In medieval Dordogne, street lamps along ancient lanes are one of the few concessions to modernity.

Dear Mitchell Gallery Members, Friends and Alumni of St. John’s:

Join a small group of travelers for this unique opportunity to experience the authentic provincial character of Dordogne, a hidden treasure where all the delights of Southern France have been distilled into one of Europe’s most beautiful and intact medieval villages, Sarlat-la-Canéda. Immerse yourself in the rich local culture and rhythms of daily life in the heart of this charming département, and explore the history of early humans who painted their stories on its cave walls, the largest concentration of prehistoric art in the world.

Our carefully designed itinerary and expert-guided excursions explore five impressive UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the dramatic cliffside monastic village of Rocamadour, the important archaeological sites of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc, Rouffignac Cave and Les-Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil and the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine. Visit the incredible, newly opened International Center for Cave Art at Lascaux to appreciate one of humankind’s earliest artistic creations. Exclusively arranged, enriching presentations and the Village Life® Forum provide personal perspectives on daily life in the villages of Dordogne.

Your “home,” ideally located in the quaint medieval village of Sarlat-la-Canéda, will be the family-owned Plaza Madeleine Hôtel, a restored 19th-century townhouse. This delightful hôtel de charme features a provincial ambiance with modern accommodations and amenities, and is known for the warm hospitality of its staff. In addition to the included meals in the hotel, you will dine on regional specialties during traditional three-course dinners in specially selected French bistros.

Village Life® in Dordogne offers an enchanting educational travel experience, a great value—and you unpack only once! It is an exceedingly popular program, so we encourage you to book now while space and Early Booking Savings are still available. For more information about The Mitchell Gallery and St. John’s College go to sjc.edu/mitchell-gallery.

Sincerely,

Hydee Schaller
Director, The Mitchell Gallery

Pamela McKee
Membership Committee,
The Mitchell Gallery Board of Advisors
pmckee7@verizon.net

Prehistory Expert

Christine Desdemaines-Hugon has worked with the scientific community, lectured on prehistoric art, and shared her knowledge and enthusiasm for the Dordogne region of France with visitors for 25 years. Her first visits to the caves of the Dordogne sparked an insatiable passion for the subject of Paleolithic art and she returned to the University of Bordeaux to continue her studies, resulting in a Diploma of Advanced Studies in Anthropology. Christine also wrote a book about the five major cave sites in the Dordogne and the evolution of Paleolithic cultures.

Cover: Visit the Dordogne River Valley, a rural idyll replete with hilltop castles and quaint villages.

In medieval Dordogne, street lamps along ancient lanes are one of the few concessions to modernity.
Cruise the bucolic Dordogne River aboard a traditional 19th-century wooden gabare, the typical mode of transportation of the Périgord region for more than 150 years.

Dordogne

Experience firsthand the true character and traditions of Dordogne during this comprehensive, small group travel program. It features the beautiful départements and countryside of southwestern France, the medieval village of Sarlat-la-Canéda within the oak-forested Périgord Noir and the world's largest collection of magnificent prehistoric art. Enjoy an enriching travel experience like no other; become immersed in the rhythm of daily life in Dordogne by interacting with local people; explore the history, culture, art, language and cuisine—and unpack just once! This comprehensive program is one of the popular Village Life® series, an intimate travel experience at just the right pace.

Cultural Enrichments are specially arranged for this custom-designed itinerary:

◆ Enjoy an authentic experience in delightful Sarlat-la-Canéda, a quintessential provincial French village of beautifully preserved medieval architecture.

◆ Immerse yourself in a carefully planned itinerary including guided historical and cultural excursions balanced with time on your own to discover and observe the heart of medieval Sarlat.

◆ Engage with dordognais (local residents) during the Village Life® Forum where they will share candid perspectives on contemporary daily life in a medieval village.

◆ Peruse Sarlat’s traditional, twice-weekly outdoor market, located just a short walk from your hotel.

◆ Sample the traditional cuisine of France’s Aquitaine region during specially arranged meals in local bistros and an exclusive regional wine and cheese tasting in an épicerie gourmet.

◆ Explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc, where prehistoric man once made his home, and the impressive cave friezes of Lascaux, an exact replica of the original, estimated to have been painted 17,300 years ago.

◆ See the world’s premier collection of paleolithic engravings and sculpture at The National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil.

◆ Enjoy a private cruise in an authentic 19th-century gabare (barge) and admire the historic châteaux and villages along the spectacular, cliff-lined Dordogne River.

◆ Experience a specially arranged, private performance of traditional 19th-century Périgord Noir folk music and dance.

◆ Hear it from the Experts! Experienced, English-speaking dordognais guides will accompany you throughout the program and share their expertise of historical, cultural and contemporary Dordogne. A local expert will lecture on preservation of the medieval architecture in Sarlat.

