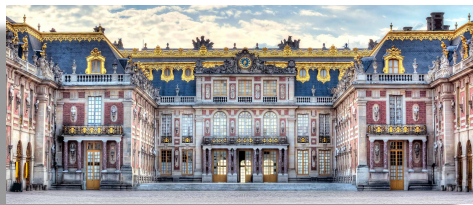




Suggested Itinerary For a Five Day French Revolution Study Tour to Paris by Coach. Prepared For History Department.

Dates: To Be Confirmed.



The itinerary is designed to balance visits of the greatest interest with recreative activities. It aims to make the maximum use of time without exhausting participants. The itinerary we have proposed is flexible and is only finalised after discussion with the Group Leader(s). Flexibility is also built into the tour itself as changes can be made at very short notice according to weather conditions etc. The tour can be guided throughout. All excursions are well-prepared and are backed by notes and a commentary. The tour guide can run the tour according to Group Leader wishes. In this way Group Leaders will be free to concentrate on the care of their pupils rather than the organisation of the tour. The whole stay is underpinned by excellent accommodation, catering, transport and security.

ACCOMMODATION



The Hotel Ibis**

Bd Newton, 77420 Champs sur Marne, Paris, France. Tel. +33164680083.

Located in the university district west of Paris, the Hotel Ibis is conveniently placed for our groups visiting Paris & the surrounding sites.

This modern hotel offers excellent accommodation in twin & triple bedded rooms. Each has television and en-suite bathroom facilities. There is a restaurant and a bar area. We have found the Hotel Ibis to be a friendly and secure base, close to the heart of Paris and within close proximity to the visits of the Ile de France region.

Above all, this is a secure and well-staffed hotel for our groups. Apart from the usual double locks on each door, the hotel is large enough to ensure that all pupils are usually on the same floor, directly next to their supervising staff. In addition there is a 24 hour concierge service.

The manager heads a particularly friendly and helpful staff and we have found the Hotel Ibis to be an ideal base for our groups in this region of France.

DAY ONE

<u>06.30</u>	Coach arrives at School.
<u>07.00</u>	Depart School. Transfer to Port of Dover.
<u>12.30</u>	Coach visits Cash & Carry, Dover to collect picnic lunch supplies.
<u>13.15</u>	E.T.A. Port of Dover. Check-in for next departure.
<u>14.05</u>	Depart Port of Dover.
<u>16.30</u>	Arrival at Calais. Onward transfer to Paris. <small>(Note: Continental time is one hour in advance of British time)</small>
<u>19.30</u>	<u>Ascent of The Arc de Triomphe.</u>
<p>Pupils will have the opportunity to take photographs of the Arc before passing through the pedestrian underpass to get underneath the Arc itself. The Tour Director will explain the names and sculptings on the Arc as well as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Participants will then mount the spiral staircase to reach the top of the Arc. (There is a lift available for adults.) Inside the monument pupils can explore the museum, visit the shop and see a film show in English. They can then climb up to the outdoor viewing gallery to enjoy a spectacular view over Paris.</p>	
<u>20.15</u>	<u>Dinner at The Monte Carlo Restaurant, Avenue Wagram.</u> www.monte-carlo.fr
<u>21.30</u>	Transfer to Hotel Ibis.
<u>22.00</u>	E.T.A. Hotel Ibis, Paris.

On arrival at the hotel: Participants will be given their room keys with a safety briefing and will have time to settle into their rooms.

DAY TWO

08.00 Breakfast & packing of lunch picnics.

09.00 Onward transfer to central Paris.

09.45 **Visit to The Conciergerie Prison**

The Conciergerie was built to house Philippe le Bel's concierge and palace guards. By 1391 it was functioning as a prison and continued as such till 1914.

Before entering we will look at the Tour de l'Horloge, which incorporates Paris's first public clock, commissioned by Charles V in 1371.

A bell that rang for three days following the birth of a royal child could hardly toll for the Revolutionaries and in 1793 a new silver bell was installed.

Prisoners included Ravallac (murderer of Henry IV), the bandit Cartouche and Madame de Brinvilliers, a most notorious poisoner. Inmates waited here for their death sentences to be carried out.

The Conciergerie, however, is most closely associated with the Great Revolution. Prisoners during this period included: Marie Antoinette, Charlotte Corday (Marat's assassin), Madam du Barry (mistress of Louis XV), Georges-Jacques Danton, Camille Desmoulins, Maximilien Robespierre, Marat and Saint Just amongst others.

During 'the Terror' 4,164 citizens were held here. 2,278 finished their lives under the blade of the guillotine. In 1793 it served the Jacobins as a prison for the Girondins, who sang and drank until the morning when they were delivered to the executioner.

THE COURTYARD

Our tour will start in the courtyard, where prisoners bade their last farewells before mounting the tumbrils which took the condemned through the streets of Paris to meet their fate.

