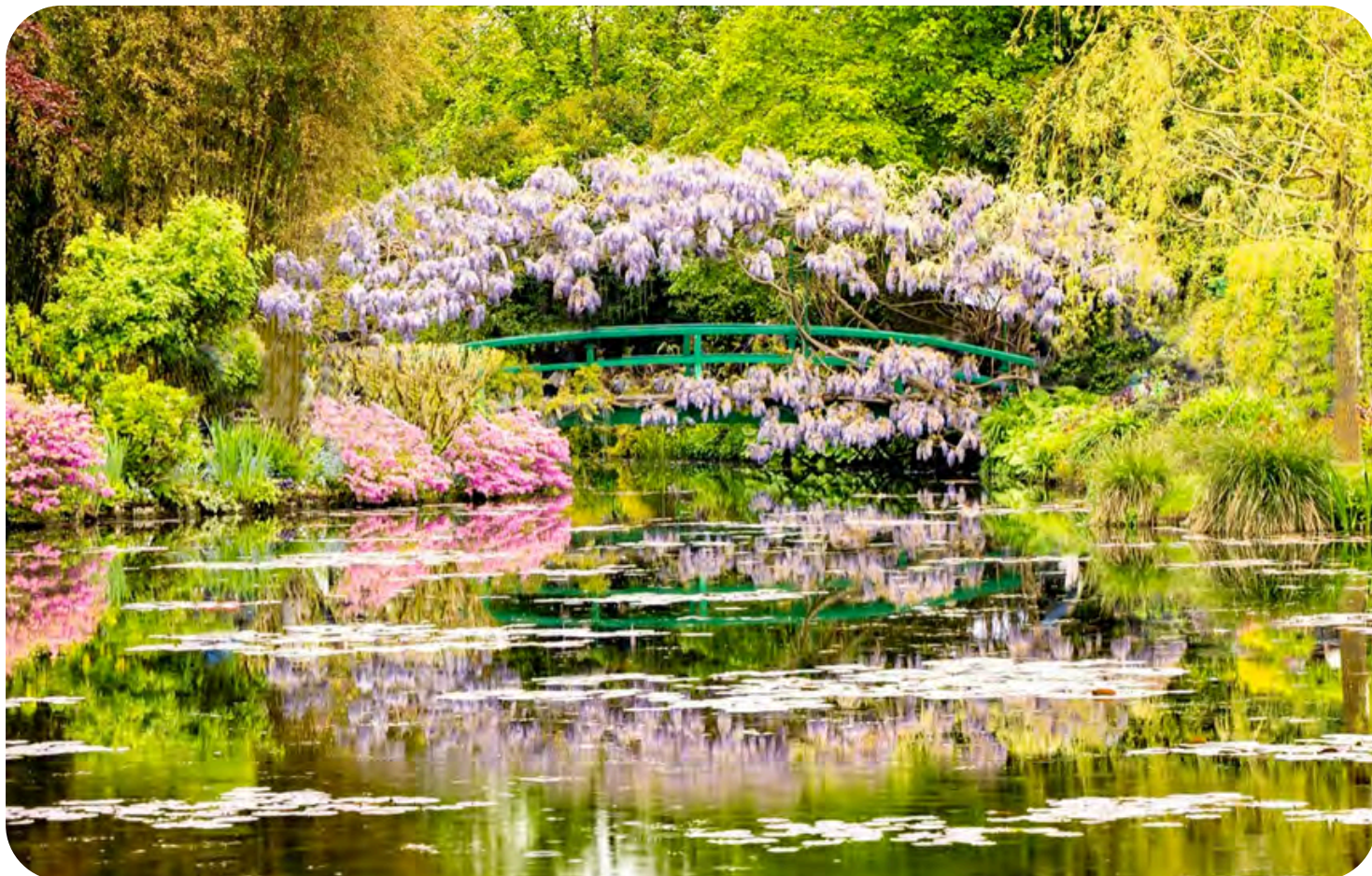


# *An Impressionist's Path*



*Spring in the Netherlands & Paris*

*Apr 30- May 9, 2025*



# Welcome to Alta Via

We're delighted to tell you about the first journey in our amazing year of curated, sensory travel. Step into a world of immersive, sensory-rich travel with Alta Via. Imagine wandering through tulip fields in full bloom, gliding through canal-side villages, and indulging in warm, flaky croissants at a Parisian café. Our boutique journeys blend art, history, and culture with exclusive experiences designed to inspire.

