



**France Travel Participants at Best of France®**  
**September 26&27, 2015**  
**Between 41st & 42nd streets and Broadway**  
**[bestoffrance.rendezvousenfrance.com](http://bestoffrance.rendezvousenfrance.com)**

### Aquitaine:

- **Aquitaine Tourist Board** – Aquitaine is the region just one hour from Paris in the southwest of France. It includes Bordeaux, a magnificent 18th-century UNESCO-classified city awarded "European Best Destination 2015"; great local wines, many to be served in its new Cité des Civilisations du Vin, an innovative information and cultural center dedicated to wine civilizations (opening summer 2016 in Bordeaux); prehistoric caves; and amazing surfing spots along the Atlantic coast. [Read more](#) Website: [www.tourism-aquitaine.com](http://www.tourism-aquitaine.com)
- **Canelé by Céline** – Canelé by Céline is a chic French bake shop in New York City that crafts bite-size, sweet and savory canelés and financiers. It is a preferred supplier of luxury brands such as Ruinart, Nespresso Café and Christofle. [Read more](#) Website: [canelebyceline.com](http://canelebyceline.com)
- **Veronic Travel** – Veronic Travel crafts customized vacations. Veronique herself has lived in Paris and Bordeaux. She holds the keys to your holidays in France, tailored to your individual needs, tastes and curiosities, with door-to-door service. Website: [www.veronictavel.com](http://www.veronictavel.com)

### Destination Impressionism

- **Paris Region Tourist Board** – The Ile-de-France region, which includes Paris, is the most-visited tourist region in the world. Widely popular for the diversity of its natural, heritage and cultural wealth, it offers activities of all types, all year round. Website: [www.visitparisregion.com](http://www.visitparisregion.com)

Ile-de-France is home to the world's most prestigious collections of Impressionist artworks, as well as the houses, workshops, places and landscapes that inspired artists like Monet, Renoir, Degas, Sisley, Van Gogh etc.

[www.visitparisregion.com/Impressionism](http://www.visitparisregion.com/Impressionism)

- **Normandy Tourist Board** – Widely known for its D-Day Landings beaches, Normandy, the region of northwestern France, is a historical crossroads for much more: Mont-St-Michel abbey, coastal resorts, historic port cities and garden villages. It is also the cradle of Impressionism, which will be showcased during the 3rd Impressionist Festival (April 16 to September 26, 2016). Hundreds of events will feature sights in the seaside resorts that inspired greats like Monet, Pissaro, Renoir, Degas and others. Le Havre is home to the MuMa Museum and France's second largest collection of Impressionist art. [www.normandie-impressionniste.eu](http://www.normandie-impressionniste.eu)  
 Website: [www.normandie-tourisme.fr](http://www.normandie-tourisme.fr) [Read more on Destination Impressionism](#)

## French West Indies

- **Guadeloupe Islands** – Soon to be accessible via non-stop flights from the U.S. via Norwegian, Guadeloupe is an archipelago of five French Caribbean islands. It newly plays host to the just-opened [Mémorial ACTe](#), the world's largest museum dedicated to the memory and history of slavery, which was recently visited by Reverend Jesse Jackson. [Read more](#) Website: [www.guadeloupe-islands.com](http://www.guadeloupe-islands.com)
- **Martinique** – Martinique, named the #1 must-visit destination in the Caribbean in 2015, will soon be more accessible and affordable than ever from the U.S. In addition to frequent direct flights from Miami, starting in December 2015 Norwegian will begin a total of seven non-stop flights from New York, Boston and Baltimore near Washington DC, the first from the northeast in more than 20 years. [Read more](#). Website: [www.us.martinique.org](http://www.us.martinique.org) Media corner: [www.martiniquepresskit.com](http://www.martiniquepresskit.com)
- **Saint-Martin** – Saint-Martin is the ultimate friendly island. Days filled with sunshine, velvet soft nights and breath-taking scenery are only a few of the ingredients that create the unique feel and taste that reflect Saint-Martin. [www.stmartinland.org](http://www.stmartinland.org)
- **Norwegian** – Norwegian is the world's seventh largest low-cost airline, with a route portfolio stretching across Europe, into North Africa and the Middle East, and including long-haul flights to the U.S. and Southeast Asia. Commencing December 3, 2015, Norwegian will make Guadeloupe and Martinique more accessible than ever to the U.S. [www.norwegian.com](http://www.norwegian.com)

