

EXPERIENCE PROGRAM
A WEEK IN ALSACE, FRANCE
OCTOBER 13 to 19, 2024
7 DAYS - 6 NIGHTS

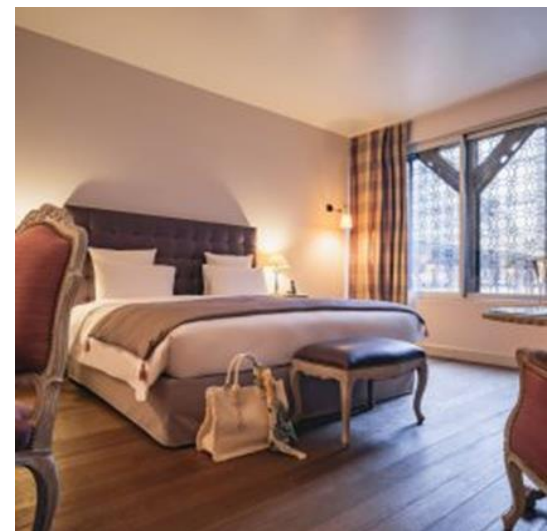


STRASBOURG
ALSACE WINE ROUTE
THE VOSGES MOUNTAINS
COLMAR

Please join us, Eddie and JP, for a week during our holidays in the north-eastern region of Alsace. In this activity-driven voyage, you will experience the **charm** (sometimes), the **reality** (always), the **beauty** (most of the time) and the **authenticity** (that's the whole point!!!) of the French way of life. Starting in Strasbourg, discover the unique character of Alsace, its delicious food, and unique wines. ***This is an especially personal tour, as JP lived his younger years in Alsace.*** Live a pure, exciting week of true, authentic, unadulterated Cultured Discovery Experience of France.

Sunday – CHECK-IN YOUR HOTEL IN STRASBOURG, THE CAPITAL OF ALSACE ... AND GET READY!

5pm : WELCOME DRINK : TASTE CRÉMANT D'ALSACE, A LOCAL CHAMPAGNE-METHOD BUBBLY



YOUR HOTEL IN THE MEDIEVAL TOWN CENTER IS SET IN A TRADITIONAL ALSATIAN BUILDING

7pm : DISCOVER TYPICAL DISHES OF ALSACE - OFTEN SLOW COOKED FOR FLAVORS TO MINGLE



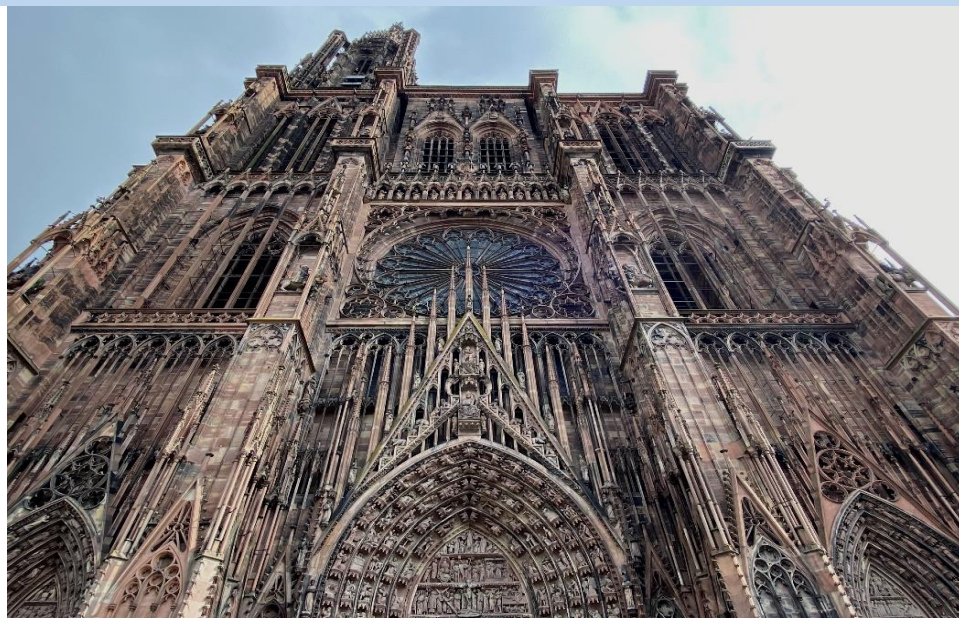
A WINSTUB, LITERALLY “WINE TAVERN”, SERVES AUTHENTIC FARE WITH LOCAL BEER OR WINE
AFTER DINNER, FOLLOW CHARMING, PEDESTRIAN MEDIEVAL STREETS BACK TO YOUR HOTEL

