



FRANCE CRUISES



ESPERANCE

6 Passengers / Provence / Canal du Midi

Converted into a hotel barge in 2002
Measures 100 ft. long
Three (3) onboard cabin accommodations
Four (4) / Six (6) passenger capacity
Individually Controlled Air Conditioning and Heating

Esperance is a beautiful boat constructed with minimal expense spared. She is available for charter and includes a professional staff dedicated to providing guests with the highest standards of service. **Esperance** was rebuilt in 2002 as a private yacht with customized furniture and hand-made ceramics; as such, she has all the amenities

distinguished barge enthusiasts have come to love and expect. With bright, vibrant colors, spacious public and private quarters, and numerous windows through which the beauty of France spills, no passenger on board will ever feel a gnawing sense of claustrophobia. Travelers from all over the world seek the quiet, elegant refuge of a trip on board **Esperance**. Along the Canal du Midi, she offers a very unique, personal style of sailing, wonderful cuisine, great service, and a flexible program tailored to the needs of her guests. What makes this barge particularly unique is her Captain and his chef and crew. Their high-quality service competes with the immaculate quality of the ship, ensuring that passengers luxuriate in a surreal and pleasant experience all the while.

PERSONNEL

Three (3) crew members who speak both English and French (some may speak other languages, as well).

PUBLIC ROOMS

- **Salon/Dining Room**
- **Sun Deck**
- **Wheelhouse**

ONBOARD LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT

Jacuzzi • HI FI system with CD player • Satellite TV with DVD player • Six (6) touring bikes • Exercise equipment • Board games • Small library of books • Fishing equipment • Speedboat • Recreational 2-person buggy

MOBILITY RESTRICTIONS

Esperance has **no wheelchair access**. There are several stairs leading from the Sun Deck to the Main Deck which may be difficult to navigate for those with extremely limited mobility.

DECK PLAN

Rebuilt as a private yacht, the Esperance is equipped to take six (6) guests on an unforgettable cruise in the ultimate of comfort and luxury.



CABINS

Ample seating, spacious beds, and a plethora of drawers and cupboards for belongings make the staterooms on board one of the most attractive features. There are two (2) luxurious staterooms on board **Esperance**, each meticulously designed and decorated to display a high level of sophistication. All staterooms have individual climate control and plenty of windows. The staterooms may be distinguished as follows:

- **1 Master Suite**
- **2 Junior Suites**

Master Suite:

The sumptuously-appointed **Master Suite** is overwhelmed with calming natural light, creating an ethereal, inviting atmosphere. Soothing colors dress the room, and the modern furniture, with its strict, geometric design, is comfortable and chic. The room features an en suite shower room and a separate en suite bathroom complete with toilet, bidet, and wash basin. For added charm, an antique claw-foot bathtub sits alluringly in the corner of the suite next to a dressing table with large mirror and chair, which can be partitioned by an elegant curtain for added privacy.

For unwinding, an elevated salon area awaits featuring an ultra-modern white chaise lounge and armless chair, a great place to relax or even entertain other onboard guests.



Junior Suites:

Each of two (2) Junior Suites brings its own unique personality and style, but both are equally designed to reflect the same signature touches—luxurious and cozy décor, classic furnishings in rich fabrics, and upscale amenities—all of which create an inviting atmosphere for a memorable experience.

Both benefit from abundant storage space, a writing desk and chair, individual climate control, and bathroom facilities. Natural light that encapsulates the room by its several windows adds to the overall serenity, sure to please the senses of any who occupy the quarters.

CABIN SIZE

The staterooms on board **Esperance** do range considerably in size depending on the accommodation. The sizes for each are listed as follows:

- **Master Suite** - Approx. 240 sq. ft.
- **Junior Suite 1** - Approx. 190 sq. ft.
- **Junior Suite 2** - Approx. 190 sq. ft.

BEDDING CONFIGURATION & SIZE

The **Master Suite** is the only stateroom to have a fixed king-sized bed. The two (2) **Junior Suites** may both be configured as either two (2) twin beds or one (1) double. When the staterooms are in twin configuration, the beds will be parallel to each other with a space in between them.

BATHROOMS

The **Master Suite** and **Junior Suite 1** both have fully private en suite bath facilities while **Junior Suite 2** has a detached bathroom area. In the **Master Suite**, guests enjoy the luxury of separated bath facilities. A large walk-in shower is independent of the toilet and bidet area, while a charming antique bathtub with brilliant chrome fixtures sits in a quiet corner of the stateroom with a floor-to-ceiling curtain to isolate it from the salon.

