

Paris, City of Lights

Day One

Board your overnight flight to Paris!

Day Two

Arrive in Paris

Guided Tour of Paris

Discover the City of Lights during an informative three hour guided tour. Visits include the marvelous monuments of Paris, including **Pont-Neuf**, **Ile de la Cité**, the **Notre Dame Cathedral**, **La Bastille**, the **Arc de Triomphe**, **Champs Elysées**, **Chailot Palace**, the **Eiffel Tower**, **Les Invalides**, **Concorde Square**, **Madeleine**, **l'Opéra**, and the **Place des Pyramides**. Learn about the layout of Paris, its twenty arrondissements and the Métro system that is readily available for easy travel across the city.

Overnight in Paris

Day Three

Guided Tour of the Musee de Louvre

This tour provides the opportunity to see the famous work of Leonardo da Vinci, including the **Mona Lisa**, and other accomplished artists of the Renaissance and Reformation periods.

Visit to Charles de Gaulle Etoile

The highlight of this afternoon visit is unquestionably the **Arc de Triomphe** in all of its glory. Walking along the **Champs Elysees** afterwards you will encounter couture houses such as Chanel, Cartier, Yves St Laurent and Pierre Cardin.

Overnight in Paris

Day Four

Guided Tour of the Musee de Orsay

This converted railway station holds mainly French art dating from 1848 to 1915, including paintings, sculptures, furniture, and photography by such artists such as Monet, Manet, Degas, Renoir, Cezanne, Seurat, Gauguin and Van Gogh.

Visit to the Eiffel Tower

This most famous landmark of Paris is a marvel of modern engineering. Those feeling daring can take the elevator to the third level and look down over the Parisian landscape from a bird's eye view.

Visit to the Hôtel des Invalides

A short walk down the pleasant **Champ de Mars** will bring you to the Hôtel des Invalides, founded by Louis XIV in 1674 to house wounded veterans. Only a small number live there today, but the building is home to one of the world's foremost military museums which you will have the opportunity to explore.

Cruise on the River Seine

Enjoy a relaxing cruise along the **River Seine** on the famous **Bateaux Mouches** before taking the rest of the day to discover Paris at your own pace.

Overnight in Paris

Day Five

Visit to the Palace de Versailles

One of France's most celebrated landmarks awaits as you leave central Paris to experience the beautiful **Palace de Versailles**. This incredible 17th century palace and surrounding gardens were built when Versailles was a modest country village. Your tour will take you across these stunning and historically rich grounds, where you will also experience the **Grand Apartment**, **The Hall of Mirrors** and the **King and Queen's suites**.

Leisure Time in the Marais Quarter

Once a swamp, this area of Paris grew steadily in importance in the 14th century by virtue of its proximity to the Louvre. Charles V moved the French court here from Ile de la Cité around this time for its scenic view and proximity to the center of the city. It became fashionable for the rich to visit **Place des Vosges**, often referred to as the most beautiful square in the world. These beautiful houses today are occupied by antique shops which you may frequent during your afternoon tour.

Overnight in Paris

Day Six

Experience the Multimedia Show "Paris Story"

Travel 2000 years into the past, with famous French author Victor Hugo as your guide across centuries of Parisian history. This multimedia experience is both entertaining and educational, allowing you to discover the joys and tragedies that have molded the City of Lights.

Walk Along the Boulevard des Capucines

A leisurely stroll along this French street allows you to take in some magnificent landmarks, beginning with the **Garnier Opera House**. This concert hall stands as a monumental triumph of the Second Empire. Other highlights of this boulevard include the **Place Vendôme** and the **Place de la Concorde**, where you will see the oldest monument in Paris, an obelisk covered in hieroglyphics dating back over 3000 years.

Visit to the Sacre Coeur Church

Travel to **Montmartre** to experience this beautiful Romano Byzantine place of worship. Construction began in the 1870's and ended in 1914, highlight by a scenic view of the charming **Montmartre** area available from the top of the church. The area has long been associated with the arts, with street artists putting on delightful shows to survive on the tourists that flock to the area.

Overnight in Paris

Day Seven

Transfer to Airport for Return Flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

