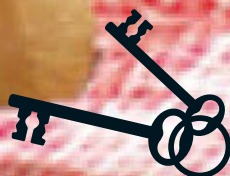


Vineyards of Aquitaine

Explorer's Guide



Advice,
suggestions
and insider
tips for a
stress-free
visit.



bordeaux-aquitaine-wine-trip.com

 **Aquitaine**
SOUTH WEST FRANCE - IT'S ALL YOURS

Map of vineyards in Aquitaine



Destination Vignobles
L'Aquitaine, intense par nature

RÉGION AQUITAINE

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| A Bordeaux | I Jurançon |
| B Bergerac | J Irouléguay |
| C Buzet en Albret | K Madiran |
| D Duras | L Marmandais |
| E Tursan | M Pays du Libournais & Saint-Emilion |
| F Entre-deux-Mers | N Médoc |
| G Graves Sauternes | O Bas Armagnac |
| H Haute Gironde | |

Editorial

Aquitaine is one huge vineyard: from the famous wines of the Bordeaux region to the equally magical produce of Bergerac, Duras, Buzet and Pau... You'll find vines in the foothills of the Pyrenees, around unexpected corners in small villages, or just a few hundred metres from the centre of Bordeaux... Wine may sometimes appear to be shrouded in mystery, but in fact it couldn't be easier to discover, enjoy and share. All it takes is the indulgence of a tasting session amongst friends, a chance to meet real winemakers, or a stroll amidst the endless rows of vines. In this guide we will share with you our advice on how to easily and enjoyably find your way in the world of wine, a heritage bequeathed by the land and enriched daily by the hard work of our winemakers.



Find practical information
and useful addresses at
**www.bordeaux-aquitaine-
wine-trip.com**

the site for
wine tourism
in Aquitaine

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Get around

Tourist information offices, Maisons des vins, unaccompanied or guided tours

The shop of the Cave des Vignerons d'Troulequy in the Pyrénées-Atlantiques

In Aquitaine, you can visit châteaux and vineyards all year round, on your own or as part of a group. Winemakers usually advertise their opening hours and set specific times for tours or events, so it is best to make contact before your visit.

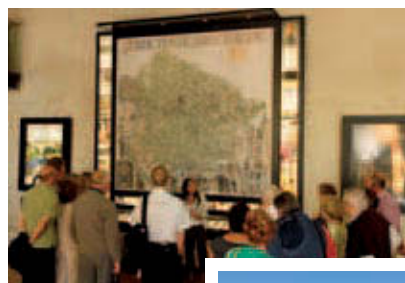


Maison du Tourisme et du Vin in Pauillac in Gironde



“ Many vineyards and châteaux are open to visitors throughout the year; some winemakers prefer you to book your visit in advance so they can organize group tours, others have fixed opening hours. The Maison du Tourisme et du Vin in Pauillac is open every day and offers a last-minute tour reservation service, as well as organizing «exclusive visits» to prestigious grand cru vineyards. ”

Fabrice Fatin, director of the Maison du tourisme et du vin de Pauillac



Saint-Emilion Tourist Office, Gironde



Maison des vins in Duras in Lot-et-Garonne

To get your Aquitaine wine tour off to a good start, the best place to start is usually the local Tourist Information Office or Maison des vins. There you will find information on things to see and do in the surrounding area, as well as the invaluable, up-to-date list of local châteaux open for visits and tastings, a calendar of special events and trips, tourist

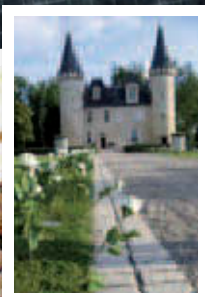
guides and maps, a reservation service and a variety of options for guided tours. The Maison des vins will also offer a wealth of information on the appellation you are in, the varieties of grapes grown there, the properties of the soil, the history of the vineyards and much more.

« The gateway to the vineyard » on bordeaux-aquitaine-wine-trip.com

Find all the information you need at
www.bordeaux-aquitaine-wine-trip.com

Château...

The term *château*, when used to describe a winemaking property, is particular to the Bordeaux region, since many winemakers have built genuine *châteaux* on their estates. But *châteaux* can also be beautiful houses, manors, former monasteries...



*Château d'Agassac,
Médoc in Gironde*

Destination Vignobles

Destination Vignobles is your ticket to successful tours, visits and holidays in Aquitaine's wine country.

Destination Vignobles is a scheme which unites Aquitaine's wine and tourism professionals, with the ultimate goal of welcoming you to our region as a special guest. Several hundred winemaking estates are affiliated to Destination Vignobles, just look out

for the distinctive logo.

