

D-Day Commemoration Concert Series

Commemorating the 73rd Anniversary of the
Battle of Normandy and the Liberation of France

Custom Tour #2 (6 nights/8 days)

Day 1 June 4

Depart via scheduled air service to Paris, France

Day 2 June 5 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 en route 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 several times painted by Claude Monet

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 June 6 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. 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

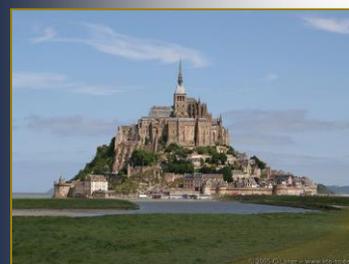
Performance as part of the D-Day Memorial Concert Series

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 4 June 7 Caen / Mont St. Michel / Tours (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Mont St. Michel. Mont St-Michel is one of the most striking sights that France has to offer. Perched on its rocky islet and surrounded by walls and bastions, this old abbey has the appearance of a fortified castle. Entrance is included to the Abbaye, La Merveille (the incredible grouping of buildings on the north side of the Mount), the Abbaye Gardens and the Refectory



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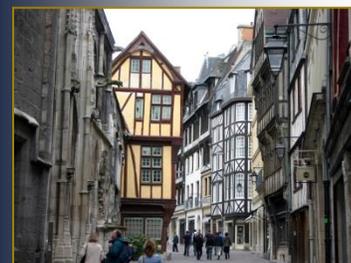
Concert Tours With Integrity

Lunch on own
Continue to Tours for dinner and overnight

Tours was an important center of trade and administration under the Romans, but is presently most famous for its location in the heart of the Chateaux Country of France— also known as the "garden of France." Kings and courtiers and magnates built famous Renaissance chateaux such as Blois, Chambord, Chenonceaux, Azay-le-Rideau in this gentle valley

Day 5 June 8 Tours (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel
Enjoy a guided tour of the Loire Valley, including entrance to one of the most famous Chateau. *Chateau Chenonceau* is perhaps the finest of all of the castles in the region. It straddles a river and was constructed in the 1520's, once the home of Diane de Poitiers, Catherine de Medici and other luminaries
Lunch on own
Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in France
Evening dinner and overnight



Day 6 June 9 Tours / Chartres / Paris (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel
Transfer to Paris
Stop en route at Chartres for a tour of the magnificent cathedral. Pilgrims have now been coming for almost eight centuries to admire the 175 representations of the Virgin Mary. The 25,000 square feet of stained glass (mostly from the 12th century) depicting 5,000 figures is considered the greatest achievement of this art form in the world
Lunch on own
Continue to Paris for a half-day guided tour of *Paris historique*, including Notre-Dame Cathedral, Champs Elysees, Luxembourg Palace and Gardens, Place de la Bastille, Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Place de la Concorde, Latin Quarter, and other highlights
Evening dinner and overnight



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 7 June 10 Paris (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel
Enjoy an afternoon tour of *Paris artistique*, including entrance to the Louvre, the largest and greatest art museum in the world
Lunch on own
Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in France
Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight



Day 8 June 11 Depart for home (B)

Breakfast at the hotel
Transfer to one of Paris's airports 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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