



## Cruise Details

Name:	Beautiful Bordeaux & Unforgettable Douro with Madrid
Reference:	SCENICBODM050927-1
Operator:	Scenic River Cruises
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Scenic Diamond
Regions:	Douro
Departs On:	05 Sep 27
Departs From:	Bordeaux
Arrives On:	28 Sep 27
Arrives At:	Madrid
Cruise Nights:	23
Total Vacation Days:	24

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Bordeaux (France)

Welcome to the city of Bordeaux, at the heart of one of the world's most famous wine regions. Bordeaux is one of the most desirable places in France to live and visit, with its waterfront rich in architecture and bustling with locals and visitors promenading, sipping coffee or wine from the surrounding renowned vineyards. The landscape is also dotted with beautiful castles.

Step aboard the luxurious Scenic Diamond to sail the waters of the Gironde, Garonne and Dordogne. Meet your fellow guests and toast to the start of an exceptional journey.

Arrives On: 05 Sep 27

### Day 2: Bordeaux (France)

Admire the tranquil riverside scenery as you sail towards Libourne this morning. After lunch, join a tour to nearby Saint-Émilion. This World Heritage-listed village has thousands of years

of history and beautifully-preserved medieval buildings. Explore the unique Monolithic Church, which is mostly underground and carved directly into the limestone.

This evening your Scenic Space-Ship will be docked overnight in Libourne, a beautiful 13th century port and winemaking capital of northern Gironde.

Arrives On: 06 Sep 27

#### Day 2: Libourne (France)

Arrives On: 06 Sep 27

#### Day 3: Libourne (France)

This morning, spend some time exploring Libourne and its surrounds.

**Scenic Freechoice:**

Today choose from the following Scenic Freechoice options.

Walking tour of Libourne: Take a guided tour of Libourne, with its rich history linked to the trade of wool, wine, salt and wood.

Wines and Vineyards of Saint-Émilion: Journey to the countryside of Saint Emilion and explore its vineyards before a tasting.

Biking and tasting at Château Siaurac: Cycle through this acclaimed wine-growing region to the impressive estate of Château Siaurac and enjoy a tasting.

Paint and Pour: Join a local artist for a class on the Sun Deck of Scenic Diamond. Learn watercolour techniques and create your own masterpiece while sipping local wines.

Set sail this afternoon for Fort Médoc, where you'll dock overnight.

Arrives On: 07 Sep 27

#### Day 3: Cussac-Fort-Médoc (France)

Arrives On: 07 Sep 27

#### Day 4: Cussac-Fort-Médoc (France)

The Médoc region is considered the world's leading red wine producer and is home to many legendary châteaux. Today, you'll have the chance to explore this remarkable wine region.

**Scenic Freechoice:**

Today choose from the following Scenic Freechoice options.

Médoc wine tasting by coach: With more than 16,000 hectares of vineyards across eight appellations, Médoc is home to the epic 'Route des Châteaux', or 'Route of Castles'. On this coach tour you will travel through this scenic region to a local winery and enjoy a tasting of their wines.

Médoc wine tasting by bicycle: Discover the spectacular Médoc countryside by e-bike today and see many grand aristocratic châteaux in the world's leading red wine producing region. Afterwards, sample the region's finest at one of the

prestigious estates.

**Scenic Enrich**  
Classical Concert at Château d'Agassac: Set in spectacular surrounds in the Medoc countryside, Château D'Agassac dates to the 13th century and is one of the oldest winemaking establishments in the region. Soak in the ambience of this magnificent property as live musicians perform classical masterpieces for your exclusive enjoyment.

Arrives On: 08 Sep 27

#### Day 5: Cussac-Fort-Médoc (France)

Relax on board this morning as you sail to Cadillac. You could enjoy a treatment at the spa or learn more about French cuisine in the Scenic Culinaire cooking school. You will arrive into Cadillac after lunch.

This picturesque town was founded in 1280 and retains many of its grand historic buildings. In 1701 French explorer Antoine de la Mothe, sieur de Cadillac took his name from the town and established the port of Fort Pontchartrain du Détroit, which would become modern day Detroit where the American auto industry began. The Cadillac car is named in his honour.

