



# Experience Provence 2015

*with the fabulous Amanda Taylor-Ace  
& co-star Judy Winter*

For lovers of fine wine, food, laughter and life -  
this is the tour dreams are made of.

**A** boutique small group tour, carefully created by Amanda Taylor-Ace, inspired by her love of Provence and Italy. Join Amanda and her co-star Judy in France and Italy as they share their 'joie de vivre' – the joy of living!.

**S**pend 13 fabulous days based in the restored 18th century villas, nestled in a typical Provencal hillside village, enjoying all day sun within a walled garden covered with vines, outdoor terraces and swimming pool. Be treated to the regional sightseeing highlights and gourmet delights, while enjoying a range of evening entertainment. Followed by 3 days in Italy, taking in San Remo, Ventimiglia and the famous markets and cuisine of Italy.

**Register now – very limited spaces available – on a 'first in basis'.**



**Saturday, 23rd May  
to Sunday, 7th June 2015**

**16 day Tour**

(13 days in Provence + 3 days in Italy)

*A Small Group Holiday Adventure Tour for 8-14 People*



*Joie de Vivre*  
UNLIMITED

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[www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKQd2GIs5s4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKQd2GIs5s4)

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# Tour Itinerary

## Day 1, Saturday 23rd May 2015

9.30 am Pick up in minivans from Avignon TGV or Central Station. We will be driving directly to Villeneuve des Avignon to experience the fabulous antique market and enjoy a pre-lunch taster of shucked oysters and prawns with Pic Poule de Pinet (white wine).

Lunch at Guinguette by the River Rhone. Short drive to Maison de Maitresse & Petite Maison to settle into your wonderful 18th century stone villas; freshen up, unpack and then meet together on the top terrace for a welcome cocktail 'Kir royale' and meet the staff.

19.00 we will all meet for Apero of Amanda's famous 'Beaujolais Soup' and savoury cakes.

French 'Welcome Dinner' by Françoise and French accordion music by Maurice.

## Day 2, Sunday 24th May

8.00 am breakfast (this will be at the same time every day)

8.30am (for those who want) a basic French Lesson with Maurice.

Option of a wonderful walk through the country side from the village to Uzès, escorted by Gaby the Deputy Mayor of St Maximin. Other option is to visit the local flea market and look for treasures amongst the trash. Walkers will be picked up by vans and brought back to the flea market for the last hour.

Lunch at the Maison. Relaxed afternoon.

19.00 Apero on top terrace (same time every evening)

20.00 Dinner by one of our chefs or local village restaurant.

## Day 3, Monday 25th May

Briefing for days excursion to Les Baux de Provence and Carrieres de Lumieres.

Return to the Maisons for freshen up, apero & dinner by one of our chefs.

## Day 4, Tuesday 26th May

Brief for morning out in Saint Quentin La Poterie, a local village, (a working pottery village famous for its at least 18 artellers, where you can watch potters work).

Lunch at Mas Bellevue, a beautiful 17th century, renovated Mas, owned by fellow New Zealanders. Joanne will prepare a beautiful lunch for us overlooking a picturesque valley of sunflowers.

Return to the Maisons for a light dinner by Judy.

## Day 5, Wednesday 27th May

Brief for days trip to Uzès Producers Market and shopping in the many quaint boutiques.

Meet for lunch at 'Terroirs', in Place Aux Herbes in the square overlooking fountain. More exploring before we leave for the Maisons.

Dinner at Maison & music.

## Day 6, Thursday 28th May

Briefing for Kayak trip down the Gardon River to view the spectacular 2000 year old Roman aquaduct Pont du Gard. A gourmet picnic and wine on the side of the River and swimming for those who love the water. (Kayaking optional, anyone not kayaking will be transported to the Pont du Gard Museum and meet for the picnic).

On return we will stop at local Caveau for a wine tasting.

Dinner to night at "Table 2 Julien" Restaurant which has been the 'number one' restaurant in the area for the past six years.

## Day 7, Friday 29th May

Briefing for day out in Avignon. Overall view of Avignon on the tourist train then free time to explore and shop till you drop. Return to the Maisons for party night with 'Compass Ole', our fabulous Gypsy musicians who will have you all up dancing.

## Day 8, Saturday 30th May

Leave for Uzès famous Saturday market. Uzès boasts the best market for miles around and it is. Immerse your senses to all the pleasures you will experience. Great photo opportunities and present buying. Lunch at Chez Philip in a surprise location with a local wine maker to give us a tasting and blurb about the wines of the region. Back to the Maison to relax with a light dinner and music, Michel Eliard.

## Day 9, Sunday 31st May

Brief for days excursion to L'Isle sur La Sorgue and Fontaine de Vaucluse. Famous antique market and visiting the source of the Sorgue River.

Return to Maison – dinner by one of our chefs, music Michel Eliard.

## Day 10, Monday 1st June

Briefing for days excursion to Aigue Morte (walled city) on our way to a day



at Carnon Beach where we will lounge in the sun, swim in the Med and eat at the beach restaurant.

Return to the Maisons for dinner by one of our chefs, music Michel Eliard.

## Day 11, Tuesday 2nd June

Briefing for days excursion to Roussillon & Gordes. Two of the most famous villages in Provence. Free to explore.

Return to the Maisons for dinner out at Bistrot Du Duche in Uzès and music by Dom Ryder (the French Joe Cocker).

## Day 12, Wednesday 3rd June

Briefing for days excursion to St Remy All Day Market. Free to explore. Interesting boutiques and historical buildings.

Return to Maisons for Paella night by our fabulous Michel (or is it Michelle?)

## Day 13, Thursday 4th June

Leaving early for Italy. Dropping anyone not continuing at the TGV Train Station in Avignon.

We will stop on the way to San Remo for a light lunch and rest stop.

Check into Hotel Belle Epoque, which is in walking distance to the centre of town. We will dine at an interesting local restaurant 'Gabri', family run and the food is great.

## Day 14, Friday 5th June

(Fantastic breakfast in Hotel – included in the Hotel tariff) Walk to train station and catch train to Ventimiglia about 15 minutes away. Great market to explore and return to Hotel at your leisure. Dinner out after meeting for drinks at local bar.

## Day 15, Saturday 6th June

Hotel Breakfast. Walk to San Remo Saturday Market and shop and explore. There are some very nice lunch places by the sea where you can swim. Meet for drinks and dinner wherever you choose. The Hotel owners are a world of knowledge and can recommend.

## Day 16, Sunday 7th June

Hotel Breakfast. Leave to return to France. Some people may choose to leave the Tour in San Remo and continue under their own arrangements. We can drop others at Nice Airport or return to TGV or Central Station in Avignon.



*La joie de vivre - The joy of living*