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ITINERARY SIP & SAVOIR AUG 29-SEP 5, 2027

Sunday, August 29 — Arrival in Dijon

Arrive at your leisure and settle into your charming Dijon hotel. As the afternoon softens into evening, gather with the group for a welcoming apéritif—your first sip of Burgundy’s legendary warmth and hospitality. A playful “Survival French” session follows, equipping you with the essentials for cafés, menus, and those all-important *Bonjours*.

We’ll then stroll into town for dinner at one of Dijon’s celebrated restaurants, where the flavors of the region make their first impression.

Monday, August 30 — Discovering Dijon

We start gently today, easing into the rhythm of French life. After a morning class focused on the language of ordering and navigating city streets, we head out for a guided stroll through Dijon’s historic center. Medieval timbered houses, gracious squares, and centuries-old churches reveal the city’s layered past. Lunch awaits at the Musée des Beaux-Arts, followed by time to explore this remarkable museum, housed in the grand Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy. Its collections span from the late Middle Ages to the 19th century—glittering tombs of the Dukes, Flemish masterpieces, and treasures from five continents—all displayed in a breathtaking setting. A late-afternoon wine tasting at a renowned Dijonnais wine establishment brings the day to a delicious close, with the rest of the evening free for your own discoveries.

Tuesday, August 31 — Gastronomy at the Cité

This morning’s French class delves into vineyard and culinary vocabulary—the ideal warmup for a day devoted to flavor. We begin with some gentle wandering around our city, in search of favorite vendors of French gastronomy. Soon we find ourselves in the bustling food halls of *Les Halles*, where vendors call out their offerings beneath soaring ironwork designed by Eiffel himself. We’ll even try a speciality tasting—a gougère, some Dijonnais cheese, and of course some jambon persillé.

Wednesday, September 1 — Beaune & the Heart of Wine Country

We’ll venture today into the renowned **Côte de Nuits**, where some of Burgundy’s most celebrated wines begin as clusters of sun-warmed grapes. We’ll start at a little family farm where the famous Crème de Cassis is made. Then a wine tasting with one of our favorite vigneronns, as

we stroll among the vines and speak about the delicate artistry behind great winemaking. Lunch follows in a quintessential Burgundian village. Then we continue to the historic **Clos de Vougeot** for a guided visit and tasting amid centuries of winemaking tradition. We return to Dijon in late afternoon, with the evening yours to enjoy.

Thursday, September 2 — A Day to Wander + Optional Abbey Visit

Begin with French class, then enjoy a free morning to savor Dijon at your own pace—browse markets, linger in sun-dappled cafés, or revisit favorite corners of the city. Lunch is at leisure. In early afternoon, you may join an optional excursion to the magnificent **Abbey of Fontenay**, a UNESCO World Heritage site nestled in a tranquil green valley. On the way back, we stop at a private domaine where the wine harvesting will probably be going on, and sample their delicious varietals.

Friday, September 3 — The Côte de Nuits

After a brief review in French class, we board the train to Beaune, Burgundy's wine capital. Our first stop is the iconic Hospices de Beaune, its dazzling glazed roof tiles gleaming like a mosaic. Enjoy time on your own to browse Beaune's specialty shops before we regroup for lunch. In the afternoon, we descend into the vast, echoing chambers of a distinguished wine cellar for an atmospheric tasting. By early evening, we return to Dijon, pleasantly steeped in the spirit of wine country.

Saturday, September 4 — A Free Day & Farewell Evening

Today is yours—wander Dijon's boutiques and galleries, revisit a favorite museum, or savor a slow morning in a café.

We also offer an optional morning excursion to the storybook village of Chateauneuf-en-Auxois, famed for its chateau and picture-perfect charm. You'll be back in Dijon by early afternoon for last-minute shopping or relaxation.

In the evening, we gather for a festive closing apéritif at the hotel, followed by a celebratory dinner in town.

Optional One-Day Extension: Lyon

Sunday, September 5 — Old Town & Presque-Île

If today marks your departure, we send you off with warm wishes and hope Burgundy has captured your heart.

For those joining the extension, we take a morning train to Lyon, France's gastronomic capital. After dropping off our bags, we begin exploring the winding Renaissance streets of the Old Town before enjoying lunch together. The afternoon carries us to the elegant Presque-Île, framed by the Rhône and Saône rivers, where Lyon's grand boulevards and unique *murs peints* await. A final apéritif closes the day, with dinner at leisure amid Lyon's glowing evening atmosphere..

Monday, September 6 — Departure

Following breakfast, depart at your convenience for those who have chosen the Lyon extension.