

American Celebration of Music in France

Tour #2 (6 nights / 8 days)

Day 1

Departure via scheduled airline service to Paris, France

Day 2

Paris / Rouen / Caen (D)

Arrive in Paris

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

Time permitting, stop enroute at Rouen to see the Cathedral. 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 painted by Claude Monet several times

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

As the capital of Lower Normandy, Caen is a thriving university city with exceptional historical heritage. William the Conqueror lent the town his favor in the 11th century and commissioned many of the city's most famous sites including the Abbey aux Hommes and the Abbey aux Dames, where his wife Mathilde is buried. Caen was the center of some of the fiercest fighting in the Liberation of 1944. The peace memorial is unquestionably the greatest museum of World War II and a "must-see" for anyone who visits the city

Day 3

Caen (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning 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

Lunch, on own

Return to Caen for sightseeing 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 (architect Jacques Millet). 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

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in France

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 4

Caen / Paris (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Paris

Lunch, on own

Enjoy an orientation tour of Paris including stops at the Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Place de la Concorde, Latin Quarter, etc.

Evening dinner and overnight



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Concert Tours With Integrity

With its grand boulevards, Streetside cafés, magnificent architecture, and river vistas, it takes little to understand why Paris is known as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. There is nothing more inspiring than walking the streets of Paris taking in the dynamic atmosphere. Paris is a place that breathes history and legend, a perfect combination of the modern and the ancient

Day 5 **Paris** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Half-day guided tour of *Paris historique*, including seeing the Notre-Dame Cathedral during the restoration process after the devastating fire in 2019, Champs Elysees, Luxembourg Palace and Gardens, Place de la Bastille, and other highlights

Lunch, on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in France

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 6 **Paris** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

For choirs only: Late morning performance at a local church

Lunch, on own

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** **(B,D)**

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

Lunch, on own

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 8 **Depart for home** **(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to the Paris Airport for return flight

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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