



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# RIVIERA MAGIC

2024 YOUNG ALUMNI JOURNEY

US DEPARTURE DATE: JUNE 29, 2024

LAND TOUR START DATE: JUNE 30, 2024

RETURN DATE: JULY 7, 2024

LAND PACKAGE FROM: \$3,298



# START YOUR ADVENTURE.



Dear Young Alumni and Friends!

Can you think of a better way to travel than with fellow University of Michigan Young Alumni?

The University of Michigan Alumni Association young alumni travel program, designed for grads ages 22 – 35, offers you this opportunity by bringing you together with individuals in the same age range, with similar backgrounds and experiences, while enriching you on well-designed, hassle-free tours of the world.

These programs provide social, cultural, and recreational activities and many opportunities for learning enrichment and enjoying a connection back to the University of Michigan. Our journeys are of great quality and value, operated by a travel company with over 46 years of experience in the young travel market.

In this brochure you will find a detailed itinerary, travel dates and pricing. If you have any questions about this tour, please contact our tour operator AESU Alumni World Travel by calling 800-638-7640 or email [alumni@aesu.com](mailto:alumni@aesu.com). To make an online booking, please visit our young alumni tour landing page [www.aesu.com/umich](http://www.aesu.com/umich) and select this tour to be directed to the tour web site.

We are looking forward to traveling with you this coming season.

Sincerely,

*Rachele Neu*

RACHELE NEU B.S. '08, M.A. '12

Senior Travel Program Manager

Alumni Association of the University of Michigan

[alumnitravel@umich.edu](mailto:alumnitravel@umich.edu)

The Riviera Magic Young Alumni Trip is a benefit to current members of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan. To join the Alumni Association, please visit <https://alumni.umich.edu/membership/>

Visit our website [www.aesu.com/umich](http://www.aesu.com/umich) for more details and to book.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is compulsory. The Alumni Association of Michigan offers the following travel insurance:

<https://alumni.trawickinternational.com/school/welcome/677/>

# RIVIERA MAGIC



9 DAYS | 7 NIGHTS

CITIES VISITED:  
PROVENCE | FRENCH RIVIERA

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

### 9-Day Land Package Transportation and Lodging

- 7 nights in superior tourist class hotels or better with private bath/ shower, 2-share rooms
  - Airport transfer with purchased AESU group airfare
- Ground transportation by private motor coach as per itinerary
  - Train travel as per itinerary

### Meals

- 11 meals: 7 breakfasts, 1 specialty lunch, 3 specialty dinners

### Activities and Admissions

- Resort town Saint Raphael
- Day excursion to the film festival city Cannes
- Guided behind-the-scenes tour of Cannes history, glamour & cinema, led by a screenwriter and historical researcher
- Day excursion to Nice, Queen resort of the Côte d'Azur
- Exploration walk of Nice with tour director incl. palm tree lined Promenade des Anglais
  - Full-day Eze and Monte Carlo Excursion
- Fragonard perfume museum & factory visit in Eze
  - La Turbie viewpoint "Monaco terrace"
- Exploration walk of Monte Carlo with tour director, incl. Monaco's old town and Monte Carlo Casino
- University city Aix-en-Provence with 18th-century mansions and splashing moss-covered fountains
  - Tour of Aix-en-Provence, led by a local expert
- Visit and tour Cézanne studio incl. garden and shed

### Plus

- Private tour director for the entire duration of the land tour
- All service charges and local taxes

### Optional Activities (not included in land package price):

- Day 2: Afternoon Catamaran ride along the Bay of Cannes
- Day 4: Saint Tropez excursion by boat including winery visit and tasting
- Day 8: Valensole bike excursion in the lavender fields, lavender factory visit, lunch

### Tour Highlights

- Welcome to the French Riviera dinner & orientation
  - French Riviera beaches
  - Film Festival city of Cannes
- Croisette Promenade and Promenade des Anglais
- Behind-the-scenes tour of Cannes history, glamour & cinema
  - Nice, Queen resort of the Côte d'Azur
    - Place Massena
  - Picturesque hilltop town of Eze
  - Fragonard perfume factory & museum
- Monte Carlo, home of the legendary Formula One Grand Prix
  - Famous Monte Carlo Casino
  - Aix-en-Provence old town & markets
  - Farewell Riviera Magic Dinner