These member estates are ambassadors for the region, inviting you to share in their passion for winemaking and savour the fruits of their labours. They offer accommodation in beautiful locations, and will help you to discover the best in local culture, activities and celebrations.

www.tourisme-aquitaine.fr/en



The Bordeaux Tourist Office offers all-inclusive vineyard tours in English and French. There are whole and half day programmes which include transport, tours, tastings, meals, and even special themed events such as «Art and Wine» days. These tours depart daily from the Tourist Office.

www.bordeaux-tourisme.com



Get around

Wine routes and other tourist trails

Winery of Château Lauzier in Dordogne

Bergerac, Bordeaux, Jurançon...

Signposted trails, a guaranteed warm welcome... Our wine routes form a network that covers the whole of Aquitaine, and are made up of winemakers eager to welcome you to their properties.

In Dordogne, the Bergerac vineyards

come in 13 appellations d'origine contrôlées [Wine of controlled origin in France] with «colourful» names including monbazillac, pécharmant, saussignac or montravel. 140 estates are open to the public throughout the year: a special mention for the wine growers from the "Destination Vignobles Pays de Bergerac" (Bergerac country vineyard destination) network where, with each visit, a nice surprise awaits...

www.destination-vignobles-bergerac.fr

In Gironde, the Bordeaux wine routes

bring together over 600 wine growing structures, estates, wine houses and traders, cellars and cooperatives who take care to ensure a quality welcome to their wine tasting sessions

www.bordeauxwinetrip.com



Tourist train in Saint-Émilion in Gironde



Château d'Yquem in Sauternais, Gironde



*Traditional harvests
in Geaune in the Landes*



*Château Bachen,
Tursan
in the Landes*

In the Landes, the Tursan wine route

offers 2 wine-tasting routes starting in Geaune at the Maison des Vignerons Landais, and taking in local producers, experts and hotels.

www.tursan.fr/routedesvins

In Béarn, the Jurançon wine route

not far from Pau, this trail winds for miles through the sloping vineyards which adorn the foothills of the Pyrenees. You'll find vines growing in natural amphitheatres, naturally protected by the rock, and many other treasures such as the magnificent wooden roof of Monein's medieval church.

www.vins-jurancon.fr



The Route des châteaux

...and other routes

In addition to these official routes, the Maisons des vins, tourist information centres and winemakers' organisations produce maps and suggested routes to help you explore their region. The D2 is the road which runs through the heart of the Médoc, offering views of some of the finest of the region's famous châteaux: Giscours, Margaux, Lafite-Rothschild, Mouton-Rothschild...

Find all the information you need at
www.bordeaux-aquitaine-wine-trip.com

Bordeaux Aquitaine Wine Trip: Follow the guide!



Wherever you are, you will discover, in a few clicks, thanks to this App, tours, tastings, walks and activities in the vineyards of Bordeaux and Aquitaine. Are you there? You will easily locate everything that is nearby. From home, you can prepare and download your travel diary. Travellers' reviews will allow you to learn more about places to discover! 7 categories: castles and cellars, information points, restaurants and wine bars, accommodation, tours, experiences and, of course, events will help you build original walks.

Free, the app is available for smartphones (Apple Store and Google Play), tablets and is available as a website version.



Tasting

Wine bars, château tasting events, something for everybody

Wine bar of the Bordeaux Inter-Profession

Above all wine is about enjoyment, and about forming your own opinion. Introductory lessons and wine tastings are designed to help you enjoy wine to the full. In châteaux they are usually free, and led by professional wine experts, head winemakers or sommeliers. Just add wine, and you have the makings of a perfect day! If you want to learn more, our numerous "Écoles du vin" offer a variety of lessons and courses.

“Producing great quality wine is such a fantastic, enriching thing to do. I like to compare our work as winemakers to that of a skilled craftsman, or even an artist, because our commitment to our work is just as strong. You have to have a great love for wine and for the land, and to always believe in what you do. When the time comes to enjoy the wine, I'm happy to know that my work can give people such pleasure and happiness. That is the great satisfaction that comes from being a winemaker.”

Jean and Françoise Cazaubieilh, winemakers of Monein, Jurançon region, Pyrénées-Atlantiques

The majority of guided tours of châteaux end with a tasting, usually free and without any obligation to buy. Breathing the scent of an Armagnac right next to the still, inhaling a wine's rich aroma in the cool semidarkness of a wine cellar – these are moments of pure pleasure. Maisons des vins often offer their own tasting sessions, where you can sample a range of wines from the region in the company of professional wine

experts. In the Haute-Gironde region, at the Maison du vin de Blaye - Côtes de Bordeaux and the Maison du Vin des Côtes de Bourg, wine tasting is free for individual visitors. The Maisons du vin of the Entre-deux-Mers, Graves, Sauternes and Monbazillac regions also offer free tastings. And there is no better way to learn about the art of matching wines to different foods than by stopping off in one of the region's countless restaurants or inns.



