



**Join Mesabi Range and Itasca Community College
on a 9-day tour of France, including...
*Paris, the French Riviera & Monaco***

May 17-25, 2010

Tour may be taken for credit

Spring semester 2010 (MCS 1555: 3 credits)

Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (Goal Areas 5, (or 6 at Itasca), & 8)

The tour is open to all students and community members.

Tour Highlights and Details

Overnight stays:

Paris (4)

French Riviera (3)

Comprehensive sightseeing tours led by an expert local guide of the following:

Paris

Louvre

Versailles Palace & Gardens

Normandy (WWII Sites)

Caen Memorial

Perfume Factory, Eze

Monaco (a principality that is famous for wealth, royalty, and the world's most famous casino)



Included in the Program Fee:

- Round trip airfare
- Transfers to and from the airport and hotel and between destination cities (as per program itinerary)
- Overnight stays in first-class, superior tourist class or tourist class hotels (all with private bathrooms)
- Continental breakfast daily
- Dinner on days 2, 6 and 8
- Full-time services of an EF Tour Director
- Metro Pass, Paris Days 2-5

***Tour fees are subject to change. Register today to lock in the current low price!**

\$100.00 off the tour price if you register by October 31st!!

Program Fees:

Based on 35 plus paying participants per bus \$2075

Based on 30 - 34 paying participants per bus \$2150

Based on 25 - 29 paying participants per bus \$2255

Based on 20 - 24 paying participants per bus \$2410

Based on 15 - 19 paying participants per bus \$2655

Program fees valid for all participants registered between September 1st and October 31st 2009

Additional Fees:

Enrollment Fee: \$95

Departure Fees (*subject to change*): \$429

To Register Online:

www.eftours.com

Click on "Student"

Click on "Enroll on a tour"

(lower right corner)

Tour #991363

For more information contact:

Sue Devereux -- Office M205

(218) 749-7735 (w)

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Financial aid/fundraising available





Itinerary for Mesabi Range College's Tour of France

Day 1 Monday, May 17, 2010

Board your overnight flight to Paris!

Day 2 Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Arrive in Paris

Welcome to Paris, cosmopolitan City of Light. Over the centuries, Paris has grown to become the undisputed center of France, and one of the world's most important cities both culturally and politically. Equally famed for its high fashion, awe-inspiring museums and elegant cuisine, Paris has also been a center of theater, literature and philosophy throughout the ages.

Walking Tour of Paris (*time permitting*)

Join our walking tour of the chic Opéra district and the haute couture boutiques of Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré. Stroll through Place de la Concorde, the city's largest public square, built to honor Louis XV. The next Louis was not so lucky—he was beheaded here during the Revolution, along with Marie Antoinette. Continue through the geometric gardens of the Tuileries as you make your way to Place Vendôme, a vast square wrapped in 17th-century façades. Pass the Ritz hotel at no. 15, a favorite haunt of Ernest Hemingway. (*The exact walking route may vary depending on your hotel location and other activities.*)

Overnight in Paris

Day 3 Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Guided sightseeing of Paris

Discover the city on the Seine during your morning bus tour. Learn about Paris' origins as a Roman settlement as you pass through the Île de la Cité, where you will also see Notre Dame Cathedral. Pass by the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée, and the École Militaire, where he graduated to Lieutenant. Continue down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde, dedicated to King Louis XV and the site where Louis XIV and Marie Antoinette were executed during the French Revolution. Then, head through the Quartier Latin where you will see the world-renowned Sorbonne University, and drive along the Seine for wonderful views of the Musée D'Orsay, the Louvre and the Pont de Neuf, or 'new bridge', which is ironically Paris' oldest. Finally, make a photo stop at the iconic Eiffel Tower, built

for the 1889 World's Fair. Learn why this impressive, yet controversial, symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909.

Visit the Louvre Museum

Europe's most well-known museum safeguards one of the world's greatest art collections. The structure, originally built in the 12th century and used as a royal palace for centuries, was later converted to a museum housing Greek, Roman and Egyptian antiquities as well as I.M. Pei's controversial glass pyramids, which were added to the courtyard in 1989. Inside, among countless precious works, you will see the world's most famous painting, Da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*.

