Off the Beaten Path celebrates 32 years in 2026 offering guided, small group luxury walking and gourmet foodie tours to France.

WEBSITE - https://www.traveloffthebeatenpath.com

Our most popular small group tour, Best Adventures in Provence®, fittingly named for its exceptional, adventurous and active itinerary takes guests beyond tourist hot spots to discover the very best of this sun drenched and historically rich southern French region. Our Provence Tour is a fully guided cultural gourmet foodie experience that features walking along the back roads of the beautiful countryside of southern France, and is led by UNSECO award winning guides who are professional culinary, wine, Provence history and walking specialists.

Voted one of the BEST Tour companies in France and the world by leading travel magazines, Off the Beaten Path leads the tour industry in small group luxury walking tour travel with its Best Adventures in Provence® Tour. Our Provence Tour itinerary dazzles travelers of all backgrounds and interests seeking an authentic and active, France cultural experience. Our specialty is small group tour travel in France, and we concentrate on ensuring that our focus on travel exclusively in France remains our priority!

France is our sole focus and Specialty, and we know France BEST!
We ONLY offer exclusive, small group luxury tour travel in France, and have been leading tours in Provence, France for more than 3 Decades!

During this award winning 6-day/5-night small group Tour, discover the hidden gems and best kept secrets of this colorful region that we call home. Thanks to our expertise and long standing relationships and presence in Provence, guests travel in style through the south of France discovering villages and historical sites, walking Provence country trails, dining in a private Provence Farm home kitchen and daily as a group of friends with our local Provence partners who are both celebrity professionals and personal family friends. Our local Provence friends look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to their private homes, restaurants, and workshops, and are eager to share their Provence with you through specially organized, private experiences that are available only to Off the Beaten Path guests. Witness vibrantly colored landscapes of lavender, sunflowers and poppies in season, and participate in spectacular walks and daily excursions and activities touring and discovering the BEST and most beautiful areas of Provence -- the Alpilles, Luberon, Chateauneuf-du-Pape, and Mediterranean coast -- through our eyes and those of our Provence friends; a very personalized experience unlike any other. We use our longstanding friendships, excellent reputation and presence in the Provence region to create itineraries full of fun, memorable experiences that you'll remember long after returning home.

Experience Inspiring Itineraries, Exceptional Quality, and Excellent Value!

Off the Beaten Path France Tours are Recommended by Best Selling Author PJ Adams as her Tour of Choice to Discover the Provence Region!! Traveling on an Off the Beaten Path small group, cultural walking and foodie tour provides exceptional and privileged insider experiences at unparalleled value that multi-destination and other France tour companies cannot match!

TRUSTPILOT ★★★★★ - FRANCE OFF THE BEATEN PATH HAS RECENTLY PARTNERED WITH TRUSTPILOT, an independent review website to collect "independent" traveler reviews about our tours of Provence, Loire Valley, Bordeaux, and Champagne!

Read candid "independent" tour reviews! TRUSTPILOT TOUR REVIEWS

- Our sole focus and specialty is and always has been dedicated to small group travel in France – WE KNOW FRANCE BEST!
- In 2026, we celebrate 32 YEARS EXPERIENCE leading tours exclusively in France.
- Our exclusive relationships with every one of our vendors in France makes these tours truly the trip of a lifetime!
- The most popular small group tours in France, we include "insider" experiences that other tour companies cannot offer.
- Our tours sell out year after year thanks to our exclusive benefits, exceptional quality, and excellent value.
- We are proud to be named travelers #1 choice for group travel for two decades!

Book one of our small group tours today to discover for yourself why our exclusive France tours have been named TRAVELERS #1 CHOICE FOR GROUP TRAVEL FOR TWO DECADES!

WEBSITE - https://www.traveloffthebeatenpath.com

Best Adventures in Provence® Tour

BY OFF THE BEATEN PATH, LLC

** THE ITNERARY SHORT VERSION **

6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS

Multiple Daily Cultural options available for both Walkers and Non-Walkers

Day 1 – A Warm Welcome to Provence!

