



Rhône Valley &

THE FRENCH ALPS

SPONSORED BY



The Association
OF FORMER STUDENTS®
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

Traveling Aggies

MAY 2-10, 2016



Café, Lyon

S

itting at the confluence of the gentle Saône and fast-flowing Rhône rivers, the city of Lyon has welcomed the influx of new ideas in commerce, architecture, art, textiles and food over the centuries since it was founded more than 2,000 years ago. Today, it is France's third-largest city and home to the country's second-largest university. With excellent museums, an unparalleled culinary scene, spectacular Roman ruins, unique boutiques and more, Lyon is approachably sophisticated. Let beautiful Lyon be your home during this exploration one of France's most celebrated regions, the Rhône-Alpes, of which it is the capital.



Bartholdi Fountain, Lyon

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Stay in the historic city of **Lyon**, France's third-largest city and the gastronomic capital.
- Take a leisurely cruise of the **Saône** and **Rhône** rivers.
- Marvel at the Roman ruins in **Vienne**.
- Learn the secrets of Lyonnaise cuisine during a **cooking demonstration**.
- Cruise the glacial lake in the alpine city of **Annecy**.
- Sip **Rhône** and **Beaujolais** wines while touring wineries.



Alumni Campus
Abroad® Advantages

The unique, value-added features of Alumni Campus Abroad® programs deliver an outstanding educational travel experience.

- **A carefully selected hotel** with comfortable accommodations is perfect for exploring the region's renowned landmarks and off-the-beaten-path treasures while providing the opportunity to immerse yourself in the local culture and lifestyle.
- **Groups are limited to 36 travelers** to maximize your travel experience.
- **An extensive meal plan** is seasoned with traditional specialties.
- **Meet the People** opportunities allow you to interact with local residents and gain personal insight into their everyday lives.
- **Knowledgeable guides** lead your excursions and **local experts** present insightful educational lectures.
- **An experienced Campus Director** ensures attentive service for the duration of your stay.
- **All gratuities** for excursion guides and drivers are included.

Howdy, Ags!

We invite you to join us on a journey to the Rhône Valley and the French Alps, one of the most intriguing areas in all of France. Our home for seven nights will be Lyon, the gastronomic capital of France and a cultural crossroads due to its location by the Rhône and Saône rivers. Join us as we explore 2,000 years of history, sip fantastic Rhône wines and dine on delicious local cuisine.

This exciting travel program has been planned by our experts and is designed to show you the best of Lyon and its environs. Our exclusive educational content provides you with a deeper understanding of the region and opportunities to meet local people, as well as, deliver occasions to learn about the local lifestyle and culture. We've also incorporated enough leisure time to explore independently and make your own exciting discoveries.

Space on this travel program is limited. Enjoy the value, ease and camaraderie of group travel while exploring an exciting destination. Make your reservations now to reserve your spot on this French adventure!

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.
Director, Travel Programs
The Association of Former Students

"Thank you for providing an excellent experience with wonderful new friends. We learned, laughed, and enjoyed as we were in awe of our surroundings!"

**-Chris '73 and
Karen Claunch**

"The more trips we take with the Traveling Aggies, the more we want to take! We have NEVER been disappointed. We always love having people we trust along with us when we venture into unknown countries and settings. We always come home counting our new 'best friends!'"

**-Tim '74 and
Judy '78 Turner**

"We will tour again and again with the Aggies!"

**-Martha Bellens
Martin '85**

800-633-7514

AggieNetwork.com/Travel



Place de Terreaux, Lyon

RHONE VALLEY & THE FRENCH ALPS

THE FRENCH HEARTLAND



Immerse yourself in Lyon, a metropolis that feels cozy enough to seem like a much smaller town. Get to know Lyon. Delve into its rich history. Stop in a bouchon, a type of restaurant found only in Lyon, for true Lyonnaise cuisine. Venture to the nearby town of Vienne to wander through its spectacular collection of Roman ruins. Quench your thirst during your exploration of Rhône and Beaujolais wine country, and take a deep breath of fresh mountain air in the French Alps.

