



France, Switzerland & Italy

15 Days | Summer 2028

The experience of a lifetime is waiting for you. Every detail from the cities you'll stay in to the cultural discoveries you'll make have been customized by your teacher for your group. Take a look at your personal itinerary for a sneak peek of what's in store.

Included on tour



Round-trip flights on major carriers; full-time Tour Director; project-based learning program, EF's personalized learning experience; hotels with private bathrooms; breakfast and dinner daily unless otherwise specified.

Sightseeing: Paris; Versailles

Entrances: Notre-Dame Cathedral; Versailles Palace; Versailles Gardens; Louvre; Sacré Coeur; Matterhorn cable car Cog railway to Gornergrat; Swiss Alps experience; Bike tour, Lake Como (pending); Cinque Terre train card; Castello di Riomaggiore; Cooking class, Cinque Terre

Overnights: Paris (3); Zermatt region (2); Lucerne region (2); Lake Como region (1); Cinque Terre region (3); French Riviera (2)



Your Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to France

Board your overnight flight to Paris!

Day 2: Paris

Arrive in Paris

Welcome to Paris, the cosmopolitan City of Light. While visiting, learn why Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically.

Walking tour of Paris

Join your Tour Director on a walking tour that will introduce you to Paris. Together, you might see the chic, boutique-filled Opéra district, city's largest square at the Place de la Concord, and the geometric Tuileries gardens.

Visit Notre-Dame Cathedral

Visit the cathedral that inspired Victor Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*. Admire the stained-glass rose window and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings. *(Please note, due to a devastating fire in April 2019, the Notre Dame entry requirements remain fluid and may change by your tour date).*

Day 3: Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your panoramic bus tour. An expert local guide will accompany you as you drive through Paris' lively Latin Quarter. You will also drive down the elegant, tree-lined Champs-Élysées. Finally, be sure to snap a photo at the magnificent Eiffel Tower, an unmistakable and controversial symbol of Paris since its appearance at the 1889 World's Fair.

Guided excursion to Versailles

Journey to the town of Versailles, home of the decadent Palais de Versailles. During your guided tour of this lavish estate, discover why Versailles was more than just a vacation home for Louis XIV. Explore the state apartments of the king and queen and the magnificent Hall of Mirrors. Then walk through the meticulously landscaped gardens and marvel at dozens of ornate fountains. *(Because of the extreme popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace.)*

Seine River cruise

This evening, take a narrated river cruise along the Seine. As your boat glides from one graceful bridge to the next, sit back and gaze at the illuminated landmarks of Paris as they pan into view.

Day 4: Paris

Visit the Louvre

The Palais du Louvre, built to defend the city in the 13th century, now safeguards one of the world's greatest art collections. Enter the museum through world-renowned architect I.M. Pei's 1989 modernist glass pyramid. Inside, discover priceless antiquities from Egypt, Greece, Italy and Asia such as the statues of *Venus de Milo* and *Nike of Samothrace*, better known as *Winged Victory*. You'll also see some of the Louvre's most prized paintings by Renaissance and European masters, including Leonardo da Vinci's painting of the mysterious *Mona Lisa*. *(Please note that due to limited group reservations, your group may visit another art museum when the Louvre is not available.)*

Visit Sacré-Coeur and Montmartre

Visit the spectacular Sacré-Coeur, a Catholic basilica built atop the Montmartre hill. From here enjoy some of the most breathtaking views of the City of Light before heading to the cafés and shops that line the small and quaint streets. Relax at the Place du Tertre and watch talented artists at work or choose to have your own portrait done. Montmartre was once home to many struggling artists, including Picasso, Monet, and Renoir.

Exploration time to visit the Eiffel Tower

Enjoy some free time at the iconic Eiffel Tower where you may choose to climb to the top to take in the panoramic views of Paris.

Day 5: Paris | Zermatt region

Travel by train to Geneva

Transfer via TGV to Geneva Get on board one of France's Trains a Grande Vitesse (TGV) and watch the rolling countryside and picturesque towns roll by as you approach speeds of up to 170 miles per hour.

Travel to the Zermatt region

Transfer to the naturally beautiful city of Zermatt. Zermatt epitomizes the image of Switzerland: high-alpine, awe-inspiring and original.

Day 6: Zermatt region

Matterhorn Cable Car

Today, take a ride to the highest cable car station in Europe, at 3,883 meters. From here, enjoy breathtaking views of the surrounding Alps.

