

CULTURE & WINE IN THE ALSACE REGION

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS

Come and discover one of the most fascinating regions of France through one of our exclusive regional tours. Alsace, unlike the other French Regions, abounds in both French and German influences. The majority of the population speaks French with a decided German accent, the cuisine is an able blend of French and German cooking, many of the towns of the region have German names and the village architecture delights in a pronounced Germanic influence.

A visit to Alsace region is always a delightful experience.

This very small group or private tour has been designed to make guests discover the history, culture, food and wines through carefully chosen visits that combine the most significant sights to off the beaten path locations that only a very small group tour will permit.

All our tours are private and depart daily. They can be fully customised, lengthened or shortened according to the number of participants and to suit individual interests and schedules.

DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN STRASBOURG

Pick up in Strasbourg (Airport/Train Station) and private transfer to your centrally located hotel. Check in at hotel and night in Strasbourg.

DAY 2 STRASBOURG WALKING TOUR / OBERNAI / WINE TASTING SESSION

Breakfast at your hotel

Pick up at your hotel. This morning depart for a guided **walking tour of Strasbourg**. Follow your guide as you walk around the old pedestrian areas located around the Cathedral and in the Petite France neighborhood. One of the highlights of the walking tour will certainly be the visit of the Cathedral.

After some free time and lunch, you will head towards **Obernai**. During your visit, you will most certainly appreciate its little winding streets, old houses with multicolored tiles, ensigns, ramparts... After a guided walking tour of the town enjoy a commented **wine tasting session** in a carefully selected winery. Your tour will then continue along the breathtaking **Alsace wine route** to admire the stunning landscape.

Back to Strasbourg and night at your hotel.



DAY 3 HAUT KOENIGSBOURG CASTLE / RIQUEWIHR VISIT / KIENTZHEIM

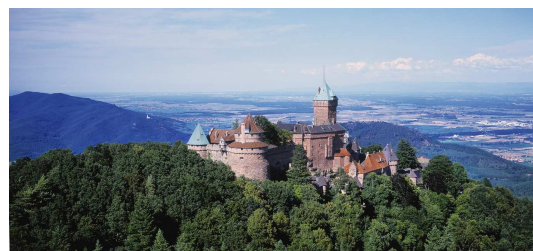
Breakfast at your hotel

Your first stop this morning will be at the **Haut Koenigsbourg castle**. Here, follow your guide for a tour of this mighty fortress that overlooks the valley. Built in 12th century, the Castle occupied a strategic position controlling the wine and wheat routes to the North and the salt route that came from the East.

After the visit, depart for the lovely town of **Riquewihr**. Its tiny streets, fortified walls and old houses have preserved their 16C splendor virtually intact, making for remarkable architectural harmony. After a private guided walking tour of the town, enjoy some free time and lunch.

In the afternoon, you will follow the breathtaking **Alsace 'Wine Route'**. Finally, reach the small villages of **Kientzheim**, charming village founded in the 8th century..

Back to Strasbourg and night at your hotel.



DAY 4 COLMAR VISIT / EGUISHHEIM / VOSGES MOUNTAIN SCENIC DRIVE

Breakfast at your hotel

In the morning depart for **Colmar**. Described by Frommer's as "one of the most attractive towns in Alsace," the town is renowned for its well preserved historic center. Follow your guide on a 2 hour private guided walking tour. Your tour will certainly lead you to the "Maison des Tetes", an outstanding German Renaissance building and to the Little Venice neighborhood where gorgeous half-timbered houses are lined along the Lauch River.

After the visit and some free time, reach the small village of **Eguisheim**. Surrounded by vineyards, nestling in a fold of green hills, Eguisheim is a medieval village whose narrow, concentric streets highlight the architectural merits of its half-timbered houses, lovingly decorated with flowers. Finally, follow the **Vosges scenic ridge route** that forms part of the boundary between the Alsace and Lorraine regions of France. *In 1871, Alsace was ceded to Germany under the Treaty of Frankfurt, and thus the ridge formed the boundary between France and Germany. During the First World War, the French military decided to create a road to follow the ridge, thus allowing easier access to the valleys on both sides, enabling the faster movement of French troops.*

Back to your hotel and night in Strasbourg.



DAY 5 DEPARTURE TRANSFER (AIRPORT/ STATION) IN STRASBOURG

Transfer to Airport or train station. End of our services.

This tour starts and finishes in Alsace and can easily be combined with several days in Paris, Germany or with touring elsewhere in France.

Price on request

Inclusions

4 nights accommodation in 4* Hotel
Breakfast daily
5 full day private tours and transfers with an expert English speaking guide-driver and transportation included
All entrance fees