Wine Bars

Contemporary and chic, wine bars give you the opportunity to sample wines from all over the region, but above all from local cuvées. More often than not they are accompanied by a little appetizer: foie gras, Bayonne ham or other Basque meats, or sometimes even chocolate!



The Wine bar, Bordeaux

Hone your tasting skills in an Ecole du Vin

If you want to know more about wine, an école du vin is undoubtedly the best place to start. Here you can learn how to recognize different appellations and grape varieties, discuss a wine's robe, appreciate the full length of its flavour in the mouth, then identify that final note of fruit or leathery tannins. It all sounds almost poetic, but an hour or two of lessons can teach you the basics, and a course of a day or more will give you a deeper understanding.

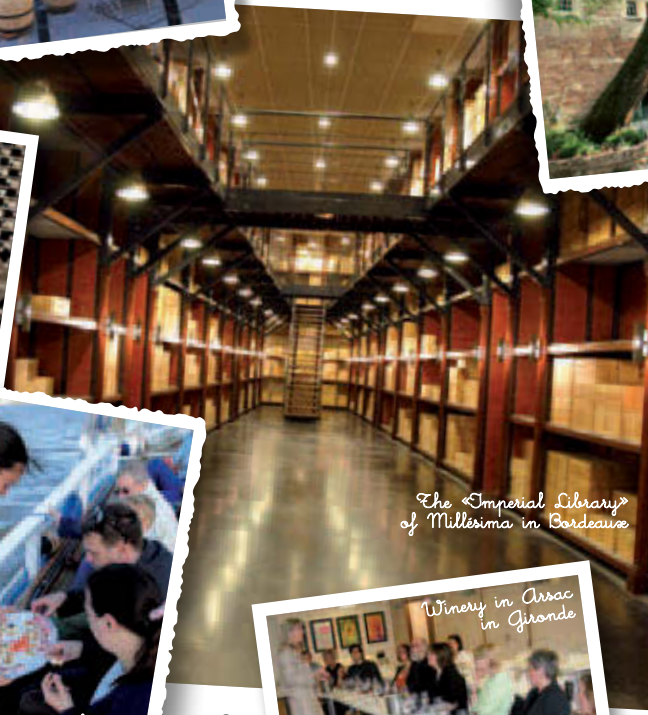
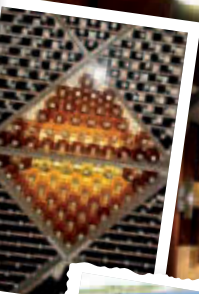
In **Bordeaux**, the Inter-profession Council for Bordeaux Wines offers a wine education course of «learning by tasting, with a simple and accessible commentary by experts,» all conducted in a pleasant, relaxed environment.

www.bordeaux.com/Ecole-Du-Vin/

In **Bergerac**, the Inter-profession Council for Bergerac Wines also offers a variety of courses, from the sort of simple tasting which follows a tour of a vineyard, to more elaborate affairs organized by the «École des Œnophiles».

Tel.: +33 (0)5 53 63 57 57

*Clotire des Récollots
Maison des vins in Bergerac*

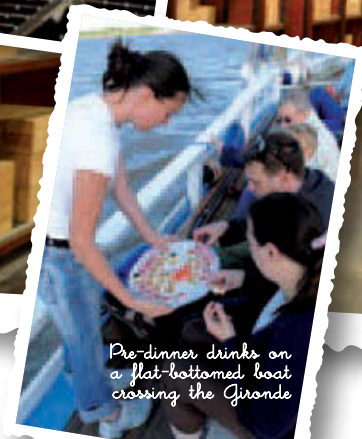


*The «Imperial Library»
of Millesima in Bordeaux*

Millesima: bespoke wine tasting

Situated on Bordeaux's Quai de Paludate, Millésima is renowned for the range of its stocks, the splendour of its vinothèque and the impressive size of its storage cellars. This specialist wine establishment offers personalized tasting sessions, and received a Gold Medal at the 2007 Best of Wine awards in the «Opening up the world of wine» category.

