



THE FRENCH TRAVELER STAGE D'IMMERSION DIJON 2024

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

**= additional cost*

mercredi 10 juillet

Bienvenue à Dijon! Apéritif d'accueil in our new surroundings and welcome dinner in one of Dijon's inviting restaurants in the heart of town. **DÎNER**

jeudi 11 juillet

La ville [l'esthétique: le patrimoine]

We'll start today's activities a bit later to help ease the jet lag. In our morning seminar, we'll learn about the importance of the role Dijon played in the history of France, particularly its four powerful Ducs de Bourgogne. Afternoon *balade* will help us discover the delightful *coins et recoins de cette belle ville*. Take the remainder of the afternoon to explore the city or rest.

DÉJEUNER

vendredi 12 juillet

Les problématiques autour de l'école [l'éducation et l'enseignement]

We'll start off bright and early with a congenial *visite gourmande* at the dynamic *marché dijonnais*, where we'll meet and mingle with *des producteurs locaux*, we'll have a look at the range of problems confronting the *Education Nationale* today. *Les atteintes à la laïcité, l'uniforme, la mixité, le wokisme, le genre, etc* : France is encountering a multitude of dilemmas with which teachers and principals are faced daily. We'll start our *mini-braderie d'idées* today as well.

DÉJEUNER

samedi 13 juillet

La francophonie dans le monde [la famille et la communauté]

Soft power, *présence militaire, langue, influence mondiale* : we'll have a look at how France is faring on the international stage, something dear to all of us. *Mini-braderie*. Afternoon visit to the strikingly beautiful Musée des Beaux-Arts, a jewel of a museum in the heart of town.

DÉJEUNER

dimanche 14 juillet*

Journée libre ou la campagne bourguignonne: [l'esthétique: le patrimoine]

Take the day for yourself or join us for an outing to some of Burgundy's historic villages and cultural sites. We'll visit the stunning 12th c. Abbaye de Fontenay, followed by a tour of the elegant Château de Bussy-Rabutin, *surnommé le château aux mille portraits*. After lunch in an unusual *ferme-auberge* in the town of Flavigny Ozérain—"une escale gourmande conviviale pour déguster les produits des fermes locales"—we'll pass by Semur-en-Auxois to see its beautifully preserved *cité médiévale* on the return trip back to Dijon.

DÉJEUNER INCLUS

lundi 15 juillet

L'immigration & l'intégration: les questions sociales [l'esthétique: le pluriculturalisme]

France is undergoing several dramatic upheavals on the social scene. The questions of immigration and integration—has it worked?—as well as *le féminisme*, *la question du travail*, etc. remain prevalent in French thought today. *Mini-braderie* Visit this afternoon to the dynamic new Cité de la Gastronomie....

REPAS LIBRES

mardi 16 juillet

Travaillons notre français et la braderie d'idées [l'esthétique: le patrimoine]

Spend the morning at leisure or join an optional cooking course* to make (and consume!) a delicious *plat bourguignon* to impress your friends at your next dinner party. Then, this afternoon, come prepared to participate with your best classroom ideas and work out a few kinks of our own language mistakes.

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.

DÎNER

mercredi 17 juillet*

Journée libre ou Leçons de vie d'un vigneron [l'esthétique: le patrimoine].

Touring the Burgundy region is really not complete without a visit to a *viticulteur* in the area. We'll venture down to the small, prestigious wine region of Puligny-Montrachet for a morning seminar by a local *vigneron* who specializes in *oenotourisme*, followed by a wine-pairing lunch in a village restaurant and then *une balade dans les vignes* to see for ourselves the way *les climats* are grown and tended in la Bourgogne. A marvelous mystery tour of discovery, enjoyment, and stimulation of the senses for those who choose to come along.

DEJEUNER INCLUS

jeudi 18 juillet*

Journée libre ou Beaune [l'esthétique: le patrimoine].

Although we'll miss the extraordinary wine auction that takes place every year in November in Beaune, we'll get to visit this magical capital of wine with its cultural center of the Hospices de Beaune and its historical mustard factory. On the way there, we'll visit a unique fruit farm where cassis is grown, and on the way home we'll visit the renowned Clos de Vougeot. Une journée au cœur de la Côte de Beaune.

REPAS LIBRES

vendredi 19 juillet

Journée libre, entièrement [l'esthétique: le patrimoine]

Spend your final day in Dijon 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 dinner.

DÎNER DE CLÔTURE

samedi 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 Burgundy, as its towns are full of history and authenticity, to say nothing of its sheer beauty and natural wonders.

samedi 20 juillet: One-day extension to Besançon

If you're not ready to leave France yet, then come along with us for another day in the nearby medieval town of Besançon, the capital of Franche-Comté. An ancient and attractive grey-stone town at the northern edge of the Jura mountains, Besançon is enclosed in a loop of the Doubs River whose meanders define the layout of the town. We'll travel by train today and visit the city itself, the charming medieval streets of the *cit*é and the *citadelle*, have lunch in town, and then take some free time or explore the Musée de la Déportation et la Résistance, a superbe aid to understanding France's political conscientiousness during and after the war. We'll travel back to Dijon for one last night, so you won't need to pack up for good until tomorrow morning. A final goodbye cocktail together at our hotel this evening will signal *la vraie fin de notre stage*.

DÉJEUNER INCLUS