

Phi Mu Foundation Presents

Burgundy Franche-Comté Cruise



Join your Phi Mu sisters, spouses and friends for
7 days on the Deluxe French Barge, MS Jeanine

Cruise Through the Breathtaking Doubs River Valley

Besançon • Deluz • Baumes-les-Dames • Clerval
Altar Chapel • L'Ilse-sur-le-Doubs • Montbéliard

October 13 - 19, 2017

\$2,350 per person (sharing) beginning in Besançon
and ending in Montbéliard

Deposits please by August 25, 2016



SERIOUS TRAVELER....



TRAVEL CONCEPTS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

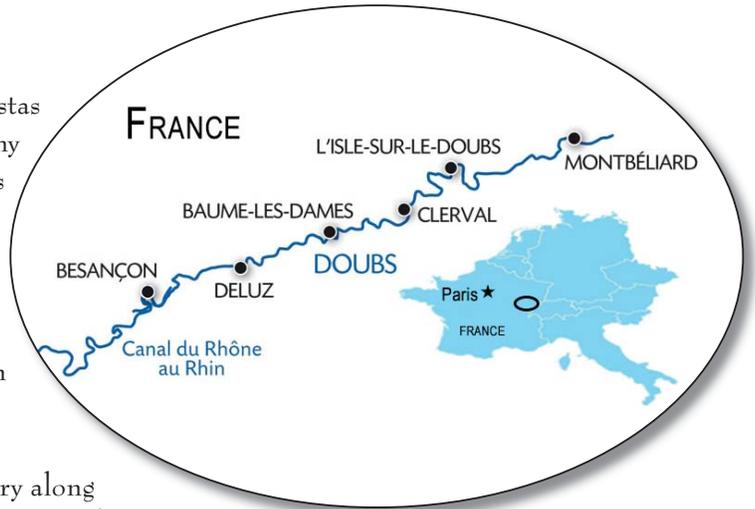
Cultural Tours to Better Understand the World and its People

5500 Bucks Bar Road • Placerville, CA 95667 • U.S.A.
Telephone/Fax 1-530-621-3007 • Tollfree in U.S.A. • 1-800-762-4216
Gwen@SeriousTraveler.com • website www.SeriousTraveler.com/PhiMuFoundation.html



Dear Phi Mu Sisters, Friends and Family,

Phi Mu Foundation tours are all about opening new vistas and international experiences in the wonderful company of the Sisterhood. For 2017 we have two opportunities to delight in trips to France. The first is in May and there is a separate brochure for it. The second trip, this one, is also a deluxe barge for 22 fortunate passengers. We have it chartered for October 13-19 and the itinerary includes the Burgundy area of eastern France.



This cruise will guarantee a whole new change of scenery along the Doubs River in completely natural and untouched surroundings.

Franche-Comté's history has shaped the architectural landscape, leaving behind many amazing physical reminders over the years. A journey from Besançon to Montbéliard, our tour will take you from town to village as you discover the Doubs River Valley and its inhabitants. However, the Franche-Comté region is also known for its rich diversity of landscapes, from mountains and forests, to rapids and rivers. Here, you will relax in the great outdoors, walking and rambling through the countryside.

I have made the required deposit to secure the charter sailing, but we need to know by August 25th if we have enough Phi Mus, family and guests to retain the charter status. I think we will be sold out in no time, so let us hear from you right away.

The price is excellent, and for Phi Mus is below the price for the general public. You'll be happy it even includes all shore excursions and tips to the crew. 1852 Society members benefit from a \$100 discount! Indicate, please, on the reservation form.

We hope you'll be a part of this grand and memorable 2017 Phi Mu event.

Awen

Delta Epsilon Chapter of Phi Mu at Purdue University
President, Travel Concepts International



Our Phi Mu group in the 2014 at Highclere Castle - Downton Abbey for the Queen's London tour.

Discovery Highlights

- Luxuriate for 6 nights, 7 days aboard our deluxe French barge, the *MS Jeanine*
- Dine elegantly with all meals included while on board
- Be guided through the UNESCO site of the Besançon Citadel
- Take the opportunity to ride bicycles (available on board) along the exciting EuroVelo 6 Cycle Route
- Visit Saint Germain's fifth century Abbey
- Have the chance to hike the path to Altar Chapel in Clerval
- Leisurely enjoy the woodland setting of L'Isle-sur-le-Doubs
- Stroll through Montbéliard to see her medieval sites and oldest Lutheran church in France

Cover photos from Euro River Cruises (ERC).



