# OPHORUS FRANCE TRAVEL SAVOIR-FAIRE



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# **Private Group Tour in Paris**

# **Trip Summary**

September 9 - Monday ARRIVAL TRANSFER
HOTELS OPTION FOR YOUR STAY IN PARIS
September 10 - Tuesday PRIVATE DAY TOUR TO GIVERNY
September 11 - Wednesday PRIVATE PARIS FULL DAY
September 12 - Thursday FULL PRIVATE DAY TO VERSAILLES
September 13 - Friday CHAMPAGNE PRIVATE FULL DAY
September 14 - Saturday DAY AT LEISURE
September 15 - Sunday DAY AT LEISURE
EVENING DINER AT MADAME BRASSERIE
September 16 - Monday DEPARTURE TRANSFER
DEFARTURE TRANSFER



#### **ARRIVAL TRANSFER**

Upon arrival at the airport, enjoy a private transfer to your hotel in Paris city center.

(extra night fare can apply for any transfer between 7 pm and 7 am)





## **HOTELS OPTION FOR YOUR STAY IN PARIS**

We recommend the following hotels for your stay. 3 double rooms & 1 triple room

## Hôtel Le Relais des Halles\*\*\*\*

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## Hôtel Square Louvois\*\*\*\*

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## NEW OPTION: Hotel La Bourdonnais\*\*\*\*

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All prices are per night, per room, breakfast and city tax included.

No option is being held on the rooms









# September 10 - Tuesday



## PRIVATE DAY TOUR TO GIVERNY

**9h30 -** Pick up at your hotel by your private Portuguese speaking guide. You meet with your private driver and coach for the day.

Discover Monet's Giverny on a full day trip from Paris. Immerse yourself in the beauty of the artist's iconic gardens and explore his charming home.

Experience the beauty of Giverny and embark on a journey to Claude Monet's legendary house and breathtaking gardens.

#### **Drive from Paris to Giverny**

After a scenic journey of just over 1.5 hours from Paris, you will arrive in Giverny, where the world of Claude Monet awaits. As one of the most renowned 19th-century French impressionist painters, Monet's home and gardens are a true testament to his artistic genius. The term "impressionism" was even coined from one of Monet's paintings, "Impression, Sunrise," which perfectly captured the essence of this revolutionary art movement.

#### **Visit Claude Monet's House**

Upon arrival, your guide will accompany you to the entrance, ensuring skip-the-line access for a seamless experience. Prepare to be captivated as you step into Claude Monet's House, a place where the artist resided and cultivated his artistic vision. Monet acquired the house in 1883 at the age of 43, thanks to the sale of his paintings to art merchant Durand-Ruel. He believed that this tranquil abode would provide the ideal environment to refine his exploration of light and color.

As you enter the house, you will first discover the enchanting reading room, also known as the "little blue sitting room," followed by Monet's original studio where he worked until 1899. Journey to the first floor, where you will find the private apartments. Explore Monet's bedroom, adorned with objects and artwork from his era, as well as reproductions of paintings by his esteemed friends, including Cézanne, Renoir, Signac, and Caillebotte.

Continue your exploration to Alice's bedroom, Claude Monet's beloved wife, and conclude the tour of the upper floor with the final room, which served as Blanche Monet's bedroom. Descend to the ground floor to visit the dining room and kitchen, where you can marvel at Monet's famous collection of Japanese prints, which greatly influenced his artistic style.

#### **Visit the Clos Normand Garden**

Next, venture into the magical "Clos Normand" Garden, a testament to Monet's profound love for nature and his desire to create a living canvas for his paintings. Inspired by the gardens of his friends and his previous residence in Argenteuil, Monet carefully designed this garden to better paint it. Witness the transformation as he removed trees, much to Alice's initial dismay, and arranged flower beds to play with colors in his artwork. Immerse yourself in the beauty of daffodils, tulips, narcissus, iris, oriental poppies, and peonies, while the central path is adorned with fragrant roses, cherry and Japanese apricot trees, and vibrant nasturtiums.

