

# LUXURY WINE TOUR TO BORDEAUX

The Great Estates of Bordeaux

**SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

— Hosted by Philip Goodband, MW —

**US \$3,995** per person

Join us on a spectacular tour to visit some of the greatest wine estates in the world.

Experience private visits with tastings of exceptional wines, dine at a 2-star Michelin restaurant and stay at a luxury 5-star hotel nestled in historic vineyards. Your host, Philip Goodband MW, is a passionate expert on Bordeaux.

Each day includes visits and tastings at some of the most famous names in Bordeaux; châteaux that have a long history and whose wines are revered around the world. We will be shown inside these great estates, learning how they produce and operate, before enjoying spectacular tastings.

## COME AND DISCOVER

*This is a sample itinerary. The final itinerary should be almost identical once the last wineries confirm.*

**GREAT GROWTHS OF THE MÉDOC** with visits to **Château Rauzan-Ségla** and **Château Lynchés-Bages**, and a private lunch with the owner at Super Second **Château Ducru-Beaucaillou**.

**SWEET INDULGENCE IN SAUTERNES** at First Growths **Château Guiraud** and **Château Coutet**, where we will also have a private lunch with the team and sip on multiple decades of Sauternes.

**DISTINGUISHED ESTATES IN PESSAC-LÉOGNAN** with visits to Cru Classés **Domaine de Chevalier**, **Château Smith Haut Lafitte**, and a private lunch hosted by **Château Haut-Bailly**.

**TOP-RATED RIGHT BANK** with visits to 1er Grand Cru Classés **Château Figeac** and **Château Pavie** in St-Émilion, a tasting at **Château La Conseillante** in Pomerol, and a 2-star Michelin dinner at **La Table de Pavie**.

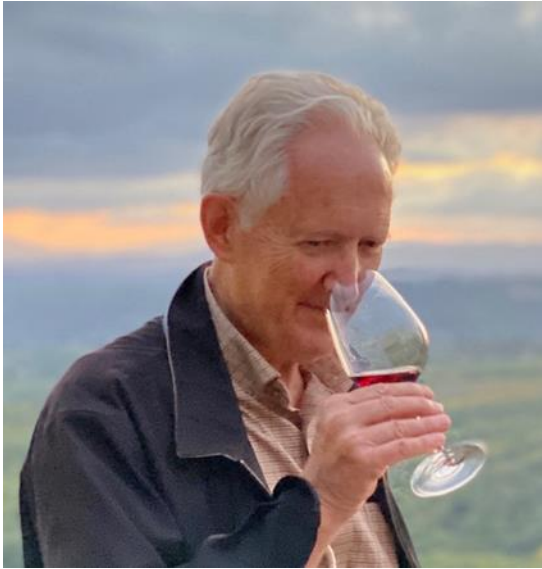


**FINE VINTAGE**  
BY JAMES CLUER MW

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## YOUR HOST



### PHILIP GOODBAND MW

You will be hosted by Philip Goodband MW, who served as wine adviser to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother for over a decade. He is a true wine professional with a deep knowledge and love for Bordeaux, and its wines.

A UK resident and former Chairman of the Institute of Masters of Wine, his work and travels for major wine companies and consultancy have taken him around the globe resulting in a unique blend of knowledge and experience, which he happily shares in a very enjoyable and engaging style.

[www.philipgoodband.com](http://www.philipgoodband.com).

## PRICE

### US \$3,995 (INCLUDING TAX)

The price includes accommodation at Les Sources de Caudalie, all meals except on Wednesday evening, superb wines at all meals, all châteaux visits and tastings, and local transport. Transportation to and from Bordeaux, items of a personal nature, and travel insurance are not included. We recommend that you contact your travel agent to arrange travel insurance.

There is a US\$900 supplement for single travelers for a single occupancy hotel room.

Deposit at booking: \$500

120 days from start: \$2,000

90 days from start: Remaining deposit (plus single supplement if applicable)



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### ITINERARY | DAY 1

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#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

Our hotel for the entire duration is the luxury **Les Sources de Caudalie** located about 25 minutes by taxi from the airport or train station. [www.sources-caudalie.com](http://www.sources-caudalie.com)

The 5-star Les Sources de Caudalie is a favourite place to stay because it is so gorgeous, surrounded by vineyards. The hotel also offers three excellent restaurants, swimming pools, fitness centre, and, of course, its world-class, grape-based Vinothérapie Spa.

#### 2.00 PM

Meet Philip in the Tasting Tower above the lobby at Les Sources de Caudalie for a Champagne reception, introductions, and a review of the itinerary. Philip will also give a general overview of Bordeaux, some basic facts, and an idea of what to expect on the tour.

