MOODBOARD

ALTERNATIVE  CULTURAL

ELEGANT   FLUVIAL

FOODIE  AUDACIOUS

GREEN  SUSTAINABLE
An historic city famous for its beautiful stone façades and fine wines, Bordeaux has in recent years also been attracting visitors with its dynamic urban environment, its gastronomy and its vibrant cultural life. Combining UNESCO world heritage status, new districts, a magnificent waterfront, numerous pedestrian streets, all accessible by bike or on foot, Bordeaux has risen to the challenge of offering both serenity and dynamism. An elegant balance which is making the city popular with increasing numbers of visitors.

BORDEAUX PAST AND FUTURE

The city of Montaigne contains no less than 350 buildings that have been classified as historical monuments. While Bordeaux is proud of this heritage, it also recognizes that it must continue to evolve. New districts have emerged, redesigning the urban landscape along the banks of the Garonne: the Bassins à Flot to the north, where visitors can discover since June 10, 2020 the Bassins de Lumières, the largest digital art centre in the world, Euratlantique to the south, and Brazza on the right bank, to give just a few examples. This transformation also includes new cultural facilities, such as the Cité du Vin, with its stunning contemporary architecture, or the MECA (Maison de l’Economie Créative et de la Culture en Nouvelle-Aquitaine - Centre for Creative Economy and Culture in Nouvelle-Aquitaine), with its futuristic appeal; both are reflections of Bordeaux’s appetite for modernity.

BORDEAUX INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL OF WINE

The oldest and largest area in the world that produces fine wines, Bordeaux includes 65 appellations and covers 112,000 hectares. Hundreds of wine-producing properties, or châteaux, open their doors to visitors and are happy to reveal the secrets of how they make their wines. There are many different ways to journey through this magical land: by boat, on horseback, on foot, in a group or a personal tour... An opportunity to experience a powerful heritage and strong characters, and to taste the resulting wines! Wine is naturally very much part of the city’s identity! La Cité du Vin is an excellent example, offering a unique experience in terms of both its architecture and its fascinating interactive exhibits.

BORDEAUX THE SERENE

Bordeaux is a capital city. By train, boat, plane or road... it is well served by all modes of transport. Bordeaux is also the gateway to France’s south west: the Dune du Pilat, Arcachon Bay, the vineyards of Saint Emilion, the Atlantic coast, the forests of the Landes, and the Basque Country. A beautiful combination of ocean and vineyard landscapes: it is no surprise that Bordeaux is sometimes described as the “French California”. There is also an increasingly vibrant cultural life, in the theatres, streets and concert venues, with live shows, contemporary music and street-art intermingling in a dazzling display of creativity.
BORDEAUX FROM RICH PAST TO MODERN LEGACY

Bordeaux was registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2007. 10 years later, this heritage has been enriched with new constructions that coexist harmoniously with the historic cityscape.
Bordeaux and its exceptional heritage present an open-air postcard. It is easy to explore the various districts in the heart of the city along the Garonne River, with areas reserved for trams and bicycles.

To the north, the Chartrons, former hub of the wine trade, is now the vast Place des Quinconces. The Grands Hommes district, set among plane trees, pays homage to great French thinkers, from Montaigne to Diderot. The « Triangle » is also known, for its luxury boutiques, elegant architecture, and the majestic Grand Theatre, a masterpiece designed by Victor Louis.

Not far away lies old Bordeaux: the young, trendy neighbourhood of Saint Pierre with its delicious food, outdoor tables, beautiful squares and winding little streets; don’t forget to look up at the Bordeaux « mascarons » - wonderful carved stone faces that adorn the buildings.

The Place de la Bourse with its majestic eighteenth century façades is popular with visitors, providing the perfect backdrop for a Bordeaux selfie. Opposite is the Miroir d’Eau ( «Water Mirror ») - the largest in the world - with its entertaining cycle of mist and water.

Place Pey Berland is not far away, with its three UNESCO monuments: Pey Berland tower, offering magnificent views over the city, next to Saint-André cathedral, and Palais Rohan, now the City Hall. To the south, Porte Cailhau and the Grosse Cloche lead the way to Saint-Michel: this cosmopolitan district features spicy aromas, the lively Capucins market, and many curious shops. The outdoor cafés and bars around Place de la Victoire are the students’ favourite place to be.

Finally, we’ll head to the right bank, over the Pont de Pierre bridge: this leafy district includes the Botanical Gardens and a waterfront park with an unforgettable view of the river and the historical façades on the opposite side. There are some surprises, too: a blue lion on Place Stalingrad, Caserne Niel, and Chaban-Delmas bridge.

Bordeaux also loves contemporary architecture as demonstrated by its recent constructions, the Jacques Chaban-Delmas bridge, la Cité du Vin, the Matmut Atlantic Stadium, the Arkéa Arena concert and event centre, the MECA cultural centre, that join other modern features of the city such as of the Cité Frugès - Le Corbusier (classified Unesco) in Pessac, the County Court, the Seekoo hotel, the winery at Château Les Carmes Haut Brion…

BORDEAUX METROPOLE CITYPASS

The CityPass is a contactless card that allows you to visit most of Bordeaux and its metropolitan area (museums, monuments), to use public transport, and to explore the surrounding area (Saint Emilion, Blaye …). Access to La Cité du Vin, the Bassins de Lumières and the Bernard Magrez Cultural Institute is included. Prices: 24 hour pass: €29 / 48 hour: €39 / 72 hour: €46. Available from the Tourist Office, TBM network ticket offices, and online on:

http://bit.ly/2DmNYMY

MUST-DO : BORDEAUX WALKING TOUR

Discover the historic city centre with a knowledgeable guide. This 2 hour guided walking tour includes some of the city’s most remarkable 18th century architecture, as well as the highlights of the UNESCO World Heritage area. The best way to start the stay! (12€)

www.visiter-bordeaux.com/en
BORDEAUX: PORT AND GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

A redeveloped waterfront, with new landing stages, and exceptional tourism facilities: Bordeaux has established itself as a popular destination for river and ocean cruises.
Bordeaux, a port city. The city’s past as a busy port is obvious today to anyone walking along the quays beside the Garonne. Serving as the backbone for trade, the river has shaped the city’s growth from Gallo-Roman times through to the present day. The natural port formed by its meandering half-circle, from Paludate to Bacalan, like a crescent moon, gave rise to the city being baptised the “Port of the Moon”.

A DAY ON THE RIVER

There are 76 km between Bordeaux and the tip of the Gironde estuary, providing several cruise companies with the perfect setting for cruises and excursions that can last from an hour and a half to the whole day. See Bordeaux, with its harmonious 18th century façades, and the beautifully restored Quais des Chartrons, from a different angle. Continuing downstream, the rich architectural diversity of the city is revealed, before giving way once more to a wild landscape of trees and greenery.

The river cruise companies, Bordeaux River Cruise, Croisières Buriagala, Croisière Marco Polo, Yacht de Bordeaux, Bordeaux Yachting and Bordeaux Be Boat offer a wide range of possibilities. Cruises through the Port of the Moon, and further down the Garonne River and the estuary, an aperitif accompanied by the winegrowers who produced the wine you are drinking, stopovers at beautiful châteaux and nature-reserve islands, or dinner cruises, that may even be accompanied by a jazz trio! A new floating luxury hotel, the Péniche Tango offers one-week cruises on the Garonne and the Dordogne.

AN ALTERNATIVE RIVER EXPERIENCE

Bordeaux residents and visitors can take the “Batcub” river shuttles, with five stops at Place Stalingrad (Bastide), Place des Quinconces, the Hangers, la Cité du Vin, and Lormont, at the base of the Pont d’Aquitaine, the French equivalent of the Golden Gate Bridge.

From April to October, you can also take a guided tour of the Garonne by jet-ski, canoes and stand-up paddles.

BORDEAUX, A POPULAR CRUISE DESTINATION

The former docks beside the Garonne now receive between 40 and 50 cruise ships a year, each one bringing between 80 and 950 passengers. Each visit is accompanied by the spectacular raising of the 117-metre middle section of the Chaban-Delmas bridge parallel to the water so that the ships can pass underneath. Bordeaux is now well established as « terminus » for companies specializing in cruises. CroisiEurope, Viking River Cruises, Uniworld (and his new ship SS Bon Voyage), Scenic, Grand Circle Travel and AmaWaterways are among the cruise companies that include Bordeaux in their programmes. In 2020, the new Ritz Carlton superyacht Azora will make a stopover in Bordeaux. The website www.cruise-bordeaux.com is the main communication tool for travel professionals, with detailed technical and tourist information for each stopover.

LANDING STAGES WITH ELECTRICITY

Bordeaux’s docks are being equipped with electricity to supply cruise ships, thereby enabling them to turn off their engines. The Albert Londres landing stage is already operational, and three others are planned to be in service by March 2021. Bordeaux also introduced a charter of good practices at the end of 2019, with a view to minimizing the impact of visiting cruise ships on the environment and on the quality of life of its inhabitants.

