

**ONTARIO CORONERS**  
**14 DAY TOUR TO SPAIN & FRANCE**  
**FEATURING THE AMA WATERWAYS TASTE OF BORDEAUX RIVER CRUISE**  
**SEPTEMBER 7 – 20, 2019**  
Preliminary Itinerary – July 20, 2018

*Note: It is the responsibility of all participants to be in possession of the correct documentation to travel out of the country. Failure to do so will result in participants being denied entry/boarding and returned home at the expense of the individual. **Canadian Citizens require a valid passport** (authorities at your destination require that passports are valid for 3 months beyond your return date). Ellison Travel & Tours recommends passports are valid for 6 months beyond your return date. Non-Canadian travellers should contact Ellison Travel & Tours at [traveldocuments@ettravel.com](mailto:traveldocuments@ettravel.com) so we can check entry and transit requirements and confirm that they have the correct travel documentation and/or visa requirements.*

**Day 1 – Saturday September 7 – in FLIGHT**

**M**

- arrive at Pearson International Airport and meet your **Ellison Tours tour manager**
- check in for your flight (groups are to check in 3 hours prior to flight time)
- **depart on your trans-Atlantic flight to Madrid**
- meals served at the discretion of the airline

**Day 2 – Sunday September 8 - MADRID**

**M/D**

- **breakfast** served before landing
- on arrival you will clear customs and collect your luggage
- a coach is waiting for transfer into the city
- **check in at your hotel for a 2 night stay**
- this afternoon enjoy a **guided coach and walking tour in Madrid** - you will see such sights as the Puerta del Sol, Plaza de Espana with its monument to Cervantes, the Parliament, Cibeles Fountain, elegant Calle Alcalá and Paseo de Castellana
- **group dinner** in a local restaurant
- return to the hotel and early to bed after two long days

**Day 3 – Monday September 9 - MADRID**

**B**

- **breakfast** included at the hotel
- board the coach and transfer to Toledo this morning (approx. 1 hour drive)
- **enjoy a guided tour in Toledo** where you will see the Alcántara Bridge, and early Synagogue and the fabulously rich 13<sup>th</sup> century gothic **Alcazar Cathedral** (admission included)
- time to purchase lunch and explore as you wish
- board the coach and return to Madrid
- this afternoon there is a **guided tour at the Prado Museum** with its fine paintings by Velázquez and Goya among others (need passports)
- the remainder of the day and evening are at leisure

**Day 4 – Tuesday September 10 – to BILBOA**

**B/D**

- **breakfast** included at the hotel
- check out of the hotel and board the coach for travel to **Bilboa** (approx. 5 hrs plus rest stops)
- on arrival in Bilboa **check into your hotel for a 2 night stay**

- **group dinner** in a local restaurant
- remainder of the evening at leisure

#### **Day 5 – Wednesday September 11 - BILBOA**

**B**

- **breakfast** included at the hotel
- this morning enjoy a **guided walking tour of Bilbao**
- afternoon **guided visit at the Guggenheim Museum** – this museum of modern and contemporary art was designed by Canadian-American architect Frank Gehry
- remainder of the day is at leisure

#### **Day 6 – Thursday September 12 – to BORDEAUX - CRUISE EMBARKATION**

**B/D**

- **breakfast** included at the hotel
- depart Bilbao
- stop in **San Sebastian**
- continue on to **Bordeaux** for **AMA Cruise**
- **board the AmaDolce – your home for the next 7 nights – all meals and drinks with lunch and dinner are included during the cruise**
- time to unpack and settle in
- attend the mandatory safety briefing
- enjoy the **Welcome Reception and Dinner** - the ship departs late tonight for Germany

#### **Day 7 – Friday September 13 – CADILLAC – SAUTERNES WINE TASTING & ROQUETAILLADE CASTLE**

**B/L/D**

- begin the day with **breakfast onboard**
- visit the impressive **Castle of Roquetaillade**, an amazing preserved masterpiece of medieval military architecture owned by the same noble family for 700 years.
- travel to **Sauternes Wine Region** to either **Chateau de Rayne Vigneau** or **Chateau Guirand** for highly prized golden-hued sweet local wine tasting

