VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY Alumni Association

VILLAGE LIFE®

IN

DORDOGNE

May 4 to 12, 2017

RESERVE BY NOVEMBER 1, 2016
Savings
SAVE $500 PER COUPLE
Dear Villanova Traveler,

Join this small group of travelers for a unique opportunity to experience the authentic character of France’s historic villages in the captivating southwestern département of Dordogne. Immerse yourself in the rich local culture and rhythms of daily life in this charming region, and explore the history of early humans who painted their stories on its cave walls, the largest concentration of prehistoric art in the world.

Experience the heart of Dordogne, a hidden treasure where all of France’s provincial delights have been 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 incredible, newly opened Lascaux IV to appreciate one of humankind’s earliest art creations in the form of cave paintings. Exclusively arranged, enriching presentations and the Village Life® Forum provide personal perspectives on daily life in the villages of Dordogne.

Your “home” in the village will be the family-owned Plaza Madeleine Hôtel, a restored 19th-century townhouse ideally located in medieval Sarlat-la-Canéda. This delightful hôtel de charme features a provincial ambiance with modern accommodations and amenities, and is known for the warm hospitality of its staff. In addition to the included meals in the hotel, dine on regional specialties while enjoying traditional three-course dinners in specially selected French bistrots nestled in the quaint village of Sarlat.

Village Life® in Dordogne offers an enchanting educational travel experience, a great value—and you unpack only once! It is an exceedingly popular program, so I encourage you to book now while space and Early Booking Savings are available. For additional information, please feel free to contact our Alumni Association Travel Coordinator, Pat Gillin, at 1-800-Villanova (1-800-845-5266) or patricia.gillin@villanova.edu.

Best regards,

George R. Kolb ’84
Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations

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Cover photo: Visit the Dordogne River Valley, a rural idyll replete with hilltop castles and quaint villages.

In medieval Dordogne, street lamps along ancient lanes are one of the few concessions to modernity.
Experience firsthand the true character and traditions of Dordogne during this comprehensive, small group travel program. It features the beautiful départements and countryside of southwestern France, the medieval village of Sarlat-la-Canéda within the oak-forested Périgord Noir and the world’s largest collection of magnificent prehistoric art. Enjoy an enriching travel experience like no other; become immersed in the rhythm of daily life in Dordogne by interacting with local people; explore the history, culture, art, language and cuisine—and unpack just once! This comprehensive program is one of the popular Village Life® series, an intimate travel experience at just the right pace.

Cultural Enrichments are specially arranged for this custom-designed itinerary:

- **Enjoy an authentic experience** in delightful Sarlat-la-Canéda, a quintessential provincial French village of beautifully preserved medieval architecture.
- **Immerse yourself** in a carefully planned, balanced itinerary of included guided historical and cultural excursions and time on your own to discover and observe the heart of medieval Sarlat and experience daily village life.
- **Engage with dordognais** (local residents) during the Village Life® Forum where they will share candid perspectives on contemporary daily life in a medieval village.
- **Peruse** Sarlat’s traditional, twice-weekly, outdoor market, located just a short walk from your hotel.
- **Sample** the traditional cuisine of France’s Aquitaine region during specially arranged meals in local bistro and an exclusive wine and local cheese tasting in an épicerie gourmet.
- **Explore** the UNESCO World Heritage site of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc, where prehistoric man once made his home, and the impressive cave friezes of Lascaux IV, an exact replica of Lascaux, estimated to have been painted 17,300 years ago.
- **See** the world’s premier collection of paleolithic engravings and sculpture at The National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil.
- **Enjoy** a private cruise in an authentic 19th-century gabare (barge) and admire the historic châteaux and villages along the spectacular, cliff-lined Dordogne River.
- **Experience** a specially arranged, private performance of traditional 19th-century Périgord Noir folk music and dance.
- **Hear it from the Experts!** Experienced, English-speaking dordognais guides will accompany you throughout the program and share their expertise of historical, cultural and contemporary Dordogne. A local expert will lecture on preserving the medieval architecture in Sarlat.
- **Learn key phrases** in la langue française (the French language) to make your interactions with local residents all the more enjoyable.

Sail the bucolic Dordogne River aboard a traditional 19th-century wooden gabare, the typical mode of transportation of the Périgord region for more than 150 years.
## Itinerary

**Day**

1. **BORDEAUX® Pre-Program Option**
   - Depart the U.S.

