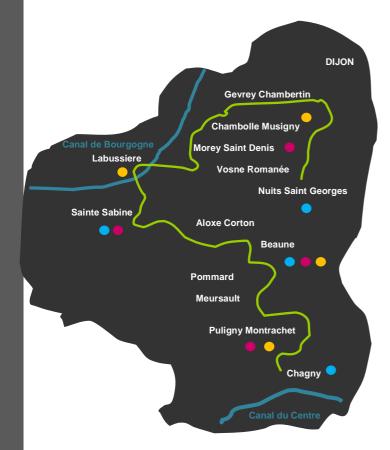
# COLOURS OF FRANCE

## 6 NIGHTS / 7 DAYS BEST OF BURGUNDY





## EXPLORE BURGUNDY AT YOUR OWN PACE

#### Day 1: Arrival in Burgundy

Upon your arrival in Beaune, we will transfer you to your first hotel in the small wine village of Puligny-Montrachet. After you have settled in to your room, we set you up with your trip package and fit you on your bikes. You will likely have time to wander the tiny streets and shady squares of this small village, and perhaps wander to the outskirts for a first view of the famous vineyards. Dinner tonight is a great introduction to the region's wines, with a wine tasting lesson throughout your meal at one of the local wineries. (*Please note the CLASSIC version stays in the neighboring town of Chagny for the first two nights*)

#### Day 2: Loop Ride: The Canal du Centre 45 km

Your ride today takes you along the tranquil and pretty Canal du Centre, and then into the Cote Chalonnaise, and return. This wine region lies just to the south of the Côte de Beaune. Away from the ambitious pricing of the Côte d'Or, some producers, in villages like Rully and Mercurey, are turning out respectable Chardonnay and tasty Pinot Noir for a fraction of the prices these wines might fetch



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further north. You'll also want to taste the excellent Crémant de Bourgogne, the region's delicious sparkling wine. The beautiful terrain and small villages make for great riding. Long option adding 11 kms to visit the Chateau de Couches for a visit if you like.

#### Day 3: Puligny-Montrachet to Beaune 14 km

#### (optional additional extra loop ride of 32 km for those who wish)

Today's ride is purposefully short, to allow you time to enjoy and explore both the vineyards you pass along the way, as well as Beaune itself at the end of the ride. Ride out of the famous Chardonnays of Puligny and Meursault, and into the Pinot Noir red wines of Volnay and Pommard. Once in Beaune, we provide you with a self-guided walking tour of the historic centre, to explore the medieval streets, its ramparts, the Collegial church with its 15th century tapestries... or simply have a drink in one of the many cafes on the main square. At the end of the day, a tour of the incredible Hospices de Beaune awaits: a hospital for the poor, built in 1443 by the chancellor of the Duke of Burgundy, this is one of the most beautiful buildings in the region! Dinner tonight included in a gourmet restaurant.



#### Day 4: The Cote de Beaune to the Cote de Nuits 41 km

Today you ride through a long list of Who's Who in the wine world: through Aloxe-Corton with the Corton and Corton-Charlemagne Grand Crus, and continuing northward into the "Champs-Elysées" of great Burgundian wines, each represented by its charming village: Nuits-St Georges, Gevrey Chambertin, Chambolle Musigny...; ride by the vineyard of Romanee Conti, the most expensive wine in Burgundy; pass the 15th century Chateau de Clos Vougeot, where you can visit to see the four monumental antique wine presses; stop for tastings along the way as you like. At the end of the ride, hop on the local train in Gevrey Chambertin to return to Beaune for a second evening.

#### Day 5: Beaune to the Ouche River Valley 41 km

Today's ride takes you away from the famous vineyards, and into the truly beautiful, and tranquil, Ouche River Valley. You ride via the Hautes Cotes de Nuits, with its quiet roads, views, and *cassis* (black current) fields. The liqueur that is produced from these tart berries is used in the local aperitif, the *Kir*, which you will have earned by the end of the day! The latter part of the ride follows a



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wonderful (and very flat) bike path, alongside the Canal de Bourgogne, before twisting off it to your chateau-hotel in the centre of a pretty little village. Dinner is included this evening in their excellent restaurant. (*Please note, the Deluxe version stays in the nearby Abbey de la Bussiere, in La Bussiere sur Ouche for the final two nights of the trip*)

#### Day 6: Loop Ride: Chateau de Commarin and Chateauneuf en Auxois 33 km

Today's ride takes you to the Canal de Bourgogne bike path and then over the top of a hill passing through the beautiful medieval village of Chateauneuf-en-Auxois, where you can stop for a drink and to admire the impressive fortified chateau if you like. Ride through the Bouhey forest and then descend into the small town of Commarin, where you can visit the elegant castle, including the park and gardens and beautiful Renaissance chapel, as well as find some lunch. Continue into Vandenesse sur Ouche, where you can stop to enjoy the canal port, barges and lock system, before the final easygoing stretch back to your hotel.

#### Day 7: Departure: Bon Voyage!

After a final breakfast, we transfer you to Dijon train station in time for your further travels.



#### What's Included in your Burgundy Biking Tour :

- 6 nights in charming hotels of the comfort level of your choice, Classic, Classic + or Deluxe
- All breakfasts, 1 winetasting dinner, and 2 other dinners (drinks not included with these 2 dinners)
- Orientation with our Trip Manager
- Fully equipped, quality hybrid bike
- Daily step-by-step route notes and detailed maps
- Regional information and advice
- Private guided tour of the Hospices de Beaune
- Transfer from Beaune train station to first hotel, and transfer from final hotel to Dijon train station
- Train tickets for transfer from Gevrey Chambertin back to Beaune
- Luggage transfers
- Emergency phone call support 7 days a week