

Durgan
Travel Service
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**VALID
PASSPORT
REQUIRED**

Must be valid for 6 mos.
beyond return date

Durgan Travel Service presents...

9 Days/7 Nights

Paris & the

French Countryside

**Featuring D-Day Beaches, Caen, Bayeux, Rouen,
Giverny, Amboise, Mont St. Michel, Versailles &
Loire Valley Chateaus**

YOUR CHOICE OF DEPARTURES:

NOV. – FEB.

FROM \$TBA*

MARCH – OCT.

FROM \$TBA*

*Rates for payment by cash/check and a minimum group size of 35. See back for credit card rates as well as rates for smaller groups. Rates are per person, twin occupancy, and INCLUDE \$500 in air taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges (*subject to change*). Subject to air confirmation.



Join your fellow travelers on a wonderful 7-night tour of France that takes in all the highlights of Paris, Normandy, Versailles, and Châteaux Country. Breakfast and dinner daily as well as full sightseeing are included in our low tour price!

OUR PARIS & THE FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE ITINERARY:

DAY 1 – BOSTON-PARIS: Depart Boston's Logan International Airport aboard our regularly-scheduled transatlantic flight to Paris (possible intermediate stop) with meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, while in flight.

DAY 2 – PARIS-CAEN: "Bienvenue en France!" Upon arrival in Paris, we will be met by our Tour Guide, who will help us board our private motorcoach for our ride through the countryside to the *Novotel Caen Côte de Nacre* (or similar) in Caen in time for check-in. The remainder of the day is at leisure to freshen up prior to dinner at the hotel this evening. Caen is known for its historical buildings, built during the reign of William the Conqueror, who is buried here. Though the city was heavily damaged during WWII, many churches survived. (D) *Hotel Website:* www.novotel.com

DAY 3 – NORMANDY-BAYEUX: After breakfast, we will depart for a full-day visit to the D-Day landing beaches and two museums (the Omaha Museum and the Memorial Museum-Bataille) in Normandy. In the historically important town of Bayeux, we will have an opportunity to view Queen Matilda's famous *Bayeux Tapestry*, which vividly depicts William the Conqueror's invasion of England in 1066 at the Battle of Hastings. The 230-foot long Bayeux Tapestry is one of the most important illustrated works which have survived from the Middle Ages. Dinner and overnight in Caen. (B, D)

DAY 4 – MONT SAINT MICHEL: After breakfast, we will have a wonderful excursion to see the unique beauty of Mont Saint Michel, probably one of the most famous abbeys in the world due to its location – perched on a rock in the Gulf of Saint Malo. During high tide Mont Saint Michel becomes an island fortress, surrounded by the sea. The causeway to the mainland is only accessible during low tide. The Mont St. Michel monastery, dating to the 8th century, was built to get "as close to heaven as possible." Today it is one of the world's top pilgrimage sites and among UNESCO's World Heritage Sites. We will return to Caen for dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

DAY 5 – ROUEN: After breakfast, we will board our motorcoach for Rouen and a 2-hour walking tour of the historic center of Rouen, including the magnificent Cathedral of Notre Dame, whose west façade was often painted by Monet at different times of day; the cathedral houses the tomb of the heart of Richard the Lionhearted. We'll also visit the site where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake in 1431. There will be some free time for independent sightseeing, shopping and browsing, or just relaxing in Rouen before returning to our hotel in Caen. Be sure to check out the *Gros Horloge*, a 16th century astronomical clock, and the many half-timbered buildings and cobblestone pedestrian walk-ways the city is known for. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 6 – GIVERNY~PARIS: After breakfast, we will depart Caen and head for Paris. En route, we will stop in Giverny to visit the home of Impressionist Claude Monet, where he lived and painted from 1883 until his death in 1923, to see its magnificent gardens, the lily pond, and the famous Japanese bridge, all of which was opened to the public in 1980. We'll also see the studio where he painted the huge nymphs. The village's *Hôtel Baudy* was a center of artistic life in Giverny's heyday, and now is a charming café and restaurant, with period decoration. We will then continue to Paris where we will enjoy a panoramic tour of the incomparable "City of Light." We will check into the *Novotel Paris La Defense* (or similar). Dinner and overnight. (B, D) *Hotel Website:* www.novotel.com

DAY 7 – VERSAILLES: After breakfast, we will head out of Paris for this morning's destination – Versailles. We will tour the opulent and breathtaking Palace of Versailles built in the 17th century by Louis XIV, the "Sun King," which took 50 years to complete. The Hall of Mirrors, probably Versailles' most celebrated room, was built in 1690 and served as the setting for many ceremonies of the French court. We will have plenty of leisure time in Versailles to wander the magnificent grounds and gardens, which are some of the finest examples of French garden design. Return to Paris with some leisure time to shop or do some individual sightseeing or museum visits. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 8 – LOIRE VALLEY~BLOIS~AMBOISE: After breakfast, we will leave for a day-long excursion to the Loire Valley. Taking the scenic route, we will first stop near Blois to visit the 16th century *Château de Chambord*, the largest chateau in the Loire Valley with 440 rooms. One of the most recognizable châteaux, it is known for its Renaissance architecture and spectacular double-helix open staircase, which ascends three floors without either side ever meeting. It is rumored to have been designed by Leonardo da Vinci. Next, we will visit the *Château de Chenonceau*, a 15th century chateau which was built on an arched bridge across the River Cher just outside of Amboise. It is the second most-visited chateau in France and has a rich royal history. Return to Paris for a special farewell dinner with entertainment. (B, D)

DAY 9 – PARIS~BOSTON: We will say goodbye to this lovely city and have our last breakfast in France at the hotel before departing for Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris for our flight to Boston (possible intermediate stop) with meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, while in flight. (B)

OUR PARIS & THE FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE TOUR INCLUDES ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- ❖ Round-trip motorcoach transportation to and from Boston's Logan International Airport. FREE with a minimum of 35 passengers. Additional charge with fewer than 35. Minimum 20 passengers for motorcoach arrangements.
- ❖ Round-trip regularly scheduled flights Boston-Paris (*possible intermediate city*) and return, with meal and beverage service en route.
- ❖ Special meet-and-greet service and assistance at Logan Airport by a Durgan Travel Service Representative.
- ❖ All transfers and sightseeing aboard a private, deluxe, temperature-controlled motorcoach.
- ❖ 7-nights first-class hotel accommodations. (*4 nights in Caen, 3 nights in Paris*), based on twin occupancy. The single supplement is an additional \$TBA per single. *Limited availability -- may be unavailable or subject to surcharge.* Triples are available at the twin rate.
- ❖ Portage of luggage at the hotels.
- ❖ Substantial continental breakfast (B) each morning and dinner (D) nightly, including a special Farewell Dinner on our last evening.
- ❖ Comprehensive sightseeing package, as detailed in the itinerary on the front page, including entrance fees where applicable.
- ❖ Full services of a full time Tour Guide who accompany our group throughout the tour.
- ❖ Expert English-speaking step-on guides where required.
- ❖ All room and meal taxes, and gratuities to bellmen.
- ❖ Complimentary Durgan Travel flight bag and complete packet of required travel documents.

A DEPOSIT OF \$TBA IS DUE UPON RECEIPT OF FLYER. THE BALANCE IS DUE 75 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.



PARIS & THE FRENCH COUNTRYSIDE/Promo

For more information, please contact:

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