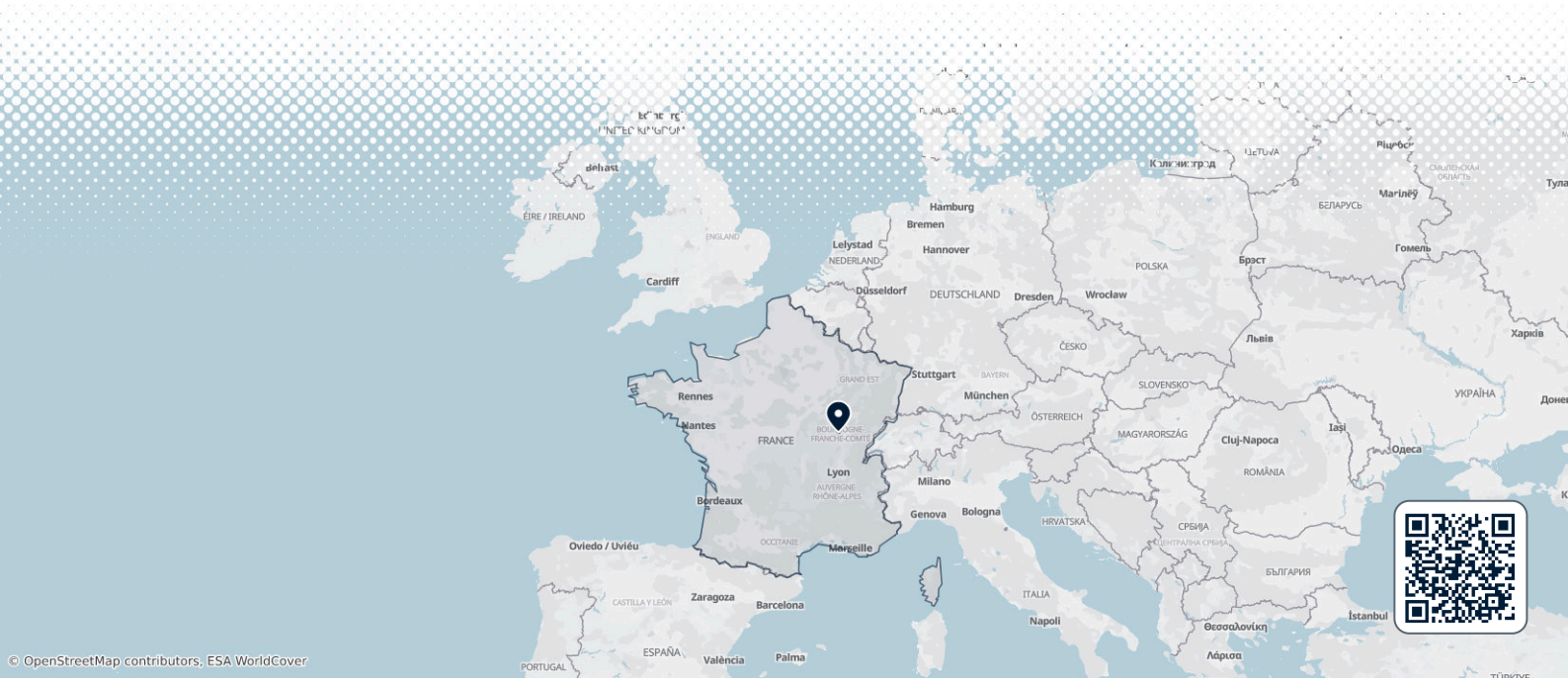


Beaune

Burgundy · France

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Beaune is the wine capital of Burgundy. It is a small walled town of about 20,000 people, and it sits at the centre of the Côte de Beaune vineyards. Many of the big wine merchants of the region have their cellars here.

The old town is compact and easy to walk. It has medieval ramparts, a Romanesque church and the famous Hospices de Beaune with its colourful tile roof. The vineyards around the town are part of the UNESCO World Heritage site "Climats, terroirs of Burgundy". Beaune suits a weekend of walking, tasting wine and short trips to the nearby wine villages.

When to visit

Late spring to early autumn is the best time. Days are warm, terraces are open and the vines are green. September is a good month because the grape harvest usually starts then. In July the town hosts a baroque opera festival.

