

Our Home on the Road

Experience Burgundy

Burgundy is vintage B&R territory—a place renowned for its culinary traditions, celebrated wines and rich history. With our European headquarters based in Beaune, Burgundy for us is literally home territory. Thousands of miles of peaceful, paved roads await your exploration, and our guides are well acquainted with how best to stay off the beaten track when traversing this stunningly varied landscape. We'll lead you to the top of the gorgeous Hautes Côtes, uncork the splendid vintages from French wine's ancestral home, and bed down in the region's most exclusive hotel, the Abbaye de la Bussière. In sum, it's pure pleasure.

THE B&R DIFFERENCE

"I cannot imagine a more wonderful introduction to B&R. Hotels, food, wine, bikes, and spectacular scenery - all top notch!"

Nicola LeJan, Burgundy Biking

WHY TRAVEL WITH B&R?

Because B&R's European office has been in Beaune for years, we've gotten to be pretty close with the locals. In some cases, we've even married them. This means we know all the best places to cycle, picnic, taste wine, and buy croissants. And many of our friends join us en route to share their insider perspective.



Other questions?
Call Distinctive Journeys
at 770 888 6677

the journey p.2 [view](#) > / notes from the road p.5 [view](#) > / the details p.6 [view](#) > / next steps p.7 [view](#) >



the journey

Days 1 & 2

Route des Châteaux and Côtes de Nuits

WE RENDEZVOUS AT THE GRAND HOTEL LA CLOCHE IN Dijon, then begin our first ride in front of the Château de Saulon-la-Rue, a vast property from the 18th century that is ideal for our first contact with the rich history of the region. Our route takes us along the Saône River plain, past wheat fields and rustic farms to the famous village of Vougeot where a picnic lunch awaits us in a hidden location known only by B&R. After visiting the ancient water mill of the Monks of Citeaux, now owned by an antique collector from Dijon, we'll ride into the equally-famous village of Gevrey-Chambertin, home to more Grand Crus. From there, we continue on along the famous Côtes de Nuits vineyards, all the way to the village of Chambolle Musigny and the hotel Château du Petit Musigny, where director Olivier Sillon welcomes us at his door. After settling in, we'll take a quick drive to the Castel de Très Girard, tonight's restaurant back in Morey-Saint-Denis, where we'll listen to an informal introduction to Burgundian wines with international wine expert Jean-Pierre Renard who spends his time between Séoul and Los Angeles promoting Burgundy. Suitably educated, we'll enjoy a great dinner in this locals' favourite restaurant, considered by many of the area's famous winemakers to be the best in the region.

The next morning, our route takes us up to the Haute Côte, the "top of the slope." You'll be rewarded with not only great views but the knowledge that the day's

biggest hill is behind you! We continue on through rolling countryside to Gevrey-Chambertin, home to more Grand Crus than any other Burgundian village. Back on our bikes after a picnic lunch, we follow easygoing roads through the back to the hotel. There is time to relax before we head out to tonight's restaurant, the "Chambolle Musigny", a great little find just a few yards away from our Castle. We've carefully chosen the menu tonight to experience the famous "Coq au Chambertin", the most prestigious and traditional dish which could be served in our region.

HOTEL

Château du Petit Musigny, Chambolle-Musigny

Set amid the vines in tiny Chambolle-Musigny, the intimate yet luxurious 18thC Château du Petit Musigny opened as a hotel in 1993. Tastefully decorated and surrounded by a peaceful garden, the hotel has only 10 rooms, which means that the service is excellent and we usually have the place all to ourselves.

THE BIKING

Day 1: A 44.9 km (27.9 mi.) ride following small roads through quiet farmland and vineyards. Most of the ride is quite flat, then becomes slightly uphill and rolling towards lunch as we approach the Côte d'Or. There is an additional ride of 19 km (12 mi.) for those interested.

Elevation gain: 320 m (1,050 feet)

Day 2: A 35 km (21 mi.) ride up and along the Côte de Nuits. The first 3 km is a steady climb, then the terrain becomes rolling before an exhilarating downhill. Our route follows small roads through farmland, vineyards and small medieval villages. Options exist for extra riding.

