



Chateaux, Rivers, & Wine

Viking River Cruise

Bordeaux to Bordeaux

August 17-25, 2024

Sail away with Bergan Travel on the Viking Forseti for a once in a lifetime journey through some of the most unique and beautiful areas of France. Discover the ports, vineyards, farms, and forests as you sip and savor the finest local wines in a region synonymous with fine wine and finer living! Hunt for truffles in Perigord, and create your own personal blend of Cognac at the Camus distillery. Hosted by Al & Eileen, based on minimum participation.

Highlights:

- ⇒ 8 days, 7 nights in a stateroom of your choice (priced below)
- ⇒ Award winning Viking Longships featuring Scandinavian design and understated elegance
- ⇒ Small ship with a maximum total of 190 guests
- ⇒ Fine dining: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner, featuring local cuisine
- ⇒ Complimentary beer, wine, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- ⇒ 24-hour specialty coffees, teas, and bottled water
- ⇒ One complimentary shore excursion in every port of call
- ⇒ Complimentary Wi-Fi onboard
- ⇒ Transfers included with purchase of airfare through Viking



Price: Standard stateroom F: \$2674, per person, double occupancy. Includes tax and port charges.

French balcony stateroom D: \$3174 per person, double occupancy. Includes tax and port charges.

Verandah stateroom B: \$3674 per person, double occupancy. Includes tax and port charges. Other stateroom categories available, prices vary. Optional travel protection recommended.

Please ask us for a quote and details. Adults only. Air additional from the city of your choice.

Group deposit of \$100 pp due upon booking. Final payment, September 30, 2023.

Deposit and final payment subject to change based on Viking's current promotions.

Please call for details and stateroom availability.



Contact Bergan Travel for details:

218-681-4100
ewalseth@bergantravel.com
217 LaBree Ave N
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

218-689-9662
www.bergantravel.com
213 N Broadway
Crookston, MN 56716

ITINERARY:



Day 1: Bordeaux, France Fly into Bourdeaux. We meet you at the airport and take you to your ship. The rest of the day is yours to explore on your own. Second only to Paris in French historic monuments Bordeaux's preserved 18th-century urban areas make it a desirable film location, and its graceful port on the Garonne River is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. While its monuments are beautiful during the day, they are stunning at night. (D)

Day 2: Bordeaux, France Tour the city center this morning and see some of Bordeaux's highlights, including the Place des Quinconces, one of the largest squares in Europe; the neoclassical Grand Théâtre de Bordeaux; and several spectacular churches. Afterward, enjoy free time to explore the city's vibrant pedestrian area. Later this afternoon, we sail upstream along the Garonne River to Cadillac, a small town with a towering castle that gave its name to the American car brand. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 3: Cadillac, France Begin your day with a walking tour of Cadillac and then head across the river for your excursion to Sauternes. View picturesque landscapes where vineyards blanket the countryside hills and visit a château to learn how their prized wines are made. Enjoy a tasting before returning to your ship. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 4: Libourne, France Disembark this morning for a leisurely stroll to Libourne's picturesque city square, lined with buildings dating as far back as the 16th century; or take part in one of two optional excursions: an exploration of the Bergerac area in the Dordogne to learn more about truffles, a great French delicacy; or a wine tasting, at a nearby château, of some local vintages from the Saint-Émilion and Pomerol appellations. Later this afternoon, take a tour to Saint-Émilion, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you see the town's superb medieval lanes and delightful views of the surrounding vineyards from the upper town. Spend a pleasant afternoon exploring the town's streets & shops. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 5: Bourg & Blaye, France Enjoy a leisurely morning in Bourg as you take a stroll through the historic village. Or, you may choose to take an optional excursion to the charming medieval town of Cognac, birthplace of one of the world's best-known types of brandy. Here, you take a tour of the Camus family business, one of the most tradition-steeped Cognac houses in the area, and try your hand at blending. During lunch, your ship sets sail for Blaye. This afternoon, take a guided tour of the extraordinary 17th-century citadel, dramatically set on a rock beside the river. The citadel of Blaye, its city walls and two other forts are collectively listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 6: Medoc & Margaux Wine Country Cussac-Fort-Médoc is a gateway to the Médoc wine country, home to the famed wine growing villages of Pauillac, Margaux, Saint-Estèphe and Saint-Julien. Collectively, they produce some of the world's most prestigious wines. In addition, there are 60 Grand cru classé vineyards and many more incredible wineries, each offering insight into their rich winemaking heritage that has been passed on for generations.

Day 7: Bordeaux, France Enjoy a final morning of cruising as we make our way back to Bordeaux. You have the afternoon at leisure, giving you more time to appreciate the well-preserved architecture of Jacques Ange Gabriel and son, and to taste the city's cuisine and wine appellations. Perhaps pick up a few bottles to take home with you. Alternatively, you may choose from a number of optional excursions. Take a full-day tour to Arcachon, a commune on the Atlantic coast. Enjoy a boat ride along the estuary to Cap Ferret, and taste the oysters, a local delicacy. Perhaps learn how wine barrels are made and enjoy the vintage aged within them on an insightful excursion. Or, participate in a market visit with the Viking Chef to see where the local chefs of Bordeaux find their fruit, vegetables, meats and fish. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 8: Bordeaux, France After a final onboard breakfast, disembark and we take you to the airport for your flight home. Or, extend your journey with 2-3 nights in Paris. (Breakfast)