



**60th FEANDC
CONGRESS
AUGUST 25th-31st 2025
in BORDEAUX (F)
*PROGRAMME***



Dear friends,

We are pleased to present to you on the following pages the programme of the 60th FEANDC CONGRESS (European Federation of the leaders of railway services) taking place from August 25th to 31st 2025 in Bordeaux (France).

For the first time, we have the honour of officially associating the European Association of Railway Workers (AEC). All members of the AEC are welcome and we will do our best to look after them.

The programme of the Jubilee Congress includes a cruise with CROISIEUROPE from and to Bordeaux with full board and drinks included. With the exception of a few optional excursions (marked "with supplement"), all other excursions on the programme are included in the overall price displayed (see also page 6).

You can choose between cabins on three different decks (and either 2-bed or double). The attached description of the boat, the MS Cyrano de Bergerac, gives you all the details about our hotel on the water for this fantastic week that we will spend in the departments of Gironde and Charente-Maritime.

You will see that the boat as well as the food on board are of a very high standard and leave nothing to be desired.

We hope that our selected and exclusive programme will seduce you and that you will send the registration form quickly, the first come, the first served!

Welcome to our 60th Jubilee Congress!

Paul Birr,
Delegate for European Affairs
of Amicale des Chefs de
Gare France

Bernhard Marti,
Representative of the
Secretary General
FEANDC

Francis Breuer,
Secretary General
FEANDC



CRUISE OF 7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS **AUGUST 25th.-31st 2025** **60th FEANDC-CONGRESS**

MS CYRANO-DE-BERGERAC

Cruise through the Aquitaine Region from Bordeaux to Royan, along the Gironde Estuary and the Garonne and Dordogne Rivers

BORDEAUX - CUSSAC-FORT-MÉDOC - ROYAN – Rochefort & La Rochelle(1) – Train des Mouettes (Seagull Train)(1) - LIBOURNE(2) - Saint-Emilion - CADILLAC - BORDEAUX

This magnificent itinerary will take you to the heart of Southwestern France, well known for its idyllic landscapes, famous wines, historical monuments, and emblematic sites.

What better way to explore this corner of French paradise than through its longstanding maritime cities and its unequivocal art of living?

Special topic:

One day in the heart of the Arcachon Bassin(1) with its famous stilt huts, oyster beds and breathtaking panoramas; passage through the Pilat Dune, the highest and most majestic in Europe.

Exclusively at CroisiEurope:

- Cruise to Royan in the Gironde estuary
- Oyster tasting on board with a glass of white wine



CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

Discover:

- The **Médoc Wine Route**
- The charming, retro city of **Royan**
- **Rochefort** & the **Corderie Royale(1)**
- The seaside city of **La Rochelle(1)**
- **Arcachon Bay** and the **Dune of Pilat(1)**

PROGRAMME OF THE CRUISE (7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS)



Monday 25.8. : BORDEAUX - CUSSAC-FORT-MEDOC

Passengers are welcome to board our ship at 6 p.m. After comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll introduce our crew at a welcome cocktail and enjoy our first evening together. Our ship will begin to cruise to Cussac-Fort-Médoc. We'll begin on the Garonne River, before entering the Gironde River, where we'll pass the islands of Cazeau and Patiras before reaching Cussac-Fort-Médoc.



Tuesday 26.8. : CUSSAC-FORT-MEDOC - LE MEDOC - Estuaire de la Gironde – ROYAN

This morning, join us on a CLASSIC / DISCOVERY excursion: **Tour through the Médoc vineyards**. Visit the prestigious earth that nurtures the most renowned red wines of the planet, tucked between an ocean and an estuary. We'll cross through most of the famed names in the Médoc region - Saint Julien, Haut-Médoc, etc.—stopping along the celebrated wine route to have a tasting of some of the illustrious regional wines. While we are on the road, we'll also get a glimpse of the famous label vineyards and domains such as Châteaux Lafite-Rothschild, Latour and Mouton Rothschild.

Return on board and sail on the Gironde to the estuary. We drive along the marshes, Meschers-sur-Gironde with its steep cliffs, cave houses and fishermen's huts, before reaching Royan in the afternoon.

In the afternoon CLASSIC / DISCOVERY excursion: **Royan, guided tour on foot**. You'll set out on foot with your guide to discover this Atlantic seaside resort known for its early - to mid-20th-century architecture and vibrant energy. Old villas, luxuriant gardens, quaint boutiques, and the beautiful harbor forge the city's charm. The impressive church was rebuilt in the 1950s using sleek lines and natural light as the focus. Enjoy some time on your own.

