

French Wine

EXPLORERS



TREASURES OF BORDEAUX AND DORDOGNE 6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS | PRIVATE TOUR AVAILABLE YEAR ROUND

Imagine pairing your **Bordeaux sojourn** with the riches of the Dordogne region. Discover the **"Route des Chateaux"** of the Medoc, the lovely village and wines of **St. Emilion**, and visit the best estates of Bordeaux. Then travel through some of the most **picturesque villages** of the Dordogne and immerse yourself in the colorful history of the **world-renowned pre-historic caves**. Along the way you'll stay in deluxe accommodations, and savor the sights and distinctive cuisine of both regions, one glass at a time.

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DAY 1 **WELCOME TO BORDEAUX** **L**
Arrive at the Bordeaux St. Jean train station or Bordeaux Merignac airport by noon. Meet your English-speaking professional guide. Travel south to the **vineyards of the Graves**. The Romans planted some of the first vineyards in the Bordeaux area here, just outside what is now the city limits. Enjoy a **welcome lunch at a local restaurant** in the area with your guide. Following lunch, you will be the **guests of a Classified Grand Cru chateau in either Graves or Sauternes**, where a great tour and tasting awaits you. Check in late afternoon to the centrally located **5* Grand Hotel and Spa de Bordeaux** in the heart of historic center. Enjoy an evening on own.

DAY 2 **THE MIGHTY MÉDOC** **B**
Today we explore the **Médoc**, world-renowned for its Classified Growth chateaux, following the "Route des Chateaux" through the famous villages of **Margaux, Saint Julien, Pauillac and Saint Estephe**. Your first tour and tasting will be at a **Grand Cru chateau as their VIP guests** (for example, Chateau Lynch Bages, Chateau Pichon Longueville Lalande, or Chateau Rauzan Segla). Enjoy a **lovely lunch (not included)** at one of the finest restaurants in the area; many are favorites of local winemakers. This afternoon, you'll enjoy **one to two tours and tastings at a Grand Cru property as VIP guests**. We will provide an itinerary for the day that allows for variety in estates visited in different appellations to help uncover the nuances of each appellation. Return to your hotel in the late afternoon for evening on your own.

DAY 3 **SAINT EMILION** **B**
Known since Roman times for the quality of its wines, the village and vineyards of Saint Emilion are designated today as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. **VIP tours and tastings at two great Grand Cru estates** await you this morning, either at Chateau Franc Mayne with its ancient underground cellars, or the great First Growths **Clos Fourtet, Chateau Angelus or Chateau Canon**. Following lunch, **explore the beautiful medieval village** on your own, its monuments and its many shops and galleries (including some of the region's best wine shops). Optional guided walking tour of Saint Emilion included. Return to your hotel in the late afternoon for evening on your own.

DAY 4 **TRANSFER TO SARLAT** **B**
Check out and private transfer to Dordogne. Drive to the beautiful village of **La Roque Gageac** and enjoy a **boat ride on the Dordogne** on board an authentic Gabarre. Then reach the small historic and scenic villages of **Beynac and Domme**. Enjoy a guided walking tour in the villages and free time for personal discovery. Arrive in **Sarlat-la-Canéda, possibly one of the most beautiful towns in France**. Much of the architecture of its Bastide history survives intact and the winding streets, squares, pavement cafes, specialty shops and pretty apartments give Sarlat a unique character not found anywhere else. Check into your lovely hotel, **Clos la Boetie**. The only 5-star hotel in Sarlat, Clos la Boetie brings complete harmony with a luxurious, comfortable and romantic setting. Late afternoon and evening on own.

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DAY 5

DORDOGNE

B,L

Roughly 12,000 years ago unknown painters created breath taking cave paintings of which the most extraordinary examples are found in the Dordogne area. **Start the day in Les Eyzies** and follow your English-speaking museum guide on tour of the National Prehistory Museum. Then, we will take you to **Rouffignac Cave**, known as the cave of **160 Mammoths**, with authentic etchings and drawings. Saving the most anticipated for last, visit world famous **Lascaux II a perfect reproduction of the original cave** including one painting that is considered as the largest prehistoric painting in the world. There are over 2,000 detailed images of animals and mysterious symbols to discover! Your farewell lunch is included. Return to your hotel in the late afternoon for evening on your own.

DAY 6

TRANSFER TO BORDEAUX

B

Enjoy a bit of free time in the morning. If it's a Saturday, make sure to visit the **market of Sarlat**, which has been famous since Middle Ages! Taking place all year long, this very colorful and tasty market will charm lovers of local gastronomy. Early afternoon **transfer to Bordeaux** and take the train or fly to Paris (tickets not included). Continue your journeys with fond memories of all the splendor of Bordeaux and Dordogne.

LEGEND FOR MEALS INCLUDED IN YOUR TOUR: B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

**Itinerary subject to change: every effort will be made to keep the itinerary as close as possible to what appears here; however, the final itinerary may vary due to wine producer schedules, availability and factors beyond our control.*

It's been a few months since my honeymoon but I wanted to let you know that we had a great time. All the reservations went smoothly. We loved both our hotels! Our tour guide was a joy to spend time with and learn from. Bordeaux was our favorite leg of our honeymoon. We left with lots of wine and memories. Thanks for helping us plan such a memorable trip. We loved the chateaus we were able to visit. We hoped to leave with a deeper understanding of Bordeaux appellations and we definitely got that! T. Louer

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YOUR 6-DAY, 5 NIGHT PRIVATE TREASURES OF BORDEAUX & DORDOGNE INCLUDES:

- A customized itinerary featuring the best hotel, estate and touring elements tailored to your preferences
- The services of an English-speaking wine expert guide throughout the tour
- Deluxe, air-conditioned transportation throughout
- 3 nights deluxe accommodations at the Grand Hotel & Spa de Bordeaux
- 2 nights suite accommodations at Clos la Boete in Sarlat
- A traditional welcome and farewell lunch with wine, coffee, tea and mineral water included
- VIP Tours and tastings at some of the finest chateaux of the region
- Entrance fees for all the museums and sites mentioned in the itinerary
- A list of suggested restaurants and reservations made for you in advance
- Information on the region and its wines sent to you in advance of your tour

Price based on 2 guests, double occupancy: US \$ 5990.00 per person

Price based on 4 guests, double occupancy: US \$ 4990.00 per person

Price based on 6 guests, double occupancy: US \$ 4790.00 per person

(Monday through Saturday tour dates are preferable, as more wine estates are open. Saturday is also possible if necessary.) Subject to availability. Single supplement: please inquire. For groups of 7 or more guests: please contact us for a price quote. Not included: any personal expenses, or any services not specifically mentioned above as included in the price of your tour.

WINE CHATEAUX AND ESTATES

We include only top-quality wine chateaux and estates in our programs. Chateau visits are scheduled by special arrangement, and some chateaux or estates, including any mentioned in the Itinerary, may not be available on your dates. Once you book your program with us, we will contact the estates to determine which are available. If there are specific chateaux or estates you would like to visit, please let us know, and we will contact your preferences first when arranging visits and tastings for you.

To reserve this program: contact us at info@wine-tours-france.com

Tel.: 1-877-261-1500 or 410-745-5406 (outside the USA)

We look forward to meeting you!

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**TRAVEL+
LEISURE**



Rachael Ray
every day



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