

PARIS & ITALY: Fashion 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 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 and possible fashion school visit. Spend time on 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: Visit **Versailles**. See the Grand Apartments, Hall of Mirrors, King's and Queen's suites, and other sights. Afterwards, head to the Fragonard Musee du Parfum. The museum will introduce you to the rudiments of perfume history. The copper containers with spouts and tubes were used in the distillation of perfume oils, and the exquisite collection of perfume bottles from the 17th to the 20th century is impressive. Tonight shop Galeries Lafayette and Printemps.

Day 6: Paris is famous for two important opera houses, the **Opera Garnier and the Opera Bastille**. The Opera Bastille, determined to be the Place de la Bastille, along with the Opera Garnier offer world renowned opera performances. The Opera Garnier offers guided tours that include a visit to the public foyers, the main auditorium and the backstage areas. This afternoon enjoy your guided visit. Later visit the Musee de L'eventail or Fan Museum. The museum was established in 1993 and is the first museum in France dedicated to the fan. The museum is located within the Atelier Anne Hogue, a workshop for fan-making and restoration and contains an exhibition of fans from the eighteenth century to the present day, along with the tools, workbenches, and materials used in making fans, including pearl, ivory, shell, bone, and wood. This evening you can meander the Champs Elyse to see the lights at night or join the Parisians as they settle themselves in for an evening of music and culture.

Day 7: 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. 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 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: Transfer to **Pisa** for a look at the architectural project gone terribly wrong, **the Leaning Tower**. See the beautiful Campo dei Miracoli Square with its famous group of Romanesque buildings, the Duomo, the Baptistry and the Leaning Tower. This afternoon you may wish to visit both the Leonardo da Vinci Museum and the Musee Galileo. Witness the life sized inventions of Da Vinci in operation mode as well as reproductions of his most important paintings including the Last Supper, the Mona Lisa and the Annunciation of the genius Da Vinci. The remainder of the day you are free to discover Florence at your leisure. Spend time on Pont Vecchio. See also Piazza Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, and Mercato Nuovo.

Day 10: 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. 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
- Return train transfer to Pisa
- Coach transfers
 - o Paris & Florence – Airport transfers
 - o Florence – Venice
- Assistance upon arrival in Paris
- 10 nights hotel accommodation with private facilities
- 10 Breakfasts
- 5 dinners
- Guided orientation tours
 - o 2 Walking Tours in Paris (Fashion & Orientation)
 - o Walking in Florence
 - o Walking in Venice
- Entrances/visits:
 - o Guided visit to Louvre
 - o Musee Des Arts Decoratif
 - o Eiffel Tower
 - o Seine Cruise
 - o Fan Museum
 - o Opera Garnier
 - o Fragonard Perfume Museum
 - o Versailles with audio guide
 - 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
- 5 day metro pass in Paris

