# CULTURAL & GOURMET ADVENTURES WALKING IN

RANCE

OFF THE BEATEN PATH

World Beader in Small Snow Group Travel in France

*ideover* one of France's most alluring regions during our Dordogne Gourmet, Luxury Walking Tour. Dordogne's landscape of ancient castles mingles precariously amongst thousand year old perched villages sprinkled along the Dordogne River banks. Behold 20,000-year-old cave paintings, still brilliant in color, reminding you that this region is the "cradle of humankind."

torical countryside rich in castles and history, indulge in tasting wines of the



southwest and prepare regional cuisine with a master Chef during a private cooking class. Plus Michelin-star and country bistro style dining and luxurious historical accommodations will have you raising your glass to the good life.

#### EXPERIENCE INSPIRING ITINERARIES, EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY, AND EXCELLENT VALUE!

And, Off the Beaten Path France Tours are Recommended by Best Selling Author PJ Adams as her Tour of Choice to Discover the Dordogne region!!

Traveling on a group tour to France is a fabulous choice for a European vacation experience whether you are a first time traveler to France or a seasoned traveler to the country. And, traveling on an Off the Beaten Path small group, cultural walking and foodie tour provides exceptional and privileged insider experiences at unparalleled value that multi-destination and non-France based tour companies cannot match!

- Our sole focus and specialty is and always has been dedicated to small group travel in France WE KNOW FRANCE BEST!
- We have well over 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE leading tours exclusively in France.
- Our exclusive relationships with every one of our vendors in France makes these tours truly the trip of a lifetime!
- The most popular small group tours in France, we include "insider" experiences that non-France based and multi-destination tour companies cannot match.
- Our tours sell out year after year thanks to our exclusive benefits, exceptional quality, and excellent value.
- We are proud to be named travelers #1 choice for group travel for two decades!

Book one of our small group tours today to discover for yourself why our exclusive France tours have been named TRAVELERS #1 CHOICE FOR GROUP TRAVEL FOR TWO DECADES!

Website - https://www.traveloffthebeatenpath.com





VOTED BEST ACTIVE, SMALL GROUP TOURS IN FRANCE FOR DISCERNING TRAVELERS BY: CONDE NAST, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, FORBES , CNN TRAVELLER, USA TODAY, THE NEW YORK TIMES and TRAVEL & LEISURE!

WHO IS THIS TOUR DESIGNED FOR? No experience necessary...like all of our tours, our Dordogne Tour is designed for travelers interested in a small group tour that includes a variety of engaging activities, leisure time, professional and knowl-edgeable tour guides, luxurious accommodations and sumptuous meals. It's vacation and our tours are all about having fun, enjoying new experiences and being active!

#### **GUEST TESTIMONIALS:**

"Thank you for the most wonderful vacation we have ever had!! Our Guides were the best! Their knowledge, thoughtfulness, flexibility, liveliness and inspiring conversations will stay forever in our memories. The hotel was absolutely delightful. We really enjoyed the composition of the group and the size of the group, as well

as our visits of the Castles, the meals, balloon ride, wine tasting, markets and cooking class! We so much appreciate everything you did for us!" Marilyn Bartholme and John Simon-Ash, Mahwah, New Jersey

"Everything was so wonderful! Our Chef, his family, our Guides and the winery tours were all amazing! Being able to experience all of the activities of this trip was unbelievable." Bill & Laurie Crimando, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI (Have been on 3 Off the Beaten Path Tours)



## OTBP *Dordogne* WALKING TOURS FEATURE:

- Full-time services of a professional Off the Beaten Path Expert Culinary and Walking Tour Guide.
- 4 Nights, Luxury Historical Hotel Accommodations (NO hotel hopping) at Chateau de la Treyne
- 11 Meals: 4 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 4 Dinners
- All restaurants and bistros on this tour are Michelin-star and/or have been featured/recommended by top "foodie" magazines. We dine in both gourmet restaurants and our favorite hide-a-ways cherished by the locals.
- · All Wines and Non-alcoholic Beverages are included at all meals
- A personalized photo album of your tour in Dordogne.
- Two (2) Walks: "The Chateau (Castle) Walk" and "The Gorge d'Enfer Walk"
- Cultural Discovery in Sarlat, La Roque-Gageac
- · Tour of the Pre-historic Cave of Font Gaume
- Tour of the Pre-historic Cave of Peche Merle
- Culinary Class with local Master Chef in Souillac
- Group size for this specialty tour is limited to 12 persons





