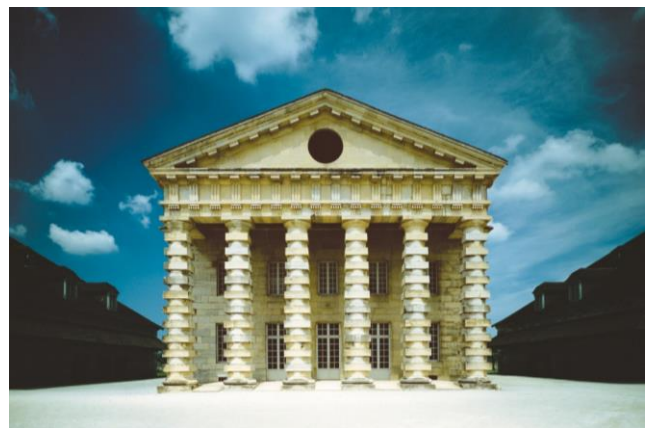




Tour Information



Franche Comte and the Jura Mountains





Travel

Passports

You may need to renew your British Passport if you are travelling to an EU country. Please ensure your passport is less than 10 years old (even if it has 6 months or more left on it) and has at least 6 months validity remaining from the date of travel. EU, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino and Swiss valid national identification cards are also acceptable for travel.

For more information, please visit: [passport checker](#)

Visas

As a tourist visiting from the UK, you do not need a visa for short trips to most EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. You'll be able to stay for up to 90 days in any 180-day period. For all other passport holders please check the visa requirements with the appropriate embassy.

For further information, please check here: [travel to the EU](#)

French consulate: PO Box 57, 6A Cromwell Place, London SW7 2EW; Tel (020) 7838 2000/1. Information Service: Tel (0891) 887 733, Fax: (020) 7838 2046. Opening hours: 0900-1130 (and 1600-1630 for visa collection only) Mon-Fri (except British and French national holidays).



Tickets

You will be issued with return train tickets.

Please take care not to lose your tickets and please check that the details on your tickets are accurate. Your ticket is non-transferable and non-refundable. No refund can be given for non-used portions.

Standard Premier on Eurostar tickets is indicated by two asterisks in the class type section in the top right-hand corner. A light meal will be served to passengers travelling Standard Premier on Eurostar. Standard class Eurostar tickets do not include any food or drink on board, although there is a buffet car serving drinks and snacks.

TGV tickets do not include any food or drink on board, although a buffet car is available.

Train Seats

On all legs of the journey, you have reserved seat and carriage numbers which are shown clearly on your ticket.



Baggage

As with most trains, passengers are responsible for carrying baggage onto and off the train. Baggage can be stored on overhead shelves or at the entrance to the carriages. Trolleys are available at St Pancras and Lille, but bags do need to be carried on to the platform. Porters are sometimes but not always available at St Pancras.

Travel Editions recommends a luggage delivery service called **thebaggageman**, where your suitcase can be picked up from your home before departure and delivered straight to your hotel; therefore, removing the worry about carrying your cases onto and off the trains. For further information:

<http://www.thebaggageman.com>

Labels

Please use the luggage labels provided. It is useful to have your home address located inside your suitcase should the label go astray.

Border Control

At border control, you may need to:

- show a return or onward ticket.
- show you have enough money for your stay.
- use separate lanes from EU, EEA and Swiss citizens when queueing.

Taking food into EU countries

Please note, you are not able to take meat, milk or any products containing them into EU countries.

Transfers

On arrival in Besançon, transfer by coach to the Hotel de Paris (approx. 20 minutes).

Special Requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements



Accommodation

Hotel de Paris

Formerly an 18th century coaching inn, this three-star hotel is located in the centre of Besançon and a short walk to the town centre. Facilities here include bar, terrace and grand breakfast room. Each of the comfortable bedrooms have private bath/shower, air-conditioning, safe, TV and free wi-fi.

For more information visit their website

<https://www.besanconhoteldeparis.com/en/accueil.html>



Food

General de Gaulle once asked, with a certain amount of pride, how it was possible to rule a country which produced 365 different kinds of cheese; the Jura region makes an important contribution to this selection. *Comté, Tête de Moine, Morbier, Mont d'Or, Bleu de Gex, Munster, Emmental* and the runny *cancoillotte* are enjoyed with bread and fruit, or used as an ingredient of one of the many cheese-based dishes of the area, such as the *fondue comtoise*. Various *charcuterie* specialities are also found in the area – *Porc de Franche-Comté, Jambon de Luxeuil, Saucisse de Morteau, Saucisse de Montbelliard, langue de boeuf fumé* (smoked beef tongue) and *Saucisse d'Ornans* (invented in 1986, pork and *chanterelle* smoked sausage). Other popular dishes include *coq au vin jaune*, trout (cooked in red wine, white wine or with walnuts), *escargots*, and various kinds of mushrooms (*chanterelles, morilles*).