We're excited to share with you our years of experience doing those things and more! We look forward to becoming your friends and have you join our wonderful community of like-minded travelers across the globe. Allons-y!



## About Us

Over the past 4 decades we've lived, worked, and traveled extensively throughout Europe. As expats in Rome, Paris, Munich, Basel, and The Hague, we've come to know special places and more importantly, special people that we can't wait to share with you.

The photos you see here are from our own travel adventures as we've enjoyed these beautiful places throughout the years. With a passion for history, art, and gastronomy, we've developed a deep knowledge of these regions, curating extraordinary journeys for like-minded travelers. Our expertise in experience design and cultural immersion ensures that every moment of your adventure is seamlessly crafted and unforgettable.

Join us for Spring in The Netherlands and Paris. We'll go to off-the-beaten path locations and take a fresh look at a few old favorites. We'll enjoy delicious food and markets, learn history from WWII and past centuries, ride bikes, taste chocolate, and explore boutique shops. We can't wait to see you!



# Tour Overview

Ready to soak up a spring full of color, scent, and sights in the Netherlands and Paris? Spring in the Netherlands and Paris is a feast for the senses—a symphony of color, fragrance, and timeless beauty. We'll share off-the-beaten-path locations and famous not-to-be missed spots you'll never forget.

In the Netherlands, settle into a tranquil country retreat nestled in the heart of the Gelderland woods, with a Michelin-starred restaurant and where nature's beauty sets the stage for your adventure. Stroll through Keukenhof Gardens, a breathtaking tapestry of seven million tulips in bloom, and meander through charming Dutch villages steeped in history. Feel the rhythm of local life as you bike alongside picturesque canals and through lush parks, just as the Dutch do.

In Paris, get re-acquainted with the stunningly restored Nôtre Dame de Paris Cathedral and meet some of the artisans who worked on its restoration. Visit some of the most beautiful and historical neighborhoods in Paris—all with great shopping, food, and chocolate.

Finally, explore Monet's springtime garden in Giverny, the very inspiration behind his Water Lilies masterpieces. Visit the Paris museums that showcase those famous works. We've curated the best of springtime in this delightful trip to the Netherlands and France. We can't wait to share it with you!



## At A Glance:

**Dates: Apr 30–May 9, 2025**

**Total Days/Nights: 10**

**Countries: 2**

**Lodging: 10 nights**

**Hotel Locations: 2 + 1 airport**

**Meals: 3 daily, except where noted**

**Activity Level: Moderate**





# Where We'll Go



# Where We'll Stay

Unwind, settle in, and soak up the beauty of your surroundings in these exquisite locations. On each of our trips, we focus on staying at 2 or 3 quality places. All our lodgings are carefully chosen from the best 4-star boutique hotels each location offers. They're unique, hidden gems with full amenities and excellent cuisine that feature Michelin-starred chefs, well-known in their respective countries.

## Het Roode Koper Landgoed

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Located adjacent to the Hoge Veluwe National Park on the beautiful Veluwe river in the Leuvenum forest, the Het Roode Koper is a stunning location for nature lovers. Close to historic towns and well-known museums, this hotel is perfectly situated for our adventures in the Netherlands.

- 3000+ hectares of countryside
- Guided woodland nature walks
- Michelin star Chef Dennis van den Beld on-site
- Tennis & swimming
- 22 km of cycling, biking, & mountain biking
- Relaxing, private, & secluded



## Le Pavillion Faubourg Saint-Germain

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On the Left Bank between the boundary of the 6th and 7th arrondissements—arguably the most beautiful and grand districts in Paris—Le Pavillion offers a host of excellent amenities while preserving that iconic French chic. This beautiful location near the Seine was renovated in 2022 and hits the sweet spot of modern convenience and old world elegance.

