



THE FRENCH TRAVELER STAGE D'IMMERSION BORDEAUX 2022 WITH EXTENSION TO DORDOGNE

[Blue italics indicate the AP themes which our course is incorporating.]

dimanche 10 juillet

Bienvenue à Bordeaux! Apéritif d'accueil in our new surroundings and welcome dinner in one of Bordeaux's inviting restaurants along the banks of the Garonne.

DINER

lundi 11 juillet

La ville *[l'esthétique: le patrimoine]*

We'll start today's activities a bit later to help ease the jet lag. With our private guide, we'll learn about the importance of the role Bordeaux played in the history of France, and its place as a gateway to the surrounding vineyards which have been the source of its *renommé* for centuries. Afternoon *balade* will help us discover the delightful *coins et recoins de cette ville*. Take the remainder of the afternoon to explore the city or rest.

DÉJEUNER

mardi 12 juillet

Le nouveau bac *[l'éducation et l'enseignement]*

Recent reforms in the education system concern all of France's students, and we'll have a look today at how this impacts teaching in French schools. You'll even be able to study a genuine copy of a *baccalaureat* exam and compare it our high school exams. An afternoon visit to a private high school where an exchange of ideas with French teaching colleagues will elucidate the schoolroom situations faced by our colleagues in France.

DÉJEUNER

mercredi 13 juillet

La politique ! *[la famille et la communauté]*

As of May, 2022, France will have another recently-elected president. What are the burning political issues facing the nation? How did the various candidates propose to tackle them? What does the presiding "face of France" tell the rest of the world? These are topics your students will want to know as well, and we'll provide you with materials to simulate France's voting procedures. An afternoon visit with the American Consul in Bordeaux will enlighten us as to the subtleties of the Franco-American relationship.

DÉJEUNER

jeudi 14 juillet*

Journée libre ou Château Malromé et St-Emilion *[l'esthétique: le patrimoine]*

You're free to roam Bordeaux as you like today or join us in an outing to the remarkable family château where the renowned painter Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec spent his summers painting and his family invested themselves in the wine industry. He died on the estate and is buried 3 kms away. We'll visit several of the richly-preserved rooms evocative of Belle-Epoque lifestyle and decorated with many of his originals before *une ballade dans les vignes*, followed by an *incontournable dégustation de vin* and finally, DÉJEUNER in the iconic dining room. Afternoon of leisure in the lively town of Saint-Emilion, perched in the center of a dozen vineyards, all *inscrit au Patrimoine Mondial de l'Unesco*.

DÉJEUNER INCLUS

vendredi 15 juillet

Diversité et la société multiculturelle : *[le pluriculturalisme]*

As France grapples with its long history of immigration and the repercussions of the “winds blown in from the west, |” we’ll focus today on the French version of the woke culture and the meaning of *islamo-gauchisme*. Your more advanced students will be interested in learning about how France reacted to the American Black Lives Matter movement and how the Ministry of Education deals with the complex problems of the trans students. Afternoon visit to the ultra-multicultural center of Bordeaux: the quartier St-Michel. Noisy and quiet, modern and ancient, studded with emblems from its immigrant past, this eclectic section of Bordeaux is most representative, both architecturally and culturally, of Bordeaux’s marriage of tradition, modernity, et “ailleurs.”

REPAS LIBRES

samedi 16 juillet*

L’art et la science du vin. *[la quête de soi, le patrimoine]*

One cannot visit Bordeaux without acknowledging its culture of excellent wines, first marketed by the English in the 18th century, today of international renown. We’ll study wine making this morning with a certified *oenologue*—so that you can swirl your glass with the best of them—followed by an optional outing to three outstanding vineyards: in the Medoc, the Pessac-Leognan, and les Entre-deux-mers, with a *dégustation de vin* in each. We’ll finish up with a special *dîner oenologique*, where wine pairing will be *de rigueur*. The entire day is designed for you to understand the art and science of wine from A-Z.

