



**CroisiEurope** is a French family-owned business that is the longest established river cruise company in France. They offer 68 different itineraries that cruise along 15 different beautiful rivers. Currently they are operating 28 ships that have an average capacity of 100 to 180 passengers. At the cutting edge of technology, their facilities offer comfort and safety.

Although most of CroisiEurope's passengers have mostly been French, they are actively marketing to travelers of other nationalities. For those of you who speak some French and are looking for an authentic European cruise experience – **CroisiEurope is worth considering**. They now have many English speaking crew on board and have also setup many of their excursions to appeal the English speaking audience.

Carefully maintained and partially renovated each year, the CroisiEurope fleet is largely made up of recently built vessels, less than five years old, all with Veritas certification. The leading European river tour operator, the CroisiEurope company owes its international reputation to its seriousness, its dynamism, its sense of innovation and its recognized value for money of long standing. On board, you will find all of the amenities and comfort which guarantee the quality and seriousness of the CroisiEurope fleet.







The Gironde Estuary is located in south-western France formed at the point where the Garonne and Dordogne Rivers meet, and is a welcoming entry point to the city of Bordeaux. All over the world, just the mention of the very name of Gironde brings to mind all its fine, noble wines: Blaye, Pauillac, Saint-Estèphe and Médoc are just some of the great gems of the renowned Bordeaux vineyards.

The Gironde flows through around 40 ports located in the ancient marshlands, where the main industries are sailing and fishing. Within the Gironde, there are several islands dotted between the Bec d'Ambès and the Pointe de Grave at the seaward end of the estuary. One of the largest, and covered in 14 hectares of vines, is Margaux.

The main modes of transport for crossing the estuary are the “gabare” or barge, a traditional boat which makes the transport of goods possible and the “filadière”, a fishing boat with sails which owes its name to its shuttle-like shape. In addition, cruise liners some 280 metres long can also be seen in the “Port of the Moon”, the largest port in Bordeaux.

People began travelling on the Gironde as far back as the Bronze Age, with the trading of tin coming from Cornwall and the trading of copper shipped from Spain. This trade allowed the emergence and foundation of the town of Burdigala, which would eventually become the city of Bordeaux, the current administrative centre of the Aquitaine region.

#### Your Cruise/Tour Package **INCLUDES:**

- 4-7 Night Cruise aboard either the MS Princesse d'Aquitaine, or MS Cyrano de Bergerac
- Double air conditioned cabin with shower
- Full board from dinner on the first day to breakfast on the last day
- Drinks included onboard during meals are water, wine, beer, fruit juices, one coffee
- Onboard entertainment
- Assistance of onboard hostess
- Welcome cocktail
- Gala evening
- Insurance for medical repatriation
- Port taxes





During your cruise there will be many excursions offered. You will be able to explore the cities and sites on your cruise route. On these excursions, any transfers to the places visited will be handled for you. Usually they will take place by coach. Also taken care of will be any admission to the tourist sites, guides, etc... in order to offer you a "turnkey" tour. Certain tours not far from the boat can be done on foot in the company of a CroisiEurope hostess. You will be given a brief presentation of the various excursions at your various destinations.

**NOTE:** *Excursions are offered in French, English and other languages according to the passengers onboard.*

**Optional Bordeaux Excursion Package** includes guided tours and visits to the attractions on your cruise route. FRANCE CRUISES highly recommends that excursions are pre-reserved at the time of booking your cruise. The pre-reserved **BORDEAUX EXCURSION PACKAGE** will include all of the available excursions on your selected itinerary. The cost will range from \$230 to \$350 per person and will include the following:

- Excursion to **Pauillac** and the **Chateaux du Medoc Road** – A corner of the world that produces the most prestigious red wines on the planet
- Excursion on the **Corniche road** and guided tour of **Bourg** a delightful village built on a rocky outcrop surrounded by medieval ramparts
- Guided tour of the **Chateau de Roquetaillade** and **Cadillac** a magnificent and prestigious medieval castle
- Guided tour of **Bordeaux**
- Guided tour of **St Emilion** and wine tasting
- Day trip in the Arcachon basin (lunch included) – A modern, interactive scenography will help you to discover oyster farming and the history of the oyster



Toll Free: 1-866-498-3920

[www.FranceCruises.com](http://www.FranceCruises.com)





