

Gironde Estuary, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, France

Europe's largest estuary winds through some of France's most legendary wine country. Whether your ship docks at Pauillac amid the Médoc vines, Le Verdon at the estuary mouth, or historic Blaye, the Gironde delivers châteaux, oysters, and 18th-century grandeur.

 Pier (Pauillac, Le Verdon, Blaye)  Typical call: 8–10 hrs  Currency: Euro (€)  Language: French  Wine country

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pauillac pier (up to 320 m); Le Verdon deep-water pier (any size); Blaye waterfront; Bordeaux city quay (ships ≤255 m)

Best For: Wine lovers, history buffs, UNESCO sites, gourmet dining

Walk to center: Pauillac: 10 min to promenade; Blaye: 5 min to Citadel; Le Verdon: not walkable — bus required

Don't Miss: Médoc Grand Cru châteaux, Blaye Citadel, Cordouan Lighthouse, Bordeaux Miroir d'Eau

 Getting around:  **Taxi** ✅ €10–€20 ·  **Rideshare** ✅ Uber, Bolt ·  **Hop-on hop-off** ✅ Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Médoc Grand Cru Wine Châteaux** — Visit storied estates like Château Mouton Rothschild, Château Lafite Rothschild, or Château Latour in the Pauillac...
- **Blaye Citadel & Vauban Fortifications** — The 17th-century Citadel of Blaye, designed by Louis XIV's master engineer Vauban, is a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- **Bordeaux City Day** — Even if your ship docks in Pauillac or Le Verdon, Bordeaux is worth the coach ride.
- **Cordouan Lighthouse Boat Trip** — The 'Versailles of the Sea' is the oldest active lighthouse in France and a UNESCO World Heritage site, standing alone...
- **Oysters & Wine on the Estuary** — The Gironde's brackish waters produce exceptional oysters, traditionally served raw with rye bread and a crêpinette...

BEST WALKS

- **Pauillac Waterfront & Bages Village** 2–3 hrs · Easy · 3 km round-trip — From the Trompeloup pier, walk north along the Gironde to Pauillac's promenade and the Lafayette Monument, commemorating the Marquis's...
- **Blaye Citadel Loop** 1.5–2 hrs · Easy · 2 km — Step off at Blaye quay and walk straight up to the Citadel entrance.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	63°	47°	10d
Jun	76°	60°	11d
Aug	79°	63°	7d
Sep	75°	59°	8d
Oct	67°	53°	11d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 7:18AM–8:48PM · Jun 6:15AM–9:52PM · Aug 7:04AM–9:09PM · Sep 7:41AM–8:13PM · Oct 8:19AM–7:17PM

Currency: Euro (€)

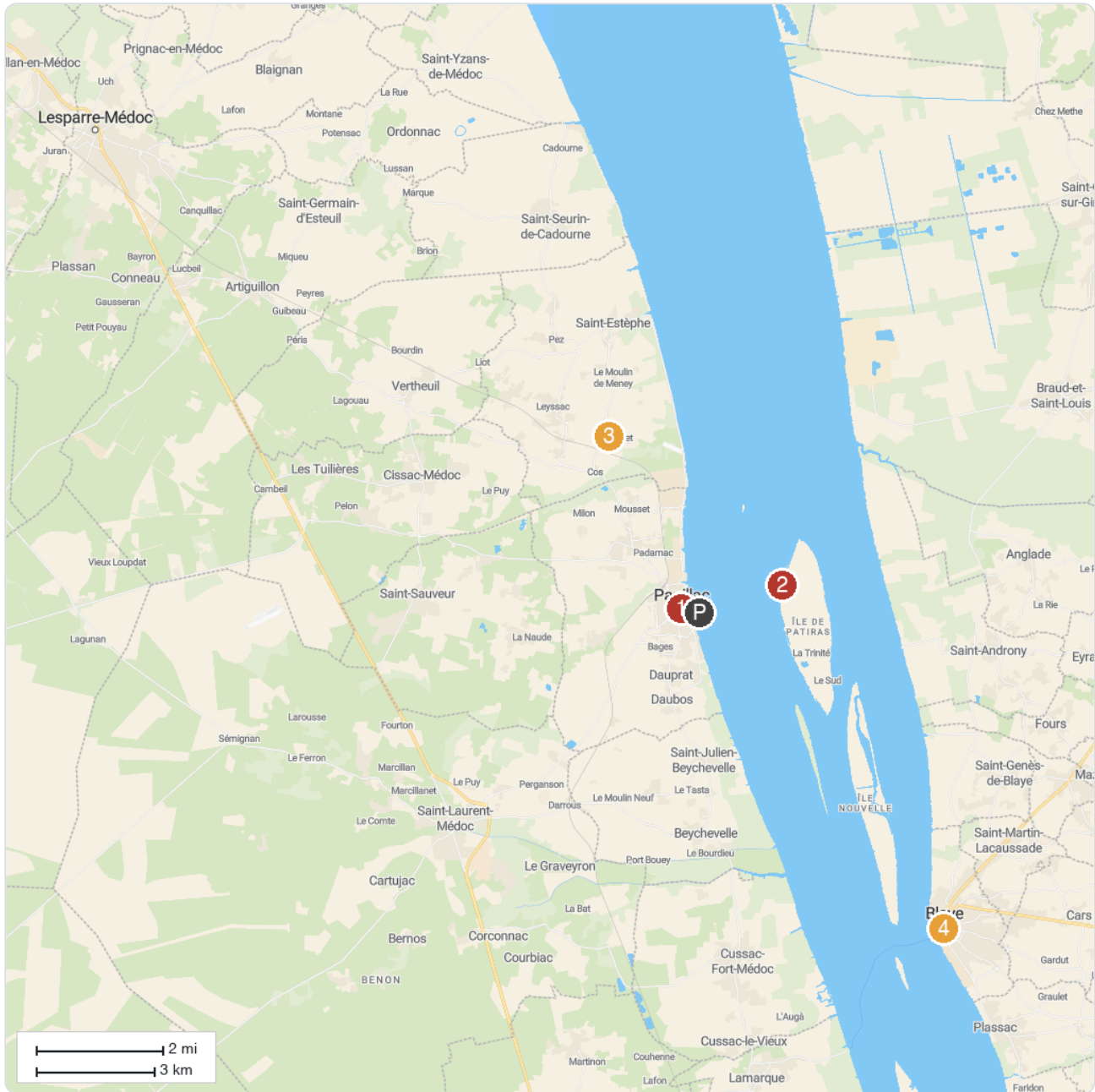
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book wine châteaux well in advance. The Médoc's Grand Cru estates (Mouton Rothschild, Lafite, Latour) require reservations months ahead — walk-ins are not accepted. Ship...
- Le Verdon is not walkable. It's an industrial deep-water port 2+ hours from Bordeaux. If you dock here, plan for a coach excursion don't expect a stroll to town.

Gironde Estuary, Nouvelle-Aquitaine, France — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1 Église Saint-Martin a historic Romanesque church.

3 Château Le Crock a prestigious Bordeaux wine estate.

P Cruise port / terminal

2 Lighthouse Patiras

Patiras Lighthouse: a historic lighthouse on an island.

4 Tourist Office of Blaye

Blaye Tourist Office: information center for local attractions.