Arrives On: 09 Sep 27

#### Day 5: Cadillac (France)

Arrives On: 09 Sep 27

#### Day 6: Cadillac (France)

Cadillac is close to the Sauternes wine region, which is known for its sweet, fortified styles. Today, choose between a variety of experiences in the region surrounding Cadillac, from its bucolic countryside to its historic castles.

**Scenic Freechoice:**  
Morning Scenic Freechoice: Today, choose from the following Scenic Freechoice activities.  
Sauternes by coach: Take a coach through Sauternes to a vineyard for a tasting of the chateau's fine wines.  
Sauternes by bike: Cycle through the rolling vineyards of Sauternes for a tasting.

**Scenic Freechoice:**  
Afternoon Scenic Freechoice: This afternoon, choose from the following Scenic Freechoice activities.  
Roquetaillade Castle: Tour the ancient castle with the family whose ancestors have resided here for more than 700 years.  
Biking in the Loupiac wine region: Cycle the landscapes of the Gironde in the wine region of Loupiac and admire the breathtaking Château Benauge.  
Château Toulouse-Lautrec: During a guided tour you will discover the historic rooms of this estate including the apartments of the famous painter.

Arrives On: 10 Sep 27

## Day 6: Bordeaux (France)

Arrives On: 10 Sep 27

## Day 7: Bordeaux (France)

Discover Bordeaux's multitude of culinary delights and scenic treasures today with a variety of Scenic Freechoice activities to choose from.

**Scenic Freechoice:**

Guided tour of Bordeaux: Join your local guide on a tour of Bordeaux. Discover the highlights of the city, such as the magnificent Gothic cathedral and Place de la Bourse.

Cycling tour of Bordeaux: Pedal through historic Bordeaux on a guided cycling tour. Sample delicious treats such as canelé, a custard cake.

Shop with a chef: Join Scenic's on board chef at a local food market to shop for and taste the best ingredients this region has to offer before returning to Scenic Diamond for a cooking demonstration to learn the art of French fare.

Back on board, your Cruise Director will organise a special treat for you, with a tasting of fresh oysters delivered straight from the waters of Arcachon Bay.

**Scenic Enrich**

Afterhours access to Bassins des Lumières: After the doors have closed to the public, you will be welcomed with a glass of Champagne to Bassins des Lumières, Bordeaux's former WWII submarine base, now an impressive digital art installation. Be treated to an exclusive show, customised and curated just for Scenic guests.

Arrives On: 11 Sep 27

## Day 8: Bordeaux (France)

Continue your exploration of Bordeaux today with a variety of compelling options.

**Scenic Freechoice:**

Cité du Vin Museum: Take a local tram to the Cité du Vin Museum and enjoy an interactive journey of wine discovery.

Tour Bordeaux by motorbike & sidecar: Join your host as you cruise through Bordeaux in the side car and/or on the back of a motorcycle.

Visit Arcachon: Join your local guide for a walking tour of the charming bayside town of Arcachon, finishing your visit at Baltard market, an undercover food hall where stallholders tout local delicacies.

This afternoon you'll enjoy time at leisure on board as you sail towards Bourg.

Arrives On: 12 Sep 27

## Day 8: Bourg (France)

Arrives On: 12 Sep 27

## Day 9: Bourg (France)

Your ultra-luxury Scenic Space-Ship will be docked in Bourg today, a picturesque town set on a rocky promontory. Built as a defensive château, it's a maze of ancient alleyways, moats and bell towers on the Dordogne.

**Scenic Freechoice:**

Today, choose from the following Scenic Freechoice activities.

**Bourg with Carriages Museum:** Situated inside the grounds of Bourg Castle, visit the Carriages Museum with a local guide and discover the unique collection of horse-drawn carriages on display.

**Historic Saintes** Take a tour of Saintes, a charming town in the Charente-Maritime department of southwestern France that's steeped in 2,000 years of history and lush gardens.

**Full day excursion to Cognac:** The fortified city of Cognac is renowned for producing some of the world's finest brandy. Enjoy a walking tour of the town. After lunch, tour the estate of famed Rémy Martin before sampling some of the cognacs.

Arrives On: 13 Sep 27

#### Day 10: Bourg (France)

This morning you will arrive in Blaye. Most famously, this petite hamlet is home to a World Heritage-listed citadel that was constructed to protect Bordeaux city from enemy attacks.

**Scenic Freechoice:**

Today, choose from the following Scenic Freechoice activities.

