

From Bordeaux to Malbec:

The South of France October 7 - 20, 2017

Hosted by:

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Day 1: Saturday, October 7, 2017 • Departure

Our adventure begins as we depart on our transatlantic flights to Bordeaux, France. Note: Airfare is NOT INCLUDED. Please plan your flights to arrive in Bordeaux by noon.

Day 2: Sunday, October 8, 2017 • Bordeaux

Upon arrival in Bordeaux, we meet our city guide and motor coach and transfer into the city. We have a driving/walking tour including the inside of St Andre Cathedral, consecrated by Pope Urban II in 1096. The building is a national monument of France. We familiarize ourselves with the city by walking to the Grosse Cloche, one of the oldest belfries in France. We are then transferred by bus to our home for the next five nights, the Hotel de Normandie.

Day 3: Monday, October 9, 2017 • Bordeaux

We depart this morning for the charming medieval village of Saint Emilion, where we have a tour, including the underground church area. St. Emilion is the oldest wine-producing area in the Bordeaux region. We have time for shopping and lunch on our own before our wine tasting class. Later, we depart for Chateau de Ferrand, built in 1702, for a wine tasting and tour. **B**

Day 4: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 • Bordeaux

This morning we depart for Arcachon where we will have a bus and walking tour through Ville d'hiver, a coastal resort with late 19th century Victorian homes. We have a short time at Thiers Jetty (perhaps a merry-go-round or Ferris Wheel ride if you are so inclined, or a walk along the pier for those less adventurous) before lunch at Poissonnerie de L'Aigvillon. After lunch, we have a relaxing, narrated boat ride on the Arcachon Bay, seeing sites such





as the building on stilts of the "île aux oiseaux", the oysters parks, and the fishermen villages of the Cap Ferret peninsula. **B, L**

Day 5: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 • Bordeaux Today is a free day to enjoy at leisure. B

Day 6: Thursday, October 12, 2017 • Bordeaux

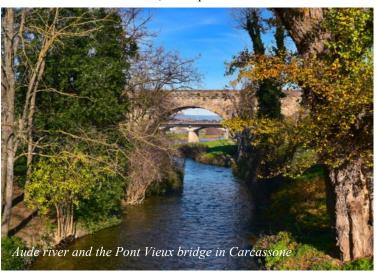
We depart for the Haut Medoc wine region for another fabulous wine visit and tasting stopping later in Margaux for lunch and shopping on our own. We will have some time to shop for wine at Cave d'Ulysse before departing for La Cité du Vin, a unique cultural facility where wine comes to life. We have time to explore the exhibits before dinner at the panoramic Restaurant Le 7 within the facility. **B**, **D**

Day 7: Friday, October 13, 2017 • Sarlat

After checking out of our hotel, we depart for Sarlat and the Dordogne River Valley. We stop in Bergerac, where we have a chance to explore on our own. Bergerac has a couple of statues of Cyrano de Bergerac however there is no evidence that he actually visited the town! Next it is on to Château de Beynac, one of the best preserved and best known castles in the region. Built in the 12th century by the barons of Beynac, the castle has been a location for a number of films. We have time for lunch on our own before our castle tour. Upon arrival in Sarlat, we check into our hotel before a walking tour of the area. **B**

Day 8: Saturday, October 14, 2017 • Sarlat

Our morning is free to explore the city wide market and have lunch on our own. In the afternoon, we depart for a tour of Cave Lascaux



II. The Lascaux cave is the finest of all prehistoric painted caves made by Cro Magnons man. After World War II, Lascaux was open to the public for several years. Unfortunately, the carbon dioxide in the human breath soon began to damage the prehistoric paintings of the painted cave and today, the original Lascaux cave is closed. So as to enable everybody to discover the prehistoric masterpieces, the Lascaux cave was entirely and meticulously reproduced - same paintings, same techniques, same pigments. It is now known as Lascaux II. Next on our agenda is a visit to Le Bon Gout Du Perigord ("the good taste of Périgord") a wine shop based in Carsac-Aillac. Most of the wines are locally produced, direct from wine makers. All wines are organic, which means they are produced without chemical fertilizers or additives. Our final destination is Elevage du Bouyssou where we arrive in time to watch feeding of the geese, followed by foie gras tasting and shopping. **B**

