Hélène Mills & Saraly Huck invite you

French Session in Burgundy

Intensive French Course & Cultural Immersion

26th September - 07th October 2016
What we offer

Our French session in Burgundy is a high-quality French immersion experience in which you can develop and strengthen your ability to communicate effectively in French, in a region famous for its gastronomy and its history: Burgundy.

Your stay includes 30 hours of goal-oriented lessons focused on French communication – to increase your grammatical knowledge and vocabulary using authentic documents and sources. The format of the lessons is divided between a “classical” style in the morning and a less formal setting in the late afternoon.

For basic users of French, we offer a course centred on standard communication, designed to enable you to deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in France or any familiar matters regularly encountered in everyday life. Increase your vocabulary and strengthen your grammatical skills.

For those who speak more French, we offer a course based on the discovery of Burgundy (e.g. its history, its writers, its current issues) with an emphasis on oral expression (conversation class) enabling you to focus on specific aspects of the language (lexical, phonetic, grammatical, etc.), according to your level. This is a means to gain in confidence and speak more and more spontaneously!

The programme of activities is dense, rich and varied but also provides for free time to allow you to relax and enjoy the surroundings. During your stay, you will explore the following aspects of the region:

History
Visits to the cathedral of Auxerre, masterpiece of flamboyant Gothic art, to the medieval cities of Cuiseaux and Brancion, to the 12th century Abbatial of Tournus, to the royal monastery at Brou, token of eternal love built in stone and marble, and more...

Gastronomy
Wine tasting of local wines from Burgundy, lunch in a wine-growing estate near Auxerre and in a traditional inn in Tournus, dinner in two gourmet restaurants, one of which has a Michelin star, two culinary workshops at the château and more...

Heritage
Visit to Louhans and its famous market which commenced in the 14th century, discovery of a 17th century Hôtel-Dieu and its apothecary shop, meeting with artisans in their workshops, discovering Bressan heritage and more...

This will be supplemented by some special evening sessions on specific topics – discussions which will permit you to discover and better-appreciate Burgundy – including some relaxed evenings as well.
Classes and activities are held at/from the Château de Joudes - Saint-Amour, a mansion constructed between the 17th and 19th centuries. There, you will be welcomed by Martine, Mandy and Gerard, the property's managers. Their mission: to take care of you during your stay and be attentive to your welfare and security.

Joudes - Saint-Amour is only 2.5 hours from Paris by high-speed train, 1.25 hours from Lyon and 1.5 from Geneva by car. It is located at the crossroads of three French regions: Burgundy in the North, Franche-Comté in the North-East and Rhône-Alpes in the South. The castle lies at the foot of the Jura mountains, on the slopes of the Revermont, at the heart of a 10 ha wooded park. It offers a haven of tranquil greenery.

The house is adapted to a community lifestyle but also provides private and intimate spaces: French style living-rooms, a rustic bookcase-filled library, dedicated classrooms. A free Wifi connection available throughout the property will keep you in contact with the rest of the world.

On site, there are a volleyball court and badminton court, a table tennis table and of course surfaces for "petanque" (bowls). Bicycles are available on request so that you can visit some typical villages and hamlets in Jura and Burgundy. A car shuttle service will be provided, according to your needs, to the nearby villages and shops. You will be impressed by this property’s beauty and its charm -- an ideal place to enjoy cultural and educational events. The keyword in this place is conviviality.

You may wish to stay in one of the hostels located at 3 to 4 km from Joudes or decide to get full accommodation at the Château. If you do so, you will settle into one of the castle’s charming guest rooms, a single or double bedroom with private bathroom facilities, entirely renovated, of varying sizes and elegant atmosphere. In the kitchen, Martine will cook traditional French meals for you and will help you to discover the produce of the region and its variety. Please don’t hesitate to tell one of the managers if you have special dietary requirements; they will be glad to meet your needs.
The course & Activities

Morning classes
The morning course commences each day at 9.00 and finishes at 12.15
During these lessons you will work on different subjects of culture or communication which will incorporate grammatical principles and vocabulary tailored to your level. Morning tea break: with your teachers during which you will be served coffee, tea, fruit juice, biscuits... in French!

Update News
Every day, from 6.30 pm to 7.00 pm - a relaxing moment
We will follow together national and international current affairs – in French, of course. Your teachers will help you to get to the heart of authentic passages from the media.

