

Education
First



*College Study
Tours*

LONDON & PARIS



LONDON & PARIS

10 OR 13 DAYS

England • France • *Extension to Italy*

PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES:

- Round-trip airfare
- 8 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (plus 2 nights in hotels and 1 night couchette accommodations with extension)
- Complete European breakfast daily
- 3 dinners
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- Eurostar high-speed train
- Whisper headsets for tours of Rome and Vatican City (with extension)
- Select guides and entrances to special attractions as per itinerary

OPTIONAL:

- Excursion to Chartres and the Loire Valley



History comes alive through the iconic landmarks and pageantries of London and Paris. Kings and queens once shaped the course of world history from these two vibrant capitals. Today, both cities boast the essential art, music and culture of a modern metropolis to remain enduring centers of influence. Uncover the treasures—both historic and modern—of these timeless cities on your comprehensive tour of London and Paris.

Day 1 Flight

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

Day 2 London

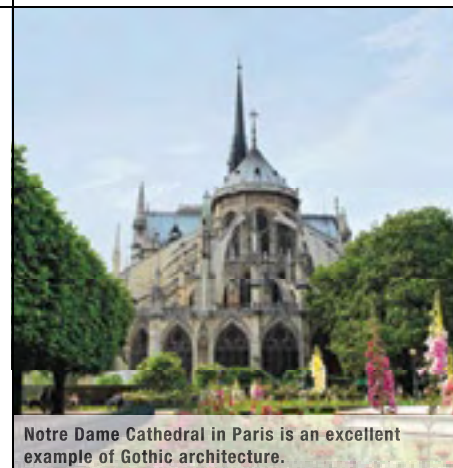
Arrival in London • Welcome to London, Europe's largest capital city. After clearing customs, you are greeted by your EF Tour Director, who will accompany you to your hotel and remain with you throughout your stay. Enjoy a welcome dinner tonight.

EF walking tour of London • Stroll through the heart of London on our EF 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.)

Day 3 London

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 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 to see St. Paul's Cathedral, the magnificent 17th-century Baroque church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Finally, witness a London tradition—the Changing of the Guard (subject to scheduling).

Day 4 Oxford • London

Excursion to Oxford • Travel through the Chiltern Hills to ivy-draped Oxford. A mecca of learning for more than 800 years, Oxford is the oldest university in the English-speaking world (alumni include 14 prime ministers, and former President Bill Clinton spent a term here as well). Walk through the peaceful quads and cloisters of Brasenose College, and gaze up at the town's "dreaming spires."

Day 5 London

Free time in London • Enjoy a free day 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 6 London • Paris

Transfer via the Eurostar from London to Paris • In London, board the high-speed Eurostar, an 18-car train that runs through the tunnel connecting Britain with continental Europe. 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 France.

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 façades.

EF walking tour of Montmartre • Explore Montmartre, a hilltop community in northern Paris that was once called home by artists like Picasso, van Gogh, Degas, Renoir and Toulouse-Lautrec. By the end of the 19th century, Montmartre and its sister city across the Seine, Montparnasse, were the main artistic centers of France. Learn more about the area's artists and the influence of their work during your walking tour.

Day 7 Paris

EF walking tour of Paris • Your walking tour of Paris centers around the Île de la Cité, considered the birthplace of Paris. This island surrounded entirely by the Seine has been inhabited since the 3rd century B.C. and was the political and religious center of France for centuries. Île de la Cité houses three of Paris' most important buildings: Notre Dame Cathedral; the Conciergerie, Paris' first prison; and St. Chapelle, the Gothic Catholic church.

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.

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: 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.) On Mondays and other days when Versailles is closed, you'll instead take in the regal splendor of Château de Fontainebleau, a 12th-century royal residence that was a favored hunting base for Napoleon and other rulers of France.

Day 8 Paris

Optional excursion to Chartres and the Loire Valley • Journey through the French countryside to the magnificent Loire Valley, Playground of the Kings. Our first stop is Chartres, home to Europe's grandest Gothic cathedral (13th-century) and the world's finest stained-glass windows. Then visit the spectacular Château de Chenonceau on the banks of the River Cher, an architecturally breathtaking estate with a romantic history. Finally, stop at Chambord, the largest of all the Loire Valley

châteaux. Here, many of Molière's plays were performed for the first time.

Or free time in Paris • Alternatively, enjoy free time for your own explorations of Paris. You might wish to visit the Musée d'Orsay, the Picasso Museum, or the exhibits at the Pompidou Centre. Or take part in the timeless Parisian tradition of people-watching over a cup of café au lait at a sidewalk café.

Day 9 Paris

Free time • Enjoy free time to explore Paris on your own. Peruse the Louvre, home to Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*, or brave Les Catacombes, resting place of 6 million skeletons. Maybe you will have a biology lesson at Parc Zoologique de Paris or explore the world's most expensive science complex, Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie. Study the French High Gothic interior of the Sainte Chapelle or marvel at the aristocratic Place des Vosges. Your tour consultant and tour director will work with you to plan activities to best complement your group's interests and focus of study.

Farewell dinner • Join us for a traditional French dinner and live music for your final evening in Paris.

Day 10 Home

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

EXTENSION

Day 10 Paris

Free time • Enjoy free time in the City of Light this morning before boarding your train for Rome. Now's the perfect time to pick up last minute souvenirs. Your tour consultant and tour director will work with you to plan activities to best complement your group's interests and focus of study.

Day 11 Rome

Arrival in Rome • Arrive in *bella Roma*, the

Eternal City. Here, Charlemagne was crowned emperor by the pope in A.D. 800.

Guided sightseeing of Rome • Pass the grassy ruins of the ancient Forum Romanum, once the heart of the Roman Empire, and admire the enduring fragments of Rome's glorious past. It was here that business, commerce and the administration of justice once took place. Then visit the mighty Colosseum, Rome's first permanent amphitheater whose three tiers are approximately equal to a 12- to 15-story building. At one time, as many as 50,000 cheering spectators would flock to watch gladiator battles unfold inside. During the staged fights here, as many as 10,000 slaves, prisoners and volunteers were killed. Persecuted Christians were also murdered—spectators saw them mauled by lions. After A.D. 404, gladiator battles ended, but animals were still massacred in the name of sport until the 6th century.

Walking tour of Rome • Continue on to the legendary Trevi Fountain and make sure to toss in a coin to ensure your return to Rome. Then view the Pantheon, one of the best-preserved ancient buildings in the city, commissioned by the Emperor Hadrian around A.D. 120. This temple to "all the gods" features the second-widest dome in Rome. It was built using the exact proportions of an egg! Finish off in the Piazza Navona, the popular square where you will see Bernini's impressive Fountain of the Four Rivers.

Day 12 Rome

Visit to Vatican City • Today, you will explore Vatican City, the world's smallest country. Begin at the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries filled with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backward from a scaffold. Next, tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's *Pi-*

età, the only sculpture he ever signed.

Day 13 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with your 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.

YOUR CURRICULUM ON A GLOBAL SCALE

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Itinerary subject to change.



College Study
Tours

2009/Fall