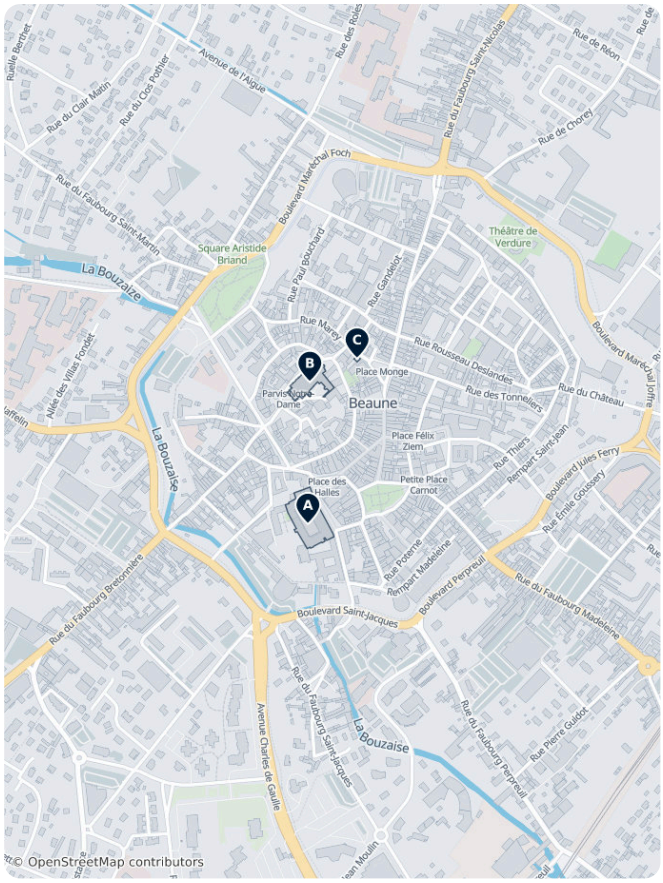
The third weekend of November is the busiest of the year. The Hospices de Beaune charity wine auction takes place on the Sunday, and hotels fill up early, so book well ahead. Winter is cold and grey, but the town is quiet.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 12° Feels like 1°	-1° / -7°	12 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	8° / 14° Feels like 3°	0° / -7°	Dry air
March	Fair Fair for cycling	12° / 18° Feels like 8°	2° / -4°	Dry air
April	Good Good for cycling	16° / 22° Feels like 12°	5° / -1°	Dry air
May	Good Good for sightseeing	20° / 26°	9° / 4°	14 rainy days · Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 31°	13° / 8°	12 rainy days
July	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 33°	15° / 10°	12 rainy days
August	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 34°	15° / 10°	Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 29°	11° / 6°	Dry air
October	Good Good for cycling	17° / 24°	8° / 1°	12 rainy days · Dry air
November	Fair Fair for cycling	10° / 17° Feels like 6°	3° / -3°	13 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 12° Feels like 2°	0° / -6°	13 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: June, July, August, September

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Hospices de Beaune is a charitable hospital founded in 1443 by *Nicolas Rolin* and his wife *Guigone de Salins*. It worked as a hospital until 1971 and is now a museum. The glazed tile roof, the courtyard and the great Room of the Poor are the highlights. A large altarpiece by *Rogier van der Weyden* is also on show. The site is open every day of the year.
- B Basilique Notre-Dame is a Romanesque church from the 12th century. Inside are 15th-century tapestries of the Life of the Virgin, a large organ and old wall paintings. The tapestries can only be seen at set times, so ask the tourist office.
- C Beffroi de Beaune is a clock tower from the 13th and 14th centuries in the old town centre. It is a good landmark for finding your way.
- **The ramparts** were built between the 13th and 15th centuries and are well preserved. A walk around them takes 1 to 2 hours. Porte Saint-Nicolas is one of the old gates.
- **Cité des Climats et vins de Bourgogne** opened in 2023 on the south side of town. It explains the Burgundy vineyards and their "climats", and it has tastings and a viewing platform. An electric shuttle runs from the railway station.
- **Caves Patriarche** are cellars below a former convent. They have about 5 km of galleries and nearly 3 million bottles. Tastings are possible, and you can book ahead.
- **Moutarderie Fallot** is a family mustard maker in Beaune. You can take a factory tour and taste mustard at its bar.