#### Visit the Water Garden

Prepare to be enchanted as you explore the water garden, a masterpiece created by Monet himself by diverting a small river. Here, he would spend hours immersed in contemplation, captivated by the reflections of the sky on the water's surface. Influenced by the artistic movement of "Japonism," Monet constructed a Japanese bridge and introduced oriental plants such as maple trees, Japanese peonies, white lilies, bamboo, and Ginkgo Biloba. This serene setting inspired Monet's iconic "Nymphéas" series, representing the water lilies pond and pushing the boundaries of abstraction in his art. Today, a team of dedicated gardeners maintains Giverny's gardens throughout the year, ensuring their continued splendor.

#### Lunch will be at your leisure after the visit.

#### Free time for personal discovery

After your guided tour, take some free time to immerse yourself further in the picturesque village of Giverny. If time allows, consider a visit to the Museum of Impressionism to deepen your understanding of this influential art movement. For those who desire a more comprehensive experience, we also offer full-day private tours from Paris to Giverny, allowing ample time to explore and soak in the beauty of Monet's world.

Don't miss this opportunity to discover the enchanting realm of Claude Monet and the vibrant landscapes that inspired his timeless masterpieces. Book your private half-day trip to Giverny from Paris today and create cherished memories that will last a lifetime.

16h30 - Drop off at your hotel in Paris.







# September 11 - Wednesday



#### PRIVATE PARIS FULL DAY

**9h30 -** Pick up at your hotel by your private Portuguese speaking guide. You meet with your private driver and coach for the day.

#### Discover the City of Love's Most Iconic Landmarks on a Personalized Journey

Immerse yourself in the magic of Paris with our exclusive private panoramic full-day sightseeing tour. Explore the city's enchanting highlights, including world-renowned attractions like the Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame Cathedral, the Champs-Élysées, and the Louvre Museum. Our expert guides will provide personalized commentary, offering fascinating insights into the history and culture of the City of Lights. Capture breathtaking views of Paris from unique vantage points during our panoramic tour, showcasing the city's architectural marvels and charming neighborhoods.

#### Personalized Itinerary and Flexibility

Your private guide will propose an itinerary for the day, while also accommodating any specific landmarks or monuments you wish to prioritize. For lunch, we will stop in the charming Marais district, where your guide can suggest suitable restaurants to suit your tastes.

#### These are the main Paris monuments and attractions that you may see during the day:

**Place de la Concorde:** This huge square was arranged in the mid 1700's by famous French architect Gabriel. Two monumental buildings are located on the corner of the Rue Royal – the Crillon Hotel Palace and the General Staff of the Navy. In the center of the square stands the famous obelisk of Louxor, a gift from Egypt, that is surrounded by two fountains. As you stop here, your private guide will certainly evoke the old name of the Square and the gruesome events that took place here during the French Revolution.

**Garnier National Opera:** Stop to admire one of the most famous opera houses in the world. Designed in 1860 by Charles Garnier, the façade offers a large number of sculptures. Inside, the Great Staircase and 'Grand Foyer' are sumptuous. In the Grand Room, the ceiling was painted by March Chagall in 1964. The Opera is also famous for being the setting of the novel by Gaston Leroux, Phantom of the Opera.

Champs Elysées and Arc de Triomphe: No tour of Paris can be complete without a drive up the Champs élysées avenue. The mile long avenue is often coined as the most beautiful in the world and is without a doubt one of the most expensive in the world! From the large 'promenade' avenue of the mid 1800's it has retained its chestnut trees, theaters and a few restaurants. In the second part of the avenue most of the private mansions have disappeared leaving their place to cinemas, cafés and fancy stores.

**The Eiffel Tower:** Without a doubt the most famous monument of Paris, this huge metal tower was built by Gustave Eiffel for the Universel Exhibition of 1889. Planned to be dismantled 20 years after the exhibition, the tower was saved by the wit of Gustave Eiffel who financed scientific studies that made the tower become a building of strategic interest. *Please note that the tour does not include the visit of the Eiffel Tower.* 

**Place des Vosges:** This most beautiful square of Paris is located in the Marais district of Paris. The architecture of the square dates back to the times of King Henri IV with the ground floor made of arches and two levels mounted by high roofs covered with slate tiles and opened with dormer windows.

