



SPRING & AUTUMN GASTRONOMY

type : Self-Guided Hiking Tours
 level : 
 duration : 7 days
 period: Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct
 code: FRSW285

Dordogne, Enchanting French Countryside - France

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7 days, price from € 970



An **active and gastronomic journey** (is there a better pairing?) along the banks of the captivating and winding Dordogne River, leading to the forests of the Périgord plateau.

Imagine the **most iconic French countryside**: walk from village to village, visiting places like the historic Montferrand, the Cistercian abbey of Cadouin, and the imposing Biron Castle.

Conclude your journey in **Monpazier**, a gem of a 'bastide' included in the famous list of 'The Most Beautiful Villages in France.'

And along the way, enjoy **comfortable stays and delightful dinners** in three charming, small, family-run hotels we've selected for you.

Route

Day 1 Arrival in Belvés

On your arrival you'll be welcomed to a small and charming hotel, right on the banks of the Dordogne. After checking in, you may wish to sit in the hotel's garden and enjoy the sunset over the river. This evening, it will be difficult to choose among all the delicious courses on the excellent menu.

Day 2 Circular walk from Belvès, 17,5 km

Your trip begins with a pleasant circular stroll starting right from the hotel's entrance. As you depart Belvès, the terrain becomes more varied, with the initial stretch passing through a forest. Subsequently, the scenery unfolds, revealing panoramic views of the Dordogne valley that the trail oversees. Following the ridge-top villages of Saint-Germain-de-Belvès and Cladech, the descent towards the valley commences, guiding you through cultivated fields and providing picturesque perspectives of the surroundings. Upon returning to the hotel, take a moment to unwind or savor a refreshing drink on one of Belvès' terraces. Consider indulging in a glass of the locally-produced Monbazillac wine as a pre-dinner aperitif. In the evening, relish another delectable dinner at one of the village's restaurants.

Day 3 From Belvès to Cadouin, 15 km

Today you will follow the path from Belvès to the medieval village of Cadouin, centered around an imposing 12th-century Cistercian Abbey. This walk transcends mere travel; it unfolds as a passage through both time and nature, seamlessly blending exploration with tranquility to promise an unforgettable experience. Immerse yourself in the enchantment of the Dordogne, taking each step with purpose. The route guides you through forests, revealing glimpses of age-old stone bridges and charming hamlets, each with its unique tale to share.

The journey becomes a sensory feast, with the fragrance of wildflowers permeating the air and the soothing sounds of nature accompanying your every step. In the autumn, you'll witness a vibrant palette of unexpected yellow, red, and golden hues, with a bounty of wild fruits to delight in—blackberries, raspberries, hazelnuts, and chestnuts. As the day concludes, you'll find yourself at your next lodging: La Salvetat de Cadouin, a former 12th-century presbytery nestled on 14 hectares of meadow and woodland in the Forêt de la Bessède.

Day 4 Circular walk from Cadouin, 13 km

Today has been left free to do as much or as little as you like. You may choose to spend your time relaxing on the terrace or visit the nearby imposing 12th-Century Cistercian Abbey. Alternatively, you can enjoy a 13 kilometre walk through the nearby woodland. Tonight you will choose a place for dinner from among the fine local restaurants in the village..

Day 5 From Montferrand-du-Périgord to Monpazier, 15 km

This morning you start off with a transfer to the picturesque honey-coloured village of Montferrand-du-Périgord. Today's route is a beautiful and varied trek along narrow trails through undulating wheat fields, woodlands full of roe deer and wild boar and past monumental farmhouses. Your day ends at the small 13th-Century 'bastide' of Monpazier. Built by Edward I, it was also home to Richard II for a time and is regarded as one of the most beautiful villages in France. Your accommodation for the next two nights is in a spectacular 19th-Century chateau on the edge of the village. Once again, the dinners served at this hotel are unlikely to disappoint.

Day 6 Circular walk from Monpazier, 13 - 18 km

Your last day of walking might be the most beautiful route of the program: a splendid walking tour to Château Biron and an optional visit to this imposing Medieval castle. We can stop for lunch at the "auberge". Along the way, you'll enjoy a true painter's palette of quintessential Périgord landscapes. Weather permitting, an "aurevoir, Périgord" farewell dinner will be served in the hotel garden.

Day 7 Au revoir Monpazier!

