

## MUST SEE SIGHTSEEING

### PLACE DES QUINCONCES

A vast esplanade with two beautiful columns at one end and the colossal Monument aux Girondins at the other. Standing opposite each other in the middle are statues of two famous Bordeaux philosophers: Montaigne and Montesquieu.

### PLACE DE LA COMEDIE

The Grand Théâtre (18th century) is magnificent, both inside and outside. The grand hotel opposite and the column/clock. Your surroundings should give you a good indication that you're in the most glamorous part of Bordeaux!

### PLACE DU PARLEMENT

Its 18th century facades and fountain make this square one of the most iconic in Bordeaux. **LOCAL FACT:** The sculpted heads that adorn the facades and fountains of Bordeaux are called **mascarons**, and there are over 3000 of them!

### PLACE DE LA BOURSE

The inauguration of the square in 1749 signalled the first breach of the medieval walls and symbolised an era of prosperity. The recent addition of the water mirror (Miroir d'eau) has made a spectacle of the square's incredible beauty. This is the definitive postcard picture!

**LOCAL FACT:** The Miroir d'eau is the largest water mirror of its kind in the world!

### PLACE SAINT PIERRE

A beautiful square, full of busy terraces, presided over by a 13th/14th century church. The site of an ancient Gallo-Roman port at the mouth of a tributary that still flows under the square to this day.

### PORTE CAILHAU

Like the **Grosse Cloche**, Porte Cailhau was a medieval gateway to pass through the city walls. You can see where this wonderfully ornate gatehouse was joined to the ramparts.

**LOCAL TIP:** There's an excellent picture opportunity from the other side of the street, on the waterfront!

### PORTE DE BOURGOGNE

One of four 'arcs de triomphe' or 'portes' found throughout the city. This one is the most imposing and it is wonderfully lit up at night.

### PONT DE PIERRE

A stunning stone bridge across the Garonne, built on the orders of Napoleon Bonaparte in the early 19th century to allow the passage of his troops. Rumour has it that the 17 arches correspond to the 17 letters in Napoleon's name!

## WEEKLY MARKETS

The markets in Bordeaux are a part of everyday life for most locals, particularly on Sundays. Here are a couple of places you should check out in addition to the most popular and ever busy, **Marché des Capucins** (A/B/4).

### SAINT MICHEL

(Place Meynard and Place Canteloup) On Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays the square is taken up by a **flea market where you can find varied (and very random) goods**, whereas on Monday and Saturday there are even more sellers, making it a great stop-off point on the way to **Marché des Capucins** (except Mondays, when it's closed).

### PLACE SAINT MICHEL

The impressive Basilica built between the 14th & 16th centuries is overshadowed by the 15th century Flèche de Saint-Michel, the church's instantly recognisable bell tower that is visible all along the waterfront.

**LOCAL TIP:** On Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and especially on Sundays a **flea market occupies the square, so come and sample the atmosphere on your way to the Marché des Capucins!**

### LA GROSSE CLOCHE

Named after its key feature, its "fat" bell, this beautiful 13th century bell tower is one of the few remaining vestiges of the middle ages in Bordeaux.

**LOCAL FACT:** When used as a jail, its prisoners used to joke that they were staying at the **Golden Lion Hotel**, in reference to the lion-shaped weathervane, the symbol of the Kings of England, Bordeaux's erstwhile rulers.

### PLACE DE LA VICTOIRE

This large open square is the culmination of several major streets and, for locals, this marks the edge of the city centre.

### PLACE PEY-BERLAND

The **Hotel de Ville** is a decadent former archbishops' abode, it was requisitioned during the Revolution. Bordeaux's cathedral was consecrated in 1096, but the first rudimentary church on this site was built in the 3rd century! **LOCAL TIP:** The view over Bordeaux from the top of Tour Pey-Berland is stunning!

### PLACE GAMBETTA

At the end of the 19th century, this was declared the very centre of the city, as marked by a milestone that still stands at no. 10. **LOCAL FACT:** During the Revolution, this was home to the city's guillotine!

