

The Inspired Tourist



April 21-26 2023

Never been to Paris? Or perhaps you've been but were rushed through because you had a schedule to keep? This is our "unscheduled" version of the essential things to do in Paris! Of course we'll have a schedule, but it will include time to soak in this iconic city and optional outings for those that want more!

For 5 nights, we'll situate ourselves on the *Rive Gauche* (Left Bank) of Paris . It was once the most literary area in Paris and is now one of the best shopping areas in the city. We will stay in Saint-Germain-des-Prés with everything at our doorstep – cafes, brasseries, bars, and restaurants, including the famous Cafe de Flore, Les Deux Magots, and Brasserie Lipp (frequented by Hemingway and Picasso) The world famous Shakespeare and Company bookstore and the beautiful Luxembourg Gardens are on the list and we bask in the history of this wonderful area.

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April 21-26 2023 Cost \$2850.00
Per Person/Double Occupancy (not including airfare)

Day 1-Friday, April 21st

Welcome to Paris!

We'll check into our hotel today, official check-in time is 3 p.m. but they are happy to hold your luggage if you get in earlier! Our charming petite hotel is right in the heart of Saint Germain des-Près (6th Arrondissement). For hundreds of years, Saint Germain des-Près was its own little village, and it still feels like it today.

We'll meet in the hotel's lobby around 4pm for introductions and then we'll head out for a leisurely stroll through the area so you can get to know your neighborhood, In the late afternoon, we can return to our hotel to freshen up and rest a bit or we can continue to explore!!

We'll meet again in the lobby of our hotel around 7pm for some welcome champagne before heading out to a lovely local restaurant that serves a typical French Fare including their legendary boeuf bourguignon.

Dinner and Champagne Toast are included!

Day 2-Saturday, April 22nd

After a little sleep (go away jet-lag) and breakfast at the hotel, we'll take the Metro to the **WORLD FAMOUS** Paris Saint Ouen Flea Market for a guided tour! This flea market is HUGE so there may be some that want to stay all day and others that will want to check out after lunch. After you return, you can hit a local spot to eat and discover more of our lovely area. This is a great afternoon to spend some time with a stop in at the famous bookstore, Shakespeare and Company where you can find new and OLD books! It's incredibly charming and magical!

This evening will be a great time for our happy hour boat cruise on the Seine! We'll enjoy an aperitif and music as we take in Paris from the water. This takes about an hour and a lot of the major sites are covered including the Eiffel tower! It's casual and fun. Dinner will be on your own, either you can grab a crepe or snuggle in at a local restaurant, there are so many!

Guided Tour of Flea Market including Metro tickets, Seine boat tour and Cocktail are included

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Day 3-Sunday, April 23rd

After breakfast this morning we will head up to the Village of Montmartre. We will follow the streets as they wind up the hill toward the lively **place du Terre** with its street painters, it's a reminder of the time when Montmartre was the mecca of modern art. We'll see the beautiful **Sacré Coeur Basilica** which is located in the highest part of Paris. It's a great view of all of Paris! With loads of quaint places for lunch, we will have a lunch reservation at a charming local Bistro. SO Parisian! Feel free to hang out in the area or we can take the Metro to the Champs-Élysées where the Arc de Triomphe is located. This is a must see! On the way back to the hotel you can stop and wander through The Tuileries Garden, it's free and open until 9pm!

Metro tickets and lunch are included today!



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Day 4-Monday, April 24rd

How does sleeping-in sound? Today is a great day to discover a local museum or some fun second hand clothing stores near our hotel (they are awesome). Late in the morning, we'll hit one of our favorite foodie spots in St. Germain des Pres. You'll taste some of the best cheese, pâté, charcuterie, and produce to create the perfect picnic. We'll enjoy the magnificent Luxembourg Gardens. Beloved by residents and students on the Left Bank, the 25-acre garden is an early example of the French formal garden and includes an orangery and orchard. Queen Marie de Medici designed the garden with the latest innovations from Italy, including fountains and a grotto that can still be seen today (great photo spot) It's a close walk to our hotel so if an afternoon nap feels in order, go for it! This will be the perfect evening to UBER to the Eiffel tower and see the gorgeous lights! Unforgettable! **Optional:** Afternoon stroll to the Louvre and see the beautiful grounds. If you'd like to enter, we will help you arrange skip-the-line tickets.

