

Chenonceau

Day 1 • Depart
We board our plane this morning for our transatlantic flight to France.

Day 2 • Normandy
Upon arrival at the Charles DeGaulle International Airport we meet our coach and depart for Normandy. En route we stop at Giverny to visit Monet's House and Gardens. We stroll through the gardens and see the lily pond, the arched Japanese Bridge and many other subjects that inspired the paintings of this Impressionist master. Then we continue on to the Normandy area. Additional sightseeing today is dependent on our flight schedule.

Day 3 • Normandy
Our guided tour today traces the story of D-Day, with stops at the Caen Peace Memorial, Arromanches ("Mulberry" Harbor), the German shore battery and observation post at Longues-sur-Mer, the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach, and Point-du-Hoc where Rangers scaled the vertical cliffs. We then drive to Bayeux, a medieval town that escaped wartime destruction. Here we visit the Tapestry Museum containing the 220-foot long tapestry dating from the 11th century that recounts the Norman invasion of England in 1066.

Day 4 • Tours, Loire Valley
We travel across Lower Normandy to visit one of the most enchanting sights in France, the fortified Benedictine Abbey of Mont-St.-Michel. We then make a stop at another fortified island off the coast of Brittany, St. Malo. Our destination today is Tours in the Loire Valley, the heart of "Chateau Country."

Day 5 • Paris
On our drive to Paris today we pass through France's Chateau Region. We take a guided tour of Chenonceau, one of the most elegant of these magnificent chateaux, built as pleasure palaces and summer retreats by French nobility. As we continue to Paris, the "City of Lights," we visit the Palace of Versailles. What started as a small hunting lodge is now a grand estate and magnificent royal palace. We stroll through the Queen's and King's apartments, the Halls of Peace, Mirrors and War, and the English and French gardens and park.

Day 6 • Paris
Today we enjoy a locally guided tour of France's beautiful capital. We see the sights for which Paris is famous, including the Champs Elysées, Arc de Triomphe, Concorde Square, Montmartre Hill, Cathedral of Notre Dame de Paris, and, of course, the Eiffel Tower. The afternoon is open for individual interests and optional visits to world-famous museums such as the Louvre, Musée d'Orsay, or Centre Pompidou.

Day 7 • Avignon
This morning we transfer to the Gare de Lyon and board a high-speed TGV train. We travel south to the Provence region and the city of Avignon, a fascinating town enclosed by massive ramparts. We meet our coach and driver and take a guided tour of the Palais du Pape, a magnificent fortress and residence of the popes from

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Monet's House and Gardens

1309 to 1376, a period called the "Babylonian Captivity."

Day 8 • Avignon
After some additional time to explore Avignon, we drive to Arles, a charming old Roman town where Van Gogh lived in 1888-89. Here we take a city tour that includes the well-preserved Roman Amphitheater and the Constantine Palace with its extensive baths.

Day 9 • Nice
This morning we depart for Nice. Along the way we stop at Cannes, site of the international film festival. Nice, the capital of the Côte d'Azur and "Queen of the Riviera," is known for its museums, beaches, and vibrant atmosphere. A city guide takes us on a walking tour through the narrow winding streets of the old town.

Day 10 • Nice
On our final full day, we continue our exploration of the Riviera. We visit a world-renowned perfume factory in


Omaha Beach


Mont-Saint-Michel

Grasse. Then we drive to the village of Eze, perched on a rocky pinnacle high above the Mediterranean with magnificent views overlooking Monaco. Returning to Nice, we stroll along the Promenade des Anglais and marvel at the azure-blue Mediterranean.

Day 11 • Return
This morning we transfer to the Nice airport for our return flight to the U.S. We bid farewell to France but take with us memories of beautiful landscapes, fascinating cities, and a wealth of new friends. *Au revoir!*

THIS TOUR CAN BE CUSTOMIZED TO YOUR SPECIFICATIONS. PRICE VARIES ACCORDING TO SEASON, GROUP SIZE, AND CUSTOMIZATION.


Notre Dame

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