**Walking tour of Blaye:** Stroll through the charming city of Blaye with a local guide, viewing a World Heritage-listed monument that overlooks the Gironde Estuary.

**Active walking tour of Blaye:** Tour the fascinating citadel of Blaye on an active walking tour with a local guide. Gain an understanding of the defence system created by the famous architect Sébastien Vauban.

**Cycling along the Captain's Road:** Join an active cycling tour along the Captain's Road.

**Visit Château de la Roche Courbon:** Guests will discover this fortified castle transformed into a historic château with sprawling manicured gardens during a guided visit.

Arrives On: 14 Sep 27

#### Day 10: Blaye (France)

Arrives On: 14 Sep 27

#### Day 10: Bordeaux (France)

Arrives On: 14 Sep 27

#### Day 11: Bordeaux (France)

Board an included flight from Bordeaux to Porto where you will be welcomed on board by the friendly crew of the Scenic Azure.

Arrives On: 15 Sep 27

#### Day 11: Porto (Portugal)

Arrives On: 15 Sep 27

#### Day 12: Porto (Portugal)

Wake in the city of Porto, a 2,000-year-old city that lent its name to the nation of Portugal. And while it is awash in history, it has a youthful vibe. Porto showcases sensory delights, streets are lined with restaurants showcasing local delicacies and historical buildings are decorated with intricate colourful tiles.

**Scenic Freechoice:**

Explore the region with one of this morning's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Guided tour of Porto: Discover the rich culture and history of Porto on this guided tour, which includes a visit to the iconic Palácio da Bolsa.

Active tour of Porto including cable car: Travel from Porto to Gaia (or Vila Nova de Gaia) where you'll take a cable car ride to the Dom Luis bridge, which crosses the Douro River. Walk across the bridge towards Porto Cathedral, São Bento railway station, and the bustling street of Rua das Flores.

Decorative blue tiles are synonymous with Portugal and this afternoon you will learn about their history while creating a masterpiece of your own during a tile painting workshop.

Arrives On: 16 Sep 27

#### Day 12: Entre-os-Rios (Portugal)

Arrives On: 16 Sep 27

#### Day 13: Entre-os-Rios (Portugal)

Your first port of call along the Douro is the quaint village of Entre-os-Rios. From here, you will set out to explore the verdant Douro Valley, with options to enjoy a hike, sample local wines, or visit a city known as the 'cradle of Portugal'.

**Scenic Freechoice:**

Choose from one of today's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

Paiva Walkways: Explore nature at its finest on an active hike along the Paiva River.

Quinta da Aveleda: Explore the fairytale-like property of Quinta Aveleda, a renowned wine producer set on an impressive estate.

Excursion to Guimarães: Visit the well-preserved World Heritage-listed city and explore the palace, which dates to the 15th century, and is home to a historic collection of tapestries, furniture, weapons and more.

Relax on board this afternoon as you cruise to Regua, the largest of the riverside towns. This region is famous for producing Port wine, with rolling vineyards on the terraced hillsides and wineries dating to the 18th century. This afternoon enjoy a visit to the excellent Douro Museum.

Arrives On: 17 Sep 27

#### Day 13: Régua (Portugal)

Arrives On: 17 Sep 27

#### Day 14: Régua (Portugal)

**Scenic Freechoice:** Choose how you wish to spend the morning with the following Scenic Freechoice excursions:  
Visit Varosa Valley, Tarouca & Ucanha, only with Scenic: Discover the captivating Varosa Valley and visit the charming village of São João de Tarouca where you'll explore the restored Monastery of Saint John of Tarouca. (St John is closed on Monday's and will be replaced with a visit to Vila Real). Walk the fortified bridge of Ucanha, Portugal's first toll bridge spanning the Varosa River which was built during the 14th and 15th centuries.  
Quinta visit with olive tasting: Visit a Quinta and learn about the production of olive oil at this family run Quinta that has been handed down for 11 generations.  
Back on board refuel with a delicious lunch before exploring the region further with a selection from the following Scenic Freechoice activities.  
Excursion to Lamego: Take a coach to the town of Lamego, nestled among terraced vineyards that were the first to produce world-famous port wine. The city prospered in the 18th century and is a fascinating place to wander, with its many fine Baroque structures. Start your tour at the stunning Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies, standing gracefully overlooking the town. The front of the Sanctuary is lined by a zigzagged staircase decorated in traditional blue and white tiled mosaics leading down to the town centre. If you are feeling active walk down the staircase or journey down via coach before some tasting some local produce at a nearby Bodega before enjoying some free time to explore the town.  
Mateus Palace: Transfer by coach to Mateus Palace, considered one of the best examples of Baroque civil architecture in Portugal.  
Port Wine Blending Class: Visit Quinta de Pacheca and take a hands-on workshop on the Port blending process.

