



Burgundy-Alsace 2021

■ May 16-28, 2021 • *UPDATED 9/28/20*

- Comfortable hotels and charming inns – all with private bath
- Transportation in comfortable van or mini-bus • Outstanding cuisine
- Château visits • Picnic with local produce • Fabulous outdoor markets
- The wine villages of Burgundy • Numerous shopping opportunities
- Walled city of Beaune and its Hospice • Lyon, France's second city
- The wines of Burgundy, considered by many to be France's best
- Pretty Alsatian villages: Riquewihr, Ribeauvillé, Kaysersburg, Colmar
- Lively Strasbourg, capital of Alsace • Château of Haut-Koenigsbourg
- Boat ride on the Ill River in Strasbourg • Renowned vineyards of Alsace

Tour cost – \$4,295 per person sharing accommodation • For a single room, add \$550

■ Day 1 (Sunday, May 16)

Our tour begins at 9 a.m. when we gather in our hotel lobby in the center of old **Lyon**, France's bustling, exhilarating second city. Our first visit is to the **Museum of Gallo-Roman Civilization**, allowing us to understand the importance of the city (originally called **Lugdunum**) to the Romans. After a lunch break, we take public transit to the **Confluences Museum**, a science and anthropology museum that features four major exhibitions in an amazing, riverside building. Late in the day, take in the **Museum of Fabric and Decorative Arts** before we walk to **DINNER** at a *bouchon* – a typical **Lyon** restaurant. **OVERNIGHT – LYON**

■ Day 2 (Monday, May 17)

We get to know **Lyon** even better with visits to the city's historical heart, including its gothic cathedral and the curious covered passageways (*traboules*) that allowed workers in Lyon's thriving silk industry to carry bolts of cloth without getting them wet. Then, climbing the hill to the **Fourvières** district, we visit the pilgrimage church of **Notre Dame de Fourvières**, followed by a boat ride on the **Saône River**. **LUNCH** today in old **Lyon**, and possible optional visit to the city's **Fine Arts Museum**. **OVERNIGHT – LYON**

■ Day 3 (Tuesday, May 18)

Before leaving town, we make a final stop to view a massive fresco covering the entire side of a building. **Lyon** is known for its outdoor art, and this is one of the city's best. Then we push on to the pretty hillside village of **Solutré-Pouilly**, which spreads at the base of the immense, soaring rock outcrop called **Solutré**. We visit the regional

prehistory museum here to learn how ancient humans hunted and lived. Later, after passing through the renowned wine-growing area of **Pouilly-Fuissé**, we arrive in the historic town of **Cluny** and check into our village-center inn. Later we have free time in town. **OVERNIGHT – CLUNY**

■ Day 4 (Wednesday, May 19)

Today we visit **Cluny's** signature site – the near-ruins of the **Abbey of Cluny**. This influential abbey was a medieval and renaissance powerhouse before being suppressed and sacked during the **French Revolution**. In the afternoon we stop over at **Taizé**, a modern religious community, then tour the imposing renaissance **Château de Cormatin**. At the end of the day, enjoy free time in pretty **Cluny**, followed by **DINNER**. **OVERNIGHT – CLUNY**

■ Day 5 (Thursday, May 20)

Today we move north, into the heart of **Burgundy**. It's a 90-minute drive to **Beaune**, the most beautiful town in the region. Arriving in the late morning, we check into our *centre ville* hotel in old **Beaune**, then gather for a stroll through the old streets. In the afternoon, we'll enjoy some of the sights that Beaune has to offer, including the famed **Hospice of Beaune** and the **Marché aux Vins**, where wine tasting is in order. **OVERNIGHT – BEAUNE**

■ Day 6 (Friday, May 21)

Today we explore one of this region's two premier wine areas – the vineyards of the **Côte de Beaune**, source of some of the most prized white wines in France. In the morning we enjoy a vineyard tour and winery visit, followed by **LUNCH**

and tasting you will not soon forget – **La Table d'Olivier Leflaive**. Later we return to **Beaune**, where you are invited to visit the vast underground cellars of one of Burgundy's most celebrated wine houses, **Patriarche Père et Fils**.
OVERNIGHT – BEAUNE