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What to experience

- **Taste wine in a cellar**: Many merchants have cellars in the old town. Some are very old and run under the streets. Ask for a *dégustation* and book ahead in high season.
- **Walk the ramparts**: The path around the old walls has about 17 stops with information panels. It is a quiet way to see the town in an hour or two.
- **Cycle the vineyards**: Follow the Voie des Vignes between the vines to wine villages such as Pommard. Do not drink and ride.
- **Hospices de Beaune wine auction**: A famous charity auction takes place on the third Sunday of November. It has been held since 1859, and the town holds events all weekend.
- **Baroque opera festival**: The Beaune International Baroque Opera Festival runs through July. It has been held since 1983, and concerts take place in the Hospices and the collegiate church.
- **Taste mustard**: At Moutarderie Fallot, you can try the mustards at a tasting bar and see how they are made.

Day trips

The best day trips go along the Route des Grands Crus, which links the famous wine villages. Most are close to Beaune.

- **Pommard**: about 5 km south-west. A well-known village for red wine, with small family cellars.
- **Aloxe-Corton**: about 5 km north. A pretty village below the Corton hill, known for red and white Grand Cru wines.
- **Savigny-lès-Beaune**: about 7 km north-west. A quiet wine village with a castle.
- **Meursault**: about 8 km south-west. Known for its white wines, and a good place for a tasting.
- Château de La Rochepot is about 15 km west. It is a hill-top castle with a colourful glazed tile roof, rebuilt in the 15th century.
- **Nuits-Saint-Georges**: about 20 km north. A small wine town that is good for a tasting stop.
- Château de Clos-Vougeot is about 25 km north. It is a Cistercian wine estate with a Renaissance manor in the middle of a walled vineyard.
- Ⓐ Dijon is about 20 min north by train. It has a ducal palace, museums and a large old town.



Cycle routes through the vineyards link many of these villages.

Where to explore

More places to visit around Beaune:

- Dijon is the capital of Burgundy, 20 min north by train.
- Burgundy is the wider region, with abbeys, canals and small medieval towns.
- Chablis is the northern wine area of Burgundy, known for white wine.
- Lyon is the large city south of Burgundy, about 1 hour 30 min by train.

Getting there

- **By train**: Beaune station is on the main line between Dijon and Lyon. Dijon is about 20 min away, Lyon about 1 hour 30 min and Paris about 2 hours 30 min. The station is a short walk or taxi ride from the old town. Book on SNCF Connect.
- **By air**: Beaune has no commercial airport. Most visitors fly to Paris or Lyon and continue by train or car.
- **By car**: The A6 motorway passes next to the town. Dijon is about 47 km north, Lyon about 157 km south and Paris about 312 km north-west.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The old town is small, and the main sights are within about 10 min of each other. Many streets in the centre are quiet or closed to cars.
- **Cycling**: The land is flat to gently hilly. A signed cycle route called the Voie des Vignes leads through the vineyards from Beaune. Ask the Beaune tourist office about bike hire and routes.
- **Shuttle**: An electric shuttle runs from the railway station to the Cité des Climats et vins de Bourgogne.
- **Taxi**: Taxis are useful for visits to cellars outside the town, especially after a tasting.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The old town is compact and the main sights are close together.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

The land is flat to gently hilly, and a signed cycle route leads through the vineyards.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not for the town itself. The old centre is small and easy to walk. A car is useful for the wine villages and for the castles, but never drive after tasting wine.
- **Parking**: There are car parks around the edge of the old town. The centre has narrow streets and little parking.
- **Ring road**: A ring road runs around the old walls. It is the easiest way to reach the car parks.

Food & drink

Beaune is a good place to eat Burgundy dishes. Look for snails with garlic butter (*escargots*), beef stewed in red wine (*bœuf bourguignon*) and eggs poached in red wine sauce (*œufs en meurette*). Époisses is the strong local cheese, and Dijon mustard goes with many dishes. The Côte de Beaune is known for red wines from Pommard and Volnay and for white wines from Meursault. Many restaurants are small and close one or two days a week, so check opening days.

