



**Decouvertes**

Exclusive cultural tours  
Luxury independent Travel



## Beautiful landscapes and Vineyards of Bordeaux Region...

### *6-day tour to Bordeaux region*

Come to the South West and discover the pleasure to taste the world-wide known wines of this region of France. Whether you are a confirmed oenologist, an amateur wine lover or a beginner, you will find the best possible delight in this unique experience through a variety of wines and cellars. The region will welcome you with its contrasts, beautiful landscapes, hills and paths through the vineyards. The entire region is an area of historical and natural heritage that will enchant you! *“The air, the grapes, the wines on the banks of the Garonne and the Gascon humour are excellent antidotes to melancholy.”* Montesquieu

### **Make it Gourmet!**

**DECOUVERTES ADVICE for a special optional venue:** you are invited to enjoy a hands-on cooking class in Bordeaux.

*Please see the last page for more information*

### **Make it at Sea!**

**DECOUVERTES ADVICE for an optional venue:** Full day excursion to the basin d’Arcachon

*Please see the last page for more information*



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## *Day 1 Graves Region*

Meet one of our preferred guides-drivers of the region: **Isabelle** who will meet you at the foot of your cruise ship in Bordeaux or at the Bordeaux airport.

Your guide-driver is a National licensed guide, **specialist in Bordeaux Region**. Her knowledge in Bordeaux wines is recognized by the very best Sommeliers and wine makers of the region.

Check in at your **charming four-star luxury hotel in Bordeaux**, located in the Leognan graves region, in the heart of Château Smith Haut Lafitte, the best great growth vineyards in the Graves. Enjoy of the inimitable atmosphere of this beautiful hotel where nature and comfort is reserved for you.

During the afternoon **visit the Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte**. Famous around the world for its wonderfully elegant red wine and the sophisticated bouquet of its white, Smith Haut Lafitte undoubtedly deserves the special care that is lavished on it.

You will also visit the **Château Olivier**, an amazing building dating from the 13th century and producing one of the best wines of the region.

For years and years, Château Olivier has brought together the present and the past by making wines of great art in an estate that is the stuff of legends. Fashioned by the terroir in which they are rooted, shaped by all those who work the vines day after day, the wines of Château Olivier are a magnificent expression of their appellation among the six Classified Growths of Graves in red and white.

The recent geological discoveries in the two gravel mounds of Olivier have confirmed the richness and diversity of an outstanding viticultural heritage, passed down by those who once contributed to the building of the fine reputation of Bordeaux's great growths.

Overnight at your four-star hotel in Bordeaux.

## *Day 2 Sauternes Region*

After breakfast drive towards Sauternes.

Here you will visit the **Chateau de Cazeneuve**, formerly owned by the Kings of Navarre, as well as King Henry IV of France and Queen





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Margot, Château de Cazeneuve is currently the residence of The Count de Sabran-Pontevès and his family.

The château is noted for its **exceptional architecture and outstanding setting**. It has an impressive interior courtyard and a large terrace overlooking a moat.

Don't miss the occasion to visit the **royal apartments**, the 17th century patio, the troglodyte caves, the large medieval cellar housing prestigious Bordeaux wines going back centuries, and exhibition of antique glass jewellery.

You could also visit the beautiful grounds adjoining the famous **Ciron Gorges**, which lead to the Queen's cave, which is a cool peaceful haven. And don't miss the 9th century moat, the brideways, and the lake with its mill, bird island, and giant bamboo grove!

Enjoy lunch at leisure in the small villages of Sauternes. What about Saprien, a former typical house converted into a gourmet restaurant with a beautiful terrace with view on the vineyards. Try roast-meat, it is excellent!

