Welcome to the Canal du Midi & Camargue

Relaxed cruising in the Languedoc sunshine!

Bathed in warm sunshine for most of the year, a cruise along the waterways of the South of France is a perfect holiday choice for experienced and first-time cruisers alike. Cruise from any of our four bases on the Canal du Midi or from our base in the historic Roman town of Narbonne and tailor your journey to be as cultural, gastronomic or leisurely as you want. Or choose to head east on the Canal du Rhône à Sète to the seaside beaches of the Mediterranean and the wonderful wildlife nature reserves and ancient Crusader ports of the Camargue.

Cited by many as a journey of a lifetime, a cruise along the Canal du Midi – itself a UNESCO World Heritage Site, takes you on a truly memorable journey through sun-drenched vineyards, old trading ports and the medieval towns and villages of the Languedoc Roussillon – France's most prolific wine-producing region.

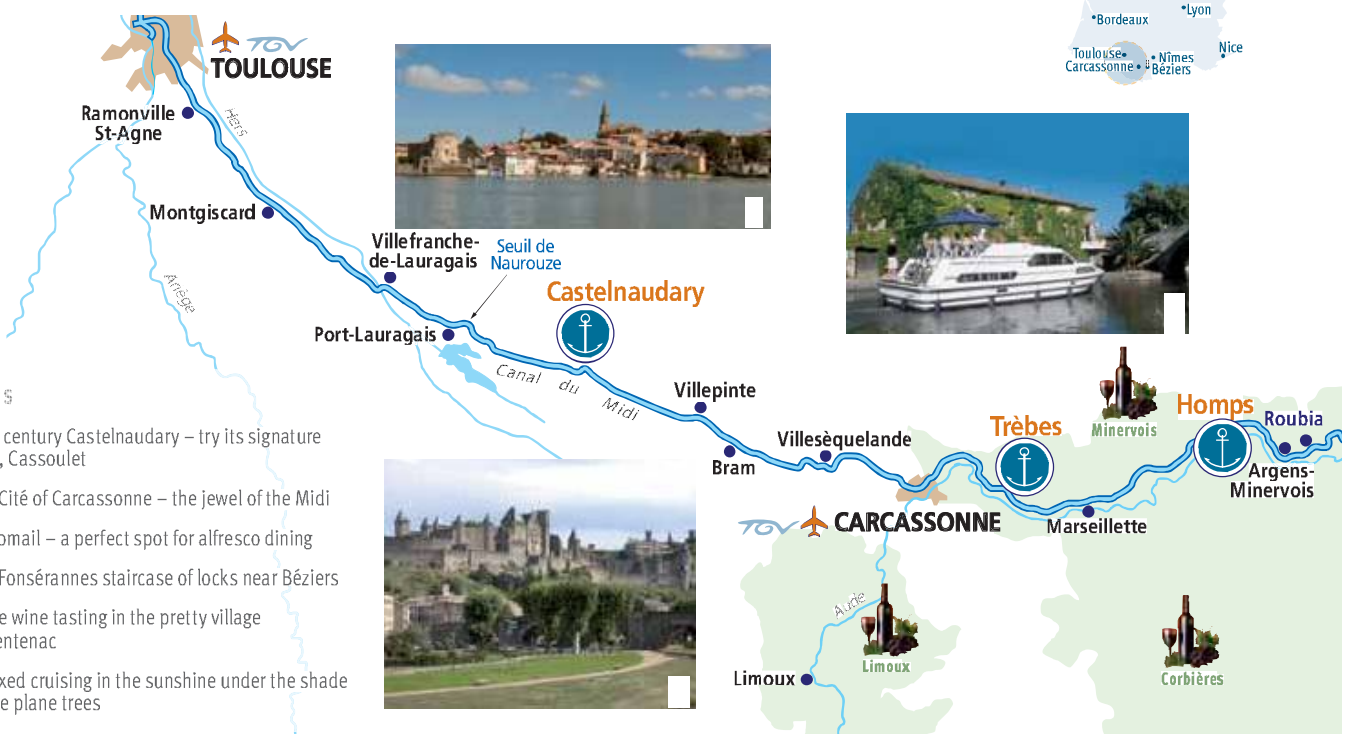
With its colourful traditions, bustling ports and sandy beaches the Camargue is a perfect choice if you want to combine fun on the beach with historic cruising. Watch gardian cowboys rounding up herds of black bulls; take part in summer waterside festivals and enjoy unrivalled views of the region's rich flora and fauna from the unique perspective of your sundeck.

