



Walk along the back roads of Bordeaux and Saint Emilion wine country with Off the Beaten Path during this 6 day/5 night wine tasting and gourmet tour for unparalleled fun, great food and exceptional wines in an unpretentious, small group. As wine industry insiders, we secure winery tours and VIP wine tasting that are unavailable to the general public. Designed for the discerning, active traveler, this tour features...

- This exclusive small group, Bordeaux Grand Cru Walking Tour is led by professional Off the Beaten Path, LLC Company Tour Guides who are history, culinary and wine specialists, and who are UNESCO Heritage Award Winners. Our Tour guides are professional France history and Bordeaux specific history specialists who make learning the tidbits, gossip and stories of France fun and memorable throughout the tour.
- Our dedicated Bordeaux "Wine Industry Insider" Guides bring the prestigious world of Bordeaux wine to life daily.
- Tour and taste at leading, classified "Grand Cru" wine estates (chateaux) that are inaccessible to the public!
- Indulge in exclusive, VIP wine tasting of multiple vintages at the conclusion of each winery tour.
- Discover and learn about differing vinification processes from one vintner to another daily.
- For WALKERS - Share in authentic local experiences along the roads less traveled during 3 different walks through prestigious vineyards and countryside in Saint Emilion, Sauternes and Graves.
- For NON-WALKERS - shuttle to/from all restaurants, activities, excursions, winery tours and wine tastings.
- 12 MEALS included - Savor sumptuous gourmet meals of Bordelaise specialties throughout the trip.
- All meals on this small group Bordeaux Tour are a mix of private, VIP gourmet experiences at wine producing estates or in private homes of a vintner and/or chef.
- Classified and "Grand Cru" Bordeaux wines and non-alcoholic beverages included at all group meals.
- Participate in a hands-on cooking class with our friend, a local, celebrity master chef at his traditional farm home in Sauternes--his most recent cookbook has just been released!
- Enjoy a private gourmet "picker's lunch" at classified wine producer Chateau Troplong-Mondot in Saint Emilion Jurisdiction.
- Dine as VIP guests during a private, gourmet lunch at "Grand Cru" producer Chateau Haut Bailly in the Graves appellation.
- Pause to take photos during walks, pick grapes, smell the flowers and talk to cellar masters.
- We conclude this exclusive, once in a lifetime Bordeaux wine experience with a spectacular Gala dinner hosted at the Cathiard's Grand Cru estate, Chateau Smith Haut LaFitte.
- Enjoy a guided, historical walking tour of Bordeaux.
- Partake in the Caudalie Vinotherapy Spa services.
- Bottle water and snacks provided for all walks during the trip.
- Spend leisure time exploring beautiful, historical downtown Bordeaux.
- And pamper yourself sleeping in style at our luxury hotel, a local gem that is located amidst beautiful, classified vineyards and has been featured in both Conde Nast's and CNN Traveler's top 10, 2011, 2012 and 2013 luxury, hotel list of places to stay while in Bordeaux wine country and No. 2 on National Geographic's BEST Vineyard stays list! Come as a couple, come alone or bring a friend or colleague, and enjoy the very BEST that Bordeaux wine country has to offer!





Award Winning OFF THE BEATEN PATH TOURS
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... Off the Beaten Path Bordeaux Tours are designed for travelers interested in a small group tour that includes a variety of engaging activities (cooking class, daily walks, winery tours and VIP wine tasting, cultural discovery), leisure time, professional and knowledgeable tour guides, luxurious accommodations and sumptuous gourmet meals. It's vacation and Off the Beaten Path tours are all about having fun, enjoying new experiences and being active!



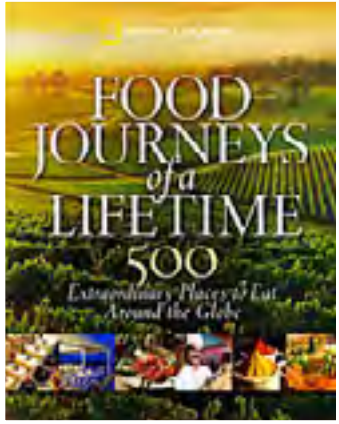
GUEST TESTIMONIALS:

"Loved all of the wine tours and tastings, cooking class and the hotel! We greatly appreciate your kind consideration and expertise. Thanks for making our tour so enjoyable!" *Charles and Susan Kollar, Princeton, NJ (Have been on 3 OTBP Tours - Bordeaux, Loire Valley & Provence)*

"We thoroughly enjoyed our Bordeaux experience with you. Everything was so personalized and the group size was perfect. The variety of activities was very well balanced and our guide was fabulous!" *Martin and Patricia Sibliger, Atlanta, GA (Have been on 2 OTBP Tours - Bordeaux & Loire Valley Tours)*



Bordeaux TOURS FEATURE:



- Professional Off the Beaten Path, LLC Tour Guide/Leader who is a culinary, history and wine professional and Expert Walking Guide

- Professional “Bordeaux Wine Industry Insider” Wine Guides

- 5 Nights, Luxury, 5-star Hotel Accommodations (NO hotel hopping) at 5-star Les Sources de Caudalie Resort & Spa --Featured in both Conde Nast’s and CNN Traveler’s top 10, 2011, 2012 and 2013 luxury, hotel list of places to stay while in Bordeaux wine country and is rated No. 2 on National Geographic’s BEST Vineyard Stays list!

- Classified and “Grand Cru” Bordeaux wines included at group meals

- 12 MEALS** : 5 Buffet Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 4 Gourmet Dinners.