◆ Learn key phrases in la langue française (the French language) to make your interactions with local residents all the more enjoyable.
Savor the delights of traditional French cuisine in the village of Sarlat, where regional specialties are prepared from the freshest ingredients from the Sarlat Market, one of the best in France.

**ITINERARY**

**Day**  

1 **BORDEAUX® PRE-PROGRAM OPTION**

1. Depart the U.S.

2 **BORDEAUX, FRANCE/SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA (D)**

   - Transfer to Sarlat to check into PLAZA MADELEINE HOTEL.

3 **SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA (B,R)**

   - Walking tour of medieval Sarlat
   - Afternoon at leisure to peruse the village market of Sarlat.

4 **ROCAMADOUR®/SOULLAC (B,L)**

   - Tour of 13th-century Rocamadour.
   - Visit to quaint Souillac.

5 **LES EYZIES-DE-TAYAC-SIREUIL®/L’ABRI DU CAP-BLANC® (B,L)**

   - Visit to the Jardins d’Eyrignac.
   - Specially arranged tour of the National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies led by Christine Desdemaines-Hugon.
   - View cave friezes of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc.

6 **LASCAUX/SAIN T-AMAND-DE-COLY (B,L)**

   - Visit to Saint-Amand-de-Coly.
   - Specially arranged tour of prehistoric cave art of Lascaux led by Christine Desdemaines-Hugon.
   - Lecture on the preservation of medieval architecture in Sarlat.
   - Sample local wines and cheeses.

7 **ROUFFIGNAC®/LA MADELEINE® (B,D)**

   - Specially arranged tour of prehistoric Rouffignac cave led by Christine Desdemaines-Hugon.
   - Excursion to the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine.
   - Morning at leisure to enjoy individual pursuits in Sarlat such as their quaint twice-weekly market.
   - Private evening folk music performance and dance.

8 **BEYNAC/DOMME (B,L,D)**

   - Tour of 12th-century Château de Beynac.
   - Walking tour of historic Domme.
   - Cruise in a typical gabare on the bucolic Dordogne River.

9 **SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA/BORDEAUX/Return to the U.S. (B)**

**Sarlat-la-Canéda**

Author Henry Miller called Sarlat “the Frenchman’s paradise.” Your charming “village home” is in the pre-French Revolutionary capital of Périgord Noir, a lushly forested corner of the Aquitaine region, ideally located between the Dordogne and Vézère Rivers. It is a *bon vivant’s* dream, renowned for truffles, wild mushrooms, strawberries, walnuts and duck, and close enough to Bordeaux to procure the finest wines directly from vintners’ cellars.

Sarlat has one of the greatest concentrations of medieval, Renaissance and 17th-century façades in Europe. Step back in time as you meander through narrow cobblestone streets illuminated by gas lamps and lined with traditional Renaissance-style stone houses crowned with pepperpot chimneys. The heart of Sarlat is the Place de la Liberté, where every Wednesday and Saturday one of France’s most storied markets is held, a tradition dating from the Middle Ages.

**CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:** During the exclusive **VILLAGE LIFE® FORUM**, meet dordognais, who will discuss contemporary life in Dordogne. Attend the private, specially arranged presentation by a local expert on preserving the medieval architecture of Sarlat.
Rocamadour has beckoned travelers and pilgrims alike to its summit above a tributary of the Dordogne River.

Experience Sarlat-la-Canéda’s twice-weekly market, a medieval tradition in the heart of the village.

Rocamadour/Souillac
Built on the face of a sheer 400-foot cliff, the UNESCO World Heritage-designated village of Rocamadour has one of the most dramatic settings of any village in the world. During the Middle Ages, pilgrims flocked here from across Europe to perform penance by ascending the 216 steps of le Grand Escalier (the Grand Stairway) on their knees to pay homage to the Virgin Mary and seek miracles from St. Amadour by visiting his crypt. Embedded in the cliff above the doorway to the Chapelle de Notre Dame is a sword said to be that of the heroic knight Roland.

Nearby, visit the quaint town of Souillac and its 12th-century Abbaye Sainte-Marie, a treasury of Romanesque statuary and carvings depicting biblical and legendary scenes.

Cultural Enrichment: Savor a lunch of regional specialties in a village restaurant.

Jardins d’Eyrignac
Designated a national monument by the French government, for more than 500 years the Eyrignac Manor has been the continuous family residence of 22 generations. On this 17th-century estate located just outside of Sarlat, view what many consider the finest jardins (gardens) in all of France. Originally of an 18th-century Italian design, the landscape was converted a century later to an English-style, sculpted, coniferous garden and has been immaculately maintained and enhanced throughout the years.