Burgundy Franche-Comté Cruise Day-by-Day Itinerary



October 13 BESANÇON

Friday

Boarding from 6.00 p.m. in Besançon. Presentation of the crew and welcome cocktail. Dinner on board. Overnight.

Aboard MS Jeanine

October 14 BESANÇON - DELUZ

Saturday

Full board on board. Today enjoy a guided visit of the Besançon citadel, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO since 2008. Besançon is a beautiful city sitting in a crook of the River Doubs. The barge passes through the old town.

Transfer by coach and walk to the citadel, one of Vauban's great masterpieces. See the cathedral with its amazing astronomical clock and the old town cemetery. The citadel was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2008. It sits high above both the town



and river with a commanding view of the surrounding countryside. The citadel is also home to the city zoo and several interesting museums.

Back on board in Deluz. Free time in Deluz. Overnight.

Aboard MS Jeanine

October 15 DELUZ - BAUMES-LES-DAMES

Sunday

Full board on board. Morning spent cruising. Take the time to use the bicycles available on board to go for a cycle ride along the EuroVelo 6 Cycle Route. Arrive in Baumes-les-Dames.



We have a guided visit of the city, starting in the town center with its historic buildings, which are characteristic of the Franche Comté region. See the Abbey,

Dates and Rates

October 13 - 19, 2017

7 luxurious days, 6 nights

\$2,350 per person, (sharing) beginning at the Barge in Besançon and ending at the Barge in Montbéliard.

Airfare and transfers are additional Single Traveler? We'll arrange shares!



See you in France

What's best for you is best for us! You may use frequent flyer mileage, or take advantage of low internet specials. Or, if you need assistance we will be happy to help you with air arrangements. We suggest you leave the U.S. on October 11 to arrive Paris October 12 and stay overnight. This will allow you to recover from jet lag and allow time to get a train and transfer to the Barge on October 13. We'll keep you informed on a hotel recommendation in Paris.

Traveling to Besançon and from Montbéliard

If travelers choose to fly to Paris, the train from Paris Gare de Lyon station to Besançon in just over 2 hours by TGV. Plan to be in Besançon in time to be on the barge at 6PM. On the return, the TGV train from Montbéliard/Belfort would take 2-1/2 hours. Both train stations are out of town, but we are going to need a transfer anyway to the barge. We figure from 75 € per person, each way for the TGV, and expect that the local transfer will run about 20€ per person each way. These can be arranged closer to departure.

Left above: MS Jeanine (ERC); Left middle: Besançon Citadel from wikicommons by Arnaud 25; Left below: Baumes-les-Dames Abbey from baumelesdame.org; Right: Besançon © Besançon Tourisme et Congrès



founded in the fifth century by Saint Germain. This was the site of a miracle in the 13th century where St. Odile was cured of her childhood blindness upon her baptism. We will try some seasonal produce, featuring charcuterie and cheeses before returning to the barge. Overnight.

Aboard MS Jeanine

October 16 BAUMES-LES-DAMES - CLERVAL

Monday

Full board on board. Morning spent cruising. In the afternoon, arrival in Clerval. Time at leisure to discover the hiking path to the Altar Chapel. Back on board. Overnight.

Aboard MS Jeanine

October 17 CLERVAL - L'ISLE-SUR-LE-DOUBS

Tuesday

Full board on board. Morning spent cruising. Stop at l'Isle-sur-le-Doubs. Time at leisure to discover this pretty town in its hilly, woodland setting at your own pace. Overnight.

Aboard MS Jeanine

October 18 L'ISLE-SUR-LE-DOUBS - MONTBÉLIARD

Wednesday

Full board on board. Morning spent cruising. Take the time to relax and admire the beautiful scenery in the Doubs Valley, or to walk or cycle along the canal paths alongside the boat. Arrival in Montbéliard.

Enjoy a walking tour in the historic quarter of Montbéliard, which was already thriving in 983 AD when it was part of the Holy Roman Empire. The historic Château of Montbéliard also pre-dates the 10th century and looms large over this medieval village. We'll traverse the old town, a former Wüttemberg principality, and see the Hotel de Ville and the Beurnier Rossel Mansion, which houses the Museum of Art and History. You will travel back in time through four centuries of a royal destiny, along streets filled with charm and fantasy.

We'll also see St. Martin church, built in 1601, which is the oldest Lutheran church in France following the teachings of the reformation. Gala evening on board. Overnight.

