



## **COMBINED JOURNEY: GREAT VINEYARDS OF FRANCE CHAMPAGNE / LOIRE VALLEY / BORDEAUX**

**8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS**

Arrival in : Reims station

Departure from : Bordeaux station or airport

*This exceptional stay will take you on the wine roads of France, in the heart of the most beautiful vineyards. Visit magnificent chalk cellars and uncover the secrets of the most prestigious Champagne houses. Discover the wines of Loire and let yourself be charmed by the majestic Châteaux along the royal river. Meet passionate professionals and explore the most famous Bordeaux appellations. Unveil the mysteries of the great French wines and become an enlightened amateur thanks to this wonderful stay.*



## Day 1

### Champagne: Arrival

- Meet and greet by your private driver at the train station of Reims and transfer to the centre of Reims.
- Private visit of Reims Cathedral with a professional tour guide. This Gothic art masterpiece was the place where the kings of France were crowned and one of the first monuments registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Arrival at your 5\* Relais & Châteaux Les Crayères situated in the heart of Reims: a real treasure of comfort and elegance since 1904, tastefully decorated in the refined spirit of France's exquisite classical style.
- Dinner at the Brasserie restaurant of your hotel: simple taste of authentic products in a firmly modern décor.
- Night at your hotel\*\*\*\*\* in Reims, in Premium room.

## Jour 2

### Champagne: Discovery of « royal wines »

- Breakfast at your hotel and transfer to the centre of Reims with your private driver.
- Visit and tasting in a prestigious Champagne house: commented visit of its magnificent "crayères" (chalk quarries), witnesses of Champagne history, followed by a tasting of 4 vintages and a cheese selection.
- Lunch in a restaurant located in the heart of Reims: a tasty cuisine made of market top produce served in a sleek contemporary setting that pays tribute to the vines.
- Visit and tasting of a great Champagne house: a private visit to discover the style of this house and the subtleties of Champagne terroir (tasting of 3 vintages).
- Return back to your hotel.
- Dinner at the gastronomic restaurant of your hotel (two Michelin-star). The chef – a Meilleur Ouvrier de France – loves to play on variations, and harness the amazing qualities of ingredients, to release ultimate flavours, flawlessly cooked with just the right sauces.
- Night at your 5\* hotel in Reims, in Premium room.

## Jour 3

### Champagne: On the road to Epernay

- Breakfast at your hotel and transfer to the centre of Reims with your private driver.
- Private cellar visit and tasting in one of the oldest Champagne houses of Reims: discovery of its cellars and Gallo-Roman quarries and tasting of two cuvees.
- Lunch at a Michelin starred restaurant situated at the bottom of the hill of Reims: a cuisine full of flavours and delicacy, between classicism and modernity.
- Visit and tasting of a prestigious Champagne house in Epernay: visit of the superb cellars followed by a tasting of two vintages in a private room.
- Transfer to the Paris train station with your private driver.
- Train transfer from Paris to Tours (1.15 hour)
- Meet and greet by your private driver at the train station of Tours and transfer to your hotel.



- Arrival at your 4\* Relais & Châteaux Les Hautes Roches. A troglodyte luxury hotel overlooking the meanders of Loire, a few minutes from the centre of Tours, this 18th century mansion offers you a remarkable experience.
- Dinner at the gastronomic restaurant of your hotel (1 Michelin star): the chef proposes a seafood cuisine, classic and audacious at the same time, subtly combining daily arrivals of the ocean with fresh local produce.
- Night at your hotel \*\*\*\* close to Tours, in Superior room

#### **Day 4**                      **Loire : Between Châteaux et Vineyards**

- Breakfast at your hotel and transfer to Villandry with your private driver.
- Private guided tour of the castle of Villandry, the last of the great Loire castles built during Renaissance. The elegance of its architecture combined with the charm of its outstanding gardens make this monument one of the jewels of the world heritage.
- Lunch in a restaurant in Chinon: a bistronomic, modern, creative and colourful cuisine.
- Visit of the cellars and tasting at a wine estate in Chinon appellation.
- Return to your hotel.
- Dinner at the gastronomic restaurant of your hotel (1 Michelin star)
- Night at your hotel\*\*\*\* close to Tours, in Superior room

