Price from : 5900€

Private cruise on Garonne Bordeaux to Toulouse

10 days / 9 nights

**Highlights of the cruise:**

- A private hotel boat from 2 to 8 passengers
- Personalized service on board
- A unique human and cultural experience

The Bordeaux region, famous around the world for its wines, lies in the southern part of western France, on the Atlantic coast.  A hotel barge cruise along the Canal de Garonne is a unique way to explore and appreciate the slow rhythm of this region with its subtle mixture of natural landscapes, medieval bastide towns and iconic vineyards.

**Attention: This cruise barge is available in the direction of Bordeaux Toulouse or Toulouse Bordeaux according to the request of the client and according to the presence of the barge in one of the two ports at the time of booking. Inversion of the direction of the cruise weekly from Sunday to Sunday.**

We cruise through the Graves vineyards and visit the medieval town of Saint Emilion, a UNESCO World Heritage site and centre of the most famous of the Bordeaux appellations. Explore the fascinating historic architecture of the region including a visit to the 14th Century Château de Duras, the 13th Century fortified village of Vianne and the medieval town of Nerac, the colourful markets of Marmande

Enjoy a pre-cruise stay in Bordeaux, fascinating city

Our particularity is very simple: Discover France with French people! French guides, French cook on your hotel barge…. They will have the pleasure to welcome you in their region and share with you their passions.

- ITINERARY*

**<u>Pre-cruse stay in Bordeaux :</u>**

**Thursday, Day 1**: meet your guide in the lobby of your hotel for a day discovering the city

**Friday, Day 2**: Gourmet day along the Bassin d'Arcachon. First climb the the Pilat Dune to enjoy the most marvelous view of the region on the highest European dune. Then drive to Arcachon and discover our gastronomic specialties during lunch: oysters, fish…. Spend the afternoon on a private boat to cruise on the basin d'Arcachon during which you will see the birds' island and traditional houses built on piles in the water.

**Saturday,Day 3**: Free time in Bordeaux.

**Sunday, Day 4: Castet-en-Dorthe**

Guests are met in Bordeaux and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to the barge. Following a champagne welcome, there is time for a stroll before returning for your first dinner on board.

**Monday, Day 5: Castet-en-Dorthe to Meilhan-sur-Garonne**

This morning is spent cruising the picturesque canal, following the River Garonne, to the port of Meilhan-sur-Garonne. In the afternoon, we visit the medieval town of Saint Emilion, a UNESCO World Heritage site and centre of the most famous of the Bordeaux appellations. Later, we stop at Château Beau-Sejour-Becot, producer of premier and grand crus wines, where we discover the secrets of the vine and, of course, enjoy a tasting. Dinner on board.

**Tuesday, Day 6: Meilhan-sur-Garonne to Le Mas d'Agenais**

After breakfast, we cruise to the charming little village of Le Mas d'Agenais. During the cruise, you can cycle or walk the tow path and enjoy the stunning countryside. In the afternoon, we visit the 14th century Château de Duras, an architectural wonder, which has been both a fortress and a stately home over its 900-year history. We wander through its 35 rooms and museum before returning to the hotel barge. Dinner on board.

**Wednesday, Day 7: Le Mas d'Agenais to Buzet-sur-Baise**

This morning we depart early and enjoy the colourful market of Marmande and the Church of Our Lady with its French gardens and Renaissance cloisters. We then cruise to Damazan, a pretty fortified village with pastel-coloured houses. After lunch, we visit the pretty village of

Le Mas d'Agenais. Its 11th century church has a beautiful Romanesque doorway and an original masterpiece by Rembrandt. We then visit a cheese workshop, where you can see the different stages of manufacture and enjoy a tasting of goats' cheeses, including some flavored with ash and chilli. Dinner ashore at a local auberge.

**Thursday, Day 8: Buzet-sur-Baise to Serignac-sur-Garonne**

In the morning, we visit the traditional cooperage of St. Martin, where we discover the secrets of making the barrels that enhance the great wines of Bordeaux. We then head to the 13th century bastide village of Vianne and on to Barbaste with its fortified mill protected by four square towers, and the nearby 12th century bridge with its 12 curved arches. The afternoon is devoted to relaxation and cruising further along the canal to our mooring at Serignac-sur-Garonne. Dinner on board.

**Friday, Day 9: Serignac-sur-Garonne to Boé**

We start the day with a visit to the medieval town of Nerac and tread in the footsteps of King Henry IV and Queen Margot. The château was built in the 15th century but much was destroyed during the French Revolution and today only the impressive north wing remains. We then stop at the Lapeyrade estate for a cellar tasting of Armagnac, the oldest alcohol in France. In the afternoon, we cruise towards our destination of Boé, crossing the Plan Canal d'Agen, one of the longest aqueducts in France which spans the River Garonne. Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.

**Saturday, Day 10: Boé to Bordeaux**

After breakfast, guests are transferred by private chauffeured minibus to the Airport or station In Toulouse

***Possibility of extension of stay in Toulouse, consult our expert. Price upon request***

<u>Including</u>

- 3 nights accommodation in a 5-star hotel in Bordeaux city center, deluxe room, breakfasts and city taxes
- Hotel barge cruise from Bordeaux to Agen, all inclusive
- 1 full day guided tour of Bordeaux
- Entrance fees to monuments and visits
- Lunch in typical Arcachon
- Drive guide services for Arcachon day tour
- Transfer from/to Bordeaux airport or station.

<u>Not including</u>

- Lunch except in Arcachon and dinners

- Cancellation insurance
- Personal expenses

*The rate is calculated on the basis of 2 persons in a double room (for 4 persons in a double room: 5500 €) Possibility to receive from 6 to 8 people at the maximum. Consult your expert*

*for rates and dates of cruises. Reversal of the cruise direction every week. From August to October 2017 only*

**Cancellation policy :**

If you or anyone on your holiday booking decides to cancel the holiday, the lead name must notify us of the decision as soon as possible. Any notification by telephone must also be confirmed in writing or by e-mail within 24-hours by the lead name. Cancellation will take effect from the day we are notified provided that written confirmation is received by us within 24-hours of the original notification.

**Cancellation fees:**

- Up to 31 days: 30% of the total amount
- 30 to 21 days: 50% of the total amount
- 20 to 11 days: 75% of the total amount
- 10 days or less: 100% of the total amount