



Athos du Midi

LUXURY CRUISING ON FRANCE'S MOST HISTORIC CANAL

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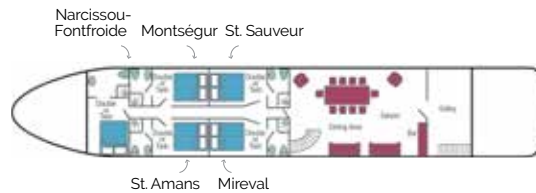


THE ATHOS DU MIDI

Each bright cabin, with en suite bathroom and shower, reflects the understated beauty of the French countryside.

The salon is a comfortable, intimate place for relaxing with a book, sipping an aperitif, and enjoying a five-course meal.

The outdoor deck is the most spacious and comfortable of any vessel on the Canal du Midi. Dine in the shade of plane trees or settle into a cushioned, hardwood deck chair for a post-lunch siesta in the warm Mediterranean sun.



- 103 Feet Long
- 10 Passengers
- 5 Crew
- 5 Twin/Double Staterooms (77-88 sq ft incl. en suite)
- Air-Conditioned
- Centrally Heated
- 8/10 Touring Bikes
- Sun Deck
- 2 Air-Conditioned Minibuses
- Wi-Fi (Subject to Local Receptions)

“We took this tour in 2009 with family and it was one of the most memorable experiences ever! The food was fabulous, the crew charming, helpful and informative. Captain Julian was most hospitable, and even let my 88-year-old father pilot! We absolutely recommend the Athos.”

— LAURA & PHILIP

DESIGNING YOUR CRUISE

Whether you'd like to book a single cabin or the entire boat, there's an Athos du Midi cruise for you.

INDIVIDUALS & SMALL GROUPS

For several weeks each season, we offer cruises for individuals and couples who would like to join other passengers for their Athos cruise. A two-cabin booking minimum is required for this "hotel-style" week.

GROUPS AND FAMILIES

Organizing a family reunion or a special getaway with your closest friends? You can book the entire boat for groups of six or more.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- » A six-night stay (Sunday-Saturday) beginning with a champagne reception
- » Our expert Captain who looks after all aspects of navigation
- » Athos hostesses prepare and serve a continental breakfast each morning, and look after passengers' needs
- » Chef prepares superb lunches and dinners for you each day
- » A fully stocked complimentary bar of wines and spirits available to passengers at any reasonable time
- » The Athos Tour Guide takes you on daily excursions and tours to places of historical interest
- » Transfers to and from the Athos at the beginning and end of your cruise
- » Use of Athos bicycles

The suggested gratuity for one week of barging is 5-10% of the price of your charter or cabin. Gratuities can be given to the Captain at the end of your cruising week.



YOUR WEEK OF CRUISING

Argeliers - Marseillan (or reverse)

DAY ONE

Upon arrival in Beziers, you'll be chauffeured to the Athos at her mooring in the charming Argeliers port, located at the southern edge of the Haut-Minervois. Champagne reception and gourmet canapés await.

DAY TWO

Carcassonne is a picture-perfect fairytale castle. The Athos guide will walk you back through time in an unforgettable tour of the fortified city. Later in the day, the Athos will moor in the quaint village of Capestang in view of the floodlit Collegiale St. Etienne cathedral. Take a stroll into the village before chef begins dinner service.

DAY THREE

Ever wondered how olive oil is made? Find out at the Oulibo where French olive oil is artfully pressed. Then taste a variety of organic olives and olive oils accompanied, of course, by a glass of rosé.

DAY FOUR

Your Languedoc experience would not be complete without a visit to a French market. That's what we'll do in the charming town of Narbonne.

DAY FIVE

The historic market town of Pezanas was the first seat of the Languedoc court where noble families lived in "Hotels Particuliers", or mansions whose striking architecture is unique to this town. Theatre lovers will enjoy the guide's stories about French playwright, Moliere, who once stayed in Pezenas with his theatre group, l'illustre Théâtre.

DAY SIX

En route to Marseillan Port we cruise past the estuaries of the "Petit Camargue", a bird watcher's paradise! At Agde, a spectacular seafood lunch awaits! We'll dine in the open-waters of the Etang de Thau, Europe's largest mussel and oyster park.

DAY SEVEN

Following breakfast and a warm send off by the crew, you'll be chauffeured to Beziers to connect with your onward travel plans.



Itineraries are subject to change at the discretion of the Captain and crew. Changes are rare and will not alter the quality and pleasure of your cruise.



"Very relaxing, fantastic scenery, excellent food and a very good selection of wines and local produce."

— LAUREN S., USA



TO BOOK CONTACT

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BOOK YOUR CRUISE

Great care is taken to ensure you have a happy and enjoyable cruise. Here's how to book your cruise directly with us or through your travel agent.

