



LUXURY WINE TOUR TO BORDEAUX

The Great Estates of Bordeaux

SEPTEMBER 20TH – 24TH 2027

— Hosted by Mini Constant MW —

At **Château Léognan**

US \$5,995 *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 in historic vineyards.

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 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 Lascombes** and **Château Lynch-Bages**, and a private lunch at 2nd Growth **Château Gruaud-Larose**.

SWEET INDULGENCE IN SAUTERNES at First Growths **Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey** 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 a visit to Cru Classé **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 Beau-Séjour Bécot**, **Château Pavie** and **Château Bélair-Monange** in St-Émilion, and a 2-star Michelin dinner at **La Table de Pavie**.



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YOUR HOST

MINI CONSTANT MW



Mini started her career at the Harrods wine department in London before moving on to working in fashionable restaurants, the Oporto-based Symington Port family, and eventually to Southwest France where she has been living since 1987.

Since 2003, Mini has been running Tastevin du Monde, a multi-facet company that includes wine education in France and abroad, and wine blending services for local producers.

She thoroughly enjoys sharing her knowledge and is delighted to be with you.

PRICE

US \$5,995 per person

The price includes accommodation at the 5 star hotel Château Léognan, 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\$700 supplement for single travelers for a single occupancy hotel room.

Deposit at booking: \$250 non-refundable administration booking fee.

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



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ITINERARY | DAY 1

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH – WELCOME RECEPTION AT CHÂTEAU LÉOGNAN

Our hotel for the entire duration is the luxury **Château Léognan** located about 30 minutes by taxi from the airport or train station. <https://chateauleognan.com/en/>

The 5-star Château Léognan is a splendid place to stay, surrounded by acres of its own park and woodland. The rooms are spacious and elegant in the château itself and the hotel also offers a spa hidden in the grounds and a fitness centre, as well as a relaxed restaurant.

2.00 PM CHÂTEAU LÉOGNAN

Meet Mini in the reception at Château Léognan, before heading to a private room for a Champagne welcome, introductions, and a review of the itinerary. Mini 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

Our first visit is to neighbouring Château Smith Haut Lafitte, which 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. We will have a tour and a tasting of three of their wines, including both the white and the red Château Smith Haut Lafitte. www.smith-haut-lafitte.com

LES SOURCES DE CAUDALIE

We then walk 100 meters to Les Sources de Caudalie for a lively dinner at the 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. After dinner we have a short ride back to our hotel.



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ITINERARY | DAY 2

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST - MÉDOC

9.00 am – Depart Hotel

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

CHÂTEAU LASCOMBES, AOC MARGAUX – 2ND GROWTH

First established in the 17th century by the Knight of Lascombes, this beautiful chateau in Margaux is replete with classic design elements and ivy-covered walls that announce that you are in Bordeaux. Recognized as a 2nd Growth in the Classification of 1855, Lascombes today is one of the largest vineyard owners among the classified growths. The terroir here has a higher proportion of clay than other regions of the Médoc so the Cabernet Sauvignon blends are softened with a higher proportion of Merlot, leading to elegant wines with refined tannins that can age for decades. www.chateau-lascombes.com

CHÂTEAU GRUAUD-LAROSE, AOC ST.JULIEN – 2ND GROWTH

Gruaud- Larose has many older vines and is farmed organically and in part biodynamically. They call it agro-ecology: the idea of farming in balance within the sustainable ecosystem. There are beehives, bat boxes, hedges, a microforest of 300 m², and plant cover between the rows of vines where sheep graze in winter, all encouraging a rich microbial soil life. The result are consistently good wines with rich fruit flavours balanced by freshness and supported by a structure that allows long ageing. We will enjoy a private lunch in the chateau dining room, with mature examples of their wines. <https://www.gruaud-larose.com/en/>

CHÂTEAU LYNCH-BAGES, AOC PAUILLAC – 5TH GROWTH

Although an ancient property classified in 1855, Château Lynch-Bages owes its current elevated status to generations of the Cazes family who, since 1930, have not only raised the reputation of its wines close to those of “super seconds,” but have also been instrumental in helping to create the “benchmark” status of the Bordeaux we know today. Chateau Lynch-Bages is one of those estates that over-delivers each vintage. Our visit will begin with a tour of the 19th-century farmhouse juxtaposed to the eye-popping pyramid-inspired ultra-modern winemaking facilities. The tour will conclude with a tasting of 3 different wines from the Cazes family properties. www.lynch-bages.mobi/en/chateau-lynch-bages

CANAPES & WINE EVENING AT CHÂTEAU LÉOGNAN

After a great day in the Médoc we will return to Château Léognan and relax. Tonight we have a lovely tasting of other Bordeaux wines, finishing with a Sauternes. 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.