- All restaurants and bistros on this tour are Michelin-star and/or have been

featured/recommended by top “foodie” magazines or fellow Michelin-star Chefs. We dine in both gourmet restaurants and our favorite hide-a-ways cherished by the locals. Classified and “Grand Cru” Bordeaux wines included at group meals

- A private, gourmet picker’s lunch with all the trimmings at Chateau Troplong-Mondot in Saint Emilion

- A private, gourmet lunch at Chateau Haut Bailly in the Graves appellation

- Time to explore historical Saint Emilion wine producing village and its’ cultural monuments

- Private Winery Tours and VIP Wine Tasting daily at Classified Chateaux - Wine Producers, such as, in Graves-Pessac-Leognan (1855 classified Chateau Haut Brion, plus Grand Cru producers: Chateau Carbonnieux, Haut Bailly and/or Smith Haut LaFitte), in Saint Emilion (Chateau Figeac, Troplong-Mondot and/or Fonplegade), in Sauternes (1855 classified Grand Cru producers: Chateau d’Yquem and/or Chateau La Tour Blanche)

- Visit the Barrel Maker (Cooperage) at SMITH HAUT LAFITTE

- Bottled water and snacks provided for all walks during the trip.

- Hands-on Culinary Class at home with our friend and Master Chef Antoine followed by dinner as guests at our Chef’s table.

- 3 WALKS - (1 in the Graves-Pessac-Léognan Appellation, 1 of the Saint Emilion Jurisdiction, 1 in the Sauternes)
- All walks on this tour are rated easy to moderate, are optional and designed for interested guests.

- NON-WALKERS** - shuttle by comfortable minivan from winery to winery.



OUR *Confirmed* LIST OF CLASSIFIED, FIRST GROWTH WINE PRODUCERS
WE VISIT DURING OUR 2014 AND 2015 HARVEST TOURS...

Bordeaux is a very exclusive and closed world during the harvest. Rarely do producers open their doors to the public during the harvest. However, as **Bordeaux wine industry insiders**, we are happy to be able to use our **privileged relationships and connections** to make visits to the following estates possible during our annual **harvest tours**. These producers are the “creme de la creme” of the Bordeaux wine world!

- Chateau Haut Brion & La Mission Haut Brion - (1st growth grand cru 1855 classified - red and Graves grand cru 1953 classified/ratified 1959 - red)
- Chateau d'Yquem (Superior 1st growth grand cru 1855 classified - white)
- Chateau La Tour Blanche (1st growth grand cru 1855 classified - white)
- Chateau Figeac (Saint Emilion 1st growth grand cru classified B - red) - same terroir as Chateau Cheval Blanc
- Chateau Troplong-Mondot (Saint Emilion 1st growth grand cru classified B - red)
- Chateau Carbonnieux (Graves grand cru 1953 classified/ratified 1959 - red and white)
- Chateau Haut Bailly (Graves grand cru 1953 classified/ratified 1959 - red)
- Chateau Smith Haut LaFitte (Graves grand cru 1953 classified/ratified 1959 - red)



Bordeaux Itinerary: CLASSIFIED GROWTH WINES, CULINARY DELIGHTS & DAILY WALKS

DAY 1: PESSAC-LÉOGNAN: GROUP MEETS AT BORDEAUX ST. JEAN RAIL STATION, 1ST WINERY TOUR & VIP WINE TASTING TOGETHER AT CHATEAU HAUT BRION, HOTEL CHECK-IN, WELCOME DINNER TOGETHER - D

Arrival in BORDEAUX. Meet and greet by your tour guide at the scheduled group pick-up time at 2:00 PM at Bordeaux Saint Jean Rail Station from where you will transfer to your small luxury hotel, Les Sources de Caudalie Resort and Spa located in the heart of the vineyards.



WINERY TOUR AND TASTING in Pessac-Léognan at

Chateau Haut Brion prior to arrival at the hotel. Travelers enjoy a first taste and introduction to the classified producers of Bordeaux with a wine tour and wine tasting in Pessac with our friends at one of the original chateaux to be classified in 1855 under Napoleon III. This producer is also the only chateau of the original five situated in Graves rather than Médoc, and the only Chateau on the list that is allowed to sell a dry white wine under the same name and appellation as its' red wine.

Enjoy a fun and unpretentious tour with an introduction to the history of chateau's wine production and the evolution of the chateau throughout the centuries followed by an exclusive visit of the VAT rooms and "chais" (wine cellars), the first of many authentic behind the scenes experiences during this exclusive 6-day tour. Guests are also invited for a private wine tasting. Afterwards, check-in at the hotel. Enjoy time to get settled into your room, explore the surrounding area, enjoy a drink or a swim at the pool. (Photo left: the "racking" of the wine by candle light at Chateau Haut Brion).



WELCOME DINNER - Welcome cocktail hour and dinner. A first taste of local Bordelaise gourmet cuisine together at one of Bordeaux best kept secrets. Your Tour Guide will provide an introduction to the tour.

DAY 2: SAINT EMILION: WALK #1: WALKING THE SAINT EMILION WINE JURISDICTION, TWO CLASSIFIED WINERY TOURS AND VIP WINE TASTING, PRIVATE GOURMET PICKER'S LUNCH AT A CLASSIFIED WINE CHATEAU (WINE PRODUCER'S ESTATE), AFTER-NOON : LEISURE TIME TO EXPLORE SAINT EMILION VILLAGE, DINNER INDEPENDENTLY - B, L

BREAKFAST. FULL DAY IN SAINT EMILION VILLAGE -

Morning: Departure to Saint Emilion village, rated one of the most beautiful, historical villages in France. Walk #1: Saint Emilion Jurisdiction: Embark on a guided walk through the 1st (first) growth vineyards of the Saint Emilion Jurisdiction, the most renowned "Merlot" producing region of Bordeaux. Each of our two winery tours includes an introduction to the producer's history, harvest practices and unique vinification, barreling and bottling practices, followed by an insider visit of the VAT rooms and "chais" (wine cellars), an authentic behind the scenes experience followed by wine tasting of several vintages at each producer.

