One of the strongest motivations to travel is the deep yearning we have to connect with the past. Some may explain this by an awareness of past lives, others may simply enjoy the thrill of entering an ancient building or standing in a timeless landscape where their imaginations ignite and conjure the past. If this is the experience you are seeking, there could be no better place to spend a week than in the mysterious and spellbinding Ariège. Set in the south-west of France, in the foothills of the Pyrenees, Gavin Miller has found the perfect setting for a week of time travel, Château de Camon.

Charlemagne, on his return from harassing the Moors in Spain, put the village of Camon under the authority of Notre-Dame. By the middle of the 10th century a Benedictine Abbey was in place. Troubadors, crusaders, itinerant knights, Spanish princesses and persecuted Cathars passed through the region. The Abbey of Camon was an important sanctuary along the way and by the 16th century a fortified manor (château) had been built to secure the Abbey. The château has now been offering comfort and tranquility to travelers for five hundred years! Vaulted ceilings, four-poster beds, beautiful fabrics and all the amenities of 21st-century living make the château both spine-tinglingly authentic and sumptuously cozy.

With Château de Camon as our base for four nights, each day we will set off to explore the antiquities of the Aude and Ariège regions. From the ruins of Cathar castles to the medieval grandeur of Carcassonne, it will be impossible to head home without feeling touched by the shadows of the past!
**THURSDAY, MAY 16**

- Departure from your US gateway city. **OVERNIGHT: PLANE**

**FRIDAY, MAY 17**

- Your arrival in Toulouse will be met by Discover Europe’s representative for the short (one hour) drive to the Château. The rest of the day is free to unpack, relax and begin exploring the neighborhood. For those with the energy, your tour guide will lead a short hike up into the hills overlooking the village for magnificent views all the way to the Pyrenees. This evening the group will gather on the terrace for drinks before a welcome dinner party. (**D**) **OVERNIGHT: CAMON**

**SATURDAY, MAY 18**

- If you had to choose one medieval fortress town to visit, Carcassonne would be it. Restored to perfection, your imagination need only re-dress your fellow travelers, some in sackcloth, some in doublet and hose and you’re back in the medieval world! We will visit the beautiful St. Nazaire church with some of the loveliest stained glass in France. There will be time to visit the inner fortress, Château Comtal, and to wander the narrow alleyways. After time for lunch, we’ll return to Camon for some free time to explore the village. We dine at the Château again this evening. (**B, D**) **OVERNIGHT: CAMON**

**SUNDAY, MAY 19**

- Today is the annual Festival of Roses in the village. Camon is known as the “Village of Roses” because of the climbing roses growing on the fronts of most of the houses in the village. We’ll spend the morning exploring the festival, with stalls selling local produce, crafts, and everything you could possibly imagine to do with roses! Then we will head to the fabulous Gayda vineyard where we will be welcomed for a gourmet lunch by Tim Ford, the head vintner (if available). After a leisurely lunch, we will have a tour of the vineyard and estate, ending with a tasting of their excellent produce in the Vinecole (literally, wine school). From our mid-afternoon return to Camon the rest of the day is free - you can choose to eat at the hotel again or venture out to a local restaurant in nearby Mirepoix. (**B, L**) **OVERNIGHT: CAMON**

**MONDAY, MAY 20**

- After a leisurely breakfast on the terrace, overlooking the lovely gardens set against the distant Pyrenean peaks, a three mile journey will bring us to Mirepoix on market day. There will be time to explore one of France’s most exquisite medieval squares, bursting with local tastes and smells from the myriad of market stalls, and enjoy a coffee at one of the many cafes. Weather permitting, we will take our purchases and have a picnic lunch at the nearby village of Roquefixade where we will also take a walk to the medieval castle. Then we will head for Montsegur. The ruined castle, set high on a rocky crag, was the final refuge of the persecuted Cathars. In 1244 the Catholic Church carried out one of its worst ever atrocities; 225 Cathars, who refused to recant, were burnt on a communal pyre. There will be time to make the ascent to the castle (30 minutes), for those who enjoy a hike, and for those with nothing to prove, a wonderful respite to take in the views and reflect on the horrors of the past! Before heading home, there will be a stop at the village museum. On returning to the hotel there will be time to relax by the pool, or enjoy a cocktail on the terrace, before dinner is included again at the Château. (**B, D**) **OVERNIGHT: CAMON**

