



**Escorted tour, vineyards Champagne and Burgundy.**



**YOU WILL BE SEDUCED BY THE FINESSE OF CHAMPAGNE BUBBLES AND THE  
DELICACY OF THE BURGUNDIAN WINES.  
A BLEND OF GOURMET AND HERITAGE TOUR. THE BEST VINEYARDS AND A  
PRIVATE GUIDE WINE EXPERT TOURING YOU  
IN EVERY MAJOR SITE AND VINEYARDS.**

## **Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011: Arrival in France, transfer to Champagne Region.**

Mid-morning, your wine expert, welcomes you at Charles de Gaulle airport. Transportation in luxury minivan for the entire duration of the tour.



Transfer to Reims. On the way to Reims, presentation of the detailed itinerary of the week.

Lunch at your leisure on the way or in Reims.

**Tour of the Reims Notre Dame Cathedral**, whose the construction of today dates back to 1211, masterpiece of gothic architecture and famous for its sculpted doorway (the angel with the smile). The cathedral had been the theatre of the French Kings' coronations since Clovis' baptism in 500.



## **Tour and Wine tasting at Taittinger.**

Located in the great regions of wine-growing Champagne, the Champagne Taittinger vines cover 288 hectares evenly distributed over 34 different vineyards, which include some of the appellation's finest.

With varietals consisting of 50% Pinot Noir, 15% Pinot Meunier and 35% Chardonnay, the Taittinger vineyard is an unsurpassed example of that House's own style of wine, in which Chardonnay plays such a significant role.

The vineyard's own production is supplemented by contractual acquisition of grapes from independent suppliers operating the finest vineyards in Champagne.



Late afternoon, check in at your hotel La Briqueterie\*\*\*\*.

Accommodation in double rooms, dinner at your hotel (drinks included).

In an amazing landscape, in the heart of Champagne vineyards, La Briqueterie is an exclusive property, offering rest and gourmet facilities. You will experience a warm welcome, high quality and customized services.



## Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>: Tours and Champagne tastings.

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.



Lunch in a traditional restaurant of Epernay.

Drive to Epernay, the Capital of Champagne.

### Tour and Champagne tasting.

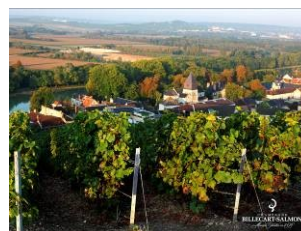
Tour of the world famous **Moët and Chandon**, producer of the Dom Perignon. **Grand Vintage tour**: after a guided tour of the caves, you will taste a set of vintage champagnes in a private salon.



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. The Cuvee Nicolas-Francois Billecart 1959 won first place in the Champagne of the Millennium 1999, out of 150 of the finest 20th century champagnes.



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

Dinner at your hotel, drinks included.

## Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>: Chablis, Beaune “Capital of Burgundy”.

8.30 am: Check out after breakfast.

Transfer to Chablis.

**11.00 am: Tour and tasting lunch of a beautiful Chablis Domain.**

Discover one of the most beautiful historical sites of Chablis. This old monastery from the 9th Century was the home of the Monks of the Order of Saint Martin from Tours (Linked with Vouvray wines that we will tour in a few days).

The success that Chablis has enjoyed over the centuries relies on the particularity of these vineyards that are located in a semi-continental climatic zone marked by strong temperature fluctuations. But above all else, the key to this success is the marriage between Chardonnay, one of the most noble of all grape varieties, and the Kimmeridgian subsoil, making the terroir of Chablis one-of-a-kind, all of which amplifies the characteristics of Chardonnay.

Wedding richness and minerality, the wines express themselves in four appellations : Petit Chablis (650ha), Chablis (3,055ha), Chablis Premier Cru (775ha), and Chablis Grand Cru (100ha).



2.30 pm: Transfer to Beaune.

### **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.

However, two varietals dominate: Pinot Noir, which has made the great red wines of Burgundy famous, and Chardonnay for the white wines. Aligoté is less prevalent, representing a mere 3% of the area under vine. The Gamay grape is the king varietal in the Beaujolais.

Burgundy is unique; the terroir brings out the characteristics of the varietal which are expressed through nuances that depend on the region, soil, subsoil, exposure, and viticultural techniques used.

