



Paris: The City Explorer

8 OR 10 DAYS

Included in the program fee:

- Round trip airfare
- Transfers to and from the airport and hotel and between destination cities (as per program itinerary)
- Overnight in hotels with private bathrooms
- Continental breakfast daily
- Dinner daily
- Full-time services of an EF Tour Director

Not included in the program fee:

- Customary gratuities for your tour director, local guide and driver
- Personal Insurance
- Porterage
- Beverages and lunches
- Public transportation to free time activities

Overnight stays: Paris (6); [London \(2\)](#).

Sightseeing tours led by an expert: Paris; [London](#).

Entrances included: Notre-Dame Cathedral; Musee d'Orsay; Louvre; Montparnasse Tower.

Optional Excursions: Versailles; Paris Art Activity; Seine River Cruise; Chartres & Loire Valley; Vimy & Beaumont Hamel; [Tower of London](#).

Please note that the following is a sample timed itinerary for this EF tour with approximate addresses, activity durations, and transfer times. Exact timing may vary based on available flights, hotel location, scheduled activity bookings, traffic, etc. Your EF Tour Director is available to the group 24/7 while on tour. EF works with Group Leaders to ensure that travellers have a safe and memorable experience while on tour.

Day 1: Fly overnight to Paris

Day 2: Paris

Morning: Arrive in Paris and meet your Tour Director at the airport

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.

12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

2:00pm: 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 Concorde, and the geometric Tuileries gardens.

3:00pm: See 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.

5:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Paris

7:00pm: Travel by public transit to the hotel in Paris

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 3: Paris

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by public transit to central Paris

10:00am: 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. Nearby, see Notre-Dame Cathedral, standing tall at the center of the city. 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.

12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

2:00pm: Optional Activity – Guided Excursion to Versailles

Step back into le grand siècle as you experience the opulence of Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Built to be the envy of all Europe, France's most extravagant château continually threatened to bankrupt the national treasury. Here the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. You'll also tour the State Apartments of the King himself and walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors, where France, Spain and England officially recognized the independence of the United States in 1783, and where the Treaty of Versailles, which ended WWI, was signed. You'll also witness the ornate decor of the Queen's State Apartments, furnished for Marie Antoinette. After your visit inside the palace, be sure to take some time to stroll through the elaborate gardens, designed by André Le Nôtre. 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.

**if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones*

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Paris

8:00pm: Travel by public transit to the hotel in Paris

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 4: Paris

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by public transit to central Paris

10:00am: Visit the Musée D'Orsay

Part of this museum's draw is the building itself, not just the artwork that adorns its walls. Built for the 1900 Universal Exposition, the Gare d'Orsay functioned as a train station until 1939 and was converted into a museum in 1986. The high, arching ceiling and enormous wall clocks hint at the days when trains zipped in and out of the spacious structure.

1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

3:00pm: Optional Activity – Art Activity in Paris

Inspire your inner artist with a drawing or painting activity in the “City of Art”. After a lesson on perspective, composition, measuring and drawing, create your own Parisian masterpiece that you can bring home as a souvenir.

**if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones*

5:30pm: Steak frites dinner at a restaurant in central Paris

7:30pm: Optional Activity – 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.

**if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones*

9:00pm: Travel by public transit to the hotel in Paris

11:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 5: Paris

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to Chartres and the Loire Valley for those participating in the optional excursion

10:00am: Optional Activity – Chartres and the Loire Valley

Journey through the French countryside to the magnificent Loire Valley, Playground of the Kings. Our first stop is Chartres, home to Europe’s grandest Gothic (13th-century) cathedral and the world’s finest stained-glass windows. Then visit the spectacular Château de Chenonceau on the banks of the River Cher, an architecturally breathtaking estate with a romantic history. Finally, stop at Amboise, where you will have supervised exploration time to have lunch and visit the château in small groups.