## CroisiEurope Accommodations

All of the cabins are located above water level and offer a panoramic view (fixed windows) of the scenery. Spacious and comfortable, they will have either twin beds or a double bed, with a bathroom (shower, WC and sink with towels provided onboard, but not flannels), 220V electricity. They are also equipped with satellite television, radio, hairdryer and safe. Some ships have cabins equipped for the (physically) disabled – *contact us for details*. Whatever the deck you will be located on, all of the cabins offer the same equipment and are of the same size. However, on 2-deck ships the port side is slightly smaller on the standard deck and on 3-deck ships the cabins located on the upper deck have a picture window (except in Spain: standard deck cabins have portholes).



## CroisiEurope Amenities

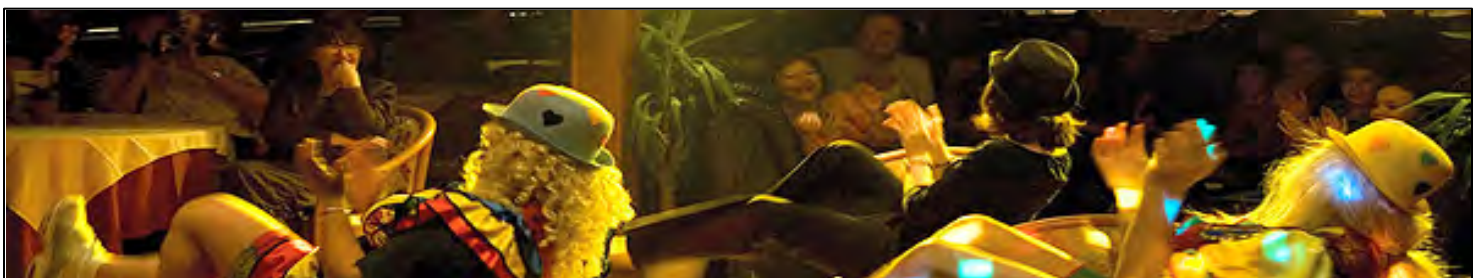
### **SUNDECK:**

As you cruise with CroisiEurope you will find many ways to relax on board. One way is to spend time on the sun deck taking in the sun. Take in the beautiful scenery along the river banks. Sit back and enjoy the country side with all of it's spectacular views passing stunning vineyards, ruined castles and some of France's most renowned towns such as: Avignon, Lyon, Arles, and more.



### **LOUNGE, BAR & LIBRARY:**

The lounge, bar, and library are tastefully decorated and are designed for the relaxation and wellbeing of all. The lounge is panoramic and is located at the front of the ship (on the upper deck for 2-deck ships and on the middle deck on 3-deck ships). Pre-dinner games, dinner-dances and other lively evenings take place there. Depending on the destination, cruises may include a cultural or folk evening such as Hungarian folk show or flamenco show.







**CroisiEurope** reigns supreme over the kitchens on its boats. In charge of the company's Chefs, Alain Bohn manages and designs his cuisine and specific menus in the pure tradition of French cooking with his passionate kitchen teams. From time to time, CroisiEurope joins forces with a number of renowned Chefs such as Paul Bocuse, Marc Haerberlin or Emile Jung to organize gastronomic cruises full of taste and flavor.

For those traveling aboard CroisieEurope's fleet of ships, get your palate ready to experience the authentic taste of French cuisine. All that you have heard about how the French take their foods seriously will be at your fingertips! You will start out every morning with the best of breakfast. Served buffet style in the restaurant for all passengers to indulge in. For Lunch and Dinner the meals will be menu-based. They are served at your table at fixed times and in one sitting.

All of the CroisiEurope restaurants have tables that seat a party of 6 passengers. Should you be celebrating any kind of special occasion during your cruise, CroisiEurope will be willing to accept special requests for cakes, champagne, even flowers. However, these types of requests need to be made at the time of reservations, or at the latest, at least one month before boarding your cruise. For those who may have specific dietary requirements these must be stated at the time of reservations.

Drinks that are included with on board meals are mineral water, house wine, beer, fruit juice, and tea or coffee. Drinks which are not included are all drinks in the lounge/bar, wine selected from the wine list, and drinks purchased during on-shore excursions or during transfers.