www.millesima.co.uk



Pre-dinner drinks on a flat-bottomed boat crossing the Gironde



*Winery in Arsac
in Gironde*



Simple tips for wine-tasting

La Winery in Arsac takes you into the future

La Winery is a remarkable space: a cellar, wine bar, restaurant, theatre and concert hall all rolled into one. There are a range of activities to try, such as the Wine-Sign detector: taste 6 different wines and give your opinions on each, then let the computer analyse your responses to determine your sign. There is also a boutique with a wide range of wines, a bar offering tastings with expert commentary, a restaurant where you can develop your skills in matching wines to food and a 35 acre park complete with picnic areas and dotted with numerous installations by contemporary artists.

www.winery.fr

Learn the basics at Planète Bordeaux

Twenty minutes outside Bordeaux, on the road to Libourne, is Planète Bordeaux of Beychac-et-Caillau. This centre dedicated to the wines of Bordeaux and Bordeaux Supérieur is not to be missed. Conceived as a multimedia exhibition centre, this fun-filled exhibition will delight visitors of all ages with its dazzling mix of sounds, colours and images. Planète Bordeaux offers an overview of the whole cycle of wine growing and making, and the first step is Planet Tasting. This tasting game invites you to discover three wines in quick succession, with a gong sounding every ten minutes to tell you when to share your opinions and move onto the next wine: entertaining and educational!

www.planete-bordeaux.net/en

Discover the Armagnac tradition in Ognoas

Le Domaine d'Ognoas, in the Bas-Armagnac region, was founded in the 11th or 12th century, and is home to Gascony's oldest still. You can learn all about Armagnac production, and sample some of the famous eau-de-vie. One of France's oldest appellations, Armagnac is produced from white wines which are naturally distilled then aged in oak barrels.

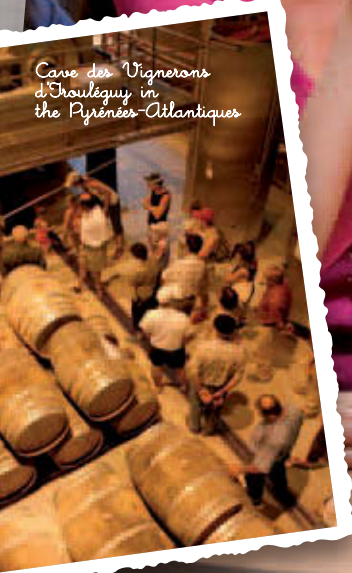
www.domaine-ognoas.com/en



Open days: A weekend of complete freedom

Most of Aquitaine's wine appellations organize an open weekend once a year, with different regions holding their open days at different times of the year. These special days are often festive occasions, marked by various events and activities. Winemakers open the doors of their châteaux and wine cellars to welcome visitors. Indeed, these days are very important to the winemakers; they provide an opportunity to communicate with potential customers that they might not otherwise meet, and to share their passion for wine through tastings designed to promote their produce. These days are also a great opportunity for visitors to pick up wine at direct château prices, from small producers as well as grands crus.





Cave des Vignerons
d'Irouléguy in
the Pyrénées-Atlantiques



The Wine Gallery

On Cours de l'Intendance
in Bordeaux, you can taste
Bordeaux Grand Cru Classé
wines by the glass! A wine
dispenser is on hand, letting
you choose your wine and the
quantity you feel like so that
you can drink several wines at
an ideal temperature.
www.maxbordeaux.com/en

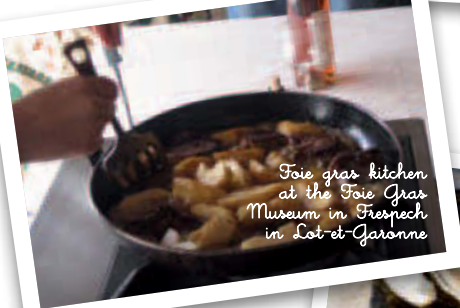
Tasting

Refine your taste for perfect wine-food combinations

Aquitaine is positively bursting with great regional produce: foie gras from the Mandes, caviar, oysters from Arcachon and Cap Ferret, Bayonne ham, Périgord walnuts, Blonde d'Aquitaine beef, Bazas beef, Basque pork, Ossau-Iraty sheep's cheese, Espelette peppers and Agen prunes, to name but a few of the best-known. Aquitaine is home to an extraordinary network of farmers, breeders and small producers who are delighted to welcome visitors to their estates to share their produce (The «Welcome to the Farm» label, for example). Supremely talented chefs including Michel Guérard, Michel Trama and Nicolas Magie work wonders with this fantastically broad range of flavours. The richness, strength and diversity of Aquitaine's wine area offers a choice of delicious, balanced wines to accompany any dish, from traditional fare to the boldest modern creations.



