

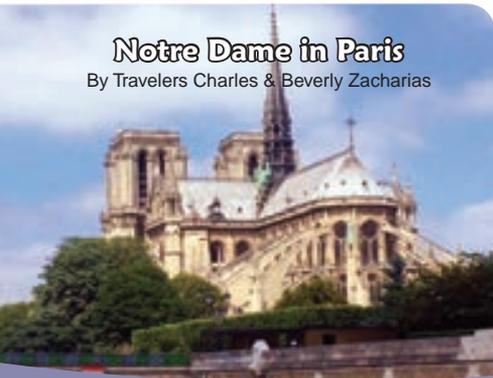
# Paris, Tuscany & Rome Tour

14-day tour featuring Paris, Beaune, Lake Lucerne, Swiss Alps, Verona, Venice, Pisa, Florence, Tuscany and Rome

NEW  
FOR  
2019

## Notre Dame in Paris

By Travelers Charles & Beverly Zacharias



## The Tuscan Countryside



## Trevi Fountain in Rome



Your journey between cosmopolitan Paris and classical Rome reveals the splendor of the Burgundy Wine Region, stunning Swiss Lakes, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Renaissance architecture in Florence, rolling hills in Tuscany, and the floating city of Venice!

**Walking Expectations:** Due to limited access to city centers by bus, large city distances, high traffic, and hilly landscape, expect to walk more than four miles per day, often encountering uneven surfaces, steps and inclines.

**Highest Elevation:** 3855 feet in the St. Gotthard Tunnel. Some tours take the pass in nice weather and this is 6916 feet, but if you inform the tour manager of elevation concerns at the beginning of the tour, they will take the tunnel. Hotels in Switzerland are located as high as 2900 feet.



② Number of Overnights  
● Sightseeing Stop

## Included Features

- **Accommodations** in Superior Tourist Class or First Class hotels
- **12 Breakfasts and 7 Dinners** in addition to any in-flight meals
- **Tour Manager** for the full European duration of the tour
- **Land Transportation in Europe** by deluxe, air-conditioned motor coach
- **Baggage Handling** at hotels
- **Confirmation Packet** including our *Touroclopedia*® trip preparation booklet
- **Trip Documents** with luggage tags, final details and helpful travel tips

For a detailed description of *Included Features*, see page 8.

## Departures Offered these Months

May • June • September

For specific dates and prices, see the brochure insert, ask your travel agent, or go to [www.ImageTours.com](http://www.ImageTours.com).

# 14-day Paris, Tuscany & Rome Tour

For tour dates & prices, see brochure insert or ask your travel agent

## Tour Itinerary

**DAY 1 - Overnight Flight to Europe.** Refer to "Preparing for your departure" in your Trip Documents for easy check-in procedures. Take time to relax on your transatlantic flight with the assurance that Image Tours has taken care of all the details.

**DAY 2 - FRANCE . . Arrival at Paris Airport.** Upon arrival, disembark, clear passport control and collect your luggage. Refer to your "Arrival Instructions" page in your Trip Documents for directions on where and when to meet your tour manager. Board the deluxe motor coach for the transfer from the airport to your Paris hotel and enjoy your first impressions of the "City of Light." After check-in, freshen-up and relax. The balance of the day is yours to rest up from the flight, or to jump start your exploration of Paris. Consider taking an afternoon walk through the colorful old town section of Montmartre, where you can view Paris from its highest point at Sacré-Cœur Basilica. An independent dinner on this first evening in Europe allows you the choice of a light fluffy crêpe or a leisurely Parisian meal.