The Provence tour itinerary begins with a meet-and-greet by our team, a transfer to the hotel as a group, welcome cocktails, a privately hosted gourmet dinner at a friend, and master chef Catherine's Provencal home—D

- As you arrive in the sun-kissed land of poppies, lavender, sunflowers, and vineyards, your adventure begins with a heartfelt meet-and-greet by our welcoming guides. Choose your arrival option: a complimentary transfer from Marseille airport at 1 PM or Avignon TGV rail station at 4 PM.
- Once we arrive at our exquisite boutique hotel—an intimate gem owned by our dear friend Karine—you'll settle in and unpack your bags. This charming retreat, celebrated by Conde Nast, is your home for the next six blissful days, allowing you to immerse yourself in the magic of Provence without the hassle of hotel hopping.

WELCOME APERITIF & DINNER AT OUR FRIEND CATHERINE'S HOME

- EVENING & DINNER: As the sun sets, join us for a delightful Welcome Cocktail Hour, where laughter and stories mingle like the aromas of fresh herbs from the garden during our welcome orientation of the week's activities. The evening culminates in a privately hosted gourmet dinner at the enchanting Mas (Provencal farmhouse) of our dear friend, Chef Catherine. Here, you'll savor a Provencal feast that dances on your palate, setting the perfect tone for the journey ahead.

Dietary Requests & Food Allergies—We accommodate ALL dietary requests and preferences (including vegan, vegetarian, pescatarian, etc.) and ALL food allergies (gluten, shellfish, etc.) while ensuring a fantastic foodie experience for all tour guests with restrictions and/or allergies.

Day 2 – *The Artistry of Les Alpilles*

Cultural walk of St. Remy-de-Provence followed by time to shop at the St. Remy-de-Provence artisan, arts & crafts market, gourmet lunch in the countryside, Afternoon (Choose an Option): Hands-on "Macaron" Workshop at home with our friend, Pastry Chef Evelyne or Leisure time in St. Remy-de-Provence – B, L

BREAKFAST. After a restful night, awaken to the gentle sounds of Provence and enjoy a leisurely breakfast.

ST. REMY-DE-PROVENCE ART, ARTISAN, & CRAFTS MARKET DAY

- MORNING: Our first adventure begins in St. Remy-de-Provence, where the lively artisan market awaits—bursting with vibrant colors and the spirit of local craftsmanship. Stroll through the charming streets, guided by our expert team, and soak in the rich history of this picturesque town.
- For those seeking a deeper connection to the history of the area, opt for a visit to the ancient Roman site of Glanum, where stories of the past whisper through the ruins.

LUNCH: We relish a gourmet lunch together in the countryside at a celebrity hideaway owned by our local friends, adored by foodies, and made famous by Patricia Wells.

AFTERNOON: HANDS-ON "MACARON" WORKSHOP AT HOME WITH OUR FRIEND, PASTRY CHEF EVELYNE OR ENJOY LEISURE TIME IN ST. REMY-DE-PROVENCE

AFTERNOON (Choose an Option below):

- Option #1 : We embark on a 2 hour hands-on pastry workshop at home with our friend, Pastry Chef Evelyne where we learn to make French macarons, an iconic sweet of France, together.
- Option #2 : Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure to explore more of St. Remy-de-Provence, visit its Roman sites (Glanum), museums, and shop the artisan boutiques.

DINNER: As the sun sets, the evening is yours to explore St. Remy's culinary scene, with our guides ready to share their favorite recommendations and make reservations just for you. Breakfast and Lunch are Included Today.

Day 3 – *Art & Lavender Dreams in the Luberon*

Spring & Fall Tours: April, May, 1st week of June, September, October: The Luberon: Gordes & Roussillon village-to-village walk (Designed for guests interested in the walking aspect of the tour), gourmet lunch at one of our favorite gems of a restaurant in the Luberon, cultural visits in Gordes & Roussillon, wine tasting at celebrity winery – B, L

Summer Tours: 2nd week of June through July, August: Lavender season – Valensole plateau: Visit lavender capital Sault, Artist village of Roussillon – walk lavender fields featured in national geographic (Designed for guests interested in the walking aspect of the tour), gourmet picnic amidst the lavender, essential oil distillery tour, cultural visit in Roussillon, optional wine tasting tour – B, L

BREAKFAST.