Burgundy's vineyards are composed of a mosaic of single vineyards, known as "climats", which determine the hierarchy of the wines within each appellation.

Burgundy's diversity and richness can be found in its 6 great winegrowing areas.

These are, from north to south: Chablis, the Côte de Nuits, the Côte de Beaune, the Côte Châlonnaise, the Mâconnais, and the Beaujolais.



At the end of the afternoon, check in at Le Cep Hotel\*\*\*\* in the heart of Beaune.

Superior room, double occupation.

Ideally located, the hotel is in the very heart of historic Burgundy, just a stone's throw from the center of Beaune. The Hotel is two minutes walking distance from the famous Hospice de Beaune and its magnificent cathedral Notre Dame.



Diner at leisure with our list of recommended restaurants.

### **Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>: Burgundy South, Cote de Beaune (whites).**

10.00 am: **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.



11.30: transfer to Puligny Montrachet.

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

### **Tasting lunch in Puligny Montrachet, 14 wines.**

12.00: **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 1<sup>er</sup> cru Poruzot, Chassagne Montrachet 1<sup>er</sup> cru les Chaumées, Chassagne Montrachet 1<sup>er</sup> cru les Vergers et Clos Saint Marc, Chassagne Montrachet 1<sup>er</sup> abbaye de Morgeot, Bourgogne Blanc les Setilles, Chassagne Montrachet blanc et rouge, Bourgogne rouge cuvée margot, Bourgogne Aligoté.



Return to Beaune late afternoon for free time.

Dinner at leisure with our list of recommended restaurants.

Night at your hotel\*\*\*\*.

### **Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>: Burgundy North, Cote de Nuits (reds).**

Nice drive through the Cote de Nuits and its renowned villages as Gevrey Chambertin, Vougeot, Vosne Romanée, Nuits St Georges and Aloxe Corton.

#### **Tour and wine tasting in Nuits Saint Georges.**

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

#### **Private tour and tasting lunch 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.

You are welcomed like home in the private “caveau” of the family for an outstanding 1er and Grands Crus **tasting lunch**.



Transfer to Clos Vougeot.

#### **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.



Return to Beaune late afternoon.

Dinner at leisure with our list of recommended restaurants.

Night at your hotel\*\*\*\*.

### **Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>: Cote Chalonnaise.**

The South of Burgundy in the Côte Chalonnaise. We will visit Montagny, Givry, Mercurey and Rully with its chateau.

Today is a day of great contrasts, with different countryside and architectural styles, and many Roman churches, as a backdrop for the day's tastings.



#### **Tour of the Chateau of Germolles.**

Philippe le Hardi (Philip the Bold) inherits Burgundy on the 2nd of June 1364. The region is rich and possesses a lot of castles. But it suffers too from plague crises as in many parts in Europe since 1348, and war violences with England (since the defeat of Poitiers in 1356). In 1369 Philip the Bold marries Marguerite de Flandre (Margaret of Flanders), the richest heiress in Europe in the 14th c. In 1384 Philippe le Hardi inherits Artois and Flanders at the death of his father in law Louis de Male, earl of Flanders.



Lunch in a traditional restaurant of Rully, drinks included.

#### **Tour and wine tasting at a Rully wine maker.**

Rully Premier Cru wines are red and white wines (made from Pinot Noir and Chardonnay respectively) produced from particular Premier Cru rated vineyards around the commune of Rully in the Cote Chalonnaise sub-region of Burgundy.



Back to Beaune late afternoon.

Gourmet dinner in Beaune to celebrate the end of the tour, drinks included.  
Night at your hotel\*\*\*\*.

### **Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>: End of the tour.**

Check out after breakfast and departure.

Return to Paris.

*Offer n°1011101*

This tour includes: transportation in a comfortable full option minivan during 7 days, English speaking guide during 7 days, 2 nights, dinners and breakfasts at La Briqueterie\*\*\*\*, 4 nights and breakfasts at Le Cep\*\*\*\*, tour and wine tastings in 3 Champagne houses, 3 in Burgundy, 3 tasting lunches (Chablis, Cote de Nuits and Cote de Beaune), entrance fees and tour to Reims Cathedral, Hospices de Beaune, Chateau Clos Vougeot and Chateau of Germolles, 1 lunch in Rully and 1 dinner in Beaune on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

This tour does not include: Drinks, extra, gratuities, lunches, personal expenses and travel insurance