

D-Day Commemoration Concert Series

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

Custom Tour #4 (7 nights/9 days)

Day 1 June 2

Depart via scheduled air service to Paris, France

Day 2 June 3 Paris (D)

Arrive in Paris

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

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

With its grand boulevards, street side 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 3 June 4 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 dinner and overnight

Day 4 June 5 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 harmonious composition of building and landscape, the definitive monument of French classicism

Lunch on own

Return to Paris for an afternoon at leisure

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 5 June 6 Paris / 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



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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 D-Day Memorial Concert Series

Evening 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 6 June 7 Paris / Canterbury / London (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Calais and take Le Shuttle to Dover continuing to Canterbury via coach

Lunch on own

Enjoy a visit to Canterbury Cathedral which is visible from miles around, and is the most important center of pilgrimage in Northern Europe

Continue to London for dinner and overnight

Established 1,250 years ago by King Aethelbald, London became an important Roman city. It was resettled by the Saxons in the fifth century, after the end of the Roman occupation. London has been scourged by the plague (1665) and was almost entirely destroyed by the Great Fire (1666). World War II's "Blitzkrieg" tore up the city considerably. She stands today as a monument to perseverance, culture, excitement, history, and greatness

Day 7 June 8 London (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

A guided tour of London includes the residential and shopping districts of Kensington and Knightsbridge. Pass Westminster Abbey, where most English Kings and Queens have been crowned since 1066, and where many are buried. See Whitehall and Trafalgar Square with Nelson's Column, past Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament to Buckingham Palace, possibly to see the Changing of the Guard. Continue along Fleet Street to St. Paul's Cathedral, and also see the 900-year-old Tower of London, whose construction was initiated by William the Conqueror

Lunch on own

Afternoon at leisure for sightseeing, shopping or other activities

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 8 June 9 London (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel



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Morning at leisure for sightseeing, shopping or other activities

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in France

Afternoon Thames River Cruise. The cruise will give you a unique insight into the great city's history as you meander through the heart of the city and past so many of its most famous landmarks

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 9 June 10 Depart for home (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to one of London'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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