

1-855-55-TOURS

# Classic France

14 days – 13 nights

Paris, Rouen, Caen, Bayeux, Mont St. Michel, Angers, Tours, St. Emilon, Bordeaux, Carcassonne, Nimes, Pont du Gard, Avignon, Nice, Monte Carlo, Nice, St. Paul de Vence, Grasse, Grenoble, Lyon, Dijon

## **Discovery, Culture, History** This program may be operated for individual or for groups This is a suggested itinerary – Please call us to customize

Food and drink do not overshadow a secular history that has made the country an exceptional heritage. Above all, there is the religious heritage, a true history of medieval architecture with its cathedrals and churches, where romance and gothic are mixed (for example the cathedral Notre Dame). There are castles, the most famous being the castles of the Loire or the Palace of Versailles, that welcome thousands of visitors every year. Other landmarks of France, the Mont Saint Michel, the Eiffel Tower and the other Parisian monuments (Sacred Heart Basilica, Arc de Triomphe, Invalides ...) or the famous Avenue des Champs-Elysées, are the stars of every tourist stay. Land of great works, France is of course the cradle of artists whose productions have traveled the planet and every exhibition in the great national museums. This creative production is inspired by multiple landscapes. Forests, sea, mountains, valleys, canyons and volcanoes create a nature that is omnipresent in the Hexagon.

#### Day 1: Paris

Upon arrival at Brussels airport you'll be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel in Brussels. The rest of the day is free. An optional dinner can be arranged for this evening.

#### Day 2: Paris

The tour starts with a visit to the spectacular Notre Dame Cathedral. Enjoy the magnificent view of the Eiffel Tower. See the Arc de Triomphe, one of the most famous monuments in Paris and continue to the Opera, designed by Charles Garnier for Emperor Napoleon III. It is the most important symbol of the 19th century Second Empire baroque style. Visit the Greek temple Madeleine and the Great Louvre, the largest national museum of France, the most visited museum in the world and a historic monument. It is a central landmark of Paris. Enjoy a walk along Champs-Elysees, the most prestigious avenue in Paris. Visit the majestic Palace of Versailles, one of the world's grandest historical museums. See the Royal Apartments, the Hall of Mirrors, the Queen's Chamber... and learn more about France's history. [B]

#### Day 3: Paris, Rouen, Caen

Departure to Rouen, the historic capital city of Normandy on the River Seine. Once one of the largest and most prosperous cities of medieval Europe. Enjoy a walk along the lovely cobblestone Rue du Gros-Horloge. Visit the famous Gothic Cathedral, which was immortalized by Monet in his numerous paintings of its façade and continue to the place where Joan of Arc met her fiery end in 1431. Departure to Caen. Visit the spectacular Memorial Museum of Peace, focused on the Battle of Normandy. The Caen Memorial is regarded as the best World War II museum in France. [B]

#### Day 4: Caen, Bayeux, Mont St. Michel

Departure to Bayeux. Be amazed by Queen Matild's Tapestry, that depicts the events leading up to the Norman conquest of England as well as the events of the invasion itself. Discover the Mont-Saint-Michel and its abbey on the border between Normandy and Brittany, one of the first sites to obtain UNESCO World Heritage listing. Admire the prodigious accomplishments of medieval architecture, by the forces of nature, and the ever-changing light. [B]

#### Day 5: Mont St. Michel, Angers, Tours

The tour goes to Angers. Visit the fascinating 13th-century castle overlooking the River Maine. Rich in history, this castle has seen many notable figures from history. Continue on to the Loire Valley, The



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Garden of France. Departure to Tours, famous for its original medieval district, called le Vieux Tours. Enjoy the uniqueness of the Old City and its preserved half-timbered buildings. Take a break in la Place Plumereau, whose open-air tables fill the center of the square. Enjoy the view of its famous bridges crossing the river Loire. [B]

# Day 6: Tours (Chenonceaux)

Visit the pearl of the French Renaissance, Chateau Chambord, one of the most recognizable in the world because of its very distinct architecture that blends traditional French medieval forms with classical Italian structures. See the 16th-century chateau of Catherine de Medici, a manor house near the small village of Chenonceaux, designed by the French Renaissance architect Philibert Delorme. Back in Tours. [B]

# Day 7: Tours, St. Emilion, Bordeaux

Departure to St. Emilion, famous for its fascinating Romanesque churches and ruins stretching all along steep and narrow streets. Taste its world-famous wine. Continue to Bordeaux. Admire its splendid gothic cathedrals and 18th century mansions. Visit the 'Quartier Saint-Eloi', one of the most picturesque districts in Bordeaux. See the 1640-feet long 'Pont de Pierre', commissioned by Napoleon. This is definitely one of the most beautiful bridges in France. Visit 'Saint Michel' church. Go for a nice walk on the shores of Garonne. Enjoy the atmosphere of the city near Gambetta Square. This part of the town is nicknamed "Little Paris". Go to Quinconces Square and check out the fountain monument to the Girondins. See the Victory Arch, a great example of the town's Roman roots. [B]

## Day 8: Bordeaux, Carcassonne, Nimes

Departure to the town of Carcassonne, an amazingly well-preserved medieval fortress that was featured in the movie, Robin Hood - Prince of Thieves. Visit Ville de Carcassonne, a beautiful castle and the centerpiece of the town. Departure to Nimes, travelling through the picturesque vineyards of Languedoc-Roussillon. [B]

# Day 9: Nimes, Pont du Gard, Avignon, Nice, Monte Carlo, Nice

Arrival at Pont du Gard. See the massive Roman Aqueduct, placed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Stop in Avignon to admire the spectacular Palace of the Popes and the bridge of the popular song. Continue to Nice, the sophisticated "Queen of the Riviera." Departure to Monte Carlo. Walk through Monaco-Ville, a medieval village with an astonishingly picturesque site at its heart. Visit the Prince's Palace, that offers a breathtaking panoramic view. Visit the Cathedral, a Romanesque-

