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**Bountiful Burgundy:
A Gourmet Tour**

**The Winemakers of
Louis Jadot**

**Paris: Where the
Bobos Are**

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Vézelay

The park and gardens of the Château de Barbirey



oxen and men in “squirrel-cage” wheels. Construction began in 1997; completion is slated for 2025. Visitors can converse with the stone-carvers, masons, carpenters, basket-weavers, cart-drivers, blacksmiths, potters, rope-makers and others as they work. www.guedelon.fr

EPOISSES

The château, encircled by double walls, has belonged to the Guitaut family since the 17th century and is open to the public for visits. Epoisses cheese, described by Brillat-Savarin as “the king of cheeses”, was first made in a nearby monastery and, after a decline, was revived by the Berthaut family

in the 1950s—their Fromagerie Berthaut is in the village.

VEZELAY

The hilltop abbey of Vézelay was a major starting point for the medieval pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella. Founded in the 9th century, it was by turns Cistercian, Benedictine and Franciscan. Today it’s run by the modern Monastic Fraternities of Jerusalem, and tourists greatly outnumber pilgrims, but Sainte Marie Madeleine basilica remains one of the great historic, architectural and artistic sites in France.

BAZOUCHES

The 12th/14th-century Château

de Bazoches was home to the illustrious Sébastien Le Prestre, Marquis de Vauban—Louis XIV’s great military architect. The current owners are descendants of the original builder, Jean de Bazoches; their family also owns the Loire Valley Château de Cheverny. Nearby: the cheese-making abbey of La Pierre-qui-Vire and *confiturer* La Trinquelinette in Saint-Léger-Vauban.

BARBIREY-SUR-OUCHÉ

The 20-acre park and gardens of the château of Barbirey, west of the Côte de Nuits, include a big flower-trimmed kitchen garden, an orchard, a rock garden, ponds and a rustling stream. The château has five guest rooms. www.chateaubarbirey.com

AUTUN

The grand, walled Roman city of Augustodunum, founded in the 1st century BC, was destroyed by barbarian invasions and brought back to prosperity in the Middle Ages by the city’s Rolin family, starting with Nicolas Rolin, chancellor of the dukes of Burgundy, and his son, Cardinal Jean Rolin, the bishop of Autun. (Among his

successors as bishops of Autun: Gabriel de Roquette, the inspiration for Molière’s *Tartuffe*, and Talleyrand.) See the Roman ruins, Saint Lazare cathedral, the Musée Rolin.

CORMATIN

Near Cluny, the moated, opulently decorated early 17th-century Château de Cormatin, with brilliantly painted walls, gilded and painted coffered ceilings and a monumental staircase, gives onto nearly 30 acres of formal gardens and a lovely labyrinth.

CLUNY

It’s impossible to exaggerate the religious, intellectual and political influence of the medieval Abbey of Cluny, which reigned over a vast monastic empire. It was largely destroyed after the French Revolution, but enough remains to convey an idea of its grandeur. Nearby: the escargot farm, L’Escargot Brionnais, near Briant.

BROU

The Royal Monastery of Brou, at the southeastern tip of the Burgundy region, is now surrounded by the suburbs of Bourg-en-Bresse. The church, with its side chapels, rood screen, stained-glass windows, richly carved royal tombs and triple cloisters, is a paragon of flamboyant Gothic and Renaissance art. ■



Château de Cormatin