



FOREWORD RETREATS
PRESENTS
A WRITING RETREAT WITH:

Susan Rich

Taking Flight:
Travel Poetry (& Memoir)
with Humans and Birds

Bordeaux,

France



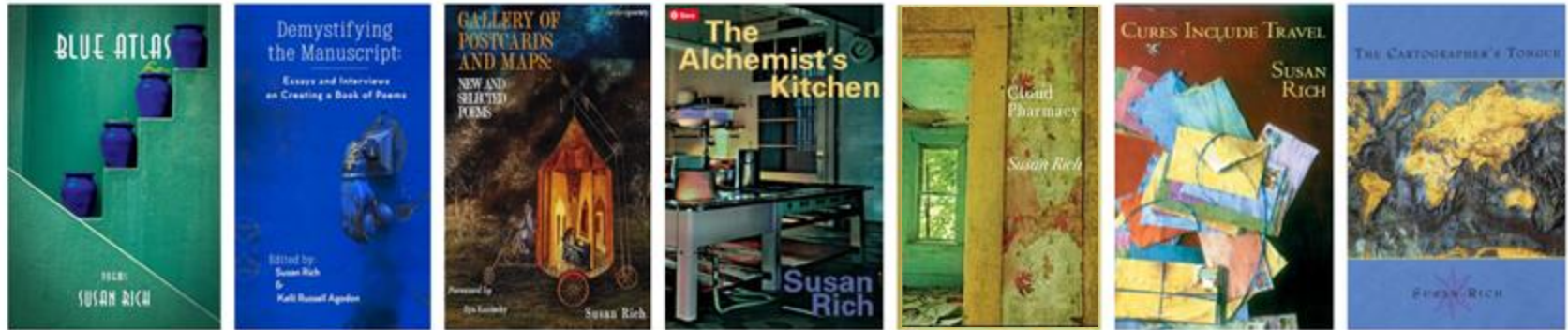
May 24 - 30,

2026



AWARD-WINNING POET AND ESSAYIST SUSAN RICH will take you deep into the world of birds and travel, through poetry. As the editor of *Birdbrains: A Lyrical Guide to Washington State Birds* and a long-time scholar of Elizabeth Bishop's work, she will offer poems, essays, and exceptional generative prompts to poets & writers at every level, even the shyest of fledgling poets.

Susan has lived and worked on four continents as is evident from her first book *The Cartographer's Tongue/Poems of the World*, which won the PEN USA Award to her most recent book of poems, *Blue Atlas*. She is the author of six collections of poetry and editor/co-editor of three anthologies including *Demystifying the Manuscript: How to Create a Book of Poems* with Kelli Russell Agodon.



Share a château with eight other writers
for a week of creative splendor
in the Bordeaux vineyards.

Join Susan Rich in a landscape that allows your heart to soar and your pen to fly. Take in the vineyards and the rolling hills beyond.

We will visit the bird sanctuary down the road, and yes, the birds will all advance your sense of wonderment---and your writing.

This retreat will let you *be the woman you always meant to be*, as the poet Linda Pastan writes in her stunning travel poem, *In Another Country*. Now that woman can be you as you explore the countryside, sun by the pool, birdwatch, and more.

Each student will receive a one-hour private consultation with Susan in addition to fifteen hours of the workshop, scheduled activities and local transportation.



