

Blaye, Gironde, France

A fortified river town on the Gironde Estuary, Blaye pairs a sprawling free-entry UNESCO citadel with rolling Bordeaux vineyards — all within easy walking distance of the dock.

Docked (river quay) Typical call: 6-8 hrs Euro French

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: River quay at Blaye waterfront, ~300 m from citadel entrance — no tender

Walk to center: 5 min to Citadel gates; 10 min to town center

Best For: History, wine tasting, estuary views, relaxed walking

Don't Miss: Free entry to Vauban Citadel ramparts and underground passages

Getting around: Taxi €5–€15 within town · Rideshare Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Vauban Citadel Self-Guided Tour** — Roam 38 hectares of 17th-century military engineering — ramparts, underground passages, ruined Château des Rudel, and a fortified village of artisan...
- **Blaye Côtes de Bordeaux Wine Tasting** — The Blaye appellation produces excellent Merlot-dominant reds at prices well below Médoc grands crus.
- **Ferry to Fort Médoc & the Médoc Vineyards** — A short ferry crossing from Blaye to Lamarque puts you in the heart of the Médoc.
- **Corniche Road to Bourg** — The Route des Capitaines winds along limestone cliffs from Blaye to the medieval river town of Bourg, passing troglodyte dwellings and viewpoints...
- **Plassac Gallo-Roman Villa** — Just 5 km from Blaye, Plassac preserves the foundations of a substantial Gallo-Roman villa occupied from the 1st to 5th centuries AD, with an on-site...

BEST WALKS

- **Citadel Ramparts Loop** 3.7 km · Easy · 1 hr — Enter via Porte Royale from the quay path, walk the full perimeter of the ramparts for sweeping views of the Gironde Estuary and the Médoc shore, then descend through...
- **Quay to Town Center Stroll** 1 km · Easy · 20 min — From the river quay, walk up through the lower town to Cours Vauban, stopping at the Maison du Vin for a tasting.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌤️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				🇫🇷 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 7:17AM–8:48PM · Jun 6:15AM–9:51PM · Aug 7:04AM–9:08PM · Sep 7:41AM–8:13PM · Oct 8:18AM–7:17PM	
Apr	63°	48°	11d	Euro	
Jun	76°	61°	11d		
Aug	80°	63°	8d		
Sep	76°	59°	8d		
Oct	68°	54°	11d		

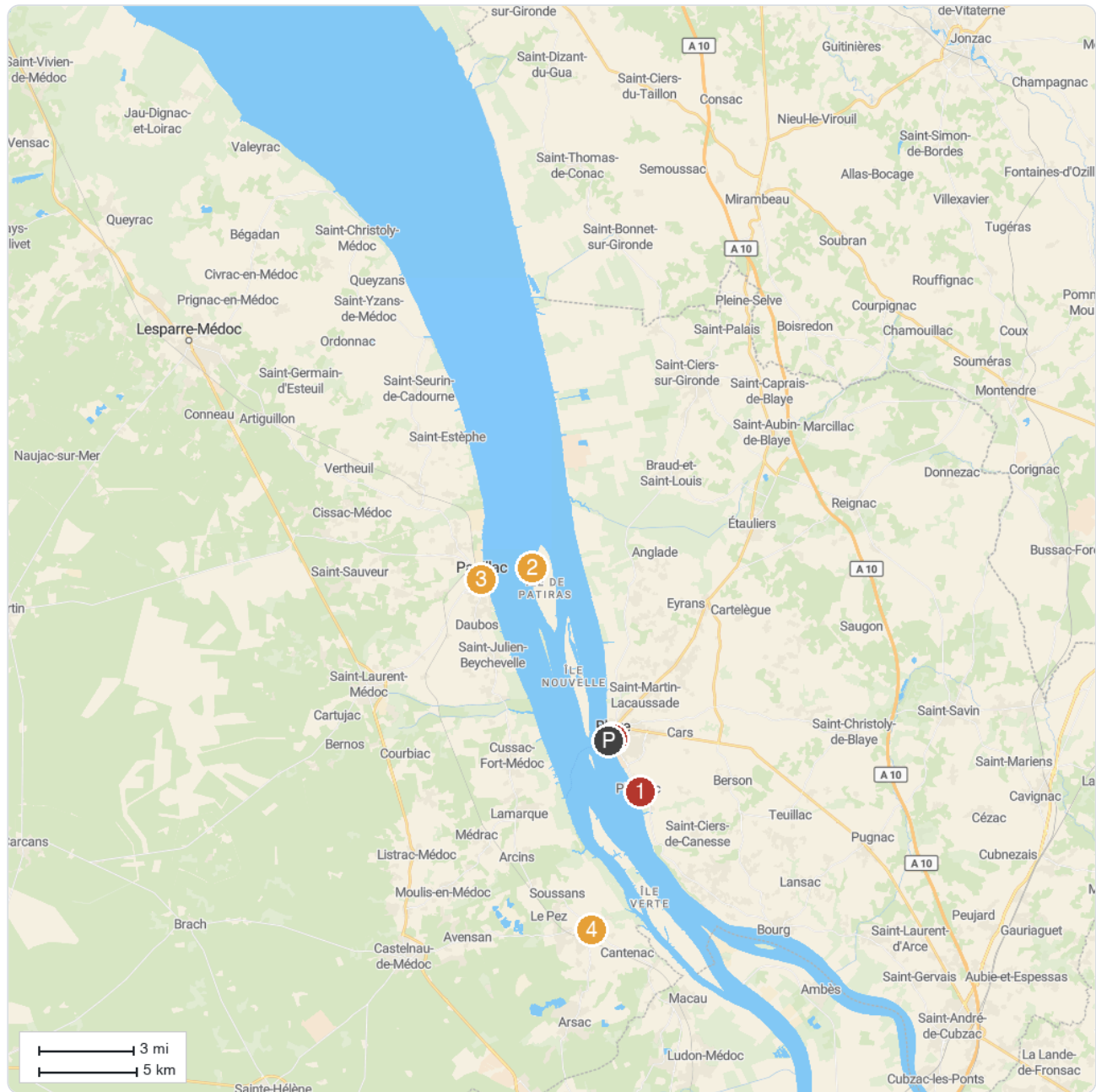
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Citadel entry is free — no ticket needed to walk the ramparts or explore the interior. Guided tours (booked via the Blaye Tourist Office) unlock underground passages.
- Don't skip the Médoc ferry — the crossing from Blaye port to Lamarque takes ~20 min and opens up Fort Médoc and top Médoc châteaux. Check the timetable before leaving the ship.
- Blaye wines are a bargain — Blaye Côtes de Bordeaux offers genuine Bordeaux quality at a fraction of Médoc prices. The Maison du Vin on Cours Vauban is the easiest tasting stop.
- Wear walking shoes — the path from the quay to the Citadel climbs a short hill, and the ramparts are uneven stone. Heels are a bad idea.
- The ramparts can be windy — the Gironde Estuary is wide and exposed. Bring a light layer even in summer.
- Cash is handy — many small Citadel artisan shops and the Saturday market prefer cash. ATMs are available in the town center on Cours Vauban.

Blaye, Gironde, France — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Villa Gallo Romaine de Plassac | Explore ancient Roman villa ruins and mosaics. | 2 Lighthouse Patiras | Visit a historic lighthouse on an island in the Gironde. |
| 3 Église Saint-Martin | Discover a beautiful historic church with impressive architecture. | 4 Château Marquis de Terme | Visit a renowned Médoc wine estate for tours and tastings. |
| 5 Tourist Office of Blaye | Get local information, maps, and book tours here. | P Cruise port / terminal | |