

Abercrombie & Kent



L'IMPRESSIONNISTE RIVER CRUISE

A journey through Burgundy's vineyards

European Canal Barge Cruises, Cruises



Europe, France



7 days from AU\$9,728 pp



Private

Journey Overview

L'Impressionniste glides gently through the picturesque Ouche Valley in Southern Burgundy through locks with their charming lock-houses. You will see medieval villages perched on hilltops and have the opportunity to discover a region famed for its history and viticulture, with visits to such places as Beaune, the local 'wine capital', and the elegant city of Dijon.

Cruise Highlights

- Visit Clos de Vougeot, home of the Chevaliers du Tastevin
- Private wine tastings in the cellars of renowned Burgundy domaines
- Tour of Dijon and its markets
- Visit to the moat encircled Château de Commarin
- Visit to Beaune, including Hôtel-Dieu Hospice
- Gastronomic private lunch at Château de Beaune
- Visit to medieval Châteauneuf-en-Auxois
- Optional hot air ballooning
- Excellent towpath for walking and cycling
- "Biking Plus" option available



Itinerary

Day 1: Fleurey-sur-Ouche

Guests are met at our meeting point in Paris and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to the elegant L'Impressionniste. A champagne reception welcomes you on board and the opportunity to meet the captain and crew. Then enjoy your first dinner on board.

L'Impressionniste / Meals: D

Day 2: Fleurey-sur-Ouche to Sainte Marie-sur-Ouche

This morning, experience your first day's cruise along this enchanting canal, which also promises a walk or cycle along an ever-present towpath past sleepy villages and pretty lock houses. After lunch we visit Clos de Vougeot, headquarters of the esteemed Chevaliers du Tastevin, who award a special prized label to the finest Côte d'Or vintages every year. On the way back to the hotel barge we enjoy a tour of the cellars and a private tasting of fine Burgundy wines at another long-established domaine. Dinner on board

L'Impressionniste / Meals: BLD

Day 3: Sainte Marie-sur Ouche to La Bussière

After breakfast, enjoy a walking tour of old Dijon, including a visit to the vivid produce markets, mustard shops and the impressive Notre-Dame de Dijon, or enjoy some excellent shopping time. Return to the hotel barge for lunch and a leisurely afternoon cruise to La Bussière and perhaps a walk or bicycle ride to the next lock or two. Dinner on board.

L'Impressionniste / Meals: BLD

Day 4: La Bussière to Pont d'Ouche

After a short morning cruise, we set off on a drive through the vineyards, stopping en route at the "vigne de l'enfant Jesus", a famous vineyard owned by the Domaine Bouchard Père et Fils. There, a wine expert will give us a real insight into the domaine's production of its Grand Cru and Premier Cru wines. We continue to Beaune, capital of Burgundy wine country, for a winery tour and private tasting of Bouchard Père et Fils wines before enjoying a gastronomic lunch in the orangery of Château de Beaune, owned by the winery since 1820. Afterwards, we visit the fascinating 15th century Hôtel-Dieu Hospice and explore the town, before returning to the barge for a short evening cruise to Pont d'Ouche. Dinner on board.

L'Impressionniste / Meals: BLD

Day 5: Pont d'Ouche to Vandenesse

After breakfast, we cruise to Vandenesse-en-Auxois, passing grazing white Charolais cattle, rolling hills and picturesque villages, crossing the only aqueduct on the Burgundy Canal. After lunch on board, we visit the medieval village, craft shops and castle of Châteauneuf-en-Auxois, once an outpost of the Dukes of Burgundy and offering a fine overview of the feeder lakes, canal and surrounding countryside. Dinner on board.

L'Impressionniste / Meals: BLD

Day 6: Vandenesse to Escommes

Our last day's leisurely cruise takes us to the canal summit, 1,250 feet above sea level, just before the Pouilly tunnel. This afternoon we visit the moat-encircled Château de Commarin where we are lucky enough to enjoy a private tour, accompanied by none other than Count Bertrand de Vogue, the current resident and 26th generation of the de Vogue family to maintain continuous residence since the 13th century. Count de Vogue will offer insight into the Château's fascinating history, after which guests can explore the regal interior, rustic stables and surrounding gardens. Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.

