

For late spring 2015, we are planning a fascinating journey across the very best of France: from the Dordogne region, one of France's best-kept secrets often characterized as "a cross between a fairy tale and a movie set," through the wine country of Bordeaux and the Loire Valley with its legendary chateaux, to Chartres, we explore historic, artistic, culinary, and musical delights true to the essence of Dean Dalton Tours.

Following a very full two-week program (four days each in the Dordogne, Bordeaux, and the Loire Valley) packed with visits, wine-tastings, fabulous dining, opera and concerts, you will have the option of returning to Houston or continuing with us to Paris for a relatively unstructured 5-day extension to enjoy a variety of exciting musical offerings and to follow your own lead. Whether you know Paris well or this is your first visit, we are happy to facilitate your adventures.

YOUR ITINERARY

DORDOGNE (May 21-25): We'll meet you at the airport in Bordeaux and escort you and your bags to our lovely hotel in the village of **Sarlat-la-Canéda**, right in the heart of the Perigord Noir, the ideal spot from which to explore the picturesque Dordogne. The whole area is known for its unforgettably charming stone villages, ten of which are on the list of the "152 most beautiful villages of France" (more than any other department in France!). Dordogne is also world-renowned for its foie gras, truffles, wild mushrooms, strawberries, walnuts, duck confit, *cabécou* (soft goat cheese) and *vin de noix* (walnut aperitif), and is close enough to Bordeaux to receive the finest wines straight from the vintners' cellars. The hearty Périgourdan cuisine and the exceptional culinary creations of famous restaurants and chefs will make every meal memorable. Our guide of more than 30 years experience, is a native of the Perigord and an expert in pre-historic art and medieval architecture; he is taking time off from writing a book on the artistic patrimony of the region to share his knowledge with us.

Sarlat-la-Canéda, once a rich medieval merchant town, also boasts Renaissance and 17th-century architecture, and is the site of a fabulous market every Wednesday and Saturday, dating back to the Middle Ages. The surrounding countryside is dotted with dozens of stunning medieval castles: **Beynac**, **Castelnaud**, **Marqueyssac** and **Les Milandes**, among others. **Rocamadour**, a **UNESCO World Heritage site**, built on the face of a sheer 400-foot cliff, is one of the most dramatic pilgrimage sites in Europe, with an extraordinary 13th-century chapel complex. According to legend, St. Amadour, a witness to the martyrdom of St. Paul and St. Peter, became a hermit there. The chapel contains a Black Madonna and a 233-step Great Staircase (modern-day pilgrims can take an escalator to the top).

Also nearby is **Les Eyzies-de-Tayac**, France's capital of prehistoric humanity (Caves of Lascaux), where fossils and art of Cro-Magnon Man have been discovered. Approximately 35,000 years old, these fossils are some of the earliest known evidence of modern humans in Europe. The gardens of **Marqueyssac**, designed by a student of André Le Notre (designer of the gardens of the Chateau de Versailles), is a "crazy" formal French-style garden: a befitting description given the mass of swirls, whorls and rounds of the box hedges, creating a dynamism not often seen in this type of gardening. You are sure to enjoy magnificent views of villages and castles from the vantage point of a boat on the Dordogne River.

BORDEAUX AND SURROUNDINGS (May 25-28): Our guide for our entire stay in Bordeaux is a PhD. scholar, linguist, and bona-fide wine expert - as well as intimately knowledgeable about the whole region.

CONTENTS AND COSTS

per person, sharing a double

Basic 14-day tour: \$5,475

Paris extension: \$1,550



supplements for single
occupancy

Basic tour: \$950

Paris extension: \$725



Prices include

**Accommodation in four-star
hotels and a four-star
chateau**



Four nights in Sarlat-la-Canéda
Four nights in Bordeaux
One night at Chateau de Chissay
Three nights in Orleans
One night near the Paris Airport,
to facilitate your departure



Five nights in Paris optional
(one replacing the airport night)



Breakfast each day



Lunch or dinner nine days



At least three wine tastings



**Airport transfers included
for those traveling on the
group schedule or at about
the same time**



**Ground transport by
private coach**



Four performances



Tours with expert guides



Optional performances are
available at additional cost
(subject to availability)

