Paris and Rome

An itinerary prepared for

Ms. Susan Marquis
Ms. Alice Amick

departing from Kansas City, MO

on June 7, 2016

9 days

Basic Inclusions
Services of a specially-trained passports courier throughout • Accommodations in centrally-located three-star or four-star hotels • Rooming on a triple basis • Paris-Visite Metro Pass for Three Consecutive Days (zones 1-3) in Paris • Three-day public transportation pass (including Ostia Antica) in Rome

Overnights
Paris 3 • Rome 4

Meals
All breakfasts • One lunch • All dinners

Transit Summary
Round-trip transportation on scheduled airline • Airport arrival transfer on Days 1-2 • Airport departure transfer on Day 5 • Flight to Rome on Day 5 • Airport arrival transfer on Day 5 • Airport departure transfer on Day 9

Enrollment Information
To enroll by check:
Complete and return the application on page 13 of the Enrollment Guide. Your group leader has one for you.

To enroll online by credit card or check:
Visit passports.com/enroll and type your Tour ID: SMARQUIS2016 in the upper-right of the site.
Tour Highlights

Visit to the Louvre

Bateaux-Mouches cruise
Bateaux-Mouches cruise

Excursion to Versailles
Round-trip RER train to Versailles
Excursion assistant
Visit to the State Apartments and the Hall of Mirrors, including audioguide
Visit to the Main Gardens

Ascent to the third level of the Eiffel Tower

Flight to Rome from Paris

Full-day coach excursion to Pompeii
Visit to the excavated Roman city of Pompeii
Services of a specially-trained local guide in Pompeii
Lunch in Pompeii

City sightseeing in Rome
One-day public transportation pass in Rome
Services of a specially-trained full-day local guide in Rome
Half-day headset receiver
Combination ticket including entrance to the Colosseum, Roman Forum, and Palatine Hill and Museum
Visit to the Vatican Museums
Vatican Museums and St. Peter's headset receivers
Visit to the Sistine Chapel
Visit to St. Peter's Basilica
The Piazza Navona
Visit to the Pantheon

Full-day excursion by public transportation to Ostia Antica and Ostia Lido
Visit to the ruins at Ostia Antica
Services of a specially-trained half-day local guide in Ostia Antica
One-day public transportation pass in Rome
Sightseeing stop in Ostia Lido
Days 1-2: Arrival, Paris

Weeks, or even months of preparation come to fruition at last as you board your airplane bound for Europe and the glittering jewel at her heart, Paris, the "City of Light." Bienvenue!

Settle into your centrally-located hotel, then set out to explore one of the world's most beautiful capital cities.

Free time in Paris • The remainder of the day is free to plan as you wish.

Explore the Quartier Latin, home of the Sorbonne, one of the world's oldest universities. It was founded in the Middle Ages, when Latin was the language of instruction. Walk along the Boul' Mich', past windowed cafés where students have brooded for centuries over real and imagined injustices. See the many bookstores, including Shakespeare and Co., a favorite meeting place of expatriate American literati such as Gertrude Stein, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway.

Proceed to the elegant Hôtel Biron, where Auguste Rodin rented rooms for his studio in 1905, and which now houses the Musée Rodin. Many pieces are on display in the mansion and in its garden, in particular the famous sculpture titled The Thinker.

Consider a visit to the Musée d'Orsay and its unique collection of Impressionist works, including Monet's famous series on the Rouen Cathedral, the tortured canvases of Vincent van Gogh and works by Renoir, Manet, Gauguin and Cézanne.

Meals included: Dinner
Overnight: Paris

Day 3: Paris, Louvre, Bateaux-Mouches

Head to Montmartre, Paris' highest hill and its most celebrated bohemian district. Artists still flock to the charming Place du Tertre, as they did when Toulouse-Lautrec painted the French Cancan dancers at the famous Moulin Rouge cabaret. Enjoy panoramic views of the city as you make your way to the Sacré-Coeur, the white-domed basilica that anchors the Parisian skyline.

Take a stroll along the glamorous Avenue des Champs-Elysées, which stretches for more than a mile from the Place de la Concorde, where Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette encountered Dr. Guillotine's invention and their fate. The obelisk at the center of the square was presented by Egypt to France in 1831 and dates back to the 13th century BC, a relic of Ramses II. In the vicinity stands the Palais de l’Elysée, built in 1718, which now serves as the residence of the President of the Republic. At the other end of the avenue, the Arc de Triomphe looms over the city's craziest Rotary. (You may want to climb up to the monument's platform for a great overview of the area!)

Visit the Louvre Museum to explore its restored galleries and their ancient treasures, as well as the modernistic underground galleria beneath I. M. Pei's glass pyramid. You will see Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa and the Vénus de Milo, among countless other masterpieces.