AMENITIES

Individually Controlled Air Conditioning and Heating • Hairdryer • Storage Space • Electricity (220V, French two pin plugs)

Exclusive to the Master Suite:

Salon • Separate Shower with Massage Jets • Separate Toilet with Bidet • Antique Bathtub



SALON/DINING ROOM

The **Salon** seats eight people comfortably, more than enough for all guests on board, in cushioned, wrap-around bench seating whose focal point is a lustrous coffee table with wonderful floral arrangements. Windows, portholes, and mirrors all around create the sense of an enlarged, infinite area. The **Dining Area** is more like a piece of art than a public gathering room. Intricately beautiful table settings, fine linen, and a welcoming atmosphere make the dining experience unforgettable; and all before dinner is even served! Guests curious to see how the chef prepares her tantalizing dishes are encouraged to sit at the carefully-crafted wooden **Bar** with a delicious cocktail or aromatic glass of savory wine and witness the preparation of each dish. When the chef is not preparing food, guests may still wish to enjoy the **Bar** for scintillating conversation or glimpses of the drifting countryside.

WHEELHOUSE:

Esperance has a lovely large wheelhouse with windows and skylight allowing a panorama of the beautiful countryside. Guests are invited to sit here and watch the Captain maneuver this graceful vessel. It offers plenty of comfortable seating and, of course, a 360-degree view. Passengers may access the **Wheelhouse** directly from the **Salon**.

ON DECK

Esperance's expansive **Sun Deck** measures at a staggering 540 sq. ft. and features shade and seating enough for all passengers on board. On the partially covered **Sun Deck**, guests can enjoy sunbathing or a hearty "al fresco" meal when the weather matches the glorious surroundings. A good book or, perhaps, a dip in the rejuvenating **Jacuzzi** also help ease the passage of time while carving through picturesque and tranquil historical sites.

The deck furniture includes: "Al fresco" table with seating for six (6) people • 2 Sun mats • 4 Lounge chairs • Canopy

OFF BOAT

Passengers are welcome to walk or cycle using the onboard bicycles as often as they like. **Esperance** is also equipped with a 2-person recreational buggy which is perfect for expediting trips farther inland. With plenty of cargo space, the spoils of shopping may be easily carted back to the barge in no time. Other excursions may require a quick trip by speedboat. Along with the recreational buggy, the speedboat is a unique feature to **Esperance**, the only ship cruising Southern France with such vehicles. An air-conditioned minibus is also available for transfers and shore excursions.

FOOD & WINE

Guests traveling on board **Esperance** experience very unique dining that lasts a lifetime. All are invited to witness the chef in action as she prepares delicious, traditional, festive meals, or guests can participate by learning from the chef and sharing favorite recipes.



ITINERARY



DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF SOUTHERN FRANCE ON ESPERANCE

Get comfortable, relax, and imagine yourself traveling through time in a search of something uniquely different, something you can only dream about, something that will make a lasting impression. Let us take you on this wonderful journey on board of **Esperance**.

When you wake up and gaze out the windows of your master suite, you might see a cloudless blue sky. Within a few moments, your host will bicycle up the path, bringing you fresh baked breakfast pastries and bread from the local boulangerie. Hot coffee or tea if you wish, homemade jams and an assortment of fresh fruit complete the morning meal. After breakfast, sightseeing is arranged especially for you or choose to stay on board and enjoy sunbathing, relaxing, or reading in one of the many comfortable deck lounges.

Back on board, a wonderful lunch awaits you on the upper deck, all prepared by your personal cook with local fresh products. Slowly, your floating hotel starts to move; you realize you are on a boat, but everything is so smooth, so quiet that your only worry is deciding if you should nap or enjoy the afternoon cruise. Enjoy the beautiful scenery, read your favorite book or let our Deluxe Mercedes SUV whisk you away to a winery, the beach, the local sights.

At night, **Esperance** is docked and a candlelight meal is served at the dining table. Enjoy the sunset view through the picture windows. An after dinner moment on the terrace is a real pleasure while enjoying a clear, starry night with a drink and some chocolates.

Canal du Midi Highlights:

- **Narbonne**, a lively city full of art and history
- Visit the medieval village of **Minerve**, famous for its Cathar history and wine country side
- The extraordinary, UNESCO World Heritage site, **Cité de Carcassonne**
- Explore the charming village of **Le Somail**