

PARIS-Nevers-Lourdes-Poitiers-Paris

8 Days



This trip brings us to the world's most romantic city, the City of Lights (La Ville Lumière). You will discover Paris famous landmarks such as the Eiffel tower built in 1889 for the world exhibition, the Arc de Triomphe which honors the soldiers who have fought for France, Versailles Palace, one of the most extravagant buildings in the world and its museums & art galleries. Paris is the culinary capital of the world and is known worldwide for its gourmet cuisine and its exceptional variety of great wines. Visiting Paris, truly a memorable experience in one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

1st day: Hometown-Paris

Arrival in Paris CDG airport. Transfer to hotel in Paris. Welcome in the hotel by Artoo travel guide who will assist you for the check in. In the afternoon, we will head to Montmartre; you will encounter the unavoidable crowd while visiting the Sacred Heart Basilica and its panoramic view of the capital, the calm streets of the village perched atop a hill, refuge of famous artists. The tour also covers the bohemian Artists' Square, Montmartre Vineyard, the last authentic vineyard in Paris, Van Gogh's House, Café des Deux Moulins (recognizable from the movie Amélie), and the last windmill left standing in Paris. Dinner in Montmartre.

2nd day: Paris-Nevers-Lacave

After breakfast, we will drive to Nevers. In Nevers, visit the reliquary where the body of Bernadette Soubirous is preserved in the St Gildard Convent. The eldest daughter of a miller from Lourdes whose family fortunes declined with the arrival of steam power, Bernadette is best known for her 18 visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1858. Then, we proceed to Château de la Treyne hotel in Lacave. Dinner at the hotel restaurant. Overnight stay.

3rd day: Lacave-Rocamadour-Lourdes

Visit the medieval village of Rocamadour and the Notre-Dame chapel (Lady Chapel). There you'll find the Black Virgin, a slim, elongated silhouette in black wood.

Then, drive to Lourdes, the third most important Catholic place of pilgrimage after the Vatican and Guadalupe in Mexico. Check in Hotel in Lourdes. The afternoon is free for you to explore.

4th day: Lourdes

Guided tour of the Marian city of Lourdes, the Cave of the Apparitions - site of Bernadette's visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the various churches. After dinner, take part in the Torchlight Marian Procession which sets off from the grotto. Overnight in Lourdes.

5th day: Lourdes-Poitiers-Paris

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In Poitiers, visit Notre-Dame la Grande, a Roman Catholic church. Having a double status, collegial and parochial, it forms part of the Catholic diocese of Poitiers. The west front adorned with statuary is recognized as a masterpiece of Romanesque religious art. Then, proceed to Paris.

Check in hotel in Paris.

6th day: Paris

We make a two-hour city tour with an English-speaking driver/guide. We will see Paris famous landmarks such as: Notre-Dame cathedral, the Opera Garnier, Place de la Concorde and Place Vendôme, the Champs-Élysées avenue, the Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre museum, Alexandre III bridge and much more. After the tour, the bus driver will drop you off in front of Opera Garnier to start your guided visit of Fragonard perfume museum: you will learn the story of this perfume maker. Parfumerie Fragonard was opened in 1926. Eugène Fuchs chose to name it after the famous Grasse-born painter, Jean-Honoré Fragonard, as a tribute to both the town of Grasse and to the refinement of 18th-century arts. Lunch in a nice Parisian brasserie around Opera district and then free afternoon to relax or do shopping. In the evening, we will be heading to Eiffel tower and have free time to take pictures. We can even go to the second floor if you wish. Then we will go for a boat trip on the Seine river while sailing under Paris beautiful and historical bridges. After the cruise we will walk towards Trocadero gardens where you can get a stunning view and take pictures of the sparkling Eiffel tower. Dinner on your own.

7th day: Paris

After breakfast we will drive to the Louvre, the largest museum of the world. Within 2 hours, discover the 800 years history of the royal castle while enjoying the most famous paintings and sculptures. You may prefer to visit Orsay which was a former railway station transformed into a museum in 1986. It gathers masterpieces from the various artistic movements between 1848 to 1914 including a magnificent impressionist collection and some major works by Auguste Rodin. In the afternoon, visit the Sainte Chapelle, A gem of Gothic style. Built in seven years, an impressive feat, the Sainte Chapelle was intended to house precious Christian relics, including Christ's crown of thorns, acquired by Saint Louis. Dinner on your own.

8th day: Paris

Transfer to CDG airport and departure for your hometown.

Have a safe trip!