#### **Day 8 – Saturday September 14 – PAUILLAC – GRAND CRU CLASSÉ WINE TASTING & VINEYARD TOUR**

**B/L/D**

- begin the day with **breakfast onboard**
- **Pauillac**, a lovely village on the Left Bank of the Gironde Estuary, is the gateway to the famed **Médoc region** renowned for producing some of the world’s finest Bordeaux wines.
- you will see some of the most beautiful and famous wine estates, including **Château Latour, Château Mouton Rothschild, Château Lafite Rothschild and Château Pichon Longueville.**
- visit to either **Château Gruaud Larose** or **Château Léoville Poyferré** for a tasting of Grand Cru wines

#### **Day 9 – Sunday September 15 - BLAYE – CITADEL VISIT OR BIKE TOUR**

**B/L/D**

- begin the day with **breakfast onboard**
- tour a 17<sup>th</sup> century citadel, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in **Blaye**
- alternatively, take a **bike ride** from **Blaye** through the idyllic French countryside
- **cruise to Bourg** or join a **bike tour** along Santiago’s path – a famous pilgrimage route – to Bourg
- visit the **Carriage Museum**, which houses a wonderful collection of horse-drawn vehicles and then explore the underground passageways that lead you to the immense oil tanks from WWII.
- experience the hospitality of this charming medieval village with an exclusive wine festival complete with live French music, dancing, wine and hors d’oeuvres

**NOTE**

- The doctor’s meeting may take place this morning from 9:30am until 12:30pm in the Chef’s Table Restaurant (pending detailed cruise schedule).

#### **Day 10 – Monday September 16 – LIBOURNE – CHATEAU DE VAYRES**

**B/L/D**

- begin the day with **breakfast onboard**
- Libourne provides a gateway to one of Bordeaux’s most elite wine regions, Sain-Emilion, known for its picturesque architecture, monuments and celebrated vineyards.

- join an **excursion to historic Saint Emilion** – explore the monolithic church carved out of one piece of limestone rock – go under the church to discover its catacombs and caves
- enjoy a **wine tasting** at Chateau de Ferrand or Chateau de Pressac
- the option if you prefer a more active adventure is to pedal through the vineyard-rich countryside to Saint Emilion and then to Chateau Soutard for a Grand Cru Classe wine tasting

**Day 11 – Tuesday September 17 – LIBOURNE – CHATEAU DE VAYRES**

**B/L/D**

- begin the day with **breakfast onboard**
- tour the magnificent **Château Vayres**, one of the most prestigious historic buildings of **Aquitaine**
- or spend time discovering the Bastide town of **Libourne** and then stroll through its colourful open-air market tasting some of the region’s specialties.
- for a more active exploration of the countryside, enjoy a hike followed by a wine tasting
- visit **Fronsac**, where you can taste some of the regional wines at a grand wine cellar
- If you missed the countryside hike in the morning, you can do it in the afternoon, followed by a wine tasting

**Day 12 – Wednesday September 18 – BORDEAUX**

**B/L/D**

- begin the day with **breakfast onboard**
- the breathtaking capital of the wine world, **Bordeaux** is an UNESCO World Heritage Site and classified as a “City of Art and History”.
- enjoy a city tour followed by a visit to the **Bordeaux Wine Museum**, housed in an awe-inspiring building
- bike enthusiasts will wish to join a **bike tour** along the city’s amazing network of bicycle paths

**Day 13 – Thursday September 19 – BORDEAUX - DISEMBARKATION**

**B/D**

- begin the day with **breakfast onboard** before you disembark
- **coach transfer to train station**
- **high speed train to Paris** (First Class Car) – arrive at Montparnasse Station (approx. 2 hrs & 10 min)
- a coach is waiting for **transfer to your hotel**  
**check in at the Mercure Paris La Sorbonne Saint Germain de Pres** (or similar) **for an overnight stay**  
the afternoon is at leisure  
**farewell dinner**

**Day 14 – Friday September 20 – FLIGHT HOME OR PARIS EXTENSION**

**B**

- **breakfast** included at the hotel followed by check out
- coach arrives for loading
- board the coach and **transfer to Charles de Gaulle Airport**
- on arrival check in for your flight (groups are to check in 3 hours prior)
- **depart on your trans-Atlantic flight to Toronto**
- arrive at Pearson International Airport – clear customs and claim your luggage
- welcome home

**B - Breakfast / pB – Packed Breakfast / L – Lunch / pL – Packed Lunch / D - Dinner / M – Airline Meal / S – Snack - denote meals included in tour cost**

Please advise your group leader in advance of any allergy and/or dietary restriction, so that we can advise our suppliers of the request. Not every location may be able to accommodate allergy and/or meal requirements for unique circumstances.

**\*Itinerary is tentative and subject to final confirmation\***