

LES BATEAUX BELMOND

FRANCE



LES BATEAUX BELMOND REVEALS NEW SEASONAL MENUS CURATED BY CHEF DOMINIQUE CRENN

JULY 2025 – Chef Dominique Crenn, the first culinary curator for the seven floating villas of Les Bateaux Belmond, unveils new seasonal menus that reflect her profound passion for culinary excellence. Each dish draws inspiration from her French heritage and a lifelong appreciation for refined, regional gastronomy.

Crafted to highlight both seasonal ingredients and the distinct character of each region, the menus are tailored to the specific routes of each region. Guests aboard boats Pivoine, Alouette and Napoléon which cruise through Southern France, will enjoy dishes inspired by the flavours of the region. Meanwhile, those sailing on Lilas, Coquelicot, Amaryllis and Fleur de Lys, which navigate the northern waterways, will be served menus celebrating the culinary

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LES BATEAUX BELMOND

FRANCE

heritage of Northern France. Gary Franklin, Senior Vice President, Trains & Cruises at Belmond comments:

"In this new chapter of Les Bateaux Belmond, Chef Dominique Crenn will elevate the culinary vision with her deep-rooted connection to France. She was a natural choice to help shape the evolution of our onboard dining experience, bringing a new level of creativity and authenticity to our guests."

DINING AFLOAT, REDEFINED

Crenn has curated a range of dishes through that blend her traditional French background with her innovative cooking style. For boats departing from the North region of France, guests can enjoy vibrant spring peas, delicate trout roe, and the earthy depth of morels paired with green peppercorns, inspired by the region's agricultural landscape. The menus also feature braised leeks and poached chicken, alongside a classic Kugelhopf dessert with fruity cherry and orange flavours.

For boats departing from the South region of France, the focus shifts to Mediterranean-inspired flavours, reflecting Crenn's deep connection to the sea from her early years, with dishes like soupe au pistou, made with market vegetables and herbs, and whole roasted sea bream served with carrot chorizo and bitter lettuce. A true lesson in French art de vivre, the menu will also include the French regional specialty, Raviole du Dauphiné, served family-style, and will finish with a light, refreshing lemon and olive oil tart. Chef Crenn comments:

"It has been a true pleasure to craft these menus inspired by the beautiful regions of France. I look forward to guests experiencing my culinary creations as they immerse themselves in the rich culture and flavours of each destination along their journey."

All menus served on board will prioritise fresh, locally sourced ingredients, selected from nearby markets along the boats' routes, focusing on seasonal availability and quality. This includes the launch of Les Bateaux Belmond's latest Bordeaux itinerary aboard Alouette, which takes guests through the world-renowned winemaking waterways. The new journey invites guests to explore picturesque vineyards, indulge in wine-inspired wellness experiences, and visit iconic châteaux, all while cruising between Agen and Castets-en-Dorthe.

Les Bateaux Belmond fleet comprises seven boats, available for six night-seven day private charters departing on Sundays or Wednesdays, with prices starting at €9,385 per person. Three-night private charters are also available from €4750 per person. Both based on eight passengers. Prices include a week of sailing on full board basis, guided visits, bikes, table d'hôte meals, complimentary beverages, and transfers to and from the boat from anywhere in France and Geneva.

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LES BATEAUX BELMOND

FRANCE

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

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Images can be downloaded [HERE](#).

ABOUT LES BATEAUX BELMOND

Les Bateaux Belmond are a collection of seven intimate boats operating from April to October across France's most tranquil waterways. Offering personalised experiences on water, the boats take guests to the heart of rural France, into Burgundy (Fleur De Lys; Lilas; Amaryllis), Provence (Napoléon), Champagne (Coquelicot), Camargue (Pivoine) and Canal du Midi (Alouette). Each boat accommodates between 4 to 12 passengers, with a close to equal crew-to-guest ratio for the highest standard of service, offering regional specialities and seasonal delicacies unique to the cruising area. This is the most luxurious fleet on the French waterways, each presenting as a Villa on the water with their own unique lavish design: a playful palette, a nautical feel and a stylish expansive deck -- and four with their very own plunge pools. All boats are available for weekly private hire only, except Napoléon, in Provence, which is also available to be booked on a cabin-basis. Guests can unwind in stylish comfort and dine on sensational French cuisine as they drift along picturesque riverbanks, then moor for tailor-made excursions - including private visits to vineyards, historic landmarks, food markets – or explore the local area independently on the complimentary bikes.

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ABOUT BELMOND

Belmond was born from a passion for connecting discerning travellers with the world's most remarkable properties, locations and journeys. From hotels and trains to river cruises and safari lodges, Belmond's Slow Luxury invites guests to discover a new pace of travel as they savour time, engage with local culture, and connect with nature and people around them through incomparable experiences and unforgettable stories. With a legacy spanning over 45 years, since the acquisition of Hotel Cipriani in Venice in 1976, Belmond has grown into a global collection of 44 properties spread across 25 countries and territories. Exceptional destinations connected by legendary journeys are the very soul of Belmond, where the path that brings you to a place is as important as the destination itself. A pioneer of slow travel, Belmond has been operating the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express since 1982. Belmond later expanded to include pristine beach resorts, such as Maroma on the Riviera Maya, historic hideaways such as Villa San Michele in the Florentine foothills, urbane icons, such as Copacabana Palace in Rio de Janeiro, and gateways to UNESCO world heritage sites, such as Hotel das Cataratas in Brazil's Iguassu National Park. As proud custodians of storied properties, Belmond is committed to building on the past to create a new

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LES BATEAUX BELMOND

FRANCE

legacy: the heritage of the future. Working with communities and local talents, together with the world's most respected chefs, designers and artists, Belmond continues its purpose of perpetuating the legendary art of travel. Since 2019, Belmond has been part of the world's leading luxury group, LVMH (Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton).

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