Elevation gain: 488 m (1,601 feet)



Days 3 & 4 Côte de Beaune & the Hautes Côtes

Today we head south, towards the town of Nuits St-Georges and the medieval city of Beaune; en route we will follow the Côte d'Or through some of the most famous vineyards in the world such as Romanée Conti, La Tâche and Richebourg. Once we arrive at the medieval walls of Beaune, we wind through the cobbled streets and settle down for lunch at the Bistrot de l'Hôtel for a delicious meal with Damien and his team. After lunch, you can spend the afternoon exploring the town. We rendezvous again in early evening to meet up with our winemaker friend Jane Eyre-Renard for a "hidden" wine tasting at the Domain Newman. This domain offers fantastic wines from the Beaune area—some of which we'll taste directly from the barrel! This evening, dinner is on your own, and whether you're looking for a casual dinner at a big wooden table with the locals or a Michelin-starred experience, your guides will help you pick the perfect place.

After breakfast, we pedal off into the Côte de Beaune (the southern half of the Côte d'Or) by one of two routes. Following vineyard and forest roads, we glide toward the picturesque village of La Rochepot and then down into the heart of another jewel in the Burgundian crown: The Montrachet. We'll continue our way through the prestigious vineyards towards the well known village of Meursault. There, your B&R guides will point you to their favorite terrace. Whether you want a simple "croquet-monsieur" or a real Burgundian feast, the cafés and restaurants of the village have a lot to offer. After lunch, it's a lovely ride through vineyards and the towns of Volnay and Pommard before heading back to Beaune.

After relaxing (and perhaps a bit of shopping), we meet our local guide who has a deep knowledge and passion for all things Burgundian. She accompanies us through the Hospices, Beaune's incredible medieval hospital, established in 1443, and along the way tells us about the vast network of caves underneath the town. After our visit we walk to a special dinner—a candlelit feast hosted in the oldest wine house of Burgundy—Maison Champy. Sylvain Bréban, a young local sommelier, will tour us through some of the famous 15thC wine cellars of Beaune. Of course, our dinner will be accompanied by Grand Crus directly from the cellar below! Do you need another highlight for this special evening? The French Chef Thomas Lecourbe, twice a chef's assistant in the three-starred Michelin restaurants belonging to Pierre Gagnaire and Jacques Lameloise, will cook just for us. The menu perfectly matches the different "Crus" we'll taste tonight.

HOTEL

L'Hôtel de Beaune, Beaune

This beautiful hotel is housed in a 19th century home and is ideally located within steps of the shops and restaurants in the historic centre of Beaune. The courtyard is a great spot to unwind over a glass of wine, and the terrace leads to an incredible view over the city's medieval rooftops. With only eight rooms, we will be the only guests at L'Hôtel, making for a very intimate stay.

THE BIKING

Day 3: A 25.7 km (15.7 mi.) ride through slightly rolling vineyards. Two options exist for extra—and hillier—riding: a longer one in the morning of 39.4 km (24 mi.) and one in the afternoon of 23.5 km (15 mi.). **Elevation gain: 341 m (1,118 feet)**
Day 4: A 43 km (27 mi.) ride through rolling vineyards, forests and villages. The roads are mostly quiet, although there is slightly more traffic around Meursault. A beautiful but more challenging 61 km (37 mi.) ride is also available. **Elevation gain: 537 m (1,762 feet)**

Day 5 The Vallée de l'Ouche

Today we head northwest into the Ouche Valley. The landscape (and the riding) is spectacularly beautiful as we make our way along quiet country roads passing through the villages of Nantoux and Bessey-en-Chaume. The terrain is hilly in parts and quite flat in others, providing a perfect blend. For lunch today, we'll enjoy a picnic in the stunning privately-owned garden of the Abbey de La Bussière, our home for our last night. We have a surprise there for you that will be sure to make for a memorable moment! Pre-dinner drinks in the lounge will be followed by a Burgundian feast in the beautiful private room known as "Etienne Harding." Tonight Guillaume Royer - an exciting young chef who earned his "Meilleur Ouvrier de France" title in 2015 - will amaze us with his Michelin's star menu. Our final night together may hold a surprise or two as well.