DAY ONE

Depart for Lyon, France.✦

✦*Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.*

DAY TWO

D

LYON, FRANCE

Arrive in Lyon and transfer to the Hotel Carlton Lyon.

Excursion: *Orientation Walk.* Join your Campus Director for an orientation walk of the neighborhood around your hotel.

Kick off your trip with a festive Welcome Reception and Dinner with your fellow travelers at a brasserie.

DAY THREE

B | D

LYON

Educational Focus: *Lyon.* Discover the illustrious history of Lyon, which was the capital of Roman Gaul.

Excursion: *Vieux Lyon.* Visit the Quartier St. Jean in the historic old city to take a look at its medieval and Renaissance monuments. Visit the Basilique Notre Dame de Fourvière, which sits atop a hill overlooking the city.

Independent Exploration: The afternoon is free to explore the city on your own.



Lyon

UNESCO

The Historic Site of Lyon is a UNESCO World Heritage site featured in this program.

Local Flavor: Enjoy a lovely French dinner.

DAY FOUR

B | L

VIENNE

Excursion: *Vienne.* Originally the capital of the Allobroges, a Gallic tribe, Vienne flourished under the Romans and also in the Middle Ages. Visit the Temple of Augustus and Livia, the Roman amphitheater and the Gothic St. Maurice Cathedral.

Local Flavor: Visit a Rhône Valley winery for lunch.

Educational Focus: *Wines of the Rhône Valley.* The Rhône Valley is divided into the northern and southern growing areas. Learn about the differences in the terroir and types of grapes grown here.

DAY FIVE

B | L

LYON

Independent Exploration: The morning is at leisure.

Local Flavor: Discover the secrets of Lyonnaise cuisine and learn how to make some local specialties during a cooking class. Then enjoy these delicious dishes for lunch.

Excursion: *Lyon.* Embark on a cruise of the Saône and Rhône rivers, the two waterways



BEAUJOLAIS WINES

Although Caesar's conquering army planted the first vines in 1 B.C., the Beaujolais region was truly established after Philippe the Bold's 1395 decree outlawed cultivation of the Gamay noir à jus blanc grape in the rest of Burgundy proper. The Gamay grape and Beaujolais wine flourish between Mâcon and Lyon, running 34 miles along the Saône River. Twelve Beaujolais appellations are divided into three categories: Beaujolais, Beaujolais-Villages and Cru. Basic Beaujolais, with grapes coming from the limestone and clay plains of southern Bas Beaujolais, accounts for half of the wine produced. Celebrated Beaujolais Nouveau is harvested here before its traditional release on the third Thursday in November. The more complex Beaujolais-Villages and 10 full-bodied Cru appellations are produced in hilly northern Haut Beaujolais, where the soil is rich in granite and schist. The carbonic maceration production method enhances the wine's rich fruitiness, ruby color and low tannins. The wine pairs well with French charcuterie such as saucisson de Lyon and Boudin Blanc (sausages), Brie and Camembert cheeses, and classic Coq au Vin.

Local Flavor: Visit a restaurant for lunch to enjoy some favorite local dishes.

Independent Exploration: Enjoy some free time in Annecy.

that flow through Lyon, and see the city's landmarks from a different perspective.

DAY SIX

B | D

LYON

Independent Exploration: Enjoy a day at leisure.

Educational Focus: *Contemporary France.* Join a discussion about modern France and current events that are shaping the country.

Local Flavor: Gather for dinner tonight at a bouchon, a typical Lyonnaise restaurant, to try local specialties.

DAY SEVEN

B | L

ANNECY

Excursion: *The Alpine Town of Annecy.* Enjoy a scenic drive to the foothills of the French Alps and lakeside town of Annecy. Stroll along the city's canals and maze of narrow streets and medieval arcades. Embark on a cruise of this beautiful glacial lake. Admire the lakeside towns and castles, which have majestic Alpine peaks as a backdrop.

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- **Seven nights** in Lyon, France, at the first-class **Hotel Carlton Lyon**.

