

SPLENDOURS OF BORDEAUX & AQUITAINE

A sumptuous wine tasting cruise along the Garonne & Gironde Rivers aboard the MS Cyrano de Bergerac 21st to 27th September 2025

NOBLE CALEDONIA

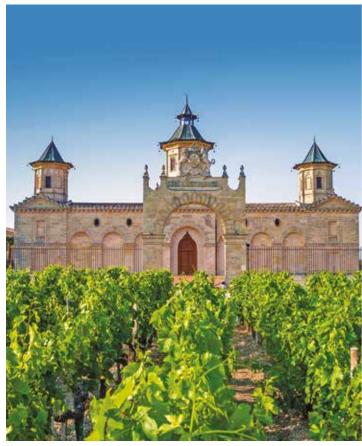
Join us as we sail through charming scenery on a relaxing cruise through the region of France famous for its 'Art de Vivre'. Our journey combines the glories of the French landscape with the famous wine region of Bordeaux which produces the world's highest concentration of fine wines.

The success of wine production in the Bordeaux area is attributed to its proximity to sea and rivers which give it a moderate climate with a low risk of severe frosts. While the majority of attention is focused on the top Bordeaux wines, 1855 Classified Growths and the best wines from the prestigious Right Bank appellations, there are 54 different Bordeaux appellations in total with a combined acreage of more than 296,596 acres. Throughout the entire Bordeaux region, close to 450 million bottles of wine are produced in most years. At its heart, sitting alongside the Garonne River, the city of Bordeaux is surrounded in nearly all directions by its world-famous vineyards.



We have timed our river cruise through this picturesque region during the late summer when temperatures are warm and tourist sites are less crowded. There will be a variety of wine tasting opportunities during our cruise whilst other highlights include the Basin d'Arcachon, the seaside city of La Rochelle and charming Bordeaux.











Château Cos d'Estournel



Libourne Bridge



The Itinerary

Palais de la Bourse, Bordeaux

Day 1 London to Bordeaux, France. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Cyrano de Bergerac and embark. This evening meet your fellow travellers for the welcome drink and dinner on board as we moor overnight.

Day 2 Cadillac. Sail this morning to Cadillac, which was founded in 1280 and still retains many original structures. On arrival we depart for a tour of Château de Roquetaillade where the dungeon tower dates from the 11th century, and the quarters of the Seigneurs from the 12th century. The "new castle" was refurbished by Viollet le Duc, initiator of the Gothic Revival Movement in France 1840-1870 and well-known for his interpretive restorations of Medieval buildings such as Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, and the ramparts of Carcassonne. We conclude with a visit to nearby Sauternes for a tasting of this delicious, sweet wine. As we return to Cadillac we explore the port, its ramparts, and the main square and stroll the streets to admire the old homes and 15th century church. This evening we return the short distance to Bordeaux where we moor overnight.

Day 3 Arcachon Basin & Bordeaux. From our berth in Bordeaux we have a choice of excursions. Join a full day excursion to the centre of the Arcachon basin where we begin our tour by boarding local boats for a mini cruise, touring around Bird Island where we find the "cabanes Tchanquees" houses on stilts and the oyster beds. After lunch in Arcachon, we will visit the Great Dune of Pilat. Culminating at 107 metres, it is the highest sand dune in Europe with an awe-inspiring view from the top. Alternatively, join a half day morning city tour of the Chartrons District of Bordeaux, the old neighbourhood where wine merchants performed their trade. Visit the Wine and Commerce Museum to trace the history of Bordeaux's classic nectar before enjoying a tasting of wine. Another half day option is to the Bassins des Lumières, a unique digital art centre within a former submarine base built by the Germans during their occupation of France during World War II. Both tours will return to the ship for lunch with the opportunity to explore Bordeaux at leisure this afternoon.

Day 4 Medoc Vineyards. Today we tour the Medoc vineyards, tucked between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gironde Estuary. We will cross through most of the famed names in the Medoc region including Saint Julien and Haut-Medoc stopping along the celebrated wine route to have a tasting of some of the illustrious regional wines. Afterwards we travel along the Route

La Rochelle



Château Lafite Rothschild on the Route des Châteaux

Great Bell of Bordeaux

des Châteaux (Mouton-Rothschild, Lafite-Rothschild, Cos d'Estournel, Saint Estephe) with several photo opportunities of these magnificent châteaux. Return to the ship as we sail to Royan and moor overnight.

Day 5 Royan, Rochefort & La Rochelle. From our berth in Royan we have a choice of excursions today. Maybe explore Royan, a seaside city and an official French "ville d'Art et d'Histoire." Villas from the Belle Epoque and the charming "retro" homes from the 1950s line the waterfront. Meanwhile, in the Foncillon District, we see the fascinating church before some free time to explore at our own pace. You may wish to visit the covered market, the modern Palais des Congrès, or the shell auditorium. Alternatively, a full day trip will head to the seaside cities of Rochefort and La Rochelle. Rochefort was originally chosen by Jean-Baptiste Colbert as a refuge, defence, and supply post for the French Navy back in the mid-1660s. Its arsenal remained a naval base and dockyard until as late as 1926. Visit the historic downtown area boasting lovely private mansions and beautiful homes as well as the Corderie Royale, a historical rope-making factory. Built between 1666 and 1669, it was the first industrial building in France, and the factory provided ropes for the French Navy and its ships for over three centuries. After lunch we head to La Rochelle, the capital of the Charente Maritime which is tucked along the Bay of Biscay and features some of the most beautiful natural and architectural heritage in the area. During a guided tour of the old town and port, learn about the Grosse-Horloge gate, Renaissance arcades, lovely half-timbered homes, the finely sculpted facades of the private mansions, and the cathedral. Return to the ship this evening as we sail on the Dordogne River to Libourne.

