

THE TRAVEL CLUB

A Week in France: The Riviera, Provence & Paris

9 DAYS: Saturday, May 16-Sunday, May 24, 2020

Saturday, June 20-Sunday, June 28, 2020

3n Normandy & Paris post tour extension (June only) \$599pp/do

\$4,039 per person double occupancy; \$4,739 for single reservations

Includes round-trip airfare, fuel surcharge and all air taxes and fees. Fuel surcharge, air taxes and bees subject to change. Passport required. Per person deposit is \$450.

Follow in the footsteps of artists and authors seduced by la belle France. Find your own inspiration amidst the history and artistry of France. Don your designer shades on the Côte d'Azur, longtime playground for the rich and famous. Explore the spectacular scenery and tempting cuisine of Provence, a favorite setting for painters like Vincent van Gogh and writers like Peter Mayle. Then push on to Paris, the City of Light, to relive the golden days of the Belle Époque.



Your tour package includes

- 7 nights in handpicked hotels, 7 breakfasts, 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 4 guided sightseeing tours, Expert Tour Director & local guides, Private deluxe motor coach
- 1 train ride
- Hotel accommodations (or similar)
- Nice: AC Hotel Nice
- Avignon: Hotel Mercure Avignon Centre Palais des Papes
- Paris: Mercure Paris Montmartre Sacre Coeur

Included highlights

- The French Riviera, the calanques of Cassis, Avignon's Papal Palace, high-speed TGV train ride,

- Eiffel Tower photo stop, Place de la Concorde

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for about 1 hour daily across flat terrain on mostly paved roads.

Overnight Flight

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to France today.

Nice

Day 2: Arrival in Nice

Included meals: Dinner

Welcome to France! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner this evening.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Nice

Included meals: Breakfast

Discover the many charms of the city of Nice on the French Riviera during a guided sightseeing tour.

- Drive along the Promenade des Anglais
- Explore the Roman Amphitheater
- Wander around the gardens of the Franciscan Monastery in Cimiez
- End the tour amongst the narrow streets and market stalls of the Old Town

Later, explore Nice on your own or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion Evening in Monaco \$119/pp

Spend an evening in Monaco, a tiny principality that's world-renowned for its luxuriousness. Ruled by the Grimaldis, Europe's oldest royal family, Monaco has retained its independence for more than 700 years. Your Tour Director introduces you to the Old Town, which is perched atop the Rock of Monaco. This 203-foot-tall monolith overlooks the Mediterranean Sea and is part of the Monaco-Ville quarter, the oldest of the country's four quarters. While here, you'll stop and view the outside of the Royal Palace. Next, sit down for an included dinner at a nearby restaurant before heading to the Monte Carlo Casino. Enjoy free time to step inside the world-famous casino. Please note: Travelers under the age of 18 are not permitted to enter the casino. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price:\$129)

Avignon

Day 4: Avignon via Cassis

Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Transfer to the town of Cassis, where you'll embark on a short cruise to take in the city's famous calanques, or Mediterranean fjords.

Then, continue on to Avignon where you'll sit down to an included dinner with your group.

Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Avignon

Included meals: Breakfast

Discover historic Avignon in Provence today on a sightseeing tour with a local guide.

- Stroll through the historic town center, which is surrounded by the city's original medieval walls
- Step inside the magnificent Papal Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site

Spend the afternoon exploring Avignon on your own or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion Aix-en-Provence: Sights, Wines & Dinner \$129/pp

On today's optional excursion, you'll get the quintessential Provençal experience. Start in Aix, located in the heart of the region, and enjoy a walking tour through the city's beautiful wide boulevards and inside its medieval cathedral. Paul Cézanne is a local icon in Aix. During your tour, visit his studio for a glimpse into the Post-Impressionist painter's life. Then, travel to the picturesque surrounding countryside, stopping at a castle before settling in at a local winery for a tasting. End the day with a group dinner seasoned with local Provençal herbs. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price:\$139)

Paris

Day 6: Train ride to Paris

Included meals: Breakfast

Travel through the picturesque landscapes that influenced the French masters aboard the high-speed TGV train. Enjoy a free evening in Paris or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

\$115/pp

Take in the nighttime allure of the City of Light on a special evening excursion. The event begins with dinner at a local restaurant. After you dine, board a boat cruise along the Seine. As you coast along the river and under Paris' bridges, you'll behold the illuminated monuments of the city glittering alongside the riverbanks. Please note: The dress code may vary depending on the restaurant for your dinner. Your Tour Director will advise you on what to wear, but shorts and sneakers are likely to be considered inappropriate attire. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price:\$125)

Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Paris

Included meals: Breakfast

A guided tour introduces you to the architecture, scenery, and history of the City of Light's many neighborhoods, called *arrondissements*.

- Drive down the sycamore-lined Champs-Élysées to view the Arc de Triomphe
- Pass Pont Neuf and the legendary Notre-Dame Cathedral, located on an island in the Seine River
- See the Eiffel Tower, the Palais Garnier opera house, and Place de la Concorde, the city's grandest square
- Marvel at the iconic architecture of the Louvre and Hôtel des Invalides

Enjoy a free afternoon in Paris or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion Versailles Palace & Gardens \$125/pp

The reign of Louis XIV, known as the "Sun King," set new standards for decadence among the crowned heads of Europe. It took 50 years and 35,000 workers to turn Versailles, once a small hunting lodge, into the most magnificent château in all of France and the envy of royalty worldwide. On this excursion, you will see the palace in all its glory as you tour the State Apartments and the glittering Hall of Mirrors. Then, stroll through the lavish gardens to admire their fine statuary, splendid fountains, and colorful flowerbeds. Must book 45 days before departure

Day 8: Free day in Paris

Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Explore Paris on your own today or add an excursion.

Say goodbye to your group at a farewell dinner this evening.

Optional Excursion **Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny \$85/pp**

The village of Giverny was home to Claude Monet from 1883 until his death in 1926. On a visit to Monet's home and gardens, discover the subtle palette of colors that inspired his Water Lilies series and gave rise to a new way of seeing. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from April through October. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price:\$95)

Day 9: Departure

Included meals: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home, or extend your stay to continue exploring Paris.

Add an extension to Normandy & Paris from \$599 3 nights Available on June date only



Normandy Coast

Day 9: Normandy Coast via Rouen & Honfleur

Included meals: Breakfast

Travel through historic cities and pristine port towns on your way to the Normandy region.

- Visit Rouen, home to a large 16th-century clock and the Gothic, two-towered Rouen Cathedral
 - Walk through the Old Market Square where Joan of Arc was executed
 - See the untouched Honfleur harbor, once an important port
 - Sample cheeses, including Camembert, Pont-l'Évêque, and Livarot, paired with cider and Calvados, the region's distinctive apple brandy
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Day 10: Normandy Beaches

Included meals: Breakfast

Relive World War II history during a full-day excursion to the beaches of Normandy, where the Allied troops landed in June 1944.

- Stop at the American Cemetery in Colleville, the burial place for more than 9,000 American soldiers who lost their lives during the Battle of Normandy
- Walk along Omaha Beach, the landing site of American troops on D-Day
- Visit Pointe du Hoc to view the granite monument that honors the American 2nd Ranger Battalion, which seized German cannons here before they could be used to fire on American troops

Continue on to Arromanches where you'll have free time to explore and eat lunch.

Paris

Day 11: Transfer to Paris

Included meals: Breakfast

Head back to Paris for a farewell drink with your group.

Day 12: Departure

Included meals: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.