LUNCH: Walkers and NON-Walkers alike - Welcomed to our privately hosted "gourmet picker's lunch" at Saint Emilion first classified "Grand Cru" wine producer (Premier Grand Cru Classé)

Chateau Troplong-Mondot. Lunch is comprised of local specialities accompanied by the estate's "Grand Cru" wines - Private winery tour and wine tasting prior to our lunch - meet the estate owner.

AFTER LUNCH: We conclude our walk in Saint Emilion village where guests enjoy some leisure time to explore and discover Saint Emilion's history, as well as visit local artisan and wine boutiques. Most of the wine merchants offer wine tasting prior to purchase and all ship internationally should you wish to add to or begin a personal collection of Bordeaux wines, or simply send a selection home of wines tasted during your trip.



DINNER: Independently this evening either at one of the hotel's gourmet restaurants or guests may wish to venture into downtown Bordeaux and enjoy dinner along the river or in the city's historic district.

Fun Times, Good Laughs, Cooking, VIP Tours and Much More in Bordeaux Wine Country !!



DAY 3: SAUTERNES: MORNING VISIT AT THE SCHOOL OF OENOLOGY IN SAUTERNES, WALK #2 - SAUTERNES WALK, GOURMET FRENCH PICNIC LUNCH AT CHATEAU D'YQUEM, SIPPING SAUTERNES AND OUR FAVORITE "GRAND CRU" RED WINES AT LUNCH, WINERY TOURS AND VIP WINE TASTING DURING OUR WALK INCLUDING CHATEAU D'YQUEM, DINNER TOGETHER - B, L, D



BREAKFAST. SAUTERNES WINERY TOURS AND VIP WINE TASTING - Private Winery Tour and wine tasting at the famous French Oenology school in Sauternes, 1855 classified growth wine producer and teaching school for up and coming cellar masters.



SAUTERNES WALK - Walk #2: The Sauternes Walk through the prestigious sweet grape appellation, home to the semillon, muscadelle and sauvignon blanc grape varieties - "cépages" as they're called in French.



FRENCH PICNIC LUNCH amidst the vineyards at

Chateau d'Yquem.

Today two authentic behind the scenes experiences await travelers, as we again tour inaccessible areas at each producer and enjoy exceptional VIP wine tasting at the conclusion of each visit.



DINNER: Another gourmet Bordelaise dinner together this evening.

DAY 4: BORDEAUX: A DAY AT LEISURE IN HISTORIC BORDEAUX OR BOOK SPA SERVICES AT OUR LUXURY HOTEL OR BORROW A BIKE AND DISCOVER THE LOCAL COUNTRYSIDE, AFTERNOON RETURN TO THE HOTEL FROM BORDEAUX, CULINARY CLASS WITH FRIEND AND MASTER CHEF ANTOINE AT HIS TRADITIONAL BORDELAISE FARM-HOUSE IN SAUTERNES - B, D



BREAKFAST. Morning: **BORDEAUX** - Departure for a leisure day in historical downtown Bordeaux. Home to beautiful historic monuments and museums, excellent shopping, wine boutiques and exceptional scenery walking along the Gironde River, there are endless ways to spend the day here. Exploring Bordeaux is a true step back in French history, and has something to offer and interest every traveler.

Or any guests interested in the Caudalie Spa, please contact us in advance and we can help you organize a reservation for a spa treatment or a half-day spa session. Today offers a perfect opportunity to pursue independent interests, try the caudalie spa, a massage or other spa service for anyone not heading to Bordeaux for the day. Bicycles are also available to borrow to enjoy a ride around the local vineyard filled countryside or simply enjoy a walk of the hotel property.

Lunch: Independently in Bordeaux or at the hotel for those not venturing into the city today. Mid-afternoon return to the hotel.

COOKING CLASS: EARLY EVENING & DINNER :

Fun, Hands-on cooking class with our friend, Master Chef Antoine at his beautiful farm-home in the Sauternes wine producing appellation. We'll prepare a three course meal of Bordelais recipes. Following our ludic cooking class lesson, **CHEF'S COCKTAILS** with Antoine and his wife, followed by a gourmet dinner of the recipes we prepared during class. Antoine will also make a professional selection of classified wines from his private cellar to accompany each recipe.





WALKING, COOKING, EATING AND WINE TASTING OUR WAY THROUGH BORDEAUX WINE COUNTRY !





DAY 5: GRAVES: WALK #3 - WALKING IN PESSAC-LÉOGNAN COUNTRYSIDE (GRAVES APPELLATION), THREE WINERY TOURS & WINE TASTING INCLUDING CHATEAU CARBONNIEUX, HAUT BAILLY AND SMITH HAUT LAFITTE, PRIVATE GOURMET LUNCH IN A WINE PRODUCING CASTLE, VISIT AT SHL COOPERAGE (BARREL MAKER), FAREWELL DINNER TOGETHER - B, L, D

BREAKFAST.

GRAVES WALK - Morning:

WALK #3: "Graves: Pessac-Léognan: Gods of the Vineyard". The third walk of our Bordeaux Harvest takes travelers through not only the most prestigious of the Graves appellation vineyards, but also exposes travelers to some of the largest classified estates of the Graves appellation, and a chance to witness extremely different harvesting and vinification processes from what has been witnessed in Saint Emilion, Sauternes and in Pessac.