THROUGH THE EYES OF A FISHERMAN

A professional fisherman on the Garonne dedicated to his craft, Jean-Marie supplies local restaurants and private customers with eels, shrimp and catfish. He also takes river lovers and fishing enthusiasts on his boat, to see the river life, its biodiversity, and the carrelets (fishermen’s cabins) that line the banks, and also to fish. 2 hour fishing trip (15 €/pers). 1 hour 30 min discovery cruises with fisherman’s aperitif or breakfast (22 €/pers).

www.facebook.com/pecheurbdx
BORDEAUX GATEWAY TO THE VINEYARDS

Bordeaux has not one but five wine trails! The Gironde is the leading fine-winegrowing area in France, with 65 appellations, and Bordeaux wines are prized by connoisseurs worldwide.
BORDEAUX GATEWAY TO THE VINEYARDS

Vines in the city! Château Les Carmes Haut-Brion - with its remarkable winery designed by Philippe Starck - is the only château that is located within Bordeaux itself. The greater urban area includes more than 20 wine-producing properties. Our favourite: Château Taillan offers visitors Les Clés de sa Cave (“The Keys to the Cellar”), its tour of the château, winery and... the family’s private cellar.

Bordeaux Métropole’s Tourist Office offers a wide range of wine tourism activities that include introductions to tasting, visits to châteaux, harvest workshops, and evenings at wine-producing properties...

GRAVES AND SAUTERNES

To the south lie the origins of the Bordeaux vineyards, with Pessac-Léognan, Graves, Sauternes, Barsac, etc. The appellation on the left bank of the Garonne River produce wine in three colours: red, white, and gold. Must-see: Château Chantegrive with its own nature reserve in the heart of the vineyards. Equipped with a map of the estate and a special booklet for children, visitors can catch glimpses of hoopoes, little egrets and thrushes.

MÉDOC

Otherwise known as “the chateau trail”, this 80 km trail through the Médoc vineyards, from Eysines to Saint-Vivien de Médoc, via Margaux, Pauillac, Saint-Julien, and Saint-Estèphe, offers views of the varied architecture of Bordeaux’s best-known wine estates. In the heart of the Pauillac vineyards, the restored hamlet of Bages is a delightful place to stop, featuring Café Lavinal, a chic bistro, a bakery-gourmet food shop, and several boutiques. Must-do: “Bacchus’ siesta” at Château Lamothe Bergeron. Relax under the trees in the park and enjoy a wine tasting after a tour of the property.

IN SAINT-EMILION-POMEROL- FRONSAC

This wine trail is popular not only because of its wines and its grands crus, but also for Saint Emilion, or as it also known, the hill with 1,000 châteaux. Its vineyard was the first to be listed as a UNESCO world heritage site in 1999. Unmissable: Château La Dauphine’s Citroën “2CV” takes passengers on a trip through the vines and the park, with a stopover at the estate’s carrelet (fisherman’s cabin).

BLAYE AND BOURG

Just across the estuary, on the right bank, the Côtes de Blaye and Bourg and its family properties. Extraordinary views over the estuary, Romanesque churches, Gallo-Roman archaeological sites, and even picturesque little harbours! Must-do: the Côtes de Bourg Wine Bar, with its à la carte wine list of around 170 wines, for a tasting with a spectacular view of the river.

ENTRE-DEUX-MERS

The largest winemaking region in Bordeaux, sometimes compared to Tuscany, is located between the Garonne and the Dordogne River and produces a multitude of red, rosé, and clairet wines and a wide variety of white wines. The area also boasts many picturesque villages and historic abbeys. And be sure to visit Château Camarsac, built in the 12th century with its traditional castle keep and dovecote are an invitation to travel back through time. A heritage jewel, and a wine-producing property, it received a Best Of Wine Tourism award in the « Architecture and Landscape » category.

YOGA IN THE VINES

Several estates offer introductions to yoga or yoga practice in a beautiful, relaxing vineyard setting. Château Climens has a package that includes breakfast, the yoga session, a tour of the property and a wine tasting. At Château Boutinet, the yoga package offers participants a yoga and meditation class in a yurt, to fully prepare your consciousness for the wine tasting that follows.

EXCURSIONS IN BORDEAUX’S VINEYARDS

The Bordeaux Tourist Office and its partners offer a wide range of excursions enabling you to explore the vineyards, departing from Bordeaux: full-day or half-day excursions, with various themes (wine and gastronomy, visits to organic properties, bike trails through the vineyards, etc.), accompanied by enthusiastic guides. The Tourist Office website also offers the possibility of reserving tours of properties, without transportation.

www.chateau-climens.fr
www.chateauboutinet.fr
www.visiter-bordeaux.com
LA CITÉ DU VIN, 
A SYMBOL OF BORDEAUX

Often heralded as the flagship of Bordeaux wine tourism, 
la Cité du Vin is a unique venue, both in terms of its 
spectacular architecture and its cultural programme, 
which presents the enormous wealth and diversity of the 
world of wine.
The Cité du Vin took three years to build and opened in 2016. Its glass and iridescent aluminium envelope designed by Anouk Legendre and Nicolas Desmazières of XTU architects, houses a new style of cultural facility that is the only one of its kind in the world.

A JOURNEY INTO THE HEART OF WINE CIVILIZATION

The “museum” offers an immersive experience with a sequence of 19 themed modules laid out in a beautiful 3,000 m² exhibition area. Visitors are invited on a journey through time and space, presenting wine through the ages and across the world, with experiences that involve all the senses. Among the themed spaces: a stunning flight over the greatest vineyards in the world, created using projections; a 50-seat boat equipped with a 220° screen for a journey back in time with a crew of wine merchants; a series of interactive globes to see how vines have spread across the planet... The tour usually lasts between two and three hours, but there is in fact ten hours of content available via more than 120 audiovisual displays! Note for the hurriest, the Cité du Vin has imagined themed tours of one hour.

The visit ends with a ride in a lift up to the eighth floor for a wine tasting in the aptly named Belvedere, which offers a 360° panoramic view of the city of Bordeaux and its river.

Three tasting areas are available to further develop your knowledge of wine, including a multi-sensory immersive space and educational workshops for younger visitors.

A CELEBRATION OF ART AND CULTURE

Every year, two highlights are proposed: an artistic exhibition that addresses a particular theme related to the wine world and its civilisations (see focus), and a guest vineyard (region or country) which aims to make discover to the public a vineyard from a cultural and civilisational angle. Taking an environmentally responsible approach, the Cité du Vin recycled more than 60% of the materials from the 2018 exhibition for its 2019 exhibition on Argentina. Another 20% was given to a solidarity construction workshop. A lively programme is scheduled throughout the year in the Thomas Jefferson auditorium with shows, concerts, screenings, meetings and debates.

There are also three places to eat, including a panoramic restaurant, Le 7; a 250 m² concept store, a cellar with more than 14,000 bottles for sale, a reading room, and various reception areas.

EXTEND THE VISIT TO THE BORDEAUX VINEYARDS

On the groundfloor, the teams of the space information “Routes du Vin” inform and guide visitors wishing to explore the largest and oldest vineyard of the world fine wines. Beyond the human aspect, they can be assisted in their choice by the Bordeaux Wine reference portal www.bordeauxwinetrip.com, which centralizes wine tourism information and can book tours and circuits in vineyard.

www.bordeauxwinetrip.com

DRINKING WITH THE GODS

The Cité du Vin is broaching mythology in its 4th temporary artistic exhibition: Drinking with the Gods, from April 9 2021 to August 29 2021, originally planned in 2020. It presents around fifty antique works and three monumental creations specially designed for the exhibition by street artists. Drinking with the gods highlights the close links established by the Greco-Roman civilization between wine, gods and men and invites you to discover the multiple faces of Dionysus, the main god of wine.

www.laciteduvin.com/en

2020 OPENING TIMES

To August, 30th: every day from 10AM to 7PM
From August, 31st 2020 to January, 3rd 2021 : Monday to Friday (except holidays), 10AM to 6PM
Weekends, bank holidays and school vacation from 10AM to 7PM.
Exceptional closing on December 25, 2020.
Ticket price: € 20 full price adult / € 16 discount price adult / free for children under 18 to August, 31st (€ 9 beyond this date)
CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS IN BORDEAUX

Bordeaux has numerous museums dedicated to the arts, from contemporary art to the decorative arts and design, it also has museums of natural history, ethnography, the history of trade and customs, and the history of the region. Their diversity is such that there is something for everybody!
A PASSION FOR HISTORY


Located in a superb mansion on the Place de la Bourse, the Musée National des Douanes (National Customs Museum) reveals the secrets of this little-known institution in varied displays.

Natural history enthusiasts should not miss the Museum of Bordeaux and its collections representing the incredible diversity of nature. These collections raise awareness of the fragility of biodiversity and of humans’ place in nature.

New figurehead in the Bassins à Flot district, the Musée Mer Marine (Museum of the sea and navy) is a place of sharing and enhancement of the world’s maritime heritage. In a building of 13,000 m², the MMM treats both the world of the sea as a natural element, and the navy by the history of the relationship of men with the sea and the evolution of navigation.

In the Chartrons, the Museum of Maritime History presents the history of Bordeaux as a port, through the collections of many of Bordeaux’s old families.

A PASSION FOR THE ARTS

The Museum of Fine Arts, located behind the Palais Rohan, displays 330 paintings and sculptures, from Titian to Picasso. The animal paintings of Rosa Bonheur, a Bordeaux artist, are also noteworthy.

