



Rocamadour



Dordogne

## OUR PRICE INCLUDES

- ✓ Executive coach travel
  - ✓ Door to door pick up
  - ✓ Short sea ferry / shuttle crossings
  - ✓ 2 overnights half board accommodation
  - ✓ 5 night's dinner, bed and buffet breakfast
  - ✓ 3 fully guided tours
  - ✓ Excursions as described in the itinerary
- Entry fees not included unless otherwise stated



# Secrets of Hidden France

Door to Door

New Tour

Discover the treasures of this part of France relatively undiscovered by tourism, just far enough away from the Dordogne to avoid the crowds, but near enough to share the rural charm and culinary delights of the region. Pass through surprisingly unspoilt scenery – charming medieval villages clinging perilously to the sides of towering cliffs, beautiful views over lush green riverbanks, sun ripened grapes in the vineyards gracing the river terraces, tobacco and sunflower fields, walnut orchards – not to mention the food and wine for which this area is famous.



Sarlat

## ITINERARY

**Day 1** We travel to Dover / Folkestone for the short sea ferry / shuttle crossing to Calais continuing to our overnight half board accommodation.

**Day 2** We depart the hotel after breakfast and visit Oradour-sur-Glance, a memorial site to the 1944 SS massacre. We complete the journey to Rocamadour arriving at the hotel with time to relax before evening meal.

**Day 3** After a leisurely breakfast we depart for our fully guided morning visit of the medieval town of Rocamadour. Huddled around the shrines, the town of Rocamadour clings to the cliff face on several levels. We visit the sanctuaries and the seven churches and chapels, in one of which resides the 12th century black Madonna. See the town's defences, many of which are still intact: the castle, ramparts and fortified gates. Enjoy some free time before we depart early afternoon for the Gouffre de Padirac and visit the spectacular caves. The Gouffre is a natural 75mtr chasm on the limestone plateau of the 'Cause de Gramat', below which, a river flows 103 meters underground.

**Day 4** Today we visit the prehistoric caves of Peche Merle with our guide. Once described as the "Sistine Chapel of the Lot Valley", with the dripping underground caverns covered with pictures of bison, horses and mammoths, and the footprints of a boy made more than 12,000 years ago. We continue on to Saint Cirq Lapopie for a guided tour of this beautiful village. Perched on a cliff above the river Lot it is one of the 'most beautiful villages in France', explore the network of ancient streets and see the lovely old houses. Return to Rocamadour via the picturesque Cele Gorge.

**Day 5** Today's fully guided excursion takes us through the valley

of the Dordogne to admire the chateaux of Belcastel and La Treyne before arriving at the medieval town of Sarlat, which has a fantastic well known Wednesday market, a guided visit of this town of Art and History that never tires of telling the story of its prestigious past along its enchanting alleys and through its unique architectural heritage. Continue on along the route of the 5 chateaux: Beynac, Fayrac, Marqueyssac, Castelnaud and Lacoste. Stop at La Roque Gageac another well known village where you can discover the Exotic Gardens and experience the Dordogne river first hand with Les Gabarres Norbert, board the reproduction of an 18th century barge, you will enjoy the exceptional scenery and be taken on a journey through 10 centuries of the Dordogne valley and its extraordinary history

**Day 6** A half day guided tour to some of the most beautiful villages in France. We visit Autoire - tucked in the hollow of a valley lined by impressive cliffs, the whole village has real character with its old houses, manor, Romanesque church and unlikely Chateau des Anglais clinging to the rockface. Loubressac - the village and castle perched on a rocky spur overlooking the valleys of the Dordogne and the Bave. Magnificent views of the castles of Montal, Castelnaud and Saint-Laurent. Carennac - developed on the banks of the Dordogne around a priory founded in the 11th century by the abbey of Cluny. Visit the Romanesque church, chapter house and Deans residence. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure in Rocamadour.

**Day 7** We depart Rocamadour travelling to our overnight half board accommodation.

**Day 8** We continue to Calais for the afternoon ferry / shuttle to Folkestone / Dover and complete the journey home.

## Hotel Lion D'or, Rocamadour ★★ EE

A lovely hotel in the medieval city of Rocamadour • Traditional French family run • Right in the heart of the historical town • En-suite bedrooms • TV • Telephone • Internet Access • Combined restaurant and bar • Lift. [www.liondor-rocamadour.com](http://www.liondor-rocamadour.com)

## Departure Date

Saturday	16th June	8 Days	£739	
Saturday	1st Sept	8 Days	£699	

Single room supplement £156. For Door to Door terms & conditions please refer to Page 141.