



PARIS, NORMANDY & BRITTANY



*Educational
Tours*



Discover the Global Classroom

9 or 11 DAYS

Paris, Normandy & Brittany

France • Extension to England



Number of overnight stays in parentheses. This tour may also be reversed.

Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (9 with extension)
- European breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time EF Tour Director
- 3 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides:
Paris • Rouen • St. Malo
- 2 sightseeing tours led by your tour director:
Etretat • Honfleur
- 1 walking tour: Paris
- 7 visits to special attractions:
Louvre • Notre Dame Cathedral • Rouen Cathedral
Cheese factory • Caen Memorial • Mont St. Michel
Chartres Cathedral

OPTIONAL:

Versailles

WITH EXTENSION:

 All of the above PLUS:

- 1 sightseeing tour led by a licensed local guide:
London
- 1 walking tour: London
- Eurostar high-speed train



According to legend, the archangel Michael appeared before St. Aubert in A.D. 708 and told him to build a church on the rocky islet of Mont St. Michel.

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to France • Relax as you fly across the Atlantic.

Day 2 Paris

Arrival in Paris • Touch down in Paris, City of Light! After clearing customs, you are greeted by your EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

Walking tour of Paris • Our walking tour takes in the chic Opéra district and the Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré, famous for its haute couture boutiques. Stroll through the Place de la Concorde, the city's largest public square, built to honor Louis XV. During the Revolution, this was the location of Joseph Guillotin's famous machine; the next Louis, Marie Antoinette and many others were beheaded here. Continue through the geometric gardens of the Tuileries as you make your way to the Place Vendôme, a vast square surrounded by elegant 17th-century façades. Pass the Ritz hotel at no. 15, a favorite haunt of Ernest Hemingway. (The exact walking route may vary depending on your hotel location and other activities.)

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*.

Day 3 Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris • Discover the city on the Seine: from the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée, to the Île de la Cité, birthplace of Paris. 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.

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 façade 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.

Optional excursion to Versailles • Join an optional excursion to 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: Because of the extreme popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace. Please also note that Versailles is closed on Mondays. Participants must enroll in this excursion no later than 50 days prior to departure.)

Day 4 Paris • Normandy Region

Guided sightseeing of Rouen • Travel by way of Rouen, known as Rotomagus to the Romans. It was here that Joan of Arc was burned at the stake during the Hundred Years War. In this architecturally breathtaking city, step inside the Notre-Dame Cathedral—with its towering Gothic spires, it was one of Monet's favorite subjects to paint. Nearby, see the Tour de Beurre (Butter Tower), financed by dispensations made to Catholics who wished to avoid fasting during Lent.

Arrival in the Normandy region • Arrive in the historic Normandy region, where you will spend the night.

Day 5 Normandy Region

Excursion to Etretat and Honfleur • Etretat is one of the most photographed landscapes in all of France. A coastal walk introduces you to the town's spectacular chalky-white cliffs, sculpted through the ages by the constant bombardment of pounding waves. Enjoy incredible seaside views and time to explore this Norman village guarded by the little hilltop chapel of Notre-Dame-de-la-Garde. Continue along the coast to the 14th-century fishing port of Honfleur, once a meeting place for the pioneers of impressionism. Here, your tour director leads you down cobblestone streets that pass the Old Clock and Saint Catherine Church, the largest wooden church in France, dating back to the 15th century. You'll also learn about the making of traditional French cheese and taste samples of this local delicacy at a cheese factory.

Day 6 Normandy Region • St. Malo

Transfer to the beaches of Normandy • Stand on the beaches that witnessed the horrors of D-Day. The World War II battles that took place here were part of the largest seaborne invasion in history.

Visit to Caen Memorial: Museum of Peace

• Pay tribute to WWII troops who fought on the beaches of Normandy as you visit the Caen Memorial. You'll see a short film about the D-Day invasion, followed by a slide show on WWII. A third audio-visual presentation recounts the wars in Korea, Afghanistan and Vietnam, as well as the continuing quest for world peace. Afterwards, tour the museum and see displays that depict pre-WWII Europe

and trace the events that eventually led to the outbreak of war. Take time to walk through the Nobel Peace Prizewinners' Gallery, a gallery that highlights the accomplishments of the men and women who struggled for peace.

