LONDON AND PARIS

INCLUDED ON TOUR

Round-trip flights on major carriers; Full-time Tour Director; Air-conditioned motorcoaches and internal transportation; London Tube Travel Card, days 2-4; Paris Metro Travel Cards days 5-9; Superior tourist-class hotels with private bathrooms; Breakfast daily; Select meals with a mix of local cuisine.

Sightseeing:
London; Tate Modern Gallery; Victoria and Albert Museum; Walking Tour of the Latin Quarter, Paris

Entrances:
British Museum
Victoria and Albert Museum
Tate Modern Gallery
Paris Museum Pass, 4 days
Notre Dame Cathedral
Seine River Cruise
Louvre*
Musée L’Orangerie*
Eiffel Tower
Atelier Visit
Fragonard Perfume Shop
Opéra Garnier
Versailles Palace and Gardens*
Pompidou Center*
Picasso Museum*
Musée D’Orsay*
Musée Rodin*

*Included in Paris Museum Pass

Overnight stays:
London (3)
Paris (5)

NOT INCLUDED ON TOUR

Optional excursions; Insurance coverage; Beverages and lunches (unless otherwise noted); Transportation to free-time activities; Customary gratuities (for your Tour Director, bus driver and local guide); Porterage; Adult supplement (if applicable); Weekend supplement; Shore excursion on cruises; Any applicable baggage-handing fee imposed by the airlines (see efct.com/baggage for details); Expenses caused by airline rescheduling, cancellations or delays caused by the airlines, bad weather or events beyond EF’s control; Passports, visa and reciprocity fees
YOUR ITINERARY

Day 1: Board Your Overnight Flight to London!

Day 2: London

Arrive in London
Ranging from the North Sea in the east to the playing fields of Eton in the west, London covers an area of some 620 square miles and is home to over 8 million people. Prepare to observe the stunning architecture, vibrant street life and royal majesty of this bustling metropolis.

Walking Tour of London (time permitting)
Stroll through the heart of London on your Tour Director-led walking tour of the city, which begins along the banks of the River Thames. As you walk along the ancient embankment, note that these shadowy waters gave the city its name, which derives from Lyn-Dyn, Celtic for “city of the lake.” Walk along the Strand and see the spot from which all distances to London are measured. Enter Trafalgar Square, where you’re sure to meet the world’s most famous pigeons, and pause at Nelson’s column, a symbol of Britain’s once unrivaled naval power. Continue on to Leicester Square and end your walk at chic Covent Garden, where street performers (or “buskers”) amuse the lively crowds. (The exact walking route may vary, depending on your hotel location and the day’s other activities.)

Fish and Chips Dinner
Tonight you will dine on one of England’s most famous meals. Originally made popular in the 19th century by Dickens’ reference to a “fried fish warehouse” in Oliver Twist, the first fish and chips dinners were served with bread and butter and a cup of tea, all for just nine pence.

Overnight in London

Day 3: London

Guided Sightseeing of London
A local guide leads you on a panoramic tour of London. Begin in Grosvenor Square; site of the U.S. embassy and the house where Eisenhower once lived, this area is sometimes called “Little America.” Continue to Hyde Park Corner, located at the southeast corner of Hyde Park, one of London’s largest parks. At bustling Piccadilly Circus, the intersection of five busy streets, check out the bright lights and big city displays, before heading to Trafalgar Square, site of Nelson’s Column, built to commemorate his 1805 victory in the Battle of Trafalgar. Pass Speaker’s Corner, where anyone with something to say is invited to speak his mind. Snap a photo of the Houses of Parliament and continue along London’s South Bank for views of the famous Tower of London and London Bridge. View St. Paul’s Cathedral, the magnificent 17th-century Baroque church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Finally, witness a London tradition: the Changing of the Guard. (Subject to scheduling)

Visiting the British Museum
Perusing the collection of the world’s first public museum, you will marvel at relics from the Athenian Parthenon (the Elgin Marbles) and the Rosetta Stone (which enabled archaeologists to decipher Egyptian hieroglyphics). But the museum doesn’t neglect Great Britain—you will also see the ancient bog-preserved body of the Lindow Man, treasures from the Anglo Saxon Sutton Hoo ship, and other relics of the British Isles.