The Museums of Decorative Arts and Design, with its original furniture and decor, offers a remarkable glimpse of the lifestyle of the Bordeaux aristocracy at the time of the French Revolution. The delicious tearoom is not to be missed!

A PASSION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

The CAPC, Contemporary Art Museum, located in the Entrepôts Lainé, a former warehouse, has one of the richest permanent collections in France, from the late 60s to current trends.

On the waterfront, the FRAC Nouvelle-Aquitaine (Regional Fund for Contemporary Art), has recently moved into 4,600 m² premises in the MECA.

In a former magnificent town house, the Bernard Magrez Cultural Institute is a cultural centre with regular exhibitions of modern and contemporary art; easily accessible with the new tram line D.

Fans of unconventional art should head for the Musée de la Création Franche (Museum of Free Creation) in Bègles, with its collection of 16,000 works.

A journey into the past, the Submarine Base is one of the five bases built on the Atlantic coast by the Germans during the Second World War. Today, this “underground” space has been converted into an unusual arts facility with a wide-ranging cultural programme. From June, part of the place was transformed into “Bassins de Lumières” (see focus).

BASSINS DE LUMIÈRES

A spectacular installation in an extraordinary setting awaits visitors to the submarine base, since 10 June. Culturespaces (the creators of the Carrières de Lumières in Baux de Provence and the Atelier des Lumières in Paris) present an immersive digital exhibition consisting of sound and visual projections inside this former World War II German submarine base, and changes it into the largest digital art centre in the world : the Bassins de Lumières. To 3 January, visitors could contemplate the expositions « Gustav Klimt, d’or et de couleurs » and « Paul Klee, peindre la musique », as well as the contemporary creations of Anitya and Ocean Data.

A BRITISH YEAR AT BORDEAUX’S MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

The British Year at the Museum of Fine Arts consists of two exhibitions. British Stories, organized in collaboration with the Louvre Museum, is scheduled to open in late autumn 2020. The Absolutely Bizarre! exhibition, designed in partnership with the Louvre and the Bristol Museum & Art Gallery has been awarded « Exhibition of National Interest » status by the French Ministry of Culture, and will take place in spring/summer 2021 in the Galerie des Beaux Arts.

www.musee-aquitaine-bordeaux.fr/en
www.museum-bordeaux.fr/en
www.museumehistoiremaritimedebordeaux.fr
www.mmmmbordeaux.com
www.musba-bordeaux.fr/en
www.madd-bordeaux.fr/en
www.capc-bordeaux.fr/en
fracnouvelleaquitaine-meca.fr
www.institut-bernard-magrez.com
www.musee-creationfranche.com
www.bordeaux.fr/o271/base-sous-marine
www.musba-bordeaux.fr/en
www.bassins-lumieres.com/en/home
www.institut-bernard-magrez.com
www.musba-bordeaux.fr/en
Freedom is in the air! Over the last ten years, Bordeaux has seen a variety of alternative and “underground” projects emerge in abandoned areas of the city. Fresh activity gradually resumes, welcoming creative people from all walks of life. Musicians, graffiti artists, sculptors, designers, painters...
URBAN REBIRTH

Doing more with less. This is the essence of the Darwin Ecosystem, that aims to offer a model for an ideal city based on a green economy. This former military barracks on the right bank now consists of an urban farm, skateparks, an open-air gallery for graffiti artists from all over the world, Le Magasin Général with an organic grocery store and the largest organic restaurant in France, co-working spaces, and a cycle-polo court... With nearly a million visitors a year, it is one of the most popular sites in Bordeaux.

A few minutes from Darwin, quai de Brazza, the Pola factory, was created by and for communities of artists in the region. The “factory” accommodates a score of resident artists and is open to the public for exhibitions, courses, conferences, art workshops and cultural experiences...

In the heart of the Bastide district, La Chiffone Rit is an association of around forty artists, installed in a former garage that has been restored and transformed into seven workspaces with a metalwork shop, a rehearsal studio and a community bar. Many of the workshops and events are open to the public.

On the other side of the Chaban-Delmas bridge, Les Vivres de l’Art is an artist’s workshop that has been set up in the former Naval supplies stores, which hosts exhibitions, concerts, festivals, and artists in residence. Orchestrated by the sculptor Jean-François Buisson, the site is also home to the IP “collaborative brewery” (which stands for Pression Imparfaitement Parfaite - “Perfectly Imperfect Draught Beer”).

BORDEAUX: CAPITAL OF STREET ART

Street art has been flourishing on Bordeaux’s walls for about twenty years, with some local artists, such as Alber or Benjamin « Zarb » Serrano from the Fullcolor collective, gaining international renown.

We can see street art all over the city : in Bassins à Flot district, Belcier district, Chartrons district (with the ephemeral mural M.U.R proposed by the Pôle Magnetic), but also on the right river at the alternative ecosystem Darwin... Cultural centres such as the Submarine Base and the Bernard Magrez Cultural Institute have also host numerous street art exhibitions. In 2018, the ShakeWell international graffiti festival brought together 5 000 visitors and 100 artists.

BORDEAUX’S NEW MUSIC SCENE

Thanks to the young generation that has followed in the footsteps of Noir Désir, Bordeaux has been and remains a leader in the world of contemporary rock music, providing fertile soil for Bordeaux electro, rap, hip-hop, and pop-folk artists such as Datcha Mandal (rock), I Am Stramgram (pop-rock), Bengal (electro-pop), Darius (house), Eiffel (rock), Tample (pop-rock), Smokey Joe & The Kid (electro-hip-hop), Odezenne (hip-hop-rap), Feyçal (rap), and JC Satan (metal).

Boosted by a lively community association culture and dynamic labelsler labels (such as Banzaï Lab), new bands are nourished by city festivals like Bordeaux Rock, Tremplin des 2 rives, Relache, Ocean Climax, Vibrations Urbaines and ODP in Talence.

Many events dedicated to the electronic scene such as Ahoy, the Kamikaze Week or Bordeaux Open air which was attended by 70,000 people in 2019. Created by two natives of the region, this intergenerational, unifying, ecologically responsible festival, takes place on Sunday afternoons during the summer in several of the city’s green spaces. Bordeaux Open Air is part of the FIMEB Federation, which includes 12 collectives and promotes electronic music in Bordeaux.

WANTED COFFEE: SOLIDARITY COFFEE

In the Saint-Michel district, the Wanted Community created on Facebook gave birth to a physical address: the Wanted Café. Resolutely solidary, it is a restauration place but also exhibitions, concerts, conferences, associations meetings, collections ... Cafés / dishes hanging and transfer of the founds to associations are at the heart of this atypical space.

THE DOUVES MARKET

The Douves Market in Saint Michel, a former covered market converted into a community centre, hosts local associations, talks, events, etc. with a view to promoting the exchange of ideas, developing collaborations and encouraging solidarity.

www.douves.org
Bordeaux by Night

Enjoy an outdoor drink on a rooftop terrace with a view over the city, and then continue to a live concert, or go dancing at one of the city’s bars or clubs... Bordeaux night life is lively and full of surprises.
THE NEW MIXOLOGY
Goodbye to classic mojitos and martinis, hello to stylish new combinations. Bordeaux has numerous cocktail bars that offer reinterpretations of old favourites: La Comtesse with its vintage-lounge atmosphere, the new Chez Simone with its retro décor, the Cancan with its speak-easy concept, the Sweet Light and its XXL happy hour (from 4pm to 10pm) or the Point Rouge with a dizzying list of more than 100 cocktails! Cheers!

PASS THE MIC!
BAM Karaoke Box has arrived in the Chartrons! Enjoy some serious karaoke fun in one of the 7 private rooms with decoration inspired by the colourful, luxurious vegetation of Central America, and a tropical-style cocktail bar with signature cocktails. 6 to 15 people / 2 hours of karaoke / over 30,000 songs.

SOMETHING TO DRINK
In Bordeaux, there is a huge “afterwork” culture. The three squares of Parlement, St. Pierre and Camille Jullian form a festive triangle, in which numerous bistros and cafés offer friendly terraces where you can enjoy a drink. The 400 m² premises of L’Empire offers finger-food, DJ sets, and themed soirées. Fans of fizz will appreciate Le Secret des Initiés champagne bar. In Place Camille-Julian, the Utopia, a former church converted into an arts cinema, has its own restaurant and bar with outdoor seating. Near the Porte Cailhau, Ambrosia (formerly Chabrol) offers a selection of beers, wines, cocktails and snacks consisting of mainly local products. Head for the Place Fernand Lafargue, for a long-time favourite, the Apollo Bar. Nearby, a new venue, the 17.45, is the hip place to go for delicious platters of charcuterie and cheeses. The Place de la Victoire has numerous bars and pubs that are popular with students.

In the Chartrons district, R de la Réserve is dedicated to gastronomy and serious partying with “afterworks” that continue late into the night... With nightclubs and bars such as Café Oz, the Bassins à Flot district has a reputation for late-night venues. On the other side of the Garonne, the Chantiers de la Garonne has a dining room and a sandy open-air terrace with a fantastic view over the river. To enjoy superb wines from Bordeaux (and elsewhere!), head for one of the city’s many wine bars: the iconic Bar à Vin in the Allées de Tourny, the Trois Pinardiers in the Place Gambetta, the new Vertige in the heart of the historic centre or Chez Julio, in Saint Michel. Echo Cave à Manger has an excellent wine list, with mainly natural, organic and biodynamic wines. Furies Douces specializes in wines made by women. Fine wines from Bordeaux and house accompaniments are available at Doux Secrets d’Hélène. There are also venues created by the winegrowers themselves, such as Un Château en Ville (run by Château Lestrille) or the Tutiac wine bar, set up by the Tutiac Wine cooperative.