### PLACE DU CHAPELET

A true hidden treasure, with an incredible late 17th century baroque-style church (**Eglise Notre Dame**) and the former Jacobean convent (**Cours Mabily**). **LOCAL TIP:** Take the hidden 'passage Sarget' through to **Cours de l'Intendance**!

### PALAIS GALLIEN

Rue du Colisée Built in the early 2nd century, the remarkable remains of this amphitheatre provide us with a glimpse into the glory of the Roman Empire. **LOCAL TIP:** When you turn the corner from Rue du Palais Gallien, you might struggle to believe your eyes!

### CHARTRONS

(Quai des Chartrons (H/4)) This is the perfect Sunday activity! An open air market set up on the banks of the Garonne, where you can taste local specialities and buy local produce. On Thursday, there is also an organic market.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

### VCUB (BICYCLE)

Bordeaux's super easy public bike network. Every icon represents the location of a bike station.

**RENTAL:**  
**24 HOUR ACCESS = 1€60**  
Take out a bike with your credit/debit card from any of the VCub stations, the machine will charge your card a 200€ deposit (don't worry, you'll get it back). **You will get an access code valid for 24 hours allowing you to take out a bike as many times as you want during this period.**

### RIDE THE BATCUB ACROSS LA GARONNE!

Bordeaux by Boat! Take the scenic tour up and down the Garonne! The BatCub is the city's ferry across the river and, believe it or not, it's the best way to see the **Bordeaux quays** from another angle!

### JARDIN PUBLIC

Built in 1746 as a public space, locals flock to the 'Jardin' for a calm, peaceful way of getting back to nature. **LOCAL TIP:** Pack some wine, bread and cheese and enjoy the sun French style!

### EGLISE ST. LOUIS DES CHARTRONS

It has two glorious spires which can be seen from far away along the river, but the interior is just as impressive. Try and do justice to the stained-glass windows with your camera, it's impossible!

### NOUVEAU PONT

AKA: 'Pont Chaban-Delmas' An impressive vertical-lift bridge that allows the massive cruise ships to dock on the quays. You can get some great views over the Garonne and Bordeaux in all its splendour.

### PLACE STALINGRAD

You're welcomed to the right bank from the **Pont de Pierre** with a blue sculpture of a lion. From here, walk along the **Pont Chaban-Delmas**, with great views of the left bank.

### GENERAL FARES

Tickets for public transport in Bordeaux are interchangeable between the Buses, Trams and the BatCUB.

**TICKETS:**  
1 HOUR PASS = 1€60  
10 x 1 HOUR PASS = 12€90  
ALL DAY PASS = 4€60.

Tickets can be bought from machines at most tram stops, on buses directly from the driver or from either of the **TBM Information Centres (F/5)** at **Place Quinconces** or at **Place Gambetta**.

**LOCAL TIP:** Be sure to validate your ticket on the trams and buses by using one of the machines at the entrances!

FOR SCHEDULE TIMES  
SEE INFO AT STOPS  
OR [www.infoftrm.com](http://www.infoftrm.com)

### TRAMS

**TIMES**  
**Sundays to Wednesdays** from 05:00 to 00:00, and  
**Thursdays to Saturdays** from 05:00 to 01:00

On Le Map, each Tram Icon represents a Stop in the city.

### BUSES

If you're staying in Bordeaux Centre you most likely won't need to take a bus (except to and from the Airport). But if you do, feel free to check in at the **TBM Office** next to **Place Quinconces**.

### WALK BORDEAUX

The longest pedestrian shopping street in Europe! At 1.2 km it's quite a sight. If you're here during the day, expect to take your time due to the sheer volume of people flooding out.

**LOCAL TIP:** Walk the whole street from **Place de la Victoire** to **Grand Theatre** and admire the two sides to the city centre.

This street is the fastest way to walk from La Victoire to Saint Pierre, but only in the mornings or at night because of the daily wave of shoppers.

## TO & FROM CITY CENTER

### THE TRAIN STATION

Getting to and from 'La Gare Saint Jean' is super easy! Just jump on the **Tram**. The trip takes around 10 minutes from the city centre (**Place de la Bourse**). **LOCAL TIP:** Give yourself 15 minutes extra in case you have to wait for the tram at your stop, or in case of delays...