#### **Day 5**                      **Loire : Château de Chenonceau and Vouvray appellation**

- Breakfast at your hotel and transfer to Chenonceau with your private driver.
- VIP greeting and visit of Château de Chenonceau, former royal residence. This site is exceptional, thanks to its original architecture, the richness of its collections, its furniture and its works of art.
- Lunch in a charming restaurant situated in the heart of Château de Chenonceau's park.
- Cellar visit and tasting in a famous wine estate of Vouvray. You will discover the troglodyte caves made of tuffeau stones (local stone) and taste 3 wines of the property.
- Transfer to the train station of Saint-Pierre-des-Corps (Tours) in the company of your private driver.
- Train transfer from Saint-Pierre-des-Corps (Tours) to Bordeaux (2.40 hours)
- Meet and greet at the train station by your private driver and transfer to your hotel.
- Check-in to your 5\* hotel InterContinental Bordeaux – The Grand Hotel: stylish and elegant this luxurious hotel, whose rooms were designed by the famous French designer Jacques Garcia, is located opposite the Grand Theatre de Bordeaux.
- Dinner at your leisure.
- Night at your hotel\*\*\*\*\* in the heart of Bordeaux.

## **Day 6                    Bordeaux: The Great Wines of Medoc**

- Breakfast at your hotel and transfer to Medoc with your private driver.
- Cellar visit and tasting in a Grand Cru Classé of Margaux appellation: commented visit in the vineyards, the vat room, the cellars and discovery of the history and wines of the property.
- Cellar visit followed by a private lunch in a prestigious Château of Medoc. You are invited as a privileged guest in a private room of the Château to share an exceptional gastronomic lunch paired with wines. Have a memorable time in a place where hospitality is truly an art.
- Visit and tasting in a Grand Cru Classé of Saint-Julien appellation or Pauillac.
- Return to your hotel.
- Dinner at the gastronomic restaurant Le Chapon Fin. An iconic restaurant of Bordeaux that will surprise you with its impressive rockery decor and Chef Nicolas Nguyen Van Hai's inventive and refined cuisine.
- Night at your hotel\*\*\*\*\* in the heart of Bordeaux.

## **Day 7                    Bordeaux: Grands Crus of Saint-Émilion**

- Breakfast at your hotel and transfer to Saint-Émilion with your private driver.
- Introduction to wine blending in a Grand Cru Classé of Saint-Émilion: discover the specificities of Saint-Émilion's main grape varieties and make your own vintage while discovering the art of blending. You will also enjoy a private cellar visit.
- Lunch at the restaurant of a Château Grand Cru Classé of Saint-Émilion (1 Michelin star): an elegant and sober setting, a homemade regional cuisine and a terrace overlooking the vines and the Dordogne Valley.
- Cellar visit and tasting in a Grand Cru Classé of Saint-Émilion: visit of the cellars – very often real mazes of galleries carved into rocks – and discovery of Saint-Émilion wines specific features.
- Private guided tour of Saint-Émilion's underground monuments. The city being classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1999.
- Return to your hotel.
- Dinner at the gastronomic restaurant of your hotel Le Pressoir d'Argent (2 Michelin stars).
- Night at your hotel\*\*\*\*\* in the heart of Bordeaux.

## Day 8      Bordeaux : Departure

- Breakfast at your hotel.
- Private guided sightseeing tour of Bordeaux: discovery of the main sites belonging to the UNESCO World Heritage Site: le Grand Théâtre, the monument dedicated to the Girondins on the esplanade of Quinconces, la Place de la Bourse, Saint André Cathedral and also the fully refurbished docks...
- Lunch at your leisure.
- Leisure time in Bordeaux: the great opportunity to discover the beautiful shops of the city centre and do some shopping.
- Transfer to the train station of Bordeaux or the airport in the company of your private driver.

### Included:

- 7 nights in 5\* hotels (in double rooms)
  - local tourist taxes
  - 7 breakfasts
  - 6 lunches
  - 6 dinners
  - guided visits and entry tickets to the monuments mentioned in the itinerary
  - visits of the cellars and tastings mentioned in the itinerary (according to the availability of the chosen wine and champagne estates)
  - 1 wine blending workshop
  - transportation in a private car
- Mercedes E Class for 2/3 persons – Mercedes Vito Minivan from 4 to 7 persons with a private driver (Day 1: Transfer and half day transportation – Day2: Full day transportation – Day 3: Full day transportation and a transfer – Day 4: Full day transportation – Day 5: Full day transportation and a transfer – Day 6: Full day transportation – Day 7: Full day transportation – Day 8: Transfer from the hotel to the airport or the train station.)
- train tickets in first class Paris/Tours and Saint-Pierre-des-Corps/Bordeaux.

### Not included: drinks, any other extra

### OPTIONS:

- An only private driver all along your stay (no train transfers)
- Transportation in Mercedes S Class
- Flyover the vineyards in helicopter or hot air balloon
- Food and Wine pairings during dinners
- Preference for more contemporary hotels: contact us