



**Commonwealth
Club Travel**

PROVINCIAL FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE

May 25-June 8, 2015

15 days for \$6,896 total price from San Francisco
(\$6,195 air & land inclusive plus \$701 airline taxes and departure fees)



**An Exclusive Small Group Tour
for the Commonwealth Club**

Tour membership limited to 24 guests

PROVINCIAL FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE

15 days for \$6,896 total price from San Francisco

(\$6,195 air & land inclusive plus \$701 airline taxes and departure fees)

Experience the beauty, allure, and hospitality of provincial France, at an easy pace and in a unique style. Anchored by stays in vibrant Toulouse and enchanting Paris, the journey features diverse Languedoc, the remote Dordogne, the lovely Loire Valley, and historic Normandy as we stay in charming rural inns and small country hotels. It's a small group tour de force!



Monday, May 25: Depart U.S. for Toulouse, France

Tuesday, May 26: Arrive Toulouse After arriving in Toulouse today, our time is at leisure until we meet our tour director this evening for a welcome dinner and a briefing about the journey ahead. **D**

Wednesday, May 27: Toulouse/Carcassonne Today we tour nearby Carcassonne, the quintessential medieval town with the longest city walls in Europe. Sitting atop a hill overlooking vast green plains that stretch all the way to the Pyrénées, Carcassonne boasts battlements and ramparts dating to the 1st-century Romans. We return to Toulouse mid-afternoon. **B**

Thursday, May 28: Toulouse/Albi/Sarlat We travel today to the historic market town of Albi in the Midi-Pyrénées. Hometown of Belle Epoque artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Albi was built with rose-colored bricks that cast a warm glow over the city's medieval streets and ramparts. Our city tour here includes the Palais de la Berbie, an ancient fortress housing a museum devoted to the works of Toulouse-Lautrec. Leaving Albi, we continue to the rugged unspoiled countryside of the Perigord region and the Dordogne Valley. We travel on to Sarlat-la-Canéda, one of France's prettiest villages and one of Europe's best preserved medieval gems, with more registered historic sites than anywhere else on the continent. We're in the land of the truffle and *foie gras*, so *bon appétit!* **B,D**

Friday, May 29: Sarlat/Lascaux II This morning we tour the Caves at Lascaux II, the reproductions of the original pre-historic cave paintings found nearby. After lunch at a charming local inn, we spend the afternoon on a leisurely cruise along the Dordogne River, life-blood of this fertile region and redolent with history. As we pass cliff-top castles and fortified medieval towns, the historical region of Aquitaine comes to life – this is where beloved Eleanor of Aquitaine reigned in the 12th

Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Medieval Carcassonne ... Market town of Albi ... Cliffside village of Rocamadour ... Caves at Lascaux II ... Dordogne River cruise ... Château de Chenonceau ... Iconic Mont-St-Michel ... Bayeux Tapestry ... Tours of Normandy's Landing Beaches ... American Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach ... Monet's gardens at Giverny

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Toulouse		
2-3	Toulouse	Crowne Plaza Toulouse	First Class
4-6	Sarlat-en-Périgord (Dordogne)	Hotel Meysset	Not Rated
7-9	Saumur (Loire Valley)	Hotel Anne d'Anjou	Not Rated
10-12	Crépon (Normandy)	Ferme de la Rançonniere	Not Rated
13-14	Paris	Hotel Château Frontenac	Sup. First Class
15	Depart Paris for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference. Unrated hotels maybe too small, too new, or too remote to be listed.

Cover Photo: Explore the Dordogne's countryside of ancient castles, medieval villages, and grand chateaux.



Discover Paris with its iconic Eiffel Tower.

century. We return to Sarlat and our hotel, where we dine tonight. **B,L,D**

Saturday, May 30: Sarlat/Rocamadour This morning we take a brief walking tour then have time at leisure to visit one of Sarlat's museums or art galleries on our own – or simply to wander the atmospheric cobblestone streets. After lunch on our own we visit nearby Rocamadour, a revered pilgrimage site and medieval village whose three tiers cling almost impossibly to a sheer limestone cliff. We take a guided walking tour then enjoy some free time before we return to our hotel mid-afternoon and dine there together tonight. **B,D**

Sunday, May 31: Sarlat/Le Dorat/Saumur This morning we depart for the Loire Valley, stopping in the small market town of Le Dorat for a typical country lunch at a local restaurant. From here we travel on to picturesque Saumur and our hotel, a converted 18th-century mansion on the banks of the Loire River. **B,L**

Monday, June 1: Saumur Today is at leisure to enjoy this town of half-timbered houses and cobblestone streets as we wish. Options include exploring the town's old quarter; visiting the Cavalry Museum; or tasting the renowned locally made sparkling wine – *methode champenoise* – at Maison du Vin. **B,D**

Tuesday, June 2: Saumur/Chenonceaux We're in chateaux country, where England battled for control of France; where Joan of Arc triumphed; and where a great opulence reigned during the 16th century. Originally built as fortresses to keep intruders out, the Loire Valley's grand chateaux now welcome visitors from around the world. We tour a most impressive one today: Chenonceau,

the Renaissance masterpiece considered the most romantic chateau of all. Lunch today is at La Cave in Montlouis. **B,L**

Wednesday, June 3: Saumur/Mont-St-Michel/ Crépon Traveling north this morning, we stop at Mont-St-Michel, Normandy's famed Gothic abbey that sits atop a 264-foot high rock formation at the edge of the sea and was constructed between 1017-1521 of granite, hauled stone by stone, from Brittany. After a guided tour and some free time for lunch and to explore on our own, we continue on to our lodgings in Crépon: a restored but rustic farmhouse dating to the 14th century. **B,D**

Thursday, June 4: Crépon/Bayeux/Caen Miraculously spared wartime bombing, medieval Bayeux is our first stop today. Here we visit the Tapestry Museum, home of the 1,000-year-old Bayeux Tapestry depicting the exploits of William

Post-Tour Extension

June 8-10, 2015

PARIS — ON YOUR OWN

3 days/2 nights for \$495 total price

Single Supplement: \$395

*Savor the City of Light
on your own time, at your own pace.*

Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights' accommodations at Hotel Château Frontenac (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport

“AMERICA IS MY COUNTRY
AND PARIS IS
MY HOMETOWN.”