WINERY TOURS & WINE TASTING -

Winery Tours and Wine Tasting throughout the walk. As with each of our walks during this tour, we are walking through prestigious vineyards from winery to winery where travelers are welcomed for exclusive tours and wine tasting. Today three authentic behind the scenes experiences await travelers, as we again tour inaccessible areas at each producer and enjoy exceptional VIP wine tasting at the conclusion of each visit.

GOURMET LUNCH IN A CASTLE AMIDST VINEYARDS:

Walkers and NON-Walkers alike - Enjoy the VIP treatment as personal guests during a private gourmet lunch together with “Grand Cru” wines at classified wine producer *Chateau Haut Bailly*. Lunch is a privately hosted lunch exclusively for our group. We will be dining in the owner’s personal dining room, and lunch is comprised of Champagne welcome cocktail followed by an exquisite lunch of regional specialties accompanied by the property’s classified “Grand Cru” wines - Private winery tour and wine tasting prior to our lunch.



AFTERNOON AT LEISURE FOLLOWING OUR WALK.

EXCLUSIVE, PRIVATE FAREWELL GALA DINNER IN A “GRAND CRU” WINE CHATEAU -

Cocktail hour and exclusive gourmet farewell GALA dinner together prepared by our favorite Michelin-star Chef of Bordeaux and held in the private cellars of one of Bordeaux most prestigious “Grand Cru” First Growth wine producers.



DAY 6 : TOUR CONCLUSION, GROUP DROP-OFF AT ST. JEAN RAIL STATION - B

BREAKFAST. Trip concludes today with 10 AM arrival to the Rail Station. Earlier and later departures can be arranged. Please contact us for details.

(B) = BREAKFAST INCLUDED, (L) = LUNCH INCLUDED, (D) = DINNER INCLUDED

Bordeaux Tour PRICE INCLUDES:

- Full-time services of a professional Off the Beaten Path Expert Culinary and Wine Guide who serves as guests liaison during this fully escorted Bordeaux wine and culinary tour.
- Professional “Bordeaux Wine Industry Insider” Wine Guides
- 5 nights, HOME BASED, Luxury Accommodations (NO Hotel Hopping) at 5-star, luxury hotel, Les Sources de Caudalie Resort & Spa
- **12 MEALS** : 5 Buffet Breakfasts, 3 Sumptuous Lunches, 4 Gourmet Dinners.
- All restaurants and bistros on this tour are Michelin-star and/or have been featured/recommended by top “foodie” magazines or fellow Michelin-star Chefs. We dine in both gourmet restaurants and our favorite hide-a-ways cherished by the locals.
- Classified and “Grand Cru” Bordeaux wines included at group meals
- All Fees for Private Winery Tours and VIP Wine Tasting daily at Classified Chateaux (Wine Producers) and Barrel Maker
- All Fees for 1 cooking class, cooking class dinner, cocktails/beverages/wines with cooking class dinner
- Bottled water and snacks provided for all walks during the trip.
- All Fees for 3 guided walks - (1 in the Graves-Pessac-Léognan Appellation, 1 of the Saint Emilion Jurisdiction, 1 in the Sauternes)
- Ground transportation during the tour by comfortable minivans
- Roundtrip transfers between Bordeaux St. Jean rail station and the hotel on tour start and conclusion day at designated times.
- Due to the exclusivity of the Bordeaux harvest period and our local relationships, tours are limited to 16 guests per tour date.



Qui... WHAT WE DO-WHAT WE GUARANTEE OUR GUESTS...

WE GUARANTEE SOME VERY SPECIFIC SERVICES THAT WE BELIEVE YOU, AS OUR GUEST, DESERVE.

■ WE ENSURE A “SMALL GROUP” REMAINS JUST THAT - A “SMALL GROUP” !

The group size on each of our tours is a maximum 16 guests. Many of our trips sell out completely meaning group size is 16 guests, and some trips average 12-14 guests. Our experience has been that limiting our group size to 16 guests per tour creates the ideal ambiance for guests to easily mingle and get to know each other, yet still maintain their independence. We also limit our group size in order to preserve each guest's personalized experience, and ensure our famous quality customer service.

■ WE INCLUDE MOST MEALS AND ALL BEVERAGES (BOTH ALCOHOLIC AND NON-ALCOHOLIC) IN OUR TOUR PRICES !

We always include a welcome cocktail on day one of each tour, plus premium, classified and “Grand Cru” wines at all groups meals during each of our tours. If we don't include a meal on any particular day, we always have a list of our favorite cafés, brasseries and restaurants that we recommend and will be happy to reserve for you.

■ WE ALWAYS PROVIDE GUESTS THE BEST ROOMS AT EVERY HOTEL !

We always reserve the VERY BEST for our guests ! Plus there is NEVER any hotel hopping on our tours. We select one exclusive, luxurious, historical establishment for the entire 5 nights of each tour.

■ OUR SCHEDULED WALKS ARE ALWAYS GUIDED !

We always guide our walks !! Our guides are experienced and have walked our trails repeatedly each season - even in their off season, and are knowledgeable about what each trail has to offer. Our guides accompany every walk on every tour where optional and scheduled walks are included. And our guides remain with the group during the entirety of each walk. We believe your walks with us should always be fun, interesting and a time to sit back and enjoy the views along the trail while someone else takes charge and shows you the way! We have specially designed all of our trails exclusively to share with our guests. A designated support guide drives the support van.

