



ACADEMY
TRAVEL

TAILORED
SMALL GROUP
JOURNEYS

PARIS FOR FASHION LOVERS

FROM READY-TO-WEAR
TO HAUTE COUTURE

OVERVIEW

For centuries the city of Paris has been synonymous with the world of high fashion. It was here Rose Bertin made exquisite gowns for Marie-Antoinette; here that Charles Frederick Worth established the first couture house, and here that names such as Chanel, Dior and Yves Saint Laurent took couture from a discrete service for a select coterie of wealthy clients to a global marketing phenomenon.

On this 12-day tour, designed for those who love and admire beautiful fashion, creativity, and exquisite workmanship, cultural historian Nicole Hayward takes us behind-the-scenes, to fascinating museums, galleries and studios and through historic arrondissements to explore the places and discover the people who have gifted Paris its reputation as a centre of fashion excellence.

Based in the beautiful and centrally located Royal Saint Honoré Hotel, the tour is complemented by three carefully chosen opera, ballet and cabaret performances and selected lunches and dinners at fine local restaurants.



TOUR LEADER

With a passion for art, fashion and textiles, **Nicole Hayward** holds qualifications in advanced patternmaking and tailoring from the Italian fashion school, Centro Internazionale Alta Mode, in addition to a Business degree (UTS).

TOUR DATES

October 5-16, 2024

TOUR PRICE

\$11,890 per person, twin share
\$3,985 single supplement

TOUR DEPOSIT

A **\$1,000** non-refundable deposit is required per person to confirm your booking on tour.

GROUP SIZE

Maximum number of **16** in group

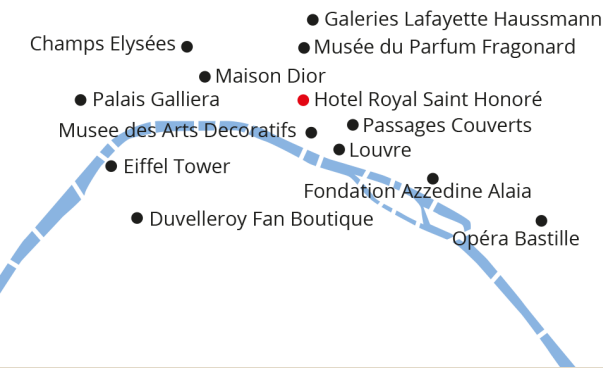
ITINERARY

Paris (11 nights)

INCLUSIONS

11 nights' accommodation in a centrally located 4-star hotel
All breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners. Best available tickets to **3** performances. Services of an expert tour leader and an experienced tour manager throughout. All ground transport, entrance fees and tipping.

PARIS (11)



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Haute Couture Museums

From the incredible collection of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs to exclusive works at Maison Dior, admire the beautiful work of the world's great couturiers at some of Paris' best galleries and private museums.

Behind the scenes tours

Experience the dynamic world of the skilled designers and artisans working behind the scenes at the Opéra Bastille and at Paris' leading contemporary design houses.

Extraordinary performances

Enjoy superb performances of opera, ballet and cabaret at some of the city's great venues -the Opéra Bastille, the Palais Garnier and the historic Moulin Rouge.

Walking tours

Explore the fascinating arrondissements of Paris in the company of knowledgeable local guides, bringing the time-honoured textile traditions and diverse fashion culture of the city to life.

Hunting for treasures

Discover the many treasures this sophisticated city offers, from the fine boutiques of the Belle Epoque Passages Couverts and trendy Rue Francs Bourgeois to the fascinating flea markets of St-Ouen.

Start & Finish

The tour starts at 4.30pm on Saturday 5 October, at the Hotel Royal Saint Honoré, Paris.

The tour ends at after breakfast on Wednesday 16 October, at the Hotel Royal Saint Honoré, Paris.

Included meals are indicated with B, L, D.

Saturday 5 October**Arrival**

We meet tour leader Nicole Hayward in our hotel this afternoon, gathering for our inaugural talk on Paris as a fashion capital. The talk is followed by welcome drinks and dinner at a classic Parisian restaurant a short walk from our hotel. Overnight Paris (D)

Sunday 6 October**Fashion history and the city**

After a leisurely start to the day, we make our way to the Musée Carnavalet, dedicated to the history of Paris and housed across two exceptional private mansions, built in the 16th and 17th centuries. Once home to writer Madame de Sévigné, the older mansion is a rare example of Renaissance architecture in Paris. Here we have a tour of the key pieces in the collection, creating an historical context for Parisian fashion. There is time to browse and have lunch before we meet our local guide for a walking tour of 'Fashion in the Heart of Paris', taking us on a fascinating adventure through the city's famous and prestigious retail and design districts. Returning to the hotel the evening is at leisure. Overnight Paris (B)

