



## Itinerary

France Magnifique featuring the 75th Anniversary of D-Day & Normandy

Mar 20, 2020 - Apr 2, 2020

### Pre Night: Hyatt Regency Paris Etoile



Hyatt Regency Paris Étoile is conveniently located close to the Champs-Élysées, between the La Défense business district and the Triangle d'Or shopping area. All 950 rooms are spacious, bright and well appointed with modern amenities.

### Day 1: Paris, France - Tour Begins



Your tour opens in beautiful Paris. Celebrate the beginning of a fabulous trip with a sunset river cruise past famous glittering landmarks along the River Seine, which divides the north from the south of Paris into what is known as the Right Bank and the Left Bank. Then we'll head to one of Paris' brasseries for a delightful French dinner. Enjoy sumptuous food and wine set amongst an Art Nouveau background reminiscent of the jazz and Hemingway-era of Paris.

#### Hotel

Hyatt Regency Paris Etoile  
Paris

#### Culinary

Dinner

#### Weather

High 12°  
Low 3°  
Rain 2"

### Day 2: Paris



It's your choice! Take a splendid panoramic coach tour that includes a stop for a short walking tour inside the impressive Notre Dame Cathedral -OR- for a truly local experience, join a guide who will take you to some of Paris' most iconic sights by Metro. Either way you'll see the Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame Cathedral, Champs-Élysées, Place de la Concorde, and the magnificent Place Vendôme. Write your own story during a free afternoon. Perhaps you'll take an optional guided tour at the famous Louvre.

#### Hotel

Hyatt Regency Paris Etoile  
Paris

#### Culinary

Breakfast

#### Weather

High 12°  
Low 3°  
Rain 2"

### Day 3: Paris - Caen



Set off for the Normandy coast. During WWII, the largest invasion in history took place here. Visit the Memorial Peace Museum, built to commemorate those who died in the epic Battle of Normandy in 1944. Later, see the remains of the artificial Mulberry port built near Arromanche-les-Bains – where the allies resupplied their lines during the liberation of France – before making your way to the hotel.

**Hotel Culinary**

Mercure Caen City Center-port De Plaisance Breakfast  
Caen

**Weather**

High 12°  
Low 4°  
Rain 1"

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## Day 4: Caen - D-Day Landing Sites - Caen



This morning visit the Omaha Beach Cemetery and stop by the Normandy American Cemetery Visitor Centre. See the stars and stripes raised over the graves of the valiant soldiers who gave their lives in the Battle of Normandy. Then, walk through Pointe du Hoc Ranger Memorial and see where the 2nd Ranger Battalion scaled 100-foot cliffs on D-Day to seize the fortified enemy position. Next, make your way to Sainte Mère Eglise, the heart of the American Airborne operations on D-Day, and visit its parachute-shaped Airborne Museum. You will also visit the landing beaches of Utah and Juno.

**Hotel Culinary**

Mercure Caen City Center-port De Plaisance Breakfast & Dinner  
Caen

**Weather**

High 12°  
Low 4°  
Rain 1"

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## Day 5: Caen - Bayeux - Dinan - Saint-Malo



Travel back in history when you stand before the impressive Bayeux Tapestry (UNESCO), a 230-foot embroidered cloth depicting the events leading up to the Norman conquest of England. Next, journey to Dinan, one of the best-preserved medieval villages in France. Join a local guide for a walking tour along cobblestone streets and discover the city's fortified walls. Continue exploring as you walk up the famous Rue de Jerzual hill to the town centre. You'll fall in love with the streets lined with half-timbered houses and the ramparts that overlook this picture-perfect port village. Then it's off to Saint-Malo, Brittany's famous coastal village. Here you'll be immersed in the beautiful beaches, striking blue water, and views of the fortified Old Town where you'll enjoy a wonderfully prepared local dinner.

**Hotel Culinary**

Hotel Oceania Breakfast & Dinner  
St Malo

**Weather**

High 12°  
Low 6°

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## Day 6: Saint-Malo - Le Mont St. Michel - Saint-Malo



Travel to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Le Mont St. Michel, the "Wonder of the West." Resting on the border between Normandy and Brittany, this world-famous pilgrimage site sits on the edge of the sea and becomes an island at high tide. Take in the breathtaking views as you stroll through the old city at the base of the village before exploring one of the most beautiful abbeys in France, dating back to the 11th century. Return to Saint-Malo and enjoy time to relax or explore independently.

