

ELEGANCE CRUISING ROUTE

Canal du Midi sample itinerary Béziers-Carcassonne



HOMPS TO BRAM

Sunday – Arrival in Homps



The port of Homps

A very special journey is about to begin! A member of the crew will welcome you at Narbonne's or Carcassonne's railway station around 4 PM and transfer you to your beautiful passenger boat 'Elegance' moored in the port of Homps along the famous Canal du Midi! After a first tour of the boat, a champagne reception will be served on deck as a nice premise to your week. You will then have plenty of time to discover your new environment and to settle in your bedroom before your gourmet dinner. And what about a little stroll along the canal to Jouarres lake at sunset to conclude your first day?

Monday – Morning cruise from Homps to Puichéric



Lagrasse

As the morning cruise begins, you will have a satisfying breakfast aboard. The canal has many twists and turns but few locks on this first section. You won't miss a very artistic one. After lunch you will visit Lagrasse, listed among the country's prettiest villages. Known for its remarkable buildings and arts and crafts, Lagrasse also produces AOC Corbières wine. We have arranged a tasting at a nearby winery.

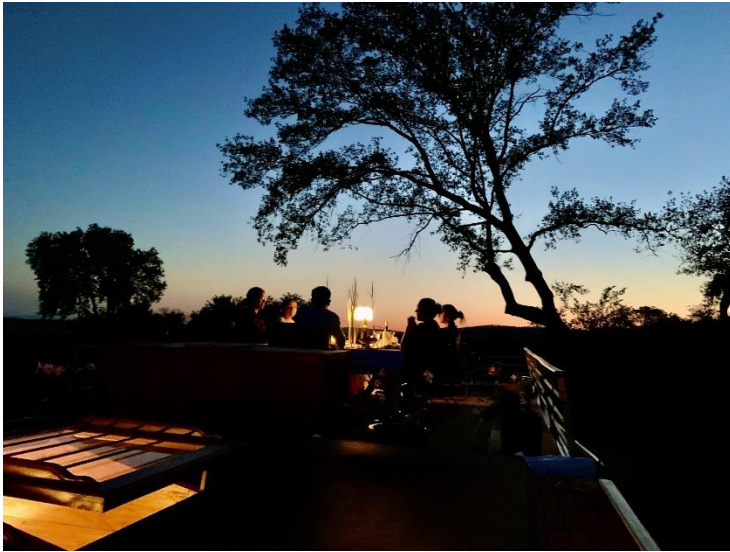
Tuesday – Morning cruise from Puichéric to Marseillette



St. Hilaire Abbey

This morning your captain will sail to Marseillette. In the afternoon you will either be driven to the Maison de la Truffe for a truffle tasting or visit the St. Hilaire Benedictine abbey, which was founded more than a thousand years ago. The well and the fountain displayed in the very picturesque cloister were built in the 16th century! Being very close to Carcassonne, the largest fortified city in Europe you could use this opportunity to run some errands while wandering in the shopping district or simply stroll in the medieval historic center if you haven't seen the 'Cité' yet. A nice dinner will then await you on board.

Wednesday – Full-day cruise from Marseillette to Carcassonne



Today is all about relaxing and soaking up the quiet atmosphere of your surroundings. After breakfast, you could go for a bicycle ride or even hike along the canal with your analog camera. Don't miss the aqueducts! Our crew will then find the perfect spot for a nice and bucolic picnic. In the afternoon you could either grab a sun lounger and chill on the deck with a book or chat in the jacuzzi. Whatever you choose, the slow pace of the canal will bring a sense of peace and harmony that you will never forget. Slowly but surely, the boat will reach Carcassonne's port.

Thursday – Afternoon cruise from Carcassonne to Villesèquelande



Cabrespine's cave

In the morning your guide will drive you up into the hills of the 'Montagne Noire' to visit an impressive abyss 200 meters underground! It's listed as one of the most beautiful caves in Europe and hosts the world's biggest geode! On your way back to the boat you will treat yourself to a wine tasting in the hilly Minervois region. After a well-deserved lunch, you will cruise to the very quiet town of Villesèquelande. Wouldn't it be the perfect time to take advantage of the jacuzzi while you watch the lush landscape unfold, all before your *al fresco* dinner?