Join us for an evening of dinner and dancing.



Wednesday 27.8. : ROYAN - Rochefort - La Rochelle – ROYAN

Optional excursion day (2 excursion for choice – both with supplement):

1) AUTHENTIC / EXPERIENCE The seaside cities of Rochefort and La Rochelle. We'll leave by coach for Rochefort. Rochefort was originally chosen by Jean-Baptiste Colbert as a refuge, defense and supply post for the French Navy back in the mid-1660s. Its arsenal remained a naval base and dockyard until as late as 1926. The historic downtown area boasting lovely private mansions and beautiful homes - where the legendary sailors and explorers lived - still retain their air of adventure and glamor. We'll visit the Corderie Royale, a historical rope-making factory. Built between 1666 and 1669, it was the first industrial building in France, and the factory provided ropes for the French Navy and its ships for over three centuries. We'll tour the main building and learn about the techniques used to produce the ropes used on the large sailing ships. Afterwards, we'll head to La Rochelle. We'll stop for lunch in a local restaurant. The over 1,000-year-old city of La Rochelle is the capital of the Charente Maritime. It's tucked along the Bay of Biscay and contains some of the most beautiful natural and architectural heritage in the area. During a guided tour of the old town and port, you'll learn about the Grosse-Horloge gate, Renaissance arcades, lovely half-timbered homes, finely sculpted facades of the private mansions, and the cathedral. Enjoy some free time before returning to the ship.



2) NOSTALGIC: La Tremblade and the Train des Mouettes (Seagull Train) as a half-day excursion. Departure by bus to Saujon, from there with the "Train des Mouettes", on the only remaining regional line (21 km) in Charente-Maritime, to La Tremblade (train journey of 85 minutes). Free time in La Tremblade, known for its oyster farms. Return by bus to the ship.



After we return on board, we'll spend the rest of our day cruising up the Dordogne to Libourne, where we'll arrive in the evening.



Thursday 28.8. : LIBOURNE(2) – BORDEAUX

This morning, we offer a choice of two excursions:

1) CLASSIC: Saint-Émilion. We will take a guided tour of Saint-Émilion's underground monuments, discovering the rich history of this medieval city, including its enigmatic monolithic church. We'll then head to a vineyard where we'll learn about how the famous local wine is produced. We'll enjoy a tasting of local products at the end of our tour.

2) DISCOVERY: Libourne by bike or without and wine tasting. Guided tour of Libourne. Discover this former English bastide. Located at the confluence of the Isle and Dordogne Rivers, Libourne expanded around its port. We'll see the Saint John the Baptist Church, Abel Surchamp Square and the imposing clock tower in the grand harbor. Then, we'll hop on our bikes and head over to the Pomerol wine-growing area. We'll enjoy a tasting of wine.

We'll return to the ship in Libourne and spend the afternoon cruising to Bordeaux. We circle the village of Bourg before reaching the Bec d'Ambès at the confluence of the Dordogne and Garonne rivers. Continuation of the boat trip on the Garonne to Bordeaux, which we reach at the end of the afternoon. Free evening in Bordeaux.



Friday 29.8. : BORDEAUX - CADILLAC – BORDEAUX

In the morning we'll cruise along the Garonne, getting a good glimpse of Bordeaux from the water as we continue on to Cadillac. This morning, we offer a choice two excursions:

1) CLASSIC: a visit to the magnificent and prestigious **Château de Roquetaillade**. This castle has been the backdrop for several French films including Brotherhood of the Wolf (Le Pacte des Loups) and Fanfan la Tulipe. Explore the towers and keeps in this medieval château and take time to learn about the architecture, interiors, and ambiance of French life almost 500 years ago. We'll then head to a wine cellar in the Sauternais to enjoy a tasting of the famous Sauternes wine. Afterwards, we'll return to Cadillac for a guided tour of the city. Located on the right bank of the Garonne River, the city was founded in 1280 and still retains its original structure. We'll explore the port, its ramparts and the main square and stroll the streets to admire the old homes and 15th-century church.

2) DISCOVERY: Gourmet walk in Cadillac. We'll head toward the hills surrounding Cadillac, crossing through the city and passing in front of the bastide. We'll then continue on through the vineyards, taking in the breathtaking views of the river Garonne below. The trek will finish up on a flavorful note, with a tasting of wine and succulent local delicacies.

We'll spend the afternoon cruising to Bordeaux, and we'll arrive during the evening. Tonight is our festive gala evening.



