

Beautiful Bordeaux



Tour Name: Beautiful Bordeaux

Tour Code: BOD

Days: 11

Day 1	Bordeaux (D) Welcome to Bordeaux. Your friendly crew will welcome you on board the luxurious Scenic Diamond for your cruise through France's southwestern pocket.
Day 2	Bordeaux > Saint-Émilion (B,L,D) Enjoy a relaxing morning on board as you cruise into the beautiful 13th century port of Libourne. While cruising, perhaps drop into Scenic Culinare for a French cooking class, or relax in the on board Salt Therapy Lounge and soak in the healing properties of the salt, or simply relax on the Sundeck with a drink in hand and take in the stunning scenery as you glide along the Dordogne River. Spend the afternoon in the nearby town of Saint-Émilion, a visual feast and the jewel of this ancient wine growing region. Saint-Émilion is a medieval village with world famous wineries, beautiful architecture and fascinating monuments. You'll get the chance to take in all its beauty as well as explore the underground catacombs of the Monolithic Church – a true highlight.
Day 3	Libourne > Pauillac (B,L,D) Freechoice: Enjoy a guided tour of Libourne and view its quaint 16th century town-houses and Gothic church, or view the eclectic city of Bergerac and enjoy a foie gras tasting at a charming local farm. Alternatively, explore the estate of Château de La Rivière with a wine tasting, or join a cycling tour through the region to the estate. During your afternoon at leisure, opt to enhance your culinary prowess in Scenic Culinare, or simply take in the riverside panoramas while cruising towards Pauillac.
Day 4	Médoc (B,L,D) Freechoice: Travel the scenic Médoc wine route and discover why this region is viewed as the world's leading red wine producer. Afterwards, sample the region's finest at a local estate. Alternatively, cycle through the region to a grand château and sample delicious wine produced on the estate. Enrich Set in spectacular surrounds in the Médoc countryside, Château d'Agassac is truly enchanting. Dating back to the 13th century, the Château is one of the oldest winemaking establishments in the region, and is the venue for your unforgettable evening concert. Soak in the ambiance of this magnificent property as live musicians perform classical masterpieces for your exclusive enjoyment.
Day 5	Pauillac > Cadillac (B,L,D) Soak in the vistas as you cruise past the picturesque landscapes of the Garonne River into Cadillac, some of the most beautiful scenic cruising in the Bordeaux region. While on board, you may choose to hone your cooking skills with a lesson in Scenic Culinare. Tonight, this remarkable space comes to life when fabulous local entertainers perform live in the Panorama Lounge for a night of entertainment.
Day 6	Cadillac (B,L,D) Freechoice: Venture into the Sauternes region for a delicious wine tasting at the prestigious Château de Rayne Vigneau, or cycle through the rolling vineyards of Sauternes to the Grand Cru Classé estate of Lafaurie Peyraguey for a tasting. Freechoice: This afternoon, visit Roquetaillade Castle; it's one of the region's most impressive historic sites, and you'll tour it with the family that now lives within its walls. Alternatively, visit a truffle farm and sample the delicious regional delicacy, or perhaps enjoy a 12 kilometre roundtrip hike from Cadillac to the village of Loupiac.
Day 7	Bordeaux (B,L,D) Freechoice: Shop with a Chef at a local food market and cook up a storm in Scenic Culinare. Alternatively, enjoy a guided tour of Bordeaux and her many attractions, or if you're feeling more active, you may choose to cycle the historic regions of the city. Back on board your Cruise Director will organise a special treat for you, with a tasting of fresh oysters delivered straight from the waters of Arcachon Bay. Tonight enjoy a special dinner on board showcasing regional delicacies before an illuminations cruise on the Garonne River.
Day 8	Arcachon > Bourg (B,L,D) Freechoice: Journey to Arcachon and join a walking tour including a visit to the local markets, or climb Dune du Pilat, Europe's largest sand dune. Alternatively, stay in Bordeaux and take a tram to the Cité du Vin museum. After a short introduction enjoy a interactive journey around a world of wine and culture on a self-guided tour. Or visit the Bassins de Lumières, a former submarine base now devoted to an immersive art exhibition. This afternoon, why not join a masterclass in French cooking in Scenic Culinare.
Day 9	Cognac (B,L,D) Today explore the unique northern shores of the Gironde Estuary. Freechoice: Discover the Carriages Museum in the enchanting Bourg Castle and visit the 16th century passageway to the guards rooms and see the immense WWII oil tanks. Alternatively, spend a full day exploring the fortified town of Cognac, renowned for its production of fine brandy and afterwards, enjoy a tasting at the acclaimed property of Rémy Martin. This afternoon, unwind on the Sun Deck while cruising into the historic port of Blaye.

Day 10 **Blaye > Bordeaux (B,L,D)**
Discover the remarkable Blaye region, established to protect the Bordeaux region from invasion.
Freechoice: Stroll through the charming town during a guided walking tour, or take a more active walk through the Citadel of Blaye and learn about the defence system which was created by the famous architect Sébastien Vauban. Alternatively join a 30 kilometre roundtrip cycle along the Captain's Road, or explore the stunning beauty of the fairytale Château de La Roche Courbon, known as 'The Castle of Sleeping Beauty'. Explore the castle and its beautiful gardens during a guided tour.

Day 11 **Bordeaux (B)**
Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Bordeaux Airport or train station for your onward journey.
This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above.