

# BY RAIL

The TGV network gets you here in no time at all (Paris-Dijon : 1 hr 40 min.). There are several trains a day and TGV trains go to a number of cities in the region: Dijon, Montbard, Beaune, Chalon-sur-Saône, Le Creusot/Montchanin/Montceau-les-Mines, Mâcon-Loché, all of which have connections to local places of interest. From July 2nd to August 27th inclusive, the daily TGV service from Nice to Dijon will also stop at Beaune. So the Burgundy wine capital is now only 1hr 20 min. from Lyon, 2 hr from Valence, 3 hr from Marseille and 4 hr from Toulon.

# BY AIR

There is currently no commercial airport in the Burgundy area operating regular international flights. The north of the region is accessible from the Pairs airport (3 hours drive), the south of the region is closer to lyon St Exupery Airport (2 hours drive)

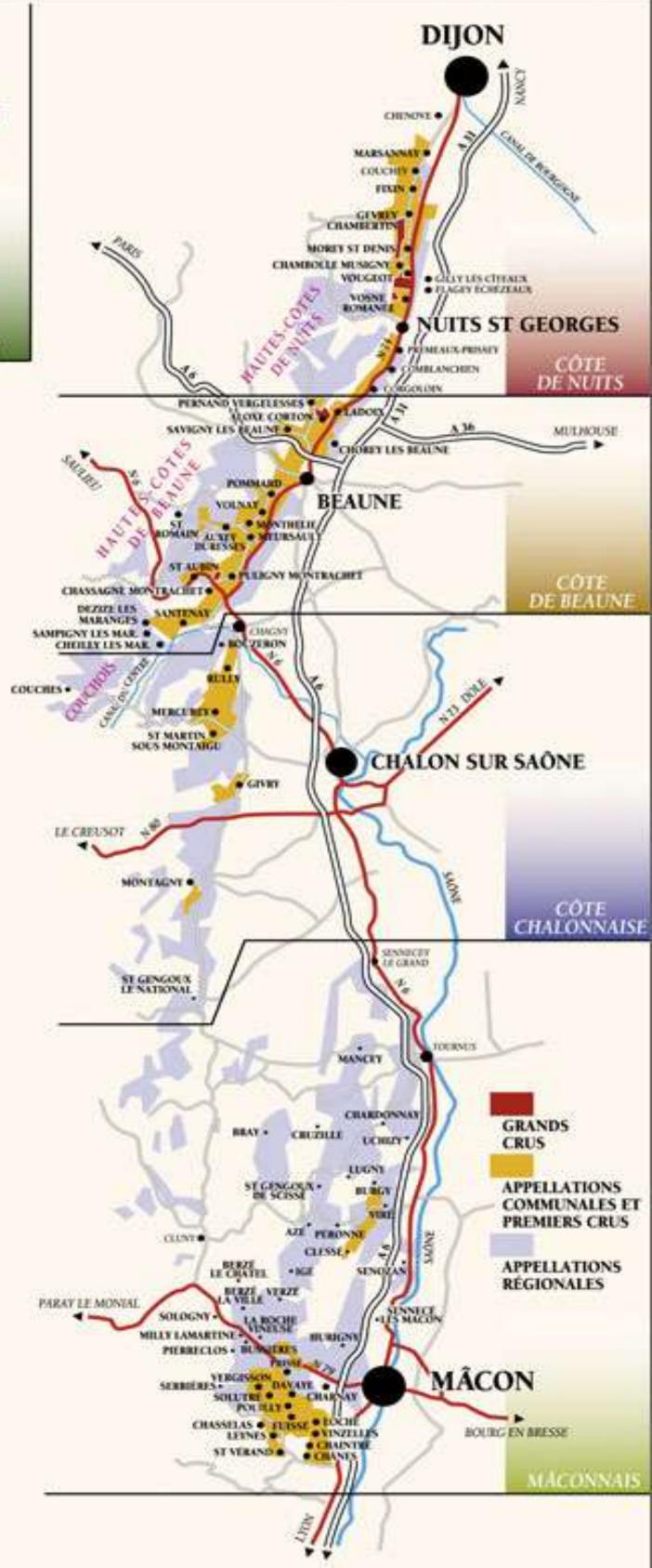






# LA BOURGOGNE & SES CINQ VIGNOBLES





# The Morvan & Vezelay

In the heart of Burgundy, the Morvan is a paradise of forests, lakes, and rivers. Since 1970, this area is listed as Natural Regional Park. Its role is to preserve and promote the environment, but and also the heritage. The basilica of Vézelay was built in the centre of this natural area. Located on the Pilgrim's Way to Santiago de Compostella, Vézelay is a medieval art testimony listed as World Heritage by UNESCO since 1979. Few kilometers from Vézelay, you will find the Château of Bazoches. This medieval building is famous for its Seventeenth-century owner who was Marshal Vauban, the main military architect of Louis XIV.