### THE AIRPORT

You need to get to the Airport and you don't have a ride...? Well there are two main options for getting there:

**BY BUS** - City bus 'LIGNE 1' runs from the **Train Station** to the **Airport**, and takes around 1 hour round trip (allow time for waiting at the stop and rush hour). **LOCAL TIP:** This is certainly the cheapest option at 1€60, and the local's choice when going to and from the airport!

### WALKING

The historic centre of Bordeaux is surprisingly concentrated and it is a very easy city to visit on foot. All of the streets are well adapted for pedestrian traffic and offer breathtaking examples of classic French architecture throughout the centuries.

**LOCAL TIP:** Follow the streets for the best walks that the city has to offer.

**BY COACH** - There is a coach service called '30' DIRECT running between the **Train Station** and the **Airport** every hour, on the hour which takes 30min and costs 8€00.

**BY TAXI** - Get an easy taxi to or from the airport for around 45€ with **UNLIMITED CAR**. Book by calling +33 6 86 00 33 06 or reserve on their website at [www.unlimited-car.com](http://www.unlimited-car.com)

## BEST SHOPPING STREETS

**RUE NOTRE DAME**  
A charming street with some little shops and a few antiques dealers. Head to the **Place du Marché des Chartrons** for a break!

### RUE SAINTE-CATHERINE

Between **Cours Victor Hugo** and **Place de la Comédie** you'll find France's regular high street brands, particularly in the swish new area of **Promenade Sainte Catherine**. Near the top you have the iconic French department store, **Galerie Lafayette**.

### RUE PORTE D'JEUX

All the way down to **Place Gambetta** from 'Sainte Catherine' there are shops of many types: chocolate shops, tea shops, brand new clothes shops, cookware shops and much more!

### MERIADECK

A shopping centre with the largest super-market in the city centre.

### ON THE BACKSTREETS

OF SAINT PIERRE & SAINT PAUL In the smaller streets that join **Place Saint Pierre** to **Place Camille Julian** and **Place Fernand Lafargue** to the **Grosse Cloche**, you can find many independent shops that sell clothes, trinkets, artisanal products, and even a never-ending bric-a-brac shop (Au Dénicheur), behind **Eglise Saint Pierre**.

If you get tired, there are terraces and places to grab a snack or a drink all along these streets. This is the heart of the 'old town' and, as such, it's the most atmospheric part of Bordeaux.

### THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

**Cours de l'Intendance** has many mid to high-end shops. **Allées de Tourny** and **Cours Georges Clemenceau** wrap around **Place des Grands Hommes** to make the 'Golden Triangle'. Wander the backstreets to discover some of Bordeaux's classiest shops!

### BORDEAUX HERITAGE MUSEUMS

41 & 31 Rue Borie **Bordeaux Wine & Trade Museum:** In the former house of Louis XV's royal broker, walk through the 300 year-old vaulted cellars, learn about the 2000 year history of Bordeaux wine with modern equipment, and finish with a tasting! **Bordeaux Maritime History Museum:** Learn about the surprising maritime history of Bordeaux through artefacts and accounts by those who helped shaped it.

## STREET FOOD

BROOKLYN BAGEL  
FRESH BURRITOS  
SANTOSHA  
LA MAISON DU GLACIER  
PHOOD

## CAFES

EXCUSE MY FRENCH  
BRADLEY BOOKSHOP  
BLACK LIST CAFE  
ALCHIMISTE COFFEE BOUTIQUE

## WINE BARS

AU BON JAJA  
WINE CORNER  
LES 3 PINARDIERS  
LE BAR A VIN

## RESTAURANTS

BREAKFAST CLUB  
BANANA CAFE  
FRIDA  
CHEVERUS CAFE  
BAR DU BOUCHER  
LES FILS A MAMAN  
NULLE PART AILLEURS

## BARS

L'EXCALE  
LA GRANGE  
LE CANGAN

## PUBS

THE COCK & BULL  
AU NOUVEAU MONDE  
THE HMS VICTORY  
THE FROG & ROSSIF  
SWEENEY TODD'S  
THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT  
THE DOG & DUCK  
THE MARKET TAVERN  
MOLLY MALONE'S  
THE CENTRAL PUB  
LA TOQUE QUIVRÉE  
RUSTIC VINES TOURS

## LOCALS' PUB CRAWL

UNLIMITED CAR TAXIS  
[WWW.UNLIMITED-CAR.COM](http://WWW.UNLIMITED-CAR.COM)

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## WINTER IN BORDEAUX SEASONAL EVENTS

Luckily for us, Bordeaux always has something good going on. Here is a list of cool events to get involved with when you're here!