After breakfast, prepare for a day that will captivate your senses. Depending on the season, we will either wander through the Luberon's golden hues and ochre landscapes or be enveloped by the intoxicating scent of lavender fields on the Valensole plateau.

CULTURAL AND ARTIST DISCOVERY IN THE LUBERON VALLEY

Spring & Fall Tours (April, May, 1st week of June, September, and October tours)

- MORNING: Select An Option: For Both Walkers & Non-Walkers Alike…
- FOR WALKERS: embark on a guided "LUBERON VALLEY VILLAGE TO VILLAGE WALK" through the stunning landscapes of Gordes and Roussillon, where every step reveals a postcard-worthy view. This walk is designed for our guests interested in the walking aspect and options of the tour – with time for walkers to also explore each village – Gordes and Roussillon.
- FOR NON-WALKERS – Shuttle from village to village and enjoy guided cultural tours of hilltop villages of the "Golden Stone Village" of Gordes and "Artist Ochre Cliff Village" of Roussillon … Enjoy guided cultural tours of these historic and charming hilltop villages.
- Both walkers and non-walkers will have time to visit both villages.

Day 3 – *Continued…* LAVENDER, LAVENDER AND MORE LAVENDER…

Summer Tours DURING LAVENDER SEASON (2nd week of June through July, August)

- MORNING: Select An Option: For Both Walkers & Non-Walkers Alike…
- During lavender season, prepare for a magical Lavender Trail Walk, where endless purple fields stretch as far as the eye can see. We'll also visit our friends' local lavender farm and distillery to learn about the delicate process of lavender production and essential oil distillation.
- FOR WALKERS: Our Luberon village-to-village walk is replaced by our morning "LAVENDER TRAIL WALK"—designed for our guests interested in the walking aspect and options of the tour. This walk takes guests through picturesque lavender fields and villages near the Valensole plateau!
- FOR NON-WALKERS: Shuttle to lavender fields to experience and photograph the endless fields of lavender and enjoy non-walking cultural experiences.
- Read my blog post about the Magic of Lavender in Provence (opens in a new window)

LUNCH (April, May, 1st week of June, September, October tours): Gourmet lunch at one of our favorite hideaways in the Luberon Valley.
LUNCH (2nd week of June through July, August): Gourmet French Picnic amidst spectacular landscapes of lavender fields during the flowering season.

PERCHED HILLTOP VILLAGES OF THE LUBERON

- AFTERNOON: In the afternoon, we explore the ochre cliffs of Roussillon, a village steeped in beauty and stories of love and loss. If time permits, indulge in a wine tasting at a celebrity winery, where the flavors of Provence will linger in your memory long after you leave.

DINNER: Dinner on your own. As the day winds down, enjoy another evening in St. Remy, where culinary delights await your discovery. Your guides will provide recommendations and make reservations. Breakfast & Lunch Included Today.

DAY 3 - *Walking Ratings*

WALKING RATING FOR PROVENCE WALK #1

(April, May, first week of June, September, October) …

- WALKERS — Our guided “Luberon Valley Village to Village” walk in the Luberon is rated EASY to MODERATE. It involves walking on vineyards and country trails through picturesque landscapes, French country architecture, lavender and sunflower fields with various beautiful villages in the background. It is ideal for those who walk regularly in the morning or afternoon. The walk lasts approximately 2 hours, depending on stops made for photo-ops.
- NON-WALKERS — EASY: Shuttle to each of our beautiful hilltop villages and gourmet hosted lunch.

WALKING RATING FOR PROVENCE WALK #1 DURING THE LAVENDER SEASON

(2nd Week of June through July, August)

- FOR WALKERS — Our “Lavender Trail Walk” and is rated EASY to MODERATE. Enjoy spectacular, guided walking amidst some of the most beautiful landscapes of Provence, walking through magical fields of lavender. The countryside is gorgeous with incredible color and aromas and offers the perfect setting for a walking experience. This walk is ideal for those who regularly walk in the morning or afternoon. Walk length – approximately 1.5-2 hrs. depending on stops made for photo-ops.
- FOR NON-WALKERS — EASY: Take our shuttle to lavender fields to experience and photograph the endless fields of lavender and enjoy non-walking cultural experiences with your guide.