# The Cote de Nuits

From the villages of Fixin to Corgoloin, this road will take you along one of the most famous vineyards in Burgundy. With 3.740 hectares of vine, the Côtes de Nuits is famous for its red wine such as Chambertin, Clos Vougeot, and Romanée-Conti. On this road, you will discover little winemakers' villages which will remember you famous wines 'names. The village of Gevrey-Chambertin for instance, is located in the middle of vineyards and is famous for its *Grand cru* wine Chambertin (Napoleon I's favorite wine). Then, you will arrive at the village of Vougeot and the famous Clos Vougeot on a track of land extending over 51 hectares. In the middle of the vines, the château of Clos Vougeot — a propriety of Cîteaux abbey from the Twelfth century to the French Revolution — will let you discover the brotherhood of the Chevaliers du Tastevin (Knights of the Tastevin), current owner of the castle. Towards Beaune, it is an obligation to stop at the *clos* of Romanée-Conti. This plot was owned by the Prince de Conti in 1760 and produced now one of the most expensive red wines around the world. Just before Beaune, the little town of Nuits-Saint-Georges will welcome you. It gives its name to the Côte de Nuits. They were aready well known by Louis XIV, the Sun King, because his doctor advised him to drink one glass of Nuits wine after each meal to improve his health.

# The Cote de Beaune

From the villages of Aloxe-Corton to Santenay, the Côte de Beaune produced the most famous white wines in the world. Along 5.950 hectares of vines, you will discover the very famous *Grands crus* such as Montrachet, Chevalier-Montrachet, Bâtard-Montrachet, and Bienvenue-Bâtard Montrachet. Even if the white wines are the most known, the red wines of the Côte de Beaune (Pommard, Volnay, Corton...) should seduce you by their powerful and fruity taste. On the road, you will see the village of Meursault became famous thanks to a French movie named "La Grande Vadrouille". Before Santenay, the medieval castle of Rochepot dominates the valley. Built between the Thirteenth century and the Fifteenth century, this castle was owned by the family Pot, vassal of the Dukes of Burgundy.

# The Southern Burgundy

In the area of Chalon-sur-Saône, you will discover the medieval castle of Germolles built from the Thirteenth century to the Fifteenth century. Marguerite de Flandre, wife of the Burgundian duke, Philippe le Hardi (the Bold), transformed this castle into a residential chateau. Now, it is still possible to observe remarkable Fourteenth- and Fifteenth-century paintings. You will also have the occasion to taste renowned wines such as the Mercurey and the Rully. Near Mâcon—place of birth of the French writer and poet Alphonse de Lamartine—the vineyards of the very well-known white wine, Pouilly-Fuissé will welcome you before to take back towards Beaune. On the road, Cluny abbey, built in the Eleventh and Twelfth centuries and destroyed during the French Revolution, was considered as the vastest church of the Christendom (117 meters long inside) until the building of St Peter of Rome in the Sixteenth century.



# HOSPICE DE BEAUNE

Typical example of Burgundy flamboyant gothic style, this former hospital founded in 1443 by chancellor of Duke of burgundy Nicolas Rolin and his wife Guigone de Salins is the testimony of the Flemish influence on the duchy of Burgundy. As far as architecture, it is worldwide famous for its colorful polychromatic glazed tile roofs. The Last Judgment triptych painting by Flemish painter Rogier Van Der Weyden is the highlight of the visit. You will tour the Salle des Pôvres (where the sick ones were looked after), the kitchens, the pharmacy and other rooms exhibiting artifacts and tapestries

# FONTENAY ABBEY

Listed in the UNESCO world heritage, this Cistercian gem in Burgundy owes its amazing good conservation to its very remote location at the bottom of a lush valley. It was founded by Saint Bernard in 1118 and remained very prosperous until the XVI century. It drew most of its wealth from the metal industry and the use of a forge whose hammer worked with the current of the river. The abbey was turned into a paper plant after the French revolution and bought in 1906 by the current family who restored it, showing us the daily life of the monks in the middle ages. You will see perfect examples of Romanesque architecture with the church, dormitory and cloister

# **DIJON**

Since the Romans, Dijon has been a crossroad between Northern Europe and Mediterranean regions. It was the capital of the Duchy of Burgundy. In the XIV century, the Dukes of Burgundy settled there one of the most brilliant courts in Europe, leading to, during the Renaissance, the creation of fine town houses and palaces.