### ANTIQUES FAIR

**WHEN:** 24/04/2018 to 08/05/2018  
**WHERE:** Place des Quinconces (F-5/6)  
When the weather's nice, there's nothing more relaxing than a stroll down the long aisles of the antiques fair. Among the uncountable curiosities, there are plenty of treasures to be found. Some of the stalls also specialise in things like old-fashioned books or vintage cars.  
**www.bordeauxquincoces.com**

### LES EPICURIQUES

**WHEN:** 09/06/2018 to 24/06/2018  
**WHERE:** Allées de Bordeaux (F-5/6)  
Some of Bordeaux's finest institutions start their talents out on the street for this festival of wine and dining. It's a great place to check out bars or restaurants that you haven't been to before, all in once place! The "Epicuriales" always signals the beginning of summer.  
**www.epicuriales.com**

### BORDEAUX WINE FESTIVAL

**WHEN:** 14/06/2018 to 18/06/2018  
**WHERE:** The Quays of Bordeaux  
The main event that brings the crowds flocking to Bordeaux every two years. There are 11 pavilions set up along the left bank to open your eyes into the world of Bordeaux wine! Tastings day and night, incredible pyrotechnic displays, every evening and numerous side events.  
**www.bordeaux-fete-le-vin.com**

## DARWIN'S HAPPY HOURS

Every Wednesday from 7pm to Midnight, there's an ultra-chill after work vibe on the Darwin concourse, as the sun goes down over the city. In this outdoor musical food court, there are a bunch of retro sofas, food trucks, craft beers, and hip DJ Sets, making it "the place to be" every Wednesday evening!

## THE FRANCE WE LOVE HOW IT WORKS

Every country in the world has its particularities, and just like everywhere else, things work differently in France. So that you don't have to learn the hard way, here are a few tips & tricks that will make navigating this country a little bit easier!

### SUNDAY IS A DAY OF REST

This applies to almost everything. If you need to do anything on your weekend, don't expect to do it on Sunday.

**PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS?** It doesn't mean saying, but try to speak a bit of French. Even the smallest of efforts goes a long way.

### NEED SOMETHING? RAISE YOUR HAND!

Servers are paid a salary, so they don't need to be cheery for tips. It's not rude, they just have other things to do. So feel free to ask!

### WHY RUSH?

Whether it is talking to the baker in front of a busy boulangerie or waiting in a café nursing a coffee for an hour, the French enjoy taking their time, so you should too while you're here!

### WAIT IN LINE? WHAT LINE?

It's not always obvious, but they don't actually exist in France. Don't be surprised if someone slips past you while you're not paying attention.

### COMPLAINING IS FUN

Here, it's a national sport, and an essential part of everyday life, so you shouldn't take it personally.

### FOOD & DRINK IS SERIOUS BUSINESS

The French take this integral part of their culture very seriously, and so should you! Pay proper attention to pairings of food and wine and don't forget, "bon appétit!"

