Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join this small group of alumni travelers for a unique opportunity to experience the authentic character of the historic villages in France’s picturesque southwestern département of Dordogne. Immerse yourself in the rich local culture and rhythms of daily life in Dordogne, and explore the history of early humans who painted their stories on its cave walls, the largest concentration of prehistoric art in the world.

Experience the heart of Dordogne, a hidden treasure where all of France’s provincial charms have been distilled into one of Europe’s most beautiful and intact medieval villages, Sarlat-la-Canéda. Our carefully designed itinerary and expert-guided excursions explore five UNESCO World Heritage sites: the dramatic cliffside village of Rocamadour, L’Abri du Cap-Blanc, Rouffignac Cave, Les Eyzies-de-Tayac and the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine. Visit Lascaux II to appreciate one of humankind’s earliest art creations in the form of cave paintings. Specially arranged and exclusive, enriching presentations and the Village Forum® provide personal perspectives on daily life in the villages of Dordogne.

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

Village Life® in Dordogne is an exceedingly popular program that has sold out every time we have offered it. This is a truly one-of-a-kind French experience and a great value, and you unpack only once! I encourage you to book now while Early Booking Savings and space are available.

Raise High the Buff and Blue!

Joshua I. Hiscock
Senior Director, Alumni Benefits & Services
Office of Alumni Relations
http://www.alumni.gwu.edu

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.

Cover photo: Visit the storied Dordogne River Valley, where brave knights once defended medieval villages. Explore this medieval region of Dordogne, where street lamps are one of the few concessions to modernity.
Experience firsthand the true character and traditions of Dordogne during this comprehensive, small group travel program featuring the beautiful countryside of southwestern France, the medieval village of Sarlat-la-Canéda within the Dordogne’s oak-forested Périgord Noir and the world’s largest collection of magnificent prehistoric art. Enjoy an enriching travel experience like no other and an excellent value, including all accommodations, specially designed excursions and most meals. Interact with local people and become immersed in the rhythm of daily life in Dordogne; explore the history and culture, art, language and cuisine; and unpack just once! This popular program is one of the Village Life® series, a comprehensive and 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, a quintessential provincial French village.
♦ Immerse yourself in a carefully planned, balanced itinerary of included guided historical and cultural excursions and time on your own to discover and observe the heart and soul of medieval Sarlat and experience daily village life.
♦ Engage Dordognais (local residents) during the Village Forum® where they will share candid perspectives on contemporary daily life in a medieval village.
♦ Peruse Sarlat-la-Canéda’s traditional, twice-weekly, outdoor market a short walk from your hotel.
♦ Sample the traditional cuisine of France’s Aquitaine region during specially arranged meals and a wine and local cheese tasting in an épicerie gourmet.
♦ Explore the UNESCO World Heritage site of Cap-Blanc, where prehistoric man lived, and the cave friezes of Lascaux II.
♦ See the world’s premier collection of paleolithic engravings and sculpture at The National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac.
♦ Enjoy a private cruise in an authentic 19th-century gabare (barge) and admire the historic châteaux and villages along the 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 preserving the medieval architecture in Sarlat-la-Canéda.
♦ Learn key phrases in la langue française (the French language) to make your interactions with local residents all the more enjoyable.

Sail 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.
**ITINERARY**

**Day**  
◆ **PRE-PROGRAM BORDEAUX® OPTION**  
1 Depart the U.S.  
2 **BORDEAUX, FRANCE/SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA**  
   Transfer to Sarlat.  
   Check into **PLAZA MADELEINE HOTEL**.  
3 **SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA**  
   ◆ Walking tour of Sarlat.  
   **CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:**  
   ◆ Afternoon at leisure to peruse the village market of Sarlat.  
4 **ROCAMADOUR/SOUILAC**  
   ◆ Tour of Rocamadour.  
   ◆ Visit to Souillac.  
5 **LES EYZIES-DE-TAYAC/CAP-BLANC**  
   ◆ Visit to the Jardins d'Eyrignac.  
   **CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:**  
   ◆ View cave friezes of Cap-Blanc.  
   ◆ Sarlat **VILLAGE FORUM®**.  
6 **LASCAUX II/ST-AMAND-DE-COLY**  
   ◆ Visit to St-Amand-de-Coly.  
   **CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:**  
   ◆ View prehistoric cave art of Lascaux II.  
   ◆ Lecture on the preservation of 17th-century architecture in Sarlat.  
   ◆ Sample local wines and cheeses.  
7 **ROUFFIGNAC/LA MADELEINE®**  
   ◆ Tour of prehistoric Rouffignac cave.  
   ◆ Excursion to a prehistoric troglodyte village.  
   **CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS:**  
   ◆ Morning at leisure in Sarlat market.  
   ◆ Evening folk music presentation.  
8 **BEYNAC/DOMME**  
   ◆ Tour of Château de Beynac.  
   ◆ Walking tour of historic Domme.  
   **CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:**  
   ◆ Cruise in a typical gabare on the bucolic Dordogne River.  
9 **SARLAT-LA-CANÉDA/BORDEAUX**  
   Return to the U.S.

**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 is 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 ENRICHMENT:** During the exclusive **VILLAGE FORUM®, Dordognais** will discuss contemporary life in the Dordogne.  
**CULTURAL ENRICHMENT:** Attend the private, specially arranged presentation by a local expert on preserving medieval architecture in Sarlat.

