

International Training Tour: Paris









"I truly cannot imagine leading my trip without having done this training tour. I made wonderful, instant friendships with my fellow teachers, but the most valuable part was everything I learned to help make my trip a success. Thank you, EF. This weekend was further proof that I have chosen the right company to lead my students abroad."

Meredith White, Spanish teacher, Radford High School, Radford, VA

"This was a traveling experience that no group leader should miss! What better way to 'initiate' a group leader than to have them experience firsthand what their students will experience? I learned invaluable travel knowledge and made new friends."

Katherine Venemon, Spanish teacher, Century High School, Pocatello, ID



Day 1

Flight to Paris • Board your overnight flight to Paris.

<u>Tours</u>

Day 2

Arrival in Paris • Welcome to Paris, cosmopolitan City of Light. EF staff will be waiting to meet you at the airport after you clear customs. They will oversee the transfer to your hotel a nd provide a brief orientation.

Educational

Visit to the Louvre • Built to defend the city in the 13th century, the Louvre today safeguards one of the world's greatest art collections. Enter the museum through world-renowned architect I.M. Pei's glass pyramid, constructed in 1989. Inside, discover priceless antiquities from Asia, Greece and Rome. You'll also see precious objects from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, as well as iconic European paintings such as the *Mona Lisa*.

EF walking tour of Paris • Begin at the Louvre and cross over the Seine river. On the left bank, watch the bouquinistes selling old books and postcards and catch glimpses of the Conciergerie and St. Chapelle from the Pont Neuf, the oldest bridge in the city. Continue through the Latin Quarter, an area dominated by the Sorbonne, Paris' most famous university, founded in 1253. The quarter was named for its inhabitants' native tongue; Latin was the official language until 1793. As you stroll, look for the Panthéon, created by Louis XV because of a promise he made during a severe illness to build a church dedicated to Saint Genevive if he survived.

Visit to Notre Dame Cathedral • Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured faćade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose windows and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Welcome dinner • This evening, be our guest at a special welcome dinner. Enjoy dining and conversation as you become acquainted with your fellow orientation delegates and EF staff members.

Day 3

Guided sightseeing of Paris • Discover the city on the Seine, beginning with the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée. Take a drive down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde. Pass the Conciergerie, where prisoners of the Revolution spent their final days, and see Les Invalides, Louis XIV's grand retirement home for wounded soldiers. You'll also see the École Militaire, where Napoleon graduated to lieutenant and was told he'd go far if circumstances allowed. Next, make a photo stop at the Eiffel Tower to marvel at the 6,000-ton centerpiece for the 1889 World's Fair. You'll hear the story of how this impressive—but once highly controversial—symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909. Pass the Opéra Garnier, where the famous Phantom of the Opera haunted his dear Christine, and marvel at Église de la Madeleine, designed as a temple of glory for Napoleon's army. Continue past the geometric gardens of the Tuileries as you make your way to the Place Vendôme, a vast square surrounded by elegant 17th-century faćades.

Guided visit to Versailles • Visit Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Here, the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. Stroll through the elegantly landscaped gardens designed by André Le Nôtre, tour the State Apartments of the King himself, walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors and admire the ornate decor of the State Apartments of the Queen. (Please note: On days when Versailles is closed, you'll instead visit the regal splendor of Chateau de Fontainebleau, a 12th-century royal residence that was a favored hunting base for Napoleon and other rulers of France.) Free evening in Paris • You might ascend the winding streets of Montmartre, where you can see the famous Moulin Rouge, or visit Sacré-Couer and watch artists at work. Or you can marvel at the view from atop the Eiffel Tower, then have a traditional French meal at a quiet sidewalk café. Paris also has a great live jazz scene and its cinémathiques offer up to 50 films each week!

Day 4

EF Touring 101 • During this informational meeting, delegates will participate in "EF Touring 101," an informative seminar featuring discussions with experienced EF Group Leaders and EF staff. Discover firsthand the nature of EF tours from the people who know them best. Learn practical details about international flights, safety, food and hotels while gaining insights into the unique dynamics of group travel. Enjoy an included lunch during the orientation seminar.

Farewell dinner • Celebrate your last evening in Paris at tonight's farewell dinner.

Day 5

Departure • Our EF International Training Tour concludes. Your tour director assists you with your transfer to the airport, where you will board your flight home. Have a pleasant trip home and enjoy your first EF tour!

Included in the training itinerary

- Round-trip airfare on a scheduled airline
- All transfers to and from the airport and hotel
- Hotel accommodations (announced approximately 14 days prior to departure)
- Breakfast daily and dinners as specified
- Full-time EF Tour Director

Not included

- Insurance, beverages and meals not specified in the itinerary
- Métro and other transportation costs during free time
- Customary gratuities for your tour director, bus driver and local guides

*Itinerary subject to change.