



Historical Pilgrimage Through Lourdes, Poitiers & Paris

10 Days | Spring 2027

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: Lourdes; Dessert-themed walking tour of Bordeaux; Poitiers; Paris

Entrances: Basilica & Grotto of Massabielle; Church of Saint-Georges; Cathedral of Saint-Pierre; Église Notre-Dame de Coussay-Les-Bois; Église Saint-Martin; Seine River dinner cruise

Overnights: Lourdes region (2); Bordeaux (1); Poitiers region (2); Paris (3)



Your Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to France

Board your overnight flight to Toulouse!

Day 2: Toulouse region | Lourdes region

Arrive in Lourdes

Meet your Tour Director at the Toulouse airport and continue to Lourdes. Nestled in the French Pyrenees, Lourdes has welcomed millions of visitors over the years, most of them Catholic pilgrims. According to Roman Catholic belief, the Virgin Mary appeared here in 1858 to a poor shepherd girl named Bernadette Soubirous. Seventeen more times the Virgin appeared, and in turn Lourdes has become the most important Catholic pilgrimage site in the world.

Group Leader-arranged evening reflection (*time permitting*)

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the day's learning moments or for group prayer. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Day 3: Lourdes region

Guided sightseeing of Lourdes

Begin at the Grotto of Massabielle, where the Virgin is said to have appeared 18 times to Bernadette Soubirous. See a statue of Mary and the Miraculous Spring that reportedly sprouted when Bernadette scraped the ground, as instructed by Mary. The Catholic Church recognizes the healing powers of its waters. You will pass by the Upper Basilica and the Basilica of Pius X before continuing to the birthplace of Bernadette, the home where she was born on January 7, 1844.

Group Leader-arranged Mass

Today your Group Leader has arranged for your group to attend Mass. *(Please see your Group Leader for additional details.)*

Free time for the Marian Procession

Enjoy a free evening to attend the Marian Procession, which has occurred every night since 1872, ending at a Mass in the Grotto of the Apparition.

Group Leader-arranged evening reflection (*time permitting*)

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the day's learning moments or for group prayer. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Day 4: Lourdes region | Bordeaux

Travel to Bordeaux

Perhaps best known for its wine production, the Bordeaux region is one of the most alluring in all of France. The city itself has been the focal point for some of European history's most important events, such as the marriage of Edward I and Eleanor of Aquitaine in 1152, as well as the end of the Hundred Year's War in 1453.

Dessert-themed guided sightseeing of Bordeaux

With an expert local guide, embark on a dessert-themed walking tour of Bordeaux, stopping by notable monuments to take in French history while tasting delicious desserts.

Group Leader-arranged evening reflection (*time permitting*)

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the day's learning moments or for group prayer. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Day 5: Bordeaux | Poitiers region

Visit the Church of Saint-Georges

The Church of Saint-Georges in Saint-Georges-de-Noisné invites pilgrims into a sacred space whose Romanesque-and-Gothic roots stretch back to the 11th–12th centuries, offering a setting shaped by centuries of worship, monastic influence, and devotion. Take some time to reflect before the plaque commemorating the 1767 baptism of Henriette Aymer de La Chevalerie—founder of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts—making the church a meaningful stop for those drawn to stories of faith, vocation, and spiritual renewal.

Guided sightseeing Poitiers

Your expertly guided tour will introduce you to Poitiers, a significant base for the Catholic Counter-Reformation in the 17th- and 18th-centuries. Learn about Poitiers cultural and religious transformations during this era and the impact of the subsequent French Revolution.

Visit the Cathedral of Saint-Pierre

Begun in 1162 under the patronage of Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine, the Cathedral of Saint-Pierre in Poitiers offers pilgrims a profound encounter with centuries of Christian devotion, expressed through its vast Angevin Gothic hall-church design and luminous 12th- and 13th-century stained-glass windows—including the famed Crucifixion Window gifted by its royal founders. Within its broad, prayerful interior, visitors can reflect beside some of France's oldest choir stalls and absorb the enduring spiritual legacy of a site shaped by medieval faith, artistry, and the intertwined histories of church and crown.

