

The Côte d'Azur has long been a place of artistic longing, where extraordinary light, Mediterranean landscapes, and architectural experimentation have drawn painters, writers, and visionaries for generations.

Yet beyond the familiar glamour of the Riviera lies a quieter and more intellectually compelling landscape. Here, modernist masterpieces overlook the sea, private villas evoke ancient civilizations, intimate chapels become total works of art, and contemporary collections exist in dialogue with gardens, stone, and sky.

This curated journey explores the French Riviera through the lens of art history, architecture, and cultural atmosphere. From the modernist radicalism of Eileen Gray and Le Corbusier to the spiritual worlds of Matisse and Chagall, from the remarkable Fondation Maeght to hidden architectural treasures along the coast, the experience reveals a Riviera of substance as much as beauty.

Gastronomy, landscape, and artistic heritage are woven into a carefully composed cultural narrative, offering a journey that balances refinement, intellectual depth, and Mediterranean pleasure.

This sample itinerary is intended as inspiration. Every journey can be individually tailored to your interests, preferred pace, and specific wishes.

### **Sample Itinerary**

#### **Day 1**

Arrival and First Impressions of Nice

The journey begins in Nice, where Belle Époque elegance, Mediterranean energy, and layered urban history create an ideal introduction to the French Riviera.

A first exploration may include a walk through the historic city, from grand seafront promenades to the narrow streets of the old town, offering a sense of the region's cultural complexity and visual charm.

The evening may begin with a welcome aperitif overlooking the city, followed by a carefully selected dinner that introduces the culinary identity of the Côte d'Azur.

## **Day 2**

Modernism, Mythology, and the Mediterranean Coast

A day dedicated to architectural imagination and cultural contrasts.

Experiences may include a visit to Eileen Gray's legendary Villa E-1027, one of the most important modernist houses of the twentieth century, dramatically positioned above the Mediterranean. The dialogue between architecture, design, and personal history makes this an exceptionally compelling encounter.

The journey may continue with the extraordinary Villa Kérylos, a dreamlike reinterpretation of ancient Greece on the Riviera, followed by artistic and architectural discoveries in the surrounding coastal towns, where history and Mediterranean atmosphere remain inseparably linked.

## **Day 3**

Modern Art and Spiritual Vision

This day explores some of the French Riviera's most profound artistic landmarks.

Experiences may include the Fondation Maeght, one of Europe's most important private institutions for modern and contemporary art, where architecture, sculpture, and landscape form a seamless whole.

The journey may continue to the Chapelle du Rosaire in Vence, Henri Matisse's deeply personal spiritual masterpiece, where light, line, and colour achieve extraordinary emotional clarity.

A walk through Saint Paul de Vence adds another dimension, revealing the intimate relationship between artistic life and the built environment of the region.

Optional evening cultural experiences may further enrich the day.

**Passepartout Voyages – Marcel René Widjaja E.I.**

info@passepartout-voyages.de ♦ +49 (0) 176 258 71010 ♦ www.passepartout-voyages.de

## **Day 4**

### Local Traditions, Wine, and Mediterranean Living

Beyond museums and monuments, the Riviera reveals itself through local craftsmanship, gastronomy, and sensory pleasures.

Experiences may include encounters with regional culinary traditions, artisanal producers, or historic wine estates set within the hills surrounding Nice.

A relaxed lunch, vineyard setting, or optional cooking experience may offer a deeper appreciation of Mediterranean culture not merely as aesthetic backdrop, but as lived daily ritual.

This day creates space for both cultural immersion and personal leisure.

## **Day 5**

### Chagall, Sacred Spaces, and a Final Farewell

The final day may return to Nice's extraordinary artistic heritage.

Experiences may include visits to significant religious and cultural landmarks, culminating in the Musée Marc Chagall, where colour, spirituality, and poetic imagination come together in one of the region's most distinctive museum experiences.

A final shared lunch overlooking the Mediterranean offers a fitting conclusion to a journey shaped by art, architecture, light, and atmosphere.

### **Interested in a tailored cultural journey to the French Riviera?**

Each itinerary is individually curated for private travelers, small groups, and special interest cultural programs.