



Textile Tour of Provence with European Patchwork Meeting in Alsace, France

Tour leader - Kimberly Einmo

September 15 – 27 2021

12 nights/13 days

Itinerary Map





Overview

Highlights

Tour Itinerary

Day 1 Wed Sep 15 Arrive Paris

Get together in the hotel lobby at 6pm to meet your tour leader and fellow group members.

Day 2 Thu Sep 16 Paris-Colmar Train

After breakfast, transfer to the station for train to Colmar.

Upon arrival, transfer to hotel and check in.

Day 3-4 Fri-Sat Sep 17-18 Colmar

These days are dedicated to the **European Patchwork Meeting**.



Enjoy daily breakfasts served in the hotel and 2 full days exploring the internationally renowned European Patchwork Meeting - a unique event dedicated to textile and patchwork. Quilts and textile works of art reflect both the traditional and the modern.

Coach transfer to and from Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines and local coaches are available to shuttle visitors between the four villages.

Day 5 Sun Sep 19 Colmar-Beaune-Lyon Coach

After breakfast, we depart Colmar and travel to Lyon by coach. En route, we'll pay a visit to **Beaune** at the center of the Burgundy winemaking region.

Surrounded by the Côte d'Or vineyards, the cobbled town is renowned for an annual wine auction held at the Hôtel-Dieu (Hospices de Beaune). Recognized by its colorful, geometric-patterned tile roof, this 15th-century former hospital is now the Hôtel-Dieu Museum, showcasing works like "The Last Judgement" altarpiece by Van der Weyden.

Day 6 Mon Sep 20 Lyon

After breakfast, we depart our hotel for a visit to the **Textile Museum**. The Textile Museum has 2000 years of history of textiles (the first collection in the world).

In the heart of the Croix-Rousse district, we'll visit the **Soierie Vivante**, an association dedicated to preserving the last remaining 19th century weaving workshops - the **municipal trimming workshop** and the **municipal weaving workshop**.





Day 7 Tue Sep 21 Lyon-Aix-en-Provence Coach

Today we depart by coach to Aix-en-Provence.

Bathed in the light of its special climate, Aix-en-Provence is a city of refined elegance on show in its constantly bustling streets and squares.

In the afternoon, we will take a walking tour of Aix-en-Provence including the **Saint Savior Cathedral**, **Cézanne's Studio** and the elegant **Town Hall**.

A sacred place for thousands of years, the Aix-en-Provence cathedral has become a religious landmark in the region. The imposing church features large proportions combining three styles of architecture (Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque) with a few elements taken from the Roman era. Today, Aix cathedral is listed as a national monument and its location in the Old Town makes it one of the most visited sites in the Provençal town.

The painter Paul Cézanne is Aix-en-Provence's most famous resident. A visit to his studio is a great opportunity to access to his creative and intimate environment.



Day 8 Wed Sep 22 Aix-en-Provence

After breakfast, we take a day excursion to Marseille and Cassis.

Marseille is the "oldest city in France" and indeed one of the oldest in western Europe. Marseille's heart is the vibrant Vieux Port (old port), mast-to-mast with yachts and pleasure boats. Just uphill is the ancient Le Panier neighborhood, the oldest section of the city. Also worth an explore is the République quarter, with its stylish boutiques and Haussmannian buildings, and the Joliette area, centered on Marseille's totemic Cathédrale de Marseille Notre Dame de la Major.

One of the most seductive resorts on the Provence coast, **Cassis** boasts a stunning location, a lovely harbor, a sprinkling of beaches, exceptional wines and an intimate, small-town feel.

Day 9 Thu Sep 23 Aix-en-Provence-Avignon Coach



Today is **Le Grand Marché** (Farmer's market), the most interesting market day in Aix. The city's big market is a real institution in Provence. It's the ultimate must-visit for locals and visitors alike. It's a place to meet up and get together which keeps the age-old trading tradition alive and has now become an essential way of life. There are countless artisans selling a wide range of tablecloths, embroidery and fabric by the meter. Provençal earthenware and pottery takes pride of place with plates, dishes and other kitchen utensils. Last but not least, antique and second-hand dealers bring you unusual objects and

accessories worthy of a cabinet of curiosities.

Later we travel to Avignon, en route, visit **Souleiado Museum**. Founded in 1988, this unusual museum mingles memories of the Souleiado production and the history of textile printing. You will learn secrets of producing the famous Indian prints and how they were used according to tradition in everyday Provence.



Our next visit will be at the **Olivades factory** and outlet shop. In 1977, Pierre Boudin created, with the help of his wife Paule, LES OLIVADES, a company still controlled by their children and grandchildren and who set themselves one goal: perpetuate the ancestral art of printing on fabrics in the south of France, while making it evolve and adapting it to current life.

Day 10 Fri Sep 24 Avignon

After breakfast, we depart our hotel by coach to discover the town of Uzès.

This morning visit the **Duchy of Uzès** and free to discover on your own its many beautiful shops and galleries, the Duke's castle or the medieval garden.

In the afternoon we travel to **Saint Quentin la Poterie** to visit a number of artisans (doll makers, hat makers, etc.) and potters' studios and galleries. St. Quentin la Poterie has been a potter's village since the 14th century when the town was called upon to produce over 110,000 varnished tiles to decorate the Palais des Papes in Avignon.

Day 11 Sat Sep 25 Avignon

After breakfast, we depart for the **town of Apt** to explore its huge lively **Saturday market**. Apt market is the biggest of the Luberon weekly markets. It takes place on Saturday morning year-round and has been going for some 900 years. The market sprawls and swirls through several alleys and squares in the heart of old Apt, like a long conga line, and it's a festival of vitality and color.

The afternoon will be spent in **Roussillon** with a discovery walk of the old ochre quarries and then view a demonstration of the uses of ochres as pigments in the old ochre factory "**Usine Mathieu**".



Day 12 Sun Sep 26 Avignon



After breakfast, we visit the Sunday market in **L'Isle sur la Sorgue**. On Sundays it hosts the biggest antique and collectables market in Provence.

In the afternoon, we discover the Agniel fabric store in Nîmes - **Les Entrepôts-Agniel**. Madame Aday and Thierry will welcome you in an area of 400 m² full of fabrics, clothing, furnishings, waxed canvas, coated canvas, outdoor canvas, haberdashery and technical products. Take advantage of their personalized advice in the choice of different colors or for your gift ideas.

We'll also explore the exceptionally well-preserved UNESCO protected three - tiered Roman aqueduct **The Pont du Gard**. A true masterpiece of ancient architecture, the Pont du Gard aqueduct is one of the most beautiful Roman constructions in the region.

Day 13 Mon Sep 27 Depart Avignon

Tour concludes after breakfast.