**TUESDAY, MAY 21**

- Reluctantly we will bid farewell to the abbey this morning and return to Toulouse Airport for flights back to the US. (**B**)

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Key to included meals: **B** - breakfast, **L** - lunch, **D** - dinner

**Please note that the chateau has very limited availability in twin-bedded rooms. Participants are encouraged to bring a roommate with whom they would not mind sharing a large (king or queen sized) bed.**
**Your Host: Lynn A. Higgins**

Lynn A. Higgins is the Edward Tuck Professor of French Studies. She also teaches in Comparative Literature and Film Studies, and she recently completed a 5-year term as Associate Dean of the Faculty for International Studies and Interdisciplinary Programs. She graduated from Oberlin College with a B.A. in French Literature and went on to earn her Ph.D. in French from the University of Minnesota. She came to Dartmouth College in 1976. Professor Higgins is the recipient of numerous grants, fellowships and prizes, and is the author of many books, articles and edited volumes. Her research is focused on cinema and literature, particularly since the Second World War. Her book *New Novel, New Wave, New Politics: Fiction and the Representation of History in Postwar France* won a Choice Outstanding Book Award and was selected by the Modern Language Association for its Scaglione Prize in French and Francophone Studies. Her most recent publications include a book on filmmaker Bertrand Tavernier and a co-edited collection of interviews with Tavernier. She is currently at work on co-editing a collection of interviews with filmmaker Alain Resnais and a collection of essays on novelist Patrick Modiano. She is also writing a book on adaptation of literature to the screen.

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**Registration Form**

**General Instructions:**
1) Please type or print.
2) Make checks payable to Discover Europe, Ltd.
3) Be sure to read the Terms & Conditions and the Refund Policy contained on the reverse before signing.
4) Complete both sides of this form.
5) Detach the bottom section and mail it to Discover Europe with your deposit of $500 per person. Keep the top section for your records.

**Detailed Instructions:**

**Name(s).** Please make sure that your name appears on this form exactly as it does on your passport. Include your “Known As” or preferred name, if applicable.

**Passport Details.** Having your passport details ahead of time enables Discover Europe to speed up the check-in process at hotels and helps in the event of lost or stolen documents.

**Address.** If you have a different address, please provide us with the details, including dates that you are there, on a separate sheet.

**Special Dietary Requirements.** Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.

**Health Information.** A certain amount of walking is involved in this trip. Check the itinerary with your physician to ensure a safe and comfortable journey. Travelers requiring special assistance must be accompanied by a companion.

**Emergency Contact**

This information is essential.

**Independent Flight Arrangements**

If you are arranging your own flights, please provide your complete flight information, giving the following: dates of travel, airline(s), flight numbers, departure and arrival airports and departure and arrival times for all flight segments that you have booked. (Please note that extra charges for transportation to and from the destination airport may be incurred). If you need help arranging connecting flights from your local airport to an international departure city, we will be happy to arrange those for you. There is a nominal charge of $40 per ticket for this service.

**Rooming Requirements**

Please tick the appropriate boxes. We will book non-smoking rooms (where available) unless otherwise requested.

i). If you are sharing a room, please let us know with whom. If you would like to share a room but do not have a roommate, we will be happy to try and match you up but unfortunately cannot guarantee that this will be possible. If no match is available, the single supplement will apply.

ii). A twin room has two separate single beds in it. A double room has one large bed. Please let us know your preference.

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**Passenger Details (#516/WDF)**

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**Special Dietary Requirements:**

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**Health Information:**

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**Other Comments or Notes:**

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**Dartmouth Class Year:**

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**Trip Details**

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<td><strong>I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY TRIP TO:</strong></td>
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**Please return this form to:**