MUSIC MAESTRO!
To enjoy some music with your drink, head for Café Brun which offers aperitif-concerts. From June to October, crowds flock to the open-air venue Chez Aliq for its rural setting and music from around the world. If lively Latin rhythms are more your style, then you should feel at home at Central Do Brazil, in the Saint Michel district, or Calle Ocho. For more electro-rock vibe, popular venues include the Antidote, Quartier Libre and the i.Boat barge in the Bassins à Flot. For music and food, try the Café Mancuso, France’s first high-fidelity restaurant, Le Grand Louis brewery in Mérignac, Thélonious for a jazzy ambiance, or a musical brunch at Vivres de l’Art.

Bordeaux also boasts several concert venues such as the Rocher de Palmer in Cenon, Rock School Barbey, the long-standing Krakatoa in Mérignac, or the Antiroville in Talence.

CLUBBING
To continue into the night, head for La Dame, a barge in the Bassins à Flot, le Théatro or The Base. The centre of town also has several popular nightclubs, such as the Cercle, the 21, the Black Diamond, the InterContinental’s very chic private club and the Monseigneur, the oldest club in Bordeaux, near Quinconces and the youngest whose opening is scheduled for March: The Groove. Students meet on the Quai de Paludate at La Plage.
From a tasty organic snack at the market, to simple or sophisticated traditional or vegetarian cuisine... Bordeaux has lots to offer gourmets, with Michelin-starred establishments and a new generation of young chefs that delight in the specialities of Southwest France.
AT THE MARKETS
The stands at the Marché des Capucins covered market -called the stomach of Bordeaux- offer a wide range of delicious food to eat in or take away. On Sundays, take a stroll along the quays to the open-air Chartrons market where you can find the famous canélon pastry, oysters from Arcachon Bay, trincandilles (chitterlings), pork tripe cooked in garlic, or grenier médocain (a type of sausage). 2 new Halles open their doors in 2017/2018: Halles Bacalan and Halles de Talence.

INSTITUTIONS
Among the city's temples to fine dining, the Chapon Fin with its grotto-style interior is acknowledged to be the oldest restaurant in Bordeaux. If brasseries are more your style, the Brasserie Bordelaise resides as an institution in the heart of old Bordeaux. Tradition and regional dishes are the keyword of Le Noailles brasserie. The Passage Saint-Michel is a gathering place where locals and tourists meet. On the quays, history and gastronomy meet at the charismatic restaurant La Belle Epoque. On the majestic place de la Bourse, the Gabriel reopened after several months of restauration work.

TREAT YOURSELF
Restaurants like Racines flirt with haute cuisine, and are sure to delight the taste buds of lovers of imaginative culinary combinations. Near the Public Gardens, Cent33 has opened in 2019, under the auspices of the ex-Michelin-starred Fabien Beaufour. Do not miss: Cromagnon, near Place Gambetta, Julien Camdeborde (nephew of Yves) opens a revisited tapas restaurant-bar: L’Avant Comptoir du Palais. On the right bank, the Bordeaux chef Christophe Girardot comes back with the restaurant Le Paradoxe in Cenon. The fusion cuisine is now a part of the Bordeaux landscape, like Miles, with influences from around the world, or Nama inspired by Asian flavors. For fans of glazed duck, Guanjudé, a Chinese institution offers refined Franco - Chinese cuisine.

NEW ON THE BLOCK
There are plenty of affordable restaurants offering imaginative food in Bordeaux, such as the generous bistrot Troquet. The Originel restaurant proposes inventive house cuisine near the cathedral. Lauza, in the same area, offers a menu characterized by originality and precision. On the Quai des Charlons, the trendy Symbiose will appeal to gourmets and cocktail lovers. Pastel takes great care in sourcing its ingredients and presenting them at their best. Arcada has just 20 seats in a beautiful vaulted dining room. Towards Saint Michel, Chez Thérèse offers generous, traditional cuisine. As if those at the Intercontinental and the Mama Shelter were not enough, the list of rooftop bars in Bordeaux is getting longer, with the opening of the well-named Paradis panoramic rooftop restaurant in the Halle Hémona, which also offers co-working spaces.

LET’S BRUNCH
Brunch is a flourishing institution in the streets of Bordeaux: from a traditional English breakfast at the Breakfast Club, to a French style brunch at La Caquette, or all-you-can-eat at Tables Vatel, there is a vast choice! There are even establishments such as Contrast, Café Kokomo or Roze make it their specialty. Well-known venues such as the Brasserie Bordeaux by Gordon Ramsay or Darwin’s Magasin Général have also followed the trend.

ORGANIC AND VEGGIE
Organic and vegetarian establishments continue to multiply in Bordeaux. For lunch, there is Munchies, the Buro des Possibles or the Kitchen Garden. Casa Gaia aims to use short supply chains with local, organic ingredients, as does Label Terre, with its street-food concept. Bordeaux also boasts an exceptional gourmet vegetarian restaurant, Rest’O, and the largest organic restaurant in France: Le Magasin Général. Note: Green Food label has certified four eco-responsible restaurants in Bordeaux: Le Prince Noir, the first Michelin-starred restaurant to receive certification in France, Café Utopia, La Cuisine d’Héliène and Food de Goût.

STARRED CUISINE
The last few years have seen the glittering arrival of several top chefs with Philippe Etchebest at the Quatrième Mur (one-star rewarded by the Guide Michelin for its table d’hôte), British chef Gordon Ramsay at the Pressoir d’Argent (2 stars), and Pierre Gagnaire at the luxurious Grande Maison (2 stars). The Pavillon des Boulevards and Garopapilles also have a star. The most recent Michelin-star have been attributed to Soléna (1 star) and Victor Ostranpec, L’Oiseau Bleu (1 star) and Tentazioni (1 star). In addition to these establishments in the city centre, there is the Saint James in Bouliac (1 star) and Le Prince Noir in Lormont (1 star).

THREE BORDEAUX CHEFS IN THE GAULT ET MILLAU GUIDE
The 2020 Gault et Millau gourmet guide recognized three Bordeaux chefs in its «Young Talent» category: the duo Florent Press and Roman Le Guillou at Bô-tannique, and Leo Forget at the Mets Mots restaurant. Bô-tannique proposes traditional cuisine skillfully fused with notes from other continents. Located in a building that was a printing works in the 1990s, Mets Mots offers an intuitive style of cuisine with an emphasis on fresh ingredients, in a modern setting.
NATURE IN THE CITY

The Bordeaux metropolis has dozens of gardens, parks, woodlands and nature reserves. Coupled with the environmentally-friendly modes of transport, these green spaces enable the city to breathe, and to offer its citizens tranquillity when they need it.
A CYCLIST’S PARADISE

In 2019, the “Bicycle Cities Index” established by the German start-up Coya positions Bordeaux as the 12th most cycling city in the world. The city has become a role model with 291 km of cycling trails.

Looking for a bike? 1,800 VCub bikes are available at 177 self-service pickup points throughout the urban area. The VCub Facile app makes it easy to sign up to the service, check the list of pickup points with bikes available, and borrow one using your smartphone at one of the contactless VCub terminals. Indigo also offers bikes to borrow wherever you want, without stations or locking docks.

Other alternatives: go green with Citeis 47, the electric shuttle which operates in the city centre, try a scooter from Wind and Yego, or try the electric tuk-tuk.

OUTSTANDING NATURAL HERITAGE

Romantic strolls, jogging circuits, walks with children, leisurely picnics: there are plenty of opportunities for these and more in Bordeaux’s green spaces! Near the city centre: the Parc Bordelais and the beautiful Jardin Public are always a pleasure to visit. A few tram stops, and you are at the ecological reserve in Barail, with its Parc Floral, the Bois de Bordeaux and the surrounding wetlands. To the north of Bordeaux, in Blanquefort, the artificial caves of the Parc de Majolan are well worth visiting, as is the new Parc Ausone, in Bruges. To the south, on foot or by bike, follow the valley of the Eau Bourde, alongside the river, which goes through the commune of Gradignan for 6 km, passing by the majestic Cayac Priory and the mill in Montgaillard. In Pessac, there is the Forêt de Bouraïl, a unique nature reserve dedicated to the environment and sustainable development.

On the right bank, head for the Botanical Gardens, an outstanding feature of the Bastide district, and the superb views over the city from the viewpoints in the Parc de l’Ermitage (a former quarry), Parc Palmer, and the Parc du Cypressat.

BORDEAUX MÉTROPOLE HAS ITS GR®

It’s the first metropolitan GR® in France! The approximately 160 km of route crossing 17 communes unveil marked trails, through woods and forests, along rivers or at the turn of numerous heritage and ecological sites, showing all the landscape diversity of the Bordeaux agglomeration.

ON YOUR BIKES

A collection of “Super Trails” offers cycle routes through heritage and nature sites, and the vineyard and river landscape. From one to five hours, six routes explore the Entre-Deux-Mers, the Jalles countryside, the Bordeaux lake, and the Médoc wine trail...