### **VEZELAY**

Very picturesque village on hillsides, Vezelay and its basilica (listed in the UNESCO world heritage) have always attracted thousands of pilgrims. From this place, Bernard de Clairvaux launched the second crusades. The Romanesque basilica, with its impressive and monumental doorway, houses the relics of Saint Magdalena. Vezelay has been a stage on the way to Santiago de Compostela.



# TRUFFLE HUNT

Burgundy truffle is a luxury product that appreciates the limestone plateaux that dominate the wine region and truffle beds in the wild areas and undergrowth.

Growing happily among the hazel, hornbeam and black pine, this fragile fungus is harvested from mid-September to late January, which explains its high price.

To hunt out this treasure, there's no need for high technology, just a specialised dog with an unstoppable flair for sniffing out the musky scent of the fungus.

# Burgundy Snails

Listed in the UNESCO world heritage, this Cistercian gem in Burgundy owes its amazing good conservation to its very remote location at the bottom of a lush valley. It was founded by Saint Bernard in 1118 and remained very prosperous until the XVI century. It drew most of its wealth from the metal industry and the use of a forge whose hammer worked with the current of the river. The abbey was turned into a paper plant after the French revolution and bought in 1906 by the current family who restored it, showing us the daily life of the monks in the middle ages. You will see perfect examples of Romanesque architecture with the church, dormitory and cloister

# DIJON MUSTARD

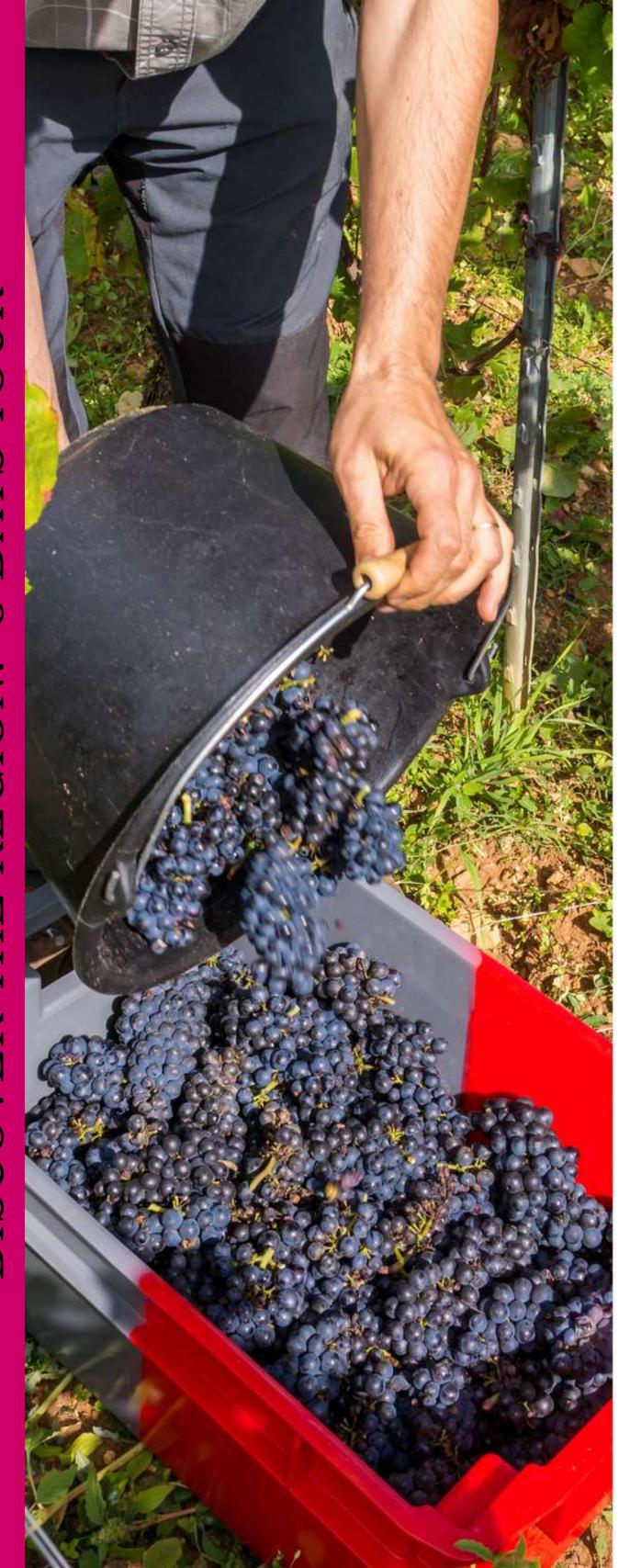
The mustard was an invited guest at the table of the Dukes of Burgundy who set its recipe back in the Middle Ages. Since then, it's been around the world, turning up everywhere, on your plate, to liven up the dish of the day, or in the hamburger of President Barack Obama, to bring a "French touch".