DAY 4 - *Seaside Serenity in Cassis*

A Day Along the Mediterranean Sea coast in Cassis's terraced, wine-producing village. Enjoy a one-hour Calanques cruise (Roman fjords), Partake in an optional visit to an artisan perfumery and weekly market, Try pastis and Cassis wines with us, swim in the Med, Enjoy a Gourmet dinner together – B, D

BREAKFAST.

DAY ALONG THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST IN TERRACED WINE PRODUCING VILLAGE OF CASSIS

- MORNING: We set off for the Mediterranean village of Cassis. Here, the terraced vineyards cascade down to the azure sea, creating a breathtaking backdrop for our day's adventures.
- Begin with a guided walking tour of Cassis, exploring its charming port and the vibrant weekly market filled with local treasures.
- Next, embark on a one-hour cruise through the stunning Calanques, where dramatic cliffs meet the shimmering Mediterranean sea.

LUNCH: For those who wish, join your guides to partake in a tasting of the region's iconic Pastis and Cassis wines, before savoring an independent lunch along the picturesque port.

ARTISAN PERFUMERY & SAVON DE MARSEILLE

- AFTERNOON: Artisan Option for interested guests: Meet and visit our artisan friends at their local perfumery, where the fragrance of Provence envelops you in aromas reflective of the region. Learn about the family's perfume-making trade and history, tour the workshop, and sample perfumes and hand-made soaps made exclusively at their Artisan "Perfumery".
- AFTERNOON: As the afternoon unfolds, relish leisure time to explore or simply soak up the sun on the beach before our return to St. Remy.
- Time permitting: We stop at our favorite local "Savon de Marseille" soap artisan.

DINNER: Indulge in a gourmet dinner together, where the flavors of Provence will dance on your palate once more. Breakfast and Dinner are Included Today.

DAY 5 - *A Toast to Antiquities of Arles, Wines of Châteauneuf-du-Pape and the Presence of Van Gogh*

Guided Cultural walk of Arles and its' Roman Ruins, Visit Museums and Explore the Art, Artisan, and Craft Market, Visit the vineyards of Chateauneuf-du-Pape, Partake in a Winery Tour and VIP Wine Tasting, Privately Hosted Lunch at friend's Winery, Afternoon Options (Choose one): Guided visit of St. Paul-de-Maussole to learn about Van Gogh's presence in the region with our very own Van Gogh Specialist or Enjoy Leisure time in St. Remy, Farewell dinner Together – B, L, D

BREAKFAST.

THE ROMAN TOWN OF ARLES, ITS' ROMAN RUINS, HISTORIC MONUMENTS & MUSEUMS, CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE WINERY TOUR, TASTING, AND PRIVATELY HOSTED LUNCH

MORNING: After breakfast, we journey to the Roman town of Arles. The Roman ruins of Arles are classified a UNESCO World Heritage site. Vincent Van Gogh also lived in Arles for two years (1888-1889) during which time he painted and drew 300 works of art. Take in the history of this spectacular town during our guided walk followed by time to explore at your leisure.

Afterwards, we travel to the famous vineyards of Châteauneuf-du-Pape for a VIP tour and wine tasting at our friends' family winery, where you'll sip some of the finest wines that this celebrated region has to offer.

LUNCH: Enjoy a privately hosted lunch at our friend's winery, where every bite is crafted with love and passion by our friend, retired 2-star Michelin Chef, Jean-Claude.

AFTERNOON: GUIDED TOUR OF ST. PAUL-DE-MAUSSOLE WITH OUR VERY OWN VAN GOGH EXPERT OR ENJOY LEISURE TIME IN ST. REMY-DE-PROVENCE

AFTERNOON OPTIONS ... choose your option:
Afternoon Option #1: Our cultural journey continues this afternoon with a private Van Gogh tour at St. Paul de Mausole, guided by our knowledgeable head guide, Philippe, a Van Gogh expert whose passion will bring the artist's story to life.