### "INSERT SPOONED SHRUG

## DID YOU KNOW? HISTORY

**300BC:** It all started with the Celtic city of Burdigala.  
**600BC:** The city falls to the Romans and becomes the capital of Aquitaine.  
**267:** Sacked by the Vandals.  
**409:** Sacked again by the Vandals.  
**414:** Sacked by the Visigoths.  
**463:** Sacked by the Franks.  
**732:** Plundered by Abbot al Rahman.  
**735:** Plundered by Charles Martel.  
**1096:** Cathédrale Saint-André of Bordeaux is consecrated.  
**1152:** Bordeaux falls under English rule as part of Eleanor of Aquitaine's dowry in her marriage to Henry II of England, and will remain so for over 250 years. Wine trade began to flourish during this period.  
**1441:** University of Bordeaux founded.  
**1453:** The city is annexed to France after the Battle of Castillon (which ended the 100 Years War).  
**FUNNY FACT:** After the annex, the King of England received hundreds of requests from the locals to name the city.  
**1494:** La Porte Cailhau (F-5) was built.  
**1500:** Tour Pey-Berland (F-2) erected.  
**1562-1629:** Wars of Religion massacred take place in France.  
**18TH CENTURY:** The city prospers thanks to triangular commerce, including the slave trade. Most of the architecture comes from this period. Such as, La Place de la Bourse (F-4) and Le Grand Théâtre (F-3).  
**FUNNY FACT:** The Louvre used as a model for the modernisation of Paris under Emperor Napoleon II.  
**1870:** Franco-Prussian War, French government relocated to Bordeaux.  
**1914:** World War I, French government relocated to Bordeaux.  
**1940:** World War II, French government relocated to Bordeaux.  
**2003:** The Bordeaux Tramway begins operating.  
**2015:** "The city was voted "Best European Destination 2015".

**EXCUSE MY FRENCH**  
87 Rue des Faures (C-3)  
There's nothing to excuse here, this lovely Anglo-French couple have made a cosy little café that caters for all tastes! Breakfast, a mega brunch, pie & mash, tea & scones, cheese cake, what more could you want? **LOCAL TIP:** You can have some delicious food & drink, served all day for an incredibly reasonable price! It's a great spot to start your discovery of St Michel!

### LA VICTOIRE

One of the main districts of the city of Bordeaux, the large open space is home to the giant arch, 'La Porte d'Aquitaine' and Université du Bordeaux. Not to mention two bronze statues of turtles eating grapes!

### LA PORTE D'AQUITAINE

Real Mexican food in the city centre. They have a menu of fresh tortillas and tacos to choose from, but since they prepare them in front of you, feel free to point at anything you fancy, you can have your own custom-made taco or burrito! **LOCAL TIP:** Try their homemade guacamole with some Mexican-style nachos!

### L'EXCALE

19 Cours de la Somme (A-3)  
Just off Place de la Victoire (F-1) is this interesting little rum & coffee bar. It's unassuming on the outside, but the cool wooden interior lets you know that you're in for something different. While specialising in rum, L'Excale also has a fantastic range of whiskies and gins to go with its classic cocktails, all under the moody lighting of vintage lamps.

### LA GRANGE

1 Cours de l'Algonne (B-5)  
Like an alpine chalet, its wooden interior has a warming feel, and does the atmosphere in here on busy nights. The upbeat and raucous music of fun bartenders makes this a really fun place to have very reasonably priced drinks. **LOCAL TIP:** Try the 'hydromel', a Roman-style mead that is distilled from honey!

### PEY BERLAND & SAINT PAUL

These adjoining quarters have some of the most incredible monuments in Bordeaux, including The Cathedral and La Grosse Cloche. Both quarters have their fair share of squares and shops. It's a lovely part of town to walk around.

### FAMOUS MONK WINE TOUR

Full Day tour of the picturesque St Emilion Wine Region & Chateau E-BIKE TOUR or ST EMILION Whole Day or Half Day exploration of St Emilion & the vineyards!

### NAPOLEON WINE TOUR

Morning or Afternoon tour of the Medoc Wine Region & Chateau! TASTING OF BORDEAUX An evening gourmet tour around the 'Wine Bars of Bordeaux'!

### BIKE CRUISER TOUR

Visit the entire old city of Bordeaux on comfy Bike Cruiser bikes!

### TUK TOURS

12 Cours du 30 Juillet  
A wonderful way to explore the city's monuments in just 1 hour, take a trip on one of these awesome authentic 100% electric Tuk-Tuks! Your driver provides a commentary, they're covered in case of rain and have heated seats for colder days!

### LOCAL TIP: If you're short on time, or just fancy saving your legs, this is the best way to see the city!

### JUST IN CASE...

Contact numbers in case of an emergency. Dial +33 if you are using a foreign phone.