ATHOS 2019 PRICES

	\$ USD	
	value	regular
Stateroom per person	4,690	5,140
<i>Single supplement</i>	1,545	1,750
Charter for 6 passengers	37,900	42,700
Charter for 8 passengers	40,580	45,800
Charter for 10 passengers	43,200	48,900
Family discount/child	\$ 300	

VALUE SEASON DATES: *March 31– April 27 | October 13–26*

STANDARD SEASON DATES: *April 28–October 12*

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR CRUISE

1. Contact Dannielle or your travel agent to inquire about availability.
2. Complete a booking form to reserve your cabin or charter. Then, return the booking form to Dannielle or your travel agent with a deposit of USD 1000 per person. If your reservation is made less than 90 days before the cruise date, the full cost of the cruise is due at the time of booking.
3. Your cruise is now booked! You'll receive a receipt and confirmed reservation.
4. The balance of the cost of your cruise is payable 90 days before departure. Failure to pay the balance at this time will result in the cancellation of your cruise reservation and the forfeiture of your deposit.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Once we receive your deposit, your booking is confirmed. If you need to cancel your reservation, the following terms apply:

- » Cruises cancelled more than 90 days before cruise departure, **THE DEPOSIT ONLY** is forfeited.
- » Cancellations made within 90 days of cruise departure, both **THE DEPOSIT** and **FINAL PAYMENT** are forfeited.

We strongly advise clients to purchase trip cancellation and baggage insurance from your travel agent or insurance broker.





“Eight of us took this tour a few years back and it was splendid. From the outstanding knowledge Dannielle has of the art and history of this part of France, to over the top food service and fresh hot croissants in the mornings, we still talk about this trip. Absolutely the way to see this part of France.”

—JIM



WHAT TO EXPECT

YOUR ARRIVAL

You'll be picked up from Beziers train station or your local hotel at 4pm on Sunday, the first day of your Athos cruise. Beziers is about 4.5 hours via TGV from Paris and Charles de Gaulle airport. Arriving by car? Hire cars can be picked up at and returned to the Beziers train station or airport. Beziers airport is served by Ryan Air, Easy Jet and Air France and accepts private charter flights.



WHILE ON BOARD

The cruise pace is leisurely. Visits to historic sites and villages en route may require some walking on narrow, cobblestone streets. Though every effort is made to park our vehicles nearby.

For cycling enthusiasts, hybrid bikes are available on board. Cycling along the towpath beside the canal is a magical way to enjoy the French countryside.

Chef sources local ingredients at open-air markets and uses only the best Languedoc meats. Eating fresh, in-season produce is a Southern French delight you'll experience in every Athos dish.

The bar is stocked with an assortment of spirits, wines, beers and soft drinks. Special requests can be ordered prior to the cruise.

The Athos has electric power 24/7. We also have an on board WiFi and an iPod docking station.

Our cruises are designed to ensure a relaxed atmosphere. As such, passengers should be at least eighteen years of age. Exceptions are made for families or groups who charter the entire barge.

For the safety and comfort of all our guests, smoking is not permitted within the interior spaces of the Athos.



DEPARTURE DAY

On the Saturday of departure, the Athos crew will take you back to Beziers, leaving the barge by 10am.

PREPARING FOR YOUR CRUISE

- Typically, only a **VALID PASSPORT** is required to enter France and no inoculations are required. If in doubt, please consult your travel agent.
- Life in the South of France and on board the Athos is informal so **CASUAL CLOTHING** is most appropriate. Comfortable, **RUBBER-SOLED SHOES** are ideal while on board and for walking in small French villages. Though rain is rare, a **RAINCOAT** is advised. Please note there are **NO LAUNDRY FACILITIES** on the Athos.
- **SUNGLASSES, SUN CREAM** and a **HAT** will protect you from the Mediterranean sun.
- Don't forget sufficient quantities of **PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES** (to be carried in your hand luggage), as these items can be difficult to find in shops along the way.
- You can get **EUROS** in most large towns with your cash card and PIN. You'll need Euros for gifts and souvenirs like herbs and fabrics from Provence, and wines and ceramics from the Languedoc.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The contract is between Athos du Midi LTD and the cruise participant(s) named on The Booking Form. Athos du Midi LTD and/or its agents act only as agents for cruise participants in respect of transportation, accommodation and other services provided as part of the cruise. English law shall govern any dispute arising in connection with this contract and the parties hereto agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

In the event that the cruise participant cancels the reservation the following terms apply:

- For cancellations received up to 90 days before the commencement of the cruise, **THE DEPOSIT ONLY** is forfeited.
- Where additional interim payments have been paid before the final payment due date, and the cancellation is received up to 90 days before cruise departure, **THE DEPOSIT ONLY** is forfeited. All other payments will be refunded, minus applicable transfer and processing fees.

“Hi Danielle and Julian, finally back home. I can’t express in words how fantastic the experience has been. Both of you are amazing in your knowledge and skills.”

—M.S., AUSTRALIA

