



PARIS & NORTHERN FRANCE

JUNE 8 - 21, 2024

We explore the best of Northern France, especially the 'City of Lights', Paris, along with visits to: the incredible Palace of Versailles; the somber WWII sites in Normand region; the inspiring Mont St. Michel; the picturesque castles of Loire Valley; and historical towns nearby.

DAY 1 • • •

Arrival in Paris. Meet your tour guide and transfer to hotel. Do an afternoon stroll around the historic Montmartre district where Van Gogh, Degas, Renoir and Picasso once lived in. See Sacre-Coeur church atop the hill and view the city from above! Enjoy dinner in an old restaurant with classic French cuisines. *Stay in Paris for 5 nights.*

DAY 2 • • •

Participate in a fun French Sign Language and culture workshop at the renowned deaf theater, International Visual Theater. Dine for lunch at a cozy deaf-owned restaurant with its Moroccan-inspired dishes. Meet your local Deaf guide in the heart of the Paris, *Ile de la Cité*, to visit the Notre Dame Cathedral, Sainte Chapelle and Conciergerie. Free time afterwards.

DAY 3 • • •

Explore the artistic treasures of the Louvre Museum, including the Mona Lisa and Venus de Milo. Afterwards, see the Abbe de l'Epee cenotaph, the statue of Saint Joan of Arc, the Tuileries Gardens, and the Arc de Triomphe. Have dinner before standing on the famous viewpoint of the Eiffel Tower at the Trocadero. End your day standing on top of the Eiffel Tower!

DAY 4 • • •

Visit the Chateau of Versailles for a whole day, once a royal palace during the glorious 1700s, when Louis XIV the Sun King and France was at the forefront of Europe. Afterwards, we stroll through their lavish gardens as well as have lunch. Return to Paris by late afternoon. Free time afterwards.

DAY 5 • • •

Visit the St. Jacques deaf school in Paris, where Laurent Clerc spent his formative years under the tutelage of Abbe Sicard. Stroll through the picturesque Luxembourg Gardens nearby. After lunch, we go to the ridiculous Napoleon's tomb and the fascinating military museum at the Invalides. See a couple of sights or free time before hopping on an evening river cruise to bid 'adieu' to Paris.

DAY 6 • • •

Check out of the hotel and hop in a private van to head for the Normandy region. Stop by at Rouen for a lovely stroll and lunch in this historic town. See where Saint Joan of Arc was burned at as well as entering the cathedral. Visit another town, Bayeux, to see the incredible Bayeux Tapestries, woven with rich history as well as the gorgeous cathedral. Arrive in Arromanches, a coastal town. *2 nights in Arromanches.*

DAY 7 • • •

Today, it's all about the D-Day / WWII sights: Starting with the museum in Arromanches, followed by the Longues-sur-Mer gun battery, Normandy American Cemetery, Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument, and Omaha Beach. Return to hotel and relax.

DAY 8 • • •

Visit Mont St. Michel, probably France's most popular sight. Spend most of the day here to explore the interesting history of the island. Arrive in a historical coastal town, St. Malo. *2 nights in St. Malo.*

DAY 9 • • •

Depending weather, enjoy a half day at a nearby town, Dinan, or take ferry to an island, Jersey. After lunch, return to St. Malo and explore for the rest of the day.

DAY 10 • • •

Drive to another amazing medieval city, Rennes. A walkabout to certain historical sites for the rest of the day. *2 nights in Rennes.*

DAY 11 • • •

Relax and continue to explore Rennes all day.

DAY 12 • • •

Head out early to Amboise, located deep in the Loire Valley. Visit the Chateaux of du Clos-Lucè where Leonardo Da Vinci worked, and a 'feminine' Chenonceau. Stroll around the historic town, Amboise. *2 nights in Amboise.*

DAY 13 • • •

Another leisure day by visiting the chateaux of Cheverny and Chambord. Enjoy a farewell dinner at a winery.

DAY 14 • • •

Check out early for a 3 hours ride to the airport in Paris. Depart any time AFTER late afternoon for your next respective destination.

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\$500 deposit per person is required to reserve space. The availability of space is based on a first come, first serve basis. 100% of the balance is required 90 days before the first day of the tour.

\$3,800
per person /double occupancy

14 DAYS / 13 NIGHTS

SMALL GROUP 7 - 14

TOUR LEADER: Darren Frazier • darren@handson.travel • 253-257-1650

WHAT'S INCLUDED??

- 13 nights in 3-star accommodations.
- 15 meals: Breakfast (13), Dinner (2)
- Services of a deaf group leader on call 24 hours a day.
- Services of local deaf guides.
- All transportation expenses.
- All admission fees for attractions and museums mentioned in the itinerary.
- Most tips, except for your Tour Manager.
- Informative travel preparation packet.
- Pre-tour and/or post-tour itinerary consultation.
- \$100 discount per person on your next regular tour.

WHAT'S EXCLUDED?

- International airfares.
- All other meals not mentioned in the itinerary and personal expenses.
- Travel Insurance.
- Any COVID-19 related tests.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

- Tour will be confirmed when we meet the minimum number of participants.
- When the tour is confirmed, additional deposits/payments may be required.
- Substantial amount of walking expected during the tour. Appropriate physical fitness is necessary.
- A lot of walking and/or hiking expected during the tour. Appropriate physical fitness is required.
- Please consult the most recent version of the HOT terms and conditions.
<https://handson.travel/resources/terms/>
- Hands on Travel recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. To learn more, please view the following link:
<https://handson.travel/resources/protection/>
- **Tour itinerary and price are subject to change.**