

**Boutique & Grand Hotels, Paris Escapes, Music Festival Checklist, Favorite Wine Bars and More**

**Current Trend: Wine Bars a Foodie Will Cherish**



While the term "wine bar" can be a little confusing in Paris, *bars à vin* are among the most fun places to eat and drink in the city. We'll help you figure out what to expect and where to go. Read a list of [our favorites here](#).

**Update: Hotels We Love Right Now**



**Le Grand**

Why? Simply put, [Le Grand](#) is the hotel you have in your mind's eye when you think of a classic, grand European hotel. Plus, the spa downstairs is a hidden gem.



**Hôtel Keppler**

Why? Terribly chic yet tucked away, the [Keppler](#) is a stone's throw from the Champs Elysées.



**Hôtel Bellechasse**

Why? Christian Lacroix's fashionable mecca in the 7th Arrondissement, the [Bellechasse](#), practically stares at the Musée d'Orsay.

**Get Your Groove On**



**Fête de la Musique 2010: Celebrate Women in Music**

If you think "feminine" French music is just Edith Piaf and Charlotte Gainsbourg, you need to experience the Fête de la Musique, on Monday, June 21. [Read more here](#).

**Getting out of Town**

As the temperature rises, fashionable Parisians retire to the country or the seaside. Here are our picks for places that

are slightly under the radar.



### [Bordeaux](#)

This gorgeous historic town, sans tourists, is a Unesco World Heritage site. Close to the Atlantic Ocean and the Cap Ferret oyster farms, it has world-class wine tasting, with a *fête du vin* at the end of June.



### [Sceaux](#)

A day trip from Paris, Sceaux has a gorgeous chateau and market.



### [Ile de Ré](#)

This is the island of in-the-know Parisians. Dubbed the Hamptons of France, it's free of American tourists but full of hollyhocks, glorious bike rides and 17th-century walled villages. You can even try kiteboarding.



### [St.-Emilion](#)

This fairy tale-like village is also a Unesco World Heritage site. Famous for its wine, it's a pathway to the Dordogne.



### [Aveyron](#)

Our friends Rain and Lance have a selection of absolutely adorable *maisons* and cottages in this yet-to-be-discovered region of France. Aveyron is authentic, beautiful and not overrun like Provence. The prices on these babies are very reasonable.

## Wine of the Month



## Recipe of the Month



### Duck Confit, Potato and Green Bean Salad

This is a summer dish that features something I typically associate with cold-weather cooking: duck confit. In

### Château la Coustarelle Grande Cuvée Prestige, 2005

Lately we have seen many popular malbecs from Argentina. But as with numerous New World wines, Argentine malbec is the scion of a classic French grape. [>> Read more](#)

France duck confit is widely available preprepared. Sometimes it is in jars, and sometimes the legs are individually vacuum packed. [>> Read more](#)

### Girls' Guide Gear Hits the Road



Our red lipped–lady bag travels to Sydney with Kathryn, a Girls' Guide fan. Get your [GG2P gear here](#).

### Cool Tour of the Month



Do you dream of taking spectacular photos of Paris? Sophie can show you how. Click [here](#) to find out more.

Enjoy your summer travels to Paris, either in person or via the Web.

Bisous,

*Doni*

And everyone at the Girls' Guide to Paris

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