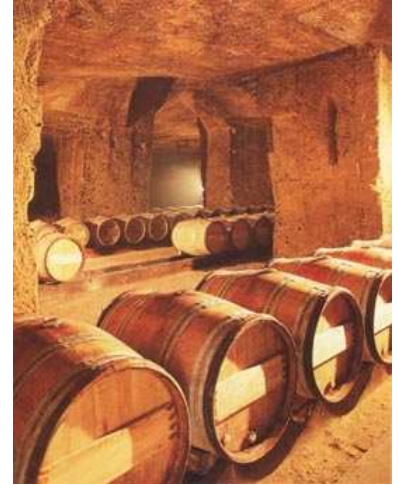
During the afternoon and under availability **visit the Chateau d'Yquem**.

The history of Château d'Yquem is like a novel. It is an epic saga full of vicissitudes and colourful figures covering more than four centuries. The story of this mythical wine also coincides with that of a noble French family.

Continue your trip visiting the **Chateau Raymond Lafon** where you will taste the famous wine: Sauternes.

**Sauternes** is a type of aperitif and dessert wine made from Sémillon, Sauvignon Blanc, and Muscadelle grapes. Sauternes is a **very sweet, intense wine, and is typically not served as a table wine**. It can be drunk by itself in place of an aperitif or dessert, or with rich savory foods like foie gras or Roquefort cheese. Flavours in sauternes range from apricot, peach, pineapple, and vanilla. The wines are smooth and creamy.

Overnight at your four-star hotel in Bordeaux.





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### *Day 3 Spa & Shopping*

Relax and enjoy a day at leisure in your hotel.

Your **private guide will be at your disposal** if you decide to make an unexpected excursion in the region. We suggest a walking tour of Bordeaux visiting the nice boutiques of the city.

You can also enjoy a **wine therapy at the spa** of your hotel. These treatments are absolutely unique. They combine the virtues of naturally warm spring water taken from a depth of 540 metres underground, rich in minerals and oligo-elements, with vine and grape extracts.

Overnight at your four-star hotel in Bordeaux.



### *Day 4 City of Bordeaux & St. Emilion Region*

Check out of your hotel in Bordeaux.

Enjoy a **guided visit of Bordeaux**: on the left bank of the Garonne river, the prosperous city of Bordeaux, famous for its wines, prides itself on the preservation of its cultural heritage and offers a rich variety of hidden artistic treasures. Its 18th and 19th century private mansions are of particular interest.

Visit a local store, **Bordeaux Magnum**, where most wine merchants are represented, meet wine experts and taste some of the region's wines.

Drive towards the spectacular village of St Emilion and enjoy lunch at leisure at a local restaurant. We suggest the **Clos du Roy**. You will have lunch in one of the quiet dining rooms far from the touristy trail.

**Walking tour** of the town: For many, the name Saint Emilion conjures up the taste of rich red wines, but the town of Saint Emilion is worth a visit in itself. Elegant and cosy, it has lots of cobbled streets, medieval buildings and romantic views. Most of the famous sites (including Europe's largest underground church) can be seen only as part of the excellent official tour.

Saint-Emilion is the oldest wine area of the Bordeaux region. The UNESCO organization recognized the great terroir of Saint Emilion and put the site on the World Heritage List. Saint Emilion wines are



considered the most robust of the Bordeaux. They are generous, very colored, and reach their maturity quicker than other red Bordeaux.

Enjoy a wine tasting at the **Château Franc Mayne**, Grand Cru Saint Emilion which cellars are located in former stone quarries.

Drive towards your four star hotel in the heart of the Medoc region, an attractive 18th century mansion converted into a hotel and restaurant.

Overnight at your four-star hotel in the Medoc region.



### *Day 5 Medoc*

After breakfast depart for a full day visit of the Medoc Region.

En route visit various Chateaux including **Beychevelle** where the elegance of the classical architecture makes it a jewel in the crown of the Medoc. The **Chateau Beychevelle is a prestigious Cru Classé** whose character has been forged by three centuries of history.



Continue this wine experience at **Lynch Bages**, 5th Grand Cru Classé of the Medoc Region. The Lynch-Bages estate is located just outside the city of Pauillac, on one of the most beautiful gravelly outcrops in the appellation.