## Grande Guerre – WWI 1914-1918

- **WWI Centennial Association** – Walk in the footsteps of history on the Western Front. From Nord-Pas de Calais to Alsace, including Picardy, Champagne-Ardenne and Lorraine, discover the countless marks left by the First World War and relive the realities of war. [Read more](#) Website: [centenaire.org](http://centenaire.org)
- **Château-Thierry** – On July 18, 1918, the Battle of Château-Thierry was one of the first actions of the American Expeditionary Forces. Today, the World War I monument on Hill 204 includes statues symbolizing the enduring friendship between the U.S. and France. [Read more](#) Web site: [www.chateau-thierry-tourisme.com/eng](http://www.chateau-thierry-tourisme.com/eng)

## Midi-Pyrénées:

**Midi-Pyrenees Tourist Board** – At the heart of Southwest France, Midi-Pyrenees is a destination notable for its gastronomic specialties (like Roquefort cheese and Armagnac) and 26 Great Tourist Sites, including medieval villages, battered castles, gorges and navigable canals. Its newest star attraction, the Rodez-based Soulages Museum dedicated to its namesake artist, has attracted nearly three times more visitors than expected, a number likely to grow in spring 2016 during a temporary Picasso exhibit. Picasso is also be on display through January 2016 at Les Abbatoirs, the modern art museum of Toulouse. Two other new Toulouse museums are seeing great success: Aéroscoopia, which focuses on aeronautics, has far exceeded visitation expectations; and the Dom Robert Museum, which displays 20th-century tapestries. [Readmore](#)

Web site: [www.tourism-midi-pyrenees.co.uk](http://www.tourism-midi-pyrenees.co.uk)

[Toulouse Lautrec Museum](#)

- **Gers Tourist Board** – Gers is a picturesque and timeless place of history and harmony. Once home to the famous musketeer d'Artagnan, it is also a land of "slow-food" gastronomy, Armagnac (the oldest spirit in France) and festivals like Jazz in Marciac. Web site: [www.tourisme-gers.com](http://www.tourisme-gers.com)
- **Capucins de Michel Bras** – Celebrated chef Michel Bras created the *capucin*, a healthy, seasonal and affordable gluten-free buckwheat pancake sold from his quick-service restaurant in Toulouse. Cooked fresh and shaped into a cone, it is stuffed with quality local products. [www.capucinbras.fr](http://www.capucinbras.fr)
- **D'Artagnan** – D'Artagnan is a renowned gourmet food purveyor famous for providing humanely-raised meats. Devoted advocates for natural, sustainable and humane production, D'Artagnan has been at the pioneering forefront of the organic movement in America. [www.dartagnan.com](http://www.dartagnan.com)
- **Gers Equipement – SITRAM** is the French pioneer and premiere manufacturer of premium stainless steel kitchen cookware, headquartered since 1963 in a factory in Saint-Benoît-du-Sault. A focus on innovation has been paramount to the distinguished heritage of Sitram. [sitramusa.com](http://sitramusa.com)
- **Forge de Laguiole** – The 11th-century village of Laguiole is home to the 200-year-old Laguiole knife factory, where knives are still forged and handcrafted according to the original 19th-century guidelines (a process of no fewer than 40 steps). [www.forge-de-laguiole-usa.com](http://www.forge-de-laguiole-usa.com)
- **ThirtyOne** – ThirtyOne is bicycle "haute couture": an urban mobility solution that embodies high-quality design, craftsmanship and performance without tradeoffs. It is hand-assembled bicycles made from the finest parts in a plant near the Pyrenees mountains. [www.thirtyonebikes-store.com](http://www.thirtyonebikes-store.com)
- **Graine de Pastel** – Graine de Pastel reveals a traditional beauty secret forgotten for many centuries: the pastel. It formulates natural cosmetics made in the Southwest of France with a commitment to sustainable development, and local, cultural and economic promotion. [www.grainedepastel.com](http://www.grainedepastel.com)
- **Toulouse Tourist Board** – Midway between the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, at the foot of the Pyrenees, Toulouse is the capital of the Midi-Pyrenees region. Also capital of France's aeronautics industry, it is a perfect combination of heritage and innovation. [www.toulouse-visit.com](http://www.toulouse-visit.com)
- **Toulouse Airport** – Toulouse-Blagnac is France's fifth-largest airport. It is ideal for accessing a whole host of tourist hotspots, such as the Pyrenees, Toulouse, Gascony and the vineyards of Gaillac, Fronton, Cahors and Armagnac. [www.toulouse.aeroport.fr](http://www.toulouse.aeroport.fr)

