

'Renaissance'

WESTERN BURGUNDY AND UPPER LOIRE

6 nights | Sunday departures | Hotel and charter sailings | Minimum of 2 passengers required to operate hotel sailings;
4 passengers on Mar and Nov departures | Children under 12: charters only
Departs from Hotel Ampère, Paris: Sunday, 1:30 pm



'Renaissance' hosts just eight privileged guests. Cabins feature spacious en suite bathrooms, oversized beds and are very quiet for the ultimate in privacy. Enjoy elegantly presented gourmet meals, visit the newly expanded "guest-friendly" wheelhouse or relax in the hot tub on deck as you cruise along the scenic waterways of Burgundy and the Upper Loire.

SUNDAY

Meet in Paris at Hotel Ampère for transfer to 'Renaissance,' moored in Montargis. After a lovely champagne reception, enjoy a delectable dinner in the elegant dining room and an evening cruise through the town, known as the 'Venice of the North' for its network of canals and delightful flower-bedecked bridges.



An elegant waterside property in Burgundy



MONDAY

Today visit Château de Vaux-le-Vicomte, setting for the film *The Man in the Iron Mask*. The exquisite gardens, designed by landscape architect André le Nôtre, have been fully restored to their original beauty. The afternoon cruise through the Loire countryside to Montbouy offers excellent walking and cycling opportunities.

TUESDAY

Today's excursion is to the medieval hilltop town of Château-Landon. After a private, guided walking tour to see the 11th-century Saint Séverin Abbey, enjoy a tasting of Loire wines. Then, relax on a gentle afternoon cruise to Rogny-les-Sept-Écluses with its unique staircase of seven locks built in the reign of Henry IV. Tonight, enjoy a special dinner ashore at the Auberge les Tempeliers.

WEDNESDAY

After a leisurely breakfast, visit the magnificent Château de la Bussière, a

privately-owned, moat-encircled castle. Though built in the 11th century, it was greatly modernized 600 years later. The extensive parkland was designed by landscape architect Andre Le Nôtre, and the resident family's kitchen garden is beautifully edged with boxwood. Return to the barge for another gourmet dinner this evening.

THURSDAY

Today, 'Renaissance' cruises to Briare with its magical aqueduct across the River Loire. Still one of the longest in the world, the aqueduct was completed in the late 19th century by Gustave Eiffel. After lunch, visit Gien where high-quality French earthenware is produced.

FRIDAY

This morning, wander Briare's market stalls, selling everything from vegetables, fruit and cheese to French fashions. After lunch, visit the charming hilltop village of Sancerre, surrounded by the vineyards of the Val de Loire. The narrow, picturesque streets are lined with beautifully preserved buildings. After a tasting at a family-run vineyard, return to 'Renaissance' for a farewell celebration dinner.

SATURDAY

After breakfast, transfer back to Paris, where the tour ends with your arrival at Hotel Ampère.

Note: This route is run in reverse on alternate weeks.

A&K RECOMMENDS ...

Extend your stay with pre- and post-cruise hotel nights. Contact A&K for details and pricing.



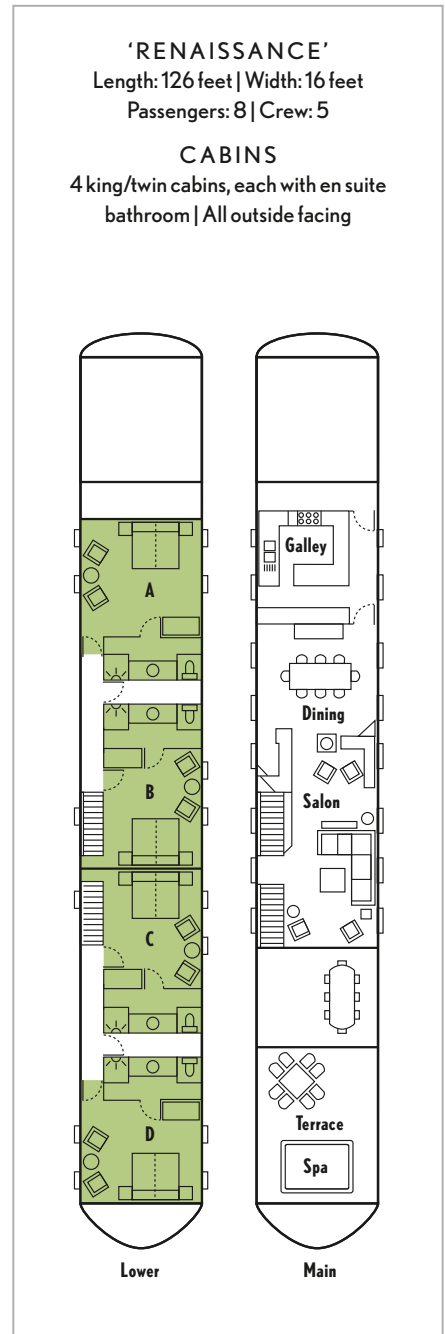
Spacious cabin on board 'Renaissance'



The chef prepares another gourmet meal



The inviting lounge on board



PRICE PER PERSON			
Cruise arrangements			
Mar 29 - May 16; Jul 26 - Aug 29; Oct 18 - Nov 14		May 17 - Jul 25; Aug 30 - Oct 17	
Double occupancy	\$ 5,450	Double occupancy	\$ 6,490
Single supplement	\$ 2,000	Single supplement	\$ 2,400
Six-night charter*	\$ 41,500	Six-night charter*	\$ 49,000
*Please ask about special prices for charters with 6 or 7 passengers.			
Children under 18 receive a \$300 price reduction.			
Family charters are available. Contact A&K for details.			
Please check with A&K for our special international airfares.			