**DAY 3 - FRANCE . . Paris.** A full day to explore one of the world's trendiest cities. Before beginning your free time,

we suggest joining the optional *Seine River Cruise* excursion (see page 58) for unsurpassed views of some of the city's major sights. In order to help you choose one or two attractions for your free time, your tour manager will familiarize you with the principal sights, such as the Notre Dame Cathedral, Eiffel Tower,

the vineyards of the Burgundy Wine Region to the ancient and historic walled city of Beaune, one of the major wine centers of France. Beaune has a rich historical and architectural heritage incorporating

remnants of the pre-Roman and Roman eras. After checking in at your hotel, you will have a few hours to explore Beaune. Consider a visit to the intriguing Hospices Museum with its striking façade. Built in the 15th century as a hospital for the destitute, the museum houses items used in hospitals in the Middle Ages, as well as an impressive collection of furniture, pottery, paintings and tapestries. An independent dinner provides the opportunity to visit a wine cellar and to sample the regional cuisine. (Breakfast)



Opera (Palais Garnier), Louvre Museum (open daily except Tuesdays), Galeries Lafayette department store, and Champs Élysées. Tonight, join your fellow tour members for a "Welcome to Europe/Get-acquainted" dinner at a festive Paris bistro. (Breakfast, Dinner)

**DAY 4 - FRANCE . . Paris – Burgundy Wine Region – Beaune.** Bid a fond farewell to Paris and motor through

**DAY 5 - FRANCE . . Besançon – Alsace Wine Region & SWITZERLAND . . Swiss Alps.** A leisurely morning drive brings you to Besançon, with its charming historic center and imposing hilltop citadel. After an independent lunch, the vineyards of the Alsace Wine Region give way to the unsurpassed splendor of the Swiss Alps. Cross the border at the Rhine port city of Basel, strategically located at the point where France, Germany and Switzerland meet. Your hotel resides in one of the scenic villages in the Swiss Alps. (Breakfast, Dinner)

## Champs-Élysées Avenue in Paris



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**DAY 6 - SWITZERLAND . . Stans – Lucerne – Swiss Alps.** As you descend upon Lake Lucerne, the soaring peaks of Rigi, Stanserhorn and Pilatus, stand guard over this vast water basin, creating one of the most imposing sights in Europe. Today's first stop is in the old mountain village of Stans with an optional *Swiss Mountain* excursion (see page 58). Next, motor along the lake to the city of Lucerne, where you will see the Old Town Wall and famous Lion Monument. The rest of the day is yours to explore the Old Town, visit the Swiss Transport Museum, or relax on one of the lovely lakeshore promenades. Lucerne is a shopper's paradise; enjoy browsing through displays of wood-carved music boxes, delicate Swiss lace, delicious chocolates and Switzerland's world famous watches. Before returning to your hotel, the tour manager will offer an optional *Swiss Lake Boat Ride* excursion (see page 58). ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

**DAY 7 - SWITZERLAND . . Lugano & ITALY . . Verona.** Church bells break the silence of the night and welcome another glorious day. Travel through William Tell Country and the spectacular 11-mile-long Gotthard Tunnel to Lugano, where distant snow-capped mountains contrast beautifully with the palm tree-lined streets along Lake Lugano. Often referred to as the "Rio de Janeiro of the Old Continent," Lugano is the perfect spot for a lunch break. Cross the border into Italy and travel past Milan to the legendary city of Verona, made famous by Shakespeare's tragic love story of "Romeo and Juliet." Experience an authentic Italian meal during an independent dinner in Verona, before transferring to your hotel. ([Breakfast](#))

**DAY 8 - ITALY.. Venice.** Today features a full day visit to the romantic city of Venice, famous for its canals, bridges,

colorful gondoliers, and the magnificent St. Mark's Square. All transportation is done exclusively over water. Like the Venetians, you will take a boat ride to the center of Venice. A guided walking tour follows, ending with a visit to a glass-blowing workshop where highly



skilled artisans craft anything from delicate figurines to grand chandeliers. If you have your heart set on gliding through the canals, the cost is about \$45 per person based on six people per gondola. The day provides ample time to marvel at the architecture of the St. Mark's Basilica, the Doge's Palace and the Clock Tower. Have dinner at a pizzeria or join your tour manager at a typical Venetian restaurant for the optional *Venice Dinner* excursion (see page 59). After a memorable day of sightseeing, return to your Verona hotel. ([Breakfast](#))

