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**Top Chef Alumni Bryan Voltaggio Joins Scenic Luxury Cruises
for Special South of France Culinary Sailing in 2022**

Hollywood, FL (February 2022) – [Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours](#) is partnering with Top Chef favorite Bryan Voltaggio for a special, culinary-themed departure of their popular 11-day South of France river cruise in October 2022. [Spectacular South of France](#) with Top Chef Bryan Voltaggio, sails round trip out of Lyon on October 20, 2022, exploring many of France’s most food-focused regions along the Rhône River. Fares start at \$5,195 per person, double.

Guests booking this special departure will have multiple opportunities to interact with and learn from Chef Bryan. An evening welcome reception kicks off the cruise and features a bespoke cocktail and the chance to meet Chef Bryan. An onboard cooking demonstration offers guests the opportunity to watch and learn—and sample—a new recipe from the Top Chef, while a lecture on seasonal cooking and French cuisine will deepen guests understanding of the culinary bounty of the region. Guests will have the chance to score a reservation for an intimate meal with Chef Bryan in L’Amour, the specialty dining restaurant onboard. Finally, the highlight of the sailing for many will be a four-course, onboard dinner created and prepared especially for the cruise by Chef Bryan for all the guests.

“Lyon and the entire Burgundy region represent the gastronomic heart of France. From truffles and cheeses to the wide variety of wines, this area is a culinary lovers’ dream,” said Chef Bryan Voltaggio. “I look forward to partnering with Scenic on this very special sailing and taking their guests on a journey of culinary exploration.”

In addition to Chef Bryan’s programming, this itinerary offers an abundance of culinary pursuits in and around the heart of France’s gastronomic hub. In the quaint village of Tournus, guests join highly trained hounds and their owners locating and sampling French truffles or visit the restaurant of three-star Michelin chef Georges Blanc for a cooking demonstration. A tour and tasting at a family-owned olive farm is on tap in charming Tarascon, while an opportunity to sample the celebrated wines of Châteauneuf-du-Pape at a Côtes de Rhône vineyard is one of several highlights in Avignon. A special evening is also planned in Avignon – exclusive to Scenic guests – at the prestigious Palais des Papes. After the doors close to the public, Scenic guests are treated to an exclusive dinner and classical concert in one of the palace’s grandiose rooms.

“Scenic is known for its excellent culinary offerings, with up to six dining opportunities on board, ranging from fine dining to casual fare, and an onboard cooking school, unique to Scenic river ships,” said

Maggie Carbonell, vice president of marketing for Scenic Group USA. “We believe this partnership with Chef Bryan Voltaggio is a logical extension of our culinary program and one that will allow our guests a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience an incredible, curated culinary journey.”

The sailing takes place on board *Scenic Sapphire*, which carries just 149 guests on the Rhône and Saône rivers. The ship is equipped with a bespoke cooking emporium called Scenic Culinaire where guests can take part in tailored cooking classes for up to 10 at a time. Classes will be offered by Scenic’s chefs throughout the sailing, including in Avignon, where guests can opt to visit a local market with the ship’s chef before returning to Culinaire to create dishes with the fresh, local ingredients.

Chef Bryan Voltaggio is a culinary innovation to Mid-Atlantic cuisine, a restaurateur and television personality. A Maryland native and James Beard Foundation Award finalist, Bryan creates menus driven by the region's fresh, seasonal, organic ingredients and strives to engage diners in supporting local agriculture through his choice of dishes that change with the seasons. In 2021 he starred in his own Food Network series “Battle of the Brothers” with brother Michael Voltaggio. He has also released two cookbooks *Home: Recipes to Cook with Family and Friends* and *VOLT.Ink*. Bryan opened his first restaurant, Volt, in 2008, which he reinvented during the pandemic as Thacher & Rye. A graduate of The Culinary Institute of America, he is also executive chef for Showroom and chef and partner at STRFSH, Voltaggio Brothers Steakhouse, and Estuary with his brother Michael Voltaggio.

The 5-star Scenic Space-Ships offer all-inclusive luxury experiences - from private butler service and unlimited complimentary beverages and spirits including mini-bar re-stocked daily, to six on-board dining options and a wellness area and fitness center. And guests will never have to reach for the wallet or purse as everything (except a haircut or massage) is included: tips and gratuities, expert local guides, all meals, all Scenic Freechoice activities that allow for a more personalized vacation, plus Scenic Enrich events which are exclusive to Scenic and its guests.

Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours has grown over its 36-year plus history to include award-winning river and ocean cruises and handcrafted land journeys that take guests to many of the world’s most fascinating destinations. Since 2008, Scenic has set the benchmark for truly all-inclusive, luxury five-star river cruises in Europe and Southeast Asia as well as luxury cruises on Russia’s Volga River on board Scenic Tsar and on Egypt’s Nile on board a private luxury charter. In 2019, Scenic introduced Scenic Eclipse, The World’s First Discovery Yacht™, a 228-guest ultra-luxury ship, and plans to deliver a second yacht, Scenic Eclipse II, in 2023. Scenic is part of Scenic Group, which includes Emerald Cruises, Mayflower Cruises & Tours and Evergreen Tours.

Scenic can be found on Twitter at @ScenicLuxury, on Facebook as ScenicCruises and on Instagram as Scenic.luxurycruisestours.

Additional information on these and other cruises, brochures and reservations can be obtained via travel advisors; or in the US: www.scenicusa.com, phone (844) 788-7985, info@scenicusa.com. Brochures can also be downloaded directly from the websites.

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