



## Normandy Battlefields, Loire Valley AND AMA PROVENCE CRUISE

"Many men came here as soldiers Many men will pass this way Many men will count the hours As they live the longest day..."

The Longest Day by Paul Anka



May 8–22 **2014** 

# **15 DAYS** 3 nights Bayeux, 3 nights Tours & 7-night cruise on the MS AmaDagio from Lyon to Arles

Pre-tour Option: 3 nights/5 days Historical WW1 - featuring 3 nights in Valenciennes France



## Normandy Battlefields, Loire Valley

AND AMA PROVENCE CRUISE

Day 1 Thu, May 8, 2014 In flight We meet our group at Pearson International Airport for our evening departure with Air Canada, nonstop service to Paris. Pick up service from your home by limousine service to Pearson International Airport and return home. Meals will be served in flight.

Day 2 Fri, May 9, 2014 Bayeux Arrival Paris 9:45 a.m. where we meet our coach and tour manager for our transfer to Bayeux. Free time for lunch on your own enroute. We arrive late afternoon at the Churchill Hotel Bayeux where we spend the next three nights. Dinner at the Restaurant L'Angle Saint Laurent included this evening with wine. (D)

\*Note that the hotel does not have an elevator however baggage handling in included. Will obtain as many ground floor rooms as possible. No higher than the 2nd floor.

Day 3 Sat, May 10, 2014 Bayeux Following breakfast at our hotel, we join our informative local guide as we relive the events of the Allied invasion on June 6, 1944 - more famously known as D-Day. Our guide will give us unique insight into the events that took place on the landing beaches and battlefields of Normandy and tell us about the efforts by the British, American, Canadian and French troops. We visit the Canadian Juno Beach Centre at Courseulles-sur-Mer presenting the war effort made by all Canadians, civilian and military alike, both at home and on the various fronts during the Second World War. We continue on to Bernieres-sur-Mer with its Maison des Candiens and memorial cairns on the beach, and to Beny-sur Mer, site of the Canadian War Cemetery. The world's first prefab harbour was created by the British at Arromanches (Gold Beach). It was here that the British sunk old ships, forming the first sea barrier. Then, 115 football-field-size cement blocks (called "Mulberries") were towed across the channel and sunk, creating a four-mile-long breakwater. Finally seven floating pierheads linked to shore with floating roads made of concrete pontoons completed Mulberry Harbour. Walk along the seafront promenade and imagine the building of this port! The D - Day Landing Museum (Musee du Debarguement) provides an instructive hour long visit. Our final site is Omaha Beach where the Americans landed. Dinner on your own in Bayeux. (B)

Day 4 Sun, May 11, 2014 Bayeux Today we then travel to Caen, the modern capital of lower Normandy, which has the best WW11 museum in France - The Caen Memorial. The museum is brilliant. You will see two video presentations and numerous exhibits of the lead-up to World War 11, the actual Battle of Normandy, the Cold War and the ongoing fight for peace (Nobel Prize Gallery and Peach Gardens). We will stop at Ardennes Abbey, where in the early years of the German Occupation, the abbey was a focal point for the local French Resistance. Its unfortunate reputation nowadays is as the site of execution of 20 Canadian prisoners of war by soldiers under the command of Brigadefuhrer Kurt Meyer of the 12th SS Panzer Division (Hitler Youth). We see the bridge at Benouville known as "Pegasus Bridge" and in Bayeux, the Tapestry Museum. Dinner on your own in Bayeux. (B)

Day 5 Mon, May 12, 2014 Tours We visit the single most popular tourist attraction in France this morning, Mont St. Michel. Located on the north coast of France between the borders of Normandy and Brittany, this small volcanic island is separated from the mainland by almost 1 km of sea at high tide. Jutting 80 meters high, the 1000 year old Monastic Citadel welcomes our visit today.

Our destination today is the city of Tours, where we spend the next three nights at the Chateau Clarion Belmont, a charming 4-star hotel located in a splendid wooded park. They have a lovely on-site restaurant as well as indoor swimming pool and fitness room. From the Clarion it is easy to discover everything that the city of Tours has to offer. Dinner this evening with wine. (B, L, D)

**Day 6 Tues, May 13, 2014 Tours** A full day visit to the Loire wine region today. We start our morning visiting the monumental countryside villa - Chateau de Villandry, surrounded by world famous, tranquil gardens organized in the classic French Renaissance style. Do not miss the incredible views from the upper windows. Lunch at Doulce Terrace including wine. Following lunch, we visit the Chateau of Azay-le-Rideau, which stands on an island in the middle of the Indre River, and includes wine tastings at Cave Pibaleau. Dinner on your own this evening. (B, L)

**Day 7** Wed, May 14, 2014 Tours Today we visit Tours and tour through the magical Chateau Chenonceau, rated #1 of 84 attractions in The Loire Valley by Trip Advisor. A beautiful country villa surrounded by a moat and





inspired by the Italian Renaissance. Enjoy an included wine tasting. Some free time this afternoon for la taste of French small town provincial life with local markets, shops and cafes. Dinner this evening at our hotel with wine pairing. (B, D)

