A Yale Week in Dordogne

September 26-October 4, 2019

Roderick J. McIntosh ‘73

J. Clayton Stephenson/Yale Class of 1954 Professor of Anthropology
Dear Yale Traveler

Bonjour!

Join a small group of travelers for this unique opportunity to experience provincial Dordogne, where the authentic character of Southern France is distilled into one of Europe’s most beautiful and intact medieval villages, Sarlat-la-Canéda.

Our carefully designed itinerary and expert-guided excursions explore five impressive UNESCO World Heritage sites: the dramatic cliffside monastic village of Rocamadour; the important archaeological sites of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc, Rouffignac cave and Les-Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil; and the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine. Visit the state-of-the-art International Center for Cave Art at Lascaux to appreciate one of humankind’s earliest artistic creations. Exclusively arranged, enriching presentations and the forum with local residents provide personal perspectives on la vie in the villages of Dordogne.

Your “home,” ideally located in the quaint medieval village of Sarlat-la-Canéda, will be the family-owned Plaza Madeleine Hôtel, a restored 19th-century townhouse. This delightful hôtel de charme features an old-world ambiance with modern accommodations and amenities and is known for the warm hospitality of its staff.

I hope you will join us on this delightful small group program that is sure to sell out fast. Call 203-432-1952 today to hold your spot on this charming fall program.

Lauren Summers
Senior Director,
Lifelong Learning and Travel
ASSOCIATION OF YALE ALUMNI

yaleedtravel.org/dordogne19

Highlights

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc and the prehistoric cave art of Lascaux, led by Christine Desdemaines-Hugon.

Tour the National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies de Tayac Sireuil led by Christine Desdemaines-Hugon.

Admire the magnificent Romanesque sculptures in Souillac’s Abbaye Marie.

Savor local food and wine during specially arranged dinners.
Yale Study Leaders

Roderick J. McIntosh

Roderick McIntosh is the J. Clayton Stephenson/Yale Class of 1954 Professor of Anthropology at Yale University and the Curator-in-Charge of the Anthropology Division at the Yale Peabody Museum, as well as Honorary Distinguished Professor of Archaeology at the University of Pretoria (South Africa). He has been a Guggenheim Fellow, twice a Fulbright Senior Fellow (Senegal and Mali), and has held a fellowship at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (Stanford). Before returning to Yale in 2006, he taught at Rice University for more than 25 years.

A popular professor with students, Professor McIntosh has traveled extensively for Yale Educational Travel in Africa, the Mediterranean, and Dordogne, and visited nearly every cave with rock art open to the public in the Dordogne region. One of his proudest moments was “baptizing” his son in the Dordogne River, a body of water sacred to archaeologists.

He boasts 35 years of fieldwork (excavations and surveys) in French-speaking Africa and the southern Sahara of Mali (around Timbuktu), Madagascar, and in the Middle Senegal Valley of northern Senegal. His major interests are in African and Old World comparative prehistory, intellectual history of prehistoric archaeology, ethnicity and specialization and the origin of authority in complex society, urbanism, geomorphology and paleoclimate, international art market, and prehistoric symbols and ideology.

Christine Desdemanines-Hugon

Christine Desdemanines-Hugon has worked with the scientific community, lectured on prehistoric art, and shared her knowledge and enthusiasm for the Dordogne region of France with visitors for nearly 30 years. Her first visits to the caves of Dordogne sparked a passion for the subject of Paleolithic art, and she went on to earn a Diploma of Advanced Studies in Anthropology. Christine also wrote a book about the five major cave sites in Dordogne and the evolution of Paleolithic cultures.

Upcoming Trips

Dutch Waterways
04/25/2019 – 05/03/2019
Associate Prof. Marian Chertow

Dynasties of China and Tibet
05/04/2019 – 05/18/2019
Prof. Mimi Yiengpruksawan

Arctic Expedition Under the Midnight Sun
Aboard L’AUSTRAL
06/21/2019 – 07/01/2019
Prof. Rick Prum
**ITINERARY**
**SEPT. 26-OCT. 4, 2019**

**WELCOME PHONE CALL**
*Tuesday, September 24 (tentative)*
Join the group at 4PM EST for a pre-trip welcome call with Professor Roderick J. McIntosh in order to learn more about what to expect and to ask questions.