Meals

- Enjoy an **extensive meal program**, featuring seven breakfasts, four lunches and four dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals, plus wine with dinner. Take advantage of leisure time to try local cuisine independently.
- Sample authentic regional specialties at local restaurants.
- Attend a special Welcome Reception and Dinner.
- Gather for a Farewell Reception and Graduation Ceremony followed by a Farewell Dinner.

Transportation

- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.

Your Exciting Travel Program

(For details, see the day-by-day itinerary.)

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- **Personal VOX listening devices** allow you to hear every word from your expert, English-speaking guides.
- **All excursions:**
 - Explore the historic city of Lyon.
 - Delve into France's Roman past in Vienne, and visit a Rhône Valley winery.
 - Watch a chef create local specialties before enjoying them for lunch.
 - Cruise the Saône and Rhône rivers.
 - Visit the town of Annecy in French Alps.
 - Explore Beaujolais wine country and the pretty village of Beaujolais.

Many Included Extras

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Campus Director**.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel wallet.



DAY EIGHT

B | L | D

BEAUJOLAIS | PÉROUGES

Excursion: Beaujolais Wine Country and Pérouges. Travel through the pretty Beaujolais wine region just north of Lyon. The Romans planted the first vines in the granite soil 2,000 years ago, and the region's winemaking tradition continues to this day. There are 12 appellations that may use the name Beaujolais, and the grapes used to make these wines must be harvested and sorted by hand. Continue to picturesque Pérouges. Step back in time in this medieval walled town. Wander the cobblestone streets and see the two medieval gates that guard the entrances to the town.

Local Flavor: Visit a winery for a tour, a wine tasting and lunch.

Tonight, attend a Farewell Reception, Graduation Ceremony and a Farewell Dinner.

DAY NINE

B

Transfer to the Lyon airport for the return flight to your gateway city.✈

Note: Itinerary subject to change. Some events on this program involve an element of walking.

Included meals indicated each day as B | L | D = Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner.

ACCOMMODATIONS



HOTEL CARLTON LYON LYON

The Hotel Carlton Lyon occupies an enviable location on the peninsula between the Saône and Rhône rivers, making it ideally located for exploring the city. After a day of sightseeing, meet for cocktails in the Le Bar du Carlton followed by dinner at Le Center, the hotel's brasserie. The hotel also has a spa. Enjoy well-appointed rooms designed with your comfort in mind. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



Reserve your trip to France, today!

Trip #:3-22318W



The Association
OF FORMER STUDENTS
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

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Toll Free: **800-633-7514**

Fax: **979-845-9263**

Traveling Aggies

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

Guest 1: _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Guest 2: _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing room with _____. (Form sent separately.)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) _____ (2) _____
Class Year Class Year

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program and AHI FlexAir

☐ I/we reserve the Land Program and request the AHI FlexAir to and from Lyon, France, to depart from:

Departure City

☐ Please contact me regarding air options.

☐ Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Land Only Program

☐ I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

☐ I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$895 (limited availability).

☐ I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and are processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations are to be paid in full by Feb. 17, 2016 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI International.

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Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

☐ Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.

☐ Charge my: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

LAND PROGRAM

May 3-10, 2016

Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
\$3,545	\$250	\$3,295*

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.
VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$895 (limited availability).

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

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CANCELLATION-In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. (Please note that you may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following.) Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International Corporation.

AHI FLEXAIR May 2-10, 2016

Our personalized air program allows you to select your flights, routing, class of service and dates of travel in consultation with one of our experienced Passenger Service Representatives. Airfares will vary, depending on airline, routing and class of service. In most cases, transfers between the airport and hotel/cruise ship will be included on arrival and departure days. Your Passenger Service Representative will provide you with all of the details you need to guarantee your transfer. Book your air with us to ensure assistance in the case of schedule changes or delays that may impact your air travel plans. AHI FlexAir participants automatically receive flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms.



Basilique Notre Dame

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Lyon Cathedral



Annecy



Cheesemonger, Annecy

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