

ITINERARY



NEW Second Departure

Paris, Normandy & Amsterdam

August 28 – September 5, 2021

Day 1 | August 28, 2021

Depart on overnight flights to Paris.

Day 2 | August 29

Arrive this morning in Paris. Check in to our hotel, the elegant InterContinental Paris le Grand, with its ideal location across from the spectacular Opéra Garnier. The afternoon will be free to rest and relax before we greet fellow travelers at our welcome cocktail reception this evening. In addition, there will be a casual welcome dinner at the legendary brasserie Le Grand Colbert, which has a history stretching back to 1900.

Day 3 | August 30

This morning's informative Oxford Club seminars will include insights from our Chief Investment Strategist Alexander Green and our Quantitative Strategist Nicholas Vardy. There will also be a short introduction to the City of Light. No other city in the world offers the same unique combination of iconic architecture, world-class cuisine, stylish shopping and renowned artistic treasures. We will enjoy lunch at the iconic Parisian restaurant Le Train Bleu. The decor of this restaurant is a harmonious tribute to the distinctive style of the Belle Époque period. The afternoon is free to explore Paris on your own. You might visit the Place des Vosges with its beautiful arches and art galleries, or take a walk through Le Marais with its winding streets and hidden courtyards. Tonight, get ready for an amazing gala dinner at the world-famous and exclusive Le Jules Verne restaurant, located inside the Eiffel Tower.

Day 4 | August 31

Bid farewell to Paris as we motor out into the bucolic landscapes of Normandy to Château d'Audrieu. This 18th-century edifice, listed as a historical monument, offers a warm welcome – you will be treated like royalty. Its soul and grandeur make this a magical place, where a history that stretches back to the 11th century comes to life. After you settle into your stylish room, lunch will be served. Later, stroll through the elegantly proportioned château, set in an extensive wooded park, and enjoy the magnificent gardens. Join the group for cocktails this evening, followed by a lovely three-course French dinner of gourmet delights at Le Séran, Château d'Audrieu's signature restaurant.

Day 5 | September 1

Today we'll take a short drive to the historic beaches of Normandy, where the D-Day landings took place. Not just for history buffs, the beaches of Normandy are known for miles of rugged coastline, sandy beaches and excellent seafood. We'll enjoy a seaside lunch before returning to the Château for a relaxing afternoon of lounging by the heated outdoor pool or indulging in special treats at the spa. We gather for another sumptuous dinner this evening.

Day 6 | September 2

This morning, we'll hear the very latest advice from Oxford Club Quantitative Strategist Nicholas Vardy at our informative financial seminar. A light lunch will follow the seminar. In the afternoon, you can delight in the pleasures of the Château or join a group outing to the neighboring village of Bayeux, founded as a Gallo-Roman settlement in the first century B.C. under the name Augustodurum. This lovely village is best known for the eponymous tapestry that depicts events leading up to the Battle of Hastings in 1066 and the 11th-century Norman Conquest of England. The awe-inspiring Bayeux Tapestry is 230 feet long and 3 feet high. Bayeux was also the first major town secured by the Allies during Operation Overlord, and Charles de Gaulle made two famous speeches here. Consider visiting Bayeux Cathedral, sanctified in 1077 in the presence of William the Conqueror, or slipping into a local tavern to sample Normandy's famous Calvados (apple brandy) or the cider and cheeses for which the region is so well known.

Day 7 | September 3

This morning we bid farewell to the Château d'Audrieu as our high-speed train whisks us off to enchanting Amsterdam. We'll enjoy a light lunch on the train, then transfer and check in to our hotel, the Pulitzer Amsterdam. One of the city's most unique properties, the Pulitzer is made up of 25 restored 17th- and 18th-century houses that were once home to Dutch aristocrats – and the scene of business deals between prosperous trade merchants. Tonight, experience the history and culture of Amsterdam as we glide along the city's famous Canal Ring on our private cruise. Then explore the Indonesian influence on Dutch cuisine with a “rice table” dinner at local favorite Sama Sebo.

Day 8 | September 4

Windmills, tulips and wooden shoes are on the agenda this morning as we head out into the charming Dutch countryside. We'll visit Edam, known for its cheese, and the quaint fishing community of Marken. Another stop will be the postcard-perfect town of Volendam, where we'll enjoy lunch and a sampling of local cheeses. During your leisure time back in Amsterdam, you might choose to explore the artistic masterpieces in the Rijksmuseum or Van Gogh Museum or spend some time shopping for souvenirs in the quirky Nine Streets neighborhood. This evening we will gather for a special farewell dinner at one of Amsterdam's oldest restaurants.

Day 9 | September 5

This morning our sojourn comes to an end as we bid farewell to Amsterdam and to friends old and new.

LAND ARRANGEMENTS COST

\$6,580.00 per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room

\$2,190.00 per person (Single-room supplement)

There is a \$200.00 discount for Chairman's Circle Members.

For more information and to book, please reach out as soon as possible to **Maggie Stephens** at maggie@aesu.com. Maggie can also be reached at **800.638.7640, ext. 125**, and would be happy to assist with your international flight arrangements.