**MEDICAL EMERGENCY.....15**  
**POLICE.....17**  
**FIRE BRIGADE.....18**

## SAINT MICHEL

An up and coming area full of culture, beautiful byproducts its reputation. For locals, Saint Michel is a less bourgeois, more bohemian part of town where North African, Eastern European and Asian restaurants & cafes offer a diverse selection of tasty foods to try.

**LOCAL TIP:** The square hosts several weekly markets including a large fruit and vegetable market on Saturdays (7:00 – 13:00) and a flea market on Mondays (7:00 – 13:00).

### EXCUSE MY FRENCH

87 Rue des Faures (C-3)  
There's nothing to excuse here, this lovely Anglo-French couple have made a cosy little café that caters for all tastes! Breakfast, a mega brunch, pie & mash, tea & scones, cheese cake, what more could you want? **LOCAL TIP:** You can have some delicious food & drink, served all day for an incredibly reasonable price! It's a great spot to start your discovery of St Michel!

### LA PORTE D'AQUITAINE

Real Mexican food in the city centre. They have a menu of fresh tortillas and tacos to choose from, but since they prepare them in front of you, feel free to point at anything you fancy, you can have your own custom-made taco or burrito! **LOCAL TIP:** Try their homemade guacamole with some Mexican-style nachos!

### L'EXCALE

19 Cours de la Somme (A-3)  
Just off Place de la Victoire (F-1) is this interesting little rum & coffee bar. It's unassuming on the outside, but the cool wooden interior lets you know that you're in for something different. While specialising in rum, L'Excale also has a fantastic range of whiskies and gins to go with its classic cocktails, all under the moody lighting of vintage lamps.

### LA GRANGE

1 Cours de l'Algonne (B-5)  
Like an alpine chalet, its wooden interior has a warming feel, and does the atmosphere in here on busy nights. The upbeat and raucous music of fun bartenders makes this a really fun place to have very reasonably priced drinks. **LOCAL TIP:** Try the 'hydromel', a Roman-style mead that is distilled from honey!

### PEY BERLAND & SAINT PAUL

These adjoining quarters have some of the most incredible monuments in Bordeaux, including The Cathedral and La Grosse Cloche. Both quarters have their fair share of squares and shops. It's a lovely part of town to walk around.

### FAMOUS MONK WINE TOUR

Full Day tour of the picturesque St Emilion Wine Region & Chateau E-BIKE TOUR or ST EMILION Whole Day or Half Day exploration of St Emilion & the vineyards!

### NAPOLEON WINE TOUR

Morning or Afternoon tour of the Medoc Wine Region & Chateau! TASTING OF BORDEAUX An evening gourmet tour around the 'Wine Bars of Bordeaux'!

### BIKE CRUISER TOUR

Visit the entire old city of Bordeaux on comfy Bike Cruiser bikes!

### TUK TOURS

12 Cours du 30 Juillet  
A wonderful way to explore the city's monuments in just 1 hour, take a trip on one of these awesome authentic 100% electric Tuk-Tuks! Your driver provides a commentary, they're covered in case of rain and have heated seats for colder days!

### LOCAL TIP: If you're short on time, or just fancy saving your legs, this is the best way to see the city!

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## L'ÉGLISE SAINT MICHEL

This trendy coffee shop is perfect for a relaxing break, or regular taxiprice! **Black List is in the Australian mould, putting great emphasis on the quality of their coffee and providing healthy, fresh organic food options.**

### 'SALUT' = 'HEY'

An informal greeting used instead of 'bonjour' (people that you see met).

**'HÉ BÉ' = 'EH BIEN'**  
The French use this as a way of showing surprise! "HÉ BÉ....."

### LA VICTOIRE

One of the main districts of the city of Bordeaux, the large open space is home to the giant arch, 'La Porte d'Aquitaine' and Université du Bordeaux. Not to mention two bronze statues of turtles eating grapes!

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## UNLIMITED CAR

Bordeaux's (almost) secret VIP TAXI services, for regular taxiprice! Unlimited Cars dependability, professionalism and presentation (brand new Jaguars) put them a class above the others. Plus, they have package trips on their website!  
**TAXI: 033 686 003 306**

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