

France



American Celebration of Music



A CONCERT TOUR TRIBUTE TO THE
70TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY:
THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY AND THE
LIBERATION OF FRANCE

Bonjour!



The American Celebration of Music is a special annual performance-tour program, co-sponsored by local governments, music associations, community organizations, and tourist boards around the globe. In many countries this has developed into a prestigious, recognized, year-long concert-series festival. Recognition of this festival facilitates greater access to performance venues, official publicity, generally very successful concert arrangements, and the ability to touch local cultures in a way that may not be done through other affiliations. This equates to more meaningful musical and emotional experiences for participating performance ensembles.

In 2014, this unique concert series will be part of the 70th Anniversary Commemorations of D-Day: The Battle of Normandy and the Liberation of France. Music ensembles that are invited will be recognized in France for their participation in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

The American Celebration of Music in France includes destinations and musical experiences that remind participants of Franco-American ties and long friendships that date back to the American Revolution in 1776. Normandy (Omaha Beach and the American Cemetery) and Eastern France provide opportunities to pay musical tribute to thousands of Americans who never returned to America, having given their all for the present freedom of Europe and our country.



In Paris on any given day, there are possibly as many as 300 different concerts. The French love and support both traditional and contemporary musical performances. Paris was a "second Vienna" for French musicians and composers including Berlioz, Auger, Gounod, Saint-Saens, Franck, Faure, Ravel, Debussy and many others. France boasts many music festivals throughout the country, particularly in the summer months. The potential availability of prestigious and gorgeous venues in Paris alone is staggering.

Imagine a performance by your musicians in Notre-Dame Cathedral, Les Invalides, La Madeleine, La Trinite, Jardins du Luxembourg, St. Roch, the American Cathedral, St. Severin or a French chateau! Your concert tour is truly enriched with your surroundings of art history, architecture, and beauty that is best experienced "first hand."

Sample Tour

Day 1

Departure via scheduled airline service to Paris, France

Day 2 Paris / Caen

Arrive in Paris

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for transfer to Caen

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight



Day 3 Caen / Coleville

Breakfast at the hotel

Enjoy morning sightseeing of Caen, including a visit to the Peace Memorial. The Memorial, to the northwest of the town center, is a modern Peace Museum, built of light-colored sandstone in the form of a square block. Its themes are the two world wars and the means of ensuring and preserving peace. Also pass the Abbaye aux Hommes, built by William the Conqueror and containing his grave

Then take an excursion to Coleville to **perform a short memorial recital, and participate in a wreath laying ceremony at the American Cemetery, site of the June 6th Normandy Invasion**

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in France

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 4 Caen / Rouen / Paris

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning transfer to Paris

Stop in Rouen including a visit to the Cathedral. The ancient capital of Normandy, it is now chief town of the Haute-Normandie region. In the

Place de la Cathédrale stands the Gothic Cathedral of Notre-Dame, one of the largest and most magnificent in France. The most striking feature is the elaborately articulated west front which was several times painted by Claude Monet

Following your visit, continue on to Paris for dinner and overnight

Day 5 Paris

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of Paris historique, including Notre-Dame Cathedral, Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Champs Elysees, Place de la Concorde, Luxembourg Palace and Gardens, Latin Quarter, Place de la Bastille, and other highlights

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in France

Evening dinner and overnight



Day 6 Paris

Breakfast at the hotel

For choirs: Late morning performance in Notre Dame Cathedral

Enjoy an afternoon tour of Paris artistique, including entrance to the Louvre, the largest and greatest art museum in the world

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 7 Paris / Versailles

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning guided tour to Versailles Palace. This palace is the creation of the French monarchy at the moment of its greatest splendor. Consisting of the great palace, the gardens and the Trianons, it is a wonderfully harmonious composition of building and landscape, the definitive monument of French classicism

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 8 Depart for home

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to one of Paris's airports for return flight

Standard Performance Tours in France

TOUR #1 (6 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS): 2 nights in Caen and 4 nights in Paris

TOUR #2 (7 NIGHTS / 9 DAYS): 2 nights in Tours, 1 night in Mont St-Michel, 1 night in Caen, and 3 nights in Paris

TOUR #3 (8 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS): 2 nights in Tours, 1 night in Mont St-Michel, 2 nights in Caen, and 3 nights in Paris

TOUR #4 (8 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS) – NORTHERN THREE CAPITALS TOUR: 3 nights in Paris, 2 nights in Brussels, Belgium, and 3 nights in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

TOUR #5 (8 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS): 4 nights in Paris, 2 nights in Strasbourg, and 2 nights in Heidelberg, Germany

TOUR #6 (8 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS): 5 nights in Arles, 3 nights in Aix-en-Provence

These and all our other Standard Tours can be viewed on our website at www.musiccelebrations.com.

Music Celebrations would also be happy to create a custom tour to meet your specific wishes and interests.



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A Short Listing of Potential Venues

PARIS

Notre-Dame Cathedral
La Madeleine
La Trinite
St. Sulpice
Luxembourg Gardens
American Cathedral

NORMANDY AREA

Eglise Reforme
Abbaye aux Hommes
Peace Memorial
American Cemetery (Omaha Beach)
St. Catherines (Honfleur)
Abbaye (Mont St-Michel)

LOIRE VALLEY AREA

Notre-Dame La Riche
Cathedral Notre-Dame (Chartres)
Town Hall Salon
Various chateaux

SOUTHERN FRANCE

Eglise Anglicane (Nice)
Cathedral de St-Michel (Carcassonne)
Eglise St-Etienne (Toulouse)
Le Forum, Les Angeles (Avignon)