A large food market is held on Saturday in the halls opposite the Hôtel-Dieu, and a smaller one on Wednesday. It is a good place to buy cheese, bread and picnic food. For wine, ask the staff in a cellar or wine bar to suggest a few glasses, because the labels name villages and vineyards and can be hard to read.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Croissant
Buttery, flaky laminated pastry and a classic French breakfast staple.

LUNCH

Ratatouille
A Provençal stewed vegetable dish of eggplant, zucchini, peppers, and tomatoes.

DINNER

Coq au Vin
Chicken braised slowly in red wine with mushrooms, onions, and lardons.

Beef Bourguignon · Bœuf Bourguignon
Beef stewed in red Burgundy wine with carrots, onions, and mushrooms.

Escargot · Escargots de Bourgogne
Snails cooked in garlic and parsley butter, a classic starter.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Baguette
Long, crusty white bread loaf bought fresh daily from the local boulangerie.

Cheese · Fromage
France produces hundreds of cheese varieties, often served as a course before dessert.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Crepes · Crêpes
Thin pancakes served sweet with sugar or jam, or savory as galettes.

Macarons
Delicate almond meringue sandwich cookies in a range of flavors and colors.

DRINKS

Wine · Vin
France's wine regions, including Bordeaux, Burgundy, and Champagne, are among the world's most renowned.

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Safety & health

Beaune is a safe town for visitors. The main risk is petty theft.

- Watch your bags in busy places, such as the market and the station.
- Keep valuables out of sight when you leave a car parked.
- Plan a taxi or a designated driver if you taste wine in the villages.
- Tap water is safe to drink.

History

Beaune began as a Roman fort in the 1st century. In the Middle Ages it was an important town of the Dukes of Burgundy. In 1203 Duke *Eudes III* gave the town a charter that made it self-governing. The ramparts date from the 13th to 15th centuries.

In 1443 *Nicolas Rolin*, chancellor of the Duke of Burgundy, and his wife *Guigone de Salins* founded the Hospices de Beaune to care for the poor. Gifts of vineyards over the centuries paid for the hospital, and the estate still owns about 60 hectares of vines. The yearly wine auction raises money for charity.

Burgundy became part of France in 1477. Beaune stayed the centre of the Burgundy wine trade, and its merchants still sell wine around the world. UNESCO listed the vineyards and their climats in 2015.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for France at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



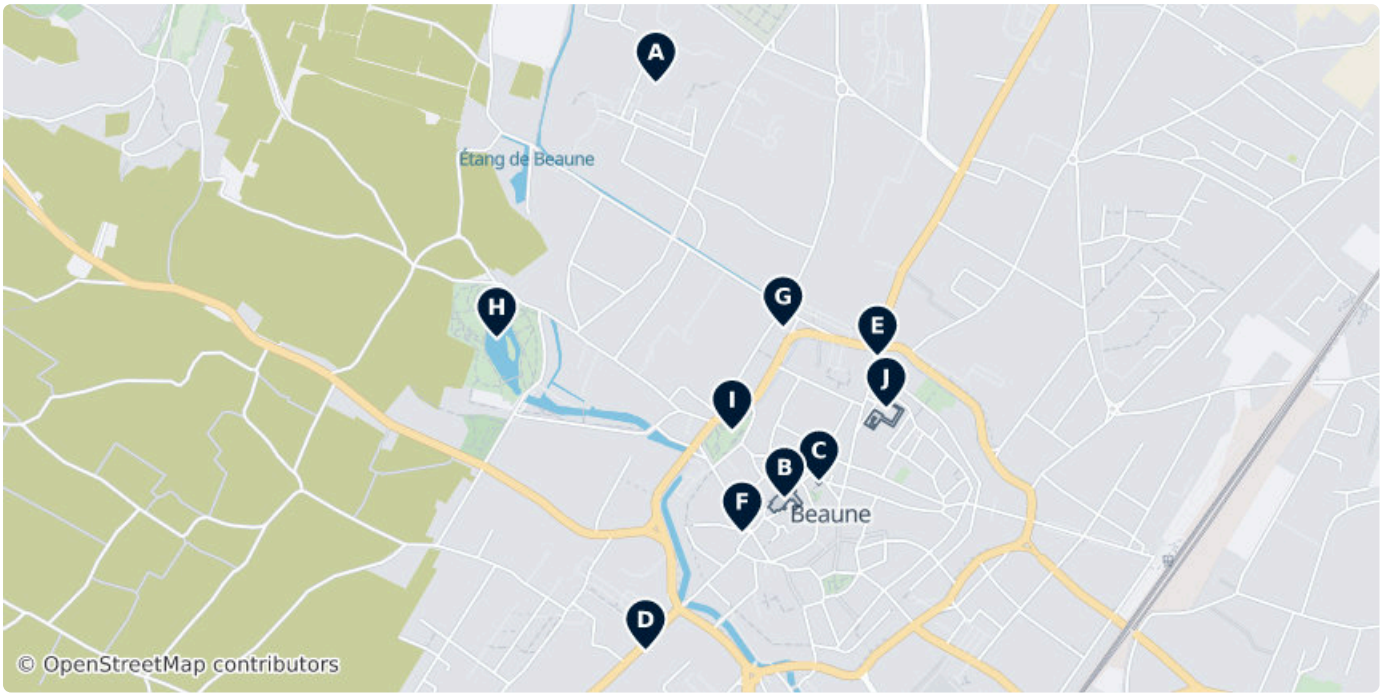
Type C / Type E
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
French

