Information for ALLIANCE Schlumberger Members
Bordeaux Reunion 31st May 2019 to 3rd June 2019

(Click on the diagrams and maps to expand for greater detail)

AIR TRAVEL
Bordeaux Airport at Merignac
https://www.google.com/maps/dir//44.830597,-0.7023323/@44.819463,-0.6555692,13z/data=!4m2!4m1!3e0

Airlines flying in/out are shown on wikipedia:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bordeaux%E2%80%93M%C3%A9rignac_Airport

Three Terminals, Car Hire desks are on the lower level of Hall B,
On Arrival - Trip Adviser information:
https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/ShowTopic-g187079-i648-k9833151-
How_much_is_a_taxi_from_the_airport_to_the_centre-Bordeaux_Gironde_Nouvelle_Aquitaine.html
Good advice here. You can compare and choose between its information and the official Airport website details listed below.

Car rental
https://www.bordeaux.aeroport.fr/en/shops/renter

Airport Bus
The service operates every day, all year, a 30-minute trip (depending on traffic) direct between Terminal B and Bordeaux Train Station

Taxis

TRAIN TRAVEL
https://www.seat61.com/international-trains/other-cities/trains-from-Bordeaux.htm
This site covers most main European cities in particular:
Paris – Bordeaux - 2hrs

Train Station - Hotel Mercure Bordeaux Centre
There is a Taxi rank outside the station which is not far from the Hotel. The tram can also be taken there and stops 300ms from the hotel.

The Reunion will be held in the Hotel Mercure Bordeaux Centre Ville.

The Mercure Centre is 10 minutes' walk from Bordeaux centre and well situated for exploring the heart of the city.
There is an excellent modern tram system
It runs close to the hotel and covers Bordeaux. Bordeaux covers a large area, this excellent tram system allows you to cover it on both sides of the river. There is plenty to visit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of tickets</th>
<th>Usage</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tickarte 1 trip</td>
<td>Just 1 trip, change as many times in 1 hr</td>
<td>€1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tickarte 5 trips</td>
<td>Occasional travel. No expiry date</td>
<td>€6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tickarte 10 trips</td>
<td>Occasional travel. No expiry date</td>
<td>€12.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trams run every 10-12 mins on weekdays, 20-30 mins weekends

You must purchase a ticket to ride on the tram. Inspectors fine where a valid ticket is not produced.

Ticket kiosks can be found at all tram stops where you are able to buy an array of different types of tickets. The ticket machine instructions are in French but there is a button to convert into English or Spanish. You can select your ticket by rotating the wheel in the centre of the panel, click the centre button to choose and then select the total number of tickets you wish to purchase.

You will need to pay by coins or credit card (notes are not accepted). Once you have boarded the tram there are two small yellow machines where you can validate your ticket.

Bordeaux’s Excellent Tourist Website
This is well worth reviewing for background to your trip and may well decide you to extend your stay.
https://www.bordeaux-tourism.co.uk/Plan-your-trip/Practical-information/Maps-guides

Restaurants

Trip Adviser
Trip Adviser has the most complete list of restaurants with ratings,
https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Restaurants-g187079-Bordeaux_Gironde_Nouvelle_Aquitaine.html
Google
Google has a good list with a map showing those close to the hotel, the closest being Racine…but if you want to go you must book early. It doesn’t look anything special from outside but we couldn’t get a table.
https://www.google.com/search?q=map+of+restaurants+in+Bordeaux&npsic=0&rllfq=1&rha=0&rllag=44840765,-572470.205&tbm=lcl&ved=2ahUKEwjpk7KpqQfAhVK4eAKHfBUCUQgQrAegQIAhUARAC#hl=en&biw=1366&bih=659&source=lnms&tbm=lc&ei=VAmzW2jqiK6c9wGqpea4Cg&ved=2ahUKEwjpk7KpqQfAhVK4eAKHfBUCUQgQrAegQIAhUARAC#q=map+of+restaurants+in+Bordeaux&hl=en&safe=images-wm-pi

Luxe Adventure Traveller
Also their website lists many worth trying

The Guardian Newspaper has a good choice of places

... and finally, on restaurants,

Roaming Around the World
https://www.roamingaroundtheworld.com/budget-travel-bordeaux/
This informative site gives good information on the whole Bordeaux area but has a good section on eating in Bordeaux. A few extracts follow:

Try the Oysters at Chez Jean Mi at Marché des Capucins Market
An order of a half dozen raw oysters with fresh bread and a glass of wine runs €7. We found other restaurants in Bordeaux listing a half dozen oysters for €10+ without any wine, so Chez Jean Mi has fantastic value.