Afternoon Option #2: Remainder of the afternoon at leisure to explore more of St. Remy-de-Provence, visit its Roman sites & museums, and finish last-minute souvenir shopping.

DINNER: As the sun sets, we gather for a farewell dinner at our best-kept secret, a culinary hideaway cherished by locals. Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner are Included Today.

DAY 6 - *Fond Farewells and Lasting Memories!*

Provence tour itinerary concludes – B

BREAKFAST.

- As your Provence journey comes to a close, enjoy your final breakfast amidst the beauty of your surroundings. Choose between a transfer to Avignon TGV rail station or a transfer to Marseille airport, details below.
- This isn't just a tour; it's an invitation to savor the essence of Provence, a land where every moment is painted with beauty, every flavor tells a story, and you carry home memories of a lifetime. Book your escape now, and let the magic of Provence transform you.

(B) = Breakfast Included, (L) = Lunch Included, (D) = Dinner Included

DAY 1 AND DAY 6 COMPLIMENTARY GROUP TRANSFER DETAILS

- TOUR BEGINS: On Day 1, you have a choice between a 1:00 PM scheduled group transfer from Marseille airport to our hotel and a 4:00 PM scheduled group transfer from Avignon TGV Rail Station to our hotel.

- TOUR ENDS: On Day 6, choose between a 10 AM scheduled group transfer arrival to the Avignon TGV rail station and a NOON scheduled group transfer arrival to Marseille airport.

The tour information package we send you 30 days before the tour departure date will include specific details on where to meet your tour guides at each scheduled transfer location (the rail station and airport) on Day 1.

ACTIVITY RATING: **Walkers -** 80% Easy, 20% Moderate. **Non-Walkers -** 100% Easy.

COMFORT ZONE: While our Provence tour itinerary is designed equally for walkers and non-walkers, please note that due to the nature of the activities and excursions of each of our Provence Tour itineraries, our tours are not suitable for anyone with serious mobility issues. Even if opting out of a scheduled walk and participating only in our proposed guided cultural options, guests need to be capable of leisure walking, i.e. walking in villages and towns, walking through historic sites and monuments without assistance, and using stairs at cultural sites, museums, and historical monuments.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

https://www.travelofffthebeatenpath.com

• Off the Beaten Path, LLC is an American owned and operated company licensed and bonded to protect your vacation investment.

• Off the Beaten Path, LLC holds a website identity assurance warranty of $100,000. Travelers are insured for up to $100,000 per tour reservation booking when relying on the information provided by GeoTrust IdAuthority (Equifax Secure Certificate Authority) on our website.

OFF THE BEATEN PATH, LLC

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Branch Offices in Bordeaux & Saint Remy-de-Provence

THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES...

- Fully Guided sightseeing, walks, excursions, and cultural visits throughout the tour by professional Off the Beaten Path, LLC (OTBP) Company Tour Guides. OTBP Guides are UNESCO award winners, contributors to Provence Travel Guidebooks, and are accomplished authors. OTBP Tour guides are professional France history and Provence-specific history specialists who make learning the tidbits, gossip, anecdotes and stories of France and everything French fun and memorable.
- 5 nights — NO HOTEL HOPPING! UNPACK ONLY ONCE — at CONDE NAST recommended boutique Hotel Gounod in historical St. Remy de Provence, and is owned and operated by our personal friend Karine.
- 11 Meals Included – 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners.
- All premium wines and non-alcoholic beverages at group meals!
- Entry/participation fees for activities and excursions detailed as included in the itinerary.
- Roundtrip transfers at scheduled times on Day 1 and Day 6 of the tour as detailed in the itinerary.
- Bottled water provided daily.
- All ground transportation throughout the tour.
- –COMFORT ZONE– Designed for the interests of and to appeal to BOTH WALKERS & NON-WALKERS — the Active and Occasional Walker, and travelers of all ability levels. If you're not a walker at all, enjoy shuttling to all activities, excursions and meals on our comfortable 18-seater air-conditioned Mercedes Sprinters.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE – International airfare to/from France, airfare/train fare to the starting point to begin the tour at Avignon TGV rail station or Marseille airport, entry fees for optional visits not detailed in itinerary, 1 lunch, 2 dinners, gratuities to guides, professional driver, hotel staff, personal purchases, laundry services.