Arrives On: 18 Sep 27

#### Day 15: Régua (Portugal)

Take things slowly today as you enjoy a relaxed cruise through the spectacular Vinhateiro wine growing region. Terraced vineyards line the sides of the Douro Valley, dotted with traditional red-roofed farmhouses and tiny villages. Vinhateiro was the first demarcated wine region in the world, established in 1756, and the whole area is World Heritage listed. Arrive in Vega de Terrón this evening.

Arrives On: 19 Sep 27

#### Day 15: Vega de Terrón (Spain)

Arrives On: 19 Sep 27

#### Day 16: Vega de Terrón (Spain)

Wake this morning in the city of Vega de Terrón, located on the border of Portugal and Spain and at the confluence of the Douro and Águeda rivers. This small town remains beautifully unspoiled, with quiet streets, lush landscapes and welcoming locals. It's a popular gateway to the university town of Salamanca, which you will have the opportunity to explore today.

**Scenic Freechoice:** Explore your way with one of today's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

**Salamanca Full Day Excursion:** Salamanca is home to two cathedrals, one dating back to the 12th century and the other to the 16th century, which you will see on today's guided tour. You will also visit a market to taste local delicacies and you'll have free time to explore and enjoy lunch at your leisure.

Visit the village of Freixo de Espada à Cinta: A town with a curious name that translates to 'ash tree girded with sword'. Legend has it the Dinis King of Portugal founded the town in the 14th century, then tied his sword to an ash tree before having a rest, hence the unusual name. The town is also the only place in Portugal where handcrafted silk is still processed entirely by hand, and on this guided tour you will visit the local silk museum to gain a better understanding of this local tradition before visiting a local Quinta (estate) for some tasting of regional produce. After this excursion you will return to the ship for lunch.

Arrives On: 20 Sep 27

#### Day 16: Pocinho (Portugal)

Arrives On: 20 Sep 27

#### Day 17: Pocinho (Portugal)

Wake in the village of Pocinho, established as the terminus of the Douro Railway in 1887, a great location to explore more of the Douro Valley.

**Scenic Freechoice:** Explore your way with one of this morning's Scenic Freechoice excursions:

**Côa Valley Museum:** Transfer by coach to the Côa Valley Museum, the largest open-air Paleolithic rock art site in the world. Opened in 2010, this museum is one of the largest in Portugal and is a contemporary building designed to blend into the landscape. The museum is a great introduction to the region's paleolithic rock art sites through artefacts and digital technology; on your visit you'll enjoy a pre-historic workshop.

**Village life in the Côa Valley:** Visit the small village of Freixo Numão, a traditional village that has been lived in for centuries. Learn about local life before visiting Casa Painova estate, see the family home and enjoy a demonstration on how sugared almonds are produced. Learn how these nuts are harvested and used in desserts and pastries. Enjoy a tasting of almonds and local products.

This afternoon, relax as you cruise towards Pinhão.



Arrives On: 21 Sep 27

#### Day 17: Pinhão (Portugal)

Arrives On: 21 Sep 27

#### Day 18: Pinhão (Portugal)

Wake this morning in Pinhão, set on one of the prettiest parts of the Douro River. This small village is surrounded by terraced vineyards and produces exceptional Port wine.

This morning, transfer to the charming village of Provesende, located on a plateau with spectacular views of the region's fertile rolling landscape. Wander through the village and visit the church, discover the old bakery, witness traditional handicraft being made, and look inside the historic manor house, Morgadio da Calçada, where you'll enjoy a tasting of delicious bola.

**Scenic Freechoice:** Choose one of this afternoon's Scenic Freechoice activities:

- Kayaking along the Pinhão River: Explore this beautiful region as you glide past impressive landscapes via kayak on the Pinhão River, a tributary of the Douro.
- Quinta vineyard hike: Take a guided hike through the breathtaking vineyards of Quinta da Roêda in the Douro Valley.
- Quinta tasting: Visit Quinta da Roêda estate for a tasting of the region's most famous export. On a guided walking tour, you'll learn the secrets of the vineyard.

