

# Rugby World Cup France 2023



Ireland's 3rd and 4th Pool matches  
Provisional Tour Itinerary.

17 Days / 16 Nights

### Friday 22nd September

Depart Dublin for Paris. On arrival coach transfer to your hotel. This evening we have booked a Welcome dinner, making it an ideal opportunity to meet the rest of the group.

### Saturday 23rd September

Free day to enjoy Paris. In the evening head to Saint- Denis's stadium for the South Africa V Ireland game. Kick off at 21:00.



### Sunday 24th September

Day at leisure in Paris.



### Monday 25th September

Today we will depart Paris by Private Coach transfer to Dijon. On the way we will stop in Auxerre, a city built along the Yonne and renowned for its timbered houses. We will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant. Arrival in Dijon, rest of the day at leisure.

## Tuesday 26th September

Spend the morning exploring Dijon, including a visit to the Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy. The Palace is enormous and today houses Dijon's City Hall and Musée des Beaux Arts. The Tour de Philippe le Bon gives an impressive view of Dijon, the Saone River, and the nearby vineyards. Start the afternoon with lunch in a typical Burgundy restaurant, where many of France's most well-known specialties come from: the wine-simmered beef bourguignon or coq au vin, or Burgundy-style snails or fondue, among many other delights. In any case, prepare for a flavourful feast! The rest of the day will be spent on the Côte de Nuits vineyard, including in the Nuits-Saint-Georges and Gevrey Chambertin wine regions, before heading back to Dijon.



## Wednesday 27th September

Head to Beaune, where the Dukes of Burgundy lived! Upon arrival, take a city tour and see the Hospices de Beaune, founded in the 1400s as a hospital for the poor and is today Beaune's main attraction; its geometrically patterned rooftops and criss-cross façades are must-see. Then continue with a cellar visit and a tasting! The quality of Burgundy wines is arguably as good as - or better than - that of the famous Bordeaux wines on the other side of the country. Eat lunch on your own in Beaune before participating in a mustard workshop! Producers of France's truly traditional mustard are few and far between, and this is your chance to try traditional recipes and even make your own! Head to another wine estate in Côte de Beaune for a final tasting of the day, and then head back to Dijon for the night.

## Thursday 28th September

Private Coach transfer from Dijon to Strasbourg. On your way, we will make a few stops and enjoy lunch.

Spend the rest of the day visiting Strasbourg, located in Alsace region next to the German border. It is one of the European capitals and a typical Alsatian city. Strasbourg is most of all well known for its "Petite France" area: The Ill River is everywhere here, which is why this district is sometimes compared to a little Venice. The district is spread across an amazing river delta, formed by the five arms of the river. Seen from the sky, they look uncannily like the fingers of a hand trying to grab the whole city. Both peaceful and impetuous, the River Ill irrigates the whole district with its charm. Take a leisurely stroll along its quays and admire the reflection of the colourful facades of the old houses.



## Friday 29th September

This morning, visit to the Haut-Koenigsbourg castle, one of the symbols of Alsatian heritage and a witness to the course of European history. The moment you step over the threshold of the great door at Haut-Koenigsbourg Castle, you find yourself in a whole new world: the Middle Ages. Get lost in this prestigious fortress!

Enjoy a lunch in Colmar, and then make a stop in the Riesling and Muscat vineyards, two of the many Alsatian region's finest, for a tasting with a winemaker!



## Saturday 30th September

Morning at leisure in Strasbourg. Lunch on your own. Afternoon tour in the Alsace vineyards with wine tasting.

## Sunday 1st October

Coach transfer to Reims with lunch stop on the way. Guided tour of Reims then tasting of some Champagne in a "Grande maison de Champagne".



## Monday 2nd October

This will be a day dedicated to champagne and wine. Visits to vineyards are of course on the agenda, and there will be tastings and a lunch along the way. Finish the day in the company of a super-fan of rugby who doubles as an estate owner, who will be hosting you for a final tasting before your transfer back to Reims.

## Tuesday 3rd October

Head to Lille in the morning and enjoy lunch in an estaminet, a type of restaurant that emerged in industrial Lille! Originally a kind of café-bar where industrial workers in the 1800s could enjoy coffee or other drinks and a cigarette after work, today they are cosy jovial restaurants that welcome all kinds of guests. They are iconic of not only Lille, but the Flemish culture in general; this is supported by the fact that guests can often find traditional Flemish games to play in estaminets! After lunch, take in the sights of the city with a local guide. Lille is known for its belfry tower with 400 steps to the top, and for its colourful building façades with golden trim, which were heavily influenced by baroque and neoclassical styles. With that in mind, we recommend a pair of runners and a camera for this part of the programme!



## Wednesday 4th October

Today we will cross the border into Belgium for a day trip to Bruges! With a local guide you will enjoy a tour of the “the Venice of the North”, and after enjoying a lunch on your own, you will explore the numerous canals that wind through the town on a canal cruise. Do not forget to look up though – the towering Gothic architecture will impress you just as much as the waterways! We recommend that at one point during the day, while you are admiring the water and the architecture, try a gauffre (waffle) with whipped cream and chocolate! And now, the biggest decision of all: should your waffle be Liege-style or Brussels-style? While both are delicious, the Liege version is dense and topped with sugar crystals, whereas its Brussels cousin is airier with powdered sugar. On that sweet note, head back to Lille at the end of the day.



## Thursday 5th October

Enjoy a free day at leisure in Lille exploring the sights or catching up on some shopping.



## Friday 6th October

We will return to Paris today and once you are all checked in, we will head out for our farewell dinner with the group.

## Saturday 7th October

Free day to enjoy Paris. In the evening head to Saint-Denis's stadium for the Ireland V Scotland game. Kick off at 21:00.



## Sunday 8th October

After checking out we will transfer by private coach to Paris airport for our return flight to Dublin.

### **PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

**Flights**  
**(Dublin to Paris & Paris to Dublin)**  
**Airport Hotel Transfers**  
**16 Nights Hotel accommodation**  
**(5 Paris / 3 Dijon / 3 Strasbourg / 2 Reims / 3 Lille)**  
**Breakfast Each Morning**  
**Services of Killester Travel Tour Leader & Local Guide**  
**Wine Tastings as listed**  
**2 Dinners**  
**7 Lunches**  
**Excursions listed in Itinerary**  
**Official Match tickets - Cat 4 (upgrades available)**  
**RWC Souvenir**

### **Not Included:**

**Travel Insurance (quote on request).**  
**Ticket Upgrades:**  
**(Price for both games – subject to availability).**  
**Other meals not mentioned**

Terms and conditions can be viewed here:

<https://www.rugbytravel.ie/rugby-world-cup-2023-booking-terms-and-conditions/>