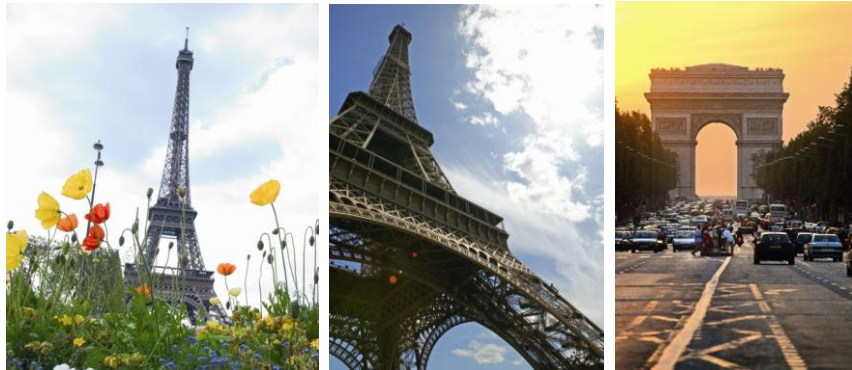


Tour: **Academy in Paris**

Destination: Paris, France

Specialization: Performance Arts – Dance & Drama (Workshop-based)

Itinerary: 5-days / 4-nights



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Academy in Paris - Sample Itinerary						
	Morning		Afternoon		Evening	
1	Travel to Paris, France					Dinner
2	Breakfast	Master Class 1	Master Class 2	Free Time	Dinner	Evening in Paris
3	Breakfast	Paris Sightseeing OR EuroDisney Day (entrance supplements required)			Dinner	
4	Breakfast	Master Class 3	Master Class 4	Free Time	Dinner	Presentation Evening
5	Breakfast	Free Time	Depart Paris			

As with all sample itineraries, please be aware that this is an “example” of a schedule and that the activities included may be variable dependent upon dates, weather, special requests and other factors. Itineraries will be confirmed prior to travel.

Paris.... Whether you're strolling along the Seine or soaking up city life from a sidewalk café, you'll see why Paris is synonymous with the word 'style.' Of course, you can't miss the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, Versailles and the Louvre, but be sure to spend a quiet moment in the Jardin de Tuileries and savour an éclair from a patisserie or a glass of Beaujolais in a bistro. From culinary delights to cultural sights, haute couture to heady romance, Paris will tempt every one of your senses.

Poems and songs were written, films were shot, scenes were painted and photographed – and they all have one setting: the famed 'City of Lights.' So what makes Paris, the cosmopolitan capital of France, different from all the other cities in Europe? What makes this unique and dazzling place the subject of a long-winded love affair with a city? Perhaps it's the 11-million residents who are occupying such a huge city. Or the monuments, museums, the famed Eiffel Tower – and the fact that Paris is one of the most romantic places to be in the world! No matter which of these attractions hold an allure to you, there's really no resisting the pull that Paris has as it tugs on your heartstrings.



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Paris has an almost 1,800-year old history and the city itself can be considered as a living and breathing museum. It still holds a certain charm however, for those who are looking for modernity amidst the ruins – because the city is a pleasurable mix of what's old and what's new...

Paris is the capital city of France and is located in the Île-de-France region, on the Seine River. It has an estimated population of 2,153,600 inhabitants and the region is the centre of France economic activity. Offices of organizations such as UNESCO, NATO, the OECD and the ICC are also located in Paris. It is not only an economic centre, but also a city of learning and culture.

From the first to fifth century, Paris was called 'Lutetia' but after this period it adopted its current name. Paris is sometimes called 'The City of Light' because of its cultural lifestyle and intellectual prestige, and also for its beautiful appearance. Paris, with its seductive atmosphere, is one of the most wonderful cities in the world, a metropolis that satisfies every guest's expectations.

Paris territory was first inhabited by a sub-tribe of Celtic Senones called the 'Parisii' who settled in the area near the Seine River from around 250 B.C. During the late 17th and the 18th century, Paris acquired glory as the scene of many of France's greatest cultural achievements - the plays of Molière, Racine, and Corneille; the music of Lully, Rameau, and Gluck; the paintings of Watteau, Fragonard, and Boucher; and the salons where many of the philosophers of the Enlightenment gathered. Paris continues to grow and change right before our eyes... a spectacular city and definitely one not to be missed!

