GO AHEAD TOURS



Paris, Normandy, Brittany Coast & the Loire Valley

11 days | 13 days with Paris extension

Few countries offer such an enticing combination of history, scenery, and mouthwatering food and drink. Immerse yourself in World War II history on the beaches of Normandy. Visit iconic landmarks, such as the Eiffel Tower and Mont-Saint-Michel. Sample the sauvignon blanc and feast on coq au vin. From the sights of Paris to the scenery of the Loire Valley, this is the France you've read about—now yours to discover.



Your tour package includes

9 nights in handpicked hotels
9 breakfasts
5 dinners with beer or wine
1 cheese & cider tasting
7 sightseeing tours
Expert Tour Director & local guides
Private deluxe motor coach

Included highlights

Eiffel Tower photo stop
Normandy coastline
Rouen
Honfleur harbor
D-Day beaches
Mont-Saint-Michel
Saint-Malo
Château de Chenonceau

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 3 hours daily across mostly flat terrain, including paved roads, cobblestone streets, and sandy paths, with some hills.

Group size

15–38

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11 days | 13 days with Paris extension

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day
Board your overnight flight to Paris today.

Paris → 2 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Paris
Included meals: welcome dinner
Welcome to France! Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Paris
Included meals: breakfast
A guided tour introduces you to the architecture, scenery, and history of the City of Light's many neighborhoods, called *arrondissements*.

- Drive down the sycamore-lined Champs-Élysées to view the Arc de Triomphe
- Pass Pont Neuf and the legendary Notre-Dame Cathedral, located on an island in the Seine River
- See the Eiffel Tower, the Palais Garnier opera house, and Place de la Concorde, the city's grandest square
- Marvel at the iconic architecture of the Louvre and Hôtel des Invalides

Enjoy a free afternoon in Paris or add an excursion.
+ Versailles Palace & Gardens

Normandy Coast → 2 nights

Day 4: Normandy Coast via Rouen & Honfleur
Included meals: breakfast, tasting, dinner
Travel through historic cities and pristine port towns on your way to the Normandy coast.

- Visit Rouen, home to a large 16th-century clock and the Gothic, two-towered Rouen Cathedral
- Walk through the Old Market Square where Joan of Arc was executed
- See the untouched Honfleur harbor, once an important port
- Sample cheeses, including Camembert, Pont-l'Évêque, and Livarot, paired with cider and Calvados, the region's distinctive apple brandy

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Normandy
Included meals: breakfast
Dive into World War II history with your Tour Director during a visit to Normandy, where the Allied troops landed in June, 1944.

- Travel to the American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer, the burial place for more than 9,000 American soldiers who lost their lives during the Battle of Normandy
- Walk along Omaha Beach, the landing site of American troops on D-Day
- Visit Pointe du Hoc to view the granite monument that honors the American 2nd Ranger Battalion, which seized German cannons here before they could be used to fire on American troops
- Stop in the seaside town of Arromanches, home to one of the main Allied landing harbors, and enjoy free time to explore
- Pay a visit to Juno Beach and the Bény-sur Mer Canadian War Cemetery *(time-permitting)*

Brittany Region → 2 nights

Day 6: Brittany Region via Mont-Saint-Michel
Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Explore the striking 8th-century island of Mont-Saint-Michel on a guided sightseeing tour.

- See how the UNESCO-recognized site, perched high on a granite rock, is surrounded by water at high tide and quicksand at low tide
- Pass by medieval houses and then view the Benedictine Abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel with your local guide

Then, continue your journey toward the Brittany region, where you'll sit down for an included dinner with your group.

Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Saint-Malo
Included meals: breakfast
Take in Saint-Malo's narrow streets, tall granite homes, and medieval ramparts on a guided tour.

