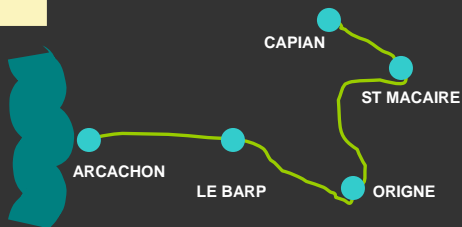




MAP OF FRANCE

BORDEAUX REGION



CLASSIC+ Accommodation :
charming three star hotels and bed and breakfasts

DAY 1:
 Château de Grand Branet in Capian
<http://chateaugrandbranet.free.fr>

DAY 2:
 *** Hotel les Feuilles d'Acanthe in Saint Macaire
<http://www.feuilles-dacanthe.fr>

DAY 3:
 B&B La Maison Rose in Origine
<http://cdrorigine.free.fr>

DAY 4:
 B&B La Cuillère à Pot in Le Barp
<http://www.la-cuilliere-a-pot.com>

DAY 5:
 *** Hotel Le Roc in Arcachon
<http://www.roc-hotel-moderne.com>

Exact hotels depend on availability at time of booking.

Please note:
We can add additional days in Arcachon with riding on both sides of the bay; take an extra day to explore the Cap Ferret; you'll love the boat ride crossing!

BORDEAUX 5 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

FROM THE VINEYARDS TO THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

Day 1 : Arrival in Bordeaux and transfer to Capian
 Arrival at the railway station or at the airport. Transfer by taxi to "the Château de Grand Branet", a 3-star guesthouse where you will receive a guidebook outlining your tour. The owners will welcome you to their 17thC home, which is set in the heart of their winegrowing estate. Dinner in the company of your hosts.

Day 2 : The "Entre-Deux-Mers" region
 You will start your biking through the heart of this winegrowing area, arriving in the Côtes de Bordeaux Saint-Macaire region. Your ride brings you through the bastide town of Cadillac and its castle, as well as the former residence of the painter Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec at Château Malromé and that of the writer François Mauriac at Domaine de Malagar. You finish in the old merchant town of Saint-Macaire. A beautiful collection of both medieval and Renaissance vestiges, be sure to see the 14th century painted murals in the St. Sauveur church, and to meander through the arcaded main square before your dinner.

Day 3 : Sauternes vineyards to Origine
 We cross over onto the left bank of the Garonne River this morning to then follow the twisting roads of the world-famous Sauternes vineyards, including the jewel in its crown: Château Yquem. The itinerary goes on to Budos, then through the valleys carved out by the River Ciron, to Leogats and Nouaillan. You then carry on to Balizac where you enter the Landes de Gascogne Regional Nature Park, before reaching Origine.

Day 4 : Landes de Gascogne Natural Park
 You will be riding westwards along a lovely little forest road offering great variety. Heading towards Louchats, the pine forest becomes denser and the scent of pine resin richer. Leave your bicycle at the site of the lagoons of Gât-Mort and discover the water beneath the carpet of fern. For your picnic the lakes of Hostens offer plenty of shade by the shore, perfect for an afternoon nap. The bike path will then take you, between pine trees and heather, on small roads to your home for the night in the village of Le Barp.

Day 5 : To the Bay of Arcachon and the Ocean
 Cycle gently along the bike path to Mios, following a little road as the pine forest gradually thins. Crossing over the railway line takes you to Le Teich, where the Park meets the sea. Enter the ornithological park to take a break! The landscape opens out to the light of the Bay of Arcachon as you take the coastal path with the salt from the bay under your wheels and follow the scent of the sea air to Gujan-Mestras. Pay a visit to the nationally-renowned site of the Dune du Pyla, where you can leave your bike and climb to the top of the highest dune of Europe. The view from the top is breathtaking. Arrival at your last hotel in Arcachon for an evening on the seafloor or at the casino

Day 6 : Departure - Bon Voyage!
 After breakfast, you can take the easy, inexpensive train back into the centre of Bordeaux. Please note: we can add on additional days in Arcachon with riding on both sides of the bay.

