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## French Art of living in Bordeaux and the Périgord region

**Bordeaux has always been associated with the exceptional quality of its wines by wine lovers from around the world. But beyond this worldwide renown, its lovely 18<sup>th</sup> century architecture and over 350 historic monuments, Bordeaux is also a vibrant and cosmopolitan town which has evolved without losing its character or identity. Thanks to the UNESCO listing, the development of Bordeaux has entered a new dimension attracting visitors from all over the world who want to discover this architectural gem and enjoy the unique atmosphere of the capital of the Aquitaine region.**

**The nearby Perigord region radiates from the art of living: the villages with their glittering golden stones, the rich landscapes and the great gastronomy. The stately heritage, from the caves of Lascaux, the 1000 castles to the churches on the pilgrimage route to Saint Jacques de Compostelle, are simply admirable. Our programme combines the visit of Bordeaux, capital of Aquitaine and the nearby Perigord region.**



© CRT Aquitaine

### Day 1: Arrival in Bordeaux

Welcome by our guide at the airport or the train station and transfer to your hotel. Room allocation. Each participant receive a city map and useful information about restaurants and points of interest. Rest of the day at leisure for a first contact with the city. According to your mood, **stroll through the old Bordeaux** or enjoy one of the numerous cafés terraces and wine bars and immerse yourself in the exuberant atmosphere of the city. **Welcome dinner** in a local restaurant near to your hotel.

### Day 2: Bordeaux and the Haut-Médoc

Morning **guided visit of Bordeaux** by coach and on foot (approx. 2 hours). Our tour includes the Opera house on the place le la Comédie, the 18th century facades along the quays, the Mitterrand Bridge, the Stone Bridge, the Cours Victor Hugo, the Parliament place, the Cours Gambetta, the Great Gardens, the Chartron district and the Quinconces square with the Girondins monument. Afternoon **excursion into the region of the Haut-Médoc** along the bank of the Gironde. Here are the renowned classified wineries of Bordeaux directly next to each other; **Pauillac, Margaux, Saint-Estèphe and Saint-Julien**. Visit and wine tasting in **Chateau Giscours** classified as third Grand Cru and in **Chateau Lascombes** second Grand Cru. Back to Bordeaux in the early evening. Rest of the day at leisure.

### Day 3: Saint Emilion and Périgueux

Departure by coach with guide to **Saint Emilion**, known for its millennial vineyards but also for its site listed by Unesco as World Heritage. Guided visit of the medieval city and visit and **wine tasting** in a vinery with explanations on the various stages of production of the Saint-Emilion wine. Continue to **Périgueux**, a city of art and history and gourmet capital of the Périgord. **Walking tour** through the narrow streets of the medieval centre and visit of the cathedral with its Byzantine style facade. Evening dinner and overnight in Perigueux.

**transglobe**, 188 chemin du Vallon Notre Dame, F 06140 Vence

Tél : +33 (0)4.93.58.79.00 - Fax : +33 (0)4.93.58.79.05 - Email : [vence@transglobe.fr](mailto:vence@transglobe.fr) - [www.transglobe.fr](http://www.transglobe.fr)  
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## French Art of living in Bordeaux and the Périgord region (continue)

### Day 4: Perigueux, Lascaux II, Valley of the Vezere, Sarlat

Departure for **Montignac** to visit the **cave of Lascaux II** fac simili of the famous prehistoric cave. Afternoon descent into the **valley of the Vézère** also listed by Unesco as World Heritage. Visit the shelter of Pataud at **Les Ezyies**, the limestone cave of la Madeleine and stop in the small village of **St Leon sur Vézère**. Arrival in **Sarlat** for dinner and overnight.

### Day 5: Castles and gardens of the Perigord

Visit of Sarlat and its extraordinary architectural richness. Discover over a thousand years of architecture in the incredible medieval town. Afternoon visit to the **castle Hautefort**, one of the most beautiful of the Perigord with a furniture collection of 17th and 18 Century. Its French and English Garden park open to different perspectives on the countryside and the villages of the area. Continue with a visit of the garden of the **Manoir d'Eyrignac**, historic monument from the XVIIe et XVIIIe century, which belongs undoubtedly to the most beautiful gardens of the Perigord. Dinner and overnight in Sarlat.

### Day 6: Sarlat, Dordogne valley and Bordeaux

Visit of the fortification of **Domme**, royal village of the XIII century. Continue to the village of **La Roque Gageac** among the most beautiful villages of France. Then to **Beynac** with its picturesque streets from the middle ages. Afternoon visit of the castle of **Les Milandes**, former residence of Josephine Baker. followed by a bird of prey demonstration in the gardens and a **promenade on a flat boat (Gabar) on the Dordogne River**. Continue to **Bergerac** and return to Bordeaux for overnight.

### Day 7: Bordeaux/departure

Transfer to the airport or station and departure.

### Our services:

- 3 x overnight and breakfast in Bordeaux
- 1 x halfboard in Perigueux
- 2 x halfboard in Sarlat
- 1 x welcome dinner in a local restaurant in Bordeaux
- Coach and guide for transfers, sightseeing and roundtrips as described
- Wine tasting in the Haut Medoc and in Saint Emilion
- Admission fees in Lascaux II, Hautefort Castle and gardens, Manoir d'Eyrignac gardens, Les Milandes Castle.
- Boat trip on the Dordogne river