■ WE WILL ALWAYS PROVIDE VAN SUPPORT FOR OUR WALKS !

In addition to providing guides who accompany each walk on our tours, we always provide a support van whose sole responsibility is to meet the group at designated points throughout each walk to provide more refreshments and snacks, collect any purchases made during visits along our trails, and provide a ride to any guest who needs a break.

Walking Ratings FOR BORDEAUX TOURS

Always enjoyable walking on Off the Beaten Path Tours - Nomatter which of our active, small group tours you join, you can expect to know, in advance, the level of difficulty of the walks scheduled during each tour. We also provide flexible options daily for non-walkers.

EVERY OFF THE BEATEN PATH TOUR VACATION IS DESIGNED TO MEET A WIDE VARIETY OF GUEST FITNESS LEVELS. EACH WALK IS CATEGORIZED USING THE SYSTEM BELOW.

EASY: Relatively flat terrain. Well-kept paths. Fine for even occasional walkers.

- Average walk distance: 2–5 miles
- Average walking time: Up to 3 hours

EASY TO MODERATE: Ideal for those who walk for a morning or afternoon on a regular basis. Footing may be a variety of surfaces --mostly vineyard and country trails. No extended ascents or descents.

- Average walk distance: 4–6 miles
- Average walking time: Up to 4 hours

MODERATE: Suitable for experienced walkers who are comfortable with ascents and descents (but no scrambling!). Uneven terrain possible. Vineyard, country and gravel trails.

- Average daily distance: 5-8 miles
- Average walking time: up to 4-5 hours

BORDEAUX TOUR WALKS ARE RATED AS FOLLOWS:

- The Saint Emilion walk is rated easy to moderate. Ideal for those who walk for a morning or afternoon on a regular basis. Walking on vineyard and country trails. Walk distance is 4.5 miles - approximately 2.5 hrs. of walking. Winery tours and tastings range in duration from 1-1.5 hours each.
- The Sauternes walk is rated easy to moderate. Ideal for those who walk for a morning or afternoon on a regular basis. Walking on vineyard and country trails. Walk distance is 5 miles - approximately 3 hrs. of walking. Winery tours and tastings range in duration from 1-1.5 hours each.
- The Graves walk is rated easy to moderate. Ideal for those who walk for a morning or afternoon on a regular basis. Walking on vineyard and country trails. Walk distance is 5 miles - approximately 3 hrs. of walking. Winery tours and tastings range in duration from 1-1.5 hours each.
- For NON-walkers - there is no walking rating, as travelers are only exposed to daily leisure walking in villages & towns.
- **FOR NON-WALKERS : SHUTTLE FROM WINERY TO WINERY FOR OUR EXCLUSIVE WINERY TOURS & VIP WINE TASTING.**

ACTIVITY RATING: **Walkers** -75% Easy, 25% Moderate.
Non-Walkers -100% Easy.

TOUR BEGINS: Group pick-up on Day #1 at 2:00 pm at Saint Jean Rail Station, Bordeaux, France

TOUR ENDS: Group drop-off on Day #6 at 10 am at Saint Jean Rail Station, Bordeaux, France

GUEST TESTIMONIALS:

“THANK YOU FOR SUCH A FUN TRIP! Everyone we met was so warm and friendly. This was our second trip and we surely will be back! You did a great job and we loved all of the activities, you have certainly made this an exceptional experience for us!” *Ron and Brenda Clements, Houston, TX (Bordeaux Tour)*



“GOSH THE ACTIVITIES JUST GOT BETTER AND BETTER! We loved the cooking classes and wine tasting (both Bordeaux and Provence). The calanques walk in Provence was also great! Saint Emilion village (Bordeaux) was beautiful, and having all of the winery tour appointments (Bordeaux) made for us was very appealing. We really enjoyed ourselves on both tours!” *Bob and Eileen Hamilton, Seneca, SC (Have been on 2 Off the Beaten Path Tours)*

“THE TOUR FAR EXCEEDED OUR EXPECTATIONS! Our guides were very knowledgeable, skilled and organized. Well done and many thanks! I would not change a thing.” *Patrick & Rosemary Tuohey, Victoria, Australia (Bordeaux Tour)*





ADDITIONAL *Bordeaux* 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 BORDEAUX TOUR?

Your OTBP Guide(s) will meet you at the St. Jean TGV train station in Bordeaux 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. Train times are subject to seasonal changes, and we will keep these schedules updated as any changes occur.

■ WHERE DOES THE BORDEAUX TOUR FINISH?

We depart the hotel in the morning in order to arrive at 10 AM at the St. Jean TGV train station in Bordeaux.

■ 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 NOT INCLUDED ON MY BORDEAUX TOUR?

Airfare/Train fare to and from the trip meeting location/city of Bordeaux, 1 lunch, 1 dinner, gratuities to guides and professional driver and any personal purchases.

■ 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.

■ WHAT IS THE WEATHER GOING TO BE LIKE IN BORDEAUX?

In July, day time temperatures in Bordeaux and surrounding areas range in the high 80's- to mid-90's. In September, average temperatures range from 70's to 80's Fahrenheit. Typically it is sunny, but be prepared with the proper rain gear, as harvest time can be unpredictable.

■ WHO ARE THE BORDEAUX TOURS DESIGNED FOR?

OTBP's Bordeaux Tours are designed for discerning active travelers, 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 Bordeaux wine region of France, as an insider, and make new friends along the way.

■ DO I NEED TO BE AN EXPERT TO TAKE YOUR BORDEAUX 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, unpretentious 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 OF WINES ARE 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.