Language immersion
Learning will not only occur in the classroom
Spontaneous and varied talks during meals, coffee breaks and activities will assist you to speak more and more easily and confidently. With the guiding presence of the teachers, this immersion targets, and is adapted to, the student’s level so that he or she feels encouraged to speak. This has a real impact on the learning speed. It allows you to use in context what you have learnt in class - a learning process anchored in practice in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. And also do not forget the theme-based discussions, focused on the discovery of Burgundy, the cinema, meeting with the French speakers, etc.

Hélène and Saraly
Hélène and Saraly will provide 30 hours of lessons, with participants divided into two groups according to their abilities in French, with no more than 8 students in each group.

Hélène has been teaching French as a second language for 15 years. She has a degree in Law and also studied Russian. Interested in history, she loves to share about her country and therefore she worked as a guide in Aquitaine and while she was teaching in France she also had the opportunity to take her students on cultural visits in Paris and its surroundings. She continues teaching French in Australia where she has been living since 2006.

Saraly has also been teaching French as a second language for 15 years. She has a masters degree in language training, and has worked as a teacher, a writer and a director of studies in France and overseas. As she enjoys learning from various experiences, she has also worked as an assistant cook in a gourmet restaurant after specialized training. Since 2011, she has offered individual and collective French courses for non-French speaking professionals and individuals. The different courses available include face to face, French immersion and a wide range of practical activities.
**Day 1**

08.00 am Depart from Porte d’Orléans Paris by coach.

10.30 am On the way, stop at Auxerre and Escolive Sainte-Camille:
- Guided tour of Auxerre Cathedrale and free time to explore the medieval city.
- Visit the vineyard property “Domaine Borgnat” - a guided tour through the 17th century cellars. Taste 5 wines from the vineyard and enjoy a traditional Burgundy meal at “La table d’Eglantine”.

6.30 pm Arrival at the Château de Joudes-Saint-Amour, installation, free time.

7.00 pm Welcome evening at the Château, dinner with our hosts, introduction to the session.

**Day 2**

9.00 am French lesson

12.30 am Lunch time

2.00 pm Visit to the areas surrounding the Château: A guided tour of the Middle Age city of Cuiseaux.

06.30 pm News time

07.00 pm Dinner time

08.30 pm Evening “Discovering Burgundy”. Learn more about:
- Brancion: the castle, the reception halls, the ancient houses and the church (Guided visit on day 6).
- Tournus: the only preserved 12th century monastic complex in Europe (Guided visit on day 6)
- Louhans: the medieval town, its traditional market and its 17th century Apothecary shop (Guided visit on day 8)

**Day 3**

9.00 am French lesson

12.30 am Lunch time

2.00 pm Free afternoon with the option of shuttle transfer to neighbouring towns.

06.30 pm News time

07.00 pm Festive Bressan dinner in a gastronomic restaurant listed in “les Bonnes Petites Tables de France 2013” in the Michelin guide or its equivalent.

**Day 4**

9.00 am French lesson

12.30 am Lunch time

3.00 pm Walk along the Revermont. An afternoon to enjoy the green grove of Bresse and the peaceful mountains of Revermont. A special opportunity to meet with artists and craftsmen in Bresse bourguignonne.

6.30 pm News time

7.00 pm Dinner time

08.30 pm Relaxed evening

**Day 5**

9.00 am French lesson

12.30 am Lunch time

06.30 pm News time

07.00 pm Dinner time

08.30 pm Film evening

08.30 pm Culinary workshop
Day 6
08.00am Guided tour of Brancion. Castle of Brancion is a fine example of 10th to 14th century architecture. Its house built on the orders of the Duke of Burgundy, its dungeon and the view it offers are particularly remarkable. The village with its halls and alleys deserves a closer look. This includes visiting St. Peter’s church (12th century) located at the end of the rocky outcrop. The visit will conclude with a regional-wine tasting.
02.00pm Guided visit of the Saint-Philibert Abbey in Tournus. This Abbey’s tall figure of pink stone is surrounded by ramparts and overlooks the ancient city. The abbatial church, the cloister, the chapter house the pantry and dining hall form the only preserved 12th century monastic complex in Europe.
03.30pm Free time in the picturesque streets of Tournus. The opportunity to enjoy an afternoon tea or visit one of the shops or craftsmen of the town.
07.00pm Dinner time
08.30pm Relaxing evening

Day 7
08.00am Visit the medieval town of Louhans and its traditional market: From early Middle-Ages, the fowl market at Bresse has stayed faithful to its traditions and is remarkable for its range and authenticity. It was awarded “Site remarquable du Goût”. Discover the medieval town and its 157 arcades, the church and its multicoloured glazed tiles, its 17th century Hôtel-Dieu and its apothecary shop.
12.30am Lunch time (picnic lunch provided by the Château for those who stay there or if you prefer lunch in a restaurant at your own expense)
07.00pm Dinner time
08.30pm Relaxing evening