Picnic Lunch, Garden Tour and Uber to the Eiffel tower included! Woot!



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Day 5-Tuesday, April 25th

How about we explore more of our neighborhood? St. Germain was the hub of art and literature in its day so let's head to The Musee Delacroix in the morning and see his studio and gardens! After this, we will take a tour with a local who is a passionate fan of American Literature. Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein and Ezra Pound are just some of the famous American authors who impacted the Parisian cultural heritage in the early 20th century. We will explore the neighborhoods, cafés, shops, houses and apartments that witnessed this glorious period. But wait.....want to taste the best Macarons in the world? We will stop by Ladurée for macarons and tea, grab a table if you can find one and stay for a while! Everyone needs a snack break!



Optional this afternoon, while we are feeling so French, we can visit the L'orangerie Museum. Here you'll find Monet's "**Water Lilies**" which are a permanent display and if you are a fan of impressionist painters, this charming museum is a must-see. Dinner on your own this evening at one of the wonderful restaurants nearby. (However our Historian Friend has offered to hang out with us if we want to learn more, I'm in for that!)

Entrance to the Delacroix museum, literary tour, two macarons and a beverage at Ladurée and entry to L'orangerie Museum are included today BIG DAY!

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Day 6- Wednesday April 26th

After breakfast we say goodbye!! What a great time we've had in Paris! ***Au Revoir!***



Day 6- Extra Activities are Possible!

If you would like to stay on and do a day trip to either Versailles or Monet's House and Gardens, we can arrange that for you!

*Our schedule may change slightly due to unforeseen events and changes in vendors schedules and our group's wishes. We will do our best to stick to this as closely as possible!

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Some Questions Answered

- **Transportation to our hotel:** In Paris, we will be staying at a darling Boutique Hotel in the St. Germaine area, there are airport shuttles available to and from the hotel. Once you have your flight information, **we can help you arrange a shuttle through the hotel.** We are not able to provide an airport shuttle for the group, as people are coming from all areas on various days. You are welcome to come early or stay on, I mean...it's Paris!
- **What's included in the price?** Your stay in Paris will include:
 - 5 nights at the darling hotel including breakfast every morning,
 - Champagne and dinner on our first night
 - Outings and meals as outlined in our itinerary (and there are many!)
- **What is the cost?** The trip is priced at \$2850.00 per person double occupancy -not including airfare. The *non-refundable* deposit is \$800. Single room for the trip is available at an additional \$700
- **How do I get on the list or contact you?** Please go to our trip application, we will get back to you as soon as we can! This trip has **VERY** limited space.
<https://theinspiredtourist.com/trip-application/>
- **What is the rooming situation?** The trip is priced at double occupancy which means you will have a roommate, but we will be able to book single rooms on a limited basis for an extra cost (see above) If you've never been to Europe or Paris, you will notice that the hotel rooms are TINY. The good news is that we only sleep in the room, you will be spending time enjoying the City of Lights and there are common areas in the hotel to hang out.
- **The trip deposit** will be non-refundable and we strictly require TRIP INSURANCE! You want to make sure you are covered if you have to cancel or become ill on our trip. As you know, the airlines have made it much easier to cancel your flight without penalty. France has lifted all restrictions for Americans entering the country. Things are GREAT! As with all of our trips, if at any time you choose not to join us for a dinner or an event, that is totally fine. There will be many opportunities to paint, take photos, write and explore, always do what makes you feel comfortable.
- **How many people will be on the trip?** Our maximum for this trip will be 8 not including staff.
- PLEASE NOTE: **This Itinerary is subject to change** based on the availability of our points of interest.

Paris is ALWAYS a good idea-Audrey Hepburn