- **ARE OFF THE BEATEN PATH, LLC TOURS IN ENGLISH?**

Yes. All tours are conducted in English and designed for an English speaking clientele. The majority of OTBP Guests come from the U.S.A., Australia, Canada, New Zealand and England. Guests have also come from the Caribbean, Singapore, the Philippines, South Africa and Israel.

- **HOW ARE THE BORDEAUX TOURS STRUCTURED?**

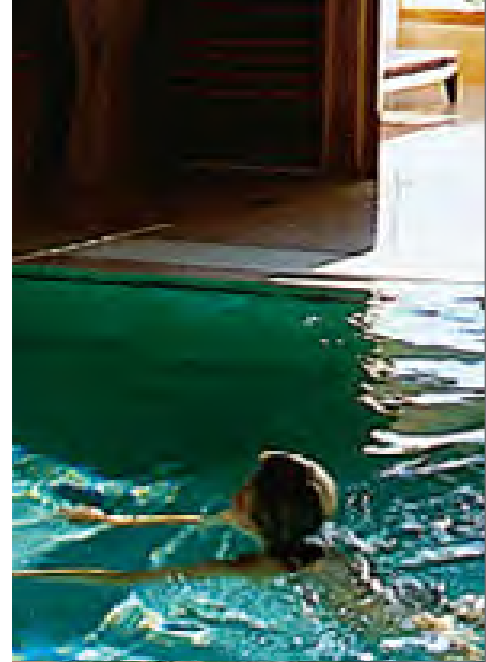
Having 20 years experience in the tour industry, specifically with small group touring, we have found that our guests are generally more interested in active experiences, culture, people to people experiences and guided tours of museums and sites. Our guests like to visit private homes, and pursue their 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 BORDEAUX TOUR?**

No. Our daily walks are designed to appeal to active travelers of every fitness level. There is very little elevation gain during the Bordeaux daily walks. Our trails are mostly gravel and dirt walking paths through small rolling and low lying vineyard hillsides. Travelers should count on walking approximately 2-3 hours each day. We are walking from wine producer to wine producer each day through spectacular classified vineyards. Come discover and enjoy fabulous Bordeaux wines along the "slow road" taking in the beautiful scenery of the vineyards and wine growing villages. Each walk includes winery tours and wine tasting along our trail, a truly fabulous way to discover Bordeaux wine country.



Hotel & Spa LES SOURCES DE CAUDALIE

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 comfortable **King Size** beds and fully-equipped, private, en-suite bathrooms (shower/tub, toilet, toiletries, hair dryer, etc). Rooms are also equipped with television, telephone, WIFI access, mini-bar, personal safe, individual terrace or patio. The hotel also features a world renowned vinotherapy spa, bar and coffee lounge, plus outdoor terraces and bikes to use free of charge.

ROOMS FOR OUR GUESTS ARE LARGE SUITES WITH BEAUTIFUL VIEWS
OF THE FIRST GROWTH VINEYARDS

GUEST TESTIMONIAL:

“Greatly enjoyed our Guides and the other guests in the group. My favorite activities were the Saint Emilion Walk and cooking classes. I also enjoyed learning some less romanticized tid-bits about life in France from the citizens. Looking forward to coming back for your Provence tour!” *Jacob & Denise Wahlenmaier, Columbus, OH*



BORDEAUX GUEST *Testimonials:*

“EVERYTHING REALLY WAS EXCELLENT. The most important factor to me was how comfortable you made the trip for all. It’s obviously very important to you that your guests are happy and it shows. This is an incredibly well thought out and planned trip! The variety of activities and winery tours, the different vinification processes and how each is so unique is very well done. There is no repetition and the week just flies by. Not only was it an awesome vacation but I also made new friends, and am VERY GLAD WE DID THIS TRIP. MERCI!” *Dwayne Jarrell, Mike Mitterman, Chicago, IL (Bordeaux Tour)*



“WE ENJOYED THE GOOD MIX OF ACTIVITIES AND THE FACT THAT THE TRIP WASN’T JUST WINE TASTING. We had a great group of traveling companions and it was fun getting to know them, as well as meeting the Chefs at cooking class. SEEING THE HARVEST IN ACTION WAS THE BEST! THANK YOU FOR TAKING SUCH GOOD CARE OF US!!” *Pam Miller and Jim Rasmussen, Boston, MA (Bordeaux Tour)*



“Thanks for a great time discovering Bordeaux wine country! We enjoyed this trip a lot. The people in the group were very compatible. The winery tours were very good. It was nice to be able to see all of the different processes. WE WILL SEE YOU AGAIN ON ANOTHER TOUR.” *Jerry*

and Sheila Ettinger, Raleigh, NC (Bordeaux Harvest Tour)

“THE WHOLE TRIP WAS OUTSTANDING! We absolutely loved that this tour was very organized and orchestrated yet relaxed at the same time. Our guide did a great job in all respects, she was very knowledgeable, thoughtful and a pleasure to spend the trip with. Also the wineries we visited were excellent. Thanks again for a great time! We look forward to coming back for your Loire Valley Tour!” *Dr. Marc and Brabsie Randall, Lexington, KY (Bordeaux Tour)*
photographed here with Daniel Cathiard, owner of Chateau Smith Haut LaFitte.



