

## Ports & Excursions



### **Bordeaux (Le Verdon), France**

Lying on the south bank of the Garonne estuary, Le Verdon is your gateway to what is arguably the finest wine-producing region in the world: the vineyards surrounding Bordeaux. Though the city has long been an important trading center, the foundation of its prosperity has always rested on the wine trade. That trade began in the Middle Ages, when Bordeaux shipped Claret to England in exchange for British wool. While Bordeaux itself is a charming city that boasts superb examples of 18th-century neo-classical architecture, wine lovers are seldom able to resist the lure of the fine wine estates of the Medoc.

## Points of Interest

### **1 Bordeaux**

This World Heritage city brims with historic churches, tranquil parks and graceful bridges. See Louis XV's royal square, the Place de la Bourse; the Gothic Clock, the Town Hall, and Gambretta Square.

### **2 Medoc Vineyards**

Immerse yourself in the French countryside where celebrated vintners create some of the world's most sought-after wines. Enjoy a tasting at a classic chateau for the complete Medoc Vineyard experience.

### **3 Medoc Chateau**

Explore amazing architectural gems surrounded by ordered vineyards and beautifully treed landscapes. The variety of styles from medieval forts to graceful Palladian palaces is endlessly fascinating.

### **4 Chateau Lafite Rothschild**

Originating in the 13th century, this famed chateau boasts centuries of artful wine making and heady days when its distinctive claret was widely known at the court of Versailles as "The King's Wine."

### **5 Route des Chateaux**

The famed "Route des Châteaux" is rimmed with vineyards as far as the eye can see. Road signs tick off legendary names of world-famous cellars and stately chateaux peer out from leafy allées.

### **6 Chateau Rousseau de Sipian**

This Renaissance phantasy of turrets and towers overlooking the Gironde dates to a marriage joining two of the wine world's most celebrated families: perfect for wine tasting and a gourmet lunch.

### **7 Hennessy**

Delve into the finer points of cognac production at this celebrated distillery founded in 1765 by Irishman Richard Hennessy. Arriving via river boat for a cellar tour and cognac tasting is magical.

## **8 Wine Tasting**

Médoc wines vary from the elegant Margaux wines in the south to the imposing Saint-Estèphe to the north. Wine tasting tours at imposing chateaux let you sample and perhaps purchase a favorite vintage.

### **Special Child Pricing Available!**

Children age 12 and younger, savings up to 50%. For actual pricing information, click on tour title or Reserve button.