



Historic 'Classic Clarets' weekend in Bordeaux with Grape Escapes

London, 19 September 2011: Wine lovers can journey back to 1855 on Grape Escapes' 'Classic Clarets' tour this October. The two night tour, from 28-30 October 2011, explores the 'Big Four' wine regions Napoleon III classified as the best wine areas in France in the 19th century. Tour prices start at £297 per person.

Guests are based in a hotel of their choice in Bordeaux. From there, they head out on a full day tour of Napoleon III's four chosen wine regions whose wines he exhibited in Paris in 1855. The regions are collectively known as 'The Médoc' or 'Big Four'. The tour is led by an English speaking local tour guide and guests are transported between wineries in a luxury mini coach.

The Médoc tour starts in Margaux with a visit to one of its most famous wineries and a cellar tour. This is followed by an exploration of St Julien, which has five Deuxieme Cru Classé wineries, and tastings at a Cru Classé Château. Next is Pauillac where the group stop for a four course lunch at a premium restaurant with wines from the local estates. The Pauillac Château will then be visited for tastings of its wines. The final visit is to the St. Estephe Château where the unusual soil type gives earthy, robust wines.

The starting price of £297 per person includes two nights accommodation at a three star hotel, the guided tour of the Médoc and the lunch. The price increases with the choice of hotel which ranges from a three star hotel in the city centre to a five star luxury spa hotel opposite the Grand Theatre and Opera House. Easyjet flies from London Gatwick or Luton to Bordeaux everyday with prices starting at £21.99 one way.

Ends

About Grape Escapes

Grape Escapes is a specialist in travel to the French wine regions offering a selection of gourmet wine-tasting weekends in Champagne, Burgundy, Bordeaux, the Loire and the Rhône. Catering for all food and wine lovers from the serious connoisseur to enthusiastic beginner, Grape Escapes' small group tours average just 12 guests and blend tastings at prestigious Châteaux and Champagne houses with more intimate invitations as the guests of smaller family-run estates. Grape Escapes also offers longer tailor-made self-drive itineraries, private group tours for friends or social groups such as hen weekends and weddings.

Media Information

For more details on Grape Escapes, please visit: www.grapeescapes.net or call 08456 430 860

For more information, please contact Jenny Groutage or Amelia Astley Birtwistle at The Saltmarsh Partnership on 0207 928 1600 or email jenny@saltmarshpr.co.uk/ amelia@saltmarshpr.co.uk