# WINE TASTING LUNCH

Wine, as you know, is all about sharing and exchanging! In this place, where Damien will accompany you throughout your tasting, life is simple! Choose what you'd like to eat: cold «In the vineyards!» or hot «Sunday lunch!».

Tasting of 8 wines (Bourgogne:1 Village, 1 Premier Cru, 3 Grands Crus, Alsace 3 Grands Crus).







# 3 DAYS TOUR - THE ESSENTIAL OF BURGUNDY DAY 1

09:00AM: Pick up in Beaune or Dijon train station or at your hotel located in Beaune or Dijon area.

#### Guided tour of the Hospices de Beaune.

Typical example of Burgundy flamboyant gothic style, this former hospital founded in 1443 by the chancellor Nicolas Rolin and his wife Guigone de Salins is the testimony of the Flemish influence on the duchy of Burgundy. As far as architecture, it is worldwide famous for its colorful polychromatic glazed tile roofs. The Last Judgment triptych painting by Flemish painter Rogier Van Der Weyden is the highlight of the visit. You will tour the Salle des Pôvres (where the sick ones were looked after), the kitchens, the pharmacy and other rooms exhibiting artifacts and tapestries.

Picturesque drive through the famous villages of Pommard, Volnay and Meursault.

Sightseeing in the vineyard.

#### Tour and wine tasting at a local domain in Meursault.

The notion of "terroir" is essential in Burgundy. It is the foundation of the wines expression. The vines of the Chateau de Meursault are ideally situated and sheltered from the winds by the mountains on the west .At Meursault, they spread over the quarries. The earth is rich in calcite and well drained, which gives the land all its wealth.

#### Tour and wine tasting lunch at a local domain.

According to the availability tasting of 6 Grands Crus or 8 wines (with 2 Grands Crus and 2 Premiers Crus). After the lunch, transfer to Beaune.

#### Tour and wine tasting at a local domain in the city centre of Beaune. Tasting of 6 wines...

Founded in Beaune in 1880, Maison Joseph Drouhin's cellars have spread from the historical Cellars of the Dukes of Burgundy and the Kings of France in Beaune (12th-18th centuries) to the Moulin de Vaudon, an 18th Century watermill in Chablis

A rigorous attention to detail, self-imposed discipline, a desire to learn, a rigorous sense of values, passion and daring, are the qualities that have been handed down through the generations, together with the art of winemaking and a never ending search for quality.

According the time and your drop of place, guided tour of the city or Beaune or Dijon.

6pm: transfer back to your hotel in Beaune.



# 3 DAYS TOUR - THE ESSENTIAL OF BURGUNDY DAY 2

09:00AM: Pick up in Beaune or Dijon train station or at your hotel located in Beaune or Dijon area. Transfer to Chateau du Clos de Vougeot.

Picturesque drive through villages along the road of the Grands Crus: Fixin, Gevrey Chambertin, and Chambolle-Musigny.

#### **Guided tour of the Chateau du Clos de Vougeot.**

Founded in 1098 by monks, the vineyard of Clos de Vougeot covers 50 hectares. The castle houses the brotherhood of the knights of the tastevin. Its wines are ones of the most famous in Burgundy with a Grand Crus: Le Clos Vougeot.