A GEOCACHING CONCEPT

Terra Aventura is a treasure hunt in which participants search for the heritage jewels of Nouvelle-Aquitaine. Available in Lormont and Gradignan, users are invited, via a mobile application, to set off on a discovery trail of the town’s secrets, solving riddles and finding treasure. This free game is available in French and English.
This way for bucolic walks, interesting activities, unusual places and tips on what to do from the locals! The webzine Un air de Bordeaux is for residents and visitors who want to (re)discover the Bordeaux metropolis, with its beautiful landscapes, rich culture, and its hidden gems. A selection of ideas for travel in the area and experiencing something different!
Since the launch of the « Un air de Bordeaux » site in November 2017, nearly 350,000 unique visitors have confirmed the growing interest of Bordeaux’s inhabitants, visitors and new arrivals in exploring local sites and activities in the wider urban area.

Parks, forests, water meadows, nature reserves… plus a flourishing artistic and cultural scene…it has to be said that Bordeaux and its 27 surrounding communes have plenty to keep you busy, including some surprises. With Un air de Bordeaux, finding an idea for an outing, a vegetarian restaurant, a flea market, or a tea room in your neighbourhood has never been so easy.

EXPLORING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Set off on a geocaching treasure hunt, take tram or Bat3 for an unusual trip, or go for a bike ride in the surrounding hills with superb views of Bordeaux… There is a wide range of ideas for interesting outings and activities that are accessible to everyone! Bordeaux is a great place to adopt the « local travel » option, particularly in an age when reducing our carbon footprint is becoming increasingly important. Exploring the surrounding region is gaining popularity; it could even be described as a lifestyle.

REINTERPRETING WHAT THE “HOME ENVIRONMENT” MEANS

By making inhabitants the priority, the Bordeaux Metropole Tourism & Conventions Office is part of an innovative approach to the development of local resources. Furthermore to to be an excellent ambassador for his home town, the city’s resident, who have always been here or who are arrived recently, is looking for activities to enjoy fully of the city, its landscapes and hobbies. So why stop at visitors when it comes to helping people to discover and explore all the wonderful things that the region has to offer?

A TEAM ON THE GROUND

With more than 350 articles published since its launch in November 2017 and the active involvement of the 28 communes that make up “Bordeaux Metropole”, Un Air de Bordeaux now reaches a substantial audience. Throughout the year, a team of external writers are tasked with seeking out hidden gems, meeting inhabitants and organizers, trying out activities, walks and tours, keeping track of the markets being held and revealing the creative potential of the entire urban area. Sent weekly, a newsletter contains the “best of” outings and events, for a top weekend in the metropolis.

This work on the ground is essential in order to achieve one of the main objectives: uniting the urban community through a strong local identity.

Every year, an activities guide is published and 40,000 copies are distributed in addition to the webzine content.

CHECK OUT FACEBOOK

The Facebook page of the webzine, Un air de Bordeaux caters for those interested in exploring the local area and discovering “micro-adventures” not far from the city. Looking for accessible activities with a low carbon footprint? Visit the site for a selection of ideas for travel in the area and opportunities to experience something different.

A WEEKLY SELECTION OF INTERESTING THINGS TO DO

Every week, Un Air de Bordeaux offers a selection of ideas and activities in the city and the surrounding area for inhabitants and tourists. The weekend programme has lots of great deals for bon vivants, and is one of the week’s most popular events, strengthening the bond between the editorial team and its readers. The programme includes outdoor activities, fun destinations for children and adults, cultural events, concerts around the city… something for everyone!
A COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

53% of European travelers take their environmental impact into account (source Amadeus/Opinium). Bordeaux has demonstrated that environmental and societal awareness also impacts business and leisure tourism. The city is a popular destination with eco-travellers and is actively committed to sustainable tourism.
HEALTHY VENUES ARE ON THE RISE

The new wave of venues offering organic and plant-based food continues to thrive in Bordeaux! The city even has the largest organic restaurant in France: **Le Magasin Général** in the Darwin centre. In the centre of town, take your pick from **Munchies, Kitchen Garden, Label Terre, Le Buro des Possibles, and Casa Gaia**. For gourmet organic vegetarian dishes, head for **Rest’O**. New arrivals in Bordeaux include: **Le Raisin de Plus**, the first vegan wine bar in France where you can sample 100% organic vegan and natural wines.

Four environmentally responsible restaurants have received Green Food Label certification in Bordeaux: **Le Prince Noir**, the first Michelin-starred restaurant to receive certification in France, **Café Utopia** (part of a cinema in a former church), **La Cuisine d’Héliène** and **Food de Goût**.

IN THE VINEYARDS TOO!

Well aware of environmental issues, the Bordeaux wine industry has been committed to responsible, sustainable winegrowing for more than 20 years. **65% of Bordeaux’s vineyards now have some form of environmental certification.** Increasing numbers of châteaux are raising visitors’ awareness of environmental issues as part of their wine tourism activities.

SUSTAINABLE, RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

Visit sites without damaging them! Follow the guide on Bordeaux’s **miniature electric train**, or **on bikes** to learn more about the city. Another initiative: **Alternatives Urbaines** offers guided tours of the metropolis by people in an employment integration programme.

Launched in 2017, the Tourist Office’s website “**Un air de Bordeaux**” (in French) focuses on local tourism, listing locations, initiatives and activities, and revealing the hidden jewels of the Bordeaux metropolis.

The flagship site of the Tourist Office’s digital ecosystem, the **Bordeaux-tourisme.com site** was completely redesigned in the summer of 2020, bringing it up to date with new trends and visitors’ requirements. **A sustainable destination category** has been created with editorial content aimed at inspiring locals and visitors to (re)discover Bordeaux in a sustainable and eco-responsible fashion.

GREEN ACCOMMODATION

While increasing numbers of establishments offering accommodation are making real efforts to reduce their environmental impact and raise their guests’ awareness, some have made it their main priority: this is the case of the **Best Western Grand Hotel Français**, which has had environmental and “**Clef Verte**” certification for more than 10 years, and **Eklo**, halfway between a youth hostel and a hotel, ranked the fifth greenest hotel in France. **Château Gassies** - offering reception facilities and bed and breakfast just 20 minutes from the centre of Bordeaux - is committed to a «zero-pesticides» approach based on permaculture principles.

TOWARDS ISO20121 CERTIFICATION

Bordeaux’s ambition is to bring together all tourism stakeholders in an eco-responsible approach, and establish a reputation as an international environmentally-friendly destination. The Bordeaux Metropole Tourism and Conventions Office and Bordeaux Metropole are piloting the setting up of an ISO 20121 «Sustainable International Destination» certification within a select group of French destinations: Biarritz, Metz, Cannes, Deauville, Nantes, Rennes, Marseille, Nancy, and Bordeaux.

#BORDEAUXLOCAL

The eco-solidarity movement Pensons local, Vivons Bordeaux (“Think local, Live Bordeaux”) was launched in July by the CIVB, the Bordeaux Metropole Tourism and Conventions Office and UMIH Gironde (Hotel Industry and Hotel Professions Union). Its aim is to promote the region’s producers, craftspeople, and tourist and cultural attractions, thereby encouraging local consumption in all sectors: tourism, wine tourism, restaurants, shops, gastronomic products and brands and Bordeaux wines.

www.bordeauxlocal.fr
Luxury hotels, small private hotels, concept hotels, bed and breakfasts, furnished apartments... The city’s hotel accommodation has been developed and energized in recent years by increasing demand, that now runs to millions of visitors every year.
IN THE CENTRE OF TOWN

Beautiful hotels in the city centre complement their luxurious environments with spa facilities that have gained an international reputation such as the InterContinental Bordeaux - Le Grand Hôtel, hôtel de Sèze. Concept hotels also charm visitors, such as the Seek’oo, which paved the way with its futuristic design, followed by the Boutique Hotel (a hotel and wine bar), the Mama Shelter designed by Philippe Starck, its neighbor, the Maison du Lierre, receive its guests in a cocooning setting. In the Méridiadeck district, Burdigala, a 4 star boutique-hotel which offers tailor-made services in a friendly atmosphere. 100 meters from the Opera, the Best Western Bayonne Etche Ona welcomes travelers in an arty and cabinet of curiosities atmosphere. The Hôtel Konti hotel was renovated in 2018 in an arty decor. The private, luxurious Hotel des Quinconces and the Yndo display 5 stars. The new Cardinal hotel offers 10 elegant rooms near the cathedral. The last born? The Hotel Singularier, a luxury and modern setting near Gambetta Square.

30 MIN BY TRAM

With direct access to the city centre by tram, the hotel chains in Mérignac and Bordeaux Lac are no longer reserved for a business clientele, and now attract tourists throughout the year, especially families who appreciate the services and amenities (swimming pools, proximity to the centre, etc.).

NEW HOTELS

The Radisson Blu with its rooftop bar opened in 2018, offering excellent views of the Bassins à Flot and the nearby La Cité du Vin. To the south, close to the train station, the brand-new Hilton Garden Inn has 166 rooms. The Golden Tulip has 111 rooms near St Jean train station. The Central Hostel youth hostel recently opened in the centre of town, with a restaurant that is also open to the public. On the right bank, Eklo - halfway between a hostel and a hotel - opened in June 2019. The eco-friendly measures taken by the establishment earned him the 5th place in the ranking of the most eco-friendly hotels in France. Near the Place des Quinconces, Les Villas Foch is scheduled to open in October 2020. Combining two 17th and 18th century town houses, it will offer 20 rooms combining period elegance with contemporary comfort.