Discover Europe, Ltd.
95 Adams Street, Keene, NH 03431
TERMS & CONDITIONS

GENERAL
1. Please be sure to complete both sides of this form.
2. Instructions to aid you can be found on overleaf.
3. Space on this journey is limited and registrations are accepted strictly on a first come, first served basis.
4. Registration and payment imply acceptance of the terms and conditions described herein. This information, as well as your itinerary description regarding dates, inclusions and prices, form the basis of your individual contract with Discover Europe, Ltd.
5. Registration and payment waive and release Discover Europe, Ltd., and Dartmouth College their affiliates, directors, officers, employees, including any person or entity employed or utilized by them, from all claims arising from any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from events beyond their control, including, without limitation: natural disasters, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations, and in the absence of its own gross negligence, arising from the use of any vehicle or from any act of omission by any bus or car rental agency, airline, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, or other firm, agency, company or individual.
6. Discover Europe, Ltd. reserves the right to substitute hotels, airlines, activities or excursions in response to changes in availability, local events or weather conditions, provided such substitutions do not adversely affect the overall quality of the tour. Such substitutions do not constitute grounds for withdrawal with full refund.
7. Conduct During the Tour: You are responsible for respecting the authority and following the directions of the tour guide and the laws of the countries in your itinerary. We may exclude you from participating in all or any part of the tour if, at our sole discretion, your condition or behavior renders you unfit for the tour or unfit for continuation once the tour has begun. Unfitness may include, without limitation, any behavior that, regardless of its cause, is inappropriate or offensive or interferes with the delivery of tour services, or may constitute a hazard or embarrassment. In such case, our liability shall be strictly limited to refund of the recoverable cost of any unused portion of the tour. Should you decide not to participate in certain parts of the tour or use certain goods included in the tour, no refunds will be made for those unused parts of the tour or goods.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE
1. A deposit of $500 must accompany this completed form.
2. The balance will be billed and payable 90 days prior to departure.

TOUR COST ADJUSTMENTS
Discover Europe makes every effort to guarantee that the published cost of your chosen tour will not change. However we do reserve the right to make adjustments in the following circumstances:
1. Exchange rates. Should the value of the dollar fall against the Euro by more than 10% in the 6 months prior to trip departure.
2. Group size. This tour has been based on a group size of 25-30 participants. Should we end up with less than 25 people, Discover Europe will work with Dartmouth College to determine a course of action which will involve either paying a surcharge to keep the tour as is, or making adjustments to the tour in order to keep the cost the same.
3. Airfares. If your tour includes airfare, Discover Europe reserves the right to pass along increases in costs (taxes, airport fees, fuel surcharges, etc.) that are charged by the airline involved.

REFUND POLICY
1. Participants who withdraw more than 90 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less a $200 cancellation penalty.
2. Participants who withdraw fewer than 90 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less the following cancellation penalties:
   - 90-61 days prior to departure: $1000 per person
   - 60 days - trip departure: no refund (unless traveler has insurance)
3. Please note that the final payment becomes due upon receipt of the final invoice and will remain payable, as per the above schedule, if your cancellation is received after this.
4. These cancellation penalty amounts do not include any airfares purchased on your behalf by Discover Europe Ltd. Note that the least expensive airfares are usually non-refundable. Refunds for airline tickets will be handled separately from the refund of the land tour package.
5. Comprehensive travel insurance is not included in your tour package. Discover Europe, Ltd., strongly advises that you purchase travel insurance for your upcoming trip. You will receive information on insurance once your registration is received.
6. All cancellation requests must be received in writing.
7. There is no provision for refund for any activities missed due to the participant’s absence once the tour has started.
8. Your place on this tour is not transferrable.

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS
1. All inclusions on Chateau de Camon are listed on the day-by-day itinerary and registration form.
2. The following are not included (unless specifically mentioned in the itinerary): travel insurance, transportation to and from the participant’s chosen departure airport, passport fees, excess baggage charges, tips to couriers and tour bus drivers and items of a personal nature.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION
Name: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________
Primary Telephone: (_____) ____________________________

FLIGHT INFORMATION
(Please check one)
Do you want Discover Europe to book your flights: □Yes □No
Flight details (if self-arranged): ____________________________

ROOMING REQUIREMENTS
(Please check one)
□ I would like a single room (see itinerary for supplement)
□ I will be sharing with: ____________________________
We would like a □ double □ twin-bedded room

PERMISSIONS
Discover Europe may include my e-mail address on the tour passenger list. □Yes □No

SIGNATURES
The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risk inherent therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless Dartmouth and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licensees, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, the tour.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ________________
Signature: ____________________________ Date: ________________