- Balconies overlooking the rooftops of Paris
- Luxurious spa amenities
- Historic building dating back to 1642
- Chef Thibault Sombardier @ Les Parisiens
- Bar James Joyce bistro & literary salon
- Walking distance of major Paris landmarks





# Day 1 - Leuvenum Forest

Located in the heart of the Netherlands, the charming Landgoed Het Roode Koper is the perfect place to relax and unwind. The grounds are adjacent to the Hoge Veluwe National Park, the largest nature preserve in the country, home to many species, beautiful forests, lakes, and dunes.

Upon arrival, we'll have the chance to refresh after our journey with a forest walk with the on-site guide, then enjoy an exquisite three-course welcome dinner from Michelin-starred chef Dennis van den Beld.

## Arrival in Leuvenum

Settle into your room at the stunning Landgoed Het Roode Koper, a 4-star boutique hotel from the Relais & Chateaux family.



## Nature Walking Tour

Enjoy a guided walk through the hotel grounds and stunning countryside of the Veluwe river and Leuvenum forest in the heart of the Netherlands.

## Explore your Surroundings

Our hotel sits on several acres of manicured gardens with swimming, tennis, bike riding, and many other activities. The surrounding woods are full of birds and other wildlife, truly some of the most beautiful countryside in the Netherlands.



## Welcome Dinner

An exquisite 3-course feast awaits at our beautiful hotel prepared by Michelin Chef Dennis Van den Beld. We can't wait to get to know you better!

## Day 2 - Zuiderseemuseum

Enjoy a morning forest walk, run, or bike ride, and then we're off to visit the Zuiderseemuseum—a Dutch version of Colonial Williamsburg—to learn about the people of this region and how they lived in past centuries. The Dutch settled New York City and much of the US Northeast and have left an indelible footprint on American culture.

Then, stop in the port city of Hoorne, a base of the Dutch East India Company (VOC), with its charming town center from the 1600's. The birth of the Dutch East India Company is the origin story of capitalism and the stock market. After returning to our hotel, we'll dine at a favorite local restaurant.

### Breakfast & Morning

You'll have time before we leave on our tour to relax, play tennis, bike, or walk through the woods or enjoy the stunning grounds of our hotel.

### Zuidersee Tour

We'll visit the old VOC port city of Hoorne and the Zuidersee Museum, learn about trade on the North Sea, the impact of the Dutch colonies in America, and try some delicious cheese at the local cheese market.

### Dinner

Then we'll enjoy our evening and dinner in nearby Amersfoort with time to explore a little of the ramparts and old center of the city.





# Day 3 - Keukenhof Gardens

Start your day with tennis or an e-bike ride before immersing yourself in the breathtaking beauty of Keukenhof Botanical Gardens, where millions of tulips bloom in a dazzling display. The Keukenhof is the world's largest live flower exposition and most famous spring garden in the world. Every year the gardens are entirely re-designed and re-planted with 7 million bulbs and 800 varieties of tulips of all shapes and colors.

While there, we'll enjoy live entertainment and typical Dutch treats. Be ready to take a LOT of photos, as there will be photo ops galore.

## Breakfast

Relax around breakfast time or join us for an e-biking tour of the surrounding forest before heading out for the day.

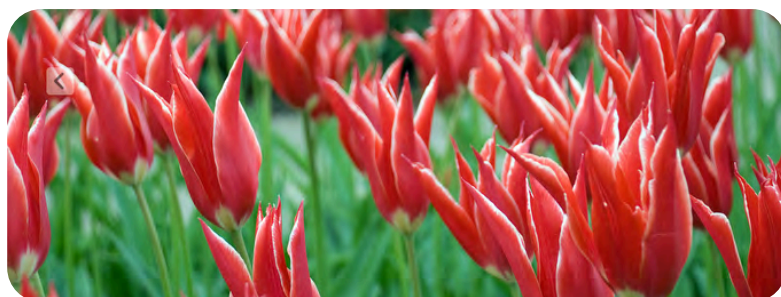
## Keukenhof Gardens

We'll spend the bulk of our day at the expansive Keukenhof Gardens and surrounding flower fields, where there are many food & entertainment options. We'll show you some favorite spots depending on your taste.

