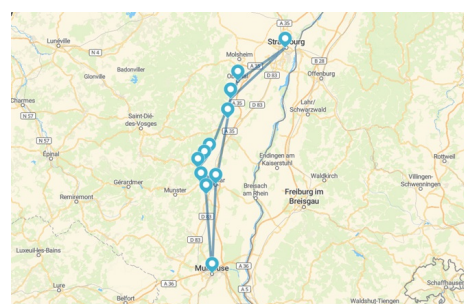




France, 5 Days · Tailor-made by car

## Wine Route through the beautiful Region of Alsace

In the heart of Europe, ever-romantic Alsace cherishes natural, architectural, cultural, wine-related and culinary treasures that deserve to be savoured at a leisurely pace. Verdant, relaxing, delicious... The famous "Route des Vins d'Alsace" (Alsace Wine Route) is one of the most spectacular car journeys in France. The roads meander through rural and serene landscapes, ancient vineyards situated between the Rhine Valley and the Ballons des Vosges Nature Park, legendary forests, castles and medieval ruins such as the fortress of Haut-Koenigsbourg. Between the medieval, modern and European Strasbourg and the Vosges Mountains lies a fascinating Route linking a string of fairytale pastel-coloured villages, picturesque wine-producing towns; landscapes of sublime beauty and centuries-old wineries where you can improvise a tasting session of the world-famous Alsatian wines. You'll travel through historic lands, disputed for centuries by France and Germany, which have managed to masterfully incorporate the best of each culture. Discover a Route that encourages travellers to stop off, raise a glass and enjoy the simple pleasures of life at traditional bistros, cosy brasseries and the famed winstubs. No matter what time of year you decide to go, you'll always have a great time. At Christmas, the snow-covered villages and Christmas markets give the Route a magical touch. In spring, summer and autumn, the colours of the countryside and vineyards are constantly changing, plotting out the most evocative of landscapes. And as the finale, the stunning city of Strasbourg, a historic symbol of reconciliation. Witness to the signing of the armistice between the French and Germans after World War II, it's now one of the sites that best represents continental essence by playing host to the European Parliament, the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights.



CULTURAL

**Departure date:** Departures from June 2026 till May 2027

**From:** Cork, Shannon, Dublin

Travel details

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## DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - STRASBOURG

Flight departure from the city of origin to Strasbourg and rental car pick-up at the airport.

Welcome to one of the most attractive cities in the heart of Europe. The capital of the Alsace region of France stands on the banks of the River Rhine. Timeless charm, eclectic style, historical past, deep-rooted European essence...

There are many reasons that make this city the best starting point for the fascinating "Wine Route through the beautiful region of Alsace", one of the very best road trips in France.

The city has survived the test of time and overcome past conflicts, keeping intact its medieval charm that blends perfectly with modern and contemporary proposals. Example par excellence of the French lifestyle, it boasts a remarkable historical, cultural and culinary heritage worth discovering at a leisurely pace.

The district of La Petite France, formed by idyllic canals and quaint bridges, is one of those unforgettable views. Its historic centre, the Grande-Île, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1988, features highly recommended museums, magnificent churches and important landmarks, including the ancient Gothic cathedral and the stunning Episcopal Palace of Rohan. Emblem of the European Union, the city is home to institutions such as the European Parliament, the Council of Europe or the European Court of Human Rights.

We'll end the day by discovering its famed restaurants and a whole world of entertainment and nightlife.

Overnight stay in Strasbourg.

## DAY 2 · STRASBOURG - OBERNAI - RIBEAUVILLÉ - RIQUEWIHR - KAYSERSBERG - COLMAR

Known as the crossroads of Europe and just a few kilometres from the German border, Strasbourg's strategic location was for centuries a matter of dispute between France and Germany. Its turbulent history, including periods in which it was a German city and others when it was French, has bestowed its streets with a unique style. Today we'll set off on the Route and explore the beautiful countryside of Alsace, featuring sublime scenery, exceptional vineyards and culinary delights difficult to forget. During this trip you'll discover amazing traditions and legends.

So let's get going on the famous Route des Vins! Our first stops will be Obernai, a typical Alsatian village located about 31 kilometres south of Strasbourg, and Ribeauvillé, a beautiful town dotted with pretty traditional houses on flower-lined streets.

According to the locals, it was a well-known spa in the Middle Ages and a coveted haven for well-to-do families and talented musicians. Today its three castles dominate an idyllic vineyard setting. The Cave de Ribeauvillé is home to the oldest wine cooperative in France. Here you can visit an interesting museum and take part in free tasting sessions

(Note: If you're travelling with children, you can head to Hunawihr and visit the NaturOparc). Onward journey to the walled town of Riquewihr, one of the most beautiful places in Alsace.