“Well informed, eloquent and oh-so-romantic, the ‘City of Light’ is a philosopher, a poet, a crooner. As it always has been, Paris is a million different things to a million different people.”

-- Lonely Planet

Day 1

Dinner

Groups participating in Visions’ ‘Academy in Paris will generally arrive in Paris in the afternoon. Upon arrival, we’ll check into our hotel and get settled. Get ready to experience Paris!

Sample Hotel – Hotel Ibis Marne La Vallee Emerainville

The Ibis Marne la Vallée Emerainville Hotel is just 7.5 miles from Disneyland. It has 80 air-conditioned rooms with free Wi-Fi, a restaurant with a breakfast buffet, and a bar serving snacks 24 hours a day. Rooms are functional and comfortable, including bed duvets, desk, Internet, TV, and a nice bathroom with shower or tub.

<http://www.ibishotel.com/gb/hotel-1732-ibis-marne-la-vallee-emerainville/nearby.shtml>



Upon arrival, we’ll settle into our hotel, have dinner and the rest of the evening is ours! Check out the sites, take an evening visit to a local museum, have a coffee and croissant at a Parisian café... get to know Paris!



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Day 2

Breakfast * Dinner

Good morning Paris! Today we embark on our arts training! Get ready to shine!

Our Parisian Academy Tours include 4 tailor-made Dance, Drama or combination Master Classes. Workshop contents are developed between you, the Party Leader, and our European team of professional tutors to provide the specific training and instruction in the areas you are seeking and creating a personalized programme to suit your individual needs. Classes are 2-hours in length and are instructed by our specialized teams.

Master Classes 1 & 2 – Before the start of the tour, teachers will have spoken to our Academy specialists to discuss and agree upon the programme contents of all Master Classes, the goals and the specific instruction given.

We'll have lunch on our own and then, after completion of our Master Class workshops, we'll have the evening to explore Paris!

Day 3

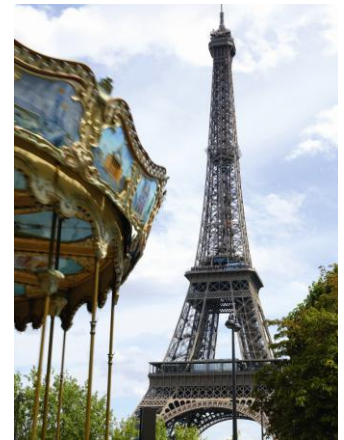
Breakfast * Dinner

Rise and shine! Today is a day for fun and exploration! Teachers will select either a day exploring the city's highlights or a day at EuroDisney; the choice is yours! After breakfast in our hotel we'll transfer by coach to explore Paris. Excursions include The Eiffel Tower, the Palace of Versailles and local shopping. Groups may feel free to add on Museums to their day of sightseeing, several of which are free to school groups including The Louvre.

The Eiffel Tower - As soon as you take that first step: that's it, your climb has begun and the tower is all yours. As you make your way up, you'll see for yourself how the scenery seems to expand around you, the roofs of Paris start to appear and the monuments step out of the shadows.

The Eiffel Tower is 121 years old and was built by Gustave Eiffel for the 1889 Exposition Universelle to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of the French Revolution. Its construction in 2 years, 2 months and 5 days was a veritable technical and architectural achievement. "Utopia achieved", a symbol of technological prowess at the end of the 19th Century, it was a demonstration of French engineering personified by Gustave Eiffel and a defining moment of the industrial era.

Over the decades, the Eiffel Tower has seen remarkable achievements, extraordinary light shows, and prestigious visitors. A mythical and audacious site, it has always inspired artists and challenges. As France's symbol in the world and the showcase of Paris, today it welcomes almost 7 million visitors a year, making it the most visited paid monument in the world. <http://www.eiffel-tower.com>



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The Bateaux Parisiens Seine River Cruise – As a group, we'll be welcomed with a smile and after a short wait, embark at the foot of the Eiffel Tower. The tour begins and you'll admire a succession of prestigious monuments and listen to the heart-warming song 'I love Paris in the summer'. To learn about the history along the way, simply plug in your audio-guide, available in 13 languages, to listen to fascinating commentaries to discover Paris, its history and architecture. All boats are modern and include a terrace and exterior passageways. Cruises are approximately 1-hour in duration. <http://www.bateauxparisiens.com>

The Louvre Museum – The Musée du Louvre is one of the world's largest museums, the most visited art museum in the world and a historic monument. A central landmark of Paris, it is located on the Right Bank of the Seine. Nearly 35,000 objects from prehistory to the 19th century are exhibited over an area of 60,600 square metres (652,300 square feet).