We will rent bikes and cycle through the surrounding flower fields and find best places to take photos in some of the dozens of tulip farms with fields of their own.

## Dinner

You'll have free time with a variety of nearby dining options and time to relax and unwind.





# Day 4 - Oosterbeek

Uncover the bravery of WWII's Operation Market Garden, explore the elegance of Het Loo Palace, and conclude the day with a memorable 3-course farewell dinner back at Het Roode Koper.

In the morning we'll visit the Airborne Museum Hartenstein in Oosterbeek and learn about Operation Market Garden, the largest airborne military operation in WWII featuring 40,000 Allied soldiers.

In the afternoon we'll visit Het Loo Palace and its gardens, a residence of the Dutch Royal family before we return for a final 3-course dinner at Het Roode Koper.

## Airborne Museum Hartenstein

Learn the incredible story of WWII's Operation Market Garden, a large-scaled airborne operation aimed at re-capturing key bridges in the Netherlands and creating a corridor to Berlin before Christmas of 1944.

Made famous in the film "A Bridge Too Far", this offensive stranded 40,000 paratroopers and glider troops behind enemy lines and highlights the amazing response of the Dutch people who came to the rescue.



## Het Loo Palace

This beautiful, intimate, and refined Dutch palace with its famous baroque gardens was the summer estate and hunting lodge of the house of Orange-Nassau from the 1680's to 1962. The gardens were completely restored in the 1980s and are a stunning stop on our spring garden tour.



## Parting Dinner

We'll enjoy a sumptuous final dinner at the Landgoed Het Roode Koper from Michelin chef Dennis van Beld.

# Day 5 - All Aboard

Glide into Paris on the hi-speed Eurostar train, then settle in at the [Hotel Faubourg St Germain](#) near the Musée D'Orsay and the Seine river.

This area is full of galleries, home décor, clothing boutiques, and incredible food. We'll take you on a walking tour of the neighborhood to get you started and have dinner at a favorite local restaurant.

## Breakfast

We'll have breakfast at Het Roode Koper before we depart for the train.

## Paris Address

Stay in the beautiful Hotel Faubourg St. Germain in the 7th arrondissement. This amazing hotel is a short walk from the Seine river, Musée D'Orsay, & a multitude of galleries, museums & shops.

## Walk in our neighborhood

You'll get a personal tour of the area so you know where to find fun places to eat, drink, & shop. We cross the river to the Tuileries gardens near the Louvre.

We'll show you a few favorite shops & markets & where you can walk or run in the mornings along the river.

## Dinner

Enjoy a 3-course welcome dinner at our hotel from chef Thibault Sombardier, a leader of Parisian 'haute-bistronomy', who also owns restaurants [Mensae](#) and [Sellae](#).





## Day 6 - The New Nôtre Dame

In the morning visit the newly restored Notre Dame cathedral, then have lunch and talk with several artisans who worked on the restoration. The cathedral has not looked this pristine in 800 years. The restoration from the 2019 fire is one of the greatest love stories of our day. The stone is once again a light limestone and the blue and red stained glass has been carefully cleaned. The organ has been renovated and side chapels re-painted in the bright colors of the Middle Ages.

In the afternoon we'll explore the Marais where we lived last year, and introduce you to its rich history, museums, patisseries—some of the best in Paris.

### **Breakfast**

Our hotel has a delicious and expansive breakfast buffet to be enjoyed all week.

### **See Nôtre Dame**

Before hearing the artisans' stories, we'll take a tour of the refurbished cathedral. The walls, windows, lights, organ and artwork have been restored to their original splendor.