The city of Bordeaux is, itself a UNESCO World Heritage Site, abounding in art and history: our tour through Old Bordeaux will open your eyes to the beauty of the **Church St. Michel**, the four city gates, the **Garonne riverfront**, the elegant **Place des Quinconces**, and the **Grand Théâtre**, one of the last grand 18th-century theaters remaining in the world, where we will attend a performance of **Bellini's** bel canto masterpiece, *Norma*. A stroll through the **Chartrons** district takes you back into Bordeaux's past of fine wine houses and narrow workers' streets – once the home of English, Irish and Dutch, who arrived to dominate the Bordeaux wine trade. We will be staying at a centrally located hotel, close to both the **Grand Théâtre** and the **L'Auditorium** (in whose excellent Salle Dutilleux we hear **Hans Graf conduct the National Orchestra of Bordeaux-Aquitaine**). It also provides the perfect base from which to explore the riches of Bordeaux in your free time. You may want to visit **The Fine Arts Museum**: set in the gardens of the splendid, baroque Palais Rohan, it contains work by Rubens, Titian, Hals, Chardin, Brueghel and Tischbein, Delacroix, Boudin, Seurat, Bonnard, Kokoschka and Morisot, along with four Matisse's, a couple of Renoirs and eight canvases by Odilon Redon, a native of Bordeaux.

Bordeaux is the oldest and largest wine growing region in France. The *appellation* covers more than 300,000 acres and hosts some 10,000 producers. A day-trip will take us to the **Médoc region**, where some of the most famous Bordeaux wine châteaux (Latour, Margaux, Mouton-Rothschild) rise amid the featureless flatlands like "ancien régime seigneurs." We have scheduled another day-trip to **St. Emilion**, one of the most beautiful and historic villages in France, situated on the pilgrimage road to Santiago de Compostela. Many churches, monasteries and hospices were built along this route, starting from the 11th century, the most famous of which is the monolithic cathedral in St. Emilion – a church literally carved out of a hillside. Of course, we will enjoy chateau winery tours in both regions, which will allow us to meet the owners and discover (and taste!) the best Bordeaux wines.

Musical performances in Bordeaux:

- **Bellini's Norma on the 25th** - Christopher Alden production, conducted by John Fiore, with **Elza van den Heever** as Norma
- **Graf Concert on the 28th** – Debussy, *Rondes du printemps* | Dutilleux, *Le temps l'horloge*, Moussorgsky, *Pictures at an Exhibition*.
- **Radu Lupu option on the 26th (optional)**
with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and Vladimir Jurowski – Martinů, *Double Concerto*, Mozart, *Piano Concerto #24* and *Prague Symphony*, Janáček *Mladi*.

THE LOIRE VALLEY (May 29-June 2): The Loire is synonymous with the hundreds of historic chateaux ranging from fortified medieval fortresses to neoclassical manors that line its valley and that of its

**Group Flights
via Air France
\$1,466 per person
plus current taxes of \$159
\$6,099 business class,
plus current taxes of \$214**

**airfare and surcharges are
"locked in" but the taxes
could change up to the time
of ticketing**

Depart Houston at 4:00 PM
Arrive Bordeaux at 11:35 AM

Depart Paris at 10:30 AM
Arrive Houston at 2:00 PM

Advantages of Group Air

**◆ Best available prices
◆ Prices locked in
◆ Advance payment
not required ◆ In case of
delayed or cancelled
flights,
the group is rebooked
together**

**If you wish to participate
in group air arrangements,
we need to know
as soon as possible.**

***You may be eligible for the
group rate, even if you wish to
return to Houston at a later date
than the group or the extension.***

tributary, the Chère. For centuries, the *Val de Loire* was a favorite with the kings and nobles of France, hence the abundance of some of the most splendid architecture in the world. On the way from Bordeaux to the Loire, we stop in **Poitiers**, a charming small town, with a university dating back to the 15th century, among whose students were French philosopher René Descartes and English painter Francis Bacon. There will be time to discover the unique medieval architecture: **Notre-Dame-la Grande**, a Romanesque-Byzantine church of the 11th-12th centuries with one of the finest Romanesque facades in France; 12th-century **St. Pierre Cathedral** with one of the oldest stained glass windows in France; and 4th-century **St. Jean Baptistry**, the oldest Christian building in France. After time for lunch, we visit the famous gardens at **Chateau Villandry**. Considered one of the best examples of Renaissance style gardens in the world, Villandry boasts a water garden, flower garden, and the world's largest ornamental vegetable garden, laid out in formal geometric patterns, producing a spectacle of outstanding natural beauty. Tonight, we stay not in a city, but at the spectacular **Chateau de Chissay**.

