

Dijon, Burgundy, France

The medieval capital of the Dukes of Burgundy, Dijon rewards cruise visitors with a perfectly walkable historic centre, cobblestone squares alive with café culture, and some of the most celebrated food and wine in France.

 River barge dock / coach excursion  Typical call: 6-8 hrs  Currency: Euro (€)  Language: French  Burgundy wine country

MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Barges: Port du Canal (1.5 km to centre). River ships: motorcoach from Chalon-sur-Saône (~60 min).

Best For: History, Burgundy wine, French gastronomy, Gothic architecture

Walk to Centre: 15–20 min flat walk or Tram T2 from Port du Canal; coach passengers drop at Place Darcy.

Don't Miss: Rub the Owl (La Chouette) on Notre-Dame de Dijon with your left hand for good luck.

 Getting around:  Taxi  €8–15 ·  Rideshare  Uber, Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Palace of the Dukes & Free Beaux-Arts Museum** — The centrepiece of Dijon is the Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy, whose wing houses the Musée des Beaux-Arts — one of France's finest fine-art museums...
- **Burgundy Gastronomy & Mustard Trail** — Dijon is the culinary capital of France's most food-obsessed region.
- **Cité Internationale de la Gastronomie et du Vin** — Opened in 2022 in a spectacular restored historic hospital complex, this massive venue celebrates French gastronomy and Burgundy wine with...
- **Côte de Nuits & Côte de Beaune Wine Country** — Drive south through the UNESCO-listed Burgundy vineyard slopes — the most celebrated wine geography on Earth.
- **Owl Trail Self-Guided Walk (Parcours de la Chouette)** — Follow 22 brass owl plaques embedded in the cobblestones through Dijon's entire historic centre.

BEST WALKS

- **Historic Heart: Owl Trail Highlights** 2.5 km · 45–60 min · Easy · Cobblestones — The classic Dijon loop.
- **Canal & Gastronomy Quarter** 2 km · 30–40 min · Easy · Flat — For barge passengers arriving at Port du Canal, this walk follows the canal towpath northeast into the city, passing the Cité Internationale de la Gastronomie et du Vin...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:51AM–8:29PM · Jun 5:43AM–9:37PM · Aug 6:36AM–8:51PM · Sep 7:17AM–7:51PM · Oct 7:58AM–6:51PM	
Apr	59°	42°	10d	Currency: Euro (€)	
Jun	75°	58°	11d		
Aug	78°	60°	9d		
Sep	72°	55°	8d		
Oct	62°	48°	12d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Rub the Owl for luck. On the north wall of Notre-Dame de Dijon, a small stone owl has been rubbed smooth for centuries. Touch it with your left hand and make a wish — it's the city's most beloved tradition.
- Check the day. Les Halles market runs Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings only. Many shops and restaurants are closed Sunday and Monday — plan accordingly.
- Wear sturdy shoes. Dijon's entire historic centre is cobblestone. Comfortable walking shoes are essential — heels are a recipe for misery.
- Don't leave without a Kir. The Kir cocktail (crème de cassis + white Burgundy wine) was invented in Dijon by Canon Félix Kir. Order one at any café on Place de la Libération — it costs €3–5 and is deeply local.
- Buy mustard at Maille, not a supermarket. The Maille boutique at 32 Rue de la Liberté dispenses mustard fresh from porcelain pumps into stoneware crocks. It makes a far better souvenir than a jar from the airport.
- Start with Bonjour. Always greet shopkeepers and servers with "Bonjour, Madame/Monsieur" before speaking — skipping the greeting is considered rude in France, even in tourist areas.

cruiseports.org

- cruiseports.org · Dijon, Burgundy, France port guide