### **Lunch with Restoration Artisans**

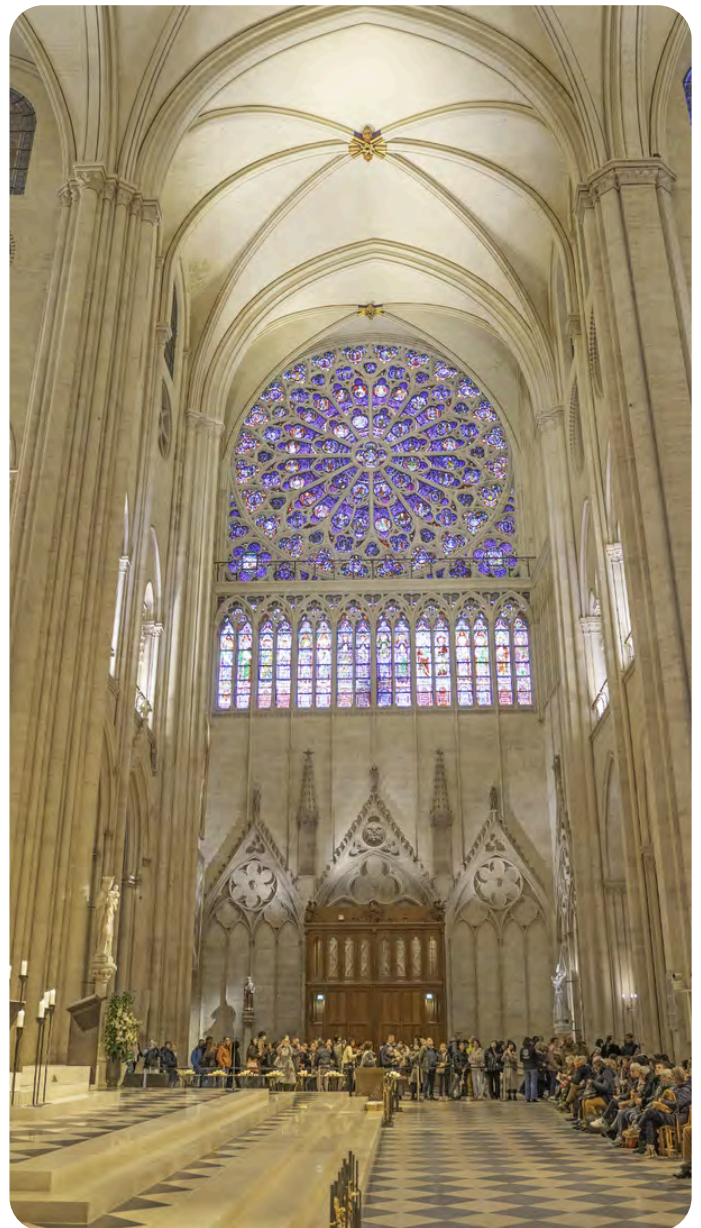
We'll have lunch with several of the artisans who worked on the restoration of Nôtre Dame over the past 5 years.

### **Explore the Marais**

Take a walking tour & explore our favorite places in the Marais, including some of the best specialty pastry shops & vintage clothing boutiques the city has to offer.

### **Dinner**

Enjoy free time for the evening and dinner on your own. We'll provide some favorite recommendations.



# Day 7 - Luxembourg Gardens

Begin with the Jardin des Plantes (Botanical Gardens) & then visit the Luxembourg Gardens of Marie de Medici, followed by lunch in a favorite café.

In the afternoon explore the 6th arrondissement with some of our favorite boulangeries and chocolateries including the best chocolate mousse you will ever have! After time well-spent exploring, we'll dine tonight at a favorite local restaurant.

## Jardin des Plantes

Created 400 years ago to grow plants of medicinal value, today it encompasses a museum of natural history, a zoo, and botanical gardens with dozens of plant collections of from climates across the globe.

## Luxembourg Gardens

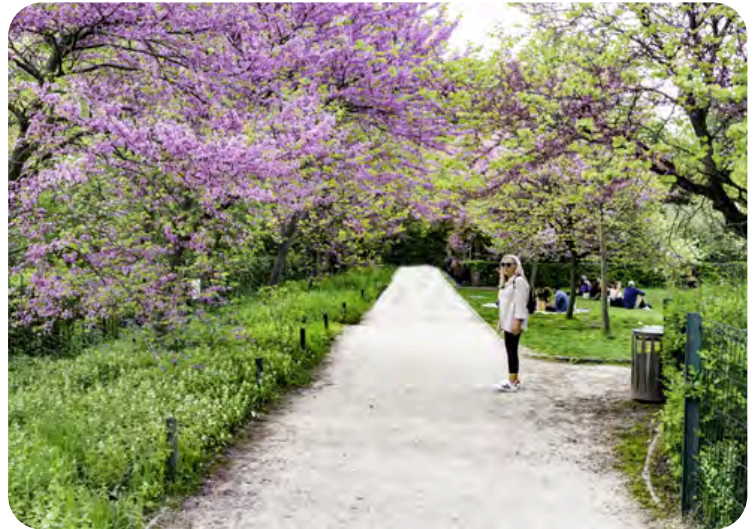
Established by Marie de Medici in the 1600's, you can find tennis courts, an apple orchard, greenhouses, an orchid collection, and over 100 statues. It's a great place to take pictures, watch people or read a book. We will bring a picnic from our favorite boulangeries & patisseries..