WE SUGGEST FLYING TO BORDEAUX

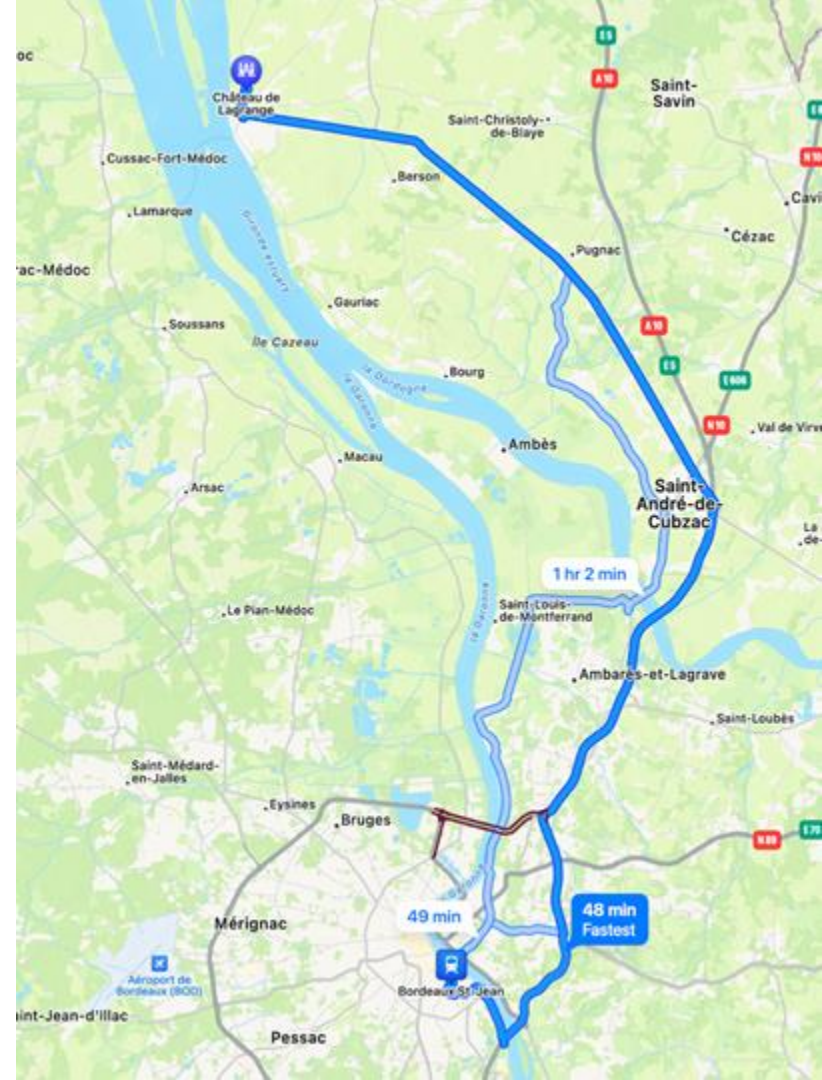
a day or two in advance to adjust to French time. Bordeaux itself is a beautiful walkable city with gorgeous architecture, a cathedral, a mirror of water, a wine museum, and a landmark called the Grosse Cloche—the Big Bell. You can fly directly to Bordeaux or take the high-speed train from Paris. Pack layers and comfortable shoes, along with your laptop.

Pickup:

Sunday, May 24 at 4 pm

Bordeaux-Saint-Jean train station

and you will be whisked to...



*...this amazing château
in the heart of the*

*Bordeaux
wine country.*



On Sunday, we
welcome you with
an apéro dînatoire –
a meal featuring
a variety of
local specialities.



To maximize your
writing time, breakfasts
and our chef-prepared
lunches are grab and go.
In the evening, our chef
prepares exquisite
sit-down dinners.

ACTIVITIES ON THE RETREAT

include a guided stroll through the château's vineyard and a private tasting of its wines. On Wednesday, we will tour the Terre d'Oiseaux, a regional bird sanctuary. After exploring the sanctuary, we will visit the colorful farmer's market on the Allée des Soupirs – the Alley of Sighs – and lunch at a restaurant.

This beauty is the Common Kingfisher found in Bordeaux.





The château features eleven bedrooms, each with a private, full bathroom.





IN YOUR SPARE TIME, enjoy a dip in the pool, hone your writing in cozy corners of the estate, or curl up with a great book in one of the reading rooms.



What's included ?

- 6 nights in an ensuite private room
- freshly prepared French meals
- 15 hours of workshop instruction
- one-hour private critique
- scheduled dining out & activities
- local transportation
- on-site concierge services

Please note that alcohol is not included

THE COST:

\$6150 for a private room

\$5550 /each for a shared-room



— [CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#) —

