



SUGGESTED READING GUIDE

VILLAGE LIFE® IN DORDOGNE

Here is a selection of favorite, new, and hard-to-find books prepared for your journey. These books should be available at local public or university libraries, and most of them may be purchased and/or downloaded for e-readers through local and online bookstores.

MAPS & GUIDEBOOKS

Dordogne Map D24

by IGN

Centered on Perigueux, this French-made map covers the Dordogne at a scale of 1:200,000.

Eyewitness Guide Dordogne, Bordeaux & the Southwest Coast

by Eyewitness Guides

This outstanding guide to exploring southwest France features hundreds of color illustrations, local and regional maps and site diagrams.

Lonely Planet French Phrasebook

by Marie-Helene Girard, Anny Monet

This handy phrasebook focuses on pronunciation, basic grammar, and essential vocabulary for the traveler.

BY YOUR FACULTY LEADER

Theory of Remainders (A Novel)

by Scott Dominic Carpenter

Psychiatrist Philip Adler is divorced, alone, and gutted of passion. When a funeral draws him back to his ex-wife's homeland of France, the trip reunites him with a trauma he has struggled to forget: the brutal death of his teenage daughter fifteen years earlier. Prodded by his former brother-in-law and stirred by the unspent embers of his marriage, he embarks on a mission to resolve lingering questions about this past, hoping to heal himself along the way. The search leads to a disturbed man who may hold more answers than anyone expects—if only Philip can hear what he's trying to say.

Essays about life in France, to be published as a collection in spring of 2020:

“A Meer-Kin in Paris,” by Scott Dominic Carpenter, in *The Rumpus*:

<https://therumpus.net/2017/02/a-meer-kin-in-paris/>

“Squirrel Pie and the Golden Derrière,” by Scott Dominic Carpenter, in *Lowestoft Chronicle*:

<http://lowestoftchronicle.com/issues/issue37/scottdominiccarpenter/>

LITERATURE

Bruno, Chief of Police

by Martin Walker

Meet Benoît Courrèges, aka Bruno, a policeman in a small village in the Périgord region of France. He’s a former soldier who has embraced the pleasures and slow rhythms of country life. He has a gun but never wears it; he has the power to arrest but never uses it. But then the murder of an elderly North African who fought in the French army changes all that. Now Bruno must balance his beloved routines—living in his restored shepherd’s cottage, shopping at the local market, drinking wine, strolling the countryside—with a politically delicate investigation. (This is the first in the series of “Bruno” mysteries – a fun and frolicsome introduction to life in the southwest.)

The Crowded Grave

by Martin Walker

Walker deliciously introduces the archaeology of the Perigord, local controversies over *foie gras*, and an international summit (not to mention a new love interest for Bruno, Chief of Police of idyllic St. Denis) in this savory fourth book in the "Mystery in the French Countryside" series. For more on the Dordogne and, of course, the books, see www.brunochiefofpolice.com.

When You Are Engulfed in Flames

by David Sedaris

This volume of hilarious essays—mostly about life in France (though not the southwest)—is a companion to Sedaris’s equally ribald *Me Talk Pretty One Day*. Anyone interested in what makes the French tick will love it.

Five Quarters of the Orange

by Joanne Harris

Harris (*Chocolat*) delivers a novel filled with secrets and unresolved tragedy. Returning to the Loire village of her childhood, Franboise finds that her mother has been labelled a traitor for the WWII German occupation. Hidden among her mother's recipes are clues that will lead her to the truth.

Fodor’s Southwest France: An Inspired Anthology and Travel Resource (The Collected Traveler)

by Barrie Kerper (Ed.)

This comprehensive collection of travel essays features the work of some of America’s most respected travel writers.

France, a Love Story: Women Write about the French Experience

by Camille Cusumano (Ed.)

Twenty-five (mostly American) women from Alice B. Toklas to Ruth M.F.K. Fischer write about their love of France and their wide ranges of experiences in the country.

The Lost Upland, Stories of Southwest France

by W.S. Merwin

Three richly evocative stories of life in a Dordogne village by the Pulitzer Prize-winning Merwin, one of our finest living poets. Originally published in 1992, the book is steeped in history, food, and personality.

ART & HISTORY

A Concise History of France

by Roger Price

From the Cambridge University Press series of national histories, this survey is a clear and up-to-date guide to French history from Charlemagne to Jacques Chirac.

A Traveller's History of France

by Robert Cole

This fast-moving survey covers the conquests of ancient Gaul through the heady days of revolution to modern times.

Cathedrals and Castles: Building in the Middle Ages

by Alain Erlande-Brandenburg

Photos, drawings, and details of manuscripts tell the fascinating story of the development of medieval architecture, revealing how Gothic cathedrals, great castles, bridges, houses, and city walls were built.

F is for France: A Curious Cabinet of French Wonders

by Piu Eatwell

An alphabetized catalogue of quirky French culture and history tidbits.

France in the New Century: Portrait of a Changing Society

by John Ardagh

Ardagh provides an authoritative, informative account of the cultural underpinnings of modern French society, examining its increasingly centrifugal nature in the process.

Prehistoric Art in Europe

by N.K. Sanders

An overview of European prehistoric art, well-illustrated with black-and-white photos, line drawings, and maps. This book places the cave art in southwestern France within the larger context of prehistoric art.

Stepping Stones, A Journey through the Ice Age Caves of the Dordogne

by Christine Desdemaines-Hugon

This first work by Desdemaines-Hugon (a scholar of the art and artists of the Dordogne region who will be joining us for several excursions) provides an intimate look at the artistry of

Dordogne's Paleolithic paintings and drawings, and conveys the experience of coming face-to-face with Font de Gaume, Combarelles, Rouffignac, Cap Blanc, and Bernifal.

The Road from the Past, Traveling through History in France

by Ina Caro

Time travel through France by way of its finest castles, chateaux, cathedrals, and monasteries. This unusual travelogue is an invaluable companion for traveling in Paris, southern France, the Dordogne, and the Loire Valley, combining personal observation with large doses of well-presented history.

FOOD & WINE

Adventures on the Wine Route, A Wine Buyer's Tour of France

by Kermit Lynch

A delightful and warmly anecdotal book highly recommended for anyone touring the wine regions of France. Lynch brings the domains and appellations of French wine to full-blown life and his portraits of the grand personalities who make the wine are priceless.

Life and Food in the Dordogne

by James Bentley

A noted chef and food writer, Bentley shares his experiences of the everyday life and cuisine of one of his favorite corners of France.

Families of the Vine, Seasons among the Winemakers of Southwest France

by Michael S. Sanders

Excellent insight into wine and winemaking.

The Food of France

by Waverly Root

An evocative and beautifully written survey of French food. First published in 1958 and revised in the mid-1970s, the book covers the important regions of French cuisine by dividing them into domains of Butter (northern France), Fat (Alsace), and Oil (the south).

WEBSITES

<https://www.pri.org/stories/2012-06-14/was-european-cave-art-earliest-form-cinema>

<http://www.lascaux-dordogne.com/en/lascaux-cave>