Today the vineyard is divided between 80 owners

#### Tour and wine tasting lunch at a local domain.

Wine, as you know, is all about sharing and exchanging! In this place, where Damien will accompany you throughout your tasting, life is simple! Choose what you'd like to eat: cold «In the vineyards!» or hot «Sunday lunch!».

Tasting of 8 wines (Bourgogne: 1 Village, 1 Premier Cru, 3 Grands Crus, Alsace 3 Grands Crus).

#### Tour and wine tasting at a local domain in Vougeot area.

Driving through the vineyards and photo stop at the famous clos Romanée-Conti Transfer to Nuits Saint George.

#### Tour and wine tasting at Domaine Remoriquet in Nuits-Saint-George.

Created in 1938, it is today the fourth generation. Among their wines are white Hautes Côtes de Nuits and 4 red Nuits Saint George premiers crus. Gilles Remoriquet produces wines with character that express all the power and refinement of the terroir.

6pm: transfer back to your hotel in Beaune.



# 3 DAYS TOUR - THE ESSENTIAL OF BURGUNDY DAY 3

09:00: Pick up in Beaune or Dijon train station or at your hotel located in Beaune or Dijon area.

#### Truffle hunt and tasting of local products cooked with truffle

Under the guidance of Thierry or his son Yann, both are experts, and, of course, their friend dog Elfe, You will discover the most aromatic type of mushroom and the worldwide known savour of Black Burgundy treasure. You will take part in a little forest adventure accompanied with a dog and a harvester to hunter truffle.

Picturesque drive along the Côte de Nuits through the villages of Nuits-Saint-Georges, Vosne-Romanée and Vougeot. Discover the "Champs-Elysées" of Burgundy. We will take advantage of being in those prestigious vineyards to explain the Terroir and the different steps needed along the year to harvest the best Pinot Noir possible. L'expression du Terroir".

#### Lunch and wine tasting at a traditional restaurant

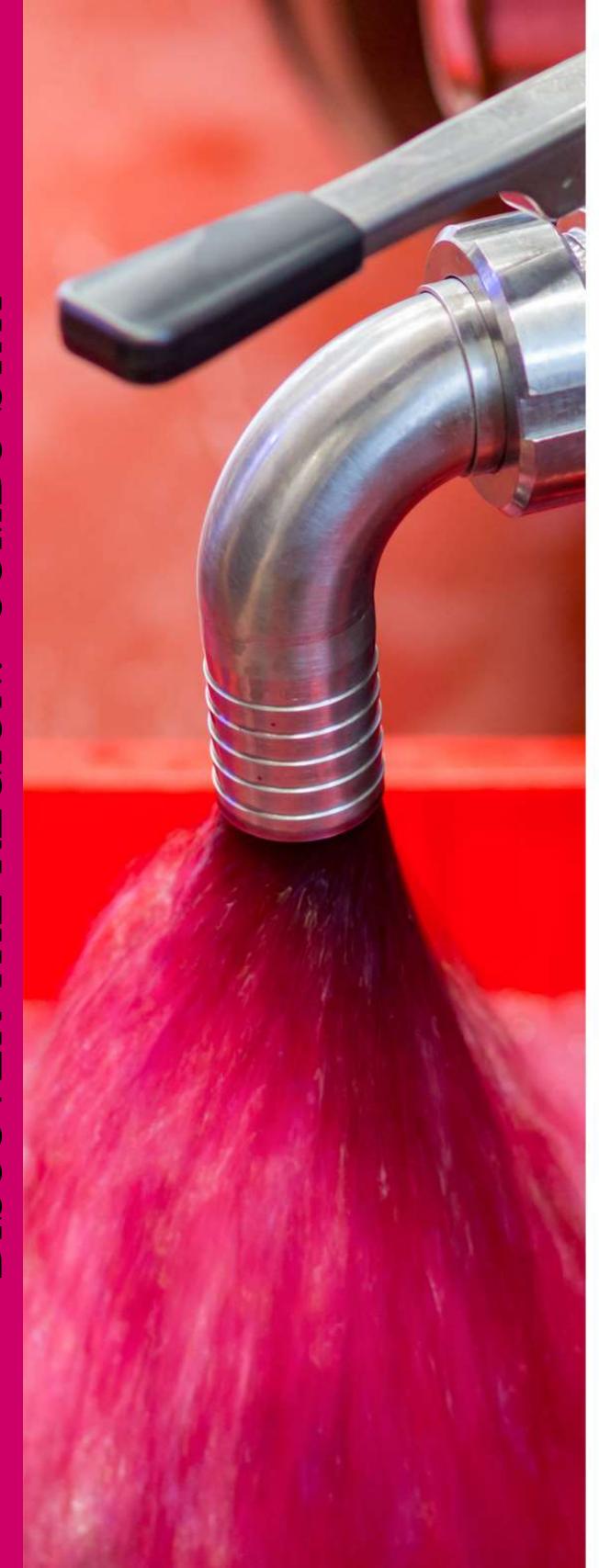
In order to help harmonize your wines with a meal, and to furnish your cellar, Pierre Bourée Fils, owner and wine merchant and producer in Gevrey-Chambertin, is at your service.