SALLES des GARDES

Entering the prison proper, we will enter the Salles des Gardes, a vaulted stone chamber. From here staircases lead to, firstly the Tour Cesar, where Francis Ravallac was imprisoned in 1610. The other leads to the Tour Argent, where Robert Damiens was kept after his attempt on the life of Louis XV in 1757.

The spiral staircase in the right hand corner as you leave this room was climbed by Marie Antoinette on her way to face the Tribunal.

GENS D'ARME

This opens onto the Salle des Gens d'Arme, a hall measuring 70 by 27 metres said to be Europe's oldest surviving medieval hall.

The tour guide will talk to the group in this hall, prior to walking through the Rue de Paris. Here less moneyed prisoners slept. From here we will reach what was the most animated cross roads, 'the Galerie des Prisonniers,' where lawyers, visitors and prisoners came and went.

THE BARBER'S CELL.

Here the condemned were shorn and pinioned before they made their way into the courtyard.

COMMUNAL CELL.

This is particularly interesting as it is lined with panels listing the names and occupations of those executed.

CELLS OF PRISONNIERS DE MARQUE.

Walking along the connecting passageway we will see three cells that were occupied by important and moneyed prisoners. To illustrate the conditions under which they lived there are waxwork figures and contemporary furniture.

THE MUSEUM

We will enter the museum at the end of this passage. This is full of really excellent material Prints showing The Tribunal in progress, the great revolutionary leaders, earlier infamous prisoners and of daily life in the prison.

Pupils will view letters and documents as well as an original blade of the Guillotine which was used on more than a thousand victims. Pupils will also view an area devoted to Robespierre, around the spot where he was laid down after his entrance to the prison.

THE CHAPELLE DES GIRONDINS

We will descend from the museum into the Chapel named after the 22 condemned Girondins, who were left wing members of the 1791 Legislative Assembly. They celebrated their last night here. There is also a poignant memorial to the Royal Family, with paintings and carvings.

THE WOMEN'S EXERCISE YARD

From the Chapel we will enter the open air with some relief. This is the women's exercise yard associated with the massacres of 1792.

THE CELL OF MARIE ANTOINETTE

Our final visit, and perhaps the most important, will be to the cell of Marie Antoinette. Participants will enter the cell to see the Spartan furniture, peeling wallpaper, models of card-playing guards, a wax work of the Queen herself dressed as a widow. A strong impression of Marie Antonette's last sojourn is gained.

12.00

Visit to Notre Dame Cathedral & Ascent of The Towers

Pupils can pay a brief visit to the stark 'Memorial to the Deportation' before walking along the side of the cathedral to admire the famous Flying Buttresses, the gargoyles and the images of the Kings of France at the front. On entry to the Cathedral pupils will see the spectacular Rose Windows and the high vaulted ceiling.

13.00

Lunch.

13.45

Walk along River Seine to Place de la Concorde.

14.15

An Afternoon Walk Along The Champs Elysees.

Pupils will be free to walk the entire length of the Champs Elysees, from the Place de la Concorde up to The Arc de Triomphe. We will allow a good amount of time to complete this walk so that participants have time to visit the many shops lining the route including the Paris Saint Germain Football Shop, The Disneyland Paris Shop & The Virgin Megastore as well as the Mercedes & Peugeot main showrooms for their concept cars.

17.30

Dinner at the Monte Carlo Restaurant.

18.30

Guided Tour of Paris By Night.

The Tour Director will give a commentary during the tour that will include the following sights, all illuminated:

The Town Hall (Hotel de Ville).

The Italian style Rue de Rivoli.

The Place Vendome.

The Paris Opera.

The Madeleine

The Place de la Concorde.

The Arc de Triomphe.

The Eiffel Tower.

Trocadero.

21.00

Transfer to Hotel Ibis.

21.30

E.T.A. Hotel Ibis.

DAY THREE

08.00 Breakfast & packing of lunch picnics.

09.00 Onward transfer to central Paris.

10.00 **Visit to Les Invalides Military Museum.**

Les Invalides was built by Louis XIV to care for his retired and injured soldiers. Today, the Dome forms the last resting place of some of France's most heroic dead, including the body of Napoleon. Participants will be able to admire the magnificent interior of what was the royal chapel. One can look down on the great multi layered coffin of the Emperor and descend a flight of stairs to walk around the coffin. Here Napoleon's greatest battles are listed and one can see a series of tableaux illustrating what he achieved for France.

We will go on to visit the military museum which is probably the greatest in the world. We will concentrate on the galleries devoted to the Revolutionary Era and the First Empire. These offer a comprehensive and fascinating illustration of this period

12.30 Lunch.

13.30 **Guided Cruise on the River Seine on the Bateaux Mouches.**

We will enjoy a one hour cruise on the River Seine with Bateaux Mouches. This will take us around the Ile de la Cite and the Ile St Louis and offer views of Notre Dame Cathedral, the Conciergerie, the Place de la Concorde and the Eiffel Tower.