Aboard MS Jeanine

October 19 MONTBÉLIARD

Thursday

Buffet breakfast on board. Disembarkation is at 9.00 a.m.



What lovely weather!

Autumn is a delightful time to visit France! The days will be mild for touring and cool down at night. Don't forget your umbrella and sun hat since autumn sees both sun and showers all in a day! Expect high/low temperatures in Besançon of 60/45 with similar temperatures in other cities. Besançon sees an average of 4.2 inches of precipitation for the month of October. Weather information from www.weatherbase.com.



Flight bag, luggage strap and document holder are our gifts to you!



Above Left: Doubs River Valley (ERC); Right top: l'Isle-sur-le-Doubs from wikicommons by Pline; Right middle: Cycling along the canal (ERC); Right below: Château of Montbéliard from wikicommons by Norbert Aepli



About Our Barge

MS Jeanine

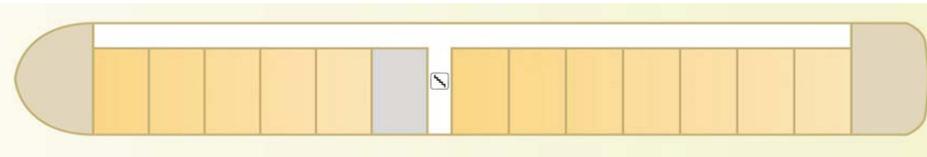
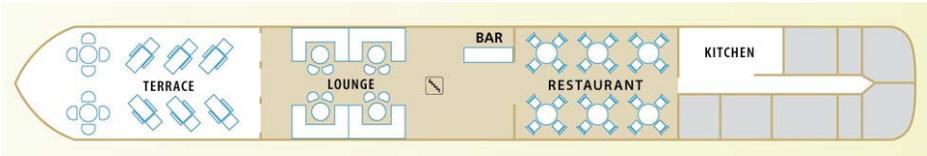
With a capacity of 22 passengers, 11 spacious cabins with a window, MS Jeanine is 128 feet long and 16.5 feet wide. Each cabin with an outside view is equipped with a bathroom, shower and toilet, a TV, a radio, an indoor telephone a safety deposit box and air conditioning.

On board, everything has been designed to be convivial with a lounge bar, a restaurant, a sun deck with loungers and parasols, a Jacuzzi and a barbecue deck at the front of the boat for outdoor pleasure.

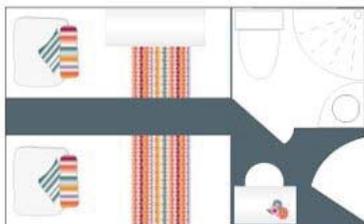
In an innovative design, this houseboat is undoubtedly one of the most modern boats sailing in Europe. Bicycles are also available onboard.

Travel with Phi Mu Foundation & Travel Concepts International

In 1989, the first Phi Mu Foundation group with TCI traveled to China; the following year to the Soviet Union. Nearly every year since then, Phi Mu's traveled to destinations around the world. Here's where we've been: '89 China; '90 Soviet Union; '91 Italy; '92 Costa Rica; '93 Alps and Rhine Cruise; '94 Greece; '95 Spain & Portugal; '96 New Zealand & Australia; '97 Egypt; '98 Turkey and India; '99 Ireland; '00 Prague & Budapest; '01 Provence, France; '02 Thailand & Cambodia and Sorrento & Tuscany (Italy); '03 Holland & Belgium and Scotland & Iceland; '04 Scandinavia and French Barge Cruise; '05 Brittany, France; '06 Puglia, Italy and Kenya Safari; '07 Croatia; '08 Germany; '09 Greece; '13 London; '14 London; and '15 Loire Valley, France. When possible, we have visited Project HOPE facilities and met with Phi Mus living abroad. We carefully plan these *Cultural Tours to Better Understand the World and Its People*. The greatest compliment is that many Phi Mu's travel with us again and again, encouraging their friends to join them. We sincerely appreciate your trust, and we'll do our very best to make sure your travel experience is full, rewarding and great fun! In 2006 we trademarked the name "Serious Traveler," which is the name of our domain: www.serioustraveler.com, as well as the name of our newsletter. Serious Traveler defines both us and the exceptional people who travel with us. There are many TCI's but only one



Number of cabins: 11
Maximum passenger capacity: 22
Cabin size: 97 sq. ft.
Number of crew members: 5



Dining Area



Lounge Area



SERIOUS TRAVELER...