**Montmartre:** Overlooking Paris, this small neighborhood is set on top of a 130 meter hill. Historically, from a farming area covered with vines and mills, the area has attracted many artists, painters and portraitists such as Toulouse Lautrec, Picasso or Van Gogh. This busy and quartier of Paris is to be discovered by foot as it still retains charming small streets and squares, abrupt staircases that often lead to magical vues of Paris. Here, you will have time to explore Sacre Coeur Basilica and Place du Tertre.

#### According to your preferences, we can also include tickets to Museums such as:

**Le Louvre:** This former residence of French Kings, dating back to 1190, is internationally renowned for its masterpieces, including the Mona Lisa and the Venus de Milo. From its transformation into the seat of power during the French Revolution to the creation of the Greater Louvre, marked by the iconic Pyramid of the Louvre in 1989, the Louvre's history is as captivating as its art.

**Musée d'Orsay:** The Orsay Museum is quite unusual as it was built inside what used to be a train station. The building, located in the heart of Paris along the River Seine was erected in 1900 for the Universal Exhibition of Paris. The museum opened its doors in December of 1986 and is composed of collections of artwork that originated from other museums such as the Musée du Jeu de Paume that was dedicated to Impressionist movement. The Louvre and Modern Art Museum Georges Pompidou also contributed and the collections cover an artistic period of time that spans from 184 to 1914.

17h30 - Drop off at your hotel in Paris.







# September 12 - Thursday



#### **FULL PRIVATE DAY TO VERSAILLES**

**9h30 -** Pick up at your hotel by your private Portuguese speaking guide. You meet with your private driver and coach for the day.

#### Château de Versailles Palace & Gardens

Discover the unparalleled allure of Château de Versailles, a must-visit destination unlike any other in France. As a distinguished 3-star Michelin travel guide site, it stands as the epitome of classical architecture, representing perfection in every detail.

This magnificent palace, the largest known in the world, was an ongoing construction site from the late 17th century until the French Revolution. Symbolizing the power and grandeur of French royalty, from Sun King Louis XIV to Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, it gradually regains its original splendor through extensive restoration efforts.

Guided by your accompanying expert guide, you'll swiftly begin your immersive tour of the palace, delving into its rich history and captivating stories. Traverse the lavish State apartments, marvel at the beautiful chambers of the King and Queen, admire the grandeur of the Royal Chapel and the iconic Hall of Mirrors, and uncover numerous other hidden treasures. You'll also have ample free time to leisurely explore the meticulously designed French-style Gardens, a true embodiment of formal garden architecture, conceived by the visionary André Le Nôtre.

#### The Hall of Mirrors

No visit to the palace is complete without a visit to the renowned Hall of Mirrors. Originally built to replace a terrace, this spectacular room was designed by architect Louis Le Vau and completed by his successor, Jules Hardouin-Mansart, in 1684. Its purpose was to offer a more suitable space for grand events. Today, it stands as a shining example of architectural brilliance, boasting mirrors and providing breathtaking views.

#### The War Room

In 1678, Hardouin Mansart initiated the construction of the War Room. Its decoration, finalized by Le Brun in 1686, pays homage to the military triumphs that led to the peace treaties of Nijmegen. Adorned with marble panels embellished with six trophies and gilded bronze weapons, the walls showcase the glorious victories. An oval stucco bas-relief adjacent to the Apollo Room depicts Louis XIV astride his horse, symbolically trampling his adversaries.

#### The Peace Room

Symmetrically situated opposite the War Room, the Peace Room shares the same marble panel decoration and features chased trophies of arms in gilded bronze. However, Le Brun took a different approach by adorning the cupola and arches with themes highlighting the benefits of peace brought to Europe by France. Initially separated from the hall by a movable partition, this room was considered part of the Queen's Apartment, serving as the final space after the Queen's Chamber, since the beginning of Louis XIV's reign.

#### **Explore the Gardens**

Gaze through the central window in the Hall of Mirrors to behold the magnificent Grand Perspective extending into the horizon from the Water Parterre. Originally established before Louis XIV's reign, this unique east-west perspective was expanded and enhanced by gardener André Le Nôtre, who widened the Royal Way and excavated the Grand Canal.