■ Day 7 (Saturday, May 22)

The Saturday morning market at **Beaune** is one of the best in Burgundy. We enjoy the colorful stalls and street activity, and shop for a picnic lunch. Then we visit the area's second prestigious wine area – the **Côte de Nuits**. This is your chance to learn about some of the world's greatest reds. After a tour of the imposing **Château du Clos de Vougeot**, we visit a sight that is three in one – a château, an aviation museum (yes, real planes) and a wine property. It's the **Château of Savigny-lès-Beaune**. **DINNER** tonight.
OVERNIGHT – BEAUNE

■ Day 8 (Sunday, May 23)

We say goodbye to **Beaune** and head to **Dijon**, the ancient stronghold of the powerful **Dukes of Burgundy** and a stately city with a proud past. We visit the **Old Town** and the fabulous **Palace of the Dukes**, including its **Fine Arts Museum**. After lunch we leave Burgundy, traveling to **Alsace** via the renowned church of **Notre Dame du Haut**, designed by **le Corbusier**, a pioneer of modern European architecture. **OVERNIGHT – COLMAR**

■ Day 9 (Monday, May 24)

Colmar is a delight – old, flower-decked houses decorated with carvings and ornamentation, and peaceful canals (the city is called **Little Venice**). After a walking tour and **LUNCH**, we head to its main cultural attraction: the **Unterlinden Museum**. Here, in a former 13th century convent, we see a fine collection of art, sculpture, furniture, weapons, pewter and porcelain. The museum's most famous work is the **Issenheim Altarpiece**, an early 16th polyptych showing Biblical scenes. Later, if time allows, we visit the enchanting wine village of **Eguisheim**.
OVERNIGHT – COLMAR

■ Day 10 (Tuesday, May 25)

Today we explore several of the region's most beautiful villages. In **Riquewihr**, wander the old streets and squares and have lunch. In **Kaysersburg**, see the birthplace of humanitarian/physician **Albert Schweitzer**. Late in the day, we visit the small town of **Ribeauvillé**, renowned for its Riesling wine. Returning to Colmar, we have **DINNER**. **OVERNIGHT – COLMAR**

■ Day 11 (Wednesday, May 26)

Heading north through vineyards and forested hills, we arrive at the **Château de Haut-Koenigsbourg**, which features a splendid panorama of the **Rhine Valley**. Next up: **Obernai**, an Alsatian town that's both lively and lovingly preserved. Arriving in the afternoon in Alsace's capital, **Strasbourg**, we check into our *centre ville* hotel, then take an orientation walk.
OVERNIGHT – STRASBOURG

■ Day 12 (Thursday, May 27)

Strasbourg is a vibrant, attractive city, and we'll see as many of its sights as possible: its ancient quarters of half-timbered houses, its immense **Place Stanislas** and the cathedral's famed **Astronomical Clock**. How about a museum visit or a boat trip on the **Ill River**? We'll enjoy a final **LUNCH**, then free time late in the day for shopping and to prepare for tomorrow's departure.
OVERNIGHT – STRASBOURG

■ Getaway day (Friday, May 28)

It's time to say *au revoir* to **France** with your flight home from **Strasbourg** airport.

Notes

MEALS – All tours include breakfast and eight other meals (lunches and dinners), as indicated in **BOLD CAPS** in the itinerary.

OUR HOTELS

Hôtel la Résidence, Lyon
Hôtel de Bourgogne, Cluny
Najeti Hôtel de la Poste, Beaune
Hôtel St. Martin, Colmar
Hôtel Gutenberg, Strasbourg

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS – Subject to availability.

ITINERARY – Details of this preliminary itinerary could change. A final itinerary will be issued at time of trip departure.

SIGHTSEEING – All sightseeing listed in itinerary is included as part of the tour.

* **TOUR PRICE** – Price of \$4,295 is based on a "benchmark" U.S. dollar/euro exchange rate that existed pre-tour and could change if there are significant exchange rate fluctuations. Call us for details - (800) 676-1247. Price quoted is for land arrangements only and does not include airfare.