

HARVARD

ALUMNI TRAVELS



BURGUNDY MAY 10–18, 2025 DETAILED ITINERARY

Home to some of the planet's greatest and most refined wines, Burgundy's reputation is as good as it gets. This is the opportunity to discover the wines, personalities, and landscape of this wonderful part of France with a Harvard Study Leader and co-host Raymond Blake, an Irish wine journalist and author who has an intimate knowledge of the region.

SCHEDULE BY DAY

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

SATURDAY, MAY 10

DEPART U.S. FOR PARIS, FRANCE

Participants make independent arrangements from their home cities to Paris.

SUNDAY, MAY 11

ARRIVE PARIS

Arrive Paris, France. Meet at 6.30pm for a short drive to dinner in Drouant, a chic and historic restaurant famous for its bourgeois cuisine and literary heritage as the site of the annual award of the Prix Goncourt, France's most prestigious literary prize.

After a tour of the restaurant, enjoy a fine dinner in the Salon Proust before a short trip back to your hotel.

Overnight: *Hotel Belmont* (D)

MONDAY, MAY 12

PARIS / CHABLIS

Depart Paris and head south to Chablis for a visit and tasting at William Fevre, one of the great domaines of the region dating from 1957.

Enjoy a seasonal lunch at Le Maufoux Chablis nearby and continue to Beaune, arriving at Hotel Le Cep in the late afternoon.

A wine hotel ideally situated in the heart of Beaune, it's a traditional and characterful setting for your one-week stay—complete with restaurant and spa.

In the evening, enjoy a 'Crémant & Canapés' reception in the courtyard.

Dinner is on your own.

Overnight: *Hotel Le Cep* (B, L)

TUESDAY, MAY 13

CÔTE DE BEAUNE

After a lecture at the hotel by your Harvard Study Leader, set off for a visit and tasting at Château de Meursault. The property changed hands a few years back and has seen huge improvement since.

Continue to Chateau de Pommard, followed by lunch accompanied by the château's wines at the lovely Le Globe restaurant in nearby Meursault, one of Burgundy's best-known villages. Pommard was bought by a Silicon Valley entrepreneur a few years back and has been massively transformed.

Return to the hotel where the evening is free.

Overnight: *Hotel Le Cep* (B, L)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

CÔTE CHALONNAISE & CÔTE DE BEAUNE

In the morning, visit Domaine de Villaine in Rully. This is the personal domaine of Aubert de Villaine, co-owner of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, now run by his nephew Pierre de Benoist. This is a biodynamic winery and a fascinating place to see the future of Burgundy.

Move on to the delightful Olivier Leflaive winery in Puligny Montrachet and enjoy a tasting of the Leflaive wines over lunch.

In the afternoon, make an extended visit to Joseph Drouhin. Start with the vineyards of the Clos des Mouches with the tasting of a Beaune 1er Cru Clos des Mouches white and red in the vines. Then descend into their historical cellars followed by a tasting of their most emblematic wines.

In the early evening, attend a cooking demonstration of Gougeres, the Burgundian delicacy, after which the rest of the evening is at leisure.

Overnight: *Hotel Le Cep* (B, L)

THURSDAY, MAY 15

DIJON

After a lecture at the hotel by your Harvard Study Leader, drive to Dijon for a different perspective on the grandeur of Burgundy.

Take a guided visit and enjoy a gourmet tasting before a leisurely lunch at the very stylish Cite de la Gastronomie in the heart of the city.

Continue with a short, guided walk through the magnificent old town of Dijon before driving back to Beaune.

After a rest at the hotel, take a short walk to dinner at the Michelin starred Le Carmin, which is in a charming square not far from the hotel.

Overnight: *Hotel Le Cep* (B, L, D)

FRIDAY, MAY 16

CÔTE DE NUITS

After a short drive north, enjoy a visit to the prestigious Domaine Dujac, a critically lauded wine estate in Burgundy's Morey Saint Denis founded by the passionate winemaker Jacques Seysses. It produces a wide range of wines, from delicious 'village' wines up to exceptionally crafted, fine Grand Crus.

Then visit the brand-new winery, JC Boisset in Nuits-Saint-Georges for lunch and a tasting.

In the afternoon, stop at Château du Clos de Vougeot, a historical chateau that was once a winery and sets the historical scene for the whole region in context.

Return to Beaune for an evening at leisure.

Overnight: *Hotel Le Cep* (B, L)

SATURDAY, MAY 17

BEAUNE

After a final lecture at the hotel, enjoy a guided visit with Raymond to the weekly Beaune market in the morning. This is a fine place to gather gifts for home before free time for lunch followed by a guided visit to the Hospices de Beaune.

In the evening, enjoy a dinner at the modern style L'Expression, where you can try wines from parts of Burgundy not visited on this program and reflect on the different shades of the wines and landscapes that you've seen.

Overnight: *Hotel Le Cep* (B, D)

SUNDAY, MAY 18

LYON / DEPART FOR U.S.

After breakfast, depart the hotel and drive south, taking in the scenery of southern Burgundy and Beaujolais before arriving in Lyon for drop offs at the airport and city center. (B)