Day 6 Libourne & Saint-Emilion. We will have a choice of excursions this morning and you can choose to visit Saint-Emilion and enjoy a guided visit to the underground monuments of Saint-Emilion village. We then visit an exceptional Troglodyte settlement, the cave of Emilion, before visiting one of the region's vineyards to learn about wine production and enjoy a tasting. Alternatively, spend the morning in Libourne and discover this former English bastide. Located at the confluence of the Isle and Dordogne Rivers, Libourne expanded around its port and we will see the Saint John the Baptist Church, Abel Surchamp Square, and the imposing clock tower in the grand harbour. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon cruising towards Bordeaux.

Day 7 Bordeaux to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.



Oyster beds, Arcachor

PRICES PER PERSON Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
1	Main Deck Twin Cabin	£2895	£2695
2	Middle Deck Twin Cabin	£2995	£2795
3	Upper Deck Twin Cabin	£3095	£2895
4	Main Deck Single Cabin	£2895	£2695
5	Middle Deck Single Cabin	£2995	£2795
6	Upper Deck Single Cabin	£3095	£2895

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Six nights aboard the MS Cyrano de Bergerac on a full board basis • All-inclusive drinks from 10am to 11pm daily (please note that premium brands & sparkling wines are not included) • Shore excursions • Wine tastings as described • Cruise Director • Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes. Not Included: Travel insurance.



MS CYRANO DE BERGERAC

The MS Cyrano de Bergerac is a stylish and elegant vessel built to embody comfort and relaxation with attentive personal service for cruises in the Bordeaux region. The vessel can accommodate up to 174 passengers but for the purposes of this cruise we are limiting the passenger number to 150 to allow for more space on board and a convivial atmosphere. Original paintings throughout the ship and French design touches give the ship a unique character. The vessel is owned and operated by our associates CroisiEurope and we have chartered the ship for this fascinating voyage.

Your Cabin/Suite

All cabins are well appointed with bright and modern decor and feature either twin or double beds and are equipped with private en-suite facilities, satellite television, hairdryer, safe, radio, individually controlled air conditioning and heating and telephone (for internal calls only). Twin cabins measure 12 square metres and single cabins measure nine square metres. Main Deck cabins feature portholes (non-opening), Middle Deck cabins have large picture windows (can be opened partially) and Upper Deck cabins have large picture windows which can be opened fully.

Your Space

Facilities on board include the restaurant, lounge, and bar with dance floor on the Middle Deck, a small Terrace Lounge on the Upper Deck, and a large Sun Deck from where you can relax and enjoy the passing scenery. The ship has a lift which serves the Main, Middle and Upper Deck. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available in the ship's lounge though there may be sections of the river where internet connection is slow or not available.

Your Dining

Meals are taken in the ship's restaurant on the Middle Deck. The open seating restaurant serves local dishes in addition to an international menu, and tables seat four to six guests. Breakfast and afternoon tea are buffetstyle, lunch is a mix of served and buffet-style service, and dinner is a served set menu. Wine, beer and soft drinks are included with lunch and dinner. Please note that due to galley restrictions, your dinner menu is "set" with fixed starter and dessert courses and a limited choice of main course.

Life On Board

The atmosphere on board is friendly and informal and within days you will have made new friends in the open-seating restaurant, on the shore excursions or whilst relaxing in the comfortable public areas. You will find yourself amongst like-minded people in an English speaking environment, but still always free to explore at your own pace. A daily briefing by the Cruise Director will provide you with information on the next day's activities and expert, English-speaking local guides provide insider insights into local culture, history and traditions. You will also be accompanied by a Guest Speaker who will provide entertaining and informative talks as you sail along.





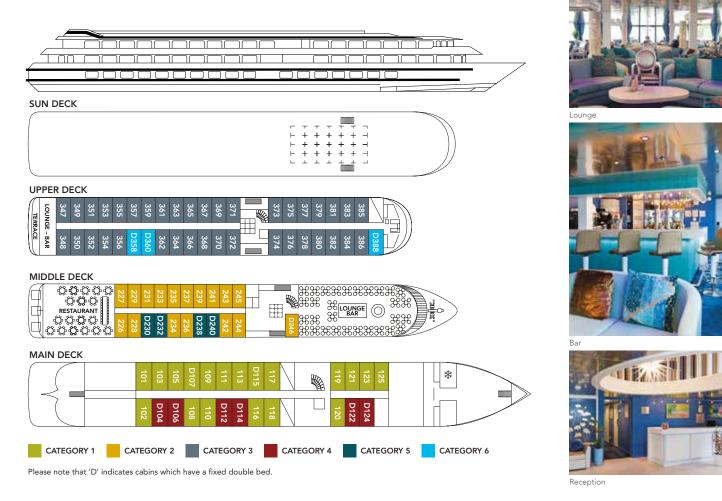
Upper Deck Cabin



Main Deck Cabin

Lounge

DECK PLAN



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request. Cover image: Saint-Emilion.