Wherever you cruise, you'll find plenty of places to moor up for sightseeing, wine tasting and much more. Visit medieval cities, ancient ports, elegant châteaux and historic museums. Enjoy lazy lunches at waterside brasseries and shop at colourful markets for delicious regional specialities and local wines to enjoy back on deck.

So, come and enjoy the sunshine and raise a glass to the wonderful south of France!

Read on for more inspiration...

FRANCE - Canal du Midi



Photos

1: 14th century Castelnaudary – try its signature dish, Cassoulet

2: The Cité of Carcassonne – the jewel of the Midi

3: Le Somail – a perfect spot for alfresco dining

4: The Fonserannes staircase of locks near Béziers

5: Come wine tasting in the pretty village of Ventenac

6: Relaxed cruising in the sunshine under the shade of the plane trees

One Week Return Cruises

The Little Midi Cruise
Castelnaudary – Carcassonne – Castelnaudary
Visit: Castelnaudary, Villepinte, Bram, Villesèquelande, Carcassonne; Trèbes
Waterways: Canal du Midi
104kms * 62 locks * 39hrs

The Merchant's Cruise
Narbonne – Carcassonne – Narbonne
Visit: Narbonne, Le Somail, Ventenac, Argens Minervois, Homps, La Redorte, Puichéric, Marseillette, Trèbes, Carcassonne
Waterways: Canal du Midi, Canal de la Robine
158kms * 78 locks * 39hrs

The Wine Lover's Cruise
Homps – Carcassonne – Homps
Visit: Homps, La Redorte, Puicheric, Marseillette, Trèbes, Carcassonne
Waterways: Canal du Midi
80kms * 42 locks * 23hrs

The Pierre-Paul Riquet Cruise
Trèbes – Béziers – Trèbes
Visit: Trèbes, Homps, Argens Minervois, Ventenac, Le Somail, Capestang, Tunnel de Malpas, Colombiers, Fonserannes, Béziers
Waterways: Canal du Midi
180kms * 54 locks * 37hrs

The Sunshine Cruise
Port Cassafières – Narbonne – Port Cassafières
Visit: Port Cassafières, Fonserannes, Béziers, Colombiers, Tunnel de Malpas, Capestang, Le Somail, Sallèles-d'Aude, Narbonne
Waterways: Canal du Midi, Canal de la Robine
128kms * 46 locks * 27hrs

One Week One-Way Cruises

(Choose to cruise in either direction)

The Canal du Midi Cruise
Homps – Castelnaudary
Visit: Homps, La Redorte, Puichéric, Marseillette, Trèbes, Carcassonne, Bram, Castelnaudary
Waterways: Canal du Midi
81kms * 44 locks * 30hrs

The Midi-Robine Cruise
Narbonne – Carcassonne/Trèbes
Visit: Narbonne, Le Somail, Ventenac, Argens Minervois, Homps, La Redorte, Puichéric, Marseillette, Trèbes, Carcassonne
Waterways: Canal du Midi, Canal de la Robine
87kms * 43 locks * 23hrs

The Classic Midi Cruise
Homps – Port-Cassafières
Visit: Homps, Argens Minervois, Ventenac, Le Somail, Capestang, Tunnel de Malpas, Colombiers, Fonserannes, Béziers, Port Cassafières
Waterways: Canal du Mid
77kms * 19 locks * 17hrs

The Golden Midi Cruise
Port Cassafières – Castelnaudary
Visit: Port Cassafières, Béziers, Fonserannes, Capestang, Le Somail, Ventenac, Argens Minervois, Homps, La Redorte, Puichéric, Marseillette, Trèbes, Carcassonne, Bram, Castelnaudary
Waterways: Canal du Midi
157kms * 62 locks * 45hrs

Short Breaks

The Medieval Short Break
Castelnaudary – Trèbes (one-way)
Days: 4
Visit: Castelnaudary, Villepinte, Bram, Villesèquelande, Carcassonne, Trèbes
Waterways: Canal du Midi
52kms * 31 locks * 18 hrs

The Cathar Short Break
Homps – Trèbes (one-way)
Days: 4
Visit: Homps, La Redorte, Puicheric, Marseillette, Fresquel, Carcassonne, Trèbes
Waterways: Canal du Midi
53kms * 27 locks * 18 hrs

The Languedoc Short Break
Homps – Le Somail – Homps
Days: 3
Visit: Homps, Argens Minervois, Roubia, Paraza, Ventenac, Le Somail
Waterways: Canal du Midi
40kms * 12 locks * 11 hrs

You can book 3 or 4 day short breaks from any of our bases. Shorter versions of all return-to-base cruises are perfect for short breaks.