STARS AMONG THE VINEYARDS

In the heart of Château Smith Haut Lafitte’s vineyard in Martillac, Les Sources de Caudalie was officially classified as a luxury hotel in 2016. The property also offers a Vinothérapie® spa, three dining options. Hotels offering starred cuisine can also be found in Pauillac (Relais & Châteaux Cordelilien-Bages) and Bouliac (Relais & Châteaux St. James). In the Sauternes region, Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey has opened a 5-star hotel-restaurant decorated by Lalique.

EASY ON THE WALLET

Several establishments in the heart of Bordeaux offer friendly service that extends all the way to the bill. Near the Place de la Comédie, the Hôtel du Théâtre has 23 rooms decorated in a highly original style. The Hôtel La Tour Intendance and the Hôtel Gambetta offer modern comfort with the charm of an eighteenth century Bordeaux stone building. On the other side of the river, across the Pont de Pierre, in the La Bastide district, the Hotel des Voyageurs offers rooms from 75 euros.

BEAUTIFUL BED & BREAKFASTS

Superb town houses and “bourgeois” residences offer guests a taste of a privileged Bordeaux lifestyle, with establishments such as La Casa Blanca, La Course, Le Clos Labottière, L’Hôtel Particulier, la Villa or la Maison Fernand.

A NEW LUXURY HOTEL

22 five-star rooms and suites, reception lounges, a gourmet restaurant and bar and a heated swimming pool surrounded by a garden, are among the luxury facilities available at the new Hotel Palais Gallien, opened in December 2018, near the Public Garden.

http://hotel-palais-gallien-bordeaux.com

A 4* HOTEL STEEPED IN HISTORY

The brand new La Zoologie hotel (40 rooms), near the train station boasts beautiful design and unique character. This 4* establishment is the result of the renovation of the Institute of Zoology, a university building in the classic Bordeaux architectural style built at the beginning of the 20th century. Numerous works of art are on display in this fascinating space.

www.hotelzoologie.com
Hosting optics, robotics, ICT health and aeronautics events, Bordeaux has established itself on the European map as an excellent location for professional and trade events.
POSITIVE FIGURES

Bordeaux has become a popular European business destination, with a record year in 2019. Business tourism plays a major role in the growth of the city’s tourist trade. This is demonstrated by figures from Bordeaux’s Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which report that 47% of hotel room bookings are business related.

Incontestable reflection of this vitality, the city hosted in 2018 more than 2,880 professional events, with 29% of international participation, or 565,000 conference days for a total estimated economic impact of nearly 164 million euros. 53% of these were company events (seminars, incentive trips, company conventions, etc.) and 47% of congress at national and international level. In 2019, the Bordeaux welcomed 180 congress (with 54 of international), or 303,000 conference days, a growing number compared to the precedent year.

A FERTILE ENVIRONMENT

Bordeaux’s popularity as a business destination has been boosted with new reception areas such as Les Bassins de Lumières in 2020, numerous new direct airlines (Manchester, Helsinki, Copenhagen, Cologne, Riga, Moscow…), the arrival of the high-speed train line bringing Bordeaux closer to Paris, and the Metropole’s investment in a new conference facility (Palais 2 l’Atlantique).

COMPREHENSIVE HOTEL OFFER

Bordeaux’s hotel capacity continues to expand. From 11,000 rooms in 210 hotels in 2020, a further 720 rooms will be added over the course of 2021. Hotels with an international presence, such as the recently opened Hilton Garden Inn, Radisson Blu and Golden Tulip, and soon the two Marriott hotels, attract clientele from all over the world.

The range of accommodation also continues to diversify. In 2018, the Eklo hotel chain opened its largest establishment to date, with 127 rooms, studios and shared rooms. The Holiday Inn Express has recently opened in Lormont, on the right bank, with 77 rooms. The 4-star, 40 rooms Zoologie hotel in the Euratlantique district has been open since August, in the magnificent former Institute of Zoology. The Meininger hotel, which doubles as a youth hostel and a hotel, should be opening in 2021/2022, again in the Euratlantique district.

THE CONVENTION BUREAU, GATEWAY FOR ORGANISERS OF TRADE AND CORPORATE EVENTS

The Bordeaux Convention Bureau provides free expertise to organisers of trade and corporate events: choice of venue, service providers, and activities. The team analyses event specifications and prepares proposals to ensure that Bordeaux becomes increasingly popular for trade events. Useful reading: The « Bordeaux Congress & Meeting Guide », a practical handbook for organisers of trade and corporate events.

www.calameo.com/read/0053657521a8ef41cd263

http://congress.bordeaux-tourism.co.uk

ECO-RESPONSIBLE TOURISM ON A TRADITIONAL SAILING SHIP IN ARCACHON BAY

Arcachon Ecotours offers tours of Arcachon Bay aboard a traditional sailing ship. Subject of course to the tides and the wind, passengers are treated to spectacular views of the landscape, with tours of the île aux Oiseaux (“Bird island”), and trips along the Cap-Ferret peninsula visiting the little fishing villages, passing by the Dune de Pilat… An organic picnic and wine are served on a sandbank, from which the oyster farmers demonstrate the process of raising the shellfish for which the region is famous! Returning to the port, the day ends with an oyster tasting at one of the local producers.

www.arcachonecotours.com
Bordeaux offers a fertile environment for startups and high-tech industries, accompanied by a growing number of event organizers and conference facilities. The city is a platform for economic, industrial and scientific exchange, which relies on the region’s outstanding resources.

BUSINESS TOURISM: AN EPICENTRE OF INFORMATION
A CONVENTIONS CENTRE

In terms of numbers of participants, Bordeaux is France’s fourth largest city for the organization of conferences after Paris, Lyon and Nice (source: 2018 ICCA classification). Large-scale national and international congress are regularly held in Bordeaux, like the ROBOCUP world robotics championship (3,500 competitors from 45 countries in June 2021), the 34th COBATY Congress (architecture and environment, 1,200 competitors in September 2021), the National Congress of the Order of Chartered Accountants (4,000 people in 2021) and ICIP (optics & laser, 1,700 participants in September 2022).

A THRIVING ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC ENVIRONMENT

Developing business tourism in Bordeaux, means providing conference facilities that rely on its lifeblood, its economic dynamism, with:

11 centers of excellence and more than 60 clusters operating at an international level in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region, with an aerospace and space industry for which Bordeaux presents the Atlantic face; a leader in optical techniques and lasers, and a specialized expertise in nano and biotechnology, neuroscience, ICT Health, wood and sustainable construction. Oncology, a health priority in the Nouvelle-Aquitaine regional programme for 2018-2021, has also benefited from major investments,

11,000 jobs created in 2017 in the urban area; Bordeaux ranks third among French cities in terms of the creation of digital companies,

175,000 students, 100,000 of which are in Bordeaux and 10,700 researchers at the regional level; one of the five “IDEX” (Initiative d’Excellence) universities in France (a state-funded programme that aims to develop R&D and internationalization).

TOP 6 CONVENTION VENUES

In the city centre:

• La Cité Mondiale: on the waterfront in the city centre with a 300-seat auditorium.

• Palais de la Bourse: a modern Convention Centre, on one of the loveliest squares in the world, housed in a magnificent, 18th century palace. It is a unique, prestige venue with a capacity for over 1,000 persons.

• Hangar 14: in the Chartrons, overlooking the Garonne River, with 5,400m² on 2 floors, for trade shows, public exhibitions, and product launches.

In Bordeaux-Lac site - accessible by tram from Saint Jean station and the city centre in 15 minutes (line C):

• Convention Centre: a luminous structure designed by Jean-Michel Wilmotte, in a natural setting on the lakeside.

• The Exhibition Centre: the second largest exhibition centre in France outside of Paris, after Lyon, with 80,000 m² of covered space, and four modular halls offering 30 hectares of facilities for international fairs. > access to 1,400 hotel rooms, 15 restaurants, and a casino within a 5-minute radius.

• New Hall, Palais 2 l’Atlantique, inaugurated in May 2019: with a total surface of 15,500m², offers a main hall up to 6,000 people in plenary, a 1,000m² reception hall and 12 meeting and commission rooms.

In Mérignac – near the airport:

• Le Pin Galant: a 1,410 seats auditorium, a Hall, a fully modular pavilion of 1,300m².

THE CLUB DES AMBASSADEURS DE BORDEAUX

In 2007, the Convention Bureau launched the Club des Ambassadeurs de Bordeaux to promote the city and attract more conferences. Its 350 members are Bordeaux personalities, including, scientists, engineers, and influential people from business, R&D, and industry. They are active members of networks and associations and facilitate the organization in Bordeaux of major conferences in their respective specialties.