This tasting table allows you to discover many different wines and vintages whilst sitting at a generous table with a simple local menu. Each wine will be carefully described by our sommelier, from the vineyard to your glass, and you will be able to exchange comments and impressions with your neighbours around the table.

#### Guided tour and tasting at a cheeses farm :

The Fromagerie Gaugry is specialized in the production of washed rind soft cheeses. The successors of Raymond perpetuate since 1920 the familial and regional cheese making tradition while at the same time expanding and modernising production. They are the last cheese makers still producing raw milk Epoisses.

Around 18h00, drop off at Beaune or Dijon train station or at your hotel located in Beaune or Dijon area.





# DAY 1- CHAMPAGNE BUBBLES

Your chauffeur wine guide picks you up at Charles De Gaulle airport or at your hotel in Paris. The transportation is with an air-conditioned luxury minivan.

Transfer to Reims in the morning.

Late morning: Guided tour of the Reims Notre Dame Cathedral

The construction of today dates back to 1211, masterpiece of gothic architecture and famous for its sculpted doorway (the angel with the smile).

Lunch is at your convenience in Reims.

Guided tour and tasting at world famous Mumm.

This Maison de Champagne was founded in 1827, however the Mumm dynasty dates back to the 12th century.

Transfer to your hotel near Epernay. Or Reims

# DAY 2- TOURS & CHAMPAGNE TASTINGS

09h30: Pick up at your hotel.

#### Mid-morning, tour of the exquisite village of Hautvillers, overlooking Epernay and all the vineyards.

You will see the *grave of the Monk Dom Perignon* in the village church. We'll walk to the edge of the hill and enjoy the view on the whole Marne Valley and all the vineyards owned by the most famous Champagne producers around Epernay.

Champagne tasting lunch.

Drive to Epernay, the Capital of Champagne.

#### Tour and Champagne tasting.

Tour of the world famous Moet and Chandon, producer of the Dom Perignon. Grand Vintage tour:

Drive to Billecart Salmon winery along the picturesque vineyard roads.

#### Tour and Champagne tasting.

Billecart-Salmon is a medium-sized champagne house in Mareuil-sur-Ay. Founded in 1818 with the marriage of Nicolas François Billecart and Elisabeth Salmon, it is one of the few to remain family owned.

At the end of the afternoon, return to your hotel.



### DAY 3- STRASBOURG

Transfer to Strasbourg.

Lunch at your leisure.

Guided tour of Strasbourg city and its cathedral.

With its monumental cathedral featuring carvings as delicate as any piece of lacework, Strasbourg is one of Europe's most attractive cities. Thanks to the richness and sheer density of its heritage sites, the entire town centre has been listed as UNESCO World Heritage.

Wine tasting Strasbourg.

At the end of the afternoon, return to your hotel

# DAY 4- RIBEAUVILLE, COLMAR & WINE TASTING

After breakfast, drive to Chateau Koenigsbourg.

#### Guided tour of the Chateau.

Since its construction in the 12th century, the Haut-Kænigsbourg castle has been a constant witness to both European conflicts and rivalry between lords, kings and emperors.

Lunch at your leisure.

Transfer to Ribeauvillé.

#### Tour of Ribeauvillé.

Ribeauvillé has a long History. It is first mentioned under "Ratbaldovillare" in an official document. It meant "Villa of Ratbold", which in old german "means "the boldest man of the counsel". Masters of great and little things, the Counts of Ribeaupierre who were the last lords of the town before the French revolution, were also the protectors of the travelling musicians and actors who filled the town every 8th of September.

Transfer to Colmar.