## 6th Arrondissement

We'll go on a walking tour, stopping in our favorite markets, chocolateries, patisseries, boulangeries, furniture, and clothing boutiques. Spring in Paris is a feast for the senses!

## Dinner

We will introduce you to one of our favorite restaurants in the area.





# Day 8 - Monet at the Musée

Monet's celebrated gardens and paintings are important themes of our trip. Today, we'll experience some of his most well-loved Water Lilies collections in Paris in different scales: at the Musée D'Orsay and Musée de l'Orangerie.

In the afternoon, you can join us for a walking tour of the 1st & 2nd arrondissements of the historic Palais Royals or spend your time wandering the shops and streets of this iconic part of Paris—just tell us what you're looking for and we'll get you there.

## Musée D'Orsay

This world-renowned museum is celebrated for its unparalleled collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masterpieces.

Housed in a stunning Beaux-Arts railway station built in 1900, the museum showcases works by artistic giants such as Monet, Van Gogh, Renoir, Degas, and Cézanne. With its breathtaking glass ceiling and grand clock windows offering panoramic views of the city.

## Musée de l'Orangerie

The museum is home to 8 large Water Lilies murals by Claude Monet painted during his later years when his eyesight started to fail him.

Viewing these paintings at this scale will prepare us to see the very gardens that inspired him to the end of his life.

## Free Time

You'll have free time for the late afternoon & evening or you can join us for more off-the-beaten-path locations where we show you even more foodie stops and vintage clothing locations.





# Day 9 - Monet's Giverny

90 minutes outside Paris, we'll travel to Monet's house in Giverny and see the famous gardens on his estate, including the pond and Japanese footbridge where he painted approximately 250 versions of his iconic Water Lilies series. Giverny is our final destination garden on our spring tour and one you'll never forget!

## Monet's House & Garden

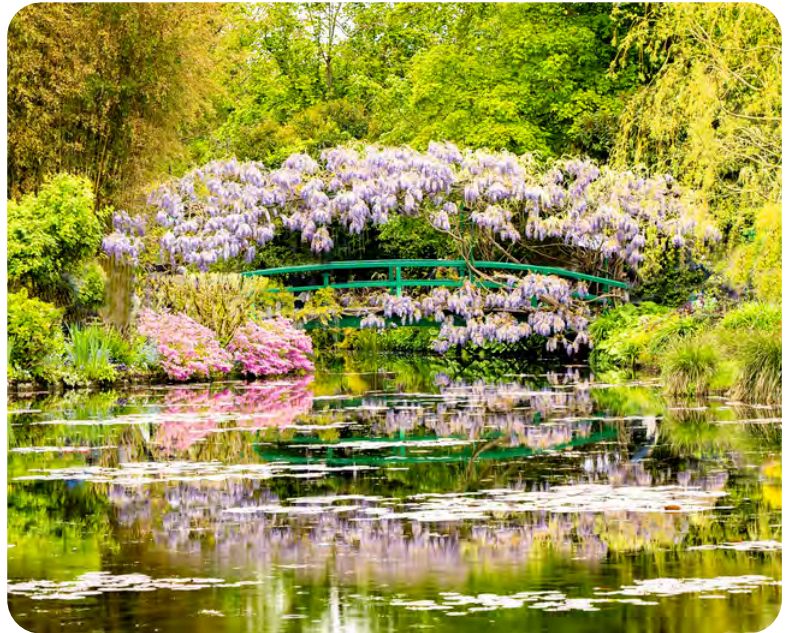
We'll visit the house & garden in Giverny where Monet lived & worked for the last 43 years of his life.

