

Dear Travelers,

I am delighted to share that our 2025 France Village Life tour is an official GO. It's time to start your planning.

### FLIGHTS

Feel free to purchase your flights. We strongly recommend you consider adding flight cancellation insurance to that purchase, and that you also check the details of that coverage.

If you'd like assistance from our tour operator, Gohagan, you can reach them at 800-922-3088. The air coordinator for our tour is Diane Lucas at extension 7638.

Or, if you'd like to book your own flights, please keep this information. Here are some additional notes:

- The tour starts and ends in Bordeaux.
- You should time your travel to arrive in Bordeaux by mid-afternoon on Friday, September 5. We will start the tour with a welcome meeting around 6 pm, followed by a group dinner.
  - o Airport Meeting Point: Exit into the Main Hall. Guides will be waiting with Gohagan & Company signs.
  - o Transfer time from airport to hotel: 40 minutes, depending on traffic.
  - o If you do not purchase air through Gohagan, you are responsible for your transfer to the group hotel upon arrival. However, you may join the Gohagan Air arrival transfer if your flight arrives within the Gohagan Air arrival transfer window (9 am to 8 pm) for \$50 per person.
- A transfer from Sarlat-la-Canéda to Bordeaux is included on the morning of Friday, September 12.
  - o Flights must depart no earlier than 11:30 a.m. to join the Group Transfer.
  - o Group Transfers from the hotel to the airport begin at 5:30 a.m.
  - o Transfer time from hotel to airport: 3 hours, depending on traffic.
  - o Hotel check-out time: 12 p.m.
  - o Once again, if you do not purchase air through Gohagan, you are responsible for your transfer to the airport on September 12. However, you may join a Gohagan Air departure transfer for \$50 per person.

You might also find it helpful to look at our [Booking Your Flights](#) page for some helpful tips.

### PREPARE FOR YOUR ADVENTURE

You'll get the most out of study travel if you research what to do during your free time. This allows you to reap the benefits of group travel, while also customizing the tour to your interests and activity level. Read more about [How to Be an Independent Group Traveler](#).

There are a bunch of other general resources, tips, and suggestions [on this page](#).

### WHAT TO EXPECT

Finally, start thinking in earnest – if you haven't already – about the activity level required on this tour. As a reminder, this tour requires you to be able to walk a great deal each day, at a moderate pace. Walking tours are at least 1½ to 2 hours, often over uneven pavement or on unpaved paths, stairs, and hills, and require a great deal of standing. Good balance is required. This tour is not recommended for travelers with difficulties walking. Movement between cities will be by air-conditioned private motor coach, and for all excursions and transfers where coaches are involved, travelers have to board coaches with 3-6 steep steps.

You should be capable of walking a mile or more at a time and up to five to seven miles per day, often over uneven terrain, of climbing stairs that may not have handrails, of climbing in and out of various types of transportation, of keeping pace with an active group of travelers on long days of traveling, of dealing with the emotional highs and lows that can occur when experiencing different cultures, and be a considerate member of the group (prompt, courteous and flexible).

I think [this article](#) from AMA Travel out of Alberta, Canada is really helpful. It mentions issues that can affect your stamina that you might not be thinking about (like excess heat) and lays out an easy plan to follow to get ready for being more active than most of us are in our daily routines at home.

As ever, I encourage you to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heidi Quiram". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heidi Quiram P '21  
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