## RIVIERA MAGIC ITINERARY

### ABOUT THE TRIP:

The French Riviera is legendary for its remarkable beauty and alluring glamour. Its seashore is packed with magnificent beaches, luxury hotels, belle époque villas, chic bars, and coastal trails. From Monte Carlo's casino and Nice's Promenade des Anglais, to the Cannes Film Festival and Saint-Tropez's yacht harbor, the Côte d'Azur is home to some of the most iconic spots in Europe. A visit to Aix-en-Provence, known for amazing French-Mediterranean cuisine, trendy boutiques, Cézanne's Impressionist art influences, and nearby lavender fields will make this journey an even more unforgettable one. Pack your bags and explore these stylish places in the south of France. Dive into the French style of living, relax on the beaches, paddle in the azure sea, then sip on a smooth cocktail beneath swaying palms and discover the magic.

#### DAY 1

##### TRAVEL TO FRANCE

Board your overnight flight to Nice today.

Meals: In-flight

#### DAY 2

##### LAND TOUR START DAY: SAINT-RAPHAEL

Welcome to the Côte d'Azur. Ever since the author Stéphen Liégeard published the book 'La Côte d'Azur' in 1887, the name stuck to this glamorous stretch of the Mediterranean coast, the French Riviera. Enjoy free time to get acquainted with your surroundings before joining your tour director and fellow travelers for a welcome orientation and dinner of French specialties. Let the adventure begin!

Meals: In-Flight, Dinner

Inclusions: Airport transfer with purchased AESU airfare, Welcome orientation, Welcome dinner

#### DAY 3

##### CANNES

We travel to Cannes by train today to visit this beautiful ritzy town famous for its annual film festival, great shopping, excellent food, and long golden, sandy beach along the famous La Croisette Promenade. Get a true behind-the-scenes look on our tour led by a screenwriter and historical researcher. Following our guide across the city — from local markets to beaches; through the old town and beyond — we learn about how this quiet fishing district became home to the world's most celebrated film festival and celebrity hangout. Afterwards, enjoy time walking among the designer bars, couture shops and palaces while admiring Ferraris and Porsches or even spotting some celebrities on a posh yacht along the way. Then we're in for a special treat as we board our luxury catamaran and sail along the Bay of Cannes while relaxing on deck. Take in views of the fabulous French Riviera coastline and splash into the sea for a swim and snorkel. Our half-day sail includes a buffet lunch on board. We later return to our Riviera hotel for a free evening.

Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions: Round-trip train tickets to Cannes, Croisette pedestrian promenade, Guided behind-the-scenes tour of Cannes history, glamour & cinema, led by a screenwriter and historical researcher

Optional activity: Afternoon Catamaran ride along the Bay of Cannes



#### DAY 4 FRENCH RIVIERA | OPTIONAL SAINT-TROPEZ EXCURSION

Enjoy a free day. Relax on the beach, opt to rent a kayak or SUP, swim in the sparkling sea, or just shop until you drop. Consider exploring the casinos and night clubs later on this evening. You may want to join us on an exciting visit to glitzy Saint-Tropez, a coastal town known for its jet-set lifestyle boasting one of the liveliest social scenes along the coast. Our boat takes us on a one-hour journey along the seashore with lovely views. Upon arrival, we board a motor coach taking us to Chateau Minuty Gassin. This family-owned estate hand-picks all their grapes, assuring high-quality wines. After a tour of the grounds including a private house and a chapel dating back to the 19th-century, we will taste some of the winery's fabulous creations. Afterwards, explore the cobblestoned streets of la Ponch, the old fishing district of Saint-Tropez, and take time for lunch at a quaint bistro with fellow travelers. We return to our Riviera hotel for an evening at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions: Free day

Optional activity: Day excursion to Saint-Tropez by boat, winery visit including wine tasting

