

# PARIS & ITALY: Fashion & Culinary Tour

(Note: This is only a sample tour)

**Day 1:** Depart today on your flight to Paris.

**Day 2:** Arrive today in **Paris**. Meet your guide for an orientation city walking tour. Later, your guide will leave you in the Latin Quarter. At one time only Latin was spoken here! Today it is brimming with cafes, restaurants, little bookstores, and tourist shops.

**Day 3:** Today is dedicated to discovering the secrets of French cuisine. Meet your guide and chef for your visit to a local market. Learn about some of the popular foods and pick up items you will need for your **cooking class** which will follow your market visit. Eat what you prepare. After, walk towards the Champs Elysee and the **Arc de Triomphe**. See Ave de Montaigne and Rue du Faubourg, Saint Honore, widely cited as the most fashionable streets in the world. Tonight enjoy a relaxing Seine cruise.



**Day 4:** Today a guided visit to the Louvre and the Musee des Arts Decoratifs, housing 35,000 fashion accessories and pieces of fabric illustrating the evolution of clothing. Then see Place de la Concorde, Place Vendome and Palais Royale. See the famous cabaret, Moulin Rouge. Walk the Boulevard Clichy to Montmartre, one of the most picturesque and lively quarters of the city. Climb or take the funicular up to **Sacre Coeur**, a beautiful white basilica, magnetically towering from the highest point in Montmartre. Tonight ascend the **Eiffel Tower**.

**Day 5:** Today is a day of **fashion related activities** learning from fashion professionals familiar with the fashion world who will provide you with knowledge of the world of French Haute Couture. Enjoy a guided walking tour followed by visits to independent fashion designers. Visit to the Opera Garnier or the Musee de L'Eventail (Fan museum) or the Fragonard Musee de Parfum (Perfume Museum). Tonight shop Galeries Lafayette and Printemps.



**Day 6:** Morning flight to **Florence** Italy. The Renaissance began in Florence and the city has more sights to visit within one square kilometer than any other city in Europe. Meet guide for a guided orientation walking tour. See the gorgeous Duomo, the Bell Tower, Pont Vecchio the medieval district, and a central bustling food market. Here you can buy anything from fresh fruits and vegetables to gourmet goods, fresh fish, meat and cheeses. Have a chance to sample a lot of the wonderful produce and your guide will also explain some of the traditional Tuscan. The remainder of the afternoon is free to shop in San Lorenzo Market or visit the Santa Croce area where Galileo, Michelangelo and Dante have their monuments.

**Day 7:** Enjoy a morning **Tuscan cooking class**. This cooking class will teach the basics of Italian food preparation. Your chef will lead you through the creative process and everyone will actively participate. The remainder of day free to explore on your own. Later visit the Uffizi Gallery, a museum the result of a process of acquisition, selection and rearrangement stretching over several centuries and consist mostly of antique sculpture and paintings ranging from the 13c to 18c.



**Day 8:** Day of **fashion activities**. Today's activities include a Textile Workshop where you can stimulate your creativity and uniqueness as well as a visit to the Palazzo Pitti / Costume Museum. Pitti Palace is a vast mainly Renaissance Palace that once served as a power base for Napoleon, and the royal family's home. It now houses art and luxurious possessions of Italy's past. The Costume Museum is located in Pitti Palace. It covers the historical garments from the 18th century to the present day. Spend time along the high end fashion shopping streets in Florence. Visit the Ferragamo Shoe Museum.

**Day 9:** Board your private coach for a full day tour visiting the beautiful countryside of **Tuscany**. Your first stop is **San Gimignano**, a spectacular medieval city that has the feel of a museum. From a distance, the towers of this 13th century town that were symbols of power and wealth of the city's medieval families, dominate the lush landscape of wheat fields, olive groves and vineyards. A lovely traditional Tuscan lunch will include a tasting of their salumi products such as salame, prosciutto, capocollo and guancia. The tour includes a walk up Pig Hill to see the piglets and a glimpse into the seasoning/curing room, and finishing. On the way back to Florence stop at a farm where they raise goats for cheese. Also have a tasting and an explanation of the production process. You will of course also get to meet the goats! Also stop at a villa for olive oil tasting.

**Day 10:** Enjoy a 4 hour cooking class. Later transfer to **Venice**.

**Day 11:** Make your way into the magical city of Venice. The unique nature of Venice has amazed people since the very beginning of its existence. Venice is comprised of more than 100 islands; all linked by bridges, making it necessary to walk to most places. Meet your guide for walking tour of this unique city. Your tour includes the Bridge of Sighs, the bridge that connects the Doge's Palace with the prisons, in which Casanova was incarcerated but from which he made a fantastic escape. See Doges Palace, the Clock Tower, Piazza San Marco and the graceful **Rialto Bridge**, which is halfway along the canal. After your walking tour, lose yourself in the maze of streets and ambiance of this glorious city. Take a gondola ride, or relax at an outdoor café along one of the many canals designed to allow an armed galley to pass under it.

**Day 12:** Today unfortunately your tour must come to an end. Ciao Italy.

## **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

- Return airfare to Paris return Venice
- One way flight Paris - Florence
- Coach transfers
  - o Paris – airport return
  - o Florence – airport to hotel
  - o Florence – Venice
  - o Full day Tuscan countryside culinary tour with visits
- Assistance upon arrival in both cities
- 10 nights hotel accommodation with private facilities
- 10 Breakfasts
- 1 lunch
- 4 dinners
- Guided orientation tours
  - o Walking in Paris
  - o Fashion tour
  - o Walking and Culinary Tour in Florence
  - o Venice
- Entrances/visits:
  - o Guided visit to Louvre
  - o Musee Des Arts Decoratif
  - o Eiffel Tower
  - o Seine Cruise
  - o Fan Museum or Opera Garnier or Fragonard Perfume Museum
  - o Fashion / Textile workshop in Florence
  - o Pitti Palace and Costume Museum
  - o Ferragamo Shoe Museum
  - o Entrance to Uffizi Gallery
  - o Vaporetto transfer Venice
- Cooking class and market tour
  - o 1 in Paris & 2 in Florence
- 4 day metro pass in Paris