Important Traveler Information

as of June 6, 2016

TOUR PRICE

Tour price is \$2350 per person
double occupancy
Tour begins in Besançon, France and
ends in Montbéliard, France
Airfare and transfers are additional

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT

Please complete the reservation form and send required deposit of \$700 per person now to assure your place. Reservations will be on a first come first served basis. We are asking for all reservations for this trip no later than August 25. Notification of trip status by August 29 or before if the barge is filled. There are 11 cabins and we want to fill them all with Phi Mus, their families and friends of Phi Mu. We have made deposit to hold the space as a charter so as to have the vessel all to ourselves. In order to operate the charter, we must fill all the 11 cabins by August 29th. So, dear sisters, get on board, tell your friends, invite your family and let's make this a grand Phi Mu Foundation event. We will notify you when we receive your deposit. Should we be unable to confirm space, you will be notified and the deposit will be refunded in full. Balance of the basic cruise payment is due April 1, 2017. We prefer payments for the cruise by cheque, payable to Travel Concepts International, but we will also accept credit cards: American Express, MasterCard or Visa.

TRAVELING SOLO?

Traveling alone? If you don't have a travel companion, let us try to match you with a suitable roommate. Please indicate your preference on the reservation form. We have so few cabins, we'd like as many Phi Mus to be able to participate as possible!

AIR ARRANGEMENTS TO FRANCE

There are many discounted airfares available. You may avail yourself of these and make your own arrangements from your home city to Paris. You might also decide to use frequent flyer miles. Or, if you need assistance we will be happy to

help you with air arrangements. Rates will be provided upon request. Please indicate your departure city on the Reservation Form. However, it is best not to make final purchase of your tickets until after April 1, 2017 or before if we can provide early status of the cruise.

Flight schedules always subject to change.

STAYING IN PARIS

Let us help you with advise on arranging overnights in Paris before or after the tour. We'll send a suggested hotel closer to departure, and information on the Air France bus from Charles de Gaulle Airport to Gare de Lyon train station.

GETTING TO BESANÇON AND FROM MONTBÉLIARD AND TRANSFERS TO/FROM THE BARGE

There are several trains from Paris Gare de Lyon to Besançon and from Belfort-Montbéliard to Paris. Schedules are not yet published for 2017, but as preparations for the trip progress, we'll certainly keep you informed. A search on raileurope.com brought up TGV (fast) train tickets from 75 € one-way depending on class of service as of June 6, 2016 for tickets departing this week. Please indicate your interest for more information on transfers to and from the Barge on the Reservation Form. Please plan to board the *MS Jeanine* in Besançon between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM on Friday, October 13 and disembark the *MS Jeanine* in Montbéliard on Thursday, October 19 at 9:00 AM. We will also provide information on your options for rail to barge transfers and vice versa as time goes along, but plan on budgeting about 20€ per person each way.

TOUR INFORMATION

On receipt of deposit, Travel Concepts International will send confirmation of space and information on optional travel insurance. Updates will be sent from time to time. After final payment is received, a letter will be sent with information

regarding luggage allowance, weather, packing, shopping and money. About 14 days prior to departure, we will send final documents via U.S. Postal Priority Mail. They will consist of your rooming lists, emergency numbers and any last-minute notes. Participants will be notified prior to mailing, but must advise TCI in advance if any other address than that given on the Reservation Form is to be used. Rerouting charges will be billed to the client. All tour members must meet payment and document submittal deadlines to insure timely processing of tour material.

CUSTOMS AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A passport with validity through January 2018 is required but validity to April 2018 is highly recommended. No visas are required for U.S. citizens traveling to France. In the section for visas/entries and departures your passport should have space for entry and exit stamps (excluding those marked amendments). If passport needs to be renewed or pages need to be added, please use their Expedited Service and overnight mail for processing (this takes about two weeks). If not a U.S. citizen, passenger is responsible for obtaining whatever documentation is necessary for entry into countries to be visited. Regulations are subject to change, and we will try to inform you of the latest changes.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