A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE

Monday - EXPLORE THE URBAN CENTER OF STRASBOURG “THE SMALLEST BIG CITY OF FRANCE”

9am : LEISURELY STROLL ALONG NARROW CHARMING STREETS AND UNEXPECTED DETOURS ...

TO THE RESPLENDANT CATHEDRAL - A 15th C. GOTHIC MASTERPIECE BUILT IN LOCAL RED STONE



11am : DISCOVER A BUSTLING, QUIANT MEDIEVAL CITY SURROUNDED BY RIVERS AND CANALS



1pm LUNCH : ENJOY LOCAL DELICACIES – THIN “TARTES FLAMBÉES” SERVED SHARING STYLE



COOKED IN A WOOD-FIRE OVEN, SWEET ONES LAYERED w/ APPLES & FLAMBÉE AU CALVADOS

A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE

2pm : VISIT PALAIS ROHAN, A GRAND CLASSICAL STYLE CHATEAU IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY



4pm : FREE TIME TO FURTHER EXPLORE STRASBOURG'S HISTORY, CHARMS & DELICIOUSNESS



RETURN TO YOUR HOTEL AT LEISURE FOR A REST OR FOR COCKTAIL HOUR AT THE LOBBY BAR

7pm : ENJOY LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL DELICACIES AT AN AUTHENTIC WATERFRONT BISTROT



A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE

Tuesday – GET YOUR OWN INSIGHT ABOUT ALSACE, ITS COMPLEX HISTORY AND RICH CULTURE

9am : VISIT MUSÉE NOTRE-DAME, A TRIBUTE TO THE CATHEDRAL'S AMAZING LONG EXISTENCE



11am : STROLL ALONG CANALS & COBBLESTONE STREETS TO VISIT SCENIC "LA PETITE FRANCE"



A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE

1pm : SAVOURY GAULETTES & SWEET CRÊPES BRING FLAVORS FROM ANOTHER FRENCH REGION



2pm : VISIT A MUSÉE SHOWCASING STRASBOURG'S HISTORY SHARED BY GERMANY & FRANCE



THE 1727 CITY MAP IN 3D (ORDERED BY LOUIS XV) SHOWS THAT VERY LITTLE CHANGED SINCE!

4pm : ENJOY A FREE AFTERNOON IN THE PEDESTRIAN CITY CENTER FOR A SHOPPING SPLURGE

RETURN TO YOUR HOTEL AT LEASURE & ANTICIPATE A MEMORABLE GASTRONOMIC MOMENT

7pm : ENJOY A 1* MICHELIN DINNER TO DISCOVER THE PLEASURES OF FRENCH "HAUTE-FOOD"



A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE

Wednesday – DRIVE THRU VILLAGES & VINEYARDS DELICATELY PLANTED OVER ROLLING HILLS

9am : CHECK-OUT AND DEPART HOTEL FOR A WINE TASTING ON “ROUTE DES VINS D’ALSACE”



11am : SCENIC DRIVE UP TO A MEDIEVAL FORTRESS PERCHED ON A NATURAL ROCKY OUTCROP



1pm : LUNCH IN AN AUTHENTIC HOUSE WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE ALSACE MOUNTAINS