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

- OTBP itineraries are designed to share the very BEST of each region --Provence, Loire Valley, Bordeaux wine country-- 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 bistrot 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 Christy's personal friends and who welcome OTBP guests to their homes and professional kitchens as a group of friends, visits to local artisan workshops, shopping at the finest craft markets, hot air ballooning and much more.
- All OTBP 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.
- Since all OTBP tour guides are Americans who reside in France, we do NOT have to incorporate any international transportation and lodging costs for tour guides into tour prices, meaning even greater savings to you, because we can ensure our OTBP luxurious quality tour experiences at even more competitive prices.
- Classified regional wines and non-alcoholic beverages are included at all group meals.
- OTBP 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 specialties. 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.
- OTBP has established, proprietary relationships with all wineries, chefs, restaurants, service providers and bistrots on each tour based on both its exclusive and privileged network of contacts and French friends, and its 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.
- OTBP has 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.
- OTBP has 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.
- OTBP small group tours feature TRUE SMALL GROUP travel. The maximum group size on OTBP tours is 16 guests per tour date. 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.
- *ALL 2014 and 2015 Tour dates are guaranteed departures!*
- Book your tour today to lock-in and guarantee your tour price. Once your tour is booked, your tour price is guaranteed and will NOT increase. Otherwise, prices are subject to change without notice.



One of the most flattering questions that we have ever received, as a tour company, came from our guest Dennis Gelner. Dennis and his wife Pat traveled on 2 back to back tours with us.

Dennis' question one afternoon was,

**"WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO EXCEED EXPECTATIONS?
IT JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER AND BETTER EVERY DAY!"**

Thanks Dennis for such a flattering question and Pat's and your ever so flattering trip comments! We love receiving feedback and hearing about how guests have enjoyed their tour(s). Whether joining one of our Provence Tours, Loire Valley Tours or Bordeaux Tours, our dedication and focus to providing the best ever authentic France travel experiences during each of our small group tours is paramount!

WE STRIVE TO EXCEED GUEST EXPECTATIONS EVERY TRIP!!



FRANCE

OFF THE BEATEN PATH

World Leader in Small Group Travel in France



2015 - BORDEAUX TOUR DATES AND PRICES

Click the link below to book your tour and join us for a Memorable & Authentic Life-time Experience !

[HTTPS://WWW.TRAVELOFFTHEBEATENPATH.COM/RESERVATIONFORM.HTML](https://www.traveloffthebeatenpath.com/reservationform.html)



2015 TOUR PRICE - \$5,898 PER PERSON LAND ONLY, DOUBLE/TWIN OCCUPANCY (6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS)

****SOLO TRAVELERS ADD SINGLE SUPPLEMENT OF US\$1360**

2015 Tour Dates :

- September 8-13 (Harvest Tour)
- September 15-20 (Harvest Tour)
- September 22-27 (Harvest Tour)
- September 29-October 4 (Harvest Tour)



* ONCE YOU BOOK YOUR TOUR, YOUR PRICE IS GUARANTEED AND WILL NOT INCREASE.

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 is American owned and operated, and in 2014, celebrates 20 years of delivering engaging small group, walking and foodie, cultural tours exclusively in France. Each of our France tours offers travelers the very BEST and most inspiring itineraries and experience to discover the French countryside of Provence, Loire Valley and Bordeaux unlike any other tour company can. [OUR SPECIALTY AND SOLE FOCUS IS SMALL GROUP, ACTIVE TRAVEL EXCLUSIVELY IN FRANCE! OUR ONLY TOUR DESTINATION IS FRANCE, AND WE DO IT BEST!](#) Come enjoy exceptional quality and excellent value on one of our small group tours today! Travelers and publications alike rate Off the Beaten Path Tours the BEST active, small group tours in France. Whether you're a seasoned small group tour traveler or new to the small group tour scene, Off the Beaten Path tours offer daily, fun, enriching and interactive local French experiences and activities for everyone --experiences and activities that are not available to the public-- while also including leisure time to pursue independent interests.

Expert Professional American guides who live in France, inspiring itineraries, deluxe historical hotel accommodations, sumptuous French meals and comfortable transportation in private, spacious, professionally driven Mercedes Sprinters 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 you to authentically discover the heart and soul of each region. You'll participate in cooking classes with our friends who are celebrity Master and Michelin-star chefs who look forward to your arrival, and make you feel welcome in their homes and workshops as a group of friends. Shop at weekly village markets where we'll introduce you to our favorite olive oil and wine producers, artists, cheese-makers, herb and spice vendors, craftsmen and designers. Walk the same countryside and vineyard trails as local French do with their families, and enjoy the slow road scenery that comes with walking the back 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 with our knowledgeable, professional Guides. Dine in the same gourmet restaurants and bistros, as local French do, where the chefs are our personal friends, and set aside a special table uniquely to welcome you. Plus, built in leisure time provides you opportunities to pursue independent interests and activities or to just break away from the group for some quiet time.



Every tour offers daily options with varying levels of activeness to choose from, so you always have the flexibility of deciding how you would like your day to unfold. Your Guide sits down with your group every day to discuss the activities, 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 want (more walking, less walking, shopping time, cultural discovery, etc.) and to be able to pursue your independent interests all while still enjoying the perks of traveling in a small group and participating in scheduled excursions and activities -- meaning we take care and manage the daily logistics and details while you spend your time on the important stuff -- having fun, relaxing and enjoying your vacation your way. The idea behind each Off the Beaten Path, small group 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. Whether travelers join a regularly scheduled, small group tour to Provence, the Loire Valley or Bordeaux wine country, or participate in a private, custom designed tour to one of these regions or another region of France, we ensure that each itinerary is inspiring, and that each traveler's experience is unique and personalized. You'll find Testimonials of guest satisfaction on both the guest Testimonial page of our website and sprinkled throughout our website.

