

FRANCE – BURGUNDY ALONG THE *ROUTE DES GRANDS CRUS*

6-days/5-nights fully GUIDED inn-to-inn from Dijon to Chalon WEEKLY GUARANTEED DEPARTURES



Join your knowledgeable tour guide on a leisurely bike ride through Burgundy and explore the wine regions which are synonymous with 'fine wine', where Pinot Noir and Chardonnay find their most elegant expressions. Cycle through vineyards, visit wine cellars for tastings, stop for long lunches in pretty villages and end your day in comfortable quality hotels. Burgundy offers something for everyone: world-renowned wine, good food, a rich history and cultural heritage, friendly and authentic people, charming villages and beautiful landscapes, and most of all, *L'Art de Vivre*, the art of living.

We start in Dijon, known for its warm hospitality and medieval architecture, and head off to explore by bicycle two renowned wine production areas, Cote de Beaune and Cote de Nuits. Following the vineyard **Grands Crus Route** we visit winemaking villages including Gevrey Chambertin, Vougeot, Pommard and Meursault. Along the way there is the opportunity for tastings and to learn a little more of the vigneron's art. We spend two nights in Beaune, the centre of the wine trade in Burgundy, and finish our tour in Chalon sur Saône, a busy riverside town and birthplace of Nicéphore Niépce, inventor of photography.

The cycling is just enough to build up an appetite and allow you to indulge in the region's fine food – including Charolais beef, Bresse chicken, escargot, Époisses cheese (the 'king of cheeses') and traditional dishes like Boeuf Bourguignon and Coq au Vin – and find the perfect wine match for each one.

With fully guided cycling, mechanical assistance and a support vehicle should you decide to take a breather, there is nothing more to do other than enjoy cycling amidst the well-preserved historic villages, picturesque vine-clad landscapes, past the chateaux and tranquil canals that denote this iconic region.

Cost from: \$3595 per person, twin-share. Single room supplement from \$540

Departs: **Guaranteed departures every Sunday** from April to October, 2019 (minimum of 2 people)

Grading: Easy to moderate - 40-50km daily over flat to gently undulating terrain.

Starts: Dijon **Ends:** Chalon sur Saône

Includes: 5 nights' accommodation in carefully selected 3-star hotels (all rooms with private bathrooms), 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 3 dinners, 3 visits and wine-tasting at vineyards, route notes, luggage transfers, hire of quality multi-gear hybrid touring bicycle with helmet, cycle tour guide, bike assistance and bike mechanic, support van following the route, local hotel taxes.

Not included: 2 dinners, drinks, gratuities, personal expenses.

Optional: (available at extra cost): E-Bikes, extra tasting in either Cote de Beaune or Cote de Nuits area, extra nights in Dijon or Beaune.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested itinerary: *please note weather and road conditions, group interests and the decision of the tour guide will influence the final route taken each day*

Sunday Day 1: Arrive Dijon

Make your way by mid-afternoon to your first hotel, situated in the heart of Dijon. Meet your guide for a briefing and receive your bicycle. Dijon is just 1½ hours from Paris by TGV and is a vibrant, walkable city with a wealth of great shops, restaurants and bars. Its many significant medieval and Renaissance buildings include the Palais des Ducs and the church of Notre Dame. At Notre Dame, look for *la chouette* – the little owl which has been adopted as a symbol of the city. You may like to follow the Owl's Trail (*Parcours de la chouette*) which visits many of Dijon's most interesting sites. Dinner tonight is at your own arrangements – perhaps indulge your inner gourmand with a meal at one of Dijon's three Michelin-starred restaurants.

Monday Day 2: Circular Route around Dijon

Cycling @ 40km

After breakfast meet up with your tour guide and set off into the countryside around Dijon. This delightful ride takes us through a tranquil landscape and passes by the Canal de Bourgogne. We end our day with a return to Dijon. Dinner is included tonight, at a restaurant in the city.

Tuesday Day 3: Dijon – Cote de Nuits vineyards – Beaune

Cycling @ 40-50km

After breakfast, we navigate out of the city, keeping away from traffic where possible, and cycle into the countryside where the Route de Grands Crus begins. We enter the region of Gevrey Chambertin, the largest appellation in Côte de Nuits, Pinot Noir country, where we can find some of France's most famous wines including Vosne-Romanée, Fixin, Chambertin-clos-de-Bèze, Flagey-Echézeaux, Vougeot and Richebourg.

We ride on through the wine regions of Morey Saint Denis, Chambolle-Musigny and Vougeot with vineyards surrounding us at every turn, offering breathtaking scenery. We continue through the highlands further on to Beaune, where we stay 2 nights. Dinner is at your own arrangement.

Wednesday Day 4: Circular Route from Beaune - Cote de Beaune vineyards **Cycling @ 40-50km**

This morning we cycle through the famous vineyards of Pommard, Volnay... the kingdom of Burgundy Red wines, on a mostly flat route. We then turn towards the famous vineyards of Meursault and Puligny-Montrachet, charming villages which make the best white Chardonnay wines in the world. Return to Beaune in the afternoon for another night at the same hotel. A gourmet dinner is included tonight.

Thursday Day 5: Beaune to Chalon sur Saône – Cote Chalonnaise vineyards **Cycling @ 40-50km**

Meet with your guide after breakfast and depart for a bike ride through an entirely different wine region today, the Cote Chalonnaise, where vineyards are interspersed with rolling pasture and the wines are approachable, easy-drinking and good value. We finish the day with a leisurely ride on the towpath of the Canal du Centre from Santenay to Chalon sur Saone. A farewell dinner is included tonight.

Friday Day 6: Departure day

Tour arrangements end after breakfast in Chalon sur Saône. There are rail services north to Dijon and Paris or southwards to Lyon and Marseille.



Outdoor Travel offers a wide choice of small group or self-guided inn-to-inn cycling holidays along the Danube in Austria, in Hungary, Germany, Switzerland and Slovakia. Cycling Tours also available in many areas of France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Holland, Ireland, England and Scotland, Croatia, Romania, the Czech Republic, India, Vietnam, New Zealand and Australia.

We offer Bike & Barge or Bike & Boat cycling cruises in many areas of Europe on our website – destinations include several regions of France, Italy, Holland, Germany, Croatia, Greece, Turkey and the popular Amsterdam to Bruges route. There is also a Bike & Boat cycling cruise in Vietnam ideal during our summer.

Contact Outdoor Travel direct for more details and reservations

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