TASTE EXCEPTIONAL WINES IN A SUPERB SETTING

To treat their best customers or as a team-building activity, Cousin et Compagnie organizes corporate events in the heart of the historic city centre in a discreet town house built by the Marquis de Rolland, a key figure in Bordeaux’s parliament in the 18th century. The programme includes a guided tasting of a selection of natural and biodynamic wines accompanied by a four-course meal prepared by their talented, generous private chef, using fresh, seasonal local ingredients: a thrilling gourmet experience!

www.facebook.com/CousinandCo/
ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND URBAN PLANNING

Two massive sites, the Bassins à Flot to the north, and Euratlantique to the south, are in the process of re-shaping the city’s landscape to create “Bordeaux 2030”, thereby securing the metropolis’ place as one of the great regional capitals of the 21st century.
AN URBAN PLANNER’S CITY

The Bordeaux metropolis’ heritage includes buildings and facilities by some of today’s great architects and designers: the rooms and restaurant at the Mama Shelter hotel and Château Les Carmes Haut-Brion’s winery were designed by Philippe Starck, the hotel Saint James by Jean Nouvel (who also signs the extension of 30 rooms), the Malmut Atlantique stadium by Hertzog & de Meuron, Maison Lemoine in Floirac by Rem Koolhaas, the County Court by Richard Rogers, and the CAPC Museum of Contemporary Art by Andrée Putman. More recently, the performance hall Arkéa Arena by Rudy Ricciotti, and the MECA by Bjarke Ingels.

MAJOR PROJECTS

In the north of the city, just six tram stops from Quinconces, the Bassins à Flot, the old manufacturing district is undergoing a transformation: a massive 160 hectare construction site (including 22 hectares of water, the former wet docks). Apartments and major property development projects are springing up like mushrooms to accommodate the population of the new district which is expected to be about 12,000. Bassin no. 1 has been completed, and includes the Hotel Radisson Blu, and numerous shops and apartment buildings. Work on Bassin No. 2 - the Quai des Caps - has begun and will see the construction of a 13-screen cinema complex, 16,000 m² of offices, a mixed-use building (offices, shops, hotel accommodation) and a wide promenade around the Bassin.

To the south, on the other side of the city around the train station, another revolution is taking place in the form of Bordeaux Euratlantique. This vast urban development project covers 738 hectares spread over Bordeaux, Bègles and Floirac. Bordeaux Euratlantique will have 2,500,000 m² of housing, offices and public facilities, and will eventually bring 50,000 new inhabitants and create 30,000 local jobs. The Rue Bordelaise, a broad pedestrian shopping street will connect the train station to the river from 2021. The project includes the construction of the highest wooden tower block in France, 57 metres high, Hyperion will be part of a housing, offices and shopping complex. This wooden apartment building will produce 45% less carbon emissions than an equivalent traditional construction. Just after the Saint-Jean bridge, on the right bank, the new Belvédère district will be emerging over the next three years. The Place du Belvédère, two apartment buildings, a gastronomic-socio-cultural venue, shops, accommodation, a school... the 4-hectare site will be completely redeveloped.

Among the other facilities that are already operational, there is the Halle Boca (which has several restaurants, offices, the Hilton Garden Inn and a food court), the Arkéa Arena concert and event centre, the MÉCA that includes the FRAC (see focus), and the Cité Numérique, a new figurehead for Bordeaux’s French Tech. The project includes the building of the new Simone Veil bridge which will connect the Saint-Jean Belcier district to Floirac in 2024.

THE MECA

The MÉCA (Centre for Creative Economy and Culture in Nouvelle-Aquitaine) hosts the region’s cultural agencies dedicated to live shows, books, cinema and the FRAC Nouvelle-Aquitaine. Located on the Quais de Paludate on the river front, the 37-metre high building was designed by the Danish architect Bjarke Ingels. While the interior of the building is dedicated to administration and professional use, there is an outdoor area, panoramic terrace and café-restaurant that are open to the public.

A GARDEN SQUARE IN THE CITY-CENTRE

The Place Gambetta is getting a facelift. One of the city’s iconic locations, the central pedestrian and garden area will be expanded (the number of trees increased from 38 to 71), and an English-style garden will be created with a view to improving and highlighting this heritage feature. Visitors and the Bordeaux residents will be able to enjoy the new square from the autumn of 2020.
With around fifteen golf courses in the Bordeaux area, keen golfers have plenty of choice. Clubs just a few minutes from the city centre, on Arcachon Bay, in the Médoc, and near Saint-Emilion provide opportunities to play 9 or 18 holes and explore four very different areas.
CITY GOLFERS
What a pleasure to find a golf course in the city! The Bordeaux metropolitan area has three: Golf Bordelais in the suburb of Caudéran (18 holes), Bordeaux-Lac golf course, with two 18-hole courses and a pitch & putt in a green setting, and Golf de Pessac, with its fairways set among pine trees and ponds on a 120-hectare estate, just a few minutes from the airport. Facilities: an 18-hole course, a 9-hole course, and a pitch & putt.

Inaugurated in September 2017, the Villenave d’Ornon golf course (UGolf) is located in the grounds of Château de Geneste, beside the Garonne. With 80 hectares, this country golf course in the city offers 18-holes.

SEASIDE ATMOSPHERE
The five courses around Arcachon Bay are bathed in wonderful scents of pine trees and sea air: Aiguilles Vertes in Lanton, with 9 holes, is an ideal place to warm up; the Arcachon International golf club has an 18-hole course beside Arcachon Bay, near the Dune du Pilat; Golf de Gujan (27 holes) is reminiscent of Florida, with its varied courses well-integrated in their natural surroundings; the course in Biscarrosse is more challenging, with narrow fairways nestling between two dunes; and the latest addition, opened in 2013, is the Cap-Ferret’s 9-hole pitch & putt, the only course lit up at night.

BETWEEN SEA AND VINEYARDS
Head for the Médoc, with its great wines and endless beaches. The 18-hole Lacanau golf course is set in an enchanting environment among the pine forests. The 18-hole Margaux golf winds through 45 hectares of forests and ponds, with lovely views over the estuary. The Médoc golf Resort has a Scottish feel, with moorland, pine trees, and wide fairways bordered with heather. In 2019, it was ranked 7th-best golf course among the 100 best Golf Resort in Europe by the Golf World magazine. The place welcomes a MGallery hotel with 79 rooms and a Spa. The Entre-Deux-Mers also has an 18-hole golf course in Caméryac, with a particularly friendly atmosphere. And, finally, the Graves & Sauternes golf club has a lovely, 18-hole course.

FOR GOURMET GOLFERS
In the Dordogne: Château des Vigiers golf club has it all, with a 17th-century castle converted into a 4* hotel, 3 restaurants, and 3 9-hole courses, which may be combined to make several 18-hole courses. Teynac, near Saint-Émilion, offers an attractive 18-holes course, amid vine-covered hillsides, a restaurant in a former winery, and bed-and-breakfast rooms in the dovecote.

NEW CLUB ON THE RIGHT BANK
A 5-star, 18-hole golf course among vines and ancient oak trees, just a few kilometres from Saint-Emilion, was inaugurated in October 2015 by the Mourgue d’Algue family, which boasts several champion golfers. The Grand Saint-Emilionnais Golf Club course was designed by American Tom Doak, one of the best architects in the world, known for his « minimalist » style, which fits organically into the natural landscape.

A PUTTING GREEN ON A HOTEL ROOF
Located in the heart of the Bassins à Flot district, the Bordeaux Radisson Blu hotel has 125 rooms, 4 suites, a panoramic restaurant, lounge bar-terrace, spa, gym, and... an exceptional open-air putting green on the 6th floor! The nine-hole golf course covers 700 m² and offers a panoramic view of the bassins à flot (wet docks). Open to all.
Bordeaux is the capital of the largest region of France, and boasts an outstanding natural, architectural and cultural heritage. From Poitou to the Pyrenees, there’s something for everyone!
BREAKS AROUND BORDEAUX

Only a short drive away, the Gironde estuary is a world of its own, with secret islands, the Vauban fortifications, and eccentric looking fishermen’s cabins perched on stilts along the banks - a fascinating region that can be explored by car, or for a really authentic experience, take a cruise from Bordeaux. Arcachon is barely an hour away; the seaside town still has a Belle Epoque style (some of the old villas are listed buildings); nearby is the famous Pyla sand dune, a string of little oyster ports and Cap-Ferret on the other side of the bay. If you want crashing waves, open spaces, endless beaches and fragrant pine trees, head for the Médoc Atlantic coast and the lakes and ocean beaches at Lacanau, Soulac, and Montalivet.

TO THE SOUTH, CHARENTE AND POITOU

An hour and a half north of Bordeaux, the Charente reveals its famous houses in Cognac, and Saintes, a city founded by the Romans, who left some vestiges there. On the other side of the Gironde estuary lies Royan, a city of art and history, with a mixture of modern Bauhaus architecture and 1920s style villas. Out to sea, the Cordouan lighthouse can be visited depending on the tide. Two hours away is the old port of La Rochelle, with its three monumental towers and arcades in the historic centre. The city’s aquarium is one of the largest in Europe. Between land and sea, explore the wonders of the islands with a trip to Île de Ré, Madame, or Oléron.

Two and a half hours away, towards Poitiers, the Vallée des Singes is home to more than 450 monkeys who live in complete freedom. A few more kilometres and you reach Futuroscope which inaugurates a new immersive 5D attraction in 2018, featuring World Rally Champion Sébastien Loeb’s car. Mid-way between Poitiers and Bordeaux stands Angoulême. France’s “capital of comic books”, as illustrated by its numerous façades painted in the comic-book style.