## Paris Ile-de-France

- **Centre des Monuments Nationaux** – The Center for National Monuments is responsible for conserving, restoring and managing nearly 100 national monuments belonging to France, as well as opening them to the public. These include abbeys, châteaux, prehistoric caves, archaeological sites and more. [Read more](#)  
Website: [www.monuments-nationaux.fr](http://www.monuments-nationaux.fr)
- **Enghien-les-Bains with the hotels Lucien Barrière** – Only seven miles from Paris, Enghien-les-Bains is the perfect leisure spot, especially in light of its luxury hotels like the Grand Hotel Barrière d'Enghien-les-Bains.  
[www.ot-enghienlesbains.fr](http://www.ot-enghienlesbains.fr)

## Rhône-Alpes:

- **Rhone-Alps Tourist Board** – The Rhône-Alps region consists mainly of the French Alps and the Rhone Valley. It boasts a rich gastronomy, vineyards, mountains, ski resorts and historical cities. Lyon, its capital, was named a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.  
[en.rhonealpes-tourisme.com](http://en.rhonealpes-tourisme.com)
- **Chamonix–Mont Blanc Tourist Board** – At the foot of Mont Blanc, Europe's highest mountain west of Russia, Chamonix is one of France's oldest mountaineering and ski resorts. Fabled as site of the first (1924) Winter Olympics, Chamonix is known for its Alpine lakes and views, Aiguille du Midi and Mer de Glace glacier train.  
[www.chamonix.com](http://www.chamonix.com)
- **Evian Resort** – The luxurious Evian Resort includes two high-end hotels (Royal and Ermitage, each with a spa), a championship golf course, the Thermal Spa Center with programs using Evian mineral water, and La Grange au Lac, a magnificent performance auditorium. [Read more](#)  
[www.evianresort.com](http://www.evianresort.com)
- **Lyon Tourist Board** – The city of Lyon is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and, as home to the likes of three-star Michelin chef Paul Bocuse, a true temple of gastronomy. Fittingly, in late 2017, Lyon welcomes a Cité de la Gastronomie in the Grand Hotel-Dieu, which was a hospital until early 2000. [Read more](#)  
[www.en.lyon-france.com](http://www.en.lyon-france.com)
- **Pont d'Arc Cave** – This recently opened attraction is a replica of the nearby Chauvet Cave, which contains the world's oldest known cave paintings – 1,000 renderings dating back 36,000 years. Pont d'Arc Cave is Europe's largest faithful replica of a prehistoric site. [Read more](#) Website: [lacavernedupontdarc.org](http://lacavernedupontdarc.org)