Day 6 Farewells

This morning, we have breakfast in the Abbaye before heading off together for the Gare de Dijon-Ville train station, where you can catch a train to Paris or beyond.
Bon voyage!

HOTEL

Abbaye de la Bussière, La Bussière-sur-Ouche Relais & Châteaux

Purchased by the Cummings family in 2005, this "new" boutique hotel is in fact a medieval castle that was once a Cistercian monastery and later a hunting lodge. Now the country-house hotel offers luxurious accommodations within an 18-acre park.

THE BIKING

Day 5: A 38 km (24 mi.) ride from the Côte de Beaune through "Les Hautes-Côtes" on long—but not so steep—hills to the calm and flat Vallée de l'Ouche. **Elevation gain: 594 m (1,948 feet)** Keen riders can embark on a long option of a 105 km (65 mi.) Century ride. **Elevation gain: 525 m (1,722 feet)**



Closely Connected

By Olivier Maillard

Burgundy is my homeland and even after travelling to many different cities around the World, from Saïgon to Amsterdam and from Marrakech to Florence, nothing was able to keep me away from my “*terroir*.”

I remember as a small French boy having those long Sunday lunches made up of six or seven courses, with my grandfather never failing to open an amazing bottle of wine. Aged perfectly in his cellar, he was so proud to serve his family and friends some Grand Crus from Aloxe Corton or Gevrey Chambertin. He opened them 1 to 2 hours prior, served them in different glasses, and looked at each person's face for the moment of joy the beverage provided... By this time I was fed up of sitting at the table, as a young boy I didn't care to understand anything about wine and all I wanted to do was play outside and run in the fields...

Years later, I now understand my grandfather's devotion to wine, as I bike along the beautiful landscapes, made up of vineyards, rolling hills, an array of colours and the warm sunlight. Meeting with many famous wine growers and makers allowed me to discover all of what this generous man wanted to transmit. The colours and the flavours of those white and red juices that come from the ground describe why we all love this countryside.



When I met George Butterfield a few years after this revelation, we both agreed that Burgundy is the best place to bike on the planet. With the cliffs of Saint Romain and the depths of the unknown Vallée de l'Ouche; each season, the views are outstanding. George now has a house in Beaune about 200 yards from mine. Whether we go on a bike ride or simply share a glass of Mersault in a local bistro, we always talk about how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful area.

Today, my desire to discover the world isn't over yet, but I'm always delighted to show and explain the destination that both my grandfather and George are fanatics of. On a bike, we'll follow their paths to continue the tradition. My tradition.

B&R TRIP PLANNER

Olivier Maillard

Olivier combines his two passions in life—Morocco and his native Burgundy—by serving as the Trip Planner for both. Starting out as a bike mech at B&R's atelier in Beaune, this Burgundian now has 140+ trips under his belt and an avid passion for travel and cycling. (He watches the Tour de France every year—roadside!)

The Details



the details

2017 Price:

From \$4,995

(\$800 single supplement)

Single supplement is based on the most affordable rooms within B&R's allocation. Upgrades often available.

Duration

6 Days / 5 Nights

Please see our website for list of departures.

Start

Dijon

Grand Hotel la Cloche
9:30am

Finish

Dijon

Gare de Dijon
9:30am

HOTEL TYPE

Signature Hotels

Hotels on our Signature trips are unique expressions of the region. Oftentimes that means they've had a previous life as a monastery or a castle, but in every case it means they offer both an exceptionally comfortable stay and a taste of the region's culture. Best of all, we're friends with our hoteliers. (Translation? Preferential treatment for you.)