### Dordogne Hinerary: PRE-HISTORIC CAVES, GOURMET CUISINE & CULTURE!

DAY TOUR BEGINS: GROUP MEETS, HOTEL CHECK-IN, LEISURE TIME, GOURMET WELCOME DIN-NER TOGETHER - D

Arrival in Brive-la-Gaillarde. Meet and greet by your tour guide at the scheduled group pick-up time at 2:00 PM at the Brive-Ia-Gaillarde Rail Station from where you will transfer to your historical hotel as a group. Check-in at the hotel. Settle into your room and prepare for our first evening together.



#### Gourmet Welcome Dinner Together.

DAY 2 : PRE-HISTORIC CAVE TOUR AT FONT GAUME, LUNCH INDEPENDENTLY IN LES EYZIES, AFTER-NOON: "THE GORGE D'ENFER WALK", DINNER TOGETHER - B, D



#### Breakfast.

FONT GAUME -- Morning Tour. Font de Gaume is special because the animals are carved, then painted inside the carving. If the paint fades, most of the carving can still be seen. Recently, the ground of the cave was renovated for tourists. Prior to beginning the renovation, the walls were again studied to ensure no paintings had been overlooked.

About 180 new 'things' were discovered, from animals to simple signs. Most of them are behind a layer of calcite, and can be seen only with a UV or IR light. It was also at this time that a carving of a wolf was discovered. Only the carved part of that wolf survived. Everything from Mammoths to bisons dating from the Ice Age can be seen.



Lunch: Independently in Les Eyzies.

**"The Gorge d'Enfer Walk"** -- in the Afternoon: The first of our two guided walks: through the countryside Between Les Eyzies and Sarlat.

**LEISURE** TIME to relax before dinner.

Gourmet Bistro Dinner Together.

DAY 3: MORNING: COOKING CLASS, COOKING CLASS LUNCH TOGETHER, AFTERNOON: AT LEISURE TO EXPLORE HISTORIC SARLAT VILLAGE, EVENING: DINNER TOGETHER - B, L, D

#### Breakfast.

CookingClassmorning...Participateinafun,cal Master Chef.PrepareatraditionalPerigordinethreecoursemeal.

Cocktails & Gourmet Lunch of the recipes prepared together in class.



### LEISURE TIME seems that time has forgotten about this beautiful

to explore historic Sarlat village in the afternoon. It

hidden village. The cobblestone walking streets and golden stone buildings bear little witness to change. Shop at the local specialty boutiques, enjoy local music or a street side cafe to people watch.

Bistro style dinner of traditional cuisine. SOUILLAC



DAY 4: MORNING: PRE-HISTORIC CAVE TOUR AT PECHE MERLE, LUNCH INDEPENDENTLY, AFTERNOON: "THE CHATEAUX (CASTLES) WALK", FAREWELL DINNER - B, D

Breakfast.



The prehistoric PECHE MERLE TOUR galleries, in the lower network, were discovered in 1922 by Andre David and Henri Dutertre, when they were 16 and 15 years old respectively. The examination of the paintings and engravings was immediately begun by the priests of Cabrerets. Peche Merle is considered "An art gallery in a palace of nature" and is the most famous pre-historic cave in the world. The cave's location is however a well kept secret. We will only have access to view about one third of the galleries due to on-going preservation efforts by archeologists.

Lunch: Independently in La Roque-Gageac.

### "THE CHATEAUX WALK"

along the Dordogne River

and through the most beautiful villages sprinkled along its' river banks. This spectacular walk features no less than 4 castles within view all along the trail. Enjoy pauses for photo opportunities and simply just to be amazed at the beauty of the surroundings.



FAREWELL DINNER: Gourmet farewell dinner together this evening in Sarlat.

