

# Le Farat

## Le Farat Wine Tours South West France

**3 nights, June 2017 (exact dates tbc)**

**Prices from €395 pp**



We are fortunate to live in a stunning part of France and as such want to share with you some of the delights we have started to take for granted!

For centuries wine has been an integral part of life here. While other regions spent years publicising their wines and gaining worldwide acclaim, the locals here in the Tarn et Garonne chose to keep their wine to themselves, and therefore much of the region's wine has crept under the radar. We feel it deserves recognition and wanted to share with you some of the truly wonderful discoveries we have made.

We are not a large company or a wine marketing machine, but just a normal ex-pat English family keen to give others the opportunity to experience our way of life here and to provide tailored experiences for wine lovers.

Our region is known as the garden of France because we possess such a wide variety of produce. Famed for fois gras and truffles, acres of sunflower fields which produce delicious oils, cherries, apricots, prunes, melons and even kiwis. That's all before we mention the vineyards! Row upon row of vines bearing grapes not only for the delicious local wines but also Armagnac.

We appreciate that there are those that know their wine and those who don't. Our wine tasting experience will appeal to both camps. Our highly experienced team have the knowledge to introduce connoisseurs to some of the best wines produced here in the glorious South West. They will also assist those less experienced to sample these wines and give advice on the best buys.

This year our tour has been planned to coincide with the locally renowned Fete de St Noe. This two day traditional wine festival highlights the importance of wine in our region and is celebrated with traditional dancing, processions and obviously plenty of wine, feel free to join in!



## SW France Wine Tour Details

### **Le Farat Wine Tour Itinerary**

A warm welcome awaits you here at Le Farat and we will ensure you have everything you need to enjoy a perfect few days with us.

## **Day 1 Arrival**

- Afternoon: A buffet meal on the evening of your arrival, with wine of course!

## **Day 2**

- Morning: Optional Auvillar Village Tour and Light Lunch at local restaurant

Listed as one of France's 155 [Plus Beaux Villages de France](#) and an important stop on the famous pilgrims walking route GR65 Chemin de Saint Jacques de Compostelle (that passes through the village en route to Lourdes and Santiago de Compostella in Northern Spain), Auvillar is a medieval bastide village overlooking the Garonne valley with far reaching views. For hundreds of years it was an important trading point between Bordeaux and Toulouse and was most famous for its pottery. The Fete de St Noe is being held at the same time as our Spring Tour this year.

- Afternoon: Wine Professional at Le Farat

Lucinda Dutton-Cox worked in London for many years with some of the best known wine merchants and people in the industry including the [celebrity wine professional Oz Clark](#). She now hosts professional wine tasting events all over France and the UK.

You will spend a relaxing afternoon with Lucinda whilst she takes you on an amazing virtual wine tour of the region with some local growers from Domaine de Brulhois and/or Domain de Saint Sardos in attendance. There will be plenty of opportunity to taste a fantastic range of wines and as this will all take place here at Le Farat, so you won't have to worry about driving back afterwards!

- Evening: Dinner at the Auberge De Bardigues (Optional)

Chef Cyril will take care of you at the acclaimed [Auberge de Bardigues](#). Local wines will be on offer to accompany the chef's culinary creations.

## Day 3

- Morning: Traditional Carriage Ride with Tour of Local Vineyard and Picnic Lunch (Optional).



We will travel in style with Philippe and his beautiful Breton horses in a traditional carriage from Le Farat to our local vineyard Domaine de Thermes. You will receive a guided tour of the vines, detailed information on how the grapes are grown, which grape varieties are used in the region and a breakdown of the wine-making process!

Weather-permitting you will be able to enjoy a delightful vineyard picnic amongst the vines. Alternative arrangements will be made in the un-likely event that the sun is not shining or is too hot!

- Afternoon: Wine and Cheese Masterclass with a Sommelier (Optional)

This is a masterclass giving you an insight into the secret world of the Sommelier. Each year Fabien chooses over 100 wines to offer with specific menu choices at the renowned [Auberge De Bardigues](#). What he doesn't know is not worth worrying about!

He is an authority on cheese too and is happy to share his knowledge on the best wine for each type of food from entrée, plat, dessert as well as what to drink with cheese and aperitifs!



- An evening "al fresco"

As the Wine Festival will be in full swing from 3pm, we thought it would be nice to participate in the village activities. Traditional dancing a buffet meal with a choice of food prepared by various local producers (normally on offer is a choice of BBQ, duck with salad, freshly made sandwiches, Pizza, cheeses, chips, cassoulet or paella all washed down with local wine of course. After the meal there will be a candlelit procession (with locals in traditional costume) through the village headed by the priest to a shrine to bless the forth coming wine growing season and harvest. From 10pm a live band and a bar will be open to the public with dancing into the early hours. Transport available.

## Day 4

- Morning: Magnificent Guided Vineyard Tour

You will be taken on a tour of the [beautiful vineyard of Domaine d'Arton](#) which is just 25 minutes away. It produces many different types of wine from sweet aperitif white wines to dry whites, rosés, reds and even Armagnac. All magnificent at amazing prices!



Although lunch is not planned for this trip, it can be arranged depending on your own particular itinerary. Equally you may prefer to return to Le Farat continue to enjoy the second day of the Fete de St Noe which kicks off at 3pm.

# Wine Tour Luxury Accommodation

The accommodation here at Le Farat consists of four luxury double rooms and one twin room, all with their own bathrooms.

Not only do you have your own luxury room and private bathroom, but you also have access to the lounge areas for relaxing as well as our extensive gardens for a stroll taking in the wildlife, fresh air and all the beautiful views you can manage.



## \*Booking Information

Cost 395€ per person based on two sharing

What's included in the price:

- 3 nights luxury accommodation
- gourmet buffet meal and complimentary wine on your first evening
- home-made Le Farat breakfasts for each of the 3 mornings
- virtual wine tour, presentation and tastings with Luci at Le Farat
- local growers wine tasting at Le Farat

Optional extras charged locally pp:

- Auvillar village tour and light lunch at local bistro 30€
- Restaurant meal at Auberge de Bardigues inc local wines 45€ (approx depending on food choices)
- Traditional carriage ride 20€
- Tour of local vineyard with picnic lunch 30€
- An afternoon Wine and Cheese Masterclass with a Sommelier 35€
- Wine festival meal (Saturday night) in Auvillar market square inc local wines 20€
- Magnificent guided vineyard tour with wine tasting of course 10€

To offer as much flexibility as possible, you are free to book some or all of these activities. We do, however, require a minimum of 6 people in order to run each activity. Please select your required activities when booking.

We will happily arrange the restaurant meals with local wines. Meals are not dependent on numbers and you are free to eat as couples or with the group.

#### Dates

Arrival at Le Farat Thursday, departure Sunday. Should you wish to extend your stay we would love to accommodate you. please enquire about availability.

#### Notes

- for guidance, total cost with all options included Approximately €575 per person
- all activities offer English spoken guides or translation services
- flights and car hire at your own expense
- minimum 6 people
- maximum 10 people

To book your wine tour or for further information [Please Get In Touch](#)