**U.S.**
*Thursday, September 26*
Depart the U.S. for Bordeaux.

**BORDEAUX, FRANCE/ SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA**
*Friday, September 27*
Arrive in Bordeaux and transfer to Sarlat-la-Canéda. Check into the Plaza Madeleine Hôtel. 

**SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA**
*Saturday, September 28*
Author Henry Miller called Sarlat “the Frenchman’s paradise.” Your charming “village home” is in the pre-French Revolutionary capital of Périgord Noir, a lushly forested corner of the Aquitaine region. It is a bon vivant’s dream, renowned for truffles, wild mushrooms, strawberries, walnuts, and duck, and Bordeaux’s finest wines directly from vintners’ cellars.

Sarlat has one of Europe’s greatest concentrations of medieval, Renaissance, and 17th-century façades. Meander through cobblestone streets illuminated by gas lamps and lined with Renaissance-style stone houses crowned with pepperpot chimneys.

Experience the heart of Sarlat, the Place de la Liberté, where every Wednesday and Saturday one of France’s most storied markets is held, a tradition dating from the Middle Ages. (b,r)

**CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:** Experience the market at leisure among the backdrop of corbelled towers and rich ocher walls.

**ROCAMADOUR/SOUILLAC**
*Sunday, September 29*
Built on the face of a sheer 400-foot cliff, the UNESCO World Heritage-designated village of Rocamadour has one of the most dramatic settings of any village in the world. During the Middle Ages, pilgrims flocked here from across Europe to perform penance by ascending the 216 steps of le Grand Escalier (the Grand Stairway) on their knees and to seek miracles from St. Amadour by visiting his crypt.

Nearby, visit the quaint town of Souillac and its 12th-century Abbaye Sainte-Marie, a treasury of Romanesque statuary and Biblica carvings. (b,l)

**CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:** Enjoy a guided tour of the National Museum of Prehistory, housed in a 13th-century castle, and see L’Abri du Cap-Blanc’s UNESCO World Heritage-designated prehistoric cave friezes.

In Sarlat this evening, meet dordognais (local residents), and hear candid perspectives on contemporary daily life in a medieval village.

**LASCAUX/ SAINT-AMAND-DE-COLY**
*Tuesday, October 1*
In 1920, a quartet of schoolboys stumbled onto the Lascaux cave, repository of the most stunning works of prehistoric art and today a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Continue to petit Saint-Amand-de-Coly, one of the most beautiful villages in France. Traces of the Hundred Years’ War remain in the ramparts and towers of the 13th century fortress-like church and the remnants of its abbey, an unusual fusion of Romanesque and Gothic styles. (b,d)

**CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:** Attend the private, specially arranged presentation by a local expert on preserving Sarlat’s medieval architecture.
Sample regional cheese and wine in a specialty épicerie in Sarlat.
Explore the perfect reproduction of Lascaux in the International Center for Cave Art, where the Paleolithic age becomes animated through interactive exhibits.
Savor a specially arranged three-course dinner in an authentic French bistro in Sarlat.

ROUFFIGNAC/LA MADELEINE
Wednesday, October 2
Visit Rouffignac, “Cave of a Hundred Mammoths,” and marvel at the “giant kettles,” smooth, dome-like rock formations forged by swirling currents. Carved beneath a cliff overlooking the Vézère River, the prehistoric troglodyte village and UNESCO World Heritage site of La Madeleine offers unique insight into the semi-nomadic Magdalenian culture, which prevailed in southern Europe from 15,000 to 9000 B.C. (B,L,D)
Cultural Enrichments: Cruise the Dordogne River aboard a private, 19th-century gabare, traditional Périgord transportation for more than 150 years, followed by a lunch of Périgord specialties.

BORDEAUX/U.S.
Friday, October 4
Check out of the hotel and continue on the Albi and Toulouse Post-Program Option, or transfer to the Bordeaux airport for your return flight to the U.S. (B)

Included meals indicated each day as B/L/R/D
= Breakfast/Lunch/Reception/Dinner.

