



# A Week in France: The Riviera, Provence & Paris

9 days | 12 days with Normandy & Paris extension

Find your own inspiration amidst the history and artistry of France. Don your designer shades on the Côte d'Azur, longtime playground for the rich and famous. Explore the spectacular scenery and tempting cuisine of Provence, a favorite setting for painters like Vincent van Gogh and writers like Peter Mayle. Then push on to Paris, the City of Light, to relive the golden days of the Belle Époque.



## Your tour package includes

- 7 nights in handpicked hotels
- 7 breakfasts
- 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 3 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 1 train ride

## Included highlights

- French Riviera
- Calanques of Cassis
- Avignon's Papal Palace
- High-speed TGV train ride
- Eiffel Tower photo stop
- Place de la Concorde

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for about 1 hour daily across flat terrain on mostly paved roads.

## Group size

15–38

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## Overnight Flight → 1 night

### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Nice today.

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## Nice → 2 nights

### Day 2: Arrival in Nice

*Included meals: welcome dinner*

Welcome to France! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner this evening.

### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Nice

*Included meals: breakfast*

Discover the many charms of the city of Nice on the French Riviera during a guided sightseeing tour.

- Drive along the Promenade des Anglais.
- Explore the Roman Amphitheater.
- Wander around the gardens of the Franciscan Monastery in Cimiez.
- End the tour amongst the narrow streets and market stalls of the Old Town.

Spend a free evening in Nice or add an excursion.

+ Evening in Monaco

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## Avignon → 2 nights

### Day 4: Avignon via Cassis

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Travel to Avignon, stopping to discover the seaside village of Cassis on the Côte d'Azur.

- Board a boat and take a cruise through Cassis Harbor.
- Soak in beautiful vistas of the surrounding coastline and *calanques*, narrow fjord-like inlets carved into the white limestone.
- Make stops to snap photos of the scenic harbor and *calanques*.
- Enjoy free time for lunch before continuing on to Avignon.

*Please note: The cruise is weather-dependent. In the case of inclement weather, the cruise will be replaced with another activity.*

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

### Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Avignon

*Included meals: breakfast*

Discover historic Avignon in Provence today on a sightseeing tour with a local guide.

- See the famous Pont Saint-Bénézet, the bridge that inspired the French folk tune "On the Bridge of Avignon."
- Step inside the magnificent Papal Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Stroll through the historic town center, which is surrounded by the city's original medieval walls.

Spend a free afternoon in Avignon or add an excursion.

+ Aix-en-Provence: Sights, Wines & Dinner

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## Paris → 3 nights

### Day 6: Train ride to Paris

*Included meals: breakfast*

Board a high-speed TGV train to Paris and travel through the picturesque landscapes that influenced the French masters.

Enjoy a free evening in France's capital city or add an excursion.

*Please note: Portage is not included for the train transfers. Travelers must be comfortable lifting and carrying all luggage over steps, onto platforms, and into luggage storage*

+ Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

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### Day 7: 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.

Spend a free afternoon in Paris or add an excursion.

+ Versailles Palace & Gardens

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### Day 8: Free day in Paris

*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*

Enjoy a free day in Paris or add an excursion. Then, celebrate your trip with your group at a farewell dinner this evening.

+ Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny

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## Flight Home

### Day 9: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or extend your stay to continue exploring Paris.

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## + Normandy & Paris extension

Head north to the Normandy Coast, where you'll see that history isn't just found inside a dusty old textbook. Stories about the Allied soldiers take on a whole new meaning as you walk along the shores where they once fought. After your on-the-ground history lesson, head back to Paris to board your flight home.

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## Normandy Coast → 2 nights

### Day 9: Normandy Coast via Rouen & Honfleur

*Included meals: breakfast, tasting*

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.

### Day 10: 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*).
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## Paris → 1 night

### Day 11: Transfer to Paris

*Included meals: breakfast*

Head back to Paris and enjoy a farewell drink with your group this evening.

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## Flight Home

### Day 12: 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.ca/PPR](https://goaheadtours.ca/PPR) | 1-800-754-5066

## Day 3: Evening in Monaco

\$165CAD/\$175CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the evening)

Spend an evening in Monaco, a tiny principality that's world-renowned for its luxuriousness. Ruled by the Grimaldis, Europe's oldest royal family, Monaco has retained its independence for more than 700 years. Your Tour Director introduces you to the Old Town, which is perched atop the Rock of Monaco. This 203-foot-tall monolith overlooks the Mediterranean Sea and is part of the Monaco-Ville quarter, the oldest of the country's four quarters. While here, you'll stop and view the outside of the Royal Palace. Next, head to the Monte Carlo Casino where you'll have plenty of free time inside the world-famous casino with an included drink. Please note: Travelers under the age of 18 are not permitted to enter the casino. Travelers must abide by dress code restrictions to enter the casino, and passports are required for entrance to the Casino.

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 8: Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny

\$149CAD/\$159CAD\* (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.

## Day 5: Aix-en-Provence: Sights, Wines & Dinner

\$219CAD (8 hours, departs in the afternoon with dinner)

On today's optional excursion, you'll get the quintessential Provençal experience. Start in Aix, located in the heart of the region, and enjoy a walking tour through the city's beautiful wide boulevards and inside its medieval cathedral. Then, travel to the picturesque surrounding countryside, stopping at a castle before settling in at a local winery for a tasting. End the day with a group dinner seasoned with local Provençal herbs. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

## Day 6: Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (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 7: Versailles Palace & Gardens

\$199CAD (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:

\*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.ca/terms](https://goaheadtours.ca/terms)