Villages of the Périgord Noir
Carved beneath a cliff overlooking the picturesque Vézère River, the prehistoric troglodyte village and UNESCO World Heritage Site of La Madeleine offers unique insight into the Magdalenian culture, which prevailed in southern Europe for over 60 centuries from 15,000 to 9000 B.C. This ancient settlement of approximately 20 dwellings once accommodated 100 residents at a time.

Petit Saint-Amand-de-Coly is one of the most picturesque villages in Dordogne, its cobblestone lanes dominated by the fortified 13th-century abbey church, an unusual fusion of Romanesque and Gothic styles. Traces of the Hundred Years’ War remain in the ramparts and towers of the fortress-like church and the nearby remnants of its abbey.

Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil
Les Eyzies is France’s capital of prehistoric humanity, where unprecedented fossils of Early Modern Man have been discovered. Approximately 35,000 years old, these fossils are some of the earliest known evidence of human life in Europe. The National Museum of Prehistory, housed in a 13th-century castle, gives context to the area’s cave paintings, fossils and early tools.
Cultural Enrichments: Enjoy a guided tour of the National Museum of Prehistory and an excursion to see L’Abri du Cap-Blanc’s prehistoric cave friezes.

Château de Beynac
Perched 500 feet above the Dordogne River and commanding a medieval village of golden stone houses tucked into the steep hillside is the fortified Château de Beynac, a masterpiece of medieval military engineering that was once a stronghold of Richard the Lionheart. Traverse the castle’s elaborate series of surrounding stone walls, parapet walks, watchtowers and passageways to an impressive interior decorated with a magnificent 17th-century staircase and delicate 15th-century frescoes.

Cultural Enrichment: Enjoy a private cruise on the tranquil Dordogne River aboard a traditional 19th-century gabare, followed by a lunch of Périgord specialties in a local restaurant overlooking the river.

Domme
Among the “most beautiful villages” of France, Domme is an authentic medieval bastide, or fortified village, where entrance today is still gained through its original military ramparts, and graffiti etched by the Knights Templar in the 14th century is still distinguishable on the inner village walls. The beauty of the 13th- and 14th-century architecture of Domme is surpassed only by its exceptional views overlooking the Dordogne River.

Splendors of Bordeaux
Pre-Program Option
Long distinguished as the wine capital of the world, France’s verdant Bordeaux region has been producing, fermenting and bottling the grape since the eighth century. Tucked away in the heart of the rolling French countryside and endless vineyards, visit the charming and legendary village of Saint-Émilion, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, famous for the Merlot grape grown here that produces rich, full-bodied red wines. Visit the impressive medieval monuments of Saint-Émilion, including the Église Monolithe, one of the largest underground churches in Europe. Just north of Bordeaux in the Médoc region, visit a château to experience the grand cru classé, Bordeaux’s distinguished wine classification, and enjoy a tasting of their exquisite wines. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe Hôtel Burdigala, located in the heart of Bordeaux.

In the fertile département of Aquitaine, Saint-Émilion’s verdant landscape is devoted entirely to viticulture.

The Pre-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Included Features

◆◆
The expertise of prehistory expert Christine Desdemaines Hugon on noted visits.

In Sarlat-la-Canéda

◆◆ Seven nights in the Plaza Madeleine Hotel.
◆◆ Private Welcome Reception in the hotel.
◆◆ Breakfast each morning, one lunch and two dinners in the hotel.
◆◆ Two dinners, each in a specially selected traditional French bistro featuring French country table d’hôte menus and regional specialties.
◆◆ Regional wine is served with each included dinner.

Local Expert-Guided Excursions

◆◆ Architectural walking tour of Sarlat-la-Canéda.
◆◆ Full-day excursion featuring 13th-century Rocamadour, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the magnificent Romanesque sculptures in Souillac’s Abbaye Marie, including lunch.
◆◆ Visit to the lush, impeccably maintained 19th-century Jardins d’Eyrignac.
◆◆ Excursion to the impressive Rouffignac Cave, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
◆◆ Visit to the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine and the medieval village and fortified church of Saint-Amand-de-Coly.
◆◆ Tour of the medieval Château de Beynac.
◆◆ Walking tour of Domme, with spectacular views of the Dordogne River Valley.

Exclusive Cultural Enrichments

◆◆ Excursions to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc and the prehistoric cave art of Lascaux led by Christine Desdemaines-Hugon.
◆◆ Tour of the National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil led by Christine Desdemaines-Hugon.
◆◆ Specially arranged VILLAGE LIFE® Forum with local residents who will discuss contemporary daily life in provincial France’s Dordogne département.
◆◆ A lecture on architectural preservation in Sarlat-la-Canéda by a local historian.
◆◆ Private, specially arranged gabare cruise along the Dordogne River, with lunch in the village of Beynac-et-Cazenac.
◆◆ Local wine and cheese tasting at a Sarlat épicerie gourmet.
◆◆ Specially arranged meals highlighting the distinctive flavors of the Dordogne region.
◆◆ Private 19th-century Périgord cultural folk performance.
◆◆ French language introduction.