After a typical French breakfast your trip comes to an end. A transfer will take you back to Belvès.

Practical info



From Bergerac airport (EGC)

Taxi from Bergerac airport to the train station in Bergerac (6km).

Then train from Bergerac to Belvès (Travel time approx. 1hr 40min depending on type of train). Timetables www.ter.sncf.com/aquitaine

Taxi transfer from the train station in Belvès to your first accommodation in Badefols-sur-Dordogne (this service is included in your arrangement).

From Toulouse-Blagnac airport (TLS)

From Toulouse airport, you get the “Navette Aéroport” (shuttle) to the train station. Service run by Tisséo, with departures every 20min . For more information, go to: www.toulouse.aeroport.fr

From Toulouse, you get the train to Belvès with connection in Agen. Travel time is 2h30min - 3h30min, depending on the train you take. Check www.ter.sncf.com/midi-pyrenees

Taxi transfer from the train station in Belvès to your first accommodation in Badefols-sur-Dordogne (this service is included in your arrangement).

From Bordeaux-Merignac airport (BOD)

From Bordeaux airport, you get the “Navette” (shuttle) to the train station. Departures every hour. For more information, go to: www.navetteaeroport-bordeaux.com/en/

Bordeaux airport to the city centre on bus line Lianes 1, direction Quinconces, and get off at Pole d'Echanges. Then Tram Line C from Quinconces, direction Terres Nueves, to Bordeaux-St Jean train station. Travel time is approx 1 hour. Check www.infotbc.com (departure “aéroport”, arrival “gare saint-jean”)

From Bordeaux, you get the train to Belvès with connection in Agen or Le Buisson, depending on the line: Monday to Friday, 4 trains a day, the first departure is at 06.05, the last train goes at 16.05 hrs. Travel time is 2.5 - 3hrs, depending on the train you take. www.ter.sncf.com/aquitaine

Taxi transfer from the train station in Belvès to your first accommodation in Badefols-sur-Dordogne (this service is included in your arrangement).

Departure from Monpazier

From Bergerac airport (EGC)

Taxi transfer from your last accommodation, in Monpazier, to the train station in Belvès (this service is included in your arrangement).

Train from Belvès to Bergerac with connection in Le Buisson. Travel time is about 2hrs, depending on the train you take. www.ter.sncf.com/aquitaine

Then taxi from the train station in Bergerac to Bergerac airport (6km)

From Toulouse-Blagnac airport (TLS)

Taxi transfer from your last accommodation, in Monpazier, to the train station in Belvès (this service is included in your arrangement).

Train from Belvès to Toulouse-Matabiau, with connection in Agen. Travel time is 2.5 - 3.5 hrs, depending on the train you take. www.ter.sncf.com
Shuttle from Toulouse train station to the airport (“Navette Aéroport”).

Service run by Tisséo. Travel time is 20-45min For more information, go to: www.toulouse.aeroport.fr

From Bordeaux-Merignac airport (BOD)

Taxi transfer from your last accommodation, in Monpazier, to the train station in Belvès (this service is included in your arrangement).

Train from Belvès to Bordeaux. Departures every hour.

www.ter.sncf.com/aquitaine

From the train station in Bordeaux, you get the “Navette” (shuttle) to the airport. Travel time is about 30min. For more information, go to: Airport and Bordeaux train station shuttle timetable (30direct.com)

From the train station, you get a tram and / or bus to the airport. Travel time approx 1hr. www.infotbc.com (departure “gare saint-jean”, arrival “aéroport de bordeaux”)

Included

What is included

- 6 Nights in double room in **/** hotels , B&B and agriturismo with breakfast
- 3 dinners
- luggage transportation from hotel to hotel
- transfer on day 5, final transfer Monpezier-Belves
- Digital detailed route notes and maps in English
- Access to the trip in GUIBO, the digital guidebook and navigation
- App24-hour telephone assistance
- Medical and luggage travel insurance
- 24h phone assistance

What is not included

- Transfers to the starting location and from the arriving location of the tour
- lunches and dinners, if not otherwise stated
- visits and entrance fees - tips
- personal expense
- possible sojourn taxes
- everything that is not mentioned in the "What is included" section.

Optional Services

These services can be added to the ones included in the base price of the tour:

- Single room supplement
- cancellation insurance
- Transfers to reach the starting location or to leave the arriving location of the tour, which will be quoted on request.