

# American Celebration of Music in France



MUSIC CELEBRATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL  
*Concert Tours with Integrity*

# Bon Jour!



The *American Celebration of Music in France* includes destinations and musical experiences that remind participants of Franco-American ties and long friendships that date back to the American Revolution in 1776.

Normandy (Omaha Beach and the American Cemetery) and Eastern France provide opportunities to pay musical tribute to thousands of Americans who never returned to America, having given their all for the present freedom of Europe and our country.

In Paris on any given day, there are possibly as many as 300 different concerts. The French love and support both traditional and contemporary musical performances. Paris was a "second Vienna" for French musicians and composers including Berlioz, Auger, Gounod, Saint-Saens, Franck, Faure, Ravel, Debussy and many others. France boasts many music festivals throughout the country, particularly in the summer months. The potential availability of prestigious and gorgeous venues in Paris alone is staggering.



The American Celebration of Music is a special annual performance-tour program, co-sponsored by local governments, music associations, community organizations, and tourist boards around the globe. In many countries this has developed into a prestigious, recognized, year-long concert-series festival. Recognition of this festival facilitates greater access to performance venues, official publicity, generally very successful concert arrangements, and the ability to touch local cultures in a way that may not be done through other affiliations. This equates to more meaningful musical and emotional experiences for participating performance ensembles.

Imagine a performance by your musicians in Notre-Dame Cathedral, Les Invalides, La Madeleine, La Trinite, Jardins du Luxembourg, St. Roch, the American Cathedral, St. Severin or a French chateau! Your concert tour is truly enriched with your surroundings of art history, architecture, and beauty that is best experienced "first hand."



# Sample Tour

## Day 1

Departure via scheduled airline service to Paris, France.

## Day 2 Paris / Caen (D)

Arrive in Paris. Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for transfer to Caen. Welcome Dinner.

## Day 3 Caen / Coleville (B,D)

Enjoy morning sightseeing of Caen, including a visit to the Peace Memorial. The Memorial, to the northwest of the town center, is a modern Peace Museum, built of light-colored sandstone in the form of a square block (architect Jacques Millet). Its themes are the two world wars and the means of ensuring and preserving peace. Also pass the Abbaye-aux-Hommes, built by William the Conqueror and containing his grave. Then take an excursion to Coleville to **perform a short memorial recital**, and participate in a wreath laying ceremony at the American Cemetery, site of the June 6th Normandy Invasion. **Performance in the Caen area as part of the American Celebration of Music in France.**

## Day 4 Rouen / Giverny / Paris (B,D)

Morning transfer to Paris. Stop in Rouen, lying northwest of Paris on the lower Seine. The ancient capital of Normandy, it is now chief town of the Haute-Normandie region, the see of an archbishop, France's largest river port and one of its largest seaports, situated at the highest point on the river navigable by seagoing vessels. In the Place de la Cathédrale stands the Gothic Cathedral of Notre-Dame, one of the largest and most magnificent in France. The main structure was completed between 1202 and 1220, but the building was not completed until the 16th C. The most striking feature is the elaborately articulated west front which was several times painted by Claude Monet. Following your visit, continue on to Giverny, the home of the painter Claude Monet from 1883 until his death in 1926. Visit Monet's house and his garden, which appears in so many of his paintings. Finally, arrive in Paris for dinner and overnight.

## Day 5 Paris (B,D)

Half-day guided tour of *Paris historique*, including Notre-Dame Cathedral, Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Champs Elysees, Place de la Concorde, Luxembourg Palace and Gardens, Latin Quarter, Place de la Bastille, and other highlights. **Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in France.**

## Day 6 Paris (B,D)

**For choirs only: Late morning performance in Notre Dame Cathedral (or similar).** Enjoy an afternoon tour of *Paris artistique*, including entrance to the Louvre, the largest and greatest art museum in the world.

## Day 7 Paris / Versailles (B,D)

Morning guided tour to Versailles Palace. This palace is the creation of the French monarchy at the moment of its greatest splendor. Consisting of the great palace, the gardens and the Trianons, it is a wonderfully harmonious composition of building and landscape, the definitive monument of French classicism. Evening Farewell Dinner.

## Day 8 Depart for Home (B)

Transfer to one of Paris's airports for return flight. Arrive home in the evening of the same day.



## STANDARD PERFORMANCE TOURS IN FRANCE

**Tour #1** (6 nights / 8 days)  
2 nights in Caen (Normandy) and 4 nights in Paris

**Tour #2** (7 nights / 9 days)  
2 nights in Tours, 1 night in Mont St-Michel,  
1 night in Caen, and 3 nights in Paris

**Tour #3** (8 nights / 10 days)  
2 nights in Tours, 1 night in Mont St-Michel,  
2 nights in Caen, and 3 nights in Paris

**Tour #4** (8 nights / 10 days) –  
NORTHERN THREE CAPITALS TOUR  
3 nights in Paris, 2 nights in Brussels, Belgium,  
and 3 nights in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**Tour #5** (8 nights / 10 days)  
4 nights in Paris, 2 nights in Strasbourg,  
and 2 nights in Heidelberg, Germany

**Tour #6** (8 nights / 10 days)  
5 nights in Arles, 3 nights in Aix-en-Provence

**These and all our other Standard Tours can be viewed  
on our website at [www.musiccelebrations.com](http://www.musiccelebrations.com)**

Music Celebrations would also be happy to create a  
custom tour to meet your specific wishes and interests.



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## What others have said -

*"I can't begin to find the words to express how overwhelming singing at Notre Dame was. Following the Mass, they had us follow the altar boys down the main aisle of the cathedral and then across the back, and back up the side and then into the sacristy. That was the first time the kids were able to see just how many people were present...it was over 1000. The congregants stood up for them and applauded. Needless to say, I was extremely proud and pretty emotional throughout that experience. The tour really was a wonderful experience. I was very pleased with each of the performances."*

- Michael Ehrlich, W.T. Woodson High School, VA

*"I wanted to thank you and your staff for the unforgettable experience that you arranged for the University of Sioux Falls Concert Chorale in Germany, Austria, and France. It will truly be remembered for a lifetime. The musical experiences were the highlight. The performances were varied and exciting. Notre Dame in Paris was fun, but the icing on the cake was the concert in Chartres Cathedral. What an extraordinary educational event this was for my students."*

- Dr. Tom Krause, University of Sioux Falls, SD

*"Venues were wonderful! We always get the best venues when we tour with Music Celebrations! The performance at the Dom was fabulous! Frankfurt was wonderful. Notre Dame was memorable. During the Mass in Notre Dame, we processed to the cross during the service – which was a very special experience."*

- Doree Jarboe, Grant High School, Oregon

## A SHORT LISTING OF POTENTIAL VENUES

### PARIS

Notre-Dame Cathedral  
La Madeleine  
La Trinite  
St. Sulpice  
Luxembourg Gardens  
American Cathedral

### NORMANDY AREA

Eglise Reforme  
Abbey du Hommes  
Peace Memorial  
American Cemetery (Omaha Beach)  
St. Catherines (Honfleur)  
Abbey (Mont St-Michel)

### LOIRE VALLEY AREA

Notre-Dame La Riche  
Town Hall Salon  
Cathedral Notre-Dame (Chartres)  
Various chateaux

### SOUTHERN FRANCE

Eglise Anglicane (Nice)  
Cathedral de St-Michel (Carcassonne)  
Eglise St-Etienne (Toulouse)  
Le Forum, Les Angeles (Avignon)