**Hotel Culinary**

Hotel Oceania Breakfast  
St Malo

**Weather**

High 12°  
Low 6°

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## Day 7: Saint-Malo - Chinon - Loire Valley



Journey south to the Loire Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site brimming with châteaux and parks, once the setting for the French court. Arrive in the medieval village of Chinon. Explore the town famed for where Joan of Arc first met young Charles VII and shared her vision that he would defeat the English during the Hundred Years' War. Visit the market,\* abundant with fresh produce, flowers and local products and take time to enjoy lunch along the banks of the Vienne River. Visit Château de Villandry and explore its exquisitely decorated interior and ornate gardens. This afternoon, feel like royalty when you arrive at y the United States' 15th century castle accommodation at the Château de Beauvois. Delve into the history of this site which was frequented by King Louis XIII. This evening delight in gourmet French cuisine in the dining room of your château.

**Hotel Culinary**

Chateau Hotel Domaine De Beauvois Breakfast & Dinner  
Loire Valley

## Day 8: Loire Valley - Amboise - Loire Valley



Embark on a tour of the spectacular Château de Chenonceau. Perched along the banks of the Cher River, it is a jewel of Renaissance architecture. Head to the picturesque centre of Amboise. Enjoy free time for exploring and getting to know the local culture. Tour Château du Clos Lucé – where Leonardo da Vinci spent his last three years – which showcases a display of his early inventions. Next, tour a local winery and discover some of Europe's best wines.

**Hotel Culinary**

Chateau Hotel Domaine De Beauvois Breakfast  
Loire Valley

## Day 9: Loire Valley - Lyon



Travel the French countryside to the gastronomical capital of France, Lyon (UNESCO). The city was once an important area for silk production. Today it is famous for its world-renowned cuisine. This evening experience this cuisine firsthand when you dine at a bouchon, a local restaurant that serves traditional Lyonnaise fare.

### Hotel

Mercure Lyon Centre Saxe Lafayette  
Lyon

### Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

### Weather

High 12°  
Low 3°  
Rain 2"

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## Day 10: Lyon - Avignon



Visit the Basilica of Notre Dame de Fourvier with its amazing views of the city. Tour the historic Vieux Lyon, or Old Quarter, with a local expert. Continue to Les Halles de Lyon - Paul Bocuse market,\* named after the famous chef. Marvel at its culinary delights as you enjoy free time to explore before continuing to Provence and the city of Avignon.

### Hotel

Mercure Avignon Centre  
Avignon

### Culinary

Breakfast

### Weather

High 12°  
Low 3°  
Rain 2"

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## Day 11: Avignon



This morning come to know the walled city of Avignon during a walking tour led by a local guide. Learn about the historical period when the Papacy moved here in 1309. Then, explore some of the 25 rooms of the 14th-century papal palace, Palais des Papes, the world's largest Gothic palace. Your evening is capped off with dinner at a local restaurant, complete with a cocktail and crème brûlée demonstration.

### Hotel

Mercure Avignon Centre  
Avignon

### Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

### Weather

High 12°  
Low 3°  
Rain 2"

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## Day 12: Avignon - Antibes - Grasse - Nice



Travel to Antibes and rub shoulders with Europe's elite in this Riviera getaway. After some free time to explore, continue to Grasse, the centre of the world's perfume industry. Learn the secrets of perfume making, from extraction to distillation, whilst visiting a famous parfumerie. Then journey to Nice, the renowned playground of the rich and famous. The evening is yours to explore this seaside destination.

### Hotel

Splendid Hotel & Spa  
Nice

### Culinary

Breakfast

### Weather

High 13°  
Low 9°  
Rain 2"

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## Day 13: Nice - Monaco - Monte Carlo - Nice



This morning you'll feel like a local as you stroll through the colourful and fragrant flower market\* in Nice. Then you're off to discover Place Massena and the lively seafront Promenade des Anglais. Your journey then takes you to 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. Gather for a farewell dinner tonight to celebrate the end of a fabulous trip to France!

### Hotel

Splendid Hotel & Spa  
Nice

### Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

### Weather

High 16°  
Low 9°  
Rain 2"

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## Day 14: Nice - Tour Ends



Set out for home with many magnificent memories.

## Post Night: Hotel Splendid Nice



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.