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Beaune Essentials

Beaune serves as the historic center of the Burgundy wine region, defined by its well-preserved medieval core and 15th-century fortifications. This collection highlights the 1443-founded Hospices de Beaune with its iconic polychrome roofs, the 13th-century clock tower, and the Romanesque-Gothic Basilica of Notre-Dame. The selection also covers the city's culinary and viticultural traditions, including the last independent family-run mustard mill and historic wine cellars housed in former mansions and bastions.



A Hospices de Beaune

Founded in 1443 as a hospital for the poor, this landmark features Flamboyant Gothic architecture and multi-colored glazed tile roofs. It houses the polyptych of The Last Judgment by Rogier van der Weyden and hosts a world-famous annual wine auction.

21200 Beaune, France (47.03303, 4.83262)

hospices-de-beaune.com/index.php, +33 3 80 24 44 44



B Basilique Notre-Dame

A 12th-century Romanesque collegiate church inspired by the architecture of Cluny. It contains a significant collection of 15th-century tapestries depicting the life of the Virgin Mary and a 12th-century wooden statue of the Virgin.

18 Rue Paul Laneyrie, Beaune 21200, France (47.02424, 4.83663)

Apr-Oct Mo–Sa	08:30–19:00
Apr-Oct Su	09:00–19:00
Nov-Mar Mo–Sa	08:30–18:00
Nov-Mar Su	09:00–18:00



C Tour de l'horloge de Beaune

A former 13th and 14th-century watchtower and clock tower located on Place Monge. It represents the town's medieval municipal power and is designated as a French historical monument.

22 Place Monge, Beaune 21200, France (47.02460, 4.83769)

D Moutarderie Fallot

Established in 1840, this is the last independent, family-owned mustard mill in Burgundy. The site uses traditional stone-grinding methods and offers museum tours detailing the history and production of authentic Dijon mustard.

Rue du Faubourg Bretonnière, 21200 Beaune, France (47.02102, 4.83230)

fallot.com/enjoy-fallot, +33 3 80 22 10 10

E Porte Saint-Nicolas

An 18th-century stone gateway marking the northern entrance to the historic center. It stands near the ramparts and was originally part of the city's extensive defensive fortifications.

64 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Nicolas, Beaune 21200, France (47.02724, 4.83951)

F Maison du Colombier

A 16th-century medieval-style mansion featuring a distinctive octagonal corner tower with a tiled roof and a stone watchtower. It currently operates as a wine bar and historic residence.

(47.02351, 4.83531)

G Bouchard Ainé & Fils

A historic wine house founded in 1750, located in the 18th-century Hôtel du Conseiller du Roy. It offers cellar tours and tastings focusing on the terroir of Burgundy.