**Day 8 Thu, May 15, 2014 Lyon, Embarkation MS AmaDagio** Travel to Lyon with a stop enroute for lunch and coffee break. Arrive after 4 pm to board the luxurious AMA AmaDagio River Boat. Nestled between the Saone and Rhone rivers, Lyon is one of France's most important cities and gastronomic capitals. Gather this evening on board for a Welcome Dinner. (B, D)

**Day 9 Fri, May 16, 2014** Lyon, Trevoux - MS AmaDagio Today your panoramic tour of Lyon will take you to the "Place Bellecour" with its equestrian statue of Louis XIV, the "Place des Terreaux," with Bartholdi's Fountain and the Town Hall. Afterwards, visit Fourvière, part of the historic region designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Known as the "Hill of Prayers," Fourvière is famous for its iconic white Basilica of Notre-Dame; ruins of a Roman theater, and majestic views of the city below. Returning to the ship, you will enjoy an onboard wine lecture as you cruise to the historic village of Trévoux. The former capital of the ancient principality of Dombes, the town's landmarks include a Parliament building, medieval ramparts and a hillside Chateau. This evening, you will take part in a winery event in Trevoux. (B, L, D)

Day 10 Sat, May 17, 2014 Trevoux - MS AmaDagio This morning's tour will take you through the chateaux, fields and vineyards of the Beaujolais wine region, the Pays d'Or or "land of the golden stones," named for the ochre limestone of its homes and castles. You will visit the medieval hilltop village of Oingt. You will also visit a local winery for a wine tasting and explanation of the history of wine production in the region. Return to the ship in the early afternoon and continue cruising towards Vienne. Enjoy paired French wines at dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 11 Sun, May 18, 2014 Vienne, Tournon - MS AmaDagio Situated between the wine regions of Burgundy and Beaujolais, Vienne has a significant Roman history, which is highlighted by its marvelously preserved ruins and remains. This morning, you will take a mini train tour and see the 1st-century Roman Temple of Augustus and Livia, the ruins of a Roman theater and the medieval churches of St. Andre-Le-Bas and Abbey St. Pierre. As an alternative, you may choose to visit the Chateau Rousillion. Your ship will depart at midday for Tournon as you join an onboard wine lecture. This evening, enjoy a winery visit in Tournon. (B, L, D)

Day 12 Mon, May 19, 2014 Viviers – MS AmaDagio This morning, enjoy a chocolate tasting and wine tour, and then free time to visit the 16th-century castle which is now a town hall. Return to the ship for lunch as we cruise to Viviers. You will have an onboard wine lecture this afternoon, and another lecture and wine tasting prior to dinner. In Viviers this evening, participate in an onboard nougat demonstration or follow along on a "ghost walk" through this once-thriving medieval town, as fascinating and poignant stories of its past are brought to life by the town's current residents.(B, L, D)

Day 13Tue, May 20, 2014 Avignon or Grignan, Chateau-Neuf-du-Pape or Pont du Gard, Uzes - MS AmaDagio After breakfast, choose one of two excursions. Visit Grignan, a magnificent village perched upon a hill surrounded by lavender fields, topped by a Renaissance castle. From the castle, enjoy a commanding view of the surrounding countryside. In the alternative, you can visit the magnificent gothic Papal Palace of Avignon, home of seven popes. You will also see the well-preserved medieval walls surrounding the historic center of town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the afternoon, visit the renowned Chateau Neuf-du-Pape winery or in the alternative, take an excursion to the Pont du Gard, a Roman aqueduct that is a masterpiece of engineering and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your tour will also visit Uzes, a lovely Provencal small town known for its Castle of the Duke of Uzes (still occupied by the Duke and his family), medieval streets and a picturesque town square framed by archways. Enjoy free time for shopping in Uzes before returning to your ship. This evening, mingle with your fellow guests at the Captain's Dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 14Wed, May 21, 2014 Arles – MS AmaDagio This morning, you will arrive in Arles and board a motor coach for an excursion to the village of Les Baux de Provence. This hilltop village and fortress was a Protestant stronghold during the French Wars of Religion until destroyed by Louis XIII and Cardinal Richelieu in 1633. At the castle, you will see examples of medieval siege weaponry. Later, visit an olive farm to learn about this ageold Provençal farming tradition. In the alternative, choose to take the "Van Gogh" tour which will take you the Saint Paul de Mausole Asylum. Here, Van Gogh painted some of his most well-known paintings such as The Irises and Starry Night. Late this afternoon, your city tour of Arles takes you to the Romanesque cathedral and the Roman Amphitheater. The ship moors overnight in Arles. (B, L, D)

Day 15Thu, May 22, 2014 Disembarkation MS AmaDagio and flight home We disembark from our ship in Arles and transfer by coach to Marseilles. Here we join Air Canada / Lufthansa for our flight home via Frankfurt. Meals will be served in flight. (B)