How it all Began - ABOUT THE OWNER OF OFF THE BEATEN PATH, LLC

An American raised in the countryside just outside of Philadelphia, PA, Christy Destremau's story begins 20 years ago when she settled in Provence, France, and married her French beau in a traditional Provence wedding ceremony. Equipped with an extensive education, multiple degrees and a background in French history, language and international relations, plus a clear understanding of French culture and traditions, Christy launched Off the Beaten Path, LLC in response to encouragement from family and friends, who admired both her passion for and knowledge of this historically and culturally rich country. As a long term resident of France, Christy Destremau is multi-lingual, holds dual nationality (American-French citizenship) and after living many years in Provence, now currently splits her time between the US and her home near Nantes, France. Christy's extensive network of professional and personal connections in France is the key to her successfully having created itineraries that constantly set her small group tours well above and a part from other tour travel offered by both tour companies based outside of France and multi-destination tour companies. Christy recognizes that no one can specialize in everything, and she has actively chosen to specialize exclusively in small group travel and small group touring within her adopted country of France!

When Christy launched Off the Beaten Path, LLC, she made a conscious decision and commitment to focus her time, energy, talent and "savoir-faire" on specializing exclusively on what she knows best --active, small group walking, wine, cultural and gourmet food tour travel in France--. Though many industry professionals have tried to recruit her to broaden Off the Beaten Path's tour offerings into other countries, Christy has remained steadfast and committed to delivering to travelers what she does and loves best --delivering the most personalized itineraries of the very best experiences that her adopted country of France has to offer, and sharing those experiences with like minded, active travelers who want to experience "authentic France" in a small intimate group, led by guides who understand both French and Anglophone culture, and who can create the perfect blend and balance between both cultures to ensure a memorable experience to travelers every time. Christy's Off the Beaten Path tour itineraries are comprised of the BEST active, small group tour experiences available in the small group tour industry! Her commitment to ensuring exceptional and personalized itineraries, unparalleled customer service and unsurpassed value has propelled Off the Beaten Path, LLC to the head of the tour industry --repeatedly being voted and awarded multiple professional accolades by nearly every top tier travel industry organization, as well as numerous travel magazines and journals worldwide.

Christy is also a published photographer having been featured in National Geographic, and spends her off season time traveling around France photographing the countryside. All photos published on this website, both slideshow photos and page content photos are compliments of Christy, and reflect her passion for France, the French, and having fun sharing "all that France has to offer" with her tour travel guests. Many of Christy's France and regional specific landscape and foodie images can be seen featured on other tour and travel industry websites, as well as in print. Christy also dedicates a great deal of her off season to meeting with her professional and personal French friends to develop new ideas, and to prepare new excursions and activities for each season. She is considered a France destination expert and leading authority on French history, traditions and culture, and has authored and edited travel articles about France for prominent travel magazines worldwide. Christy is currently working on an insider's guide to the best cafes, brasseries and restaurants in France that includes a section featuring her "all-time" favorite French Chefs -- some of whom are very dear friends.

In addition to leading many tours herself, Christy has selected a handful of tour guides to work alongside her. Like Christy, 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 individual experience, and have personally been selected by Christy for their comprehensive understanding of French and Anglophone culture. Many have been elected to some of the most prestigious tourism offices in France, and some have also been awarded UNESCO accolades for their cultural work in France. Most of our guides are also contributing authors to prominent guidebooks including Rick Steves Provence Guide Book and many more. The key ingredient to a successful tour is the guide, and our guides have been recognized for their talent, knowledge and professionalism. You will find that Christy and her team of guides are wonderful traveling companions, whose knowledge and sense of fun and positive attitude make each tour day a wonderful experience.



OFF THE BEATEN PATH, LLC FINE PRINT...

TOUR DEPOSIT & PAYMENTS:

- Click here to launch our secure online reservation form. The reservation booking form is divided into 2 sections.

Section 1: Completing Your Traveler Information and Preferences

Section 2: Making Your Tour Deposit Payment

- Payment is in US Dollars by Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover credit cards, cashier or personal check, instant bank payment/e-check or wire transfer.
- Upon completion of both sections of the reservation form, you will receive an immediate booking/payment confirmation receipt.
- Within 7-10 business days of receipt of your tour reservation booking, we will also email you a formal confirmation invoice detailing your tour balance due (less the deposit payment paid and any applicable discounts) and the payment due date.
- No reservation bookings are accepted by telephone. All reservation bookings must be submitted by completing our secure online reservation form.
- Prices may change, BUT once your tour is booked, your tour price is guaranteed and will NOT increase.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

121+ days (from the first day of the trip): \$500 Tour deposit.

****AN ALTERNATIVE TO CANCELLATION**** - Transfer of Deposit: Guest may transfer from one trip to another up to 121 days before trip departure without penalty (excludes custom designed-private tours) after which time the cancellation policy applies. When transferring to a different date or trip, if the trip costs more than Guest's original trip, Guest must pay the difference. This credit can only be rolled over once and Guest incurs no other penalty.

91-120 days: 25% of the total Tour price

61-90 days: 50% of the total Tour price

0-60 days: 100% of the total Tour price

Though it's not required to participate in FOTBP tours, it is highly recommend that travelers purchase trip insurance to cover the unexpected.

FRANCE

OFF THE BEATEN PATH

World Leader in Small



Group Travel in France

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 GeoTrust IdAuthority (Equifax Secure Certificate Authority) on our website.

Off the Beaten Path, LLC

EMAIL: contact@traveloffthebeatenpath.com

Telephone: 1.877.846.2831

Address: Claremont Dr., Seven Valleys, PA 17360 USA