L'Impressionniste / Meals: BLD

Day 7: Escommes

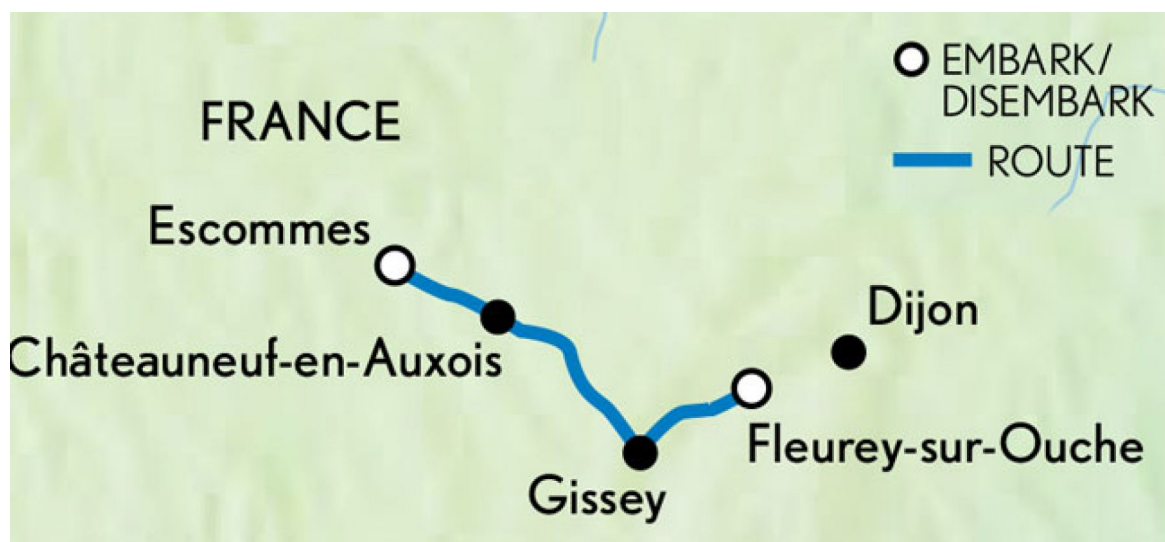
After breakfast, guests are transferred to Paris.

Meals: B

Inclusions

- Comfortable accommodation in air-conditioned, en suite staterooms or suites
- Gourmet meals prepared by the on-board chef, fine wines and an open bar
- Daily escorted excursions to places of interest and private wine tastings
- Local transfers, for example to and from Paris
- Bicycles and on most hotel barges, an on-deck spa pool
- Attentive service from an experienced crew – Captain, chef, tour guide and hosts/hostesses

Map



Accommodation

L'impressionniste



The 12 passenger L'Impressionniste began life as a cargo barge in Holland, before being transformed into the powerful canal and river cruiser she is today. She has a light and airy interior reminiscent of the turn of the century era and is decorated with a selection of prints, fabrics and wall colourings.

Your Captain leads a crew of six, comprising Master Chef, Tour guide, Housekeepers and Deckhand as she cruises through Burgundy - visiting Dijon, famed for its mustard, and Ducal Palace. Wine connoisseurs will delight in visits on the Route des Grands Crus and gastronomes will enjoy lunch at the Abbaye de la Bussiere.

Category: First Class

Cruise region: Burgundy **Cruise Route:** Southern Burgundy

Pickup location: Paris

Departures: April - October

Length of vessel: 126 ft

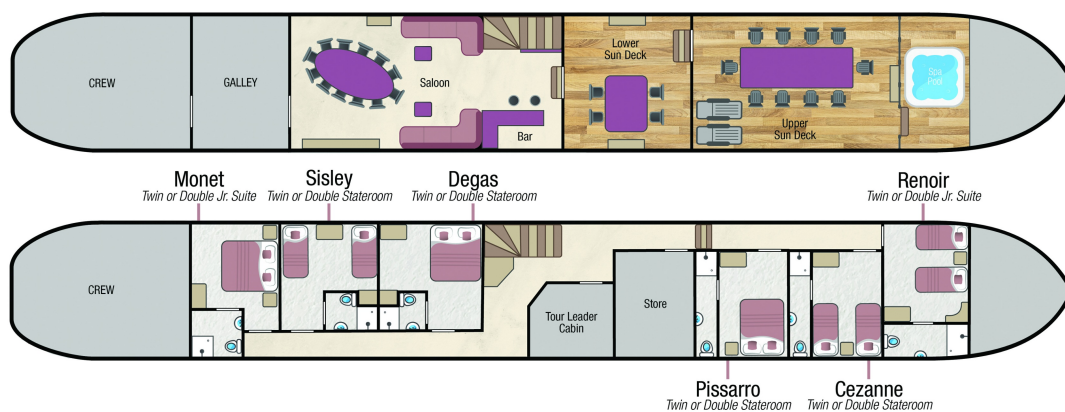
Crew: 6

Max Passenger Capacity: 12

Spa Pool: Yes

Themed Cruises: Family, Golf, Wine Appreciation

Air Conditioning and Central Heating: Yes

Bikes: Yes

Dates & Pricing

L'Impressionniste is also available for whole barge charter for 8-12 passengers, from \$97,282.

Please call A&K on 1300 851 800, send us a **booking enquiry** to book this journey or contact your travel advisor.

Abercrombie & Kent

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