Authentic Provence Experiences!

Spend 6 days experiencing Provence like family friends going beyond tourist hotspots to meet and spend time with some of France's best loved and highly recognized artisans, chefs, and winery owners who are our family friends, and welcome you to their workshops, kitchens, and family homes for authentic and fun French experiences unlike any other! We have established, proprietary relationships with All Chefs, restaurants and bistrots on ALL of our tours based on both our exclusive and privileged network of contacts and French friends and our outstanding reputation throughout France. All Chefs, restaurants and bistrots selected for our tours are Michelin-star and/or have been featured/recommended by top "foodie" magazines and/or fellow Michelin-star Chefs, and are family or long time friends. We dine in both gourmet restaurants and our favorite hide-a-ways cherished by the locals.

We asked some of our guests from our Provence tours - "Would you recommend our Provence Tour to a friend or Family and why?"

THEIR RESPONSES...

"YES, We will enthusiastically recommend this trip to friends and family!! It is great to be with tour guides who are smart, well informed and eager to see that we are having a great experience. We enjoyed everything about this trip. Hotel and meals were outstanding! The thing we enjoyed the most was the congenial attitude created by the guides and driver. It was so easy to be with everyone. Every day was different, different experiences, different locations and very magical! This has been an outstanding experience and we surely would want to share it with people that we care about. Merci Beaucoup! How did you manage to put together such a great group of guests?!" –JORDAN & ANITA WALDMAN, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA (referred to the tour by guests Ralph and Sandy Mayer-their feedback below)

"YES!! We loved our attentive, hard working guides, the varied and well chosen activities. The accommodations are very high quality and the food from the cooking class, bistrot and dinners were all a highlight of the trip. Very favorable ratio of quality to cost...VALUE in other words. This trip far exceeded our expectations! Thank you for such a fun and beautiful week!" –DICK AND FRANCES UGORETZ, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA (referred to the tour by guests Ralph and Sandy Mayer-their feedback below)

"Absolutely!! Yes we will recommend this tour to our friends and family! We were very pleased with the hotel accommodations, places visited and variety of activities. The people in our group were terrific, the gourmet meals were fantastic, and we were very appreciative of the care and concern taken to accommodate a variety of interests and preferences. This is the most fun and flexible tour we have ever been on!! Bravo Christy! You are a phenomenal host! Thanks for an enjoyable time in Provence!! We felt pampered and cared for!" –RALPH AND SANDY MAYER, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

"Yes – without reservation I would recommend this trip to a friend! We will do just that! We loved everything about this trip! Especially loved the walks and lunches. The hotel was outstanding and dinner every night was always amazing. Loved the final day because of the quiet villages and gorgeous walk. The congenial group enhanced the whole experience and the beloved leaders – Christy, David, Philippe(guide) and (different) Philippe(our driver) – made it exceptional! Thank you for a beautiful holiday!" –ADAM & GRETEL CRUM, SAN CLEMENTE, CA - Have been on 2 OTBP Tours - Best Adventures in Provence and Bordeaux Harvest Tour

"Yes – We had a great time and enjoyed all aspects of the trip. We would recommend for the following reasons – The fact that Christy was leading it made it very special. Every venue was 1st class. The walks were fun, the hotel room was just beautiful. The itinerary gave a us a taste of southern France – we were hoping for that. The group was very compatible and that made it a constantly smiling experience. You are free to use us as a reference if you desire. Thanks for everything this WEEK!" –FRED AND SHARON HIRSH, MD, AURORA, OH

"Yes Absolutely – I've planned several European trips with the help of travel books and travel companies. And none of those can compare with this trip! We would have never found the top notch restaurants that we went to nor would we have been able to fit so much into our time. Even our transportation was wonderful! Our guides David and Philippe were definitely one of the best highlight of our trip! David's incredible knowledge along with his sense of humor made every day interesting and very enjoyable. We loved Philippe's gracious welcoming, knowledge of the French culture which he joyfully shared and that he assisted us all in every way possible. Restaurant choices were top notch! Thank you – we loved this trip!!" –ROB AND CAROLE LIVINGSTON, LONGMONT, COLORADO