Longer Breaks

All our cruises can be extended to 10/11 days, 2 weeks or longer. Just ask the sales team for details or check online!

Key Facts

Midi Bases

Start or finish your holiday at any of our bases:

- Castelnaudary
- Trèbes
- Homps
- Narbonne
- Port Cassafières

Flavours of the region

Cassoulet; Languedoc-Roussillon wines – Minervois; Corbières; Fitou; Blanquette de Limoux; olives & olive oil; lavender honey & soap

Cruising Notes

- Locks are fully automatic and manned.
- Opening hours 9-6pm; closed 12:30 - 13:30 daily.
- Cruise on to the Camargue from Homps, Narbonne or Port Cassafières

Travel Connections

- **Toulouse**
(Castelnaudary 71kms; Trebès 112 kms; Homps 129kms)
- **Carcassonne**
(Castelnaudary 38kms; Trebès 8 kms; Homps 33kms)
- **Béziers**
(Trebès 87kms; Homps 45kms; Narbonne 43kms; Port Cassafières 12kms)
- **Montpellier**
(Port Cassafières 74kms; Narbonne 98kms)
- **Narbonne**
(Homps 30kms; Trebès 60kms)

Sud de France
Languedoc Roussillon
www.sunfrance.com

The Midi Fleet

Match a boat to your choice of cruise:

			The Little Midi Cruise	The Merchant's Cruise	The Wine Lover's Cruise	The Pierre-Paul Riquet Cruise	The Sunshine Cruise	The Canal du Midi Cruise	The Midi-Robine Cruise	The Classic Midi Cruise	The Golden Midi Cruise	The Medieval Short Break	The Cathar Short Break	The Languedoc Short Break
Comfortably sleeping 8+														
Le Boat 15-04	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 52	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●
Magnifique	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 52		●	●	●		●	●	●			●	●
Grand Classique	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 53	●				●				●			●
Salsa	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 53	●				●	●		●	●			●
Classique Star	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 53	●				●				●			●
Classique	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 54	●	●			●	●	●	●	●			●
Tower	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 54		●		●			●					●
Nautilia	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 54	●				●	●		●	●	●		●
Millau	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 54		●	●	●			●				●	●
Comfortably sleeping 6+														
Le Boat 15-03	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 55	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●
Mystique	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 55	●					●			●	●		●
Elegance	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 56		●	●	●			●	●				●
Royal Classique	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 56	●				●				●			●
Calypso	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 57	●				●	●		●	●			●
Continentale	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 57		●	●	●			●	●		●	●	●
Crusader	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 57	●				●	●		●	●			●
Orion	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 58	●				●				●			●
Normandie	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 58		●	●	●		●	●					●
Comfortably sleeping 4+														
Le Boat 15-02	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 59	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●
Royal Mystique	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 59	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●
Caprice	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 60		●	●	●			●	●		●	●	●
Tango	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 60	●				●				●			●
Clipper	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 60	●				●	●		●	●			●
Corvette	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 61		●	●	●			●				●	●
Countess	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 61	●				●				●			●
Consul	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 61	●				●				●			●
Tamaris/LS	⚓⚓	See Page 63	●				●	●		●	●	●		●
Comfortably sleeping 2+														
Cirrus	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 64	●				●	●		●	●			●
Consort	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 63	●				●				●			●
Sheba	⚓⚓	See Page 64	●				●	●		●	●			●
Capri/TS	⚓⚓	See Page 64	●				●				●	●		●

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FRANCE - Camargue

Photos

1: Gardian cowboys at work
2: Pink flamingos nest in the Camargue
3: 13th century port and fortified town of Aigues Mortes
4: Blue-flag sandy beaches of the Camargue
5: Enjoy the colourful traditions of the Camargue