## Hotels :

### ▪ Relais et Châteaux

- La Villa Spa – Five-star La Villa, set in the hills above Calvi, Corsica, is an exceptional experience. Discover Corsican flavors in its starred Michelin restaurant and relax by its five pools. Indulge in the spa with personalized treatments. [Read more](#) Website: [www.hotel-lavilla.com](http://www.hotel-lavilla.com)
- Domaine de Murtoli – The Domaine de Murtoli is a private estate in the south of Corsica. It offers high-standard personalized service in 19 restored 16th-century shepherd's houses, three restaurants and hundreds of activities within a territory of 6,100 acres. [Read more](#) Website: [www.murtoli.com](http://www.murtoli.com)

## Cities

### • Cannes

- **Cannes Tourist Board** – Cannes, the city of the film festival, is an authentic seaside village offering accommodation facilities for every budget. Just 27 kilometers from Nice International Airport, it promises a full range of activities and top-quality service. [Read more](#) Website: [www.cannes-destination.com](http://www.cannes-destination.com)

[Upcoming Events in Cannes](#)

[Golfing in Cannes](#)

[Group Tours & Packages](#)

- **France Surgery** – As a certified medical facilitator, France Surgery provides tailored medical assistance for expatriates and international patients seeking affordable, high-quality surgery or medical treatment and recovery in France without waiting lists. [Read more](#) Website [www.france-surgery.com](http://www.france-surgery.com)

### • Marseilles

- **Marseille Tourist Board** – The 2013 European Capital of Culture, Marseille is enjoying its major waterfront and Old Town restoration project. It also added new museums, including MuCEM, devoted to Mediterranean 21st-century civilizations; Villa Méditerranée, devoted to Mediterranean expression; and Musée Regards de Provence, a private art showcase. [Read more](#) [www.marseille-tourisme.com](http://www.marseille-tourisme.com)
- **Marseille-Provence Airport** – With Marseille Provence Airport, travelers can land in the very heart of Provence and discover the new Marseille, the charming city of Aix-en-Provence and the region. More than 108 weekly flights now serve Marseille, France's third provincial airport. In Provence, summer lasts longer. [www.flyprovence.com](http://www.flyprovence.com)

## River and canal Cruises

- **Le Boat** – Exploring scenic waterways with Le Boat lets you travel like a local. Experience some of Europe's most beautiful destinations on your self-drive cruiser and discover why it is the best way to vacation in France. [Read more](#) Website: [www.leboat.com](http://www.leboat.com)
- **CroisiEurope** – CroisiEurope is Europe's largest river cruise line, a family-owned French company with a fleet of 20 canal barges and ships. Superb cuisine, unlimited beverages, free wifi and outstanding service await you on board. [www.croisieurope.com](http://www.croisieurope.com)

## Rail Travel

- **Rail Europe** – Rail Europe is North America's largest distributor of European rail passes and train tickets. It provides train travel in most European countries, including high-speed TGVs throughout France. This year two kids travel free with each adult France Rail Pass holder. [Read more](#) [www.raileurope.com](http://www.raileurope.com)

## Tour Operators & agency

- **Back Roads Touring & Liberty Travel**
  - **Back Roads Touring** – Back-Roads tours has over 25 years of experience in tailor-made tours for small groups traveling in Europe. Their belief in the advantages of small groups underpins everything they do – from the type of vehicles used to the accommodation selected and the places visited, which include several destinations in France. [www.backroadstouring.com](http://www.backroadstouring.com)
  - **Liberty Travel** – Liberty Travel, founded in 1951, is one of the largest and most experienced travel agencies in the U.S. It is a "bricks and mortar" travel agency with more than 160 stores staffed by more than 800 Vacation Experts, the best travel agents in the industry. [www.libertytravel.com](http://www.libertytravel.com)

**Fall for France Photo Exhibit** – At the Atout France stand, this unique traveling photo exposé by Braden Summers captures the romantic and ethereal spirit of France in a highly artistic way. Shot in Poitiers, Nice, Marseille, Dijon and Reims, the exhibit displays some of the truly enchanting qualities of these top French cities. [Read & see more](#)

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