

CARCASSONNE ADVENTURE - IN A SEARCH OF THE HOLY GRAIL

25-28 APRIL 2019



With its **ancient beauty and air of intrigue**, Carcassonne in France has long inspired writers and travelers from around the world. Spend a weekend exploring **this medieval city**, drinking French wine and following **in the footsteps of the seekers of the Holy Grail**.



DETAILED ITINERARY:

Day 1: [April 25th](#), Thursday

- Flight from Heathrow to Toulouse, meeting at the airport and Ibis hotel check-in
- Walk around the Toulouse
- Dinner and drinks

Day 2: [April 26th](#), Friday

After breakfast, we will check-out and walk to the train station to catch the train to Carcassonne. We will have a lunch after check-in the hotel and then guided tour of Carcassonne, where we will be able to explore the romantic town, see the stunning fortress of the old Cité and observe the 13th-Century Carcassonne Cathedral.

You will have more time for sightseeing before diner.



Day 3: [April 27th](#), Saturday

After breakfast, we will have a day trip around Languedoc (Notre-Dame de Marceille, Alet-le Bains, Rennes Le Chateau, Limoux)

Notre-Dame de Marceille (near Limoux): guided tour of this mysterious 14th century pilgrimage chapel with its Black Madona; closeby, the clients can try to puts their hands in the "miraculous spring"! the water is said to cure skin and eyes diseases, and it's said that miracles happened (with a lot of imagination haha, but this is good fun!).



Alet-les-Bains, village and abbey: guided tour of the village and the ruined, romantic abbey, a gem! medieval village, house of Nostradamus, 17th century bridge, medieval abbey made with local pink sandstone, amazing colors.

Lunch in Alet-les-Bains, next door to the abbey, in Hostellerie de l'Evêché: wich is actually the former bishop's palace; 3 courses menu; possible to have lunch in the beautiful garden if the weather allows.

Father Saunière's domain in Rennes-le-Chateau: guided tour of his domain, the former presbytery, Magdala tower, belvedere, and of course the peculiar church with the Masonic decorations and hidden messages!

In Limoux, wine tasting at Sieur d'Arques: taste the local sparkling wine called Blanquette. It's quite likely the ancestor of Champagne, as it is the 1st sparkling wine in France, mentioned in 1531, well before Champagne! guided tour of the caves, then wine tasting. Drive back to Carcassonne.

Dinner and drinks in Carcassonne



Day 4: [April 28th](#), Sunday

We will have a bit more free time to explore Carcassonne. After the lunch we will catch the train to Toulouse and then travel to the airport to take our flights back to London.



COST

£349 (if paid in full by the [January 15th 2019](#))

£379 (if paid in full by the end of [February 2019](#))

£399 (if paid in full from [March 2019](#) onwards)

Recommended flights:

25th of April, Ryanair, London Heathrow-Toulouse, 07:15-10:05;

28th of April, Ryanair, Toulouse-London Heathrow, 22:05-23:00;

What`s included:

- 1 night in Toulouse with breakfast (2-star hotel)
- 2 nights in Carcassonne with breakfast (2-star hotel)
- transportation (return train to Carcassonne from Toulouse, minibus on Saturday)
- guided tour of Carcassonne
- guided tour of Notre-Dame de Marceille, Alet-les-Bains and Rennes-le-Chateau
- 3 course lunch in Hostellerie de l'Evêché (Alet-les-Bains)
- wine tasting at Sieur d'Arques

What's excluded:

- flights
- food & drinks (with an exception of daily breakfast and lunch on Saturday)

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