A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE

2pm : PICTURESQUE DRIVE ALONG “ROUTE DU VIN D’ALSACE” w/ STOPS AT QUAIN T VILLAGES



ROSHEIM, BOERSCH, BARR, ANDLAU : QUAIN T VILLAGES WITH GERMANS SOUNDING NAMES, OVERLOOKED BY A SOMBER YET PROUD SILHOUETTE OF CHATEAU DU HAUT-KOENIGSBOURG



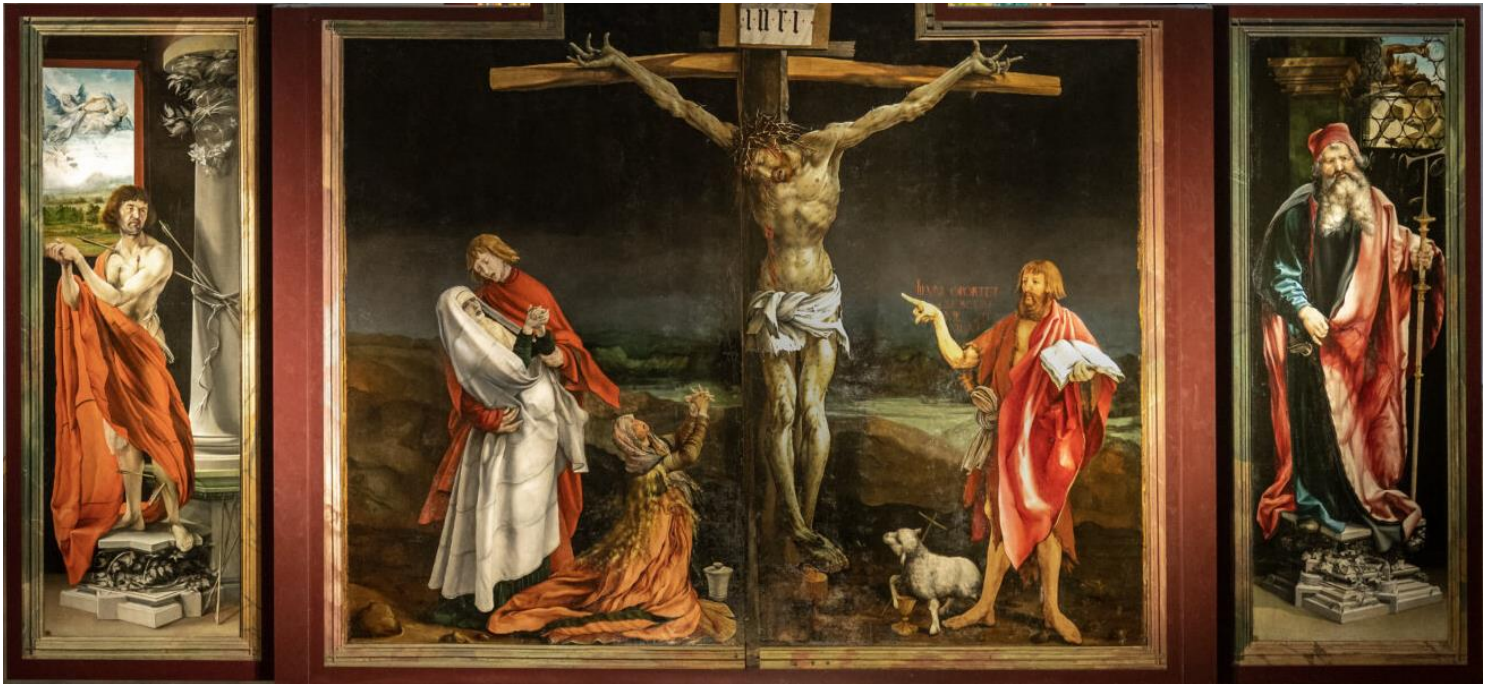
5pm : COLMAR, CHECK-IN AT A CHARMING FAMILY-RUN HOTEL TYPICAL OF THE REGION AND TAKE A LATE AFTERNOON STROLL IN THE “VENICE OF ALSACE” ALONG ITS TRANQUIL CANALS