2. **BORDEAUX, FRANCE/SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA**
   - Arrive in Bordeaux, then transfer to Sarlat.
   - Check into PLAZA MADELEINE HOTEL.

3. **SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA**
   - Walking tour of medieval Sarlat.
   - Cultural Enrichment:
     - Afternoon at leisure to peruse the village market of Sarlat.

4. **ROCAMADOUR/SOUILLAC**
   - Tour of 13th-century Rocamadour.
   - Visit to quaint Souillac.

5. **LES EYZIES-DE-TAYAC-SIREUIL®/L’ABRI DU CAP-BLANC®**
   - Visit to the Jardins d’Eyrignac.
   - Cultural Enrichments:
     - View cave friezes of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc.
     - Sarlat Village Life® Forum.

6. **LASCAUX IV/ST-AMAND-DE-COLY**
   - Visit to St-Amand-de-Coly.
   - Cultural Enrichments:
     - View prehistoric cave art of Lascaux.
     - Lecture on the preservation of medieval architecture in Sarlat.
     - Sample local wines and cheeses.

7. **ROUFFIGNAC/LA MADELEINE®**
   - Tour of prehistoric Rouffignac cave.
   - Excursion to the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine.
   - Cultural Enrichments:
     - Morning at leisure to enjoy individual pursuits in Sarlat such as their quaint twice-weekly market.
     - Private evening folk music performance and dance.

8. **BEYNAC/DOMME**
   - Tour of 12th-century Château de Beynac.
   - Walking tour of historic Domme.
   - Cultural Enrichment:
     - Cruise in a typical gabare on the bucolic Dordogne River.

9. **SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA/BORDEAUX**
   - Return to the U.S.

### Sarlat-la-Canéda

**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, ideally located between the Dordogne and Vézère Rivers. It is a bon vivant’s dream, renowned for truffles, wild mushrooms, strawberries, walnuts and duck, and close enough to Bordeaux to procure the finest wines directly from vintners’ cellars.

Sarlat has one of the greatest concentrations of medieval, Renaissance and 17th-century façades in Europe. Step back in time as you meander through narrow cobblestone streets illuminated by gas lamps and lined with traditional Renaissance-style stone houses crowned with pepperpot chimneys. The heart of Sarlat is 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.

**Cultural Enrichment:** During the exclusive Village Life® Forum, dordognais will discuss contemporary life in Dordogne.

**Cultural Enrichment:** Attend the private, specially arranged presentation by a local expert on preserving the medieval architecture of Sarlat.
CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Enjoy a private, traditional, 19th-century French folk music and dance performance.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Sample regional cheese and wine in a specialty épicerie.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Savor two specially arranged dinners, each in an authentic French bistro in Sarlat.

**Rocamadour/Souillac**

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 to pay homage to the Virgin Mary and seek miracles from St. Amadour by visiting his crypt. Embedded in the cliff above the doorway to the Chapelle de Notre Dame is a sword said to be that of the heroic knight Roland.

Nearby, visit the quaint town of Souillac and its 12th-century Abbaye Sainte-Marie, a treasury of Romanesque statuary and carvings depicting biblical and legendary scenes.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Savor a lunch of regional specialties in a village restaurant.

**Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil**

Les Eyzies is France’s capital of prehistoric humanity, where unprecedented fossils of Early Modern Man have been discovered. Approximately 35,000 years old, these fossils are some of the earliest known evidence of human life in Europe. The National Museum of Prehistory, housed in a 13th-century castle, gives context to the area’s cave paintings, fossils and early tools.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Guided tour of the National Museum of Prehistory.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Guided excursion to see L’Abri du Cap-Blanc’s prehistoric cave friezes.

**Jardins d’Eyrignac**

Designated a national monument by the French government, for more than 500 years the Eyrignac Manor has been the continuous family residence of 22 generations. On this 17th-century estate located just outside of Sarlat, view what many consider the finest jardins (gardens) in all of France. Originally of an 18th-century Italian design, the landscape was converted a century later to an English-style, sculpted, coniferous garden and has been immaculately maintained and enhanced throughout the years.