"YES – By far the BEST way ever to experience Provence!! The guides were fantastic – knowledgeable, fun, informative, helpful, authentic and caring!! We couldn't ask for better guides! Outstanding! The experiences were fun, enlightening and never to be forgotten. What a special time!" --JOHN AND KATHY NICHOLS MASSILLON, OHIO

"YES – the trip is well priced, well planned, consistently executed, the ideal size, with exceptional tour guides and none of the excursions were too far away. Cooking class was exceptional and I loved the location and learned a lot. Loved the walks to balance out the food. It is a stunning, romantic and beautiful place to visit. Finally, the tour really provides an opportunity to "taste Provence"." --ANN YUREK, TORONTO, CANADA - Has been on 2 OTBP Tours - Best Adventures in Provence and Bordeaux Harvest Tour

"YES! Almost everything was beyond my wildest expectations! The tour guides were wonderful. This was the BEST experience of my life. Everything about this itinerary should stay! Pierre and his staff at Mas des Carassins went above and beyond to welcome us and to make us feel like we were at home! This trip went way beyond our expectations! I plan on talking to everyone in my circle of friends and talking to them about doing this trip for our next major birthday bash! I hope our same guides will still be leading the tour then! THANK YOU!!" --MARY MCCARTHY, YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Hotel Gounod

There is NO HOTEL HOPPING on any Tours — ALL are home-based — Guests stay at 1 Premiere Inn for the entire tour!

Our Provence Tour hotel has been voted BEST boutique hotel in St. Remy de Provence! Recommended by Conde Nast!

Gounod Hotel has a perfect and quaint location in the heart of historic St. Remy de Provence town, and is the most historical hotel in town having hosted some of the most famous personalities in Provence history. Under new ownership by Off the Beaten Path owner Christy Destremau's friend Karine since November 2014, the hotel underwent a complete renovation 3 winters in a row. Our Best Adventures in Provence Tour guests are going to love and be spoiled by all the upgrades and amenities!! This is "THE" place to stay in St. Remy, and we are excited to share this paradise with our guests!!

The Gounod has hosted artists such as Vincent Van Gogh and Frédéric Mistral, as well as composer Charles Gounod himself in 1863 who composed the famous opera "Mireille" during his stay here. Having hosted such distinguished celebrities, the hotel serves as the perfect backdrop for our Best Adventures in Provence® Walking and Foodie Tour. Step out the front door of the hotel to find yourself immediately in the town's historical pedestrian streets. Some of the area's most prized art studios and galleries, artisan shops, cafes, and much more are just steps away. Pop into a local café to people watch while sipping a glass of local wine, or while enjoying a buttery French pastry. For some quiet and relaxation time, enjoy a glass of wine, beer, or tea in the beautiful and tranquil hotel gardens, a swim in the beautiful new pool, or enjoy a tea in the hotel's quaint and cozy tea salon. Hotel management is always present, happy to help guests, and answer any questions.

ABOUT THE ROOMS — The hotel's spacious, and newly refurbished guest rooms are uniquely furnished with luxury linens and toiletry products. Because the hotel has been completely renovated, styled to reflect the history and culture of the Provence region, and is also a historical building, no two rooms are alike in size, decoration or furnishings. ALL rooms feature air-conditioning and are equipped with European king-size beds (or two single beds on request), and private ensuite bathrooms. Rooms also feature a hairdryer, flat screen television (in various languages-English included), individual safe, telephone, and FREE WIFI.

Use of an iPad with WIFI access is also available for OTBP tour guests compliments of Off the Beaten Path, LLC -- ask your guides for details.

Like many countryside hotels, Hotel Gounod is not equipped with an elevator.

The hotel exercises eco-friendly practices, and a memo explaining these eco-friendly practices can be found in each guest room. For example – guests preferring to have their bath towels changed daily are kindly requested to place used towels on the bathroom floor, and guests who wish to re-use their bath towels are kindly requested to hang them on the towel racks.