#### DAY 5 NICE

In just under one hour our train whisks us to Nice, Queen resort of the Côte d'Azur. We'll start our exploration at Place Massena then venture along the charming streets of the old town with pastel-colored villas, boutiques and small shops including fragrant fromageries, boulangeries and various types of restaurants. Along the way we see the Opera House, Palais de Justice, Place Rossetti, and Castle Hill. Our French Brasserie dinner includes some unique local culinary treats for you to try. Before we head back to our hotel, take time to check out live music bars and clubs in the old town or take a walk on the breathtaking beachfront along the palm tree-lined Promenade des Anglais.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Inclusions: Round-trip train ticket to Nice, Exploration of Nice, Queen resort of the Côte d'Azur, Place Massena, Promenade des Anglais, Palais de Justice, Castle Hill, French Brasserie dinner

#### DAY 6 EZE & MONTE CARLO

Get ready for a day filled with wonderful encounters for all of your senses. The picturesque hilltop village of Eze dates back to the Middle Ages and clings impressively to the mountainside above the Mediterranean Sea. Panoramic views, ancient façades and opulent gardens are some of the most memorable features of this lovely village. We'll tour the legendary perfume factory of Fragonard and visit the cosmetics laboratory where the brand's perfumes and other skin care products are made. After lunch continue to Monaco, home to the renowned Formula One Grand Prix. After Prince Rainier married American actress Grace Kelly, this sleepy town on the Mediterranean transformed into a fabled and glamorous metropolis. Enjoy the view of the town from La Turbie, known as the "Monaco terrace", then discover the old town, fantastic glimpses overlooking the harbor and see the Prince's Palace, before exploring the famous Monte Carlo Casino.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Inclusions: Transportation by private motor coach, Visit to picturesque hilltop town Eze, Fragonard Perfume Factory visit in Eze, Mediterranean lunch in Eze, La Turbie viewpoint 'Monaco terrace', Monaco's old town, Prince's Palais, Monte Carlo Casino





## DAY 7

### FRENCH RIVIERA | PROVENCE

We say 'adieu' to our Riviera home and board our private motor coach, taking us straight into Aix-en-Provence, a city of elegance. This open-air history book boasts a lovely Mediterranean climate, charming streets, and lively squares. The city's center is characterized by pastel buildings, bustling daily markets, and streets lined with irresistible shops. The sparkling skies, facades of elegant Renaissance mansions, splendid fountains, Provençal cuisine, and the gentle way of life make this city an icon of "bon vivre," which locals call "good living." Free time may find you exploring the local markets and savoring tapenade toast, tasting delicious cheeses, sipping on local wines, or tasting Nougat, the famous local sweet. This afternoon we discover the places where Paul Cézanne used to spend his days and fans of the Aix-born post-Impressionist artist will truly enjoy a tour of his studio. The evening is at leisure in Aix.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Inclusions:** Transportation by private motor coach, Aix-en-Provence old town and markets, Tour of Cézanne's studio

## DAY 8

### AIX-EN-PROVENCE: FREE DAY OR OPTIONAL EXCURSION TO VALENSOLE

Explore the charming town of Aix on your own today or join our optional all-day excursion to Valensole. From around mid-June to mid-August the region is brimming with the sights and smells of lavender – it's truly a spectacle not to be missed. The Valensole Plateau produces one of the best fields with endless stretches of fragrant rows and is likely the most visited and subsequently most photographed lavender growing region. On our bike ride through the purple-colored fields, we learn about the history of lavender production in the area, wander around a lavender farm and take some time to pose for selfies in the middle of a lavender field. After lunch in the village of Valensole, explore the boutiques and shops or try some lavender ice cream. Before returning to Aix, we visit a Lavender Distillery to learn about harvesting and oil extraction from the flowers and how the farms create their lavender products. There will be time to shop for local soaps, oils, bags, and perfumes to take home as souvenirs. Back in Aix-en-Provence, get ready for our farewell Riviera Magic dinner. Share the good times one last time before we say 'au revoir' and exchange contact information with new-found friends.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Inclusions:** Free day, Farewell Riviera Magic dinner

**Optional activity:** Full day excursion to Valensole, bike ride in the Lavender fields, lavender factory visit, lunch

## DAY 9

### TRAVEL HOME

Our adventure comes to an end after breakfast this morning as you board your flight home, filled with not only delicious French food and wine but also with a feeling of having seen how incredible the south of France really is.

**Meals:** Breakfast, In-flight

**Inclusions:** Airport transfer with purchased AESU airfare

# PROGRAM ACCOMMODATIONS



Hey Explorer!