Creating these extraordinary gardens was an immense undertaking. Vast quantities of soil were moved to level the terrain, create parterres, construct the Orangery, and carve out fountains and the Canal, transforming meadows and marshes. Trees were carefully sourced from diverse regions of France, and thousands of workers, including entire regiments, contributed to this monumental project.

#### Lunch at leisure at a restaurant recommended by your guide

After lunch, your guide will accompany you to the Petit Trianon, a charming chateau within the Versailles grounds that was used by Marie Antoinette for intimate gatherings and as an escape from the formalities of the court.

#### The Petit Trianon

Architect Ange-Jacques Gabriel constructed the Petit Trianon under the reign of Louis XV, providing the royal family with a more intimate retreat. Later, King Louis XVI gifted the palace to his young bride, Marie Antoinette, earning the estate its association with her name. Napoleon subsequently restored the palace and gardens, and in 1867, Empress Eugénie transformed the Petit Trianon into a museum dedicated to Marie Antoinette. While exploring, you can also visit the Queen's Hamlet, a picturesque Norman village and farm that Marie Antoinette had built in 1783 to escape the confines of the Versailles court.

#### The Queen's Hamlet

Discover the captivating Queen's Hamlet, an idyllic Norman-style village and farm intended for Marie Antoinette's enjoyment with her closest companions, embracing a simpler and more rustic way of life. Completed just before the French Revolution, the Hamlet serves as a testament to the Queen's desire for tranquility amid the grandeur of the main palace's cold marble halls.

Immerse yourself in the wonders of Versailles and make lasting memories of this extraordinary journey. Please note that lunch is included in this tour, and we offer both private and group options to cater to your preferences. Book your private full-day tour to the Palace of Versailles and indulge in the splendor of French history and culture.

17h30 - Drop off at your hotel in Paris.











#### **CHAMPAGNE PRIVATE FULL DAY**

**9h00 -** Pick up at your hotel by your private Portuguese speaking guide. You meet with your private driver and coach for the day.

#### **Experience an Exclusive Tour of Champagne Vineyards and Historic Reims**

Are you ready to sample world-class champagne in the region of France that created it?

#### **MOET AND CHANDON CHAMPAGNE HOUSE VISIT\***

Today, our champagne day tour will take you to Epernay, the epicenter of the champagne production. You will have the opportunity to stop at the world-famous Moët & Chandon winery, where you will be able to taste different kinds of champagnes. Stroll through the historic champagne cellars where champagne has been ageing for centuries. Moët & Chandon is not new in the game, as it was already loved by Napoléon I and the Marquise de Pompadour, who was the official chief mistress of King Louis XV. Today, the brand is one of the most distributed in the world and is heavily consumed at international events such as the Cannes Film Festival. During your visit you will learn about the different grapes varieties that are used in the making of the wine such as Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier, Chardonnay or Pinot Gris. End your visit with a Champagne tasting session.

#### \*subject to availability at the time of booking

Lunch included at a local restaurant - 2 course meal, drinks not included (to be paid on site)

#### **REIMS MOUNTAIN SIGHTSEEING AND VILLAGES**

After lunch head straight to the Marne Valley and see where the Champagne grapes are grown. In the village of Hautvillers, make a stop to visit the tomb of Dom Pérignon, located in the beautiful Hautvillers Abbey. Dom Pérignon made his mark in history by profusely contributing to the enhancement of the production and the quality of wine in the Champagne region. He also pushed forward white and sparkling wines in a region where, in his time, red wine was still dominant. The legend says he was so skilled, he could tell which vineyard a single grape came from just by tasting it. Today, one of the most famous champagne brands, Dom Pérignon, is still named after him.

#### TOUR AND TASTING AT A FAMILY ESTATE

Finally, we will take you to a much smaller family Champagne producer. You will discover another side of the champagne making business, operating on a much smaller scale than Möet & Chandon or Veuve Clicquot and other big estates. Learn how champagne is traditionally made and try some vintages you have never tasted before. An authentic, small batch champagne wine coming straight from the Champagne region makes a great souvenir from a trip to France, or a gift that family and friends will love.