#### DAY 5 : TOUR CONCLUSION, GROUP DROP-OFF AT BRIVE-LA-GAILLARDE RAIL STATION - B

Breakfast. Trip concludes today with 11:00 am arrival to the Brive-Ia-Gaillarde Rail Station.

(B) = Breakfast Included, (L) = Lunch Included, (D) = Dinner Included

ACTIVITY INFORMATION: This tour involves a considerable amount of walking and is designated as a walking tour. This tour also requires travelers be able to stand for extended periods of times during the pre-historic cave tours, as seating is not available in the caves.

# Dordogne Tour PRICE INCLUDES:

- Full-time services of a professional Off the Beaten Path Expert Culinary and Walking Tour Guide.
- 4 nights, Home Based Luxury Accommodations (NO Hotel Hopping) at Chateau de la Treyne
- 11 Meals: 4 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 4 Dinners
- All entry fees for pre-historic cave tours.
- All fees for Culinary Class with local Master Chef
- All fees associated with the two walks noted in the itinerary
- All Wines and Non-alcoholic Beverages are included at all meals
- All Ground transportation during the tour
- Roundtrip transfers between Brive-la-Gaillarde and our hotel on tour start and conclusion day at specified times



TOUR BEGINS: Group pick-up at 2:00 PM at Brive-la-Gaillarde Rail Station, Brive-la-Gaillarde, France

TOUR ENDS: Group drop-off at 11:00 am Brive-la-Gaillarde Rail Station, Brive-la-Gaillarde, France

#### **GUEST TESTIMONIALS:**



"Thank you for a great time, it was really a wonderful trip!" Mamie Camuso, Macon GA (Has been on 3 Off the Beaten Path Tours)

"I wanted to tell you what a great trip we had. The Tour

was fascinating, I'm so glad that I got to experience it. The food was great and thank you so much for the wine. We will enjoy it at home and fondly remember our trip with you. It took a lot of work and it was wonderful!" Tom & Sue Hunter, Los Angeles, CA

"Thank you for a great time! It was a lot of fun getting to know the group and the different activities really added to the experience of being amidst historic castles that were amazing! I am looking forward to another trip with Off the Beaten Path" Monica Merkel, Danbury, Connecticut

ADDITIONAL (Dordogne TOUR INFORMATION

#### • UNRIVALED EXPERTISE WITHIN FRANCE AND THE BEST TOUR GUIDES:

All Off the Beaten Path guides are Americans with dual nationality (American-French citizenship), are multi-lingual and reside in France. They also bring a wealth of local information and history to enrich each guest's experience and have been selected for their comprehensive understanding of French culture. You will find that Off the Beaten Path guides are wonderful traveling companions, whose knowledge and sense of fun and positive attitude make each day a wonderful experience.

#### • WHERE DO WE RENDEZVOUS ON DAY 1 OF THE DORDOGNE TOUR?

Your OTBP Guide(s) will meet you at the Brive-la-Gaillarde rail station in Brive-la-Gaillarde at 2:00 PM on day 1 of the tour. Specific meeting location details will be included in your complete tour information package we send you 30 days prior to the tour.

#### • WHERE DOES THE DORDOGNE TOUR FINISH?

We depart the hotel in the morning in order to arrive at 11:00 am at the Brive-la-Gaillarde rail station.

#### • HOW SHOULD I GO ABOUT MAKING MY TRAVEL PLANS?

Off the Beaten Path is a full service tour operator and it is our pleasure to assist you with all aspects of upcoming travel plans. Whether you are looking for a suggestion for a hotel in Paris or assistance with your rail tickets, simply contact us at contact@traveloffthebeatenpath.com or call us at 1.877.846.2831 for assistance.

#### • WHAT IS THE WEATHER GOING TO BE LIKE IN DORDOGNE?

April, September and October are the best months to visit the region. Day time temperatures range in the low to mid--70's. Typically it is sunny, but be prepared with the proper rain gear, as weather can be unpredictable.

#### • ARE OFF THE BEATEN PATH, LLC TOURS IN ENGLISH?

Yes. All tours are conducted in English and designed for an English speaking clientel.

#### • WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED ON MY DORDOGNE TOUR?

Airfare to and from the trip, Train fare to and from the trip, guide and driver gratuities and incidentals along the way.