Day 8
08.00am Guided tour of Bourg-en-Bresse. In the early 16th century by Margaret of Austria. Discover also its paintings ranging from the 16th to the 20th centuries.
03.30pm Free time in Bourg-en-Bresse : a town rich in history, with a lively town center, artisans, a wide variety of shops and gastronomic specialties.
06.15pm News time
07.15pm Cheese fondue evening

Day 9
09.00am French lesson
12.30am Lunch time
01.15pm Guided visit to Royal monastery of Brou, the “Burgundian Taj Mahal”, built in the early 16th century by Margaret of Austria. Discover also its paintings ranging from the 16th to the 20th centuries
03.30pm Free time in Bourg-en-Bresse : a town rich in history, with a lively town center, artisans, a wide variety of shops and gastronomic specialties.
06.15pm News time
07.15pm Cheese fondue evening

Day 10
09.00am French lesson
12.30am Lunch time
03.00pm Culinary workshop
6.30pm News time
07.00pm Dinner time
08.30pm Relaxing evening

Day 11
09.00am French lesson
12.30am Lunch time
02.00pm Free afternoon with the option of shuttle transfer to Lyon, Dijon or Geneva at your own expense.
06.30pm News time
07.30pm Festive dinner at the Michelin-starred restaurant “La Marelle”: a seductive and inventive cuisine in warm and refined surroundings blending the rustic and chic and the modern.
08.30pm Farewell evening

Day 12
09.00am Brunch and picnic lunch provided by the Château for those who stay there.
Participants

The French course session from 26/09/2016 to 07/10/2016 organised by Hélène Mills and Saraly Huck is designed for adults with an elementary or intermediate level of skill in the French language. A test will be sent to you when you register to enable us to organise the groups.

Please note that, in order to guarantee a true French language immersion, the French course is not open for complete beginners in French. All students may be accompanied, but all the activities - visits, wine-tasting, evening programmes - will be conducted in French. Please feel free to contact us if you have any enquires about this matter or questions about your level in the language.

We will accept students from the age of 16 years (minors must be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for him/her during the whole stay).

In order to keep this session convivial and meet your needs as much as possible, it is open to a maximum of 16 persons only.

Included in the price
- 30 hours French lessons (morning lessons + news time + resources) (except for the persons accompanying)
- The morning and afternoon tea every day
- The evening activities and lectures
- Coach from Paris to Joudes via Auxerre and Escolive Sainte-Camille
- The welcome dinner at the Château de Joudes – Saint-Amour on day 1
- All the planned visits which appear on the schedule.

Included in the price during those planned activities:
- The entrance fee and the guided tour of Castle of Brancion, Abbey of Tournus, Apothicary of Louhans and Monastary of Brou
- The guided tour of the Cathedral of Auxerre and Cuiseaux city
- The 2 cooking workshops
- The 2 wine-tasting in Escolive Sainte-Camille and in Tournus
- The 2 dinners in 2 different gourmet restaurants (wine not included), the lunch in the winegrowing estate and the lunch in the traditional inn (wine not included). If you choose to have any of these meals at another place, it will be at your own expense
- The walk in Revermont and the meeting with craftsmen
- Travel by coach to these visits/activities from Château de Joudes - Saint-Amour
- Travel by shuttle in a radius of 35 km from Château de Joudes - Saint-Amour (google map) – departure Château de Joudes - Saint-Amour (except during the planned activities)

Not included in the price
- Airfares, taxes, passport fees, visas
- Accommodation if you choose to stay at the Chateau (benefit from a 6% loyalty discount if coming for a second time and an 8% loyalty discount if coming for the third time) contact@chateau-de-joudes.com. Please state in the subject line “FS Burgundy 2016”
- Travel insurance (compulsory)
- Any bank transfer fees
- Any personal expenses during the whole stay
- All transports other than those planned for the visits and those by shuttle
- Drinks at the lunch and the 2 dinners in a restaurant
- Gratuities
- All expenses which do not appear in "the expenses included in the price" section

Price

Registrations before the 28th of February 2016:

Student: 2220€
Person accompanying: 1690€

After the 28th of February 2016:

Student: 2520€
Person accompanying: 1820€

Benefit from a 5% loyalty discount if you are a member of Alliance Francaise or attending for a 2nd time and a 8% loyalty discount if attending for a 3rd time!
I Participation - The intensive French session from 26/09/2016 to 07/10/2016 organised by Hélène Mills and Saraly Huck is designed for adults with continuing beginner/elementary or intermediate level of skill in the French language. A test will be sent to you when you register to enable us to organise the groups.

