

# A TALE OF « PINK CITIES »

## Day 1 Arrive in Toulouse

Arrive in Toulouse. Check in at your hotel located in the city centre and free time to recover from flight. Welcome dinner and night in Toulouse.

## Day 2 Toulouse

Today the largest of the "Pink Cities", Toulouse, will reveal all its secrets. This bustling regional capital has much to offer for the visitor. In the morning depart for a panoramic tour of the city, followed by a walk in the historic part of the city to admire its main monuments. Free time for lunch. The rest of the day is free; possible optional visit to the "Space City". Return to your hotel and overnight.

## Day 3 Limoux/Carcassonne/Canal du Midi

This morning your tour will take you to the wine-growing region of Limoux, famous for its sparkling wines. Invented a 100 years before Champagne, the "traditional method" will delight all those who appreciate bubbly. After a wine tasting session, you will reach the medieval fortress of Carcassonne. More than just an amazing decor, this stronghold has withstood all siege attempts remaining unchanged for the past 700 years. Finally, enjoy a unique boat ride on the peaceful Canal du Midi before returning to Toulouse. Night at your hotel.

## Day 4 Albi/ Cordes/ Wine tasting in Gaillac

The second "Pink City" you will admire is Albi. An imposing Cathedral, a delightful and well-preserved historic city centre and some of the most famous posters created by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec for the Parisian cabarets will be on your program today. Free time for lunch. In the afternoon you will head towards the magnificent hilltop Gothic village of Cordes sur Ciel before enjoying a wine tasting session among the Gaillac vineyards. Return to Toulouse and dinner in a local restaurant to taste some of the regional specialties. Night in your hotel.

## Day 5 Free day

Free day to fully discover the city of Toulouse at your own pace. Night in Toulouse.

## Day 6 Montauban/Bruniquel/Vaour

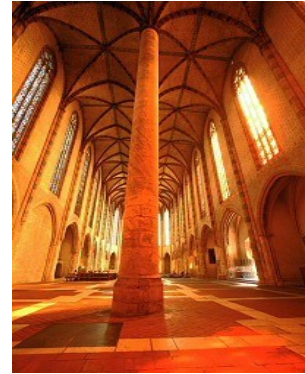
Last but not least of the three "Pink Cities", Montauban differs from Toulouse and Albi. Famous for its main square the "Place Nationale", that you will visit, the town houses and museum dedicated to one of France's most important painters Jean Dominique Ingres as well as sculptor Antoine Bourdelle a disciple of Rodin. Free time for lunch. In the afternoon discover some of the most beautiful villages of France of the area: Bruniquel, Saint Antonin Noble Val or the Templar village of Vaour along the Aveyron gorges. Return to Toulouse and night in your hotel.

## Day 7 Mirepoix/Montségur/Vals

This final day is devoted to the isolated castles of the Cathars. These Christian heretics of the XIIIth century sought refuge from persecution in impressive strongholds on top of rocky mountain peaks. Among the most incredible sites is the one of Montségur that you will explore today. Approached by way of the pink city of Mirepoix, a 20 mn climb to the castle will enthrall and amaze. The tour ends with the visit of an unusual little church full of mysteries. Return to Toulouse. Farewell gourmet dinner in a famous Toulouse restaurant. Night in your hotel.

## Day 8

Breakfast at hotel. end of our services.



2007 Dates:

from 8 July – 15 July  
from 16 July – 23 July  
from 25 July – 1 August  
from 4 August – 11 August  
from 21 August – 28 August

### Prices include:

- Accommodation in \*\*\* hotel in city centre.
- Dinners day 1,4,7 (gourmet meal)
- Breakfast from day 2 to day 8.
- Visits:
  - Blanquette wine tasting
  - Castle of Montségur
  - Gaillac wine tasting
  - Toulouse-Lautrec and Ingres museums
  - Unique boat ride on the Canal du Midi
- The services of a professional driver guide throughout the tour with commentaries in English

- Tolls, fuel and parking.
- Accommodation and meals included for the driver.

Not included: - Flights.

- Drinks.
- Any other options.
- Tips or personal expenses.
- Single supplement: 350€ and €660 (4\*)
- July & August supplement: 162€.

**Prices:** based in 3\* hotel (with open-air pool): **€ 1860 per person** (2 sharing room). Single supplement ~ €350  
based in 4\* hotel : **€ 2350 per person** (2 sharing room) . Single supplement ~ €660