**DAY 9 - ITALY . . Lucca – Pisa – Montecatini-Terme.** This morning, drive south through the Apennine Mountains, into Tuscany. Stop in the medieval center of Lucca before continuing to Pisa and its Leaning Tower. Work on the structure began in 1174, and the tower already started to tilt

while constructing the second floor. The cathedral complex consists of the Baptistry, Duomo, and the bell tower. The three white marble buildings set against the Field of Miracles (an expansive green lawn) are an impressive sight. This evening, pastel-tinted buildings on palm-lined streets welcome you to the spa resort town of Montecatini-Terme. Dinner will be provided at the hotel. ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

### **DAY 10 - ITALY . . Florence – Montecatini-Terme.**

This day focuses on the art and architecture of Florence. The first masterpieces you will notice during the guided walking tour are the Duomo (cathedral), the Baptistry (with its renowned bronze doors by Ghiberti), and Giotto's campanile (bell tower). The rest of the day is yours to explore Florence at your own pace. Admire the piazzas, each with

its own distinct character, shop the open-air markets, visit an art gallery, or enjoy gathering with Florentines and visitors alike on the Ponte Vecchio. Subject to availability at the time of your visit, your tour manager may be able to arrange for an optional *Accademia Gallery* excursion (see page 55) to admire Michelangelo's David. Dine on local specialties at a vineyard restaurant before returning to Montecatini-Terme. ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

### **DAY 11 - ITALY . . Siena – Rome.**

Your final morning in Tuscany takes you past olive groves to Siena, a beautiful city built on three hills. Piazza del Campo is the main square and focal point of Siena, with several smaller but equally interesting squares found throughout this medieval village. The optional *Siena Duomo* excursion (see page 58) provides a more in-depth look at the art and architecture of this magnificent cathedral. In the

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afternoon, leave Tuscany to rejoin the Autostrada in the direction of Rome. Along the way, stop for an included dinner of homemade specialties at a hilltop farm. Overnight at your Rome area hotel. ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))

**DAY 12 - ITALY . . Rome.** The entire day is devoted to the wonders of Rome. This energetic and modern metropolis is proudly protective of its abundant historical sites, crowned by the Colosseum (Roman Arena) which dates back to 80 A.D. A local guide will accompany you for a morning of city sightseeing including some of Rome's most famous landmarks such as the Arch of Constantine, Colosseum, Trevi Fountain and Pantheon. After an independent lunch, continue your exploration of Rome on foot, or join your tour manager for the optional *Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel* excursion (see page 59), including St. Peter's Basilica. Return to your hotel this evening for a "Farewell Dinner." ([Breakfast](#), [Dinner](#))



**DAY 13 - ITALY . . Rome.** Continue your independent discovery of the wonders of Rome, or join your tour manager for the optional *Colosseum* excursion (see page 56). Spend the afternoon at your leisure. Wander the Capitoline Museums and admire artwork and artifacts from the ancient Roman world. Shop along the Via del Corso or sip a cappuccino at the Spanish Steps. Italy is the cradle of European civilization, art, architecture and music, so however you choose to spend your day, the sights are sure to create lasting impressions. Choose from over 2,000 restaurants for an independent dinner or join the optional *Rome Dinner* excursion (see page 58) for a festive conclusion to your Roman experience. ([Breakfast](#))

**DAY 14 - Daytime flight back to U.S.A.** Transfer to the Rome Fiumicino Airport for the return flight home. ([Breakfast](#))



### You can Extend this Tour in LONDON, PARIS and/or ROME

#### Pre-Tour London & Paris Extension

If you would like to add London, consider a 3-night pre-tour extension including 2 nights London hotel, 1 additional night at the Paris tour hotel, a London Hop-on-Hop-off day pass (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) and rail from London to Paris. If more than six passengers add this extension, airport-hotel-rail station transfers will be included and a local host will be available at the hotel on the day of arrival to help you plan your full day of independent sightseeing in London.

Consult the [Dates & Prices Guide](#) insert for prices and details.



#### Post-Tour Rome Extension

Explore more of Rome on your own, after your tour ends. Image Tours can arrange an extended stay at your last tour hotel in Rome.

Consult the [Dates & Prices Guide](#) insert for prices and details.