Traditional sweets include *Tarte aux myrtilles* (bilberry tart), *Galette de Goumeau, pain d'épice* (ginger bread), *gâteau aux noix et au chocolat* (chocolate and walnut cake), and *pet de nonne* (choux pastry *beignet*). Coffee is always served after the meal and will be black, in a small cup, unless a *café au lait* (or *crème*) is requested.

Almost all restaurants offer two types of meals: *a la carte* (extensive choice for each course, generally more expensive) and *le menu* (a set meal at a fixed price). The bill (*l'addition*) will not be presented until it is asked for, even if clients sit and talk for

half an hour after finishing their meal. Usually, a discretionary service charge is added to your bill in restaurants and bars, and no further tipping is required.

Generally speaking, mealtimes in France are strictly observed. Lunch is as a rule served from noon to 1330, dinner usually from 2000-2130, but the larger the city, the later the dining hour.



Drink

Wine is by far the most popular alcoholic beverage in France, and the choice will vary according to region. Set up by the Romans, the Jura *vignoble* is one of the oldest in France and praised by Pliny the Younger as early as the first century AD. Along with Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, this wine produced in this area grows many less known grape varieties, such as the red Poulsard and Trousseau and the Savagnin, used to produce the famed *Vin Jaune* (or yellow wine, aged in a barrel for about 6 years). AOC Château-Chalon exclusively produces *Vin Jaune*. Local AOCs include Côtes du Jura, Crémant du Jura (whites), L'Etoile and Arbois (reds). Try the particular Macvin AOC (wine fortified with local brandy *marc*) and the *Vin de paille* (literally *straw wine*, a dessert wine made with grapes dried, traditionally on straw, before being pressed).

Local liqueurs include the famous *Chartreuse*, originally produced by the monks of the Chartreuse monastery, and *génépi*, also a herb based liqueur.

In elegant restaurants the wine list will be separate from the main menu, but in less opulent establishments will be printed on the back or along the side of the *carte*. The waiter will usually be glad to advise an appropriate choice. If in doubt, try the house wine; this will usually be less expensive and will always be the owner's pride.

Meals included in the price of the holiday are:

Breakfast – daily



Destination

Franche Comte and the Jura, a region of fresh air and open space, forests, lakes and mountains in eastern France, hugging the Swiss border, occupies an undiscovered yet beautiful corner of France. A delight for Francophiles - scenic beauty combined with historic interest, fascinating architecture and distinctive local cuisine and wine - this area is almost unknown in the UK, yet richly rewards the discerning visitor.

Details of places of interest included in the tour:

Besançon

The Franche-Comté's capital, Besançon and the handsome buildings of its old town are squeezed into a loop of the Doubs River. Due to its position, the town has quite a military history, the most obvious relic being the imposing *Vauban citadel* that sits on a hill above the town and offers magnificent views of the area. It now houses the *Musée Comtois* of local history, which focuses on the Resistance. Elsewhere in the town, main sights include the beautiful Renaissance *Palais Granvelle*, dating from the early 16th century, *Victor Hugo's birthplace* at no. 140 Grande Rue, the *Porte Noir* Roman arch, and the *Astronomical clock*, a true symbol of the town's watchmaking heritage. Don't miss the *Musée des Beaux Arts* that houses works by Bellini, Rubens, Goya and local hero, Courbet.

For more information about Besançon, please visit:
<http://www.besancon-tourisme.com/>

Ronchamp and Belfort

Populated as early as the 4th century BC by a Gallic tribe, Ronchamp developed as a town at the beginning of the thirteenth century, and the city developed as a major mining centre. The last pits, however, closed in the middle of the 20th century. The whitewashed concrete post-modern Chapel of Notre Dame du Haut in Ronchamp, France, is one of the most instantly recognizable designs of the twentieth century. The small chapel was designed by the Swiss architect Le Corbusier and constructed in the mid-1950s.

Belfort's strategic location, in a natural gap between the Vosges and the Jura, on a route linking the Rhine and the Rhône, has attracted human settlement since Roman times, and has also made it a frequent target for invading armies many times in its history. Belfort is the home of the Lion of Belfort, a sculpture (that expressed people's resistance

against the siege in the Franco-Prussian War (1870)) by Frédéric Bartholdi – who shortly afterwards built the Statue of Liberty in New York.