**Villages of the Périgord Noir**

Carved beneath a cliff overlooking the picturesque Vézère River, the prehistoric troglodyte village and UNESCO World Heritage site of La Madeleine offers unique insight into the Magdalenian culture, which prevailed in southern Europe for over 60 centuries from 15,000 to 9000 B.C. This ancient settlement of approximately 20 dwellings once accommodated 100 residents at a time.
Petit St-Amand-de-Coly is one of the most picturesque villages in Dordogne, its cobblestone lanes dominated by the fortified 13th-century abbey church, an unusual fusion of Romanesque and Gothic styles. Traces of the Hundred Years’ War remain in the ramparts and towers of the fortress-like church and the nearby remnants of its abbey.

Château de Beynac
Perched 500 feet above the Dordogne River and commanding a medieval village of golden stone houses tucked into the steep hillside is the fortified Château de Beynac, a masterpiece of medieval military engineering that was once a stronghold of Richard the Lionheart. Traverse the castle’s elaborate series of surrounding stone walls, parapet walks, watchtowers and passageways to an impressive interior decorated with a magnificent 17th-century staircase and delicate 15th-century frescoes.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:
Enjoy a private cruise on the tranquil Dordogne River aboard a traditional 19th-century gabare, followed by a lunch of Périgord specialties in a local restaurant overlooking the river.

Domme
Among the “most beautiful villages” of France, Domme is an authentic medieval bastide, or fortified village, where entrance today is still gained through its original military ramparts, and graffitti etched by the Knights Templar in the 14th century is still distinguishable on the inner village walls. The beauty of the 13th- and 14th-century architecture of Domme is surpassed only by its exceptional views overlooking the Dordogne River.

Plaza Madeleine Hôtel, Sarlat-la-Canéda
Enjoy the tranquil 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 mere five minute walk from the village center. A grand 19th-century townhouse, this hôtel de charme was recently renovated with tasteful French esprit contemporain.

Each of the 39 comfortable, air-conditioned guest rooms features two twin beds or one queen bed with private bathroom, individual climate control, satellite television, direct dial telephone, Wi-Fi access, safe, minibar and hair dryer.

The hotel dining room, where continental breakfast is prepared daily featuring fresh baked breads, pastries and charcuterie, is reserved for the exclusive use of hotel guests. There is a brasserie pub with lounge and private terrace, a petit lounge with computer facilities and wireless Internet access, a heated outdoor swimming pool, solarium and spa with jacuzzi and sauna. The dedicated hotel staff is pleased to provide attentive service.

Splendors of Bordeaux
St-Émilion and Médoc
Pre-Program Option
Long distinguished as the wine capital of the world, France’s verdant Bordeaux region has been producing, fermenting and bottling the grape since the eighth century. Tucked away in the heart of the rolling French countryside and endless vineyards, visit the charming and legendary village of St-Émilion, a UNESCO World Heritage site, famous for the Merlot grape grown here that produces rich, full-bodied red wines. Visit the impressive medieval monuments of St-Émilion, including the Église Monolithe, one of the largest underground churches in Europe. Just north of Bordeaux in the Médoc region, experience the grand cru classé, Bordeaux’s distinguished wine classification, at a château and enjoy a tasting of their exquisite wines. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe Hôtel Burdigala, located in the heart of Bordeaux.

In the fertile department of Aquitaine, St-Émilion’s verdant landscape is devoted entirely to viticulture. The Pre-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Included Features

In Sarlat-la-Canéda
◆ Seven nights’ comfortable accommodation in the PLAZA MADELEINE HOTEL.
◆ Private Welcome Reception in the hotel.
◆ Breakfast each morning, one lunch and two dinners in the hotel.
◆ Two dinners, each in a specially selected traditional French bistro featuring French country table d’hôte menus and regional specialties.
◆ Regional wine is served with each included dinner.

Local Expert-Guided Excursions
◆ Architectural walking tour of Sarlat-la-Canéda.
◆ Full-day excursion featuring 13th-century Rocamadour, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and the magnificent Romanesque sculptures in Souillac’s Church of Sainte-Marie, including lunch.
◆ Visit to the lush, impeccably maintained 19th-century Jardins d’Eyrignac.
◆ Excursion to the impressive Rouffignac Cave, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
◆ Visit to the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine and the medieval village and fortified church of St-Amand-de-Coly.
◆ Excursion to the impressive Rouffignac Cave, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
◆ Walking tour of Domme, with spectacular views of the Dordogne River Valley.