– GERTRUDE STEIN

the Conqueror. Later we visit the British Cemetery then continue on to Caen’s Memorial Museum devoted to “history for peace.” Time permitting, we may visit Arramanches late this afternoon. *B,D*

Friday, June 5: D-Day Landing Beaches A poignant, inspiring day is ahead as we travel to the very places where Allied forces overcame overwhelming odds to alter the course of World War II. We visit Pointe du Hoc, where American Rangers scaled towering cliffs to establish a beachhead; Utah Beach; and Ste-Mère-Eglise, where the 82nd Airborne Division successfully parachuted on June 5, 1944. We end the day at the American Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach in Colleville. It’s a particularly moving site; row upon endless row of white marble crosses and Stars of David honor the nearly 10,000 soldiers buried here. *B,L,D*

Saturday, June 6: Crépon/Giverny/Paris This morning we visit the village of Giverny and the home and gardens of Impressionist artist Claude Monet. Here we see the familiar lily pond and Japanese footbridge of Monet’s paintings, as well as his home, now restored to its original design. Then we travel to Paris, reaching our hotel late afternoon. We’re free for dinner on our own in this culinary capital. *B*

Sunday, June 7: Paris Today we get acquainted with one of the world’s great cities, seeing the highlights on this morning’s city tour, including a visit to either the renowned Louvre Museum or the Musée d’Orsay of Impressionist artworks. This afternoon is free for independent exploration; tonight we gather for a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Monday, June 8: Depart for U.S. This morning we depart for the airport and our connecting flights to the U.S. *B*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 13 nights’ accommodations in Superior First Class, First Class, and unrated hotels
- 26 meals: 13 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 9 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Services of a Commonwealth Club Host with a minimum of 15 guests
- Private motorcoach transportation including bottled water throughout your trip
- Special private cultural and educational high-lights
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



We visit Monet’s gardens at Giverny on Day 13.

Tour Departs: May 25, 2015

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Los Angeles, San Francisco	\$6,896
Atlanta, Chicago, Miami	\$6,796
Boston, New York	\$6,496
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,195

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, fuel surcharges and departure fees of \$701, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,195.

All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, fuel surcharges and departure fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: \$3,895 per person (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking up hills or stairs, and on uneven or cobblestone streets. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

Contact Club Travel

415-597-6720

travel@commonwealthclub.org
www.commonwealthclub.org/travel



Dear Members and Friends of the Commonwealth Club,

We invite you to join fellow Commonwealth Club members on an enchanting tour through provincial France. Our small group will stay in charming hotels and inns, visit unspoiled villages, and tour cosmopolitan Paris.

Begin in Toulouse and see the longest city walls in Europe at nearby Carcassonne. Travel to the Dordogne region to tour the famous Caves at Lascaux II and take a leisurely river cruise. In the fabled Loire Valley, visit the beautiful chateau of Chenonceau. Further north in Normandy, tour the Gothic abbey at Mont-St-Michel and discover medieval Bayeux. Spend a poignant day exploring the D-Day landing beaches and the American Cemetery. Walk amid Monet's gardens in Giverny before concluding your journey in iconic Paris.

Space on this exclusive Commonwealth Club tour is limited to just 24 travelers and will fill quickly. Please call today to reserve your place on this special journey through provincial France!

Sincerely,

Kristina Nemeth
Director of Travel

COMMONWEALTH CLUB RESERVATION FORM: PROVINCIAL FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$ _____ (\$500 per person) for _____ person/people on **Provincial French Countryside** departing **May 25, 2015**. I/we understand the final payment is due 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. **Please make deposit check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send to: Commonwealth Club Travel, 595 Market Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105. For reservations and information, call (415) 597- 6720, or email travel@commonwealthclub.org. You may also fax your reservation to (415) 597-6729.**

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my air/our from _____ I/we request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

Post-Tour "Paris" Extension: Please sign me/us up

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for **Provincial French Countryside, May 25-June 8, 2015**, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms & Conditions.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Method of Payment Check American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Account # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure, and is payable by check or credit card.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not included in tour price

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only tour package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only tour package; communication gratuities; optional sightseeing; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities \$10-\$15 per day per traveler); travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

Cancellations, refunds and changes

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **Cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; Cancel 94-95 days before departure: 25% of tour price; Cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; Cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; Cancel 29-0 days before departure: No refund.** If a guest makes any changes to their reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, your date of birth, and your gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

Insurance

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event you must cancel your participation in the travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Information will be sent upon registration.

Responsibility

The liability of the Commonwealth Club, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. The Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues

We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a reasonable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and ships on your own. If you require the use of a wheelchair or have other personal needs, you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, the Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from your home city to your final tour destination and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. CST#2077973-40 The Commonwealth Club CST#2096889-40



595 Market Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

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Odysseys
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ON AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR OF
PROVINCIAL FRANCE!

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