For more information about Ronchamp, please visit:
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ronchamp>

For more information about Belfort, please visit:
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belfort>

Ornans & the Vallée de la Loue

A delightful town strung along the Loue River, Ornans is noted as the birthplace of the great realist painter Gustave Courbet, who painted it and the beautiful surrounding landscape in a host of works. His house has been turned into a little museum. One of the most beautiful valleys in the Jura, the neighbouring *Vallée de la Loue* inspired many of his paintings and several belvederes offer splendid views.

For more information about Ornans & Vallée de la Loue, please visit:
<http://www.ornans-loue-lison.com/>

Baume-les-Messieurs, Nozeroy and Château Chalon

One of the "Plus Beaux Villages de France", *Baume-les-Messieurs* sits in a spectacular position at the meeting point of three dramatic valleys, its stone houses clustered around a 13th century Benedictine Abbey. This small monastic settlement enjoys a wonderfully tranquil setting and highlights include the church of *Saint-Pierre*, an austere *hotellerie* and one of Europe's greatest triptych altarpieces, dating from the early 16th century.

A charming hilltop town, *Nozeroy* has much well-preserved medieval architecture including a gateway, church and the ruins of a castle.

Another of the "Plus Beaux Village", gorgeous and picturesque Château Chalon keeps watch over acres of vineyards from its hilltop perch. It was here that the local *Vin jaune* was first produced.

For more information about Baume-les-Messieurs, please visit:

<https://www.france-voyage.com/tourism/baume-messieurs-1081.htm>

for more information about Nozeroy, please visit:
<https://www.france-voyage.com/tourism/nozeroy-1101.htm>

For more information about Château-Chalon, please visit:
<http://www.chateauchalon.com/>

Arc-et-Senans and Arbois

Home of the Royal Saltworks, *Arc-et-Senans* was the brainchild of the great Parisian architect Claude-Nicolas Ledoux. He designed an ideal town-plan in which he envisaged a development built in concentric circles around the main buildings. Planned as a whole town, it was only the buildings used for salt production that were completed in 1775, leaving behind an excellent example of architecture built around a philosophy. The project has nonetheless left a legacy of fine buildings and a small museum dedicated to the idea.

Surrounded by row upon row of vines, the wine town of *Arbois* is famed for its silky rosé wine and distinctive sherry-like *Vin Jaune* (yellow wine). The town is equally renowned as the home of the great scientist Louis Pasteur, whose house and laboratory is completely preserved, converted into a museum, which we will have time to visit. Sitting in the bottom of a valley the town is wonderfully picturesque, perfect for a leisurely stroll along the pretty streets.

For more information about Arc-et-Senans, please visit:

<http://www.ot-arcetsenans.fr/en/>

For more information about Arbois, please visit:

<http://tourisme.arbois.com/en/home.htm>

Reading Suggestions

Graham Robb, *The Discovery of France*.

A general introduction to French culture, landscape and history, it also features an excellent insight into the distinctive character of France's regions.

Bernard Levin, *From the Camargue to the Alps: A Walk Across France in Hannibal's footsteps*.

As the title suggests, English journalist Bernard Levin follows the Carthaginian military commander's path across France to Italy, describing history, landscape and culture on his way.

Wink Lorch, *Jura Wine: with local food and travel tips*.

A detailed, in-depth study of Jura wine, from the grapes, the climate to the wine producers and the region's history, this makes for an interesting and enjoyable read.

Tour Manager

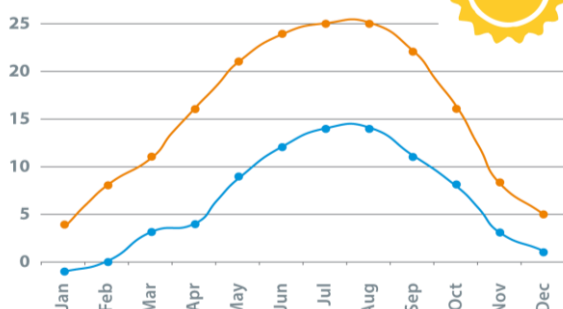
Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operated according to plan. If you have any problems or questions, please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.



The Basics

Climate – The weather in the Jura at this time of year is likely to be pleasant, but there is the chance of the odd shower. Our best advice is to come prepared.

Average temperature for Jura



Time – GMT +2 hours (Summer time Apr-Oct); GMT +1 (Standard time Nov-Mar).