TO THE EAST, LIMOUSIN, PÉRIGORD AND LOT-ET-GARONNE

Head to the east in Limoges, where the National Adrien Débouché Museum has been completely renovated and presents machines and tools related to the porcelain skills that have made the town famous. An hour and a half further to the east, Aubusson is home to The International Tapestry Museum. Further south, we dive into a land of delights, the Périgord; proud castles, gourmet markets of Sarlat and Périgueux, Bergerac wines and the Centre International de l’Art Périodé, which houses a full-scale replica of the original Lascaux caves. Heading south-east towards the department of the Lot-et-Garonne, the 13th century fortified royal town of Villéran has been declared one of the most beautiful villages in France. On the way, visit Agen, the departmental capital, and then Nérac with Henri IV’s beautiful château-museum. Returning to Bordeaux, pass through Marmande which attracts more than 160,000 people every June for its Garorock music festival.

TO THE SOUTH, THE LANDES AND BASQUE COUNTRY

To the south of Bordeaux, enter the Landes forest, the largest area of maritime pines in Europe. Bordered by 100 km of spectacular ocean beaches with excellent surfing, this is a region famed for its gastronomy and good-living, with férias in Dax, Mont-de-Marsan, and all the villages in the Chalosse. Don’t miss the Marquèzes Ecomuseum in Sabres for immersion in the Landes de Gascogne way of life in the 19th century! There is a dramatic change in the landscape as you enter the Basque country, with its vibrant villages, Biarritz and its surfing beaches, and Saint-Jean-de-Luz and its port. In the commune of Sare, 10km from Saint-Jean-de-Luz, the “Petit train de la Rhune”, an authentic vintage rack railway takes visitors to the summit of the Rhune, at an altitude of 905 metres, for an exceptional panoramic view of the entire Atlantic coast and the Pyrenees. More inland, in the neighbouring region of Béarn, the birthplace of Henri IV, lies Pau, with its British charm, offering unspoilt valleys, hiking trails and ski resorts.

THE LIGHTHOUSE OF KINGS: A UNESCO CANDIDATE

Will the Cordouan Lighthouse be added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage sites? The answer will be revealed in the summer of 2020. The oldest French lighthouse still in operation, Cordouan watches over the Gironde estuary. It is open to visitors from April to October, if they are willing to climb the 301 steps! Accessible by private boat or with La Bohème or La Galantaise ferry company.

www.phare-de-cordouan.fr

RETURN TO THE MIDDLE AGES

The Royal Abbey of La Réau, nestled in the hollow of a remote valley between Poitiers and Angoulême has reopened its doors! Classified as a historic monument, this 12th century monastery takes you on a journey back in time. Guided tours, exhibitions, discovery trail, or play “Save La Réau” ...A medieval world awaits you!

www.abbayeroaydeaureau.fr
CURRENT EVENTS

Until August, 16th: exhibition Le cours des choses at CAPC Contemporary art museum www.capc-bordeaux.fr

Until August, 22nd: exhibition Narcisse ou la floraison des mondes from the FRAC Nouvelle-Aquitaine at the MÉCA http://fracnouvelleaquitaine-meca.fr

Until September, 6th: exhibition Plus que parfaits, Métamorphoses des corps en scène at Grand Théâtre www.opera-bordeaux.com

Until September 6th: exhibition Alain Lacoste: Bricoleur de Poésie at the Franche creation Museum in Bègles www.musee-creationfranche.com

Until September 13th: Exposition collective, été 2020 at the Galerie D.X www.galeriedx.com


Until October 11st: exhibition Homo Urbanus 10 films / 10 villes du monde, Béka & Lemoine at Arc en rêve www.arencreve.eu


JULY AND AUGUST

Un été à Bordeaux, a sixty propositions during the summer: live show (compagnies Bivouac, Smart cie et Alex on the Wire), classic music (festival Pulsations par l’ensemble Pyramidal, Les Impromptus d’Été de l’Orchestre d’Harmonie de Bordeaux), current music (festival Relâche, Bordeaux Open Air, Trafic et l’IBoat, Banzai Lab or the collectif L’Orangeade), photo, three evenings of open-air cine-ma at cour Malol and Les Tropicales. etemetropolitain.bordeaux-metropole.fr

August, 7th to 9th: Nuit des Étoiles Viewpoints: dune du Pyla, belvédères du parc des Coteaux… Dedicated evenings in Mérignac, at the observatory of Vayres, on the Bourgailh site… www.astronomie.fr

SEPTEMBER

September, 10th to 20th: Warning camp, Régénérations (previous festival Climax) at Darwin climaxfestival.fr


September, 25th and 26th: event Ça me dit à la ferme at the farm of Ruisseau at Haillan with concerts, theatre, dinner, snacking and creative village www.foodtruckfestival-bordeaux.com


September, 26th and 27th: Les Arts Méliés street arts festival, contemporary circus and alternative leisure activities in Eysines www.eysinesculture.fr

September, 27th: Bordeaux Food Truck Festival at the Hippodrome in Bouscat www.foodtruckfestival-bordeaux.com


OCTOBER

October, 2th to 17th: Festival international des Arts de Bordeaux Métropole (FAB) in Bordeaux fab.festivalbordeaux.com

October, 9th to November 1st: Foire aux plaisirs de Bordeaux. Place des Quinconces www.foireauxplaisirs.com

October, 24th and 25th: Fête du Vin nouveau et de la Brocante in the Chartrons district www.facebook.com/feteduvinnouveauetbrocante

October, 27th to November, 1st: festival Vibrations Urbaines in Pessac (Babin avenue on the university campus / Pessac Centre / Salle de spectacle Bellegarde) www.vibrations-urbaines.net

October, 29th to 31st: World Impact Summit, the summit of entrepreneur engaged in the economy with a positive ecological and social impact at Hangar 14 worldimpactsummit.com

NOVEMBRE


November, 7th to 15th: Foire internationale de Bordeaux at Parc des Expositions de Bordeaux www.foiredebordeaux.com
November 16th to 23rd: History Film Festival of Pessac on the theme of the 19th century in Pessac
www.cinema-histoire-pessac.com

November 27th to autumn 2021: Le Tour du jour en quatre-vingts mondes, Un regard décentré sur la collection du CAPC at CAPC
www.capc-bordeaux.fr

November 27th to January 17th 2021: Caroline Achaintre, monographic exhibition at CAPC Con-temporary art museum
www.capc-bordeaux.fr

IN 2021
April, 9th to August, 29th 2021: exhibition Boire avec les Dieux at la Cité du Vin
www.laciteduvin.com

May, 25th to 29th 2021: Big Bang Festival, air and space festival in Saint-Médard-en-Jalles
www.festival-bigbang.com

June, 10th to 13rd 2021: Festival ODP in Talence
www.festival-odp.com

June, 22th to 28th 2021: Robocup, world championship of robotic and artificial intelligence at Parc des Expositions de Bordeaux
www.robocup.fr

June, 23rd to 27th 2021: Garorock festival in Marmande with PNL, Martin Garrix, Tryo, Vianney…
www.garorock.com

IN 2021
June, 10th to August 10th 2021: cultural season Bienvenue Bordeaux 2021
www.bordeauxsaisonculturelle.fr

June, 17th to 20th 2021: Bordeaux wine festival, largest wine festival of Europe on the quays of Garonne river
www.bordeaux-fete-le-vin.com

August, 6th to 8th 2021: festival Reggae Sun Ska
www.reggaesunska.com

September, 11th 2021: Médoc Marathon in the vineyard, dressed up on the theme of cinema
www.marathondumerdoc.com

COVID-19
In view of the current health crisis, some events presented above could be rescheduled or canceled. We invite you to get closer to the organizers of each event.
BORDEAUX BY FIGURES

A FLOURISHING TOURIST

- **Bordeaux Métropole, 5th most frequented French destination** after Paris, Aix-Marseille, Lyon and Nice (INSEE 2018)
- **6.35 million** taxed nights in 2019
- **785,000** visitors allowed at the different reception desks of the Bordeaux Tourist Office
- **7,7 million** passengers handled (+13%)
- **42,000** cruise tourists

BORDEAUX MÉTROPOLE

- 6th metropolitan France, capital of the Nouvelle Aquitaine region
- **783,000** inhabitants in Bordeaux Métropole (28 towns), of which **256,000** for Bordeaux City
- Largest urban area classified UNESCO with **1,810 hectares**
- Gourmet capital, with **10** Michelin starred restaurants, and two world stars, Pierre Gagnaire and Gordon Ramsay

WINE

- **65** AOCs (designated wine production areas) on **111,400 hectares**
- Average production: **680 million bottles**
- **5,800** wine-growers
- **20** bottles of wine from Bordeaux are sold every second all over the world

RANKING...

- 2015: Bordeaux named European Best Destination
- 2016: Bordeaux 2nd major destination of the world according to the New York Times
- 2017: Bordeaux was chosen as Lonely Planet’s most attractive city, and is the only French city in the top ten
- The Los Angeles Times has made Bordeaux its number one place to visit.
- National Geographic ranks la Cité du Vin in the top museums of the world
- From 2014 to 2019: the best French city to work (Great Place to Work)
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www.bordeaux-tourisme.co.uk

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