

FRANCE

PARIS AND THE NORTH-WEST

Day 1 Australia - France

Depart Australia on your flights to France.

Day 2 Paris

(D)



Upon arrival at Paris airport, meet your driver and coach and transfer to your accommodation. Spend the afternoon on the Champs-Élysées, exploring the Place de la Concorde, one of the five “Royal Squares” dedicated to Louis the Fifteenth, and site of the beheading of his successor, Louis the Sixteenth. See, too, the Arc de Triomphe, which was begun under Napoléon. Return to your accommodation in the evening.

First night's accommodation in Paris

Day 3 Paris

(B,D)

Explore l'Île de la Cité on foot this morning, including a visit to the magnificent Cathedral of Notre Dame. Make your way to Montmartre. Visit the Basilica Sacré Cœur and spend free time in the artists' quartier. Stop at the Moulin Rouge on your way back to your accommodation.

Second night's accommodation in Paris

Day 4 Paris

(B,D)

Tour the Musée du Louvre this morning with your teachers leading the group. After your visit, wander through the Jardins des Tuileries, the entrance of which was another popular beheading site of the French Revolution's Reign of Terror years! Continue on to the Trocadéro and the Champ de Mars, where you might like to climb the Eiffel Tower. Enjoy a 1-hour cruise on the Seine in the early evening.

Third night's accommodation in Paris

Day 5 Versailles

(B,D)

After breakfast, make your way to Versailles by RER. Spend the day exploring the town's beautiful chateau. Your visit includes a self-guided tour of the *Grands Appartements*. Enjoy a walk in the palace gardens in the afternoon. Return to Paris by RER.

Fourth night's accommodation in Paris

Day 6 Paris, Chartres, Rennes, Le Mans

(B,D)

This morning, meet your coach and transfer to Chartres. Visit the town's 13th century cathedral, which is adorned with 172 stained glass windows. Continue on to Le Mans and visit the Old Town with its Gallo-Roman walls. The town of Le Mans has provided the setting for such films as *Cyrano de Bergerac* and *The Man in the Iron Mask*. Transfer to Rennes in the afternoon. Spend free time in the medieval streets of Brittany's capital.



Overnight accommodation in Rennes

Day 7 Carnac - Vannes

(B,D)

After breakfast, transfer to Carnac, a small village in Morbihan, renowned for its megaliths. Meet your English-speaking guide and visit Kermario, a site with over 1000 menhirs. Visit the Museum in Carnac, which further details prehistoric life in the region. Transfer to Vannes for lunch. This afternoon, enjoy a 3-hour cruise on the Golfe du Morbihan, a small inland sea with over 300 islands.

Overnight accommodation in Vannes

Day 8 Pont-Aven, Concarneau, Quimper

(B,D)

Travel to Pont-Aven this morning. Enjoy free time in this pretty village, which has inspired many French artists, including Paul Gauguin. Transfer to Concarneau and explore the walled town and fishing port. Arrive at Quimper in the early evening.

Overnight accommodation in Quimper

Day 9 Quimper, Pointe du Raz, St Malo

(B,D)

This morning, explore the town centre of Quimper. Visit the St Corentin Cathedral, the town ramparts and the banks of the river Odet. Continue on to Pointe Du Raz, headland known as *Penn Ar Bed* or “Land's End”. This evening, arrive at your accommodation in the St Malo area.

Overnight accommodation in the St Malo area

Day 10 Dinan, St Malo, Mont St Michel

(B,D)

This morning, travel to medieval Dinan, one of Brittany's most beautiful towns. Return to St Malo and explore the walled town at your own pace. After lunch (*at own expense*), transfer to the famous Mont St Michel. Meet your English-speaking guide and enjoy a tour of the abbey. Spend a free afternoon in the pretty village.

Overnight accommodation in the Mont St Michel area

Day 11 Bayeux, D-Day Beaches, Bernières

(B,D)



This morning, leave Brittany for Normandy. Stop in Bayeux and visit the famed 11th century Bayeux tapestry, which recounts the invasion of Britain by the Normans. This afternoon, tour the D-Day Beaches and visit the US cemetery at Omaha Beach. Continue on to the township of Arromanches, where you see the remains of an artificial WW2 port. Arrive at Bernières sur Mer for dinner.

Overnight accommodation in Bernières sur Mer

Day 12 Honfleur, Rouen

(B,D)

Travel to the charming little harbour of Honfleur. Spend free time exploring the town's medieval streets and the *Vieux Bassin*. Continue on to Rouen. Enjoy a free afternoon in the historic city centre, visiting the Cathedral (a common feature in Monet's paintings), the Old Clock Tower, the Church of St Maclou and the Old Market Square, where Joan of Arc was burnt at the stake.

Overnight accommodation in the Rouen area

Day 13 Giverny, Paris

(B,D)

This morning travel to Giverny and visit Monet's House and Gardens. Transfer to Paris and enjoy your last free afternoon in the French capital.

Overnight accommodation in Paris

Day 14 France - Australia

(B)

After breakfast at your accommodation, transfer to the airport for your return flights to Australia.

Day 15 Australia

Arrive home.

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, PL = Packed Lunch, D = Dinner

We tailor all tours to meet your specific requirements.