Lynch-Bages made primarily from Cabernet-Sauvignon, is famous for its fine bouquet and rich tannin, which becomes soft and delicious with age. Lynch-Bages is powerful with a long aftertaste.

Here you will enjoy a “**vertical wine tasting**” where different vintages of the same wine type from the same winery are tasted. Taste several Millesimes of the Château and feel the differences between various vintages.

Enjoy lunch at leisure in Saint-Julien. We recommend the **Saint Julien** located in a 19<sup>th</sup> century mansion which was the only bakery in Saint-Julien in the 1860's.

Visit **Mouton Rothschild** and its very famous museum Wine in Art which was inaugurated in 1962 by André Malraux and that has a collection of precious objects from the earliest Antiquity until the present day. **Don't miss the underground cellars** of this wonderful Chateau.





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Along the scenic drive : "Route des Châteaux" various photo stops to discover Château Lafite Rothschild in Pauillac Appellation, Cos d'Estournel in Saint Estephe Appellation and other wine estates.

**Visit St. Estèphe** on the route des Chateaux and see Lafitte Rothschild, Cos d'Estournel and others.

Drive to you 4 start hotel at the end of the afternoon.

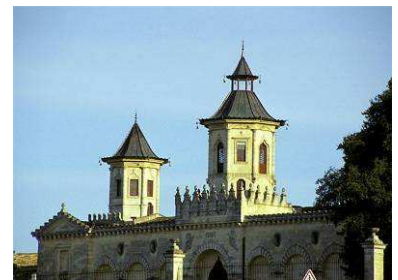
For your farewell dinner we suggest you to have dinner at the two start Michelin restaurant of the **Hotel Cordeillan Bages**, where you will discover the cuisine of the chef Thierry Marx that perfectly matches with the finest Bordeaux wines.

Overnight at your four-star hotel in the Medoc region.

## Day 6

After breakfast, check out of your hotel.

Your driver-guide will drive you to the airport or the train station in Bordeaux.





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*NB: Please note that some sites mentioned in the itinerary might not be available every day or all year long.  
We suggest you to check with our Production Managers  
\* Based in double occupancy*

### *This package includes*

- Private transfers from and to the airport
- Services of a professional English speaking guide-driver
- Rental deluxe vehicle during 6 days that can be a Sedan or a Minivan
- 5 nights' accommodation in two four stars Hotels next to Bordeaux with breakfast included
- Wine tastings
- Découvertes fees
- 24 hour assistance available during your stay
- All taxes

### *This package does not include*

- Entrance fees to the Châteaux
- Tips
- Lunch or dinner

### **Découvertes can also suggest:**

- Lunch reservations



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## *Make it Optional*

### **Make it at Sea!**

#### ***DECOUVERTES ADVICE for an optional venue***

Drive to Arcachon, view the "Arcachonnaises", the local name for Arcachon villa, which is the architectural style of many of the older houses built there.. At its south entrance from the Atlantic ocean, the Arcachon Bay is crowned by Europe's largest sand dune, the Dune de Pyla (or du Pilat), nearly 3 kilometres long, 500 metres wide reaching 107 metres in height, and moving inland at rate of 5 metres per annum. Continue to Le Cap-Ferret. It was only a place to stop for the Arcachon bay fishermen, a place with only sand dunes and pine trees.... You will have the unique opportunity to visit the oyster village with its typical narrow streets. Taste oysters around a glass of white wine!



*Please contact us for more information and price. Visit available everyday. Upon request and availability.*

### **Make it Gourmet!**

#### ***DECOUVERTES ADVICE for a special optional venue***

Enjoy a cooking demonstration in the kitchen of a Michelin starred restaurant in Bordeaux. Under the guidance of the chef, you will learn about the different savours that need to be mastered in order to offer an inspired cuisine!



*Please contact us for more information and price. Upon request and availability.*