Monet and his team of gardeners planted thousands of flowers here and designed a stunning oasis for him to retire in. He absolutely loved being in nature and painting outdoors and did so until the very end of his life.

Here in Giverny, you'll see many of the iconic scenes from our museum visits the day before. As our final spring tour stop, today we'll soak up the splendor of one of the world's most famous gardens in full-bloom.

## Closing Dinner

We'll enjoy a 3-course dinner in an exclusive villa built by royalty—in the heart of the 7th arrondissement—complete with an evening of jazz entertainment.





## Day 10 - Adieu

In the morning we'll visit our favorite boulangeries, enjoy some café, and then attend a hands-on class in making baguettes and/or croissants.

We'll follow up with a farewell Lunch before departing for accommodations near our airport connections.

### **Boulangeries**

In the morning, we will visit recent winners of the Best Baguette & Best Croissant in Paris.

### **Bread Making Class**

We will take part in a bread making class and learn how the French do levain bread with that classic texture and crust.



### **Farewell Lunch**

We will enjoy one last meal together in the restaurant of the Faubourg St. Germain, exchange parting gifts & then depart for an airport hotel (for those taking flights the next day).



# Questions

## What the total experience looks like:

We want to reach out to you to get to know you and learn more about how you like to travel, and exchange more information on what we will experience. We believe it will be more enjoyable for both of us if we know one another before we travel together. We want to know more about your plans and how we can best support you.

## What we cover and pricing

We cover all your lodging, food, entertainment and transportation with us except for a few free times noted in our agenda. Our tour begins with transportation from a nearby major airport to our first hotel and ends with your return to a travel hub. Please note these in our itinerary.

Once you determine this trip is for you, we will send you a link to our pay portal to pay a 50% deposit. The other 50% will be due 60 days before the start of the trip. All will be refundable until 45 days before travel.

- Double occupancy (2 people in 1 room): \$8,500 per person
- Single occupancy (1 person in 1 room): \$9,500 per person

Since we work with small family-run hotels, restaurants & other venues & some of these are subject to changes including weather impact, we reserve the right to vary the specifics of the itinerary. We may switch days, add/change activities, or substitute locations. You will receive updates every 2 weeks with more information about the things we will see (interesting backstory, things to bring, etc.) up to the time of our departure.

Each tour is limited to 12 participants.

## This includes:

- 9 nights at 4-star boutique hotels + 1 night at quality airport hotel
- Buffet breakfasts in these hotels
- All of the meals, activities, and transportation outlined in daily itinerary
- Access to our monthly Alta Via Newsletter with travel information & tips
- A photo memory book of your trip from Mix Book
- Memos and artifacts from our trip that we will share with you along the way

## Fee does not include:

- Transportation from and to your home at the beginning and end of our itinerary
- Travel insurance



# Questions

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## **Cancellation policy**

- 100% refundable prior to 60 days before trip
- 50% refundable at 60 days
- 0% refundable at 45 days before departure. This is due to hotel refund policy.

## **Level of Activity**

We do our best to provide you with a variety of activities. Many days involve a lot of walking, stairs, uneven pathways, stone steps, cobblestone streets, etc, as is typical of Europe. For this reason, most of our trips are rated as MODERATE in activity level.

Additionally, other trips may involve hiking, biking, e-biking, and skiing. When including increased activities, the trip activity level will note that in the initial trip rating score.

While the level is never overly strenuous, it will be important to keep up with the group. If you have mobility limitations, then this might not be the tour for you.

## **Personal Questionnaire**

To make this a great experience for you, we want to understand your needs and preferences. Once you register, you'll be asked to fill out a short questionnaire regarding your travel needs, limitations, food sensitivities, and other items you'd like us to know.

This information will remain confidential and will not be shared with other trip participants or others outside our staff who will be planning this trip. Post trip, this information will remain confidential.

## **Itinerary Changes**

Some events and activities may change depending on availability, etc. We reserve the right to update the itinerary when necessary and will provide a similar offering.