Included on your program

Roundtrip flights on major carriers; full-time Tour Director; expert local guides; accommodations with private bathrooms; land transportation; all breakfasts and select regional-style meals unless otherwise specified.

**Sightseeing:**
- Paris
- Versailles
- Normandy

**Overnights:**
- Paris (3)
- Saint-Malo (2)
- Normandy region (1)
- Paris (1)

**Entrances:**
- Sainte Chapelle
- Versailles
- Musée d’Orsay
- Chartres Cathedral
- Fougères Chateau
- Mont Saint Michel Abbey
- St. Vincent Cathedral
- Normandy beaches
- Pointe du Hoc
- Normandy American Cemetery
- Caen Memorial
- Louvre
- Paris cooking class

Enroll now by visiting efcst.com/2508312ZZ or by calling us at 877-485-4184. Itinerary is subject to change. For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.efcst.com/bc.
Your Itinerary

Day 1: Fly overnight to France
Board your overnight flight to Paris!

Day 2: Paris

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 theatre, literature and philosophy throughout the ages.

Walking tour of the Latin Quarter
Get to know the Latin Quarter during your Tour Director-led walking tour. Together, explore this vibrant neighborhood, where you might see the Sorbonne university, the Pantheon, and an array of diverse restaurants and shops.

Visit Sainte Chapelle
Mostly known for its extraordinary stained glass, this small gothic cathedral was built by Louis IX in 1246 with the purpose of housing Jesus Christ’s thorn crown brought in from Constantinople. Whatever its original intention, the church draws visitors today mostly to marvel at the biblical scenes brilliantly glowing in vivid color on the 15 stained glass windows that circumvent the small chapel.

Dinner is included this evening.

Day 3: Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris
Discover the city on the Seine during your panoramic bus tour. An expert local guide will accompany you as you drive down the elegant, tree-lined Champs-Elysées. Be sure to snap a photo at the magnificent Eiffel Tower, an unmistakable and controversial symbol of Paris since its appearance at the 1889 World’s Fair.

Guided excursion to Versailles
Journey to the town of Versailles, home of the decadent Palais de Versailles. During your guided tour of this lavish estate, discover why Versailles was more than just a vacation home for Louis XIV. Explore the state apartments of the king and queen and the magnificent Hall of Mirrors. Then walk through the meticulously landscaped gardens and marvel at dozens of ornate fountains. (Because of the extreme popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace.)

Day 4: Paris

Visit 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.

Walking tour of Montmartre and Sacré-Coeur
Get to know Montmartre during your Tour Director-led walking tour. Together you might see breathtaking views of the City of Light, watch artists at work at the Place du Tertre, or gaze up at the Sacré-Coeur Basilica.

Exploration time in Paris
Enjoy time to explore Paris on your own. You may wish to visit one of Paris’ many museums or spend time at a café.

Enjoy dinner with locals this evening.

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Seine River cruise
After dinner, 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.

Day 5: Paris | Chartres | Fougeres | Saint-Malo

Travel via Chartres and Fougeres to St. Malo
Home to one of the world’s finest remaining examples of a gothic cathedral, Chartres has been a major catholic pilgrimage site for centuries. Fougeres, a medieval town in France’s Brittany region, is home to an impressive 13-tower castle, one of Europe’s largest!

Visit the Chartres Cathedral
Dominating the skyline of this town is the 13th-century cathedral, one of the most amazing achievements in Western architecture. With its two towers, one Gothic and the other Romanesque, this is a truly unique experience. Take time to enjoy the picturesque gardens that surround the cathedral.

Enjoy lunch in Chartres
Before continuing your journey, enjoy an included lunch with your group.

Visit the Chateau de Fougeres
Welcome to the Chateau de Fougeres, built on high ground surrounded by a natural moat.

Arrive in St. Malo
Welcome to St. Malo, where Jacques Cartier set sail in 1534 to explore Canada’s St. Lawrence River Valley. Today the city acts as both a popular tourist destination as well as one of the channel’s busiest ports.

Day 6: Saint-Malo

Excursion to Mont-St-Michel
Tour the breathtaking islet monastery of Mont-St-Michel. Perched high on a granite rock, this 8th-century abbey is surrounded by water at high tide and quicksand at low tide.

Visit St. Vincent Cathedral
St. Vincent’s Cathedral was built in the 12th century and was once a Bendictine Abbey. During WWII, the cathedral suffered bombing damage and its choir section collapsed. Post-war restoration of the cathedral took more than 20 years.

Walking tour of Saint-Malo
St Malo was once a town where local seamen fought Barbary pirates and plundered English, Dutch and Spanish merchants. During your Tour Director-led walking tour of this historic town, take in the narrow streets, tall granite homes and medieval ramparts.

Day 7: Saint-Malo | Normandy region

Travel to Normandy region
Make your way to Normandy, location of many of the battles that turned the course of World War II. Despite its connection with major military events, Normandy is also a region of scenic beauty with elegant landscapes and patchwork fields as well as the majesty of its two major towns-Caen and Rouen.

See La Pointe du Hoc
The Pointe du Hoc was a vital position on the Atlantic Wall because it contained guns capable of firing on Omaha and Utah Beaches. It was one of the strongholds in the German fortifications. Colonel Rudder’s “Rangers” battled the German observation post on the edge of the Point and the monument commemorates their courage on the morning of June 6th.

Visit the American Cemetery
Visit the final resting place of 9,386 American military dead, most of whom gave their lives during the landings and ensuing operations of World War II. The site also includes a memorial commemorating the soldiers and a chapel bearing the poignant words: “These endured all and gave all that justice among nations might prevail and that mankind might enjoy freedom and inherit peace.”

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Spend time at the Caen Memorial: Museum of Peace
Pay tribute to WWII troops who fought on the beaches of Normandy as you visit the Caen Memorial. You’ll see a short film about the D-Day invasion, followed by a slide show on WWII. A third audio-visual presentation recounts the wars in Korea, Afghanistan, and Vietnam, as well as the continuing quest for world peace. Afterwards, tour the museum and see displays that depict pre-WWII Europe and trace the events that eventually led to the outbreak of war. Take time to walk through the Nobel Peace Prizewinners’ Gallery, a gallery that highlights the accomplishments of the men and women who struggled for peace.

Dinner is included this evening.

Day 8: Normandy region | Paris

Return to Paris
This morning, make your way back to France’s capital city.

Visit the Louvre
The Palais du Louvre, built to defend the city in the 13th century, 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 Nike 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.

Exploration time in Paris
Enjoy time to explore Paris on your own this afternoon.

French Cooking Class
Enjoy this unique opportunity to take a cooking class at one of Paris’ world-acclaimed cooking schools. A professional chef will lead you in a participatory session featuring a sampling of traditional French specialties.

Dinner is included this evening.

Day 9: Depart for home

Transfer to the 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.

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It’s nice to meet you

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¹University of California Merced, 2018