#### • HOW SHOULD I TIP MY OFF THE BEATEN PATH GUIDE(S)?

Tipping in France is common. Gratuities to hotel staff, restaurant servers and baggage porters are included in your tour price. Gratuities to your tour guides/leaders and driver are not included in your tour price. It is customary to tip your tour guides/leaders and professional driver at your discretion at the conclusion of your tour, as a show of appreciation for their hard work and exceptional service. Complete tipping suggestions/guidelines are included in your detailed tour information welcome package we send you about 30 days before the departure date of the tour.

#### • WHO ARE THE DORDOGNE TOURS DESIGNED FOR?

OTBP's Dordogne Tours are designed for discerning travelers of all ages and backgrounds, from the seasoned traveler and independent traveler to the first time traveler to France. Join any one of the our tours as a solo traveler, a couple, a small group of friends or family, or bring your entire travel club, affinity group, women's organization or wine society. No culinary, history or other type of experience is necessary. Join us for the vacation of a lifetime to discover the best kept secret in France, the Dordogne region, as an insider, and make new friends along the way.

#### • DO I NEED TO BE AN EXPERT TO TAKE YOUR DORDOGNE TOUR?

Not at all. The idea is to learn about French culture, traditions, wine, daily life, artisan lives and culinary practices in a fun and relaxing environment. Our tours offer great learning opportunities for everyone. Off the Beaten Path guides are very skilled at adapting their discussions to the general level of knowledge of the group, providing good introductory information for novices, and more advanced discussions for those who have more experience or a specialty interest. It's vacation and our tours are all about having fun, enjoying new experiences and being active!

#### • IS WINE INCLUDED AT MEALS? WHAT KIND IS INCLUDED AT MEALS?

Yes, wine is included at all scheduled meals together. We expertly match premium wines from the region we're visiting with each dish. Meals offer an excellent opportunity to try wines from appellations not available to guests at home, and to introduce guests to some select wines worth a favorable mention or that are exceptionally appreciated by the locals.

#### • HOW ARE THE DORDOGNE TOURS STRUCTURED?

Having over 20 years experience in the tour industry, specifically with small group touring, we have found that our guests are generally more interested in active experiences, culture, people to people experiences and guided tours of museums and sites. Our guests like to visit private homes, and pursue their hobbies when they travel. Our guests enjoy being able to shop locally for items, such as, collectibles, art and local products. Our guests tend to do more homework and want a meatier trip, and also want to enjoy down time or leisure time to explore independently. All of our trips are designed based on these factors. Each trip offers organized activities and excursions daily combined with periods of leisure time each day. Our tours encourage individual approach and pursuit of your interests, as well as introducing you to new experiences and people during each trip.

#### • WHAT TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WILL I NEED FOR MY TOUR?

All travelers to France are required to have a valid passport. Please make 2 copies of your passport and personal identification before you depart. Keep one set of copies with you in a separate location from your travel documents, and leave the other set of copies with a contact at home before you depart. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please check with your consulate general for entry requirements.

#### • DO I NEED TO BE AN ATHLETE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DORDOGNE TOUR?

No. However, this tour is a designated walking tour and involves a considerable amount of daily leisure walking throughout the trip, and includes 2 designated walks of 3-3.5 hours each. These designated walks are not considered to be exceptionally challenging; however, Dordogne is a very hilly region.

#### • HOW SHOULD I PACK? HOW SHOULD I EXPECT TO DRESS DURING THE TOUR?

Please limit your luggage to one medium-sized suitcase and one carry-on. Try not to over pack; you will not wear all your clothing! A suggested packing list will be enclosed in your tour information package. Pack comfortable light weight, casual clothing. It's vacation and we want our guests to feel and be as comfortable as possible during our daily activities and excursions. Our dinners together include a mix of Michelin star and casual bistro style restaurants. For men we suggest a business casual ensemble (no tie or jacket necessary unless it's your personal preference) and for women we recommend a casual dress for dinners.

Hotel CHATEAU DE LA TREYNE

All accommodations on Off the Beaten Path small group tours of France offer a charming, luxurious and historical environment in combination with complete and comprehensive modern amenities and services, and are centrally located to the activities and excursions scheduled for each day of the tour.