#### CHÂTEAU SMITH HAUT LAFITTE, AOC PESSAC-LÉOGNAN - CRU CLASSÉ DE GRAVES

We then kick off our program of winery visits just 100 metres from the hotel at Château Smith Haut Lafitte with a tour and tasting.

Smith Haut Lafitte is one of the leading chateaux in Pessac-Léognan. It's a stunning property run by the Cathiard family who sold a chain of sports goods stores to purchase the estate. Smith is one of my favourite wineries in Bordeaux with an amazing underground cellar and its own cooperage. The white wines rank in The Wine Spectator's top 100 wines of the world and the critics regularly score the reds well into the 90's. [www.smith-haut-lafitte.com](http://www.smith-haut-lafitte.com)

In the evening we will have a lively dinner at the hotel's La Table du Lavoir bistro. The food is classic Bordelais and we will pair it with some great vintages of Smith as well as a Sauternes. It's a fun night getting to know others on the tour, a maximum of 20 people.



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### ITINERARY | DAY 2

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#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> – THE MÉDOC

##### 8.30 am – Depart Hotel

The morning departures get later during the trip, but today we're raring to get to the Médoc.

##### CHÂTEAU RAUZAN-SÉGLA, AOC MARGAUX – 2<sup>ND</sup> GROWTH

This leading estate on the edge of the village of Margaux has been turned upside down since it was purchased by the Wertheimer family, owners of Chanel, in 1994. We'll visit the modern winery and taste the wines which are the purest expression of Margaux: fragrant, supple, and balanced. The second label, Ségla, is also a great buy. [www.chateaurauzanségla.com](http://www.chateaurauzanségla.com)

##### CHÂTEAU DUCRU-BEAUCAILLOU, AOC ST.-JULIEN – 2<sup>ND</sup> GROWTH

Ducru-Beaucaillou is often considered to be St.-Julien's top château and worthy of a First Growth status. The stunning property sits atop a gravelly rise on the banks of the Gironde that lends its name to the château itself: *beaux cailloux*, or "beautiful stones." A tour and tasting will be followed by a long lunch in the owner's private dining room, and lots of vintages of Ducru. [www.ducru-beaucaillou.com](http://www.ducru-beaucaillou.com)

##### CHÂTEAU LYNCH-BAGES, AOC PAUILLAC – 5<sup>TH</sup> GROWTH

Classified as a 5<sup>th</sup> Growth in 1855, Lynch-Bages is one of those estates that over-delivers each vintage. Our visit will begin with a tour of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century farmhouse juxtaposed to the eye-popping pyramid-inspired ultra-modern winemaking facilities. The tour will conclude with a tasting of 3 different vintages of their Grand Vin as well as a taste of their second wine, Echo de Lynch-Bages. [www.lynch-bages.mobi/en/chateau-lynch-bages](http://www.lynch-bages.mobi/en/chateau-lynch-bages)

##### CANAPES & WINE EVENING AT LES SOURCES DE CAUDALIE

After a great day in the Médoc we will return to Les Sources de Caudalie and relax. In the tower tonight there we have a lovely tasting of other Medoc wines, both big names and smaller lesser known chateaux. Delicious canapes are served with the wines and it's a nice chance to mingle. After a big day filled with great wines and a serious lunch in the Médoc, tonight is a laid-back evening at our hotel. If you wish to have dinner after, we recommend making a reservation at one of the 3 restaurants ahead of time.



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## ITINERARY | DAY 3

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### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> - GRAVES & SAUTERNES

#### 10:15 am – Depart Hotel

Board our luxury coach for a day visiting the great estates of Pessac-Léognan and Sauternes.

#### DOMAINE DE CHEVALIER, AOC PESSAC-LÉOGNAN – CRU CLASSÉ DE GRAVES

We start the day with a visit to Domaine de Chevalier in Pessac-Léognan. This is an enlightening tour given by the estate manager who offers one of the best explanations you'll ever hear. Domaine de Chevalier white is certainly one of the very best in the region and is capable of long-term aging. The Cabernet-dominated reds are superb too. [www.domainedechevalier.com](http://www.domainedechevalier.com)

#### CHÂTEAU COUTET, AOC BARSAC – 1<sup>ST</sup> GROWTH

It's time for a change of pace from the dry reds and whites by heading to Sauternes to discover the honeyed dessert wines of this classic region. We start our visit to the area with a visit to Château Coutet, the leading producer in the sub-region of Barsac. Their wines are exceptionally refined, and we will enjoy them paired with a private lunch hosted by the estate. This is an experience of a lifetime. [www.chateaucoutet.com](http://www.chateaucoutet.com)

#### CHÂTEAU GUIRAUD, AOC SAUTERNES – 1<sup>ST</sup> GROWTH

One of the most dynamic châteaux in Sauternes, Guiraud is a motivating force in this sweet wine appellation. Organically run and environmentally friendly, there's even a nursery for cultivating vine stock. The wines maintain a special character with a pinch more Sauvignon Blanc in the blend than is usual. [www.chateauguiraud.com](http://www.chateauguiraud.com)

#### FREE EVENING

We return to Les Sources de Caudalie at around 7.00 pm. Tonight is a free evening to relax at Les Sources de Caudalie or take a taxi into Bordeaux for an evening on the town.