Cog railway to Gornergrat

Set out into the mountainous landscapes surrounding the Matterhorn today to visit Gornergrat, a ridge overlooking the Gorner Glacier. Board Europe's highest open-air cog railway for a ride to the summit and take in spectacular panoramic views of the Matterhorn

Day 7: Zermatt region | Lucerne region

Travel to the Lucerne region

Recall the legends of folk hero William Tell (and his fortunate aim) as you overnight in the Vierwaldstättersee (Lake Lucerne) region.

Walking tour of Lucerne

Get to know Lucerne during your Tour Director-led walking tour. You might walk the length of the Kapellbrücke, Lucerne's medieval covered bridge, make your way to the Lion Monument, a statue carved into a rock cliff near the center of town, or stroll along serene Lake Lucerne to take in the majestic mountain views.

Day 8: Lucerne region

Swiss Alps experience

Venture to the roof of the Swiss Alps, atop one of the majestic peaks that tower over charming Lucerne. Take a boat across Lake Lucerne and ride a cog railway to the top of either Mount Pilatus (best known for its steep railway and its iconic craggy summit) or Mount Rigi (beloved for its original mountain railway and its history as a favorite spot of Mark Twain). Enjoy the splendid views of the quaint villages and fields of Switzerland as you trek along the mountain with your group. *(Note: Warm clothes and appropriate shoes recommended.)*

Day 9: Lucerne region | Lake Como region

Travel to the Lake Como region

Transfer to the Lake Como region, a literal oasis of charm and tranquility surrounded by rolling hills and alpine views which is located just miles from Switzerland.

Lake Como cruise

Enjoy a cruise on Lake Como, probably the best known of Italy's lakes due to its mountain views and magnificent villas. A boat cruise around Lago di Como brings you up close to the pristine beauty of this northern Italian lake. At 1,350 feet, it is the deepest lake in Europe. Surrounded by the Swiss Alps to the north and the Italian Alps to the east and west, the lake stretches for 30 miles and splits into three parts at Bellagio, the centro di lago, or center of the lake.

Bike tour Lake Como (*pending*)

Embark on a breathtaking bike tour around the enchanting shores of Lake Como, where every twist and turn reveals new layers of beauty. *(pending safety check)*

Your Itinerary

Day 10: Lake Como region | Cinque Terre region

Travel to the Cinque Terre region

Welcome to the Cinque Terre region, a cluster of towns perched on the dramatic cliffs of the Mediterranean coast. Each of the region's five Italian villages- Monterosso, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Riomaggiore- has its own unique character and charm.

Visit the Castello di Riomaggiore

Nestled atop a rugged hill overlooking the picturesque village of Riomaggiore, Castello di Riomaggiore stands as a silent sentinel, watching over the azure waters of the Ligurian Sea. This medieval fortress, dating back to the 13th century, is a testament to the region's rich history and architectural prowess.

Cooking class

Immerse yourself in the culinary delights of the Cinque Terre with an authentic Italian cooking class.

Day 11: Cinque Terre region

Visit Cinque Terre

Travel by train between the villages and take in views of dazzling aquamarine water, which makes the area popular with sunbathers and swimmers. From Monterosso's lively markets to Vernazza's medieval forts and Manarola's pastel-colored edifices, there is something for everyone to discover and enjoy in Cinque Terre. You can choose to do one of the many hiking trails around Cinque Terre or choose to spend time at the beach.

Day 12: Cinque Terre region

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Day 13: Cinque Terre region | French Riviera

Travel via Monaco to the French Riviera

Travel to the spectacular coastline of the glamorous French Riviera, land of sparkling waters, waving palm trees and sun-drenched promenades. Before checking into your hotel, stop in the ritzy city-state of Monaco.

Walking tour of Monaco

Get to know Monaco during your Tour Director-led walking tour. Together, you might see the Casino Monte-Carlo, the Cathédrale de Monaco, or the hairpin turn made famous by the Monaco Grand Prix.

Day 14: French Riviera

Exploration time in Nice at the beach

Enjoy time today to make your own explorations of the area. You may choose to soak in the views at one of the areas local beaches or walk around the town.

Day 15: Depart for home

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.com/bc.

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My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan, and knowledgeable tour guides.

—CHARLOTTE, PARENT OF TRAVELER

“ Tour review

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