(47.02786, 4.83657)

H Parc de la Bouzaize

A five-hectare English-style landscape park created in the 19th century around the source of the Bouzaize River. It features a lake, animal enclosures, and a traditional bandstand.

(47.02763, 4.82768)

I Bastion Saint-Martin

Part of the 15th-century defensive walls that encircle the town. These massive stone fortifications illustrate Beaune's military history and provide elevated walking paths around the historic center.

(47.02567, 4.83499)

J Hôtel de ville

Housed in a former 18th-century Ursuline convent, the town hall features classical architecture and serves as the city's administrative center near the northern ramparts.

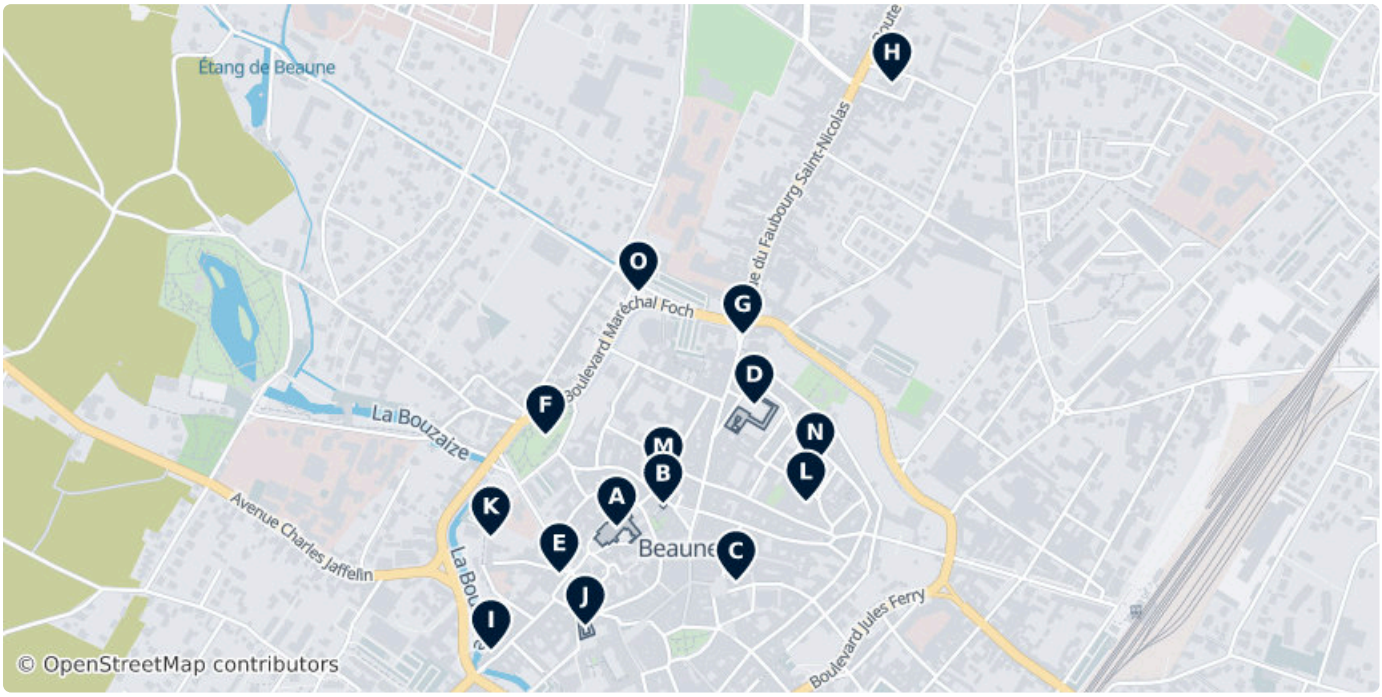
2 Rue de l'Hôtel de Ville, Beaune 21200, France
(47.02615, 4.83978)

Mo	09:00–12:30, 14:00–17:30
Tu	08:30–12:30, 14:00–17:30
We	09:00–12:30, 14:00–17:30
Th	08:30–12:30, 14:00–17:30
Fr	09:00–12:30, 14:00–17:30

beaune.fr, +33380245678

Beaune Historic Heritage

Beyond its world-famous vineyards, Beaune preserves a dense concentration of medieval and Renaissance architecture. This collection traces the town's history through its 12th-century Romanesque basilica, the 13th-century communal clock tower, and the extensive network of defensive ramparts and bastions. The list also includes grand 16th-century manor houses and former monastic buildings that illustrate Beaune’s long-standing role as a center of religious and political power in the Duchy of Burgundy.