If we cancel the trip for any reason, your money for the land portion is refunded in full. Airline tickets once ticketed are non-refundable or carry cancellation penalties based on class of service and fare basis. Situations may arise, voluntarily or involuntarily, in which the traveler cancels. Traveler is advised that insurance is available covering trip cancellation, lost or damaged baggage, medical needs, and certain travel-related accidents. We highly recommend trip-cancellation insurance. You will



be sent an informational flyer with instructions for applying upon receipt of deposit or you may call us for a quote today. Most insurance companies now have a clause which invalidates the insurance if there is a "pre-existing condition." If you have such a medical problem yourself, or a situation in the family, which could very well cause you to cancel (such as an ill elderly parent), please consider taking the insurance soon after making your deposit. The insurance companies now offer to drop the "pre-existing exclusion" when insurance for the full non-refundable cost of the trip is purchased within 21 days of the initial trip deposit if purchasing Worldwide Trip Protector. Call us for a quote, visit our website to click the blue link on the left column of our homepage under "Purchase Travel Protection" or call Travel Insured directly at 1-800-243-3174 with our agency #39918. If you purchase insurance and TCI cancels the trip, we will provide a letter for the insurance company so you can request a full refund of your premium.

GROUP SIZE AND COMPOSITION

The barge accommodates 22 passengers, and the price is based on a full complement. Phi Mus, their families and invited guests are most welcome.

A WORD ON TIPS and TAXES

Port taxes and tips are included. The local departure tax, if any (at this time there is none) must be paid by every tour member in the local currency at the time of departure. U.S. departure taxes and applicable fuel surcharges connected with the airline ticket are due at time of ticketing.

ALL THIS IS INCLUDED

Price per person, based on two sharing a cabin. Airfare and transfers to the barge are additional. The program includes a 6-night cruise on the *MS Jeanine*, three meals daily plus beer and wine with lunch and dinner, open bar (excluding champagne and wine by the bottle), port charges, taxes, tips on

board, shore excursions as detailed in the itinerary.

ARE THERE ITEMS NOT INCLUDED?

Yes, a few: Round-trip airfare to Paris, France, transportation to the Barge dock in Besançon, France and from the Barge dock in Montbéliard, France; passport; beverages not mentioned above; camera use charges (if any) at sites; expenses of personal nature; any item not mentioned in the program; U.S. departure taxes; departure tax from France based on rates in effect at the time, and paid in local currency (currently there is none); and optional insurance.

LUGGAGE

Luggage assistance will be provided on and off the barge. Travel Concepts International accepts no liability for loss of or damage to luggage. We recommend baggage insurance as an additional precaution. All luggage must be clearly identified with the owner's name.

MEALS

Full board on board, which is three meals daily plus beer and wine with lunch and dinner (excluding champagne and wine by the bottle) are provided daily while on the vessel. Please advise us in advance of food restrictions so we may better prepare for you. Euro River Cruises, which operates the *MS Jeanine*, can provide for special dietary needs. Let us know in advance if you are gluten or lactose intolerant.

EXCURSION TRANSPORTATION

Euro River Cruises will provide comfortable, air-conditioned coaches. Smoking is NOT permitted on the vehicles. Seating will be rotated.

HEALTH REGULATIONS

No inoculations are required. Please see the CDC's website for recommendations: www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO. We suggest you check with your doctor for medical advice regarding the trip and your

health. It is also suggested you discuss updating your tetanus and diphtheria booster.

HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Please advise us in advance of physical conditions limiting your activity. Travel Concepts International, Inc. (TCI) reserves the right not to accept or retain as a tour passenger any person whose condition or general deportment impedes the operation of the tour or affects the rights, welfare, or enjoyment of other passengers. A refund for unused tour services is the limit of TCI's liability if such person is required to leave the tour.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY

For the safety of our passengers, the captain and crew of the ship may decide to modify the navigational itinerary. The cruise schedule may vary according to tides and arrival times at ports of call may be subject to change.

RATES

As of the printing of this brochure, June 6, 2016, the exchange rate for one Euro is 1.15 USD. If there is a significant decrease in the value of the dollar at the time final payment is due a modest supplement will be added to the billing.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

In order to encourage enrollment, we are offering to hold and not cash your deposit cheque or charge your deposit until trip status date of August 29, 2016. Once we confirm the tour on that date, we will deposit your cheque or charge your card. There will be no charge for cancellation up until August 28, 2016. However if payment is made by credit card, refund will be back to the credit card, less the credit card usage cost as that is billed to us. After August 28, 2016 payments are non-refundable. Should your cancellation cause the number of participants to fall below the required number to operate the trip, and a replacement not be found, the



full cruise portion of the trip will be forfeited. If a replacement is found the cancellation charge is \$100 plus credit card expenses incurred by TCI.