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ITINERARY | DAY 3

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND - GRAVES & SAUTERNES

09.30 am – Depart Hotel

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

CHÂTEAU PAPE-CLÉMENT - CRU CLASSÉ DE GRAVES

By now you have had 4 spectacular visits and have tasted of among the very best of Bordeaux. Now is your chance to play Bordeaux winemaker at Château Pape-Clément, one of the oldest estates on the Left Bank. We begin our two-hour visit with a tour of the historic estate and its vineyards and cellars. You will then be presented with a set of vials containing various combinations of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot that you get to taste and then create your own master blend. This could be the start of your new career as a winemaker, so keep a resume handy in case Pape-Clément is hiring. www.chateau-pape-clement.fr

CHÂTEAU COUTET, AOC BARSAC – 1ST GROWTH

It's time for a change of pace from the reds 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

CHÂTEAU LAFAURIE-PEYRAGUEY, AOC SAUTERNES – 1ST GROWTH

The property is owned by Silvio Denz who also owns Lalique glass and he has restored the château into a beautiful Relais & Châteaux 5* hotel. We will have a tour and then a tasting with three wines, including the very good dry white and of course the First Growth Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey. <http://www.chateau-lafaurie-peyraguey.com/home/>

FREE EVENING

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



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ITINERARY | DAY 4

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD – ST-ÉMILION

10.00 am – Depart Hotel

Depart for the chateaux of the Right Bank.

CHÂTEAU BÉLAIR-MONANGE, 1ER GRAND CRU CLASSÉ (B)

Our day of exploring the best of the Right Bank begins with a visit to Château Bélaïr-Monange. A Premier Grand Cru Classé (B), 58-acre Bélaïr-Monange is an amalgamation of two estates, Bélaïr and Magdelaine, and is the flagship St.-Émilion property of négociant JP Moueix. Over the past decade, the property has undergone an extensive renovation program involving replanting their vineyards, reinforcing the walls of their underground quarries, and the building of a new barrel room. The wines not only have the finesse and freshness imparted by the limestone soils but also greater density and depth thanks to the changes to the vineyard and significant financial investment. Ageing potential of the wines is guaranteed.

www.belairmonange.com

CHÂTEAU PAVIE, AOC ST-ÉMILION GRAND CRU - 1ER GRAND CRU CLASSÉ (A)

I admire the work of owner Gérard Perse who has shaken up the sleepyhead traditionalists in the region. He put Pavie on the map, up-grading it to 1er Grand Cru Classé (A) and spent a fortune building a modern winery. Today the property is very ably run by his daughter Angélique and her husband Henrique Da Costa. 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

CHÂTEAU BEAU-SÉJOUR BÉCOT, AOC ST-ÉMILION GRAND CRU - 1ER GRAND CRU CLASSÉ (B)

We end the day at Château Beau-Séjour Bécot, a highly- respected family-run (Bécot family) First Growth in St.-Émilion. The 54-acre property has a viticultural history that dates back to Gallo-Roman times and is located on St.-Émilion's famed limestone plateau. The wines are rich and powerful yet delicately balanced with an aging capacity of at least 20 years.

www.beausejour-becot.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 TABLE 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 Pavie. This beautiful hotel is also owned by the Perse family, 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.hoteldepavie.com



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ITINERARY | DAY 5

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH – PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

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

10.00 AM – CHÂTEAU LÉOGNAN, AOC PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

After a slow start and a delicious breakfast there's an optional visit to the winery of Château Léognan. There will be a vertical of three of their Grand Vin Château Léognan, exploring how the weather changes the characteristics of the wine. Or you can sleep in, have a stroll, 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, also 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

THE TOUR WINDS DOWN

The bus will then go back to the hotel if anyone is staying on, then to the train station arriving by 4.30 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.

Price: \$5,995 US (including non-refundable deposit of \$250) per person based on double occupancy.

There is a \$700 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.