All rooms feature large king beds and come equipped with a private, fully equipped bathroom (tub/shower, toilet, sink, etc.), mini bar, satellite television and telephone.

R OOMS FOR OUR GUESTS ARE SPACIOUS, SUPERIOR ROOMS WITH BEAUTIFUL VIEWS



#### OUR COMMITMENT TO ENSURING INSPIRING ITINERARIES, EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY, AND EXCELLENT VALUE!!

- ITINERARIES ARE DESIGNED TO SHARE THE VERY BEST OF EACH REGION Provence, Loire Valley, Bordeaux, Champagne, Normandy, and Dordogne– including luxurious and boutique hotel accommodations that reflect the heart & soul of each region, and offer complete modern amenities, spectacular theme walks, both Michelin-star gourmet and bistro style dining at the best restaurants of each region, cooking classes at the homes and/or private workshops of Michelin-star and Master Chefs who are personal friends and who welcome OTBP guests to their homes and professional kitchens as a group of friends, visits to local artisan workshops, participate in fun workshops with our artisan friends, shopping at the finest craft markets, hot air ballooning and much more.
- ALL TOURS ARE RUN BY OTBP. The company does NOT subcontract any of its tours. Many OTBP tours are owner led and those that aren't owner led are led by guides who work exclusively for OTBP and who have been hand-picked by Christy based on her very strict criteria.
- NO HIDDEN FEES Since all OTBP tour guides reside in France, we do NOT have to incorporate any international transportation and lodging costs for tour guides into our tour prices. This means we pass on even greater savings to you, and can guarantee our OTBP luxurious quality tour experiences at even more competitive prices and better value prices.
- ALL WINES INCLUDED Classified regional wines and non-alcoholic beverages are included at all group meals.
- MOST MEALS INCLUDED Group lunches and dinners are comprised of a combination of set menus exclusively elaborated for our groups that reflect the cuisine of the region, ordering off the menu and indulging in select gourmet menus that feature a Chef's local and/or seasonal special-ties. We are constantly told that our restaurant selections are one of many highlights of our tours! We are also happy to accommodate vegetarians, vegans, gluten allergies and other special dietary requests and needs.
- ESTABLISHED, PROPRIETARY RELATIONSHIPS... with all wineries, chefs, restaurants, bistrots, service providers and artisans on each tour based on both its exclusive and privileged network of contacts and French friends, and an outstanding reputation throughout France. All chefs, restaurants and bistrots selected for OTBP tours are Michelin-star and/or have been featured/recommended by top "foodie" magazines and/or fellow Michelin-star Chefs. OTBP tours feature dining in both gourmet restaurants and favorite hide-a-ways.
- NEGOTIATED THE BEST RATES WITH ITS FRENCH PARTNERS to ensure the best active, luxury and authentic French experience again at the best value tour prices.
- THE LOWEST SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS in the France tour industry thanks to established relationships with partner hotels. Our single supplement fees cover exact hotel single occupancy fees charged. We do NOT charge a single supplement for profit, NEVER.
- FEATURING TRUE SMALL GROUP TRAVEL. The maximum group size on OTBP tours is 16 guests per tour date, and 12 guests on some tours. Limiting group sizes creates the ideal ambiance for guests to easily mingle and get to know other guests, yet still maintain their independence. OTBP also limits its groups to a maximum of 16 guests per tour date in order to preserve each guest's personalized experience, and ensure its famous quality customer service.

### FRANCE

#### OFF THE BEATEN PATH

World Beader in Small And Stores Group Travel in France

### DORDOGNE TOUR DATES AND PRICES

TOUR PRICE - CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR CURRENT TOUR PRICES!

• On request only for private groups of minimum 10 guests.



### NOT JUST A TOUR: IT'S AN AUTHENTIC OFF THE BEATEN PATH French Experience...

Unrivaled expertise within France sets Off the Beaten Path, LLC apart from non-France based and multi-destination tour companies. Off the Beaten Path, LLC (OTBP) is American owned and operated. In 2021, the company celebrates 27 years delivering small, engaging group, walking, gourmet foodie, wine and cultural tours exclusively in France. OTBP active, small group France tours offer travelers the very BEST, and most inspiring and exclusive itineraries filled with cultural "insider" experiences to discover Provence, Loire Valley, Bordeaux, Champagne, Normandy, and Dordogne, France.