What is Included:
• Program of lectures and discussions with Yale Professor Roderick J. McIntosh
• Christine Desdemaines-Hugon will guide our visits to L’Abri du Cap-Blanc, Lascaux museum, Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil, Rouffignac, and La Madeleine
• Accommodations on double occupancy basis as per the itinerary
• Meals as indicated in the itinerary
• All entrance fees as per the itinerary
• Services of travel director during the tour as per the itinerary
• Regional wine served with each included dinner
• Private welcome reception
• Gratuities to hotel personnel, local guides, and drivers on included excursions and transfers
• Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with scheduled group transfer(s)
• Taxes on included services
• Complimentary bottled water on excursions
• Emergency medical evacuation services through UHC Global Assistance

What is Not Included:
• Expenses of a personal nature like laundry, telephone/fax calls, Internet, alcoholic beverages, camera/video camera fee at monuments, medical expenses, airport departure tax, etc.
• Any insurance other than specified above
• Any meals or beverages that are not specified in the above inclusions
• International airfares
• Expenses caused by factors beyond our control like rail and air plane delays, roadblocks, vehicle malfunctions, political disturbances, taxes, lost luggage, etc
• Any other services not mentioned in the inclusions

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PLAZA MADELEINE HÔTEL, SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA

Enjoy the traditional pace of Village Life during your stay in the family-owned Plaza Madeleine Hôtel, located just beyond the ancient walls of Sarlat-la-Canéda’s medieval quarter, a five-minute walk from the village center. A grand 19th-century townhouse, this hôtel de charme rekindles its French esprit contemporain.

Each of the 39 comfortable, guest rooms features two twin beds or one queen bed with private bathroom, satellite television, and Wi-Fi access. The hotel dining room serves continental breakfast daily, featuring fresh baked breads, pastries, and charcuterie. There is a brasserie pub with lounge and private terrace, a petit lounge with computer facilities, a heated outdoor swimming pool, solarium, and spa with Jacuzzi and sauna.

Program Cost

The base cost of this program is:

$4,795 per person

(based on double occupancy)

Taxes are included.

Single Supplement:

$700 (limited availability)

Note: Itinerary subject to change. Some excursions in this program involve a significant amount of walking.

SPLENDORS OF BORDEAUX

Saint-Émilion ◆ Médoc

Pre-Program Option

September 24-27

$895 per person, double occupancy

$1,395 per person, single occupancy

Visit the charming village of Saint-Émilion, a UNESCO World Heritage site in the heart of Bordeaux’s endless vineyards. Its medieval Église Monolithe is one of the largest underground churches in Europe. Just north of Bordeaux in the Médoc region, visit a château to enjoy a tasting of grand cru classé wines. Spend two nights in Bordeaux’s deluxe Hôtel Burdigala.

ALBI ◆ TOULOUSE

Cordes-sur-Ciel ◆ Carcassonne

Post-Program Option

October 4-8

$1,395 per person, double occupancy

$1,795 per person, single occupancy

Experience southwest France’s storybook charm. Sample Gaillac wines, explore old-world villages, and admire the largest collection of Toulouse-Lautrec’s works. Accommodations are for two nights each in the deluxe Mercure Albi Bastides hotel and the Grand Hôtel de l’Opéra in Toulouse.

Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Reserve Your Trip To Dordogne Today

Book online : yaleedtravel.org/dordogne19
To register, return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person to Yale Educational Travel. Final payment is due June 28, 2019.

1) name as on passport

date of birth  yale connection

passport origin  relationship to other guest

2) name as on passport

date of birth  yale connection

passport origin  relationship to other guest

Contact Information

address

city/state/zip

primary phone

secondary phone

e-mail

To reserve, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Gohagan & Company” to Yale Educational Travel, Yale Alumni Association, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.

Terms and Conditions

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL
The right is retained to decline to accept, or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of Yale Educational Travel (“YET”), is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip without refund. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

CANCELLATION
In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a $500 per person cancellation fee through 91 days prior to departure. Cancellation from 90 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to YET.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE
A deposit of $1,000 per person, payable to Gohagan & Company, of which $500 is nonrefundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Final payment must be received 90 days prior to departure. Mail to: The Yale Alumni Association, Yale Educational Travel, Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Or call: 203-432-1952.

Complete Terms and Conditions will be sent after registration and are available at: www.yaleedtravel.org/faqs

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J. Clayton Stephenson, Yale Class of 1954 Professor of Anthropology

Experience the true character and traditions of Dordogne

The fortified Château de Beynac, perched 500 feet above the Dordogne River, commands a medieval village of golden stone houses tucked into the steep hillside. Enjoy Excursions to the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine and the medieval village and fortified church of Saint-Amand-de-Coly.

Yale Educational Travel

Yale Alumni Association
Box 209010
New Haven, Connecticut
06520-9010