Night-time market in Exémolat in Dordogne




Foie gras kitchen at the Foie Gras Museum in Frespech in Lot-et-Garonne



Preparation of Agen prunes in Lot-et-Garonne





*Wine and chocolate
tasting at Château
d'Agassac
in the Médoc*



Cookery courses,

If you feel like rolling up your sleeves and having a go, there are hundreds of cookery courses available; from days with top chefs to lessons given by talented amateurs.

www.tourisme-aquitaine.fr/en




*"La Villa Romaine"
restaurant in Carsac
in Dordogne*

Wine and cheese, an initiation to Bordeaux wines

The Bordeaux Tourist Office organizes these tasting events throughout the year, providing a great opportunity to learn about Bordeaux wines in a relaxed, welcoming environment. There is a guided tasting (with commentary in French and English) of wines from three of the region's appellations, accompanied by cheeses which visitors select themselves from the maturing cellar.

Throughout the year on Thursdays from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm - maximum 20 people. www.bordeaux-tourisme.com



Wine & Chocolate

With this «chocolate in all its forms» tasting experience, discover the surprising harmony that links three luxury chocolates from the Bordeaux chocolate-maker Saunion and three vintages from the cellars of Château Agassac, a Cru Bourgeois from the Haut Médoc wine region.

www.agassac.com

Discover

Original walking routes and magical visits, a whole new world to explore

Gamagne Valley at Château Cablane near Saint-Émilion in Gironde

There are many different ways to discover Aquitaine's vineyards and other remarkable heritage attractions: there are classic visits and surprising new ideas, holidays designed for groups of friends and others which cater specifically for families. Spend your time indulging in your favourite sport, or just sit back and relax. And of course you can take the time to explore the region's wine-producing villages and the individual architectural styles of their châteaux and cellars.



Lanelie
Entre-deux-Mers
cycling track,
in Gironde



“Be introduced. Understand. Taste. Enjoy. All tailor-made. Such is the Saurac's wine tourism programme, a family castle from the 18th-19th centuries that is full of charm, located between Pomerol and Saint-Émilion. A 3-hour introduction, tailored to each person: couples, family, students, friends... or a programme designed according to your desires (5 workshops, 5 tastings, 3 delicious meals). We are here for you to enjoy a delicious moment.”

Aline Guichard, owner of
Château Saurac in Néac
www.chateau-saurac.com

Wander through the Duras vineyards on Bicycles

Located in the heart of the Dropt country, on the border between Périgord and Guyenne, the Duras vineyard lends itself to gentler forms of roaming. Many trails and small roads allow you to discover, by bike, the varied landscapes, from orchards to vineyards. Take advantage of your trip to visit the beautiful walled towns and wineries for a tasting tour.

www.tourisme-lotetgaronne.com

Discover the vineyard while going with the flow

From Bordeaux to the lighthouse in Cordouan off the Gironde estuary, embark on a wine cruise. «Blaye & Bourg», «Grand cru du Médoc», «Sweet Sauternes» and «d'île en idylle» will carry you to towards the famous Bordeaux vineyards, castles along the edge of the river and the estuary's forgotten islands. On the agenda, depending on the cruise: live commentary (FR/EN), guided tours, wine tastings, meetings with winemakers, «food and wine» lunches, stops on the islands, etc.

www.gensdestuaire.fr

In Bordeaux



Find all the information you need at
www.bordeaux-aquitaine-wine-trip.com

Find your feet in Saint-Émilion

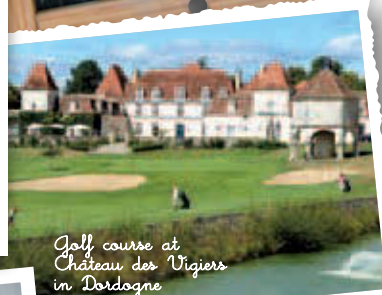
The Saint-Émilion Tourist Office offers two walking tours of the town and surrounding area, with commentary in French and English from a local guide and a tasting session at one of the appellation's famous vineyards.

Golf courses and spa resorts in the region

Some of Aquitaine's most beautiful golf courses are surrounded by vineyards. These courses are also home to the region's best spa resorts, for the perfect combination of sport and well-being. Nowhere is this truer than in the Médoc, with its 36-hole Golf du Médoc, an exceptional resort which ranks among Europe's best courses. The 18-hole Relais de Margaux is another fine course stretching along the bank of the Gironde estuary. Périgord, meanwhile, is home to the 27-hole Golf des Vigiers. This beautiful course, laid out in the grounds of a 16th century château which is now a 4-star hotel, provides an ideal escape in the midst of Bergerac's vineyards.