Visit to Juno Beach Centre (Canada only)

• Visit Juno Beach Centre, the first memorial of its kind for Canadian veterans of WWII. The Centre was conceptualized by Canadian veterans who fought in the June 6, 1944, D-Day invasion of Normandy and stands at Courseulles-sur-Mer, the site of the invasion. The Centre is an educational facility designed to teach Canadians more about Canada's role in the war, whether on land, sea or air.

Transfer to St. Malo • Continue along the coastal region of Brittany to St. Malo. It was from here that Jacques Cartier set sail in 1534 to explore Canada's St. Lawrence River Valley.

Day 7 St. Malo

Guided sightseeing of St. Malo • Pirates once set sail from this rocky Atlantic island. Learn how the town's seamen fought Barbary pirates and plundered English, Dutch and Spanish merchants. Take in the narrow streets, tall granite homes and medieval ramparts on your guided tour.

Visit to Mont St. Michel • Tour the breathtaking islet monastery of Mont St. Michel. Perched high on a granite rock, this 8th-century abbey is surrounded by water at high tide and quicksand at low tide.

Day 8 St. Malo • Paris

Transfer via Chartres • In Chartres, visit Europe's grandest Gothic (13th-century) cathedral, which boasts the world's finest stained-glass windows.

Arrival in Paris • Return to Paris for your last night in France.

Day 9 Home

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

Getting around Paris is easy aboard the city's underground system.



EXTENSION

Day 9 London

Transfer via the Eurostar from Paris to London • In Paris, board the high-speed Eurostar, an 18-car train that runs through the tunnel connecting continental Europe with Britain. Completed in May 1994, the Channel Tunnel provides travelers with easy access to and from the continent. Enjoy state-of-the-art technology as you glide under the English Channel to England.

Guided sightseeing of London • A local guide leads you on a panoramic tour of London. Begin in Grosvenor Square, which is sometimes called “Little America” because it’s the site of the U.S. embassy and the house where Eisenhower once lived. Continue to Hyde Park Corner, located at the southeast corner of Hyde Park, one of London’s largest parks. At bustling Piccadilly Circus, the intersection of five busy streets, check out the bright lights and big-city displays before heading to Trafalgar Square. Pass Speaker’s Corner, where anyone with something to say is invited to speak his or her mind. Snap a photo of the Houses of Parliament and continue along London’s South Bank for views of the famous Tower of London and London Bridge. Stroll across the Millennium Bridge for an orientation of St. Paul’s Cathedral, the magnificent 17th-century Baroque church designed by Sir Christopher Wren.

Day 10 London

Walking tour of London • Stroll through the heart of London on a walking tour, which begins along the banks of the River Thames. These shadowy waters gave the city its name, which derives from Llyn-Dyn, Celtic for “city of the lake.” Walk along the Strand and see the spot considered to be London’s geographic center; all measurements of distances to London end here. Enter Trafalgar Square and pause at Nelson’s Column, built to commemorate his 1805 victory in the Battle of Trafalgar. Continue on to Leicester Square, where duelists once fought to the death. Then saunter through London’s tiny Chinatown. Your walk ends at chic Covent Garden, where you’ll enjoy watching street performers (or “buskers”) amuse the lively crowds. (The exact walking route may vary, depending on your hotel location and the day’s other activities.)

Free time in London • Enjoy free time in London. You might wish to visit the original Hard Rock Café or Madame Tussauds wax museum, take a cruise down the Thames, or browse through the countless stores along Oxford Street. Attend a Shakespearean drama at a replica of the Globe Theatre, or visit the fascinating, hands-on exhibits of London’s Natural History Museum.

Day 11 Home

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

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.



ITN0609PTN/X
Itinerary subject to change.

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Educational Tours

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2010/Fall