

SAINT EMILION HALF DAY TOUR FROM BORDEAUX

Experience the magic in one of our favourite villages

This half day group wine tour packs a lot of delights into a few hours. On this tour of St Emilion you will enjoy tasting delicious Bordeaux wines. Add to this the rich historical attractions of this UNESCO World Heritage site and you see why the half day option makes for such a great tour.



Starting in the city of Bordeaux, a short drive brings you out of the city to the picturesque countryside plains and rolling hills of the right bank wine producing area. This is the heart of Bordeaux's famous wine region, where many vineyards carry the Saint Emilion AOC designation. Each of these local wineries produce vintages with distinct soil features backed by a long wine-making heritage.

Your first major stop on the St Emilion half day trip will be in one of the local grand cru estate wineries. Here, you will get to tour and taste different vintages in a carefully selected domain. The wines are a blend of Merlot grapes with deep, bold flavours, along with other local grape varieties, especially Cabernet Franc and, to a lesser degree, Cabernet Sauvignon. An expert English-speaking guide will reveal all the steps in the wine production process for you, as well as share some historical details about the estate.

Following your wine tasting session, you will get to see the eponymous village. Enjoy a walk through the quaint, cobbled streets of this medieval town, while your tour guide recounts local history, from the days of the 8th century hermit Emilion, to the 19th century mining galleries, which still lie beneath the village. It is no coincidence that Saint Emilion has been awarded UNESCO World Heritage status. After the walk, enjoy some free time to explore on your own in the village. Finally, you will head back to Bordeaux where the wine tour concludes after having learned a lot about this famous wine producing area.

A MONK, A CAVE AND CENTURIES OF WINE MAKING

Perched on a hilltop overlooking the Dordogne Valley, the picturesque rooftops and medieval stone buildings of the beautiful village of Saint Emilion are a delight to the eye. The wine-making tradition goes back to the later centuries of the Roman Empire, with the first vineyards planted here in the second century AD. In the fourth century, the Roman poet Ausonius already mentioned the delicious grapes of Saint Emilion.

However, it was in the Middle Ages that monks developed more intensive and widespread vineyards. This is when the reputation for Saint Emilion wines started building towards what it is today. The rich Merlot-based blends of these fertile plains have given local wines a great appeal, and several wines produced in chateaux near Saint Emilion have been given the highest possible awards under the French appellation wine rating system.