Monday 7 October**Ready to Wear**

Complementing yesterday's walking tour, we make our way this morning to the workshops of a ready-to-wear brand who participates in the official Paris Fashion Week shows. In this special insider's look at the design process, we learn from a working design team about the history of their brand, how they develop and implement new ideas and how they work as a collaborative team. Lunch follows at the famous Angelina Café, a Paris institution established on the fashionable Rue de Rivoli in 1903 where Coco Chanel would sit, sipping her daily chocolat chaud. This afternoon we stroll through the chic walkways of the Passages Couverts, beautiful shopping arcades dating from the Belle Epoque which are now home to a range of quirky and fascinating boutiques. Returning to the hotel the evening is at leisure. Overnight Paris (B, L)



Musée des Arts Décoratifs



Maison Dior

Tuesday 8 October

Musée des Arts Décoratifs

For lovers of fashion and design there are few destinations as special as the Musée des Arts Décoratifs. Founded in 1882 and one of Paris' premier museums, MAD is dedicated to the exhibition and preservation of the decorative arts. This morning we tour the museum's summer exhibition which examines the rise of the department store from 1852 to the present day, looking at the social and cultural importance of what was a totally new form of commercial interaction in the 19th century. There is time to explore the museum's extensive collection at leisure and have a light lunch before we return to our hotel. This afternoon Nicole will give a talk on the House of Dior before a screening of the film *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris*, a lovely ode to fashion, to the people who create it and to those who fervently desire it. After the screening we'll head out for a light dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight Paris (B, D)

Wednesday 9 October

Maison Dior | Palais Garnier

Following in the determined footsteps of Mrs Harris this morning, we visit the historic atelier of Maison Dior in the Avenue Montaigne, now a fabulous museum dedicated to the work of Monsieur Christian Dior and to the many talented designers who succeeded him at his couture house following his untimely death in 1957. The afternoon is free to explore the museum further or browse the adjacent Triangle d'Or – the confluence of the Avenues Montaigne, George V and the Champs Elysées where the finest haute couture establishments can be found. The nearby Petit Palais, an excellent but often overlooked museum built for the Universal Exhibition in 1900, is home to a superb collection of fine and decorative arts from the Classical World through to the 20th century and a recommended visit. This evening we make our way to the historic Palais Garnier for a ballet performance (schedule permitting). Overnight Paris (B)

Performance I

Venue: Palais Garnier

Program: To be announced

Performers: To be announced

Thursday 10 October

All the trimmings

Fashion is no fun without its buttons and bows so this morning we have a guided tour of the historic Sentier district, the traditional home of Parisian textiles and haberdashery. Our local guide will share stories of the wealthy and aristocratic customers who frequented the salons and the hard-working women who created their exquisite hats and gowns as we visit boutiques still selling the finest French threads, notions and fabric. Many of these businesses have been recognised as Entreprises du Patrimoine Vivant by the French Government in recognition of their ongoing contribution to French culture and heritage. After lunch together, we visit Musée du Parfum



Musée Saint Laurent



Fondation Azzedine Alaïa

Fragonard, founded in 1926. Here we have the opportunity to create our own bespoke scent before our guided tour of the museum reveals the fascinating history of perfume. Returning to the hotel the evening is at leisure. Overnight Paris (B, L)

Friday 11 October **Fashioning Sport & Performance | Opéra Bastille**

In the year when Paris hosts the Olympic Games it's no surprise that many of the major exhibitions have a sports focus and this morning we visit the city's premier fashion museum, the Palais Galliera, for *Fashion on the Move*. While this is a chronological examination of fashion from the 18th century to the present day, the focus is on the body in movement. It's easy to overlook how crucial changes in textiles, design and social mores have been to sporting achievement, especially for women, and how liberating some of those changes have been when incorporated into our everyday wardrobe. With the exhibition as the backdrop, our guided tour will look at both evolution and innovation in fashion. After a break for lunch the early afternoon is at leisure before we head to the Opéra Bastille for an 'Arts and Crafts' backstage tour which takes us into the "living city" behind the scenes, bringing together a team of skilled artisans to create the props, costumes, wigs and sets for each massive production. Our tour is followed by a night at the Opéra itself where we can appreciate both the music and the extraordinary amount of unseen work that goes into each performance. Overnight Paris (B)

