

## Hiking in the Gironde estuary : nature and wine - 7 days

Appreciate this walking tour on forest tracks, pathways and small roads. You will cross the vast peninsula of the Medoc. You will take the boat to cross the estuary and continue your tour on the other side, in the Haute Gironde to discover the citadel of Blaye and the "corniche fleurie" (the flowery ledge). First, you will take the "wine road" which picks off the most well-known chateaux: Giscours, Margaux, Pauillac, Lafite Rothschild, Latour and Mouton Rothschild...and you will furrow the winegrowing boroughs which own some of the most prestigious wine known worldwide. The Medoc has also a great diversity of landscapes; marshes, horse breeding and aquaculture. On the hill are located windmills and old castles. In the villages you will find some superb Romanic Churches, and some unique Gallo- Romanic sites in the countryside. This journey with various landscapes, alternates bicycle paths through forests and flat roads alongside streams and vineyards, will allow you to discover the exceptional natural surroundings.

### Day 1: Arrival at Bordeaux

Arrival at Bordeaux and transfer to the Medoc. « Bordeaux », named before "Burdigala", is a Roman city, inseparable from its vineyards and prestigious stones architecture. The quays of the river Garonne in the heart of the city suit everyone, hoping to witness the stop of a cruise ship, "amazing show" of a giant of the seas in the city centre. Capital of wine, Bordeaux is endowed with a rich history and architecture. Transfer by taxi to your accommodation in Pauillac where you will find your road book describing your circuit. Night and breakfast in hotel 4\* or charming guesthouse.

### Day 2: Pauillac : Châteaux's walking tour ~ 15 km

You will leave Pauillac, home of three of the five first Grands Crus Classés and 15 Crus Classé Medoc. On this itinerary of small roads, you will discover the biggest stars of the 1855 wine ranking with stunning architecture, but also all the other jewels of this reference vineyard. Your tour will pass by the famous Lafite Rothschild, Latour and Mouton Rothschild, 1st Great Classified Growths, but also by the Châteaux Pichon Longueville (2d cru), Pontet Canet and Lynch Bages (5th classified growth). At the end of the afternoon, back to the hotel in Pauillac.

### Day 3: Between forest, vineyards and marshes ~ 14 km

09h30: taxi transfer to Vertheuil. Start your walking day by discovering one of the most beautiful villages of the Medoc where the well-known Abbey of Vertheuil is. This will be one of the must-see stops on your itinerary. You will also see the remains of the former castle, an old mill. You will discover the history of Medoc through the vestiges walking through the archaeological site of Brion in St Germain d'Esteuil. Your route continues through marshes, vineyards but also forest. Your itinerary will take you back to Vertheuil for a taxi transfer to Margaux at about 16h30. Night and breakfast in hotel 3\*.

### Day 4: Margaux: from water flows to Wine Estates: 8 to 15 km

At a few steps from your hotel, make a stop in front of the park of the Chateau Margaux to admire the front of the classic building built at the beginning of the 19th century and get close to the vines of origin of this prestigious wine. Your itinerary will follow most of the time along the vineyards and chateau and will take you to the banks of the estuary. Enjoy the magnificent point of view on the Island Margaux and the Estuary of Gironde. Your walking day takes you then in the heart of the marshes and the surrounding forest to discover the fauna and flora. Your loop walk will take you back to your hotel. Night and breakfast in hotel 3\*.

### Day 5: Along the Gironde Estuary from Margaux to Blaye 8 à 22 km

This itinerary leads you to « Lamarque » to take the boat crossing the estuary of the Gironde. You will reach the magnificent citadel of Blaye. Imposing and majestic, the citadel overlooks the estuary with its 33 hectares in the heart of the city, offering a splendid view over the Gironde. On the other side of the estuary your itinerary will continue through the vineyards of Blaye. The Garonne River and the estuary of the Gironde mark profoundly the landscapes, through swamps, banks and small ports. There are so many spaces to discover the fauna and flora and the islands. The banks of the Gironde have a unique identity: neither maritime, not really river, nor strictly ground. Night and breakfast in hotel 3\* or in a charming guesthouse.

### Day 6: From the Gironde Estuary to the vineyards, from Blaye to Bourg 18 km

### Services:

6 nights in 3\*\*\* and 4\*\*\*\* hotels and guesthouses  
6x breakfast  
1x dinner (only in Bourg)  
luggage transport (1 piece/person, max. 20 kg)  
transfer Bordeaux - Pauillac on 1st day + small transfers during the trip  
crossing of the Gironde estuary with boat  
transfer Bourg - Bordeaux on the last day  
detailed trip documents GB, FR with maps  
navigation app with GPX Daten  
service-hotline (7.30am - 8 pm)

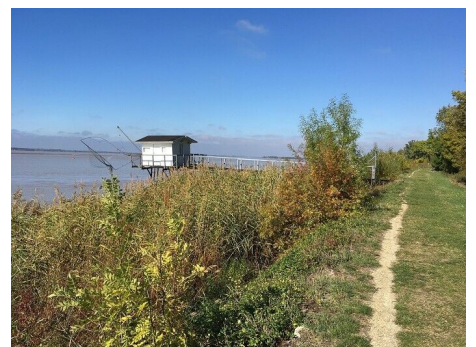
### additional services:

extra night, single, BnB	175 €
extra night, single BnB, Bordeaux	150 €
extra night, double, BnB Pauillac	95 €
extra night, double BnB, Bordeaux	90 €
supplement solo traveler (luggage)	260 €

### Price:

04.05.2024 - 10.05.2024 - hotel according to offer

double room, BnB	1090 €
single room, BnB	1480 €
twin room, BnB	1090 €



Today's walk takes you on tracks and little roads to go through the vineyards of the Cotes de Blaye AOC, Bordeaux and Bordeaux Superior. You will follow the direction of Bourg-sur-Gironde along the famous "Corniche Fleurie" (the flowery ledge), where the presence of countless palm trees, pink laurels and oaks reflects a climate of great sweetness. The setting-up of the vineyard in this region goes back to the roman time (1st century before JC). But it is during the XVIIth century that the culture of the vineyards was really developed, which produced white wines intended for the distillation. This region was then the main region of production of the Liqueur brandy of Bordeaux.

Dinner, night and breakfast in Bourg in a charming guesthouse

If no availability in Bourg, transfer at 5pm from Bourg to Bordeaux and night and breakfast in hotel 3 or 4\* in Bordeaux (which replaces the night in Bourg with half board). Free departure the day after.

**Day 7: Departure**

After breakfast, taxi transfer to Bordeaux