Guided Visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum
From East Asian ceramics to British furniture, the V&A features historical gems from all over the world. Tour this expansive museum’s 145 galleries, and look out for early editions of plays by ancient masters like Virgil and Homer.

Overnight in London

Day 4: London

Guided Visit to the Tate Modern
The largest modern art gallery in the world, the Tate Modern opened its doors in 2000 in the grounds of the former Bankside power station. The brick-clad steel structure harmonizes the old and the new perfectly while the glass structure spanning the roof provides natural light for the works within. These works, a superb collection of modern art from 1900 to the present day, include pieces by Rothko, Matisses and Dali.

Free Afternoon in London
Enjoy free time in London. You might wish to visit the original Hard Rock Café or Madame Tussaud’s Chamber of Horrors, take a cruise down the Thames, or browse through the countless stores along Oxford Street. Attend a Shakespearean drama at a replica of the Globe Theatre, or visit the fascinating, hands-on exhibits of London’s Natural History Museum.

Indian Curry Dinner is included this evening.

Overnight in London

Day 5: London | Paris

Transfer on the Eurostar from London to Paris
In London, board the high-speed Eurostar, an 18-car train that runs through the tunnel connecting continental Europe with Britain. Completed in May of 1994, the Channel Tunnel provides travelers with easy access to and from the continent. Enjoy state-of-the-art technology as you are whisked under the English Channel to France.

Arrive in Paris
Welcome to Paris, cosmopolitan City of Light. Over the centuries, Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world’s most important cities both culturally and politically. Equally famed for its high fashion, awe-inspiring museums and elegant cuisine, Paris has also been a center of theater, literature and philosophy throughout the ages.

Guided Walking Tour of the Latin Quarter
Begin your guided walking tour at the Louvre and cross over the Seine River. On the left bank, watch the bouquinistes selling old books and postcards and catch glimpses of the Conciergerie and St. Chappelle from the Pont Neuf, the oldest bridge in the city. Continue through the Latin Quarter, an area dominated by the Sorbonne, Paris’ most famous university, founded in 1253. The quarter was named for its inhabitants’ native tongue; Latin was the official language until 1793. As you stroll, look for the Panthéon, created by Louis XV because of a promise he made during a severe illness to build a church dedicated to Saint Geneviève if he survived. Your tour will end at Notre Dame Cathedral.
Visit Notre Dame Cathedral
Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as “a vast symphony in stone.” However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo’s novel The Hunchback of Notre Dame helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose window and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Seine River Cruise
This evening, take a narrated river cruise along the Seine. As your boat glides from one graceful bridge to the next, sit back and gaze at the illuminated landmarks of Paris as they pan into view.

Overnight in Paris

Day 6: Paris
Paris Museum Pass
Today you will receive your 4-Day Paris Museum Pass, which gains your free entry to over 60 museums and monuments in and around Paris.

Visit the Louvre Museum
Included in your museum pass is the Palais du Louvre, built to defend the city in the 13th century, and now safeguards one of the world’s greatest art collections. Enter the museum through world-renowned architect I.M. Pei’s 1989 modernist glass pyramid. Inside, discover priceless antiquities from Egypt, Greece, Italy and Asia such the statues of Venus de Milo and Mike of Samothrace, better known as Winged Victory. You’ll also see some of the Louvre’s most prized paintings by Renaissance and European masters, including Leonardo da Vinci’s painting of the mysterious Mona Lisa.

Visit the Musée L’Orangerie
Included in your museum pass is the Musee l’Orangerie. A pavilion built during the Second Empire and situated in the magnificent Tuileries gardens, the Orangerie has housed the renowned Jean Walter and Paul Guillaume art collections since 1984. These collections, though numbering fewer than 150 pieces, represent a truly remarkable group of impressionists and early 20th-century painters. The museum also features a circular hall, where visitors are surrounded by Monet’s famous Water Lilies.