Strolling through its maze-like streets is a real treat. Here you can visit the Maison de Hansi, where Jean Jacques Waltz's creative genius and idyllic vision of Alsace are on display. Don't forget to taste the famous Riesling, Sylvaner, Gewürztraminer and Tokay white wines! If you have time, La Tour des Voleurs and Le Doler are two recommended visits.

One of our last stops today is in Kaysersberg, a fairytale village that captivates travellers with photogenic landscapes of vineyards, a ruined castle and a cute old quarter with treasures such as the church of Sainte-Croix or the house-museum of Nobel Peace Prize winner Albert Schweitzer.

After around 20 kilometres of beautiful scenery, we'll arrive at Colmar, a place that will transport you back in time.

Must-do: enjoy a wine tasting at one of the traditional wineries you'll come across along the way.

Overnight stay in Colmar.

### DAY 3 · COLMAR - TURCKHEIM - EGUISHHEIM - MULHOUSE - COLMAR

We'll continue exploring the beautiful commune of Colmar, the capital of Alsace wines.

Its colourful half-timbered houses, medieval corners and cobbled streets create a magical atmosphere. We recommend a leisurely stroll around the romantic Petite Venise (Little Venice) neighbourhood, the Rue des Tanneurs and the Quai de la Poissonnerie, a former fishing district where you can rent a rowboat and enjoy the city from a different perspective.

Onward with the Alsace Wine Route, one of the oldest in France, which runs through the ancient Alsatian vineyards between the Rhine Valley and the Ballons des Vosges Nature Park. You can marvel at its beauty while passing through a series of picturesque flower-lined villages, renowned wine-producing towns and magnificent landscapes that illustrate the richness of this corner of Europe. We recommend a stop in Turckheim, where you'll find the remains of a fortified medieval site; and Eguisheim, a stunning wine-producing village. (Please note: If you're travelling with children, we recommend a visit to the Park du Petit Prince and the EcoMuseo Alsace).

Once in Mulhouse, known in the eighteenth century as the "City of the Hundred Chimneys", you'll be able to discover the main industrial hub in the region. Here you can stroll through the Place de la Réunion and visit the Cité du Train museum, Mulhouse Zoo and the textile museum... Plans that will appeal to young and old alike.

Overnight stay in Colmar.

### DAY 4 · COLMAR - DAMBACH-LA-VILLE - HAUT-KOENIGSBOURG CASTLE - MITTELBERGHEIM - STRASBOURG

We'll leave behind the romantic city of Colmar and its interesting museums, including the Musée d'Unterlinden or the Musée Bartholdi, to take on the penultimate leg of this fascinating wine, culinary and scenic route. On the way to the ancient city of Strasbourg, you can make a stop in Dambach-la-Ville, a small picture-postcard town with houses dating back to the sixteenth century. Nearby is the famous castle of Haut-Koenigsbourg, the profile of which peeks out amid eye-catching vineyards and rolling hills. From its walls, you can enjoy one of the best views of the Rhine Valley. Also wrapped in a sea of vineyards is Mittelbergheim, a cute village off the tourist track and dotted with interesting family-run wineries where you can enjoy a great wine-tasting session. From the car park next to the cemetery you can take a dirt track leading up to the castle of Haut-Andlau.

And then back to Strasbourg, the final stop on this fascinating journey! If you fancy stretching your legs and taking a different mode of transport, then we recommend a boat trip leaving from Quai des Bateliers, an excellent choice to view the city's most emblematic sights from the water.

Overnight stay in Strasbourg.

### DAY 5 · STRASBOURG - CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

## Your trip includes

#### Your trip includes

- ✓ Return flight.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Strasbourg.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Strasbourg.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Colmar.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Colmar.
- ✓ Rent-a-car.

#### Your trip doesn't include

- ✗ Accommodation taxes in France direct payment in facility.
- ✗ Possible toll charges.
- ✗ Insolvency protection.

## Destinations Visited

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Strasbourg



Obernai



Ribeauvillé



Riquewihr



Kaysersberg



Colmar



Turckheim



Eguisheim



Mulhouse



Dambach-la-Ville



Mittelbergheim



## Important remarks

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- Triple rooms in Europe are generally rooms with twin beds or a double, in which a folding bed is installed to accommodate the third person. Due to the inconvenience this causes, we advise against using this option as far the possible.
- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your times, tastes and needs.
- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.

- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.