#### Guided tour of Colmar.

Colmar was founded in the 9th century. This was the location where Charles the Fat held a diet in 884. Colmar was granted the status of a free imperial city of the Holy Roman Empire in 1226. During the Thirty Years' War, the city was taken by the armies of Sweden in 1632, who held it for two years. The city was conquered by France under Louis XIV in 1697.

Transfer to a local domain.

#### Guided Tour and tasting at a family Grand Cru Domain.

The "Alsace Grand Cru" AOC is attributed to wines whose key characteristic is the originality of the terroir in which they are grown (soil, exposure, climate etc.). It mainly concerns Gewurztraminer, Muscat, Tokay Pinot Gris, Riesling and, since the end of 2005, the Sylvaner of the Grand Cru Zotzenberg of Mittelbergheim, as well as assemblage wines from the Grand Cru Altenberg of Bergheim.

At the end of the afternoon, return to your hotel



### DAY 5- TRANSFER TO BEAUNE

Check out after breakfast

Transfer to Beaune. Lunch at your leisure on the way.

Tour and wine tasting in Beaune.

This is all the more true in Burgundy, where the wines produced are single varietals as compared to elsewhere in France where the wines are made by blending several varietals. Four varietals have, in different respects, anchored the reputation of Burgundy's wines.

At the end of the afternoon, check in at your hotel in Beaune

# DAY 6- BURGUNDY NORTH, COTE DE NUITS

Drive through the vineyards along "Route des Grands Crus", passing Chambolle-Musigny, Vosne Romanée, Nuits-St-Georges and Aloxe Corton.

#### Wine tasting in Nuits Saint Georges.

This family domaine elaborates very elegant wines. The Nuits Saint Georges 1er Crus are incredibly rich with round tannins (masculine wines).

Lunch is at your leisure in Nuits Saint Georges.

#### Transfer and tour of the Chateau Clos Vougeot.

Founded in 1098 by monks, the vineyard of Clos de Vougeot covers 50 hectares. Its wines are ones of the most famous in Burgundy.

Today the vineyard is divided between 80 owners.

Chateau Clos Vougeot is listed by UNESCO as a world heritage.

We end the afternoon in the Northern part of the Cote de Nuits, Gevrey Chambertin, with a tour and wine tasting at a famous Domain.

The family is established in Gevrey Chambertin since 1850. Since, they managed to increase the size of their vineyard always looking for the best "Terroir". Nowadays the family produces wine in 7 Grands Crus appellation as prestigious as Clos Vougeot, Musigny, Latricière Chambertin...as well as 4 famous 1er Cru of Gevrey Chambertin.

At the end of the afternoon, return to your hotel



# DAY 7- BURGUNDY SOUTH, COTES DE BEAUNE

Guided tour of the Hospices de Beaune.

Hospices Civils de Beaune which have, since their foundation in 1443 by the Chancellor Nicolas Rolin, kept their doors open to everyone without interruption. This institution, unique in its historical and wine-producing, is closely connected with the economic life of the region.

At the end of the afternoon, check in at your hotel in Beaune

11.30PM: Transfer to Puligny Montrachet.

Picturesque driver through the famous villages of Pommard, Volnay, Puligny Montrachet, Chassagne Montrachet and Meursault.

Tasting lunch in Puligny Montrachet, 10 wines.

12.00PM: Tour of Olivier Leflaive's winery in Puligny Montrachet.

In October 1984, Olivier Leflaive decided to create a new renown for the wines of Burgundy with the help of his brother Patrick and his Uncle Vincent. He had one ambitious objective in mind: to apply all the « savoir-faire » acquired from the Domaine Leflaive to the vinification of various different red and white Burgundy « appellations ». It was a natural progression for the young company of Olivier Leflaive to set up a Domaine. The acquisitions have been in the following « appellations » and today total 12 hectares: Puligny Montrachet, Meursault 1er cru Poruzot, Chassagne Montrachet 1er cru les Chaumées, Chassagne Montrachet 1er cru les Vergers et Clos Saint Marc, Chassagne Montrachet 1er abbaye de Morgeot, Bourgogne Blanc les Setilles, Chassagne Montrachet blanc et rouge, Bourgogne rouge cuvée margot, Bourgogne Aligoté.

Free time in Beaune for shopping
At the end of the afternoon, return to your hotel

# DAY 8- RETURN TO PARIS

Check out after breakfast.

Return to Paris. Drop at the airport or at your hotel.

End of the tour.