On our way to **Orléans**, where we spend three nights, we visit **Chateau Chenonceau**, **Chateau de Amboise**, and **Manoir du Clos Lucé** in Amboise, where Leonardo Da Vinci spent the last three years of his life. In and near Orleans, we will attend concerts of the **Festival de Sully et du Loiret**, which welcomes top musicians from the four corners of the globe since 1974. Chateaux, churches, oratories, and other famous landmarks provide the settings for the festival concerts. Depending on the festival schedule, which will only be published early next year, we will offer day trips to the surrounding area, including the castles of **Chambord** and **Cheverny, Bois**, the **Chateau of Sully-sur-Loire** (the main venue of the festival), **St. Germigny Oratory**, and the **Abbey of Saint-Benoit-sur-Loire**.

En route to Paris, we stop in **Chartres** to visit the world-famous Chartres Cathedral, which Rodin called "the Acropolis of France," with its unparalleled stained glass windows and intricate stonework. We have arranged for an exclusive tour with Malcom Miller,

legendary as the world's greatest expert on the magnificent edifice, which he has studied for more than half a century. Our program will conclude with a farewell lunch in Chartres, after which you will continue to a hotel close to the Paris airport, making **your departure for Houston, mid-morning on June 3**, very convenient.

OPTIONAL PARIS EXTENSION

If you would like to stay on in Paris for a few days, you have two options (and can still take advantage of our group air arrangements):

1. Do it yourself: book the hotel of your choice, do what you want, when you want, booking your own performance tickets online. If that is your preference, we can either drop you after lunch at the train station in Chartres, or take you to Charles de Gaulle airport from which you have several options for getting into the city. Of course, the price of the hotel at the airport on June 2 will be deducted from the price of your tour.
2. Take our 5-night Paris extension: We have reserved rooms overlooking the private garden in a lovely, Left Bank hotel, less than a five-minute walk from the church of Saint-Germain-de-Pres and the famous cafés, Deux Magots and Café du Flor (sacred or secular, take your pick - or do both!). We are also planning for two guided tours that will be eye-openers for both first-timers and those who know Paris well, together with a couple of special meals. Of course, we will provide transportation both in and out of Paris, will get you the tickets you want for any of the myriad performances that are available while we are there, and will be happy to arrange a "basic Paris" tour for any who haven't been to Paris before. Of course, we will be available to offer any help and advice you might need throughout your visit. The cost of the hotel at the airport for the final night of the "basic tour" has been deducted from price of the extension.

There are always more performances available in Paris than time to see them. Besides the offerings of the various concert halls and opera houses, we will be there during the Saint-Denis festival, which offers a series of symphonic and other classical music concerts and recitals in the beautiful **Basilique Cathedrale de Saint Denis** (which "set" the Gothic style and is the burial place of generations of French kings) and the pretty **Legion d'Honneur** church. The full schedule is not available yet, but we have already discovered a concert by the French National Orchestra and Radio Choir, **presenting a rarely-heard major work by Schumann - *Le Paradis et La Péri***, and reserved space. Another rarity is available at the Opera de Bastille in Paris: the **Graham Vick** production of the late French Romantic composer **Ernest Chausson's *Le Roi Arthus***, featuring some of the biggest names in the world of opera: **Thomas Hampson, Sophie Koch, and Roberto Alagna**. Other Paris performances that we are already aware of include **Mozart's *Magic Flute*** at the Bastille, two concerts at the Philharmonie: one by **l'Orchestre de Paris** featuring Ibert's *Escapes*, Gershwin's F-Major Piano Concerto, and Stravinsky's *Petrushka*; the other is by the **Ile de France Orchestra** with Ion Marin conducting the Dvorak *Carnival Overture*, Schumann's *Piano Concerto*, and *Also Sprach Zarathustra* by Richard Strauss. Something of special interest is a rare performance of **Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle***, which has been described as "neither small nor at all solemn," by the excellent **Chorus of l'Orchestre de Paris**; you can be sure that Dean will not miss that one!