Other hotels nestled in the vines offer a taste of luxury with their elegant spas. The Maison du Bien-Etre, for example, is one of the four wings of the 4-star Hôtel Spa Grand Barrail, situated in the heart of the Saint-Émilion appellation. And the 5-star Sources de Caudalie resort, tucked in between vineyards in the famous Graves region, is home to a «vinotherapy» spa; the first to offer treatments which combine the virtues of spring water and the beneficial properties of vines and grapes.

www.hotelgolfdumedoc.com
www.relais-margaux.fr
www.vigiers.com
www.grand-barrail.com/uk
www.sources-caudalie.com



Golf course at
Château des Vigiers
in Dordogne



Horse riding



Explore the vineyards of the Domaine de Mourguy aboard a mule!

Pierre Mourguy and his sister Florence are winemakers from the Irouléguy region who love nothing more than welcoming families to discover their estate aboard their team of mules - the mules are the only ones who can carry bags, picnic baskets and small children up slopes which are as steep as 60° in places!

www.domainemourguy.com



Les Sources de Caudalie
in Martillac in Gironde

The wine-making villages

**Saint-Estèphe,
Saint-Émilion, Pomerol,
Pessac-Léognan,
Sauternes...**

Names which evoke not only famous appellations, but equally beautiful villages...

Saint-Émilion is certainly the most well-known: a medieval town packed with art and history, and classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site along with its famous vineyards. The monolithic church, the only one of its type in the world, is well worth a visit, as are the more than 70 hectares of underground rooms beneath the town; natural cellars where the wines are matured. A special «great vineyards» land train offers tours of the surrounding vineyards and prestigious châteaux: Ausone, Cheval Blanc...

www.saint-emilion-tourisme.com

*Monolithic church
and market square
in Saint-Émilion
in Gironde*



*Château de
Monbazillac
in Dordogne*



**In the Médoc, the village
of Bages (in the
commune of Pauillac)
has been restored to its
«traditional» appearance**

This «Village of Wine and Local Flavour» is home to a dozen guest houses, the Au Baba d'Andréa bakery, the restaurant Café Lavinal and the Bages Bazaar, a boutique dedicated to wine and the art of living. The Ateliers de Bages are a series of galleries gathering together artists and artisan craftsman such as the Nat'Osier basket-making studio. The village is also the site of the Cordeillan-Bages cookery school, as well as the Cercle Lynch Bages, who welcome wine lovers. Enthusiasts and professionals can discover or learn more about the art of tasting. Courses, days or stays, which combine wine knowledge and lifestyle, are offered there throughout the year by appointment.

www.villagedebages.com



*Château
Cos d'Estournel,
Médoc in Gironde*



For more pretty villages,

with characters informed by the regional identities of Béarn or the Basque country, and surrounded by sublime countryside, try Ispoure, Bassunarits, Lacommande or Monein, enchanting little villages full of traditional farms and houses, dovecotes, Romanesque churches, fountains, windmills...



*Village of Bages
Pauillac in Gironde*



Walking through vineyards, architectural walking tours

From medieval castles to rather more recent constructions, châteaux and their wine cellars are often extraordinary buildings. Take for example the legendary

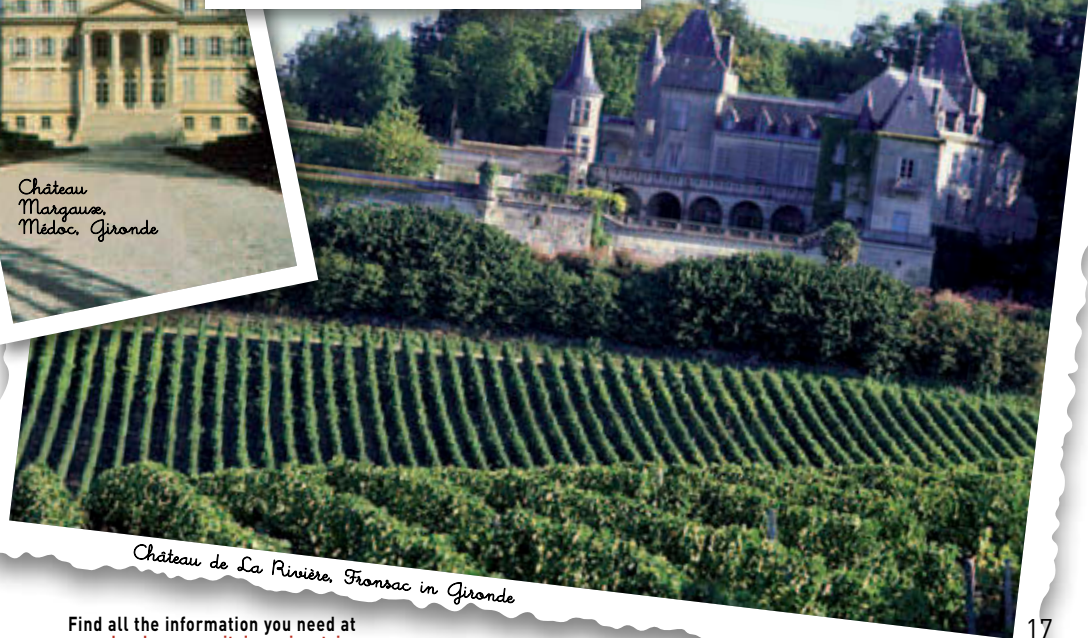
*The Blue Cellar
at Château d'Arsac,
Médoc in Gironde*