DÎNER INCLUS

dimanche 17 juillet

Travaillons notre français et la braderie d’idées. *[l’esthétique: le patrimoine]*

By studying *des manuels scolaires* written for French students, we’ll do some linguistic exercises this morning designed to sharpen our own fluency skills, followed by our traditional sharing of lesson plans. Come prepared to participate with your best classroom ideas and bring enough copies for the whole group. This afternoon’s visit will be to the dramatic **Bassin des Lumières**, a recently created art space in a submarine base used by the Germans during WWII. The exhibit immerses visitors in the masterpieces of various artists, and the reflection of the myriad colors on the water and the walls intensifies the experience. Tonight, you’ll spend an optional evening dining with a French family *chez eux*, a rare treat for foreigners, in which case you’ll be paired off two by two.

DINER

lundi 18 juillet*

Journée libre. *[l’esthétique: le patrimoine]*. *Faites la grasse matinée* and roam the city on your own today, or join us as we explore the beautiful coastal town of Arcachon with its breathtaking Dune de Pyla, the highest dune in Europe. We’ll travel down to the sea by train and take a guided visit of the beautiful **villas d’hiver** before heading over to climb a most incongruous natural wonder. Prepare for sand in your shoes!

REPAS LIBRE

mardi 19 juillet

Journée libre, entièrement *[l’esthétique: le patrimoine]* Spend your final day in Bordeaux buying those last-minute purchases you’ve been intending to make, or visiting the museums or bookstores we didn’t have time to see. We’ll say goodbye to our seminar leader this evening at our final diner.

DINER DE CLÔTURE

mercredi 20 juillet

Departure if you must, is always bittersweet, and we encourage you to stay longer in France if you can. There are so many options for delightful extensions nearby. Rent a car and motor through the rest of the Bordeaux area, as its quaint towns full of history and authenticity, its rolling vineyards and rich history call to the attentive visitor.

mercredi 20 juillet, Extension to Dordogne*

Extend your time in France by spending three additional nights in the stunningly beautiful town of **Sarlat** and the **Dordogne** region. On our way there from Bordeaux, we'll stop for a visit at the eclectic **Château des Milandes**, owned by **Josephine Baker** who has just recently been selected to be interred at the Pantheon in Paris for her interesting life and heroic deeds during the war. A guided visit around **Sarlat** after our arrival will familiarize you with this striking medieval town, so pristine it is often used as a medieval backdrop for the film industry. **DÉJEUNER**

jeudi 21 juillet*[esthétique: le patrimoine]*

We'll leave early this morning to discover three of the most interesting *grottes* found in the region: **Rouffignac**, **Lascaux**, and **La Roque St-Christophe**. The drawings and handiwork you will observe today deep in these caves will leave you astonished, as you witness creations drawn by man over 35,000 years ago. These beautifully preserved treasures are as instructive as they are interesting to pass along to your students, a must-see. We'll have lunch together in the village of Montignac. **DÉJEUNER**

vendredi 22 juillet

For your students who love tales of heroic knights, an early morning exploration of the formidable **Château de Beynac** will give you loads of material to teach. Voted *un des plus beaux villages de France*, the village of Beynac boasts a château-fort whose history combines tales of Richard the Lion-Hearted who captured and pillaged the region with those of Simon de Montfort, who used the strategic location to chase out the heretical Cathars. After all that excitement, what better than a relaxing boat ride down the Dordogne River to see its fascinating landscape from another viewpoint, then a leisurely afternoon on your own in Sarlat. Final dinner this evening on a charming *terrasse* in the heart of the town. **DÎNER**

samedi 23 juillet *

Departure now has really come, and to facilitate your trip out of Sarlat, we've arranged for a bus to take us to Bordeaux in order to catch an afternoon train to Paris. You'll have the morning free to wander Sarlat's extraordinary weekly *marché* before leaving town. You are of course welcome to choose to stay longer in Sarlat, and we encourage you to do that. We've only scratched the surface here, and there are so many more *grottes*, *châteaux*, and local dishes to take in. But if you don't have time to remain, you can either arrange your own transportation back to Paris or join our coach bus back to Bordeaux and then prepare for an evening in Paris before you return home. *La nostalgie de la région garantie!*

*extra cost