Travel Insurance, including coverage in case of cancellation and for preexisting conditions, is strongly recommended.

Trip insurance is substantially less expensive if bought as a group, with the rates less than 5% of the cost of the tour. To qualify for those rates, we must be a group of at least ten people; in any case, if we operate a tour with fewer than ten participants, we will inform you about how to purchase individual coverage.

The coverage we provide is really quite comprehensive, protecting you if you should need to cancel the tour, even if not you but a family member is the affected party. You are also covered in case the tour is interrupted or delayed, if your baggage is lost or delayed, in case of accident or a health-related event, and even up to \$250,000 can be provided to get you home in case of a serious medical event or death.

You can find the amount of protection and the cost to cover your tour in the table below. Your “tour cost” for these purposes is the amount you pay Dean Dalton Tours, per person for your tour. If you booked your flights separately, you may choose to include that amount or not. (Change fees in case you need to return home early are covered in any case.) If you plan to upgrade to a suite or if you are purchasing extra cost options, you might want to increase the amount of insurance coverage accordingly.

If you do not want to purchase the trip cancellation coverage and are comfortable foregoing the protection for “pre-existing conditions,” you can get all the other coverage for the nominal cost of \$20 per person by signing up at “\$0” trip cost.

I can send on request the official “Schedule of Coverage and Services” which describes every aspect in excruciating detail! We **can** offer a “cancel for any reason” waiver, which allows you to simply “change your mind” for any or no reason at all, but only at substantial additional cost; ask for details if interested.

Benefit	Limit
Trip Cancellation *	Trip Cost**
Trip Interruption*	150% Trip Cost**
Trip Delay (of 6 hours+)	\$750 (\$150/day)
Baggage/Personal Effects	\$1,500
Baggage Delay (of 24 hours+)	\$400
Emergency Accident/Sickness Medical Expense	\$50,000
Emergency Evacuation /Repatriation of Remains	\$250,000
24 Hour Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$25,000

Cancellation coverage now covers work-related cancellation.

* For \$0 Trip Cost, there is no Trip Cancellation and Trip Interruption is limited to \$500 return air only

** Up to the Trip Cost insured, a maximum of \$10,000 for the unused portion of the trip and the transportation cost to rejoin the tour or return home.

Trip Cost	Rate
\$0	\$20
\$1501-\$2000	\$100
\$2001-\$2500	\$120
\$2501-\$3000	\$140
\$3001-\$3500	\$155
\$3501-\$4000	\$190
\$4001-\$4500	\$215
\$4501-\$5000	\$245
\$5001-\$5500	\$270
\$5501-\$6000	\$295
\$6001-\$6500	\$320
\$6501-\$7000	\$365
\$7001-\$7500	\$390
\$7501-\$8000	\$405
\$8001-\$8500	\$420
\$8501-\$9000	\$445
\$9001-\$9500	\$465
\$9501-\$10,000	\$495

Please send your deposit and this form right away, space is limited and interest is intense. Payment in full due by January 15, 2015.

<u>Price per person</u>	<u>Sharing a double</u>	<u>Rooming alone</u>
Basic 13-night Program	\$5,475.00	\$6,425.00
17-night program, with Paris Extension	\$7,025.00	\$8,700.00

For details, contact Dean at DD@DeanDaltonTours.com or 713-893-7107

You should be prepared for a good bit of walking, stairs, and cobble-stoned streets.

If your mobility is limited, please consider traveling with a friend or relative who can assist you.

