



Itinerary

French Impressions featuring Nice Carnival

Feb 14, 2020 - Feb 23, 2020

Day 1: 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 7°
Low 1°
Rain 2"

Day 2: 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-Elysees 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 7°
Low 1°
Rain 2"

Day 3: 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 painting "Waterlilies" comes 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 7°
Low 1°
Rain 2"

Day 4: 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 centre of European religion for 70 years when the Popes 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 fine French dining at your hotel’s elegant restaurant.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Roi Rene
AixenProvence

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 8°
Low 1°
Rain 1"

Day 5: 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. Continue to Mont Sainte-Victoire and see the natural surroundings which are portrayed in the painter’s works. Explore the 18th century jewel of Aix-en-Provence with a visit to the Hôtel de Caumont Art Centre. Delve into the intimate atmosphere of a private mansion as you view its works of art and exhibits. The evening is yours to continue to discover the city’s many secrets.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Roi Rene
AixenProvence

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 8°
Low 1°
Rain 1"

Day 6: Aix-en-Provence - Luberon - Gordes - Aix-en-Provence



Visit the Musée 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 speciality. 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 and tour their wine cellar and olive oil mill. Complete your day with a cooking demonstration and a sumptuous Provençal meal paired with local wines.

Hotel

Grand Hotel Roi Rene
AixenProvence

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 8°
Low 1°
Rain 1"

Day 7: Aix-en-Provence - Cannes - Nice



Journey to Cannes to rub shoulders with Europe’s elite. A local expert joins you on a walking tour of Cannes where you will learn about the fascinating history of the city and the Lérins Islands located offshore. Walk in the footsteps of celebrities when you see the Film Festival Palace and the famous red carpet featured during the Cannes Film Festival. Then it’s off to Nice, the renowned playground of the rich and famous.

Hotel

Splendid Hotel & Spa
Nice

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 13°
Low 6°
Rain 2"

Day 8: Nice - Eze - Monaco - Monte Carlo - Nice



Explore the charming hillside village of Eze. Learn the secrets of perfume making, from extraction to distillation, whilst visiting a famous parfumerie. Your journey then takes you to witness the splendour 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. Complete your trip to Monaco with a visit to the fascinating Oceanographic Museum.

Hotel

Splendid Hotel & Spa
Nice

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 13°
Low 6°
Rain 2"

Day 9: Nice - Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat - Nice Carnival



This morning you'll feel like a local as you stroll through the colourful 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 day 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 travellers 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 13°

Low 6°

Rain 2"

Day 10: Nice - Tour Ends



Your time on tour comes to a close today, but there's more of the world to see. Now it's off to make new memories.