7pm : DINNER AT A REGIONAL RESTAURANT SERVING TEMPTING DELICACIES FOR EVERYONE

A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE

Thursday - DISCOVER UNKNOWN FACTS ABOUT ALSACE'S ARCHITECTURE, HISTORY & CULTURE
9am: MUSÉE UNTERLINDEN HOUSED IN A 13th C. CONVENT, MOST VISITED MUSEUM IN ALSACE



16th C. "ISENHEIM ALTARPIECE" BY MATTHIAS GRÜNEWALD IS A MIDDLE-AGE MASTERPIECE

11am : SCENIC DRIVE THRU ROLLING VINEYARDS & LOCAL LUNCH IN A TRADITIONAL WINSTUB



RIQUEWIHR, A MEDIEVAL VILLAGE STILL SURROUNDED BY WELL-PRESERVED FORTIFICATIONS, PROTECTING ITS NARROW COBBLESTONE STREETS AND CHARMING HALF-TIMBERED HOMES

2pm : AN EASY WALK THROUGH THE VINEYARDS TO DISCOVER THE VARIOUS VINE VARIETALS..



..LEADING TO A CUTE CHAPEL PERCHED ON A HILL PRESERVING THE OLDEST ORGAN IN FRANCE



ALSACE CHURCHES FEATURE 1250 PIPE ORGANS - OUT OF 8000 SUCH INSTRUMENTS IN FRANCE

4pm : SAMPLE THE VARIETY OF ALSACE WINES : FROM DRY TO FRUITY TO SWEET TO HONEYED

ALMOST EXTINCT IN THE 1970s, LA CIGOGNE - EMBLEM OF ALSACE - IS NOW THRIVING AGAIN

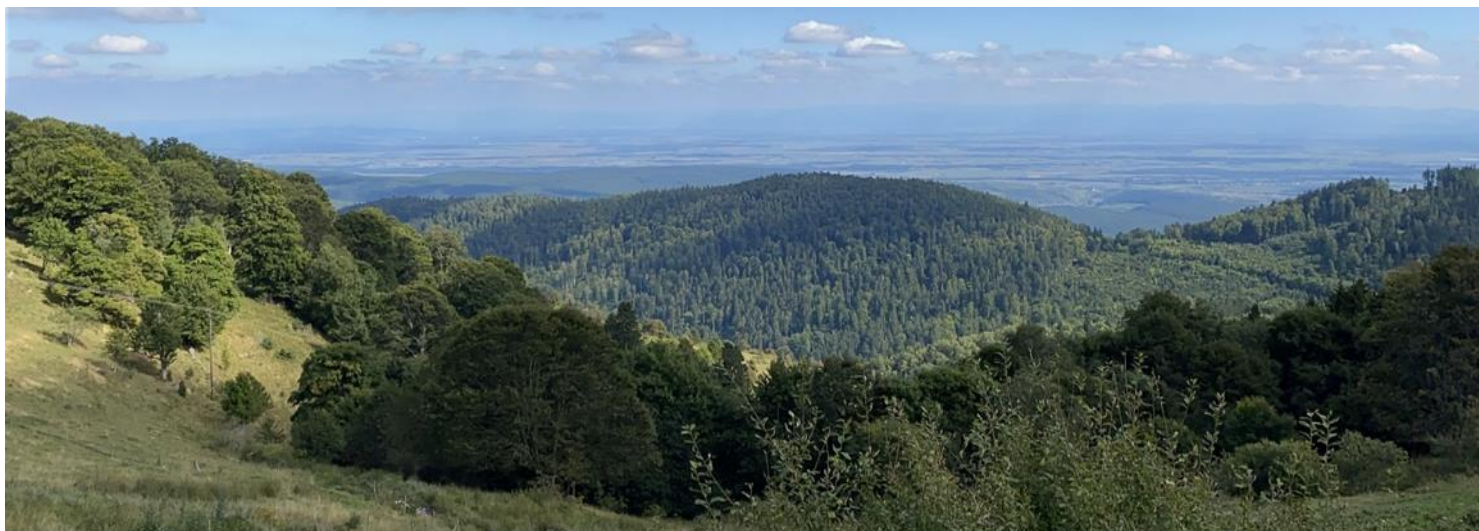


RETURN TO YOUR HOTEL PRIOR TO DINNER IN A TYPICAL RESTAURANT w/ TASTY LOCAL FARE

A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE

Friday - DRIVE UP THE MOUNTAINS TO ENJOY THE TASTEFUL FARM-STYLE “REPAS MARCAIRE”

9am : CHECK-OUT AND DEPART TO THE STRIKING VOSGES MOUNTAINS OVERLOOKING ALSACE



VOSGES MOUNTAINS PROVIDE UNINTERRUPTED PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE ALSACE REGION

BEFORE LUNCH, STOP & SAMPLE “EAU DE VIE”, A DISTILLED FRUIT BRANDY RIPE WITH FLAVOR



1pm : LUNCH IN A MOUNTAIN FARM RAISING MILK COWS, MAKING MUNSTER CHEESE, AND SERVING THE HEARTY COWHERDER’S MEAL, VERY EASY TO LOVE BUT A CHALLENGE TO FINISH!



2pm – DRIVE BACK TO STRASBOURG THRU FORESTED MOUNTAIN ROADS WITH SCENIC STOPS