15.00 Coach transfer to The Eiffel Tower.

16.00 **Ascent of The Eiffel Tower**

The Eiffel Tower continues to be the symbol of Paris. It lost its title as the world's tallest building 50 years ago to the Empire State Building. Built for the World Fair of 1889, the Tower is 307 metres high and one can see for a distance of 45 miles on a clear day.

The Tower was originally granted 20 years of life but its use for radio telegraphy saved it from demolition in 1904.

We will get the lift to the third floor, where we will have time to view the exhibition before descending by staircase to the first floor, where we will enjoy a short film about the tower and the engineer who built it - Gustav Eiffel.

18.00 Transfer to Montmartre.

19.00

Dinner at Chez Eugene Restaurant, Place de Tertre.

www.chezeugene.fr

Participants will enjoy eating on the historic Place de Tertre, where Picasso, Van Gogh, Claude Monet & Edgar Degas would have enjoyed an aperitif in days gone by. We will enjoy a grilled steak or poulet roti either on the terrace, surrounded by the artists at work, or inside at the cabaret bar. This historic brasserie evokes the memories of a bygone era when Paris attracted artists from around the world, drawn to the new phenomenon known as 'Impressionism'.

20.00

Evening Visit to The Place de Tertre, Montmartre.

Pupils will enjoy spending an evening on this historic square, where the Impressionist artists used to live & where Van Gogh painted 'Starry Night' in one of the cafe gardens just off the main square. Pupils will have the opportunity of having their portraits sketched by some of the local artists.

21.30

Transfer to Hotel Ibis.

22.00

E.T.A. Hotel Ibis.

DAY FOUR

08.00 Breakfast & packing of lunch picnics.

09.00 Onward transfer to Versailles.

10.00 **Visit to The Palace and Gardens of Versailles.**

Participants will enter the grand courtyard and will wait at the statue of 'The Sun King' for the Director to collect the tickets. We will then enter the Chateau via the group entrance and will have a guided tour as outlined in the back-up notes to accompany the excursion. On leaving the Palace, pupils will be able to stroll in the gardens and admire the symmetrical lakes, paths and tree-lined pathways. We will also be able to board the mini-train to see the Triannons and Marie Antoinette's cottage. Some pupils may enjoy hiring a bicycle to explore the extensive gardens of the Versailles estate. We will take our lunch in the grounds of the estate.

(We will have our picnic lunches during the day's visit to Versailles).

16.00 Coach transfer to central Paris.

17.15 **Evening dinner at the Carrousel du Louvre Restaurant Area**

We will take our evening dinner at the Carrousel du Louvre Restaurant area where there is a wide choice of restaurants contained within one area. Pupils will be able to choose from Italian, Moroccan, Chinese, Japanese & Spanish restaurants as well as a burger outlet. Pupils will be given dinner money & they will be free to purchase the meal of their choice.

18.30 **Evening Visit to The Louvre Museum**

We will visit the Louvre Museum during its evening late-opening time, when the museum is almost empty & we will be able to view the artworks including the Mona Lisa & the Venus de Milo without the usual crowds. The Tour Director will hand out information sheets and plans before leading the group through the two entrance checks to the galleries.

Pupils will enter the museum through the 'Denon' wing to an exhibition of Roman sculptures. We will pass several famous paintings with which pupils will be familiar before entering the room of the Mona Lisa. We will then view the beautiful 'Winged Victory of Samothrace' to get to the 'Richelieu' wing. Here we will visit the Egyptian and Greek galleries as well as the Revolutionary paintings by David & Delacroix.

20.15 Transfer to Hotel Ibis.

20.45 E.T.A. Hotel Ibis.

DAY FIVE

08.00 Breakfast, packing of lunch picnics & loading of suitcases onto coach.

09.00 Coach transfer to central Paris.

10.00 **Visit to The Paris Catacombs**
www.catacombes-de-paris.fr

Several thousand bodies were exhumed from the Parisian cemeteries in 1785 when it was decided to re-bury the dead in three disused quarries in order to create more space for the living. We will visit the largest network of catacombs, known as 'The City of the Dead', this is by far the most macabre place in Paris. After descending 20 metres from street level participants will follow 1.6km of underground tunnels with the bones & skulls of millions of Parisians neatly stacked in the shadows. A guard will check bags at the end of the visit for stolen bones & skulls

12.00 Lunch.

12.30 Coach transfer to Calais.

16.00 E.T.A. Port of Calais. Check in for next crossing.

17.05 Depart Calais.

17.30 E.T.A. Port of Dover. Onward transfer to School.

(Note: 1 hour time difference)

20.30 E.T.A. School.

This is a Suggested Itinerary only. Please note that we make hotel & itinerary bookings upon receipt of the initial deposit payments. The timings & visits contained within this itinerary serve as a guide only & may change. The choice of hotel, visits & timings are confirmed upon receipt of initial deposits.