A Basilique Notre-Dame

12th-century Romanesque collegiate church inspired by the Cluniac style, housing a rare set of 15th-century silk and wool tapestries depicting the life of the Virgin Mary.

18 Rue Paul Laneyrie, Beaune 21200, France (47.02424, 4.83663)

Apr-Oct Mo–Sa	08:30–19:00
Apr-Oct Su	09:00–19:00
Nov-Mar Mo–Sa	08:30–18:00
Nov-Mar Su	09:00–18:00



B Tour de l'horloge de Beaune

A 13th and 14th-century clock tower on Place Monge that historically served as the town’s watchtower and a symbol of communal freedoms.

22 Place Monge, Beaune 21200, France (47.02460, 4.83769)



C Ancien Carmel de Beaune

A 17th-century former Carmelite convent building that forms part of the town's rich religious architectural heritage.

Rue du Tribunal, 21200 Beaune, France (47.02339, 4.83936)

D Hôtel de ville

The town hall is housed in the former 17th-century Ursuline convent, featuring classic French monastic architecture adapted for administrative use.

2 Rue de l'Hôtel de Ville, Beaune 21200, France (47.02615, 4.83978)

Mo	09:00–12:30, 14:00–17:30
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Fr	09:00–12:30, 14:00–17:30

beaune.fr, +33380245678

E Maison du Colombier

16th-century Renaissance manor house notable for its octagonal tower, pepper-pot turret, and traditional Burgundian tile roofing.

(47.02351, 4.83531)

F Bastion Saint-Martin

A significant defensive structure within the town's circuit of walls, representing the evolution of military fortifications in the 16th century.

(47.02567, 4.83499)

G Porte Saint-Nicolas

An 18th-century triumphal arch that replaced a medieval gate, serving as a formal entrance to the historic center from the north.

64 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Nicolas, Beaune 21200, France (47.02724, 4.83951)

H Église Saint-Nicolas

A 12th-century church dedicated to the patron saint of travelers and wine merchants, featuring a Romanesque portal and a large 15th-century bell tower.

8T Rue de l'Église Saint-Nicolas, Beaune 21200, France (47.03118, 4.84294)

I Hôtel Moyne-Blandin

An 18th-century private mansion and regional heritage site showcasing the aristocratic residential architecture of the period.

(47.02231, 4.83375)

J Hôtel de Saulx

A historic private residence featuring traditional Burgundian architectural details, located in the heart of the old town.

(47.02269, 4.83591)

K Rempart des Dames

A well-preserved section of the medieval city walls, currently serving as an elevated pedestrian promenade surrounding the historic center.

(47.02409, 4.83374)

L Maison de Négoce Champy

The historic headquarters of Burgundy's oldest wine house, founded in 1720, situated in a building recognized for its regional heritage value.

(47.02463, 4.84096)

M Immeuble dépendant de l'ancien monastère des Chartreux

A historic building formerly associated with the Carthusian monastery, illustrating the town's medieval ecclesiastical history.

(47.02502, 4.83770)

N Ancienne chapelle des Jacobins

The former chapel of the Dominican order, known in France as Jacobins, dating back to the town's medieval expansion.

23B Rue Eugène Spuller, Beaune 21200, France
(47.02524, 4.84118)

