



# French Wine EXPLORERS



## 5-day private GREAT ESTATES of BORDEAUX

Get to know the major appellations of Bordeaux as you taste at some of the most prestigious estates of the Médoc, Graves, and Saint Emilion/Pomerol. From Grand Crus to Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnels and exclusive “boutique” wineries, this tour offers a fantastic overview of the best that Bordeaux has to offer. Between tastings, you’ll experience the history and charm of the medieval village of Saint Emilion, and enjoy the luxury of Bordeaux’s premier hotels and Michelin-starred restaurants. A truly first-class experience for the Bordeaux wine lover!

*(Monday through Friday tour dates are preferable, as more wine estates are open. Saturday is also possible if necessary.)*

### DAY 1,

### *Welcome to Bordeaux~Graves*

**L**

- Arrival at Bordeaux airport or train station, where you’ll be greeted by your English-speaking, wine expert guide/driver.
- 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. Here you will be the **guests of Classified Grand Cru Chateau**, where a great tour and tasting awaits you.
- Enjoy a **welcome lunch at a local restaurant** in the area, with a possible tour and tasting at another Classified Cru Chateau or Sauternes, time permitting.
- Check in late afternoon to your **luxury 4-star hotel**: choose from the centrally located 5\* Regent in the heart of Bordeaux, Relais & Chateaux member hotel Chateau Cordeillan Bages in Pauillac, or Les Sources de Caudalie in Martillac.
- Enjoy **dinner (not included)** tonight at your hotel’s fabulous restaurant, or in one of Bordeaux city’s many fine restaurants.

### DAY 2,

### *The Mighty Medoc: Margaux and Pauillac*

**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 chateaux as their VIP guests** (for example, Chateau Lynch Bages, Chateau Pichon Longueville Lalande, Chateau Pontet-Canet or Chateau Palmer).
- Enjoy a **lovely lunch (not included)** at one of the finest restaurants in the area, a favorite of local winemakers.
- This afternoon, you’ll enjoy **1-2 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. Typically we focus this day around Margaux and Pauillac.
- Return to your hotel in the late afternoon for evening on your own.

### DAY 3,

### *The Mighty Medoc: St. Estephe and St. Julien*

**B**

- Our explorations in the Médoc continue with a tasting at one of the elite group of nine *Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnels*, **Chateau Phélan Ségur or Chateau Haut Marbuzet**.
- Enjoy lunch on your own in the charming port town of Pauillac. This afternoon, you’ll visit one of the finest chateaux in **Saint Julien** (usually Léoville Las Cases, Gruaud Larose or Ducru Beaucaillou).
- Check in late afternoon to your second 4-star luxury **Hotel Grand Barrail in St. Emilion**.
- Dinner is on your own tonight at the hotel or one of Saint Emilion. (You are welcome to stay in one hotel during the entire stay if you prefer)

**DAY 4,***St. 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.
- Take the morning to **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). Lunch on your own in Saint Emilion.
- **VIP tours and tastings at two great Grand Cru estates** await you this afternoon, like Chateau Franc Mayne with its ancient underground cellars, or the great 1st Growths Clos Fourtet, Chateau Angelus or Chateau Canon.
- We suggest your final dinner at the Michelin starred restaurant of the hotel, one of the most coveted tables of the area.

**DAY 5,***Pomerol~Transfer***B, L**

- This morning we will explore another village on the right bank, Pomerol. Although it seems very understated, this appellation is home to some of the most famous cult wines, including Petrus and Le Pin.
- Two tours and tastings await you today as you round out your week of wine discovery in the Bordeaux region.
- End your day with a **farewell lunch** and time to enjoy the city center of Bordeaux before returning home with fond memories of the region.

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

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### **YOUR 5 DAY, 4 NIGHT LUXURY TOUR IN BORDEAUX 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
- 4 nights' accommodations: choose from Relais & Chateaux member hotel Chateau Cordeillan Bages in Pauillac, Chateau Hotel Grand Barrail in St. Emilion, Les Sources de Caudalie in Martillac, or the brand new Regent Hotel in the historic district of Bordeaux.
- Minimum Deluxe category accommodations with complimentary upgrade to Junior Suite/Suite when available
- 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
- 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 \$ 4990 per person**

**Price based on 4 guests, double occupancy: US \$ 3600 per person**

**Price based on 6 guests, double occupancy: US \$ 3100 per person**

*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 service 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 BOOK YOUR TOUR**

Contact us at [info@wine-tours-france.com](mailto:info@wine-tours-france.com) or **1-877-261-1500**.

We accept VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card or checks or money orders in US Dollars.