You should also consider ordering their “assortment of fruits of the sea.” It’s meant for two people, which is an artfully crafted tower of crabs, shellfish, mollusks and other oceanic indulgences for €21. This is incredible value, considering the amount of seafood that is brought to the table.
Try Bistro Poulette
For a delicious pot of mussels with fries, try Bistro Poulette. A big order of moules frites will cost €10 and you can add a glass of wine for as little as €3.

Try Lunch at Le Cheverus Café
This busy café must have the best value set lunch menu in the city centre. For just €14, you can treat yourself to a set menu of the day that includes a starter, main course, dessert, coffee, and even a glass of wine! During our visit, the main course was a delicious stewed beef. And if the main course option doesn’t appeal to you, there are other set menus available that range around €15-€25. Be prepared to give your French a try, or put your translator to work, as there’s not much English writing or speaking going on at Le Cheverus. You’ll be rewarded with one of the best value meals in Bordeaux.

Try Le Entrecote
A Bordeaux institution for this classic and economical French meal. The original is in Toulouse but its popularity has led them to open a few additional locations, including here in Bordeaux. The €19 price includes a 170-gram sirloin served in their signature sauce, alongside a mound of their famous frites, and even a salad with walnuts. This price already includes service, so no surprise addition to the bill or tip is necessary here. Glasses of wine start a modest €4. And what better to accompany a good steak than a nice glass of Bordeaux wine.

Try ‘Bar a Vin Ecole du Vin Bordeaux’
We strongly recommend a visit to the Bar a Vin Ecole du Vin Bordeaux. This is where you’ll find glasses of Bordeaux wine starting at €2 a pop! It may possibly be the best value for wine in all of France. The steep discount is thanks in part to the Bordeaux Wine Council, whose mission is to promote the wine producers of the region.

Bar a Vin Ecole du Vin Bordeaux is also known as Maison du Vin and is located directly across the street from the tourism office in the city centre. Maison du Vin offers a few dozen wines by the glass each day with generous full-glass pours starting at a mere €2! Better bottles and vintages can also be found for steals in the €5-€10 range, whereas they’d likely set you back triple that elsewhere. Yet about half of their selections were priced below €5 per glass. There wasn’t a choice we didn’t like.

MAPS

The UNESCO Heritage Tour
Courtesy of the excellent Bordeaux Tourist website
This circuit takes a little over two hours on foot (not including museum visits).

It starts out from the main Tourist Office in the centre of Bordeaux, housed in a building that is an interesting example of neo-classic architecture. A stone's throw away, the Place des Quinconces is on the site of the former Château Trompette reconstructed by Louis XIV after the Fronde. This is overlooked by the Girondins Monument (1), a unique example of 19th-century French civil architecture.

Along with the Grand Théâtre (3), the Cours du Chapeau-Rouge (3) is undoubtedly the most "royal" street on this circuit, epitomised by buildings in a textbook neo-classic style. Opening onto the river, 18th century Place de la Bourse (15) was Bordeaux's first major urban project. Built in 1730, it was the first of many far-reaching transformations and became the centre of a new district. Continuing along the quays, one comes to the Porte Cailhau (12), a Renaissance triumphal arch constructed in 1494 in honour of King Charles VIII. Memories of the Middle Ages are kept alive in the Saint-Pierre district, where the street names reflect their Anglo-Gascon origin. The culmination of this tour, the Grosse Cloche (10), symbolises municipal authority and features the city's medieval coat of arms.

Located in a pedestrian precinct since the tramway was introduced, Saint-André cathedral and Pey-Berland Tower (8) are two complex and attractive monuments. Going towards Place Gambetta (6), the Palais Rohan (7) on your left was the former archbishop's residence and became the Town Hall in 1835. The courtyard

https://www.bordeaux-tourism.co.uk/Discover-Bordeaux/Must-See/Bordeaux-a-World-Heritage-Site
and garden are very attractive. Along the way, sumptuous town houses and imposing residences with monumental doors and harmonious facades show the scale of the urban renewal project undertaken by royal intendant Tourny and his successors. Bordeaux had changed so much by 1757 that a Swede, Hallman, wrote to Linnaeus: "Anyone who has not seen this city for a few years would now find it unrecognisable". This transformation continues today, but with utmost respect for the past.

Location of Bordeaux Wine areas