Château d'Yquem, Château de La Rivière with its fortifications, the famous Château Margaux with its columns, or the Oriental follies of the Château Cos d'Estournel. Elsewhere, contemporary architects have created ever bolder designs for new wine cellars: take for example Château Lafite-Rothschild at Pauillac, with its vast concrete arena carved 10 metres into the ground. At Château d'Arsac the «blue cellar» is home to a collection of works by some of the biggest names in contemporary art: Niki de Saint-Phalle, Claude Viallat, Bernard Pagès, Vincent Monthier, Jean-Pierre Raynaud, Bernar Venet. For an entirely contemporary experience, why not visit the Sylvain Dubuisson-designed Château Haut-Selve in Graves, an estate founded as recently as 1993. The centrepiece of Haut-Selve is a long rectangular building which seems to emerge from the earth.

*Château Lafite Rothschild,
Pauillac in Gironde*

*Château
Margaux,
Médoc, Gironde*



Château de La Rivière, Fronsac in Gironde

Enjoy Aquitaine to the full; stay in a vineyard

4-star Hotel Grand Barrail in Saint-Émilion in Gironde

It's the best way to meet the people who make the wine, and to share in their passion.



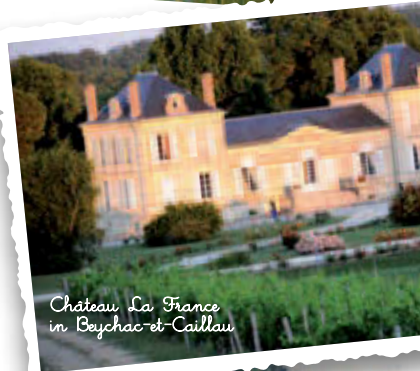
“ Besides my interest in wine, its history and traditions, I try to share some of my knowledge of the region with my guests, to help them make the most of their stay. Good places to visit in beautiful locations, «scenic routes», festivals and other traditional events; I want my visitors to experience all that our little corner of Bourg has to offer. ”

Jean-François Breton, owner of
Château Les Tours Seguy and its Bacchus guest house
www.chateau-les-tours-seguy.com

Staying in a vineyard

In Aquitaine you will find many so-called «Bacchus» gîtes and guest houses. Often bearing the names «Gîtes de France» or «Clévacances», these houses belong to winemakers and are situated in the heart of their estates, allowing for a complete immersion in the world of wine: themed décors, a wealth of information, tastings, guided tours and plenty of helpful advice! In the Bordeaux region, some

châteaux offer accommodation in truly exceptional surroundings. Wherever you choose to stay, your winemaking hosts will be happy to open up their cellars to you. They will provide explanations and advice to guide you in your tasting of their produce.



Château La France
in Beynac-et-Caillau



Lascannes gîte
at Domaine l'Espérance
in the Landes



Staying in a château

Do you dream of four-poster beds, romantic candlelit dinners, and a welcome fit for royalty? In Aquitaine this dream can easily become a reality. Many winemaking châteaux now have guest rooms, for a magical holiday experience.