Language – French.

Religion – Roman Catholic.

National holidays – New Year's day (01 Jan); Easter Monday; Labour day (01 May); Victory in Europe day (08 May); Ascension day; Whit Sunday; Whit Monday; National day (14 Jul); Assumption of Mary (15 Aug); All Saints' day (01 Nov); Armistice day (11 Nov); Christmas day (25 Dec).

Currency – Euro. €1 = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

Banks – Cashpoints compatible with international banking networks are located in all towns and cities, as well as airports, major train stations and other spots. They usually offer an attractive exchange rate. Those banks that still exchange foreign currencies into local money will always charge a transaction fee, so withdrawing money from an ATM usually represents the most logical means of obtaining euros.

Credit cards – American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted across the country. If you're eating at a restaurant, check prior to the meal that your card will be an acceptable form of payment. Even in cities, it's advisable to carry a supply of cash with you at all times. Varying amounts of commission can be charged.

Electricity – 220 volt, two-pin continental plug.

Drinking water – Tap water is safe to drink. (Although you'll find a huge amount of bottled water for sale too)

Shops and museums – Department stores are open 0900-1830 Monday to Saturday. Most shops are closed between 1200-1430. Some food shops (particularly bakers) are open Sunday mornings, in which case they will probably close Monday. Many shops close all day or half-day Monday. Please note that most museums close on Mondays.

Clothes & Shoes – You may like to bring a warm sweater for cool evenings. Light rain wear for the occasional storm and good grip/flat walking shoes are recommended.

Camera – bring plenty of memory cards/film and any spare camera batteries as these are not always available. Please check with your guide before photographing people.

Bath plugs – The hotel has plugs for basins, but it is useful to carry a 'universal' one with you.

Telephones/mobiles – The guarantee of free mobile phone roaming throughout the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway has ended. Check with your phone operator to find out about any roaming charges that might be applied after 1st January 2021. A new law means that you are protected from getting mobile data charges above £45 without you knowing. Once you reach £45, you need to opt in to spend more so that you can continue using the internet while you are abroad. Your phone operator will tell how you can do this.

Tipping –To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one awards with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services, but for your guidance about £2-3 per person per day for the tour manager is the norm. We would like to reiterate that tipping is an entirely optional payment and this information is given purely to answer any questions you may have about it.



Health

Doctor/Dentist/Chemist

Please talk to your tour manager if you are feeling unwell and they will organise for you to see a doctor.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.



Hospital

Your tour manager/hotel reception will arrange hospital transport.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.

General Health Advice

We suggest you take a good supply of your own individual medicines with you and always keep some in your hand luggage in case you get delayed or your luggage goes astray. General-purpose supplies for bites, stings, or scratches, and your usual medication for headaches, or stomach upsets are always recommended. Oral re-hydration sachets are excellent for topping up salt and glucose levels.

Visit the NHS Fit For Travel website for more generally information specific to the country you are visiting – www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk

Sun Protection

Always ensure you take sufficient sun protection and moisturiser. A sun hat and sunglasses are also advisable.

Inoculations

You should check with your own doctor and take their advice as to which inoculations are required for the country you are visiting, as only they know your medical history and recommendations are liable to change at short notice.



Insurance

We strongly recommend that you take out an appropriate travel insurance policy when you travel abroad.

To be covered under your Travel Insurance Policy, if you become ill, it is essential that you contact a local doctor and also telephone the emergency number of your insurance company. You will **NOT** be covered for any claim unless this procedure is carried out. Your insurance company will then decide on the best course of medical attention.

European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)

Before you travel, make sure you have got a valid European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) or travel insurance with health cover.

You may not have access to free emergency medical treatment and could be charged for your healthcare if you do not have an EHIC or GHIC when visiting an EU country, or travel insurance with full healthcare cover when visiting Switzerland, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein. If you have an EHIC it will still be valid while it remains in date. Your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) will be valid if you are travelling to an EU country.

For further information about the GHIC please visit: <https://www.ehic.org.uk>



Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

00 44 20 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 0900-1700), telephone our emergency staff on:

00 44 7841 023807

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

If you find that you are in need of consular assistance during your holiday:

Consular services Paris

16 rue d'Anjou

75008 Paris

France

Tel: +33 (0)1 44 51 31 00

Fax: +33 (0)1 44 51 31 27

Open Mon-Fri 0930-1230. Outside these hours a consular Emergency Service is in operation and can be contacted on +33 (0)1 44 51 31 00.

Travel Editions

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