Complete and mail this form and your check for \$500 per person payable to **Dean Dalton Tours** to:

**Dean Dalton Tours
1904 Banks St.
Houston, TX 77098**

Name 1 as it appears on passport: _____

Name 2 as it appears on passport: _____

Street address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Passport number 1: _____ Issue date: _____ Date and **place** of Birth: _____

Passport number 2: _____ Issue date: _____ Date and **place** of Birth: _____

Name and phone of emergency contact: _____

We are sharing a room and: prefer one bed prefer two beds
I am traveling alone and: prefer a private room need help finding a potential roommate

will be sharing with _____

Basic tour only: May 20 to June 3 Full tour, including Paris: May 20 to June 7
Insurance: I/we prefer full coverage basic coverage I/we decline group insurance _____

Group flights: I/we want to fly with the group, returning: June 3 June 7 Other _____

Economy class Business class

Special needs: _____

I have read the brochure and the "Terms and Conditions of Sale" and agree to their contents.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Travel Insurance is strongly recommended. Full coverage (including cancellation and coverage for preexisting health conditions) is based on your total tour price, per person. The cost is \$270 for the basic tour, sharing (\$320 if paying single supplement); with extension, it is \$390 (\$445 if in a single room). Basic coverage is available for only \$20 per person. See the provided description for more details. Please indicate on the form your interest in group insurance; we will send details. If you decline, please check the appropriate box **and initial to indicate that you accept full responsibility.**

Terms and Conditions of Sale—France Tour, May 20 to June 3 or 7, 2015

A deposit of \$500.00 per person is required to guarantee your reservation. The balance of the tour price is due on or before January 15, 2015. Any exchange rate adjustment will be calculated based on the date final payment is received.

Cancellation forfeitures:

- Up to 120 days prior to departure: deposit will be refunded, less a service charge of \$100 (\$200 if group air chosen)
- 120 to 90 days prior to departure: full deposit is forfeited
- 89 to 45 days prior to departure: 30% of tour cost is forfeited
- 44 to 15 days prior to departure: 60% of tour cost is forfeited
- 15 days or less prior to departure: 100% of tour cost is forfeited

Included in quoted tour prices: All ground transportation by private coach or from Prague returning from Vienna; luggage handling (1 piece, maximum 50 pounds, at owner's risk); accommodations in listed hotels or comparable including hotel taxes and daily breakfast; lunches and dinners, sightseeing, entrance fees, performance tickets, guide and escort services, as indicated in the itinerary.

Not included in quoted tour prices: Airfare, costs of passports or visas; laundry; meals or beverages, optional performances, and sightseeing not included in the itinerary; room service; travel insurance; gratuities to guides and drivers; communication charges; excess baggage fees.

Exchange Rates: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to adjust prices to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. Prices for this tour were calculated at an exchange rate of \$1.35 per euro and may be adjusted if the official rate changes by \$0.05 or more.

Dean Dalton Tours also reserves the right to withdraw a tour or any part of it, to make such alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary or desirable, to refuse to accept or retain as a member of any tour any person at any time, and to pass on to tour members any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond its control.

Passports and Visas: Valid passports are required for travel to the destinations in the brochure but visas are not, for United States citizens. All travelers are responsible for the cost of obtaining passports and any required visas.

Itineraries: Hotel accommodations, performances, and sightseeing are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Guaranteed Departures: Dean Dalton Tours guarantees the departure of most escorted programs that reach the stated minimum number of participants (10 for this tour), with exception only in case of "force majeure." This includes any major world event that adversely affects international travel patterns, or other circumstances beyond Dean Dalton Tours' control.

Claims and Refunds: Except for verifiable extenuating circumstances, refunds are not made for any missed tour services. For verifiable claims to be considered, they must be received in writing within 30 days of the termination of the tour and be accompanied by supporting documentation. Any adjustment will be based on the actual cost of the services involved and not on a per diem basis. Adjustments will not be made for sightseeing trips or meals not used at traveler's choice. Dean Dalton Tours will not accept any liability for any claims not received within 30 days of the termination of this tour.

Photography: Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any tour or part thereof, and to use the resulting photography for promotional purposes. By booking a reservation, tour members agree to allow their image to be used in such photography; tour members who prefer that their image not be used are asked to identify themselves to their tour escort at the commencement of the tour.

Limits on Responsibility: Dean Dalton Tours, LLC is a Texas corporation based in Houston. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Dean Dalton Tours CANNOT, THEREFORE, BE LIABLE FOR DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY OR ANY OTHER LOSS that may occur (1) due to any act or omission of any such supplier, (2) by reason of any other event over which Dean Dalton Tours has no control.