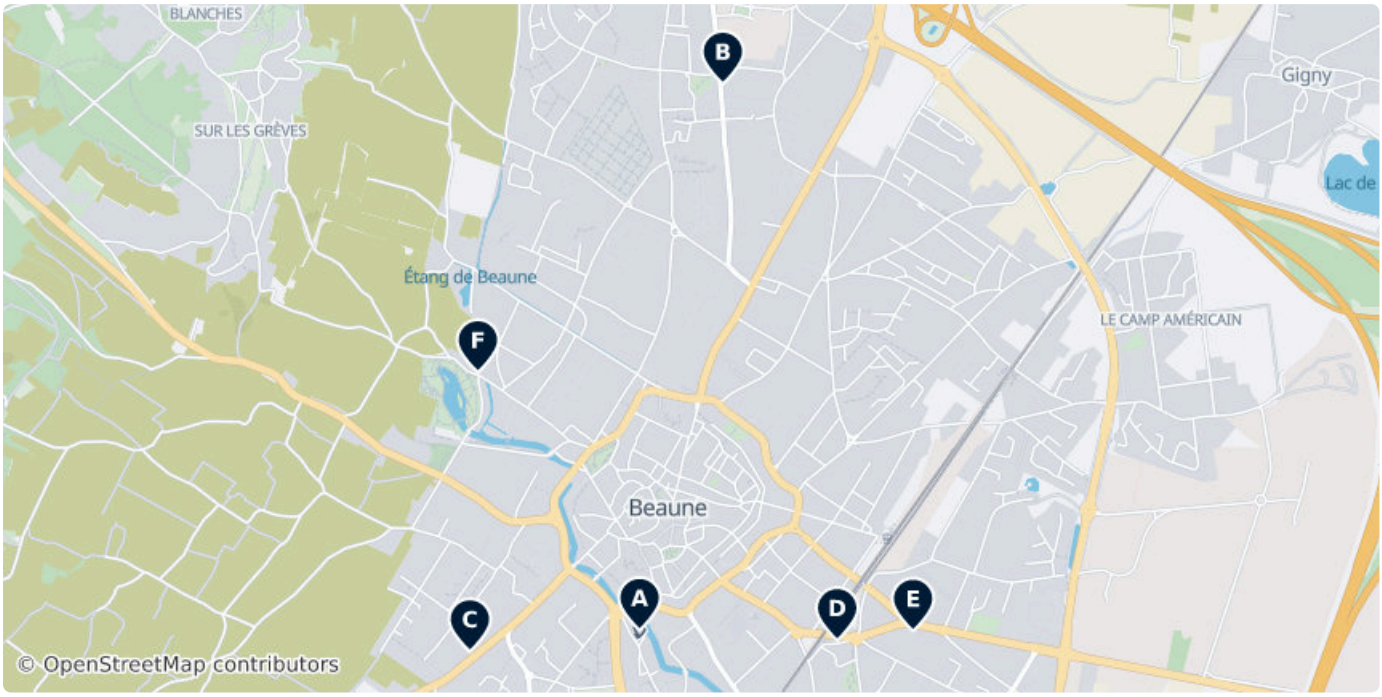
O Monument aux Morts

A commemorative monument dedicated to the citizens of Beaune who lost their lives in the world wars of the 20th century.

(47.02791, 4.83713)

Beaune Wine Highlights

Beaune serves as the historic heart of Burgundy's viticulture, home to both world-renowned négociant houses and independent family estates. This selection features traditional cellars offering tastings of Premier Cru and regional appellations. Highlights include Maison Louis Jadot, established in 1859, and Domaine Emmanuel Giboulot, a pioneer in biodynamic farming. These sites provide insight into various production methods, from centuries-old aging techniques in vaulted stone cellars to modern organic practices across the Côte de Beaune.



A Domaine Debray

Family-run winery specializing in small-batch production from the Côte de Beaune and Côte de Nuits.

(47.01995, 4.83671)

domaine-debray.fr

B Louis Jadot

Founded in 1859, this major négociant house is based in the historic Couvent des Jacobins and manages over 200 hectares of vineyards.

(47.03775, 4.84069)

C ROBERT LABOUREAU

Traditional Burgundy wine merchant and producer focusing on regional appellations.

(47.01925, 4.82859)

D Domaine Emannuel Giboulot

Pioneering estate in organic and biodynamic viticulture, producing wines without synthetic chemicals since 1985.

(47.01961, 4.84616)

E Comte de Chapelle

Historic estate producing traditional Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from the Côte de Beaune region.

(47.01992, 4.84980)

F Domaine Guyot

Family estate established in 1951, offering cellar visits and tastings of Beaune Premier Cru and regional AOC wines.

(47.02835, 4.82897)

domaine-baptiste-guyot.fr, +33 3 80 22 46 55

DATA SOURCES

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