Once the cruise begins, no refund may be claimed for all or any part of the tour fee. Unused or changed accommodations, transportation, or other services or features of the tour are neither refundable nor exchangeable. Cancellations will only be accepted in writing, addressed to Travel Concepts International, Inc., 5500 Bucks Bar Road, Placerville, CA 95667. The date such letter is received will determine the cancellation date.

RESPONSIBILITY

Travel Concepts International, Inc. acts only as the agent for the owners or contractors providing the means of transportation, hotels, and other services. No responsibility or liability is assumed for any act, error, or omission, or for any injury, damage, loss accident, delay, or irregularity, which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or for any hotel proprietor, or for any other person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or vouchers are issued. Airlines and other carriers are not responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not aboard their planes or conveyances. Travel Concepts International, Inc. and or the passenger-associated companies accept no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delays or changes in flights, train, steamers or other services; sickness, weather, strikes, war, quarantine, accident, or other causes. Additional expense, if any, shall be borne by the passenger.

SELLER OF TRAVEL

In compliance with the State of California Department of Justice,

Travel Concepts International, Inc. has registered with the Attorney General's Office as a Seller of Travel. The number we have been assigned is 2005743-40, but this registration does not constitute approval by the State of California. California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. Travel Concepts International deposits client's funds into a trust account. All sales transactions with customers located in California provide a right of the California consumer to make a claim on the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. In the event of Travel Concepts International, Inc. default, you may be eligible for a refund of up to \$15,000 from the California Restitution Fund. If you are located in California at the time of your purchase, you have a right to make a claim against the Fund for a refund of any money paid to Travel Concepts International, Inc. that is due because of Travel Concepts International Inc.'s bankruptcy, insolvency, cessation of operations, or material failure to provide services sold. All payments for transportation or travel service not provided to the passenger shall be promptly refunded, in accordance with the agreed-to-terms and conditions, unless the passenger otherwise instructs the seller of travel in writing. The claim must be filed within 60 days (or in some limited circumstances, within one year) after you become aware of your loss. For a claim form and additional information, write to:

Travel Consumer Restitution
Corporation
P.O. Box 6001
Larkspur, CA 94977-6001

For all sales transactions with customers located outside of California: the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund does not cover this transaction. You are not eligible to file a claim against that Fund in the event of Travel Concepts International, Inc.'s default. ☐

Notes

This tour benefits Phi Mu Foundation



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Tollfree in U.S.A. 1-800-762-4216
Gwen@SeriousTraveler.com
www.SeriousTraveler.com/
PhiMuFoundation.html

Reservation Form



Complete and return this form by mail or fax (if using credit card) with
a deposit to: Travel Concepts International, Inc., 5500 Bucks Bar Road, Placerville, CA 95667 • Fax 1-530-621-3007

Please reserve my (our) space on **Burgundy Franche-Comté Barge Cruise** with Phi Mu Foundation, October 13 - 19, 2017. Enclosed is a cheque for \$700 per person, payable to Travel Concepts International, Inc. If you would prefer to pay by credit card, please complete section below.

Name as on passport, first person _____
Surname Given Name (s)

Name as on passport, second person _____
Surname Given Name (s)

U.S. passport expiration date of first person _____ second person _____

Date of birth of first person _____ second person _____

Name(s) for name badges _____
First Name or Nickname Last Name

Mailing Address _____
City State Zip

Home telephone # _____ Cell Phone # _____ Work telephone # _____

Fax # _____ Email Address _____ Receive PDF? (Y/N) _____

Please note with a , the preferred contact method above.

Double occupancy, two to a cabin (\$2,350 per person, sharing)

1852 Society member (\$100 discount)

Room share with _____ Share request (Y/N) _____

Special Dietary Requirements _____

My home city/airport is _____

Phi Mu (Y/N) _____ Collegiate Chapter _____ Alumnae Chapter _____ Friend of _____

Special Interests _____

How did you initially hear about our tours? _____

How did you initially hear about our tours? _____

Occupation (if retired, former occupation) _____

Emergency contact(s) while traveling (name & relationship) _____

Address, Telephone #s and Email address

I authorize TCI to charge my credit card for deposit (Y/N) _____

_____ MasterCard _____ Visa _____ AmEx Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Credit Card Billing Address: _____

Address City State Zip

Name as on card _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

As gifts to our travelers, we provide a Travel Concepts International flight bag and luggage strap free of charge. Clients who have traveled with us before may wish not to receive another. Please circle all the item(s) you would like to receive:
Flight bag Luggage strap

I/We have carefully read the Important Traveler Information section of this brochure _____