Day 9: Sunday, October 15, 2017 • Sarlat Today is a free day to enjoy at leisure. B

Day 10: Monday, October 16, 2017 • Toulouse

After checking out of our hotel, we depart for Chateau de Chambert, whose history can be traced to the 10th century, for a wine tasting and lunch. Chambert has been producing Malbec wines since 1690. For over 300 years, its Malbec wine was enjoyed by kings, Popes in Avignon, tzars in Russia and officers in Bordeaux. Exported all over Europe, it was known in England as the "Black Wine". Today, Chambert is Cahors biggest certified Organic & Biodynamic vineyard (over 145 acres of vines). *Decanter* named Chambert one of the Top-50 best wines in 2015. We continue to Toulouse, our home for the next four nights. **B, L**

Day 11: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 • Toulouse

Our sightseeing today takes us to Carcassonne, where we will have a tour of the city followed by lunch on our own. The city is famous for the Cité de Carcassonne, a medieval fortress added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites in 1997. Upon our return to Toulouse, we have a driving tour of the city. Toulouse is France's 4th largest city, after Paris, Lyon and Marseilles. A city with unique architecture made of pinkish terra cotta bricks, which earned it the nickname *la Ville Rose* ("the Pink City"). Toulouse counts two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. **B**

Day 12: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 • Toulouse

We begin our day with a drive to Albi where we have a guided tour including St. Cecile Cathedral, designated an UNESCO World Heritage site in 2010. First built as a fortress in 1282 and under construction for 200 years, it is claimed to be the largest brick building in the world. Just a stone's throw from the Cathedral is Saint-Salvi Collegiate Church and Cloister. Over 900 years old, the church combines romanesque and gothic elements. After lunch in Albi we venture to the Musée Toulouse-Lautrec, an art museum dedicated mainly to the work of the painter Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec who was born near Albi. The Berbie Palace, a medieval building built during the 13th century, now houses more than 1000 works, including his famous posters. **B, L**

Day 13: Thursday, October 19, 2017 • Toulouse Today is free to explore on our own. **B**

Day 14: Friday, October 20, 2017 • Return to U.S.

Unfortunately, it's time to transfer to the airport for our return flights to the United States. We return with memories of wonderful wines, beautiful scenery, and a wealth of new friends! Welcome home! **B**

Tour Prices:

JGB17: October 7 - 20, 2017 \$3,159 with a 25+ participants \$3,349 with 20 - 24 participants \$3,789 with 15 - 19 participants

Single supplement: \$825

Prices are per person, double occupancy, land only

Your Tour Includes:

- Land Transportation via private deluxe airconditioned motor coach
- Accommodations (double occupancy) in 3 and 4 star hotels
- **Meals** per the itinerary
- Admission to all activities indicated in the itinerary
- Services of professional tour manager, Karen See
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- Luggage handling of one piece per person
- All taxes and tips for provided services on land tour, excluding tour manager and coach driver

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Roundtrip Airfare and related taxes, fees and fuel charges
- Meals other than indicated above
- Beverages, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for coach driver and tour manager
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (*This insurance is available and recommended.*)

Payment Schedule:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due with reservation. Final payment is due 100 days prior to departure date. Invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to availability. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 99 days before departure a \$100 administrative will be assessed. From 99-14 days, a \$300 cancellation penalty and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Anyone canceling less than 14 days prior to departure will receive **no refund**.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Abbreviations for Meals
B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

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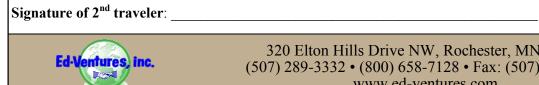
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travelling in the group. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.

Signature of 1st traveler: ______ Date: _____

Date: _____