GOURMET DINING AT ITS FINEST — While staying at Gounod Hotel during our Best Adventures in Provence Tour, guests enjoy a mix of gourmet dining experiences reflective of Provence including our favorite Michelin-rated restaurants, celebrity and gourmet bistrots, a traditional French tasting picnic and a cooking class meal with our celebrity chef. Savor vegetable rich, Italian influenced gourmet southern French cuisine throughout the tour.

NOT JUST A TOUR: IT'S AN AUTHENTIC OFF THE BEATEN PATH *French Experience...*

Unrivaled expertise within France sets Off the Beaten Path, LLC apart from non-France based and multi-destination tour companies. Off the Beaten Path, LLC (OTBP) is American owned and operated. In 2026, the company celebrates 32 years delivering small, engaging group, walking, gourmet foodie, wine and cultural tours exclusively in France. OTBP active, small group France tours offer travelers the very BEST, and most inspiring and exclusive itineraries filled with cultural "insider" experiences to discover Provence, Loire Valley, Bordeaux, Champagne, Normandy, and Dordogne, France.

Enjoy exceptional quality and excellent value on an OTBP small group tour today! Travelers and publications rate Off the Beaten Path Tours the BEST active, small group tours in France thanks to the unparalleled "insider" experiences featured in each tour itinerary. The company's renowned "insider" relationships with regional French chefs, artisans, and cultural industry professionals put Off the Beaten Path far ahead of the competition when it comes to creating one-of-a-kind itineraries to experience the very BEST of France! Whether you're a seasoned small group tour traveler, or new to the small group tour scene, Off the Beaten Path tours offer fun, enriching, interactive, local, and authentic French experiences and activities for everyone.

More than just a tour, Off the Beaten Path, transforms the entire guest experience into a personalized and exclusive "unparalleled" active, cultural affair that far exceeds guest expectations! We connect guests with lifelong, French friends who rank among France's top-rated chefs, specialty artisans, artists, wine producers, hotel & castle owners, and entertainers! Expert Professional English speaking guides who live in France, inspiring itineraries, deluxe historical hotel accommodations, sumptuous French meals, classified regional wines, and comfortable transportation in private, spacious, professionally driven vehicles are immutable standards on every Off the Beaten Path Tour. Each tour itinerary is comprised of a variety of engaging activities and enriching experiences for guests to authentically discover the heart and soul of each region. Participate in cooking classes with our friends who are celebrity Master, Meilleur Ouvrier de France, and Michelin-star chefs who look forward to your arrival, and make you feel welcome in their family homes, professional kitchens, and workshops as a group of friends.

Shop at weekly village markets where OTBP tour guides introduce you to our French friends who are olive oil and wine producers, artists, cheese-makers, herb and spice vendors, craftsmen, perfumery and linen artisans, and designers. Walk the same countryside and vineyard trails that regional French residents do with their families. Enjoy the slow road scenery that comes with walking local country trails through vineyards, flower fields of lavender, poppies, and sunflowers, olive and fruit orchards, and small historic villages. Tour castles, pre-historic caves, and other historical monuments and sites with our knowledgeable, professional UNESCO award-winning guides. Learn the juicy, fun untold stories of French history! Dine in the same gourmet restaurants and bistros, as local French do — where the chefs are our personal friends and set aside a table uniquely to welcome you as their exclusive guests. Built-in leisure time provides guests with opportunities to pursue independent interests and activities or to break away from the group for some quiet or personal time.

Every OTBP tour offers daily options with varying levels of activeness. You always have the flexibility of deciding how each day unfolds. OTBP tour guides sit down with the group every day to discuss the activities, excursions, walks, local events, and options of the day. With so many options available during each tour, we ensure you the flexibility to be as active as you choose (more walking, less walking, shopping time, cultural discovery, people watching, photography, etc.), and to also enjoy leisure time to pursue independent interests, all while enjoying the perks of traveling in a small group. Our tour guides take care and manage the daily logistics and details while you, our guest, spend your time on the critical stuff — having fun, relaxing and enjoying your vacation your way! The idea behind each OTBP tour is to appeal to the discerning traveler of all ages and backgrounds who seeks something new and different, and who wants to reach out and discover something inspiring.