

The Ultimate Wine Experience Cruise?

Price: 43 560 USD for 6 people – 7 260 USD per person
8 nights and 9 days

The 5* luxury hotel barge [Saint Louis](#) and [Bella Wines](#) have joined forces with the Michelin 2* Hostellerie de Plaisance in St Emilion and the 5* The Grand Hotel, Bordeaux with others to offer an outstanding wine travel experience.

It combines a 6 night cruise on the beautiful Canal de la Garonne in South West France plus a 2 night stay in central Bordeaux with exclusive access and tastings at some of the biggest Châteaux in Bordeaux. Please see our brief itinerary and our unique attractions and tours to be savored throughout the holiday.

The itinerary in brief:

Saturday: Pick up from central Bordeaux or airport around 15.30 for transfer to the barge and a Champagne reception on-board.

Sunday through to Friday, cruising with daily tours as detailed below
Friday morning, collected with bags at 09.00hrs to enjoy the day tour of the Left Bank and returned later that day to the Grand Hotel, Bordeaux.

Saturday am, free to explore the city and Cité du Vin, a second guided day tour of another wine region may be organized if desired. (250 euro per person additional cost, minimum of 2 people.)

Sunday, check-out and the opportunity to take in the vibrant morning market along the estuary before onward travel.

Guests will enjoy

- A 6 night luxury cruise on-board Saint Louis Barge exploring this beautiful and un-spoilt region, its gastronomy, wines and

cheeses. You will visit a bustling traditional morning market at Valence d'Agen to buy fresh produce with our chef, take in a visit to the Lily Gardens that inspired Monet and have a special tasting of Armagnac, the oldest eau de vie in France at a 3rd generation producer's distillery.

- On-board we shall be featuring fine French wines selected by Bella Wine Tours and expertly paired with our menu throughout the cruise.
- A Michelin 2* lunch in St Emilion at the Hostellerie de Plaisance including fine wine pairings
- A further lunch ashore when we visit Sauternes at the excellent La Chapelle restaurant at Chateau Guiraud, a 1er Grand Crus estate in the heart of Sauternes
- A private tour of Chateau D'Yquem with tasting
- A private wine tasting of different vintages and Chateaux and a 1er Grand Crus Château visit in St Emilion
- A private Tuk-Tuk tour around the vineyards of the great Châteaux of St Émilion
- A chauffeur driven one day tour of the "Left Bank" with lunch with Hamish Wakes-Miller, owner of Bella Wine Tours. **This tour will be tailored to your group's specific interest and, for example, could include top quality Classed Growth Chateau such as Ch. Lafite Rothschild, Lynch Bages and Margaux. There is also the opportunity to taste some amazing older vintages, 1961, '64, '70, '82, 90 etc.**

- At the end of your tour you will be taken directly to enjoy 2 nights at the 5* The Grand Hotel in the very heart of historic Bordeaux in a **Junior Suite (includes breakfast)**.
- On Saturday in Bordeaux guests are free to explore the beautiful old town and visit the ultra modern Cité du Vin, a world class museum of wines from around the world.
- On Sunday morning in Bordeaux guests may wish to take a walk along the river – just a short distance from their hotel, to the Sunday market, another tradition that stands the test of time!

What's included:

The private charter of the barge for 6 people in 3 twin or double cabins
4 full-time crew, Pilot, Chef, Hostess and Tour guide during your cruise
Transfer by Mercedes from your agreed point of arrival in Bordeaux to the barge.

Meals on-board prepared by our chef, all meals ashore and all drinks, wines, branded spirits, beers and soft drinks, teas and coffees throughout your holiday.

2 nights accommodation incl breakfast for 3 couples at the 5* The Grand, Bordeaux in a Junior Suite. (Or other 5* hotel if not available)

All tours and excursions.

What's not included:

Flights or travel costs to and from Bordeaux

Travel and health insurance, strongly recommended

Barge Crew gratuities (industry suggestion 5%)

Other tips at your discretion