Overnight in Paris

Day 4 Thursday, May 20, 2010

Guided Excursion to Versailles

Step back into le grand siècle as you experience the opulence of Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Built to be the envy of all Europe, France's most extravagant château continually threatened to bankrupt the national treasury. Here the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. Stroll through the elegantly landscaped gardens, designed by André Le Nôtre. You'll also tour the State Apartments of the King himself and walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors, where France, Spain and England officially recognized the independence of the United States in 1783, and where the Treaty of Versailles, which ended WWI, was signed. *Because of the extreme popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace.*

Free time in Paris

Enjoy free time for your own explorations of Paris. Enjoy time to visit the Musée d'Orsay with its superb Impressionist collection, the Picasso Museum, or the futuristic exhibits of the Pompidou Center. Other possibilities are a visit to the Sacré-Coeur, where you can watch the artists of today at work in the streets of Montmartre, or a stroll through the bustling streets of the Latin Quarter.

Overnight in Paris

Day 5 Friday, May 21, 2010

Full-day Guided Excursion to the beaches of Normandy

Head for the historic Normandy region, arriving at the beaches that witnessed D-Day. The WWII battles that took place here were part of the largest seaborne invasion in history. Visit Omaha Beach, where the worst fighting of WWII took place. See the bomb craters that testify to the horrors that took place here June 6, 1944. Continue on to Pointe du Hoc, the 320-foot cliff scaled by American troops to capture German weapons planned to be used at Omaha Beach.

Visit to Caen Memorial: Museum of Peace

Pay tribute to WWII troops who fought at these fateful beaches as you visit the Caen Memorial. Watch a short film about the D-Day invasion and a slide show on WWII. A third audio-visual presentation recounts the wars in Korea, Afghanistan and Vietnam, as well as the continuing quest for world peace. Tour the museum and see displays that depict pre-WWII Europe. Trace the events that eventually led to the outbreak of war and walk through the Nobel Peace Prizewinners' Gallery, a gallery that highlights the accomplishments of the men and women who struggled for peace.

Visit to the American Cemetery

Nearly 10,000 American soldiers are buried in this hauntingly serene cemetery overlooking the English Channel, their graves marked with endless rows of white crosses. Visit the Gardens of the Missing and the bronze statue named *Spirit of American Youth*.

Overnight in Paris

Day 6 Saturday, May 22, 2010

TGV transfer to Nice

This morning your group will head to the train station and board a high-speed TGV train to the south of France. Your final destination is Nice, the 'Queen of the Riviera.' Many believe the name of the town, which was founded by Greek mariners in 350 B.C., derives from a great territorial victory realized here (the Greek word for victory is *nike*).

Tour Director-led sightseeing of Nice

Acquaint yourself with the palm trees and promenades of this exclusive seaside resort. Walk in the footsteps of the rich and famous as you stroll through the *Vieille Ville*, past white-washed villas and down the *Promenade des Anglais*. Nice's spectacular scenery has inspired such artists as Renoir, Matisse and Toulouse-Lautrec.

Overnight in the French Riviera

Day 7 Sunday, May 23, 2010

Excursion to Monaco and Eze

Follow your tour director through Monaco, a speck of a principality that packs wealth, royalty, and the world's most famous casino into just 0.8 square miles. The Grimaldi family has ruled Monaco since 1297, making them the longest-reigning family dynasty in Europe. See the palace and pass by the *Cathédrale de Monaco*, site of Prince Rainier's wedding to Grace Kelly in 1956. Catch a glimpse of the stately casino as you stroll the streets with your tour director. The aura of mystique that surrounds the Monte-Carlo casino stems in part from Mata Hari, the professional dancer-turned-Dutch-spy who once shot a Russian spy inside the ornate landmark.

Visit to the Eze Perfume Factory

Return to Nice via cliff-top Eze, where you'll enjoy a guided tour of a perfume factory. The town stands at the top of a pyramid-shaped rock, topped by a castle which is linked to the town by labyrinthine streets.

Overnight in the French Riviera

Day 8 Monday, May 24, 2010

Free day in Nice

Enjoy some free time to explore the labyrinthine passages of the *Vieille Ville* of Nice. Or you might wish to visit the *Marche aux Fleurs*, a riotous splash of color in the Saleya area of the city.

Alternatively, you might prefer to simply spend some time on the beach.

Overnight in the French Riviera

Day 9 Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change