Get ready for an unforgettable trip! The South of France is the perfect destination for young travelers looking for an exciting experience. The French Riviera boasts beautiful beaches, delectable cuisine, and a pulsating nightlife. Nice is the ideal spot to experience it all, with its stunning scenery and lively atmosphere. Cannes exudes sophistication and glamour, hosting the famous Cannes Film Festival and boasting a red carpet that has seen countless celebrities. Monte Carlo is the epitome of luxury, featuring the lavish Casino de Monte-Carlo and a harbor filled with extravagant yachts. Aix-en-Provence is a charming university town that is the birthplace of Paul Cézanne's art and offers a vibrant cultural scene. And if that's not enough, biking through the lavender fields of Provence is a must-do activity that should not be missed! With so much to explore in the South of France, you will find everything you need for an adventure of a lifetime.

This trip has been carefully designed and features fantastic inclusions and highlights.



Culinary



Culture & Heritage



Leisure & Free Time



Landscapes & Wildlife



Outdoor & Adventure



Educational

For a glossary of these key aspects, visit: [www.aesu.com/aspects-awt](http://www.aesu.com/aspects-awt)



**ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE**

For more details, please visit: <https://www.aesu.com/activity-levels-awt/>

## TOUR DIRECTORS

Your tour includes the services of a professional tour director throughout the land package. We are very proud of our tour directors. They are young professionals; multi-lingual and carefully selected graduates from major universities. They are eager to show you the world through the eyes of an adventurer. Our tour directors know this is a trip of a lifetime for you and will share their knowledge as well as interesting little-known facts. Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel.

## HOTELS

Our hotels offer superior tourist class accommodations, with private bathrooms. Hotels are centrally located and many offer great extra amenities such as pools, gyms or roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If a single room is desired, a supplement of \$795 applies. If traveling solo and not wanting to pay the single supplement, AESU will attempt to arrange a share with a same-gender traveler. If a share cannot be arranged the single supplement will apply.

**" A WONDERFUL TIME WITH WONDERFUL PEOPLE. PHENOMENAL TOUR. "**

- past traveler

# BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

**EXCLUSIONS:** These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own.); airport and government taxes; tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested \$5 per day for tour director, \$2-3 per day for driver); beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise; laundry; personal insurance; room service; telephone charges; all items of a personal nature; any vaccinations, pre/post trip testing/screening, airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates; private transportation; and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** All cancellations must be received by AESU in writing. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. Cancellation from time of booking until 120 days prior to departure will result in a \$300 cancellation fee. Cancellation between 119-90 days of departure will result in forfeiture of 25% of tour cost; between 89-60 days 35% of tour cost; between 59-30 days 50% of tour cost. Cancellation within 30 days of departure or a "no-show" at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. Processing of cancellation refunds takes approximately 6-8 weeks.

**AIRFARES** are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once reservation is booked and paid for AESU reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes are also subject to penalties. Travel insurance, including medical health and accident coverage, is compulsory. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO CANCELLATION POLICIES LISTED ABOVE DEPENDING ON TRIP DESTINATION.

**AIRPORT TRANSFERS AND BAGGAGE:** All participants using AESU flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. Land-Only participants (providing own flight overseas) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 3:00 p.m. on program start date. **FLIGHT DELAYS - ALL AIRPORTS:** In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.)

AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Check your airline's website for any additional luggage restrictions. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The responsibility of AESU as a tour operator, their agents, and any sponsoring association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, epidemic health risk, any force majeure event, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/ herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond the Operator's control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. **TRAVEL INSURANCE** is compulsory in the event of tour cancellation for any reason, medical expenses, personal accident, baggage and other personal items, liability and 24-hr emergency assistance. Trip insurance may be offered directly by your Alumni Association. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, the Operator's liability shall be limited to a refund of land payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. If the change or cancellation is due to force majeure or other similar events beyond Operator's control, a refund of land payments received from applicants will be made less reasonable expenses incurred by Operator in respect to applicant's land booking.

Baggage and personal injury are at owner's risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. The Operator reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/ or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed, even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our web site at [www.aesu.com](http://www.aesu.com).