*Treehouse in
Najals-et-Clotte
Dordogne*



*Guesthouse in a wine
vat at Château
La Mothe du Barry
in Moulon
Gironde*

*Château Carbonneau
in Pessac-sur-Dordogne
Gironde*

Share in the winemakers' passion

Help out in
the grape harvest



Médoc workshops

Two winemakers, Armelle Falcy Cruse and Martine Cazeneuve, owners of vineyards in southern Médoc, open the doors of their wine and spirit stores at Château du Taillan and Château Paloumey. They offer «the 4 seasons of the Médocaines», harvest, blending, wine and cheese workshops and a new item, as well as a unique tasting experience in 2013, such as an introduction to wine and cupcake pairing.

www.chateaupaloumey.com
www.chateaudutailan.com



Become a winemaker for a day in the Bergerac region

Caroline Feely is a winemaker at Château Haut Garrigue, located near the famous Montbazillac castle, and grows her wine using organic and biodynamic wine-making methods. She is also a certified trainer by the Wine Spirit Education Trust® of London. She invites you to participate in a tasting training followed by lunch and the creation of a unique blend of wine.

www.feelywines.com

Harvest in the Haute Gironde

The winemakers of the Blaye - Côtes de Bordeaux, Côtes de Bourg, Bordeaux and Bordeaux-Supérieur appellations take turns to open their doors to visitors wishing to learn about harvesting and the secrets of these legendary wines. Every Saturday in September and the first Saturday of October.

Transportation by minibus departing from the Bordeaux Tourist Information Office

www.pays-hautegironde.fr





Learn about blending

B-Winemaker invites you to participate in a workshop in a «Grand Cru Classé» of Médoc, Saint-Emilion or Graves. An experience that will allow you to create a blend to your liking, your own label and to leave with a completely custom bottle. After having tasted and commented on several wines with the help of professionals, each person will test several blends of the visited château's grape varieties before making his/her own wine. The workshop can be paired with a tasting and a tour of the château.

From March to December by appointment.

<http://b-winemaker.com>



Become an Armagnac «ès» expert

To learn all about this famous, historic eau-de-vie, visit the Ognoas estate, located in the Bas-Armagnac Landes hinterland. There you will discover the oldest still of Gascogne that is still in business, dating from 1804. In this château, which has produced a famous Armagnac since the 18th century, you can learn the secrets of distillation before moving on to the tasting. You can also stay on-site in two former farms (ranked 4 «épis» by the Gites de France), renovated in the spirit of the region.

www.domaine-ognoas.com



Entertain
yourself

Fêtes and festivals: vineyards hold the key

Fête in Bergerac in Dordogne

When the time comes
for a special meal or
a celebration, wine brings
everybody together.

What's more, vineyards and
châteaux often play host to
a variety of festivals: there
are jazz festivals in Bergerac,
Monsegur and Cussac-Fort-
Médoc and a drama festival
in Blaye.

Join in the fun at summer fêtes and wine festivals

Harvest time and the launch day
of «vin nouveau» are both great
excuses for a party, from Sigoulès
in Dordogne to Montfort-en-
Chalosse in the Landes.
Classic examples of Aquitaine's
festive traditions, wine festivals,
fairs and markets provide a
colourful mixture of gastronomy,
local produce and crafts, wine
tasting, special shows, brass
bands, and plenty of other music
and sport. In the south of the
Gironde department, Langon's
Wine, Bread and Cheese festival
attracts more than 20,000 visitors
every September.

*Buzet wine
festival in Nérac
in Lot-et-Garonne*

*Brunch at Domaine de Coutancie,
Bergerac wine region in Dordogne*

Find all the information you need at
www.bordeaux-aquitaine-wine-trip.com

Bordeaux Fête le Vin

Takes place at the end of June in even years. Wine and fine cuisine are the focus of three days of celebration; «tasting passes» are available, offering visitors the chance to sample a range of wines from all over the region. In the evenings, the riverbank comes alive with a full programme of music and entertainment.

On a musical note...

The great centres of wine tourism in Aquitaine organise a variety of festivals, shows and concerts, mostly in the summer months. All of these events are complemented beautifully by the chance to sample a glass of local wine in an enchanting setting, surrounded by vines and old stone architecture. A few of the highlights of this diverse range of events: Bergerac's *Musical Summer*,

Les Grandes Heures de Saint-Émilion, the *Médoc Summer Music Celebration*, Marmande's *Lyric Nights* and *Voices of the World* events, Créon's *Open Your Voice* festival of cycling and music...

*Duras wine festival
in Lot-et-Garonne*



*Classical music concert
at Cordéillan-Bages
in Gironde*



In September The Médoc Marathon

Is one of the world's most famous races, with a course that passes through châteaux and vineyards. 8,000 athletes in fancy dress form a spectacular procession through the Médoc's villages and great wine estates.

www.marathondumedoc.com





Free app.



All about visiting vineyards:
Châteaux and cellars, tasting sessions, accommodation
and events and a travel advisory.



bordeaux-aquitaine-wine-trip.com