**if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones*

7:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Paris

9:00pm: Travel by public transit to the hotel in Paris

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 6: Paris

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to the Vimy Ridge Historic Site for those participating in the optional excursion

10:00am: Optional Activity – Vimy Ridge & Beaumont Hamel

Opt to spend the day visiting the Vimy Ridge Historic Site and the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial and learn about the significance of these sites for Canadians.

**if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones*

7:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Paris

9:00pm: Travel by public transit to the hotel in Paris

10:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 7: Paris

6:00am: Wake-up call

7:00am: Breakfast at the hotel

8:00am: Travel by public transit to central Paris

10:00am: 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 including Leonardo da Vinci’s painting of the mysterious *Mona Lisa*.

12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

2:00pm: Exploration time at the Marché des Enfants Rouges

Enjoy time to make your own explorations of Paris. You might consider visiting the oldest covered market in Paris, Marché des Enfants Rouges, a 16th-century orphanage turned expansive food market.

6:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central Paris

8:00pm: Ascend Montparnasse Tower

As one of the tallest buildings in central Paris, the Montparnasse Tower gives you panoramic views of the entire city from a bird's eye perspective.

10:00pm: Travel by public transit to the hotel in Paris

11:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 8: Depart for Home

4:30am: Wake-Up Call

5:30am: Breakfast at Hotel

6:30am: Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

The itinerary is subject to change.

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

+ For an additional cost add the following
2-day extension:

Day 8: Paris | London

6:30am: Wake-Up Call

7:30am: Breakfast at Hotel

8:30am: Travel by private motorcoach to the train station in Paris

10:00am: Transfer to London on the Eurostar

In Paris, board the high-speed Eurostar that runs through the tunnel connecting continental Europe with Britain. Completed in May of 1994, the Channel Tunnel provides travelers with easy access to and from the continent. Eurostar trains reach top speeds of up to 186 mph, keeping journey times at about two hours.

12:00pm: Arrive in London

Welcome to London, covering an area of some 620 square miles and home to almost 9 million people. During your stay, observe the stunning architecture, vibrant street life and royal majesty of this bustling metropolis.

1:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

3:00pm: Walking tour of London

Get to know London during your Tour Director-led walking tour. Together you might explore the banks of the River Thames and Trafalgar Square, or make a stop at the chic Covent Garden, where street performers (or “buskers”) amuse the lively crowds.

5:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central London

7:00pm: Travel by public transit to the hotel in London

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 9: London

6:00am: Wake-Up Call

7:00am: Breakfast at Hotel

8:00am: Travel by private motorcoach to central London

10:00am: Guided sightseeing of London

Tour London with your expert local guide. From the London Bridge to the Houses of Parliament, Great Britain’s royal tradition and rich history greet you at every turn. Admire architectural marvels like the Baroque domes and spires of St. Paul’s Cathedral, the 17th century church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Check out the lively five-way intersection at Piccadilly Circus as well as Hyde Park’s urban greenery. You may even get a chance to witness the ceremonial Changing of the Guard. And don’t forget to snap a picture of Big Ben from the banks of the River Thames.

12:00pm: Time for lunch in small, supervised groups

With the support of the Tour Director, the Group Leader will determine boundaries of where groups can go during this time.

2:00pm: Optional Activity - Tower of London

The history of London comes to life at this complex of 20 towers surrounding Tower Green. The oldest tower, known as the White Tower, was completed in 1097, when it was the tallest building in London. The Tower buildings have had many uses over the years; perhaps the most infamous was as a jail for political prisoners, not to mention two of Henry VIII’s wives. The most famous exhibits at the Tower are the British Crown Jewels. Aside from a short interruption during WWII, these splendid baubles have been locked behind the Tower’s walls for centuries.

**if your group does not select this optional excursion, you will have supervised exploration time with your Group Leader and Chaperones*

5:00pm: Group dinner at a restaurant in central London

7:00pm: Travel by public transit to the hotel in London

9:00pm: Group Leaders and Chaperone team will facilitate room checks and lights out

Day 10: Depart for Home

4:30am: Wake-Up Call

5:30am: Breakfast at Hotel

6:30am: Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

The itinerary is subject to change.

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



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