



## Wine Tour of France

The perfect tour for the wine connoisseur. Featuring famous wines and Champagnes produced by some of the finest vineyards in Burgundy and Champagne, the tour will encounter winemakers proud to share their knowledge and love of their traditions. Accompanying the wine throughout the tour, are some great French culinary delights, as well as the chance to enjoy the stunning scenery and sites of rural and city France. All in all a French experience to remember.

### Itinerary at a Glance

- Arrive in Lyon and taste the regional delights in a typical Lyon restaurant
- Explore Northern Burgundy's vineyards, a visit to the Clos de Vougeot winery
- A half day tour of Dijon and time to buy some mustard and 'Kir'
- Visit Southern Burgundy's finest vineyards
- A visit to the Musee du Vin de Bourgogne and the lovely Hotel Dieu in Beaune
- A wine tasting at the Marche aux Vins
- Take a picturesque journey to Colmar the capital of Upper Alsace
- Visit the Colmar Unterlinden Museum, where the Isenheim Altarpiece can be seen
- A full day excursion along the wine route of Alsace
- A day at leisure in Strasbourg, the gastronomic capital of Alsace
- A day visiting and tasting the produce of Champagne houses such as Bollinger and Mumm
- Take an evening cruise on the Seine enjoying Paris after dusk when it becomes the City of Lights
- An evening meal to remember in the Eiffel Tower's restaurant
- Evening dinner in artistic Montmartre, near the Sacre-Coeur Basilique
- Depart from Paris

### Full Itinerary

#### Day One: Lyon to Beaune

Arrival in Lyon, home too many gastronomic specialties, for the first encounter with regional wines and cuisine at lunch in a 'bouchon', a typical Lyon restaurant. Drive from Lyon to the medieval town of Beaune, through the Beaujolais wine region.

Overnight stay in Beaune.

#### Day Two: Northern Burgundy Vineyards (Cotes de Nuits)

A morning's drive through the finest Burgundy vineyards of Nuits St Georges, Gevrey-Chambertin, with a visit to the Clos de Vougeot winery, estate home to the Confrerie des Chevaliers du Tastevin, an international wine fraternity with a historical exhibition.

Visit the 'Palais des Dues' in Dijon, capital of Burgundy since the 11th century, and enjoy a half day tour. A chance here to buy the famous mustard of Dijon, and the blackcurrant liquor used in the 'Kir' (a French aperitif).

Overnight stay in Beaune.

#### Day Three: Southern Burgundy Vineyards (Cotes de Beaune)

Experience the finest Burgundy vineyards of Pommard, Volnay, Meursault, Puligny-Montrachet, Chassagne-Montrachet and Rully. A visit to the Musee du Vin de Bourgogne and the lovely Hotel Dieu, which is unchanged since the 15th century. Ending the day with a wine tasting at the Marche aux Vins in Beaune.

Overnight stay in Beaune.



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#### **Day Four: To Colmar**

Depart for Colmar, capital of upper Alsace, through the 'route des cretes'. A picturesque Journey promising the outstanding pasturelands of the Vosges summits, an array of lakes and the broad valleys of the Fisch and the Thur. Upon arrival visit the Colmar Unterlinden Museum, where the Isenheim Altarpiece can be seen.

Overnight stay in Colmar.

#### **Day Five: Alsace Wine Route**

A full day excursion along the wine route of Alsace. The tour passes through flower decked towns and villages such as Ribeauville, Barr and Obernai.

Lunch in Riquewihr known for Riesling. Then back on the trail visiting more wine growing towns and villages with plenty of time for tasting the great Alsace wines.

Overnight stay in Colmar.

#### **Day Six: Strasbourg**

A full day excursion to Strasbourg. This gastronomic capital of Alsace, on the border of Germany, has a real cosmopolitan flavor. Highlights that can be enjoyed during the day here include; European Parliament and the Gothic cathedrals high north tower overlooking pretty canals and half-timbered houses.

Take a stroll along the river to the 'Petite France' quarters and enjoy a sunset cruise on the Ill river.

Overnight in Colmar.

#### **Day Seven: Champagne Houses in Reims**

Travel to Reims for a full day Visiting Champagne houses with wine tasting Included. Visit and taste the products of the Bollinger Champagne Firm in Ay, Mumm Champagne Firm in Epernay and Oudinot Champagne House.

Enjoy the city of Reims, dominated by the beautiful Gothic cathedral, once the scene of the coronations of the Kings of France

Overnight stay in Reims.

#### **Day Eight To Paris**

Drive through Champagne region en route to Paris, one of the most romantic and glamorous cities in the world.

On arrival take an orientation tour, passing the city's iconic monuments, avenues and public buildings. Finish the day with an unforgettable evening cruise on the Seine and then onto dinner. A chance to enjoy Paris after dusk when it becomes the City of Lights.

#### **Day Nine: Paris Full Day Tour**

The tour will start at Notre-Dame and the Ste Chapelle with the most beautiful stained glass in France. Continuing towards the Place des Vosges, Le Marais, Tuileries Gardens, Champs-Elysees and L'Arc de Triomphe.

Visit the Musee du Vin, set in the old cellars of the Abbaye of Passy of the 14th Century. An evening meal to remember in the Eiffel Tower's restaurant.

Overnight stay in Paris.

#### **Day Ten: Departure from Paris**

Depart from Paris by luxury coach to Paris airport flight home.



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