Byzantine church that houses the remains of former Princes of Monaco and Princess Grace. Admire the Saint Martin Gardens. Back in Nice. [B]

# Day 10: Nice (St. Paul de Vence)

Enjoy a walk through the Old Town, a maze of streets and alleys, with many picturesque houses, boutiques and home to the daily flower and fruit market of the Cours Saleya. Admire the spectacular view from the Colline du Chateau that overlooks the Baie des Anges and harbor. Departure to the perfectly preserved medieval village of St. Paul de Vence, an art mecca in the early twentieth century that still remains home to countless galleries and studios. Visit La Fondation Maeght, a museum of modern and contemporary art located just outside the main city walls. Back to Nice. [B]





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#### Day 11: Nice, Grasse, Grenoble

Departure to Cannes, opulent resort of film festivals. Enjoy a tour of the Old town with its narrow winding streets. The view from the castle ruins at the top is excellent. Stop in Grasse, the place where the world's most exotic perfumes are made. Visit the Perfume Factory and Museum. Continue the trip, driving along the famous Route Napoleon through the French Alps. Arrival in Grenoble. [B]

# Day 12: Grenoble, Lyon, Dijon

Departure to Lyon. Admire the panoramic view of the city and its Roman ruins from Fourviere Hill and its basilica. IN the afternoon, drive north into Burgundy to Dijon, which was the capital of Burgundy from the 11th to the 15th centuries. [B]

## Day 13: Dijon, Paris

This morning, visit the Ducal Palace and the museum full of priceless treasures and wonderful art. Go to the most famous part of the museum, the Guard Room with tombs. The tour continues to Jardin Darcy, a beautiful park and a great place to have a rest and see how French people enjoy themselves. Departure to Paris. [B]

# Day 14: Paris USA

Depending on your flight schedule transfer to Paris airport (around 1:30 hours) to board your flight back to the USA. [B]

[B] = Breakfast

#### Your Tour includes:

- Round-trip airfare New York-Paris
- Private arrival and departure transfers
- Assistance at airports
- 13 nights' accommodation:
  - o Paris 3 nights
  - o Caen − 1 night
  - o Mont St. Michel 1 night
  - o Tours 2 nights
  - ∘ Bordeaux 1 night
  - ∘ Nimes 1 night
  - o Nice 2 nights
  - o Grenoble 1 night
- o Dijon −1 night
- Breakfast daily
- Visits of:
  - o Notre Dame Cathedral
  - Arc De Triomphe
  - o Eifel Tower
  - Louvre
  - o Champs Elysees
  - o Versailles Palce
  - o Angers Castle
  - o Tours Town Hall
  - o St. Emilion wine region
  - o Bordeaux' Quartier Saint-Eloi'
  - Pont du Gard Roman Aqueduct
  - o Popes' Palace in Avignon
  - o Medieval St. Paul de Vence

- $_{\circ}$  Old Port of Nice
- o Ducal Palace of Dijon
- English speaking driver guide for individuals and families or courier guide for groups
- Transport for A/C vehicle
- Entrance fees for all sites visited
- Hotel taxes
- Porterage at airport and hotels

# Tour does not Include

- Any taxes and surcharges relating to airfares
- Lunches and dinners
- Travel insurance
- Wi-Fi at hotels
- Optional tours and activities
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
- Other meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check-out (Most hotels begin check-in around 2:00pm).
- Expenses of personal nature
- Any service not specifically listed under "included"

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#### Recommended hotels in your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
Superior Tourist		
Paris	Albe Hotel St. Michel	4.5
Caen	Balladins Caen Memorial	4.5
Mont St. Michel	La Ramade	4.5
Tours	Best Western Plus l'Artist	4
Bordeaux	B&B Hotel Bordeaux	4
Nimes	Le Pre Galoffre	4
Nice	Villa Rivoli	4
Grenoble	Citadines City Centre	4
Dijon	Hotel des Ducs	4
First Class		
Paris	La Regence Etoile	4.5
Caen	Royal Hotel Caen Center	4.5
Mont St. Michel	Mercure Granville le Grand Large	4
Tours	Chateau de Beauvois	4
Bordeaux	Burdigala	4.5
Nimes	Apart'City Confort	4.5
Nice	Hotel Suisse	4
Grenoble	Okko Jardin Hoche	4.5
Dijon	Vertigo	4
Deluxe		
Paris	Hotel d'Aubusson	4.5
Caen	Le Chateau d'Audrieu	4.5
Mont St. Michel	L'Hermiatge	5
Tours	Chateau d'Artigny	4
Bordeaux	Yndo Hotel	5
Nimes	Jardin Screts	4
Nice	Boscolo Exedra Nice Autograph Collection	4
Grenoble	Le Grand Hotel	4.5
Dijon	Grand Hotel La Cloche	4.5

#### **Tour Prices:**

#### From: \$4,939 including airfare

Add-ons available from all US gateways.

Prices are per person and may change without notice

This program can be customized for individuals and groups.

Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

- Airfare
  - We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares
- Program
  - o You may add or remove;
  - o Trip days
  - $_{\rm O}$  Cities and sites
  - $_{\circ}$  Meals
- Other options
  - The program was designed with private services, however, we may substitute shared sightseeing where available
  - If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.



- Quotation
  - Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

# Tour Code: FR01PAR21VT

## **Options:**

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

# Group Quotations

If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web <u>Group Quote Request</u>.

In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days.

- Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the lad journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.