ENJOY THE AFTERNOON IN THE CAPITAL OF EUROPE AT LEISURE FOR LAST-MINUTE SHOPPING

7pm : JOIN US FOR A FAREWELL DINNER AT HISTORIC “MAISON KAMMERZELL” RESTAURANT



15th C. MAISON KAMMERZELL IS A WELL-PRESERVED BUILDING IN LATE GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE THE RESTAURANT, ITS DINING ROOMS AND PRIVATE SALONS ARE OCCUPYING EVERY FLOORS, AND OFFERING A REMARKABLE DINING EXPERIENCE WITH UNIQUE DISHES & ELEGANT SERVICE



Saturday – LAST BREAKFAST AT YOUR HOTEL IN STRASBOURG – UNTIL ANOTHER ADVENTURE...

A CULTURED DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE OF FRANCE



CDEF TOURS INCLUDE:

- CREMANT D'ALSACE (CHAMPAGNE-METHOD LOCAL BUBBLY) WELCOME DRINK AT YOUR HOTEL ON THE FIRST EVENING - MEET & GREET YOUR FELLOW TRAVELERS.
- 6 NIGHTS IN CAREFULLY SELECTED HOTELS : SMALL SCALE PROPERTIES, UNIQUE AND CHARMING, UNIQUELY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CITY AND THE CULTURAL SPECIFICS OF THE REGION BEING TOURED.
- DAILY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST @ HOTEL OR SPECIALLY PURCHASED FRESH CROISSANTS & VIENNOISERIES FROM A LOCAL BOULANGERIE.
- DAILY LUNCH INCLUDING LOCAL BEER OR HOUSE WINE AT HAND-PICKED RESTAURANTS / BISTROTS / WINTUBS WITH HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, SPECIAL INTERIOR DÉCOR, AND OF COURSE, LOTS OF DELICIOUS LOCAL FOOD!
- MAXIMUM 16 PEOPLE INCLUDING 2 FULL-TIME PERSONAL GUIDES PER GROUP.
- TRANSPORTATION BY PUBLIC NETWORK AND/OR PRIVATE BUS DURING THE TOUR AS NECESSARY - MOST DISCOVERIES WILL BE DONE THROUGH LEISURELY STROLLS ALONG CITY STREETS, IN CHARMING SMALL TOWNS AND LUSH COUNTRYSIDE LANDSCAPES.
- ENTRY FEES TO ALL ATTRACTIONS / MONUMENTS / POINTS OF INTEREST.
- ASSISTANCE IN ANY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDING TRANSLATION, CULTURAL COMMENTARY ABOUT VISITED SITES, AND SOUVENIR SHOPPING IN LOCAL SHOPS.