We will accept students from the age of 16 years (minors must be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for him/her during the whole stay). All students may be accompanied but all the activities - visits, wine-tastings, evenings will be conducted in French. For the benefit of everyone during the session, we reserve the right to accept or reject any participant and to remove any participant whose conduct is deemed incompatible with the interests of the other students.

II Fees - The intensive French session from 26/09/2016 to 07/10/2016 in Burgundy costs Euros 2520 per student (French classes + activities) and Euros 1820 per person accompanying (activities only). Should you not attend all the courses and different activities announced in the schedule, no refund will be given. An Early Bird Special rate is available to students and those accompanying them who book and pay the specified deposit before 28th February 2016. Students: Euros 2220 - Person accompanying: Euros 1690. All prices are in euros.

Benefit from a 5% loyalty discount if you are a member of Alliance Française or if attending for a second time and a 8% loyalty discount if attending for the 3rd time!

Included in the price not included in the price: please check under Price section.

III Booking and payment: A non-refundable deposit of Euros 1000.00 per person accompanied by a completed booking form is required to book a place on the intensive French session from 26/09/2016 to 07/10/2016. You will then receive a confirmation. Please note: You need to send us evidence of your travel insurance to receive a confirmation. Final payment is required by 30th June 2016. If you book after this date, full payment is required immediately. Payment can be made by direct deposit to our bank account in France in Euros. The bank account’s details will be given as soon as we get your registration form and the terms and conditions completed and signed. Please note that all bank charges - including those of the recipient and currency exchange expenses are due to the student and/or the person accompanying. A confirmation will be issued when payment has been processed.

IV Cancellation - By the organisers: If a sufficient number of bookings is not reached, we reserve the right to cancel the session. Your deposit will be refunded and any other money paid to us will be refunded in full. Subject to final group numbers, the price may vary slightly, some activities may be modified. You will be notified immediately of any changes. Cancellation Fees: All cancellations must be made in writing to Hélène Mills P.O. Box 1322 Newcastle NSW 2300. The deposit of Euros 1000.00 is non-refundable.

If cancellation occurs 60-90 days prior departure 25% of the cost will be retained. No refunds are available if cancellation occurs less than 60 days before departure.

V Travel Insurance - Travel Insurance is COMPULSORY for all participants - students and persons accompanying - during the session. Your insurance should provide cover against personal accident and sickness, medical expenses, emergency repatriation and personal liability. We strongly recommend that the policy cover pre-tour cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. It is a condition of booking that evidence of a travel insurance policy be produced by 30th June 2016 when final payment is also due. Please note: travel costs already incurred by the participant cannot be refunded which is why we strongly recommend including pre-tour cancellation in your travel insurance policy.

VI Responsibilities - We - Saraly Huck and Hélène Mills - have organised an intensive course at Château de Joudes-Saint-Amour. All classes and activities will be held at/from there. All the participants are in charge of their accommodation. If you wish to get full accommodation at the Château de Joudes-Saint-Amour, it is your own decision and therefore you need to contact them to book and pay for your stay (Euros 855,00 per person for full accommodation 26/09/2016 to 07/10/2016- Benefit from a 6% loyalty discount if coming for a second time and a 8% loyalty discount if coming for the third time). Please note that if you are accompanied, you will be in a twin or double bedroom with the person who accompanies you. All information: contact@chateau-de-joudes.com. Please state in the subject line “FS Burgundy 2016”. Website: www.chateau-de-joudes.com. We wish to inform you that we have no contractual link with Château de Joudes-Saint-Amour for the accommodation.

The organisation of the courses and the other different activities which are on the schedule, the itinerary may be subject to change without notice due to act of God, local circumstances and weather.

We contract with a range of third parties and individuals. To the best of our knowledge, the different third parties who will assist us during the course are qualified to perform the duties they are contracted to perform. We - Saraly Huck and Hélène Mills - will not be held liable for injury, damage, loss, delay or irregularity that may occur due to the behaviour of these third parties.

I confirm that I have read the prices, terms and conditions for the intensive French session from 26/09/2016 to 07/10/2016 in Burgundy and agree to be bound by them. I understand that once I have paid my deposit of Euros 1000.00 then I am booked on this course and am bound by these terms and conditions. I also agree to send the evidence of my travel insurance before the 30th June 2016. Should I fail to meet this requirement, I will be considered as having cancelled my booking.

Signed ___________________________ Print full name ___________________________ Date ______/ ______/ ____________
Contacts

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A bientôt!