*Part of the UNESCO World Heritage St. James’ Way pilgrimage route, Rocamadour has for centuries beckoned travelers to its lofty summit above a tributary of the Dordogne River.*
CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Enjoy a traditional 19th-century French folk music and dance performance.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Sample regional cheese and wine in a specialty épicerie.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Savor a specially arranged dinner in each of two authentic French bistros in Sarlat.

Rocamadour/Souillac
Rocamadour, a fortified 13th-century village and UNESCO World Heritage site, has one of the most dramatic settings of any village in the world, built on the face of a sheer 400-foot cliff. During the Middle Ages, pilgrims flocked here from across Europe to perform penance by ascending over 200 steps of 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 Church of 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.

Les Eyzies-de-Tayac
Les Eyzies is France’s capital of prehistoric humanity, where unprecedented fossils of Cro-Magnon man have been discovered. Approximately 35,000 years old, these fossils are some of the earliest known evidence of modern humans 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 ENRICHMENT: Guided tour of the National Museum of Prehistory.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT: Expert-led excursion to see Cap-Blanc’s prehistoric cave friezes.

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

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 (castle) 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, including one of the Last Supper and a Pietà.

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 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.
Included Features

In Sarlat-la-Canéda
◆ Seven nights’ comfortable accommodations in the PLAZA MADELEINE HÔTEL.
◆ Breakfast each morning, one lunch and one dinner in the hotel.
◆ Two dinners, each in a specially selected traditional French bistro featuring table d’hôte menus of French country cuisine 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 Rocamadour, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and the magnificent Romanesque sculptures in Souillac’s Church of Sainte-Marie, including lunch.
◆ Visit to the lush, impeccably maintained Jardins d’Eyrignac.
◆ Excursion to Rouffignac Cave, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
◆ Visit to the prehistoric troglodyte village of La Madeleine and the medieval village and fortified church of St-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
◆ Excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage site of L’Abri du Cap-Blanc and to the prehistoric cave art of Lascaux II.
◆ Tour of the National Museum of Prehistory in Les Eyzies-de-Tayac.
◆ Specially arranged village 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.
◆ Wine and cheese tasting at a local 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.
◆ 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.
Prehistoric Art

Dordogne has the greatest concentration of prehistoric sites anywhere in the world. The region’s limestone caves and rocky overhangs provided Ice Age man not only with shelter, but with a vast canvas for his extraordinary rock 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, Lascaux II, an exact and stunning replica, has been created. In fact, it gives a truer representation of the exuberant colors that have faded in Lascaux itself.

The authentic Rouffignac Cave offers up-close views of the deft drawings of extinct animals covering the five-mile labyrinth of cavern walls, including the famous and impressive 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 exhibits at 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 prehistoric painters in Lascaux II.
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.

**LAND TARIFF**

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<th>Per person, based on double occupancy</th>
<th>Early Booking Price through April 6, 2015</th>
<th>Regular Price after April 6, 2015</th>
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<td>◆ Singles are available upon request for an additional $700.</td>
<td>$3395</td>
<td>$3695</td>
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<td>◆ Taxes are an additional $295 and are subject to change.</td>
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**VILLAGE LIFE IN DORDOGNE RESERVATION FORM**

Send to: 2015 Village Life in Dordogne
The George Washington Alumni Association
c/o Thomas P. Gohagan & Company
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.

Program reservations require a deposit of $600 per person and $200 per person Bordeaux Pre-Program. 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.

I/We want you to book my/our air from ____________________________ to and from Bordeaux, France, at additional cost to be advised.‡

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

- Visa
- MasterCard

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

Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s)

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by June 26, 2015.

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

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

Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.

Signature as it appears on credit card

‡Final payments are required to be made by check or wire transfer by June 26, 2015.

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Cancellation penalties may apply. 

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

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring association/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, successors, assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, airlines, railways, motorcoaches, ships, hotels, restaurants, porters, guides, special interest tour operators, local transportation services, ground operators, insurance providers, other travel-related service providers, travel-related service providers, or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, or not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites or from other animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of, or access to, accommodations, transportation, or the breakdown or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. 

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are unable to participate in an activity, and without notice, Gohagan will replace your activity with a similar activity in the event the participant cancels, no “replacement” activity can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. 

In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any costs incurred or losses experienced and not specifically reimbursable by the required deposit, by the participant to it. Gohagan is not required to cancel any trip for any reason whatsoever; if so, its sole responsibility is to refund monies paid for a trip. 

Guests possessing special medical requirements or who are incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activity require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, in bed or wheelchair) may not hold a valid visa or travel with a companion who will be responsible therefor and is not required to compensate passengers under these circumstances. Gohagan may cancel a trip (or an option) for any reason, and, in such an instance, Gohagan shall have no responsibility, shall be liable for no loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. 

Ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change, and Gohagan reserves the right to change the itinerary, substitute hotels, activities or any other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself and other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and the Binding Arbitration Agreement. 

TRIP INSURANCE: Because our cancellation policies are strictly enforced, 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 for comprehensive coverage of such expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident, and damaged or lost luggage. 

**LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. Please contact your airline(s) for the most current baggage allowance policy. 

**AIRFARE:** Airfare is subject to change and availability and, depending on the fare basis, likely is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Gohagan. 

**DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS:** Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by April 6, 2015. In the event a “discounted” reservation must be cancelled, 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.