Enjoy exceptional quality and excellent value on an OTBP small group tour today! Travelers and publications rate Off the Beaten Path Tours the BEST active, small group tours in France thanks to the unparalleled "insider" experiences featured in each tour itinerary. The company's renowned "insider" relationships with regional French chefs, artisans, and cultural industry professionals put Off the Beaten Path far ahead of the competition when it comes to creating one-of-a-kind itineraries to experience the very BEST of France! Whether you're a seasoned small group tour traveler, or new to the small group tour scene, Off the Beaten Path tours offer fun, enriching, interactive, local, and authentic French experiences and activities for everyone.

More than just a tour, Off the Beaten Path, transforms the entire guest experience into a personalized and exclusive "unparalleled" active, cultural affair that far exceeds guest expectations! We connect guests with lifelong, French friends who rank among France's top-rated chefs, specialty artisans, artists, wine producers, hotel & castle owners, and entertainers! Expert Professional English speaking guides who live in France, inspiring itineraries, deluxe historical hotel accommodations, sumptuous French meals, classified regional wines, and comfortable transportation in private, spacious, professionally driven vehicles are immutable standards on every Off the Beaten Path Tour. Each tour itinerary is comprised of a variety of engaging activities and enriching experiences for guests to authentically discover the heart and soul of each region. Participate in cooking classes with our friends who are celebrity Master, Meilleur Ouvrier de France, and Michelin-star chefs who look forward to your arrival, and make you feel welcome in their family homes, professional kitchens, and workshops as a group of friends.

Shop at weekly village markets where OTBP tour guides introduce you to our French friends who are olive oil and wine producers, artists, cheese-makers, herb and spice vendors, craftsmen, perfumery and linen artisans, and designers. Walk the same countryside and vineyard trails that regional French residents do with their fami-

lies. Enjoy the slow road scenery that comes with walking local country trails through vineyards, flower fields of lavender, poppies, and sunflowers, olive and fruit orchards, and small historic villages. Tour castles, pre-historic caves, and other historical monuments and sites with our knowledgeable, professional UNESCO award-winning guides. Learn the juicy, fun untold stories of French history! Dine in the same gourmet restaurants and bistros, as local French do — where the chefs are our personal friends and set aside a table uniquely to welcome you as their exclusive guests. Built-in leisure time provides guests with opportunities to pursue independent interests and activities or to break away from the group for some quiet or personal time.

Every OTBP tour offers daily options with varying levels of activeness. You always have the flexibility of deciding how each day unfolds. OTBP tour guides sit down with the group every day to discuss the activities, excursions, walks, local events, and options of the day. With so many options available during each tour, we ensure you the flexibility to be as active as you choose (more walking, less walking, shopping time, cultural discovery, people watching, photography, etc.), and to also enjoy leisure time to pursue independent interests, all while enjoying the perks of traveling in a small group. Our tour guides take care and manage the daily logistics and details while you, our guest, spend your time on the critical stuff — having fun, relaxing and enjoying your vacation your way! The idea behind each OTBP tour is to appeal to the discerning traveler of all ages and backgrounds who seeks something new and different, and who wants to reach out and discover something inspiring.



### FRANCE

#### OFF THE BEATEN PATH

World Beader in Small Control Stroup Travel in Trance

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

http://www.traveloffthebeatenpath.com

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

• Off the Beaten Path, LLC is an American owned and operated company licensed and bonded to protect your vacation investment.

• Off the Beaten Path, LLC holds a website identity assurance warranty of \$100,000. Travelers are insured for up to \$100,000 per tour reservation booking when relying on the information provided by Geo-Trust IdAuthority (Equifax Secure Certificate Authority) on our website.

OFF THE BEATEN PATH, LLC

EMAIL: <u>franceotbp@gmail.com</u>

Telephone: 1.717.683.2827 Reservation Office & Mailing Address: 749 Grandview Rd., York, PA 17403, USA Branch Offices in Bordeaux & Saint Remy-de-Provence