Saturday 30.8. : BORDEAUX - Bassin d'Arcachon(1) – BORDEAUX

Choice of 3 excursions (one with supplement):

1) Optional excursion (with supplement): To the center of **Arcachon Bay**. Departure by coach from Bordeaux for the Bassin d'Arcachon. We will start our tour with a boat trip on the Bassin d'Arcachon. You'll be able to see the Bird Island, the famous houses on stilts and the oyster beds. Free time in Arcachon. We will have lunch in a local restaurant. In the afternoon, we will go to the Great Dune of Pilat. Culminating at 107m, it is the highest sand dune in Europe. The view from the top is awe-inspiring. Return to Bordeaux at the end of the day.

OR

2) CLASSIC: **The Chartrons District**, Wine and Commerce Museum. Set out with your guide on foot to explore the old neighborhood where wine merchants performed their trade - the Chartrons District. You'll visit the Wine and Commerce Museum to trace the history of Bordeaux's classic nectar. We'll enjoy a tasting of wine.

3) DISCOVERY: **The Bassins des Lumières**. The Bassins des Lumières with our guide leading you, discover this unique digital art center within a former submarine base built by the Germans during their occupation of France during World War II. Each year, the center hosts a different multimedia exhibit, perfectly adapted to the architecture's grandeur and reflective waters.

For 2) & 3): Lunch will be served on board. Enjoy some free time on your own in the city this afternoon.

Join us for oyster tasting and an evening of entertainment.



Sunday 31.8. : BORDEAUX

Enjoy breakfast on board this morning before disembarking at 9:00 a.m. End of CroisiEurope services.

Transfers to the station and airport of Bordeaux.



This offer includes:

Your cruise with all meals from dinner the first evening to breakfast on the final day - all onboard beverages (not including the special lists) – accommodations in double-occupancy, climate-controlled cabin with shower in private bathroom - onboard entertainment – welcome cocktail - gala evening - all excursions (except optional excursions to Rochefort/La Rochelle, Train des Mouettes/Seagull Train and Arcachon) - assistance from our onboard, multi-lingual host/hostess - emergency/repatriation insurance - all port fees – the transfers.

This offer does not include

Drinks from our special lists or drinks ordered during excursions or transfers – optional excursions to Rochefort/La Rochelle, Train des Mouettes/Seagull Train and Arcachon - cancellation and baggage insurance - personal expenses.

THE CROISIEUROPE DIFFERENCE:

- All meals included – DRINKS INCLUDED with meals and at the bar
- Refined French cuisine – Gala dinner and evening – Welcome cocktail
- Free Wi-Fi onboard
- Headsets are included for excursions
- Official welcome from the captain and crew
- Onboard activities
- Travel assistance and repatriation insurance
- All port fees included

Transport

Port-to-port cruise with transfers in Bordeaux

Requirements

Valid national identity card or passport required. Non-EU nationals are advised to consult their embassy or consulate.

MENTIONS

For optimal organization of your cruise, the order of the excursions can be modified according to the tides.

(1) Optional excursions.

(2) Depending on mooring availability, the stopover in Libourne may be replaced by a stopover in Bourg.

This cruise is under the influence of the tides and arrivals at ports of call are subject to change.

Alcohol can be dangerous to your health. Please drink in moderation.

THE EXCURSIONS

Tuesday 26.8.



2 excursions

morning: Excursion Grands Crus du Médoc

Duration: 04h00



afternoon: Guided visit by foot of Royan

Duration: 01h00

Wednesday 27.8.



2 excursions (both optional with supplement)

1) Bus excursion, lunch included

Rochefort and La Rochelle, maritime cities;

Duration : 10h00 (daylong)

2) Bus and train excursion Seagull Train/ Train des Mouettes (half day excursion afternoon)

Thursday 28.8.



Choice of 2 excursions (morning):

1) Guided visit of St. Emilion and wine tasting

Duration: 03h00



2) Libourne with or without bicycle and wine tasting

Duration: 04h00

Friday 29.8.



Choice of 2 excursions (morning) :

1) Guided visit of Roquetaillade Castle and Cadillac

Duration: 04h30

2) Gourmet-walk in Cadillac (8km)

Saturday 30.8.



Choice of 3 excursions :

1) Daylong bus trip to Arcachon Bay, lunch included
(optional with supplement)

2) Bordeaux : the Chartrons Quarter, the Wine and
Commerce Museum with wine tasting
Duration: 03h00

3) Bordeaux : The Bassins des Lumières
Duration: 03h00