LEVEL OF ACTIVITY

Enthusiast

The first four days of the trip alternate between relatively flat routes and some hilly rides. Daily elevation gains range between 341-594 m. Distances range from 27 to 44 km (17 to 27 mi.) with options every day, including the Century Ride of 100 km. In general, we follow small, quiet roads through vineyards, farmland, forests and charming towns. Burgundy has been credited with having the best biking, not just in France, but the world. This is no small claim, but it has been asserted time and again by B&R guides and travellers alike.

MORE INFO

How do I get to Dijon?

Your likely point of arrival into France will be Paris. The high-speed TGV train is the best way to get from Paris to Dijon—it takes about two hours and reservations are required. Trains to Dijon leave central Paris from the Gare de Lyon, but there is limited direct rail service between Charles de Gaulle Airport and Dijon.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All hotel accommodation
- All breakfasts, three lunches, four dinners, including wine
- Use of a customized hybrid or a racing bike with drop bars, equipped with handlebar bag and helmet
- Other bike options available on request: elite performance, tandem or electric-assist bikes (subject to a supplemental fee)
- Services of B&R guide(s) and support van
- All special events, private tours, guest experts and entrance fees
- All transportation from rendezvous to drop-off
- All baggage transportation
- Detailed maps, route suggestions and water bottle
- All gratuities for baggage, porters and hotel service

HOTEL DE LA CLOCHE, DIJON

www.hotel-lacloche.com

The Hotel de la Cloche is a privileged place which gathers tradition and modernity to offer its visitors. For more than a century it has been known for the quality that great people are looking for. This is one of the better hotels in Dijon and is conveniently located a stone's throw from the historic centre, two minutes from the station and ten minutes away from the main motor ways. Everyone who checks in leaves feeling refreshed in body and tranquil in spirit.

Other questions?
Call Distinctive Journeys
at 770 888 6677

The itinerary information may vary slightly for your specific departure as we continuously research and develop each trip. Inclement weather may also necessitate minor alterations. Prices are per person and in USD. © 2017 Butterfield & Robinson Inc.



your next steps

At Butterfield & Robinson, the guiding starts while you're still at home. We make sure you know everything you need to know before you've even left your living room.

READY TO BOOK?

- Call or email a Distinctive Journeys with any remaining questions, and to reserve your space. **1-770-888-6677 / Doug@Distinctive-Journeys.com**
- Reserve your flights to and from the region.
- Book your night before hotel.
- Make sure your passport is up to date.
- Enquire after travel insurance.

Once you are confirmed on a B&R trip, you will receive a Confirmation Email that links to tons of information to help you prepare for your trip. Then, about a month before you leave, we will send you a list of your fellow travellers, final rendezvous instructions and your hotel contact numbers.

Weather: Beaune

month	high	low
Jan/Feb	44	31
Mar/Apr	57	38
May/Jun	72	50
Jul/Aug	78	58
Sep/Oct	70	48
Nov/Dec	48	34

ROOM UPGRADE

If you would like to upgrade your accommodation on this trip, please enquire at time of booking to learn cost and availability.

YOUR BIKE

We pride ourselves on having the very best equipment for each activity and locale, maintained by expert staff and custom tweaked just for you. To learn about our biking equipment and see pictures of what you'll be riding, visit us at butterfield.com/about/equipment/bikes. And don't forget that we will modify your bike to accommodate most special gear requests. Just ask.

EXTENDING YOUR TRIP

Paris is one of the great cities in the world, so chances are you will want to spend time there either before or after your trip. There are several recommendations for where to stay and what to do while in Paris included in the Confirmation Email you will receive upon booking. We'll also happily recommend a city guide if you want an insider's tour of Paris.

STAY IN TOUCH!

Sign up to receive *The Slow Road* our e-newsletter that is full of travel news, unique offers and B&R insider info.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about your B&R experience—big, small or downright quirky—please call a Travel Advisor, or contact your travel professional. We are always happy to help.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/ButterfieldandRobinson



Like B&R on Facebook and get the latest news and photos from the road, updates from guides and more.

Other questions?
Call Distinctive Journeys
at 770 888 6677