One Week Return Cruises

The Gardian's Cruise
St. Gilles – Etang de Thau – St. Gilles

Visit: St. Gilles; Gallician; Aigues Mortes; La Grande Motte; Carnon; Palavas-les-Flots; Frontignan; Sète; Bouzigues; Mèze; Marseillan
Waterways: Canal du Rhône à Sète; Etang de Thau
146kms * 0 locks * 22hrs

The Sunshine Cruise
Beaucaire – Sète - Beaucaire

Visit: Beaucaire; Bellegarde; St. Gilles; Gallician; Aigues Mortes; La Grande Motte; Carnon; Palavas-les-Flots; Frontignan; Sète
Waterways: Canal du Rhône à Sète; Etang de Thau
220kms * 2 locks * 37hrs

The Crusader Cruise
Port Cassafières – Aigues Mortes – Port Cassafières

Visit: Port Cassafières; Agde; Marseillan; Mèze; Bouzigues; Frontignan; Palavas-les-Flots; Carnon; Le Grau du Roi; Aigues Mortes
Waterways: Canal du Midi; Canal du Rhône à Sète; Etang de Thau
168kms * 4 locks * 30hrs

One Week One-Way Cruises

(Choose to cruise in either direction)

The Flamingo Cruise
St. Gilles – Port Cassafières

Visit:: St. Gilles; Gallician; Aigues Mortes; La Grande Motte; Carnon; Palavas-les-Flots; Frontignan; Sète; Bouzigues; Mèze; Marseillan; Agde; Port Cassafières
Waterways: Canal du Midi; Canal du Rhône à Sète; Etang de Thau
98kms * 2 locks * 20hrs

The Seaside Cruise
Beaucaire – Port Cassafières

Visit: Beaucaire; Bellegarde; St. Gilles; Gallician; Aigues Mortes; La Grande Motte; Carnon; Palavas-les-Flots; Frontignan; Sète; Bouzigues; Mèze; Marseillan; Agde; Port Cassafières
Waterways: Canal du Midi, Canal du Rhône à Sète; Etang de Thau
128kms * 3 locks * 23hrs

Short Breaks

The Camargue Short Break
St. Gilles – Aigues Mortes – Palavas-les-Flots – St. Gilles

Days: 3-4
Visit: St.Gilles; Gallician; Le Grau du Roi; Mortes; Palavas-les-Flots; Carnon
Waterways: Canal du Rhône à Sète
100kms * 0 locks * 12hrs

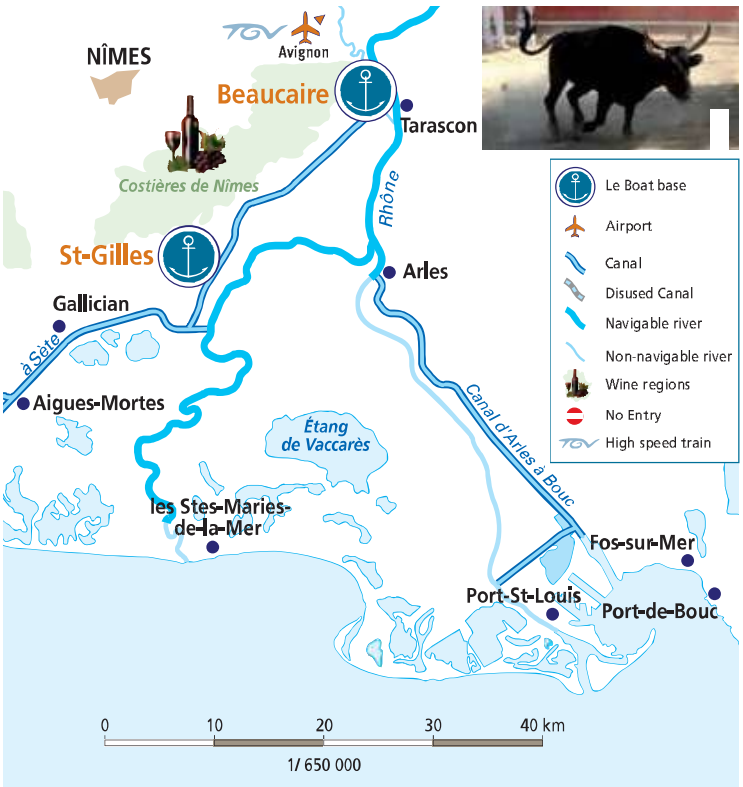
The Costières de Nîmes Short Break
Beaucaire – Aigues Mortes – Beaucaire

Days: 3
Visit: Beaucaire; St. Gilles; Gallician; Le Grau du Roi
Waterways: Canal du Rhône à Sète
100kms * 2 locks * 14hrs

You can book 3 or 4 day short breaks from any of our bases. Shorter versions of all return-to-base cruises are perfect for short breaks.