18h30 - Drop off at your hotel in Paris.









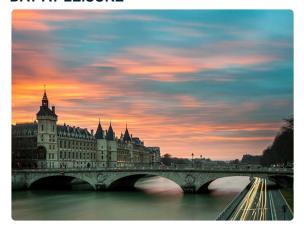


# DAY AT LEISURE





## **DAY AT LEISURE**





# **EVENING DINER AT MADAME BRASSERIE**

We include the round trip transfer from your hotel & the reservation at the restaurant\*.

\*Note that we cannot put an option on the booking at the restaurant. The reservation will be made only once the itinerary is confirmed and secured with a deposit.



# September 16 - Monday



# **DEPARTURE TRANSFER**

At time to be confirmed - meet with your driver and enjoy a private departure transfer to CDG airport from your hotel in Paris.

(extra night fare can apply for any transfer between 7 pm and 7 am)

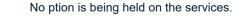
#### Information & Documents



#### **PRICING**

This price does not include the accommodation. Only transportation, guide, entrances, mentionned meal.

#### **INFORMATION ABOUT PRICING**





All prices and services are subject to availability at the time of booking. Should a provider be unavailable, we will provide an alternative of same standard. Prices are subject to change without notice. Once Operator receives Guest's completed Credit Card booking form and Tour deposit payment, Guest's Tour price is guaranteed and the Tour price will not increase.

# INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS INCLUSIONS



- Private arrival transfer from CDG airport to hotel in Paris
- Private Portuguese speaking guide on Sept 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th
- Private transportation on Sept 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th
- · Tickets to Giverny
- Tickets to one museum in Paris (to be chosen after confirmation)
- Tickats to Castle and Gardens of Versailles
- One visit and Champagne tasting (Moet & Chandon subject to availability, can be replaced by another Champagne house)
- Lunch in Epernay
- · Booking at restaurant Madame Brasserie
- · Private round trip transfer from hotel to Madame Brasserie
- · Private departure transfer from Paris hotel to CDG Airport

#### **EXCLUSIONS**

- Accommodation : option to choose
- · Train and flights
- · Other visits
- · Other services
- · Other meals
- Extras
- · Personnal expenses
- Gratuities



#### **CANCELLATION POLICY FOR GROUPS**

Operator strictly adheres to its cancellation policy and will make no exceptions to the policy. If Guest chooses to cancel his or her reservation, Operator must receive written notice of said cancellation in writing via certified mail, fax or e-mail sent to info@ophorus.com (with confirmation of receipt from Operator), and Guest shall be subject to the following cancellation fee schedule:

#### PAYMENT CONDITIONS AND CANCELLATION FEES FOR GROUPS (LARGER THAN 8 PEOPLE)

Ophorus requires a deposit of 30% on booking confirmation with balance to be made at least 30 days prior to arrival (in case of last minute registration payment is expected immediately). We accept payment by credit cards (Visa, Master card, American Express) or bank transfer (Wire transfer fees at the charge of the Guest). There is no charge or service fee for processing credit card payments except with American Express +3%.

A group is composed of more than 8 people and the rate is calculated according to a precise number of participants. The below cancellation policies apply to all the group.

In case one or several persons in the group have to cancel their tour, the price of the tour will be recalculated with the definite number of participants. The below cancellation policies also apply for the person(s) cancelling its/their participation.

- 60+ days: €20 fee per person
- 59 to 30 days prior to arrival: 30% of the overall price (deposit)
- 29 to 15 days prior to arrival: 75% of the overall price
- 14 days or less prior to arrival: no refund

No insurance for cancellation or assistance is included in the prices mentioned for all packages. Each customer has to check that he or she has the appropriate documents for their journey: a passport (with visa if necessary) or a valid ID card. No refund will be granted in case of lack or loss of ID documents. Eating, drinking and smoking on board the minivans are strictly forbidden (law of September 17th, 1977). All passengers are insured during the excursions while in the vans. The responsibility of Ophorus is limited to our insurance contract clauses.