- Walk along the city walls, taking in views of the ocean and surrounding town
- See the statue of Robert Surcouf, a privateer who is closely linked to Saint-Malo's pirate legacy
- Pass by Saint-Malo Cathedral Cathedral and walk down the historic Rue du Collège

Enjoy a free afternoon or add an excursion.
+ Brittany's Emerald Coast & Cancale Lunch

Loire Valley → 2 nights

Day 8: Transfer to the Loire Valley
Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Make your way to the Loire Valley today, known for its ornate châteaux.
Later, sit down for an included dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 9: Château de Chenonceau
Included meals: breakfast
Get to know châteaux country on a guided tour of the Loire Valley region.

- Step inside the extravagant Château de Chenonceau and explore its gardens
- Discover how the castle got the nickname "Château de Femmes"—some of its famous female residents included Diane de Poitiers and Catherine de' Medici

Enjoy a free evening in the Loire Valley or add an excursion.
+ Loire Valley Dinner & Wine Tasting

Paris → 1 night

Day 10: Transfer to Paris
Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner
Return to France's capital city, where you'll celebrate your trip with your group at a farewell dinner this evening.

Flight Home

Day 11: Departure
Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)
Transfer to the airport for your flight home or extend your stay to continue exploring Paris.

+ Paris extension

Paris is always a good idea, so extend your trip to keep exploring. Take a couple of days to museum-hop, stroll along the boulevards, brush up on your français, and let your expert Tour Director point you toward the crème de la crème.

Paris → 2 nights

Day 11: Free day in Paris
Included meals: breakfast
Spend a free day in Paris or add an excursion.
+ Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

Day 12: Free day in Paris
Included meals: breakfast
Enjoy another day free day in Paris or add an excursion.
This evening, sip a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.
+ Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny

Flight Home

Day 13: Departure
Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)
Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save $10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: **goaheadtours.com/PND | 1-800-597-0350**

Day 3: Versailles Palace & Gardens
$139 (5 hours, departure time varies)
The reign of Louis XIV, known as the "Sun King," set new standards for decadence among the crowned heads of Europe. It took 50 years and 35,000 workers to turn Versailles, once a small hunting lodge, into the most magnificent château in all of France and the envy of royalty worldwide. On this excursion, you'll see the palace in all its glory as you tour the State Apartments and the glittering Hall of Mirrors. Then, stroll through the lavish gardens to admire their fine statuary, splendid fountains, and colorful flowerbeds. Please note: Versailles Palace is closed on Mondays. The optional excursion may be moved to a different day on tour to accommodate schedules. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 45 days prior to departure.

Day 7: Brittany's Emerald Coast & Cancale Lunch
$125/$135* (5.5, departs in the morning)
Admire stunning ocean views as you take a short drive along the Brittany region's Emerald Coast toward Cancale. This small fishing town has earned a reputation as the region's oyster capital due to the world-famous Breton oysters it produces, and you'll learn all about the production during a visit to a nearby oyster farm with a local guide. Sip a glass of wine as you taste three types of oysters pulled from the surrounding waters. Then, continue on to Cancale to taste more local specialties during an included lunch at a French restaurant known as a crêperie. Spend free time exploring the town before making your way back to Saint Malo. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from January through November.

Day 9: Loire Valley Dinner & Wine Tasting
$109/$119* (5 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)
Cap off your day in the Loire Valley by taking in views of châteaux and greenery on your way to a local wine cellar. With its central location in the country, this area draws culinary influence from several parts of France, which you'll experience during a wine tasting and dinner at a local restaurant.

Extension excursion options

Day 11: Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise
$129/$139* (5 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)
Take in the nighttime allure of the City of Light on a special evening excursion. The event begins with dinner at a local restaurant. After you dine, board a boat cruise along the Seine. As you coast along the river and under Paris' bridges, you'll behold the illuminated monuments of the city glittering alongside the riverbanks. Please note: The dress code may vary depending on the restaurant for your dinner. Your Tour Director will advise you on what to wear, but shorts and sneakers are likely to be considered inappropriate attire.

Day 12: Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny
$109/$119* (6 hours, departs in the morning)
The village of Giverny was home to Claude Monet from 1883 until his death in 1926. On a visit to Monet's home and gardens, discover the subtle palette of colors that inspired his Water Lilies series and gave rise to a new way of seeing. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from April through October.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/terms