Enhanced Travel Services

◆◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆◆ All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
◆◆ Gratuities to hotel personnel and local guides and drivers on included excursions.
◆◆ Complimentary bottled water in accommodations and while on excursions.
◆◆ Hospitality desk in the hotel.
◆◆ The services of an experienced Gohagan & Company Program Director throughout the program.
◆◆ Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
◆◆ Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
◆◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
See well-preserved cliff dwellings along the Dordogne River, where prehistoric troglodyte villages once flourished.

Prehistoric Art

Dordogne has the greatest concentration of prehistoric art sites anywhere in the world. The region’s limestone caves and rocky overhangs provided Ice Age man with not only shelter, but also a vast canvas for extraordinary cave paintings. In the two most well-known caves, Lascaux and Rouffignac, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites, extinct aurochs, wild stallions and antelopes, painted between approximately 25,000 and 17,000 years ago, still prance, preen and gallop before your eyes. The original Lascaux cave has been closed to the public since 1963 for preservation purposes; however, the recently opened International Center for Cave Art at Lascaux, an incredible replica, allows the public to more authentically experience these fascinating cave paintings and provides a truer representation of the exuberant colors that have since faded in the original Lascaux itself.

The Rouffignac Cave offers up-close views of the deft drawings of extinct, prehistoric animals that cover the five-mile labyrinth of cavernous walls and ceilings, including the famous frieze of two bison about to engage each other in battle.

Near the village of Les Eyzies, visit the original Cro-Magnon rock shelter and UNESCO World Heritage Site of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc, showcasing the rare, life-size frieze of horses and bison sculpted in limestone. A guided tour of the National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies helps put this vast network of prehistoric art into context.

Marvel at the exquisite artistry and ingenuity of the prehistoric paintings in Lascaux.

See well-preserved cliff dwellings along the Dordogne River, where prehistoric troglodyte villages once flourished.
Visit the Château de Beynac, which soars dramatically above the Dordogne River Valley. Once a stronghold of Richard the Lionheart, it remained a highly prized strategic outpost for centuries.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LAND TARIFF excluding taxes*</th>
<th>Early Booking Tariff* through November 18, 2017</th>
<th>Tariff* after November 18, 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>Per person, based on double occupancy</td>
<td>$4395</td>
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Singles are available upon request for an additional $700.*

*Taxes are an additional $295 per person and are subject to change.

Visit the Château de Beynac, which soars dramatically above the Dordogne River Valley. Once a stronghold of Richard the Lionheart, it remained a highly prized strategic outpost for centuries.

Send to: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

Program reservations require a deposit of $600 per person and $200 per person Splendors of Bordeaux Pre-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:

- Visa
- MasterCard

I/We want you to book my/our air from __________________________ (fill in departure city)
to and from Bordeaux, France, at additional cost to be advised.

- Economy Class
- Upgraded Economy
- Business Class
- First Class

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by February 2, 2018.
Admire the finest “English” gardens in France as you stroll through the enchanting grounds of Eyrignac Manor.

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT**

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring company, certifies that representations in tour promotion literature, or for any other aspect of the tour. St. John’s College. The College can undertake no responsibility for the accuracy of any representation concerning the trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sections 1-16, either according to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) Illinois law and will take place in Chicago, IL. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or other tribunal shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, the participant and Gohagan are waiving the right to a jury trial.

**ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement. Photo Credits: Alamy, Estock Photo, Glow Images, Shutterstock; all images are rights managed and cannot be used without permission.

**CANCELLATIONS:** Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including PrePost Program(s)/reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 PrePost Program) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 91 through 119 days prior to departure, $660 ($200 PrePost Program) per person; from 45 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariffs; from 22 through 44 days prior to departure, 75% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 21 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees, and administrative fees may apply.

**TRIP INSURANCE:** We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Gohagan and others for a comprehensive coverage of such expenses in connection with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. We will send you an application upon receipt of your reservation.

**RATES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and subject to change at any time. On land and/or cruise programs, even after full payment, Gohagan reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, currency fluctuations or fuel or energy surcharges and all such increases are to be paid to Gohagan upon notice to the tour participant of such increase. On programs which include Gohagan purchased interstate or international air (which originates or returns to the United States), increased costs will be passed on after final payment except for subsequently imposed governmental tax increases.

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**DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS:** Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by November 18, 2017. In the event a “discounted” reservation must be canceled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.