Group Leader-arranged Mass

Today your Group Leader has arranged for your group to attend Mass. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Group Leader-arranged evening reflection (*time permitting*)

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the day's learning moments or for group prayer. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Day 6: Poitiers region

Excursion to Coussay-Les-Bois

Journey to Coussay-Les-Bois and stand where Fr. Pierre Coudrin—born here in 1768 to a deeply Christian farming family—first learned the simple, steadfast faith that would later sustain him through persecution and inspire the founding of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. In this quiet rural setting, travelers can reflect on the humble origins of a man whose hidden years, courageous ministry during the Revolution, and profound sense of divine calling helped shape a worldwide missionary community.

Visit the Église Notre-Dame de Coussay-Les-Bois

Built in the 12th century and uniquely known as the only church in the Poitou-Charentes region whose nave is crowned with domes, the Église Notre-Dame de Coussay-les-Bois invites pilgrims into a rare Romanesque space where centuries of prayer have shaped its stone, from its early bell-tower foundations to its later medieval transept and choir.

Walking tour of Poitiers

Further acquaint yourself with Poitiers during your Tour Director-led walking tour.

Visit the Église Saint-Martin

Step inside this humble, modern church where you'll see that holiness isn't just found in ancient buildings, but also in everyday people who come together to pray, serve, and build something meaningful. The Église Saint-Martin in Poitiers was built entirely by exceptional voluntary community effort in the early 1950s. The church was completed in just one year thanks to the local families who worked side-by-side, sometimes after school or work, making it one of the few churches in France literally hand-built by its own parishioners!

Group Leader-arranged evening reflection (*time permitting*)

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the day's learning moments or for group prayer. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Day 7: Poitiers region | Paris

Travel via the Château de La Motte d'Usseau to Paris

Group Leader-arranged reflection time at Château de La Motte d'Usseau

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the time Fr. Coudrin spent at the Château de La Motte d'Usseau. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

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.

Group Leader-arranged evening reflection (*time permitting*)

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the day's learning moments or for group prayer. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Your Itinerary

Day 8: Paris

Walking tour of the Latin Quarter

Get to know the Latin Quarter during your Tour Director-led walking tour. Together, explore this vibrant neighborhood, where you might see the Sorbonne university, the Pantheon, and an array of diverse restaurants and shops.

See the Notre-Dame Cathedral

Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as “a vast symphony in stone.” However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo’s novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841.

Group Leader-arranged Mass at Notre-Dame Cathedral

Today your Group Leader has arranged for your group to attend Mass. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Exploration time in Paris

Enjoy time to explore Paris on your own. You may wish to visit one of Paris’ many museums, or stroll through one of its iconic neighborhoods, like Montmartre.

Enjoy a Seine River dinner cruise

This evening, enjoy dinner as you 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.

Group Leader-arranged evening reflection (*time permitting*)

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the day’s learning moments or for group prayer. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Day 9: 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.

Walking tour of Picpus neighborhood

Your Tour Director will introduce you to the Picpus neighborhood during a walking tour. Together, you’ll see the Picpus Chapel and Cemetery.

Group Leader-arranged evening reflection (*time permitting*)

Today your Group Leader has arranged time for your group to reflect on the day’s learning moments or for group prayer. *Please see your Group Leader for additional details.*

Day 10: 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.

— The easiest ways to —

ENROLL TODAY



Enroll on our website
eftours.com/enroll



Enroll by phone
800-665-5364



Enroll by mail
EF Educational Tours
Two Education Circle
Cambridge, MA 02141

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

THE WORLD LEADER IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

For over 50 years EF has been working toward one global mission: *Opening the World Through Education*. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence. What's more:

- **We always offer the lowest prices** so more students can travel.
- **We're fully accredited, just like your school**, so you can earn credit while on tour.
- **All of our educational tours feature experiential learning activities** and visits to the best sites.
- **We're completely committed to your safety.** We have more than 600 schools and offices in over 50 countries around the world, so local EF staff members can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.
- **Your full-time Tour Director is with your group** every step of the way on tour, providing insight about your destinations as well as great local tips.