Performance II

Venue: Opéra Bastille

Program: To be announced

Performers: To be announced

Saturday 12 October **Haute Couture from the Colonies**

The creative talent of the great Paris fashion houses has often been sourced "offshore" and today we explore two of the brightest stars of haute couture, both drawn from colonial North Africa. The name of Yves Saint Laurent is synonymous with Paris fashion, but he was born in Algeria, only moving to Paris when he was 18. This morning we have a guided tour of the Musée Saint Laurent, the designer's former work and showroom, which offers a fascinating glimpse into his design process and elegantly presents his extraordinary body of work. We then head to the Fondation Azzedine Alaïa where we have lunch in the restaurant before visiting the museum itself, where our tour will showcase the Tunisian born designer's own beautiful and innovative work as well as the extensive fashion archive he amassed before his death in 2017. The museum is located in the bohemian Marais district and the remainder of the day is free to explore this fascinating area, one of the few to retain its pre-Haussmann layout. The evening is at leisure. Overnight Paris (B, L)



Galeries Lafayette Haussmann



Duvelleroy

Sunday 13 October

Antique treasure hunt

Sunday in Paris is the perfect day for treasure hunting at the famous Les Puces de Saint-Ouen, but this vast second hand “flea” market can be daunting for the visitor so we begin under the instruction of a local guide, who will help reveal the fabulous treasure trove of antique fabric and vintage lingerie and clothing to be found. After a break for lunch there is free time to enjoy the markets at your own pace or continue your own explorations of Paris. In nearby Montmartre, historic haunt of the demi-monde of artists and cabaret performers, you may like to walk in the footsteps of Amélie Poulain, visit the famous Sacré Coeur Basilica, see Hector Guimard’s spectacular art-nouveau metro entrances, or simply sit at a café and imagine the days when the area was a lively village on the Paris outskirts. Evening at leisure. Overnight Paris (B)

Monday 14 October

The Belle Epoque | Moulin Rouge

Giving a contemporary context to the exhibition we viewed at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, this morning we have a private guided tour of one of the great department stores of Paris – the Galeries Lafayette Haussmann. Founded as a small haberdashery shop in 1894 by cousins Théophile Bader and Alphonse Kahn, the company quickly grew and by 1912 their flagship store on the Boulevard Haussmann was complete – a beautiful temple of shopping complete with art nouveau staircases and a spectacular stained-glass cupola. After our tour there is time to explore this vast shopping mecca, enjoy morning tea in the restaurant under the dome, or take in the spectacular views across Paris from the panoramic terrace. After time for lunch we have a private tour of the Duvelleroy Fan Boutique in the smart 7th arrondissement. Founded in 1827, the boutique supplied exquisite fans to royalty across Europe in the 19th century and still produces fans to an haute couture standard. There is time to explore the neighbourhood, which includes the iconic Eiffel Tower and the tomb of Napoleon at Les Invalides. This evening we make our way to Montmartre for the spectacular Féerie revue at the famous Moulin Rouge. We’ll enjoy an excellent dinner of quintessential French dishes as we are immersed in the glamorous universe of the legendary cabaret. Overnight Paris (B, D)

Performance III

Venue: Moulin Rouge

Program: Féerie

Performers: To be announced

Tuesday 15 October

Looking to the Future

On our last day in Paris, we look to the future with a visit to the Invenio Flory Workshop. This innovative studio, founded by designer Flory Brisset in 2011, pushes the boundaries of materials and design. Working with many of the major fashion

HOTELS

Paris, Hotel Royal Saint Honoré

(11 nights)

Nestled between the Louvre and Place Vendôme, the Hotel Royal Saint Honoré blends history and French luxury. A four-star chic hotel, it is ideally located in the heart of historic Paris and the haute couture district, just a stone's throw from the Paris Opera. We have selected superior rooms for our stay, offering 20 sqm of comfort conveyed by a light touch of elegant furnishings.

www.royal-st-honore.com

WEATHER

October weather in Paris is cool with the occasional shower spread over the month. Temperatures are usually in the mid-teens, but nights can get quite chilly so make sure to pack a few jackets to stay warm in the evening.

FITNESS REQUIREMENTS

Grade Two

This tour is designed for people who lead active lives.

- comfortably participate in up to five hours of physical activity per day, including walking at an easy to regular pace with only short breaks
- keep up with the group at all times
- negotiate challenging historic sites and paths, which are often uneven and unstable
- negotiate stairs and bridges
- stand for one to two hours in galleries and museums at a time without a break
- get on and off a coach, train or boat with steep stairs unassisted

houses and luxury brands, they describe themselves as being “at the crossroads of art, design and craftsmanship”. After a break for lunch, we'll take a stroll through an area the group would like to visit, or revisit – perhaps the sophisticated Place Vendôme, elegant Place des Vosges or the Rue Francs Bourgeois with its trendy boutiques. This evening we farewell Paris with dinner at a renowned local restaurant. Overnight Paris (B, D)

Wednesday 16 October

Departure

Our tour ends today after breakfast. Please check individual documents for onward travel plans. (B)



ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS

For further information or to secure a place, please contact **Jamal Fairbrother** on 9235 0023 (Sydney) or 1800 639 699 (outside Sydney) or email:

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