Bateaux-Mouches cruise • See Paris transformed into a wonderland like no other during a Bateaux-Mouches cruise along the River Seine.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Paris

Day 4: Excursion to Versailles, Eiffel Tower Ascent

Travel to Versailles aboard a RER train. Visit the Louvre Museum to explore its restored galleries and their ancient treasures, as well as the modernistic underground galleria beneath I. M. Pei's glass pyramid. You will see Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa and the Vénus de Milo, among countless other masterpieces.

Explore the park at Versailles at your leisure. Buy refreshments at a booth or enjoy the picnic you may have planned earlier by purchasing typically French food at a market. In season, opt for a ride on the tourist train, rent a bike to explore the far reaches of the park, or rent a boat to row down the length of the Grand Canal.

Eiffel Tower Ascent • Ascend by elevator to the third level of the most

Versailles Castle State Apartments and Hall of Mirrors • Enjoy a bit of relevant French history today at the palace where the Sun King, Madame de Pompadour and Queen Marie-Antoinette all come to life. In this ultimate example of Baroque architecture, you will marvel at the lavish decoration, abundant gilding and exuberant ornamentation, particularly in the Royal Apartments of Louis XIV and in the Hall of Mirrors. Imagine the sense of self-importance that must have inflated the egos of these kings and queens.

You may want to enrich your royal experience with an optional visit to the recently renovated Petit Trianon and Marie-Antoinette's Hamlet.

Then, take a stroll around the Main Gardens.

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Eiffel Tower Ascent • Ascend by elevator to the third level of the most...
famous structure ever built, la Tour Eiffel, for an unforgettable panorama of Paris.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Paris

Day 5: Flight to Rome
A short flight takes you to the "Eternal City," Au revoir, Paris!

Plan a visit to the Trevi Fountain, one of Rome's most celebrated sights, which was the terminus of the Aqua Virgo aqueduct. The Trevi is at its best at night, when the fountain is illuminated. Throw a coin into the spray to ensure your return to this wonderful city!

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Rome

Day 6: Excursion to Pompeii
A full-day excursion takes you to the Bay of Naples and its famous Roman ruins. You'll travel south on the autostrada, past Montecassino, the monastery and World War II fortress town.

Visit the excavated Roman city that has become a treasure of Western Civilization. See how well-to-do Romans lived 2,000 years ago, until Mt. Vesuvius spoke, at once destroying this city and preserving it for all time.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch in Pompeii, Dinner
Overnight: Rome

Day 7: Rome City Sightseeing
Set out on a sightseeing tour of Rome.

Local Guide • A full-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history and culture of Rome, will accompany your group. Colosseum, Roman Forum and Palatine Hill • Visit some of the best known monuments of Ancient Rome, including the Colosseum and the Roman Forum. Once the heart of a vast empire, the Forum was filled with extravagant buildings and crowded with people from all over the known world.

Your combination ticket also allows entrance to the archaeological site on the Palatine Hill. Should time allow, you may want to make your way up the hill to visit the site and its museum. This was the oldest residential area in Ancient Rome.

Vatican Museums • Discover outstanding masterpieces collected for the Vatican Museums since the early 1500s. You will see exceptional statues from antiquity, such as Laocoön and His Sons and the Apollo Belvedere, and stunning Renaissance paintings, notably in the Raphael Rooms, where the best-known of the frescoes is The School of Athens.

Marvel at Michelangelo's Last Judgment and brightly-colored ceiling frescoes in the Sistine Chapel.

A visit is included to St. Peter's Basilica, which houses priceless works of art, in particular Michelangelo's Pietà and Bernini's Dove of the Holy Spirit. Piazza Navona • Stroll through the plaza known as Piazza Navona. Built on the site of Domitian's Stadium and lined with grand buildings and trendy cafes, this oblong square is adorned with statues and fountains, notably Bernini's Fountain of the Four Rivers.

Visit the "Temple to All the Gods," which is one of the better-preserved and most harmonious monuments of antiquity.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Rome

Day 8: Excursion to Ostia Antica and Ostia Lido
Today, using public transportation, make your way to Ostia Antica.

Explore the city which was Rome's main seaport until its harbor silted up. Eventually, tidal mud and sand covered Ostia, which laid dormant for centuries. In the Baroque era, marble from its site was used to build palaces in Rome, but excavations undertaken in the 20th century have reawakened the ancient city. Now thoroughly unearthed and excellently maintained, Ostia Antica is a fascinating place to visit.

Local Guide • A half-day local guide, well-educated and specially-trained on the history of Ostia Antica, will accompany you today.

Ostia Lido • Visit Ostia Lido, a seaside resort known as the Roman Riviera that is a popular summertime destination for locals and tourists.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: Rome

Day 9: Departure
Ciao, Europa! Statistics show that visitors do in fact return to Rome, although it may not have anything to do with coins in a fountain. Race the sun and arrive home later today, eager to share your discoveries with family and friends.

Meals included: Breakfast

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