Friday – Morning cruise from Villesèquelande to Bram



Villelongue Abbey

After a relaxing morning cruise and a delicious lunch you will head north to a familial paper mill located in a very green and charming setting. You will learn more about French arts and crafts by visiting the workshop and you will even be able to make your own paper. Afterwards you will stop at the Cistercian Villelongue abbey. Built in the 12th century, the abbey has a really nice garden, and its cloister is covered with fragrant wisteria in springtime. If you prefer a tour of the cute Southern villages of Fanjeaux and Mirepoix your guide will be happy to take you there. Meanwhile, your chef will be busy preparing a very special gastronomic dinner and the entire crew will do everything to make your last evening onboard unforgettable!

Saturday – Departure from Bram

Around 9 am after your last breakfast it will sadly be time to say 'au revoir' in French (see you again). Your guide will take you to the railway station or to your hotel. You will be excited for your next destination or happy to bring home so many nice memories.

BRAM TO HOMPS

Sunday – Arrival in Bram

A very special journey is about to begin! A member of the crew will welcome you at Narbonne's or Carcassonne's railway station around 4 PM and transfer you to your beautiful passenger boat 'Elegance' moored in Bram along the famous Canal du Midi! After a first tour of the boat, a champagne reception will be served on deck as a nice premise to your week. You will then have plenty of time to discover your new environment and to settle in your bedroom before your gourmet dinner. And what about a little stroll along the canal at sunset to conclude your first day?

Monday –Afternoon cruise from Bram to Villesèquelande



After your first breakfast aboard, you will enjoy touring the cute Southern villages of Fanjeaux and Mirepoix. The first offers amazing viewpoints and has been developed in the Middle Ages: it is known as St Dominic's village. Mirepoix has been rebuilt in the 13th century and is famous for its charming half-timbered houses... You will travel back in time! The afternoon will be the perfect moment to take advantage of the jacuzzi while you watch the lush landscape unfold.

Tuesday – Morning cruise from Villesèquelande to Carcassonne



Carcassonne

This morning your captain will sail to Carcassonne, the largest fortified city in Europe. After lunch you could either visit the St. Hilaire Benedictine abbey, which was founded more than a thousand years ago or head north and discover a familial paper mill located in a very green and charming setting. You could there learn more about French arts and crafts by visiting the workshop and even be able to make your own paper. On the way back we would suggest a bit of shopping in Carcassonne or simply stroll in the medieval historic center if you haven't seen the 'Cité' yet. A nice dinner will then await you on board.

Wednesday – Full-day cruise from Carcassonne to Marseillette



Today is all about relaxing and soaking up the quiet atmosphere of your surroundings. After breakfast, you could go for a bicycle ride or even hike along the canal with your analog camera. Our crew will then find the perfect spot for a nice and bucolic picnic. In the afternoon you could either grab a sun lounger and chill on the deck with a book or chat in the jacuzzi. Whatever you choose, the slow pace of the canal will bring a sense of peace and harmony that you will never forget. And don't miss the aqueducts! Slowly but surely, the boat will reach Marseillette.

Thursday– Morning cruise from Marseillette to Puichéric



A nice *al fresco* dinner

The morning cruise will take you to Puichéric and its very artistic lock, then your guide will drive you up into the hills of the 'Montagne Noire' to visit an impressive abyss 200 meters underground! It's listed as one of the most beautiful caves in Europe and hosts the world's biggest geode! On your way back to the boat you will treat yourself to a wine tasting in the hilly Minervois region. Why not share another glass on the sundeck before your *al fresco* dinner?

Friday – Morning cruise from Puichéric to Homps



Lagrasse

After a relaxing last morning cruise and a delicious lunch you will head to Lagrasse, listed among the country's prettiest villages. Known for its remarkable buildings and arts and crafts, Lagrasse also produces AOC Corbières wine. We have arranged a tasting at a nearby winery. But if you do not feel like doing anything special, we would recommend spending the afternoon at the Jouarres lake instead. There you could just chill, swim and soak up the French sun. Meanwhile, your chef will be busy preparing a very special gastronomic dinner and the entire crew will do everything to make your last evening onboard unforgettable!

Saturday – Departure from Homps

Around 9 am after your last breakfast it will sadly be time to say 'au revoir' in French (see you again). Your guide will take you to the railway station or to your hotel. You will be excited for your next destination or happy to bring home so many nice memories.