Longer Breaks

All our cruises can be extended to 10/11 days, 2 weeks or longer. Just ask the sales team for details or check online!



Sandy beaches and Crusader ports

The colourful Camargue, with its bustling Crusader ports, sandy beaches and traditional lifestyle provides a friendly welcome wherever you go. With more sunshine here than anywhere else in France, you can enjoy warm cruising weather right through to the end of October.

Enjoy lock-free cruising in the Etang de Thau and relax on the blue-flag sandy beaches of the Mediterranean. Moor up in the ancient ports, fishing villages and historic towns of Aigues Mortes, Marseillan and Bouzigues where you can dine at wonderful seafood restaurants right by the water's edge. Visit museums to find out about oyster farming and salt production and watch colourful summer festivals such as the bull-running street 'ferias' and 'La Cocarde' where brave bull-fighters enter the arena to snatch ribbons off the bull's horns. The horsemanship skills of the gardian cowboys as they round up herds of bulls and wild horses never fail to please the crowds who gather to watch.

Finally, the wetlands, étangs (lakes), salt plains and marshes of the Camargue are home to many rare species of birds and wildlife and are a delight for nature lovers to explore.

Key Facts

Midi Bases

Start or finish your holiday at any of our bases:
- St. Gilles
- Beaucaire

You can also cruise one-way to/from our Midi bases
- Port Cassafières
- Narbonne
- Homps

Flavours of the region

Ollada – beef stew; Bouzigues oysters; Bouillabaisse – fish stew; Costières de Nîmes; Muscat de Frontignan; Noilly Prat; Listel – vin des sables; Camargue salt; Camargue red rice

Cruising Notes

- The Camargue region has few locks, so is perfect for anyone new to cruising or looking for an easy cruising experience. There are no locks in the Etang de Thau. You are advised to moor in the harbours at night as passing larger barges could pull you away from makeshift moorings

Travel Connections

- **Avignon**
(Beaucaire 38 kms; St. Gilles 102 kms)
- **Nimes**
(Beaucaire 28 kms; St. Gilles 13 kms)
- **Montpellier**
(Beaucaire 71 kms; St. Gilles 56 kms; Port Cassafières 74 kms)

The Midi/Camargue Fleet

Match a boat to your choice of cruise:

			The Gardian's Cruise	The Sunshine Cruise	The Crusader Cruise	The Flamingo Cruise	The Seaside Cruise	The Camargue Short Break	The Costières de Nîmes Short Break
Comfortably sleeping 8+									
Le Boat 15-04	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 52	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Magnifique	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 52		●			●		●
Grand Classique	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 53	●		●	●		●	●
Salsa	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 53	●		●	●		●	●
Classique Star	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 53	●		●	●			●
Classique	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 54	●		●	●			●
Nautilia	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 54	●		●	●		●	●
Millau	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 54		●			●		●
Comfortably sleeping 6+									
Le Boat 15-03	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 55	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Elegance	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 56		●			●		●
Royal Classique	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 56	●		●	●			●
Calypso	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 57	●		●	●			●
Crusader	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 57	●		●	●		●	●
Continentale	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 57		●			●		●
Normandie	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 58		●			●		●
Commodore Plus	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 58		●			●		●
Comfortably sleeping 4+									
Le Boat 15-02	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 59	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Royal Mystique	⚓⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 59		●			●		●
Caprice	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 60		●			●		●
Tango	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 60	●		●	●		●	●
Clipper	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 60	●		●	●			●
Corvette	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 61		●			●		●
Countess	⚓⚓⚓⚓	See Page 61	●			●		●	●
Consul	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 61	●		●	●		●	●
Tamaris/LS	⚓⚓	See Page 63	●		●	●		●	●
Comfortably sleeping 2+									
Consort	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 63	●			●		●	●
Cirrus	⚓⚓⚓	See Page 64	●		●	●			●
Sheba	⚓⚓	See Page 64	●		●	●		●	●
Capri/TS	⚓⚓	See Page 64	●		●	●			●

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