CATEGORY	DECK	CRUISE, LAND	SINGLE
		& AIR	Rate
Fixed window	Piano	\$6290	\$7920
• Fixed Windown	Piano	\$6480	\$8200
Balcony	Cello	\$6760	\$8680
B Balcony	Cello	\$6890	\$8750
Balcony	Violin	\$6980	\$8950
r. Suite Balcony	Violin	\$7670	\$11,830

Air Credit of \$750 per person if arranging own ai Initial Deposit: \$500 at time of booking Second Deposit: \$1,000 by Oct 08, 2013 Final Balance: on Feb 08, 2014







ENJOY THE 360 VIEW FROM THE SUN DECK OR BOW SEATING AREA

### 🕊 AmaDagio

Enjoy the finest river cruise experience in Europe aboard our awardwinning AMADAGIO. These custom-designed, premium vessels carry only 148/150 passengers and introduced a new standard of cruising on the great waterways of Europe by offering amenities not found on other lines. Those amenities include: spacious 170 sq. ft. staterooms and 255 sq. ft. suites; French balconies on 82% of all staterooms; complimentary high-speed Internet and first-run Hollywood movies in staterooms; Wi-Fi throughout the ship; fine wine, beer and soft drinks with dinner; nightly entertainment; small group shore excursions tailored to passengers' desired walking pace; guided bicycle tours, unlimited bottled water, specialty coffees and teas. Our ships also feature an Aft Lounge perfect for small group gatherings; fitness area and sauna; Sun Deck with a walking track and whirlpool, plus elevators that reach two passenger decks, the Restaurant and Reception Area.



#### Included in the tour cost:

- Pick up service from your home (and return) by limousine service to Pearson Inter national Airport.
- Airfare with Air Canada/Lufthansa from Toronto Paris, Marseilles Frankfurt -Toronto
- Deluxe coach transportation for all sightseeing and transfers in the itinerary
- 3 nights Bayeux at the Churchill Hotel and 3 nights Tours at the Chateau Clarion Belmont
- Breakfast daily, 2 lunches, 3 dinners on land tour
- Tour Manager for the Normandy Battlefield & Loire Valley
- Visit to Juno Beach Centre, Beny –sur-Mer, Arromaches and Mulberry Harbour, D-Day Landing museum, Gold and Omaha Beaches
- Tour of Caen, Caen Memorial, Ardennes Abby, Pegasus Bridge, Tapestry Museum
  Visit and admission to Mont-St-Michel
- Full day sightseeing in wine region of Loire Valley including Chateau de Villandry, Chateau of Azay-le-Rideau, wine tasting at Cave Pibaleau
- Sightseeing in Tours including visit to Chateau Chenonceaux with wine tasting.
- 7-night, 8 day cruise with AMA on the MS AmaDagio
- Gourmet dining with all meals included during your cruise
- Free-flowing red and white wines from France's great wine region, beer and soft drinks with every dinner on board.
- Cocktail Reception, Welcome Dinner and Captain's Gala Dinner
- Special highlights including lectures, cooking demonstration, onboard music per formances and piano music
- Complimentary Wi-Fi on board
- Life enriching tours and excursions daily as listed in itinerary
- Complimentary bicycles on board
- Services of professional Cruise Manager
- All English language on board in non-smoking environment (Smoking permitted on the Sun Deck)
- All gratuities for land and cruise
- All port taxes

#### Not included in the tour cost:

- 5 lunches & 3 dinners restaurant suggestions will be provided
- Beverages not mentioned in the tour itinerary
- Airport departure taxes currently \$520
- Optional Insurance

#### **DEPOSIT AND CANCELLATION:**

- Initial Deposit: \$500 per person plus insurance within 7 days of booking
- Second Deposit: \$1000 per person by October 8, 2013
- Final Payment: February 8, 2014

#### CANCELLATION PENALTIES:

- Between the date of booking and Oct 8, 2013 \$200
- Between the date of Oct 9, 2013 and Feb 8, 2014 \$1500 per person
- Between Feb 9 and date of departure 100% of tour cost

#### DOCUMENTATION:

You must have a passport valid until six (6) months from the date of departure at your last destination to travel on this tour. Lack of documentation is not a valid reason to claim any penalties on cancellation insurance.

#### AIR CREDIT:

If you wish to arrange your own airline ticket, you can reduce the tour cost by \$750.00. You then will not have any airport taxes and security fees charged on your final invoice.

#### DEVIATION FEE:

If you wish to alter your air arrangements within the group booking, deviation fee of \$200 per person applied. We are using Air Canada nonstop service to Paris and Lufthansa / Air Canada service from Marseilles to Frankfurt and from Frankfurt to Toronto. You can avoid this deviation cost if you wish to have an air quote for the same routing which will require payment of the ticket upon confirmation of space and ticket is then subject to the cancellation penalties as imposed by the airline.



#### Probus Club of Mississauga South

Program designed in conjunction with Neal Black, Events Director of the Probus Club of Mississauga South. Phone 905 279 9715 or neal@jooey.com.

Also special thanks to Bill Evans for his assistance with the information on WW1 and WW11.



For reservation or information, please contact

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