

CLASSIC CRUISE IN BORDEAUX AND GASCONY

Boe to Castets-en-Dorthe

Sunday, Day 1 Boé

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



Monday, Day 2 Boé to Serignac-sur-Garonne

We start the day with a morning cruise to Serignac-sur-Garonne, crossing the Plan d'Agen, one of the longest aqueducts in France which spans the River Garonne. After lunch, we visit 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 was much 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. Dinner on board.



Tuesday, Day 3 Serignac-sur-Garonne to Buzet-sur-Baise

We start the day with a stroll through the historic town of Agen to enjoy the colourful decorated cathedral dedicated to Saint Caprasius, before a private tour and tasting of biodynamic wines at the family-owned Domaine du Bois de Simon. After lunch on board, we'll cruise along the tranquil Canal de Garonne to our mooring at Buzet-sur-Baise, a pastoral heaven. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore the towpath, or perhaps relax with a book on deck. Dinner on board.



Wednesday, Day 4 Buzet-sur-Baise to Lagruère

This morning we cruise to the charming little village of Lagruère with time to cycle or walk the towpath and enjoy the stunning countryside. Following lunch on board we tour the River Garonne aboard a traditional flat-bottomed boat, after which we visit the beautiful village of Le Mas d'Agenais, its 11th century church playing host to an ornate Romanesque doorway and an original masterpiece by Rembrandt. After this we take a short drive to an artisanal dairy farm where we experience the entire cheese making process, culminating in a delicious tasting. Dinner tonight is a gourmet affair at the "Auberge du Goujon qui Frétille", a delightful local restaurant with a highly inventive menu.



Thursday, Day 5 Lagruère to Meilhan-sur-Garonne

This morning is spent cruising the picturesque canal, following the Canal de Garonne, to the village of Meilhan-sur-Garonne. 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.



Friday, Day 6 Meilhan-sur-Garonne to Castets-en-Dorthe

Today, our final cruise is to Castets-en-Dorthe, where the canal ends and drops into the River 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. Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.



Saturday, Day 7 Castets-en-Dorthe

After breakfast, guests are transferred by private chauffeured minibus back to their choice of location in Bordeaux**.

This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change.

On alternate weeks the cruise will be in the reverse direction.

** Other locations available for Private Charter bookings.



CLASSIC CRUISE IN BORDEAUX AND GASCONY

Castets-en-Dorthe to Boe

Sunday, Day 1 Castets-en-Dorthe

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



Monday, Day 2 Castets-en-Dorthe to Meilhan-sur-Garonne

This morning is spent cruising the picturesque canal, following the Canal de 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 3 Meilhan-sur-Garonne to Lagrùère

This morning we depart early and enjoy the colourful market of Casteljaloux. Afterwards, we cruise to the charming little village of Lagrùère, during the cruise you can cycle or walk the tow path and enjoy the stunning countryside. Following lunch on board we tour the Garonne river aboard a traditional flat-bottomed boat, after which we visit the beautiful village of Le Mas d'Agenais, its 11th century church playing host to an ornate Romanesque doorway and an original masterpiece by Rembrandt. After this we take a short drive to an artisanal dairy farm where we experience the entire cheese making process, culminating in a delicious tasting. Dinner, if the weather permits, is a gourmet barbecue beside the barge, overlooking the River Garonne.



Wednesday, Day 4 Lagruère to Buzet-sur-Baise

This morning we cruise along the tranquil Canal de Garonne to our mooring at Buzet-sur-Baise, a pastoral haven. After lunch on board, we visit the 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 tonight is a gourmet affair at the "Auberge du Goujon qui frétille", a delightful local restaurant with a highly inventive menu.



Thursday, Day 5 Buzet-sur-Baise to Serignac-sur-Garonne

After breakfast we enjoy an informative guided tour of the sustainable wine co-operative of Buzet, with a tasting course! Next, we visit the cork museum at Mezin to learn about the history of cork-making, before heading to the 13th century bastide village of Vianne. Lunch on board is followed by an afternoon cruise to Serignac-sur-Garonne. Dinner on board.



Friday, Day 6 Serignac-sur-Garonne to Boé

We start the day with a morning cruise towards our final destination of Boé, crossing the Plan Canal d'Agen, one of the longest aqueducts in France which spans the River Garonne. After lunch, we enjoy a stroll through the historic town of Agen to enjoy the colourful decorated cathedral dedicated to Saint Caprasius, before a tour and tasting of biodynamic wines at the family-owned Domaine du Bois de Simon. Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.



Saturday, Day 7 Boé

After breakfast, guests are transferred by private chauffeured minibus back to their choice of location in Bordeaux**.

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