



Itinerary

French Impressions featuring Nice Carnival

Feb 11, 2021 - Feb 21, 2021

Pre Night: Le Meridien Etoile Hotel



Set on the "Rive Droite" ("right bank") of the Seine in Paris, Le Méridien Etoile is nearby to the legendary Champs-Élysées. The hotel features 1,025 guest rooms.

Day 1: Overnight Flight



Journey through the best of France as you explore lively Paris, romantic Provence and delightful Nice.

Day 2: Paris, France - Tour Begins



Your tour opens in Paris, the "City of Light." Tonight, sample delicious French cuisine and witness breathtaking views during dinner at the Eiffel Tower. Following dinner, get a different perspective of the city during a Seine River cruise. As you glide along, admire Paris' glittering skyline.

Hotel

Le Meridien Etoile
Paris

Culinary

Dinner

Weather

High 45°
Low 34°
Rain 2"

Day 3: Paris



Come to know Paris your way. It's your choice! Take a splendid panoramic coach tour featuring the breathtaking architecture of the Arc de Triomphe, Place de la Concorde, Place Vendome, the Champs-Élysées and the Notre Dame Cathedral -OR- enter the world of Impressionism with a visit to the Musée D'Orsay with its magnificent French Impressionist art collection. Live out your own Parisian adventure during a free afternoon. Perhaps you will join an optional excursion to the world-renowned Louvre, home to the iconic Mona Lisa. This evening, an optional dinner and show at Paris' oldest cabaret, the Paradis Latin, is offered.

Hotel

Le Meridien Etoile
Paris

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 45°
Low 34°
Rain 2"

Day 4: Paris - Versailles - Giverny - Paris



Explore the history, architecture and gardens of Versailles, one of the world's most magnificent royal palaces and finest, most complete examples of 17th century architecture. Your local guide will recount the history of the palace and lead you through the various rooms of the State Apartments. Discover its immeasurable opulence and see its treasures including the Queen's bedchamber and the famous Hall of Mirrors. You then have time to explore the incredible gardens, some of the most famous in the world, which took over 40 years to complete. This afternoon, Claude Monet's famous paintings come to life with a visit to the artist's lovely home and enchanting gardens in the village of Giverny. The remainder of the evening is at leisure for you to explore Paris' many hidden treasures on your own.

Hotel

Le Meridien Etoile
Paris

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 45°
Low 34°
Rain 2"

Day 5: Paris - TGV Train - Avignon - Aix-en-Provence



Climb aboard the high speed TGV Train and "fly" through the beautiful French countryside on your way to Provence. Arrive in Avignon for a delightful tour of this historic walled city. Avignon, often called the "City of Popes," acted as a center of European religion for 70 years when the Papacy moved there in 1309. A visit to the Palace of the Popes brings this history to life. Continue to Aix-en-Provence, a lovely town once frequented by Hemingway and the inspiration to many artists. This evening, enjoy Provençal cuisine at your hotel's elegant restaurant.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Roi Rene
Aix-en-Provence

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 46°
Low 34°
Rain 1"

Day 6: Aix-en-Provence



This morning a local expert takes you on a tour of Aix-en-Provence. This charming city is full of lively streets, squares and fountains. Walk in the steps of Cézanne when you visit his atelier (workshop) and enter the artist's most private space. The afternoon is yours to continue to discover the city's many secrets.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Roi Rene
Aix-en-Provence

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 46°
Low 34°
Rain 1"

Day 7: Aix-en-Provence - Luberon - Gordes - Aix-en-Provence



Visit the Musee du Calisson, a confectionery factory where you will discover the unique taste of a calisson. This delicacy—a mix of almonds, candied melon, orange blossom fragrance and marzipan—is a local specialty. Delve into the Provençal landscape during a visit to the picturesque region of Luberon, known for its beautiful lavender fields.* Take time in the hilltop village of Gordes to explore its charms. Visit the Lavender Museum and learn about this precious plant, its unique distillation process and its uses throughout history. You are in for a treat this evening when you stop at a local vineyard with commanding views of Mont Sainte-Victoire and enjoy a tasting of their delicious wines before indulging in a sumptuous Provençal meal.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Roi Rene
Aix-en-Provence

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 46°
Low 34°
Rain 1"

Day 8: Aix-en-Provence - Grasse - St. Paul de Vence - Nice



This morning, journey to the world's perfume capital, Grasse, and learn the secrets of perfume making, from extraction to distillation, while visiting one of the region's famous parfumeries. Next, travel to the hilltop village of St. Paul de Vence. Enjoy some free time to explore charming sun-dappled streets, elegant fountains and breathtaking views. Then it's off to Nice, the renowned playground of the rich and famous.

Hotel

Splendid Hotel & Spa
Nice

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 55°
Low 43°
Rain 2"

Day 9: Nice - Monaco - Monte Carlo - Nice



Today, witness the splendor of Monaco, the dazzling gem of the Riviera. A panoramic tour highlights the famous and extravagant Casino of Monte Carlo and the spectacular 13th-century Prince's Palace. Pause to see the Cathedral of Monaco, where Prince Rainier III and Princess Grace are buried.

Hotel

Splendid Hotel & Spa
Nice

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 55°
Low 43°
Rain 2"

Day 10: Nice - Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat - Nice Carnival



This morning you'll feel like a local as you stroll through the colorful and fragrant flower market in Nice.** Continue to Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat and visit the luxurious apartments of the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. Explore the lush gardens with magnificent views of the Mediterranean Sea. Your visit to the villa is complete with a light lunch served in the charming tea room. The remainder of your afternoon is free to discover Nice's Place Massena and the lively seafront Promenade des Anglais. Partake in world-class shopping, sample the many French delicacies found in the south of France, or simply relax and take in the laid-back atmosphere along the Riviera. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner at a quaint restaurant. Following dinner, celebrate the end of your trip in the most unforgettable way by attending one of the world's oldest and most famous carnivals. Dating back to the middle ages, the Nice Carnival is a party not to be missed. The Carnival's theme changes every year and is celebrated with two spectacular parades. Mingle with locals and travelers alike as you take in the many sights and sounds at this high energy and entertaining event.

Hotel

Splendid Hotel & Spa
Nice

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 55°
Low 43°
Rain 2"

Day 11: Nice - Tour Ends



Your tour ends today, leaving you with many wonderful memories.

Post Night: Splendid Hotel & Spa



The Splendid Hotel Nice is a 4-star hotel located in a quiet, residential area in central Nice. This 128-room hotel offers great accommodations, wonderful dining, and beautiful panoramic views over Nice and the mountains.