Arrives On: 22 Sep 27

#### Day 19: Pinhão (Portugal)

Enjoy time at leisure as you continue to sail along the spectacular Douro River. Your Scenic Space-Ship will arrive back in Porto this afternoon, where you'll experience an exclusive classical concert tonight.

**Scenic Enrich**

Classical concert in São Francisco Church: From the ship, take a short walk (with some stairs) to São Francisco Church, which is one of the most iconic sites in Porto. Built in the 13th century, the Gothic church has an alter decorated with intricately carved wood swathed in gold. In these magnificent surrounds, enjoy a performance of classical music.

Arrives On: 23 Sep 27

#### Day 19: Porto (Portugal)

Arrives On: 23 Sep 27

#### Day 20: Porto (Portugal)

<p><span>Wake in Porto, ready for a day of unique experiences, whether that be a ride on a traditional boat, playing a round of golf or sampling wine in one of the most famous cellars in the city. </span></p><p><strong>Scenic Freechoice: </strong><span><br />Explore your way with one of today's Scenic Freechoice activities: </span><span>Excursion to Aveiro with a cruise: Enjoy a guided walking tour of Aveiro, a city famed for its canals, and cruise the waterways in a brightly coloured moliceiros flat-bottomed boat, that are unique to the city. </span><span>Round of golf: Play 6 holes at the Quinta do Fojo Golf club, one of Porto's most popular courses. </span><span>Wine tasting in Vila Nova de Gaia: Travel to Vila Nova de Gaia to visit one of Porto's most famous cellars, Cockburn's Port. Enjoy a guided visit and a tasting. </span></p><p><span>This afternoon you will have free time in Porto to explore the city at your own leisure. Return to your Scenic Space-Ship this evening for a farewell dinner. </span></p><p><span>Before dinner on board take an illumination cruise through Porto, passing the beautiful city including the six bridges that span the Douro.</span></p>

Arrives On: 24 Sep 27

#### Day 21: Porto (Portugal)

<p><span>Board your included flight from Porto to Madrid and transfer to your hotel for a three night stay.</span></p>

Arrives On: 25 Sep 27

#### Day 21: Port information not found

Arrives On: 25 Sep 27

#### Day 22: Port information not found

<p><span>Enjoy a tour of Madrid with a local guide this morning. You'll explore the 17th century Austrian Quarter, the Sabatini Gardens, and the famous Cibeles and Neptuno Fountains. There will also be stops to see a traditional bullfighting ring, admire a panorama of the Royal Palace and visit the unique Templo de Debod, an Egyptian temple from the second century BC that was given to the city by the Egyptian government. </span></p><p><span>This evening, join your fellow guests for a delicious dinner in a local restaurant.</span></p>

Arrives On: 26 Sep 27

#### Day 23: Port information not found

<p><strong>Scenic Freechoice: </strong><span><br />Today chose how you want to explore with the following Scenic Freechoice excursions:<br /><br />Prado Museum visit: Visit the Prado Museum where your guide will escort you through the collections which date from the 12th to the

20th century. The museum opened in 1819 and has since successfully fulfilled its mission of preserving, exhibiting and enriching its collections of art, which are closely linked to the history of Spain.

Tastes of Madrid walking tour: This morning let your local guide introduce you to the flavours of Madrid. Join this walking tour through the streets of Madrid tasting local cuisine as you go. Make a stop at the bustling Mercado de San Miguel to learn about the Mercado culture in Spain. Explore the surrounding area and taste various local produce including jamón ibérico (cured Iberian ham) and tapas (small bites) while learning about their history and significance in Spanish cuisine.

Spend the afternoon strolling the fashionable boutiques that adorn the city centre's many plazas, relaxing in one of Madrid's manicured gardens or simply exploring the surrounding area at your leisure.

Arrives On: 27 Sep 27

#### Day 24: Port information not found

After breakfast, transfer to Madrid airport with memories of a truly unforgettable journey.

This itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons such as high and low water. As such, the cruise may operate altered from that stated above. Please refer to our terms and conditions.

Please note: Preview itinerary subject to change.

Arrives On: 28 Sep 27

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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