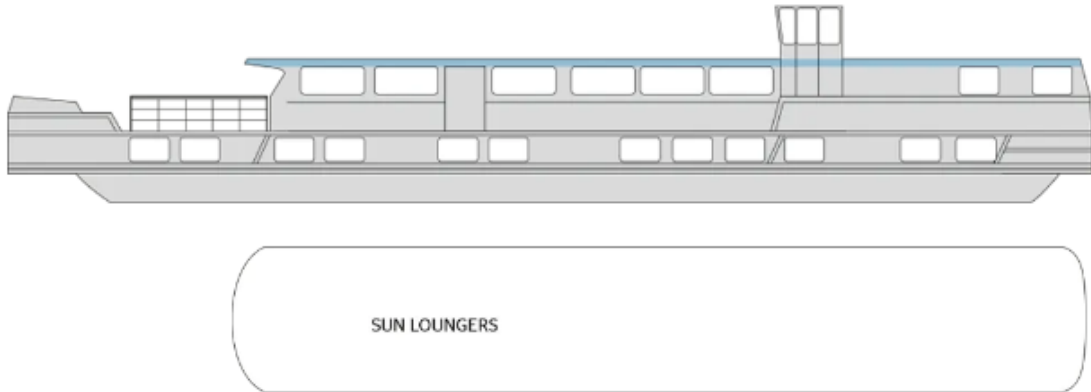
Indulge in the elegant ambiance of our lounge and bar, where you can unwind and socialize with fellow travelers. Ascend to the sun deck, where comfortable loungers invite you to bask in the beauty of the French countryside as you cruise along tranquil waterways.

Take in the essence of "la douce France" as you savor exquisite cuisine in our refined restaurant, nestled on the upper deck alongside a cozy lounge bar and a relaxation area complete with a soothing jacuzzi. Our decor exudes warmth and hospitality, enveloping you in a sense of tranquility from the moment you step aboard.

Embark on a journey of timeless allure aboard the MS Deborah, where every detail is designed to elevate your canal barge experience to new heights.



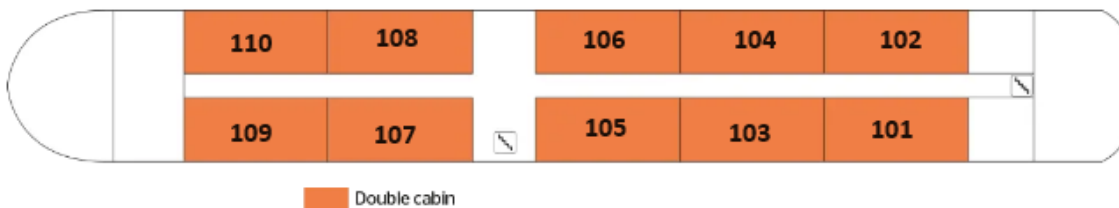
Paris, Champagne & the Seine River



Upper Deck



Main Deck



MAIN DECK

- 10 double cabins - 2 single beds - 97 sq ft

AMENITIES

- TV
- Bathroom with shower and toilet
- Towels
- Hair dryer
- Telephone (for internal calls only)
- Safe
- Independent air-conditioning
- Electricity 220V
- Wi-Fi

Please note that there is no laundry service on board the ship.



Paris, Champagne & the Seine River

Outstanding Accommodation

Paris, **3 nights** **Hotel Maison Astor**

Nestled discreetly on a tranquil street in Paris's prestigious luxury and fashion hub, Maison Astor Paris is a true hidden gem. Originally constructed in 1907 by John Jacob Astor IV, this hotel exudes a Parisian charm infused with rich history and the spirit of its illustrious founder.

Situated mere steps away from the iconic Avenue des Champs-Élysées, guests can immerse themselves in haute couture shopping and explore the nearby treasures of Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré and the Louvre.



Champagne, **2 nights** **Hotel La Briqueterie**

Nestled amidst the scenic slopes of the Marne River in Champagne, Hostellerie La Briqueterie is a haven of indulgence and relaxation. Just moments from Épernay, renowned for its sprawling 110-kilometer Champagne cellars, guests are welcomed into a world of refined living. Every detail is meticulously crafted to ensure complete serenity.

Guests can unwind in lush gardens adorned with radiant roses, stroll through verdant vineyards, and delight in fragrant orchards laden with bountiful fruit trees. Escape into a realm where nature's beauty and luxury converge amidst Champagne's vineyard-clad landscape.



Paris, Champagne & the Seine River

Personal Notes & Questions