CDEF TOURS START AT THE WELCOME DRINK IN YOUR HOTEL.

CDEF TOURS END AFTER BREAKFAST ON THE LAST MORNING.

CDEF TOURS DO NOT INCLUDE:

- AIRFARES (OR OTHER TRANSPORTATION) TO AND FROM YOUR HOTEL IN STRASBOURG.
- AIRPORT OR RAIL STATION TRANSFERS TO/FROM HOTEL BEFORE AND AFTER THE TOUR. (ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING TRANSPORTATION IS GLADLY PROVIDED UPON REQUEST)
- ALL DINNERS, EXTRA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING MEALS (*APART FROM LOCAL WINE TASTINGS WHICH ARE INCLUDED*), AND HOTEL INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.
- EXTRA HOTEL NIGHTS BEFORE / AFTER THE TOUR (BUT MAY BE ARRANGED ON REQUEST).

PRICE:

US\$ 3360.00 PER PERSON ON A TWIN (SHARED) ROOM BASIS

US\$ 3880.00 PER PERSON ON A SINGLE ROOM BASIS



TRAVEL TIPS & POLICIES

General recommendations

Tours run regardless of weather conditions, rain or shine. As the tour involves regular walking, we recommend that you wear rainproof shoes, as well as comfortable clothing, in layers to adjust for changing temperatures. Please bring with you a collapsible umbrella in case of a sudden shower - but do not worry, in France a café is never far away to provide shelter from the rare downpour!

There is an unenforced but nonetheless important rule of good taste in France that people should dress modestly, unless you are near or at the beach. As you will be visiting many sacred churches and cathedrals of different faiths, we highly recommend that you dress appropriately.

Booking Terms

CDEF Tours requires a down-payment of US\$ 1000.00 per guest (refundable) to secure your space on the tour. As a final confirmation, full payment must be made at the latest 90 days prior to the tour departure date. Payments can be done either through electronic banking methods such as Zelle, or they will be processed using a secure and encrypted reservation system. Your credit card statement will show as CDEF Tours.

Cancellation Policy

We understand that sometimes things happen, and plans should be able to change. However, as we keep our tour limited to 16 people, including ourselves, it is important for us to fill the group. Therefore, we kindly ask that you inform us as soon as possible of any changes in your travel plans, so that we can invite other guests.

Cancellation up to 90 days prior to the tour departure date will receive 100% refund of payment(s) made.

The remaining balance of the tour price (minus down-payment) is refundable up to 60 days before departure.

Cancellation between 60 days to 72 hours of tour start will receive a refund of 50% of the remaining balance.

No refund is available in these cases:

- Cancellations made within 72 hours of the tour departure date.
- Late arrivals, when latecomers cannot easily join the commenced tour and/or no-shows.

No refund is available to any guest that fails to arrive at all, arrives after the tour's departure time on any day of the tour, or must leave the tour earlier than scheduled. We will make every attempt for late guests to be able to join the tour after it started, but only when it is possible to do so without disrupting the on-going tour.

Tour cancellation by CDEF

In case a tour is jeopardized or impossible due to force majeure, weather events, pandemic, political disturbances or strikes, tours can be canceled or modified if we believe it is necessary.

If the required minimum number of participants is not reached, CDEF reserves the right to cancel the tour. We will offer rebooking options and/or refund the tour price. Further compensation claims are excluded.

Insurance

CDEF Tours recommends that all guests purchase travel insurance for their trip to cover cancellations, delays and medical issues etc. that might impact on your ability to attend your tour. You agree that CDEF Tours is not liable for loss associated with any unforeseen event and all claims must be processed through the guest's insurance company (and not with CDEF tours).

CDEF Tours reserves the right to modify the itinerary as necessity arises. All hotels, restaurants, locations, places, photos and activities described in this document are indicative only and are subject to change without notice.

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