Ascend the Eiffel Tower
Built in 1889 for the World’s Fair, the tower is now one of the world’s most recognizable monuments and a symbol of Paris. Standing over 300 meters high, with a viewing balcony on each of its three levels, a visit to this historical landmark is one of the must-do events in any visit to the city. (Pending availability due to limited group reservations)

Overnight in Paris

Day 7: Paris

Visit the Fragonard Shop
Fragonard is one of the most recognizable perfume brands in France. It started in the south of France where lavender fields are abundant. Today you will visit its workshop in Paris and learn the process of making perfume.

Visit the Opera Garnier
Admire the splendor of L’Opéra, whose stunning facade was re-gilded and renovated in the year 2000. The large red performance hall, which is located exactly in the middle of the Opéra, can accommodate up to 2,130 spectators at a time. Learn about the musical tradition of Paris on a tour inside or just find out why Napoleon III had a horseshoe-shaped entrance built at the rear of the building to protect him.

Overnight in Paris

Day 8: Paris

Visit the Saint-Ouen Flea Market
This morning opt to join the 200,000 visitors that explore the world’s largest flea market each weekend. “Les Puces”, as the French say, encompass more than 10 individual markets and offer everything from elegant art and genuine antiques to second-hand leather jackets and military surplus. Get out at the Porte de Clignancourt metro stop and just follow the crowds!

Excursion to Versailles
Transfer via the RER to Versailles, which is included in your Museum Pass. Step back into le grand siècle as you experience the opulence of Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Built to be the envy of all Europe, France’s most extravagant château continually threatened to bankrupt the national treasury. Here the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. Tour the State Apartments of the King himself and walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors, where the Treaty of Versailles, which ended WWI, was signed. Admire the ornate decor of the Queen’s State Apartments, furnished for Marie Antoinette. After your visit inside the palace, be sure to take some time to stroll through the elaborate gardens, designed by André Le Nôtre.

Evening Visit to the Pompidou Center
Included in your museum pass is the Pompidou Center. The building-whose design was selected from 681 proposals-is the creation of the Anglo-Italian team of Richard Rogers and Renzo Piano. Inaugurated in 1977, the building’s external pipes lend an “inside-out” appearance, according to many Parisians. The Pompidou Center houses the Musée National d’Art Moderne, where you can see works by Rothko, Dali and Kandinsky.

Overnight in Paris
Day 9: Paris

Visit the Musée Rodin
Included in your museum pass is the Musée Rodin. View the raw talent of Auguste Rodin as you wander through a history of his marvelous works. The museum was opened to the public in 1929 and houses 124 sculptures both within the building and in the impressive gardens. See his most famous works, including The Thinker, The Gates of Hell and Eternal Springtime.

Visit the Musée D’Orsay
Included in your museum pass is the Musée D’Orsay. Part of this museum’s draw is the building itself, not just the artwork that adorns its walls. Built for the 1900 Universal Exposition, the Gare d’Orsay functioned as a train station until 1939 and was converted into a museum in 1986. The high, arching ceiling and enormous wall clocks hint at the days when trains zipped in and out of the spacious structure. The museum is noted for its collection of Impressionist paintings—a walk through the upper gallery will reveal works by Monet, Renoir, Degas, Sisley, Pissarro, and countless others.

Visit the Picasso Museum
Situated in the fashionable Marais district in what was the 17th century Hôtel Salé, the Picasso museum houses hundreds of paintings and thousands of studies, engravings and manuscripts made by the artist. Additionally, the museum also contains some works by Cézanne, Rousseau and Matisse. Born in Andalucía, in Southern Spain, Picasso was to become one of the most influential and challenging artists of the 20th century. Inside, you can learn more about his unique techniques and the extraordinary vision of this great artist.

Dinner is included this evening.

Overnight in Paris

Day 10: Board Return Flight Home

Transfer to the Paris Airport for Your Return Flight
Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you’ll check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change

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