© Paris Tourist Office - Photographer Amélie Dupont

The museum is housed in the Louvre Palace (*Palais du Louvre*) which began as a fortress built in the late 12th century under Philip II. Remnants of the fortress are visible in the basement of the museum. The building was extended many times to form the present Louvre Palace. In 1682, Louis XIV chose the Palace of Versailles for his household, leaving the Louvre primarily as a place to display the royal collection. In 1692, the building was occupied by the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres and the Académie Royale de Peinture et de Sculpture, which in 1699 held the first of a series of salons. The Académie remained at the Louvre for 100 years. During the French Revolution, the National Assembly decreed that the Louvre should be used as a museum, to display the nation's masterpieces.

The museum opened on 10 August 1793 with an exhibition of 537 paintings, the majority of the works being royal and confiscated church property. Because of structural problems with the building, the museum was closed in 1796 until 1801. The size of the collection increased under Napoleon and the museum was renamed the *Musée Napoléon*. After the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo, many works seized by his armies were returned to their original owners. The collection was further increased during the reigns of Louis XVIII and Charles X, and during the Second French Empire the museum gained 20,000 pieces. Holdings have grown steadily through donations and gifts since the Third Republic. As of 2008, the collection is divided among eight curatorial departments: Egyptian Antiquities; Near Eastern Antiquities; Greek, Etruscan, and Roman Antiquities; Islamic Art; Sculpture; Decorative Arts; Paintings; Prints and Drawings.

<http://www.louvre.fr/en>

The Château de Versailles (Palace of Versailles) - Out of a marshy forest and an old feudal chateau, Louis XIV, in fifty years'

reign and thanks to the genius of the greatest of French, Dutch and Italian artistes of his time, made one of the largest and finest chateaus in the world. Symbol of the magnificence and splendours of absolute power, Versailles offers you its grand apartments, its opera, a marvel of luxury and refinement, its royal chapel, a masterpiece of sacred art. Complete your visit of this exceptional site by taking a walk through the admirable gardens designed by Le Nôtre. <http://en.chateauversailles.fr/homepage>



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OR – enjoy a full day excursion to Disney Paris!!

Full-day excursion to Disney Paris - The magical world of Disney includes more than 70 attractions, shows and fun-filled Festival Disney, with its bars, restaurants, shops. <http://www.disneylandparis.co.uk/index.xhtml>

After our day of exploration, we'll head back to our hotel for dinner. Later, the evening is ours to enjoy!

Day 4

Breakfast * Dinner

Good morning Paris! After breakfast, we'll have our final two Master Classes.

Master Classes 3 & 4 – Teachers may opt to have all classes in one discipline, or may elect to have both Dance & Drama workshops options included. All classes are instructed by our European team of tutors and are 2-hours in length.



After our workshops, we'll have dinner leaving the late evening open for a moonlit walk or a variety of wonderful evening activities!

Day 5

Breakfast

Rise and shine! Following breakfast at our hotel and a morning at leisure, groups will depart Paris. If you would like to include additional days to your tour for more sightseeing or Master Classes; please enquire!

ACADEMY IN PARIS – FRANCE

Minimum Booking Numbers:

20 students

What's Included:

Motorcoach Transfers or Air
4-nights' accommodation
Breakfasts and Dinners daily
4 2-hour Master Classes with Tutors
Eiffel Tower excursion
Seine River Cruise excursion
Palace of Versailles excursion
Local shopping excursion
Visions Ambassador
24-hour emergency cover

What's Not Included:

Fully comprehensive insurance (mandatory)
Transfers to/from home airport if travelling via air
Transportation for activities not shown in the itinerary
Entry fees required for Museums or Euro Disney
Lunches in resort
Cost of visas, full or collective passports
Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel
Sightseeing / Entertainment Options not shown in Itinerary
Hotel incidental deposits & bills – meals, mini-bar items, recreation charges, purchases billed to room, etc
Any gratuities – coach drivers, maid service, bellman service, area guides, tour ambassador

As always, our staff is available to you to answer any questions you may have regarding programming.
If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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