Exclusive Cultural Enrichments
◆ Excursions to the UNESCO World Heritage site of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc and the prehistoric cave art of Lascaux IV.
◆ Tour of the National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil.
◆ Specially arranged VILLAGE LIFE® FORUM with local residents who will discuss contemporary daily life in provincial France’s Dordogne département.
◆ A lecture on architectural preservation in Sarlat-la-Canéda by a local historian.
◆ Private, specially arranged gabare cruise along the Dordogne River, with lunch in the village of Beynac-et-Cazenac.
◆ Local wine and cheese tasting at a Sarlat épicerie gourmet.
◆ Specially arranged meals highlighting the distinctive flavors of the Dordogne region.
◆ Private 19th-century Périgord cultural folk performance.
◆ French language introduction.

Enhanced Travel Services
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions.
◆ Hospitality desk in the hotel.
◆ The services of an experienced Gohagan & Company Program Director throughout the program.
◆ Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Marvel at the exquisite artistry and ingenuity of the prehistoric paintings in Lascaux IV.

**Prehistoric Art**

Dordogne has the greatest concentration of prehistoric art sites anywhere in the world. The region’s limestone caves and rocky overhangs provided Ice Age man with not only shelter, but also a vast canvas for extraordinary cave paintings. In the two most well-known caves, Lascaux and Rouffignac, both UNESCO World Heritage sites, extinct aurochs, wild stallions and antelopes, painted between approximately 25,000 and 17,000 years ago, still prance, preen and gallop before your eyes. The original Lascaux cave has been closed to the public since 1963 for preservation purposes; however, Lascaux IV, an incredible exact replica opening in late 2016 allows the public to more authentically experience these fascinating cave paintings and provides a truer representation of the exuberant colors that have since faded in the original Lascaux itself.

The Rouffignac Cave offers up-close views of the deft drawings of extinct, prehistoric animals that cover the five-mile labyrinth of cavernous walls and ceilings, including the famous frieze of two bison about to engage each other in battle.

Near the village of Les Eyzies, visit the original Cro-Magnon rock shelter and UNESCO World Heritage site of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc, showcasing the rare, life-size frieze of horses and bison sculpted in limestone. A guided tour of the National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies helps put this vast network of prehistoric art into context.

See well-preserved cliff dwellings along the Dordogne River where prehistoric troglodyte villages once flourished.
Visit the Château de Beynac, which soars dramatically above the Dordogne River Valley. Once a stronghold of Richard the Lionheart, it remained a highly prized strategic outpost for centuries.

**LAND TARIFF** excluding taxes*

*Per person, based on double occupancy

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*Single rooms are available upon request for an additional $700.*

*Taxes are an additional $295 per person and are subject to change.

**IN DORDOGNE RESERVATION FORM**

Send to: 2017 Village Life® in Dordogne
Villanova University Alumni Association
c/o Thomas P. Gohagan & Company
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 300
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446
For further information, call the offices of Thomas P. Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088, or call Pat Gillin in the Villanova Alumni Office at (800)-VILLANOVA or 610-519-4380.

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Program reservations require a deposit of $600 per person plus $200 per person Splendors of Bordeaux Pre-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

ода Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

ода Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

ода I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:

ода Visa  ода MasterCard

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Signature as it appears on credit card

Please make my/our reservation(s):

- Double occupancy (two twin beds).
- Double occupancy (one queen bed).
- Single accommodations.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):

Splendors of Bordeaux Pre-Program Option

- Double at $740 per person.
- Single at $1040 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

ода I/We want you to book my/our air from ____________________________ (fill in departure city) to and from Bordeaux, France, at additional cost to be advised.‡

ода Economy Class

ода Upgraded Economy Class

ода Business Class

ода First Class

oda Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

oda I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

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Admire the finest “English” gardens in France as you stroll through the enchanting grounds of Eyrignac Manor.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”) shall not be responsible for, or liable in any way which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation services; ground transportation, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment, restaurant, dining, or entry to any lodge, inn, or hotel. Any independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for, or liable in any way which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation services; ground transportation, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment, restaurant, dining, or entry to any lodge, inn, or hotel. Any independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

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PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: Any physical or mental condition that may constitute a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased on the fare basis, likely is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket not specifically mentioned in the “Included Features” section. Ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series may be subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute hotel, meals, alcoholic or other beverages and all other services at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and assigns are within the sole discretion of the hotel or cruise line.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: For subsequently imposed governmental tax increases and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increases. In programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), taxes; passport, visas and associated fees; and others for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation.

TRIP INSURANCE: We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip-cancellation insurance is available through Gohagan and others for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. To the extent the substantive, but not procedural law of Illinois will apply. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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