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### ITINERARY | DAY 4

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#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> – ST-ÉMILION & POMEROL

##### 10.00 am – Depart Hotel

Depart for the chateaux of the Right Bank.

##### CHÂTEAU LA CONSEILLANTE, AOC POMEROL

Pomerol is the smallest of the Right Bank appellations and produces Bordeaux's most expensive wines. Château La Conseillante is one of the icons. Family-owned for more than a century, the new cellars are stunning, and our visit and tasting will be hosted by the cellar master. [www.la-conseillante.com](http://www.la-conseillante.com)

##### CHÂTEAU PAVIE, AOC ST-ÉMILION GRAND CRU - 1<sup>ER</sup> GRAND CRU CLASSÉ (A)

I admire the work of owner Gérard Perse who has shaken up the sleepyhead traditionalists in the region. He has certainly put Pavie on the map, up-grading it to 1er Grand Cru Classé (A) and has spent a fortune building a new winery. After the tour we have a luxurious lunch in the sumptuous dining room complete with a tasting of Pavie and sister estate Monbousquet. [www.vignoblesperse.com/en/chateau-pavie/home](http://www.vignoblesperse.com/en/chateau-pavie/home)

##### CHÂTEAU FIGEAC, AOC ST-ÉMILION GRAND CRU - 1<sup>ER</sup> GRAND CRU CLASSÉ (A)

Figeac has new owners who are determined to see this property climb higher amongst the ranks of the top St.-Émilion châteaux. The beautiful château sits in a different area, with a different terroir, compared to Pavie so the contrast is interesting. The fantastic wines are relatively approachable in youth but are best appreciated after at least 10 years. [www.chateau-figeac.com](http://www.chateau-figeac.com)

##### VISIT TO ST-ÉMILION

We'll then head into the historic town of St-Émilion, a UNESCO World Heritage site and perhaps the most beautiful wine village in the world. Steep cobblestone streets wind their way through the medieval center. This is a great spot to buy wine as most châteaux do not sell when you visit.

##### DINNER AT HOTEL DE PAVIE

Refreshed from our town visit, at 7.00 pm we regroup for a Champagne reception followed by our dinner in St.-Émilion at the Michelin 2-star restaurant La Table de Plaisance. This beautiful hotel is also owned by Gérard Perse and we will celebrate our last evening together with a multi-course menu paired with a stunning flight of wines. The outdoor terrace will capture your heart and the impeccable service and exquisite food are second to none. [www.hostelleriedepalaisance.com](http://www.hostelleriedepalaisance.com)



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## ITINERARY | DAY 5

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### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> – PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

You can either check out of the hotel or arrange to stay additional day(s).

#### 10.00 AM – CHÂTEAU SMITH HAUT LAFITTE

After a slow start and a delicious breakfast there's an optional walk back over to Smith Haut Lafitte to meet the winemaker and see the barrel-maker in action. Or you can sleep in, have a swim, and catch us after the visit.

#### 11.15 am – Depart Hotel

If you are checking out, we'll put your bags on the bus.

#### CHÂTEAU HAUT-BAILLY, AOC PESSAC-LÉOGNAN – CRU CLASSÉ DE GRAVES

To wrap up the tour we visit with Château Haut-Bailly, just down the road from our hotel in the commune of Léognan. Haut-Bailly is considered one of the top producers of red wines in the Pessac-Léognan appellation; a fact that was cemented in 1953 when it was included among the Classified Growths of the Graves region. This is our final visit of the tour, and we will send you off with a sumptuous 4-course lunch paired with some Champagne and the wines from their estate. [www.haut-bailly.com](http://www.haut-bailly.com)

#### THE TOUR WINDS DOWN

The bus will then go back to the hotel if anyone is staying on, then to the train station arriving at 4.00 pm, and then on to the airport by 5.30 pm. Leave yourself some extra time for unexpected traffic delays when booking trains and planes.

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**Price: \$3,995 US including tax per person based on double occupancy.**

**There is a \$900 US per person single supplement.**

**Space is limited to 20.**

It will be a great trip with lots of fine wine, great food, amazing chateaux, a luxury hotel, a nice amount of wine education and many, many laughs. If you have any questions, please email us at [info@finevintageltd.com](mailto:info@finevintageltd.com).

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