

APRIL 7 – 21, 2011

13 DAYS from only **\$3,598**

Includes roundtrip airfare from Boston. Other gateways available, please call for pricing. Departure fees & taxes: \$107. Pricing valid until June 30, 2010.

The Best of France & Italy



During your tour, stop at an intimate Parisian cafe to watch the world go by—one of Paris' most celebrated traditions.

DAY 1: FLIGHT TO PARIS

Your trip begins with a regularly scheduled overnight flight to Paris.

DAY 2: ARRIVAL IN FRANCE

Welcome to Paris! A Go Ahead representative greets you at the airport after you clear customs and then escorts you to your hotel. After check-in, you'll have free time to orient yourself in Paris. At an included dinner this evening, meet your fellow travelers.

Included meals: breakfast (in flight), dinner

DAY 3: WALKING TOUR OF PARISIAN MARKETS

Absorb the many delights of Paris today, as your Tour Director leads a walking tour of the colorful Parisian markets, where locals shop for weekly goods from fresh camembert to produce and seasonal specialties.

Included meals: breakfast

DAY 4: FREE DAY IN PARIS OR GIVERNY

This morning is free for you to explore Paris at your leisure. You might choose to visit the Louvre, shop in Galeries Lafayette or ascend Montmartre to watch the sidewalk artists. You might also wish to join an optional excursion to Giverny (seasonal), where you can visit the former home and gardens of Impressionist Claude Monet. (Depending on season, a van Gogh and Auvers-Sur-Oise optional may

be offered instead.) End the day at our optional Evening in Paris with dinner at a local restaurant followed by a cruise on the River Seine. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 5: TRAIN TO AIX-EN-PROVENCE

Journey by TGV train through the French countryside to Aix-en-Provence in the heart of southern France's Provence region. Upon arrival, you'll have a guided tour of this Roman-influenced city, hometown of Post-Impressionist painter Paul Cézanne. Stops include Cézanne's birthplace, the school he attended and the studio where many of his famed paintings came to light. This evening, join our optional Provençal Dinner and Wine Tasting, which celebrates this up-and-coming wine region.

Included meals: breakfast

Included entrances: Cézanne's studio

DAY 6: ARLES

Spend the morning with free time in Aix, before traveling to nearby Arles. Another quintessential Provençal town, Arles was also the adopted home of Vincent van Gogh, who painted some of his most celebrated works here. An expert local guide leads a sightseeing tour of the town and lectures on the artistic achievements. The afternoon is free for you to explore on your own. Or you can join an optional excursion to Marseilles, the oldest city in France. Included meals: breakfast



BCALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

13-DAY TOUR INCLUDES

- Round-trip air transportation with a major airline, airport transfers
- The services of a multilingual Go Ahead Tour Director
- A licensed local city guide in Aix-en-Provence, Arles, Florence, Pitti Palace and Siena
- 11 nights accommodations in comfortable, well-located hotels with twin beds and private bath or shower
- All hotel service charges and tips, baggage handling and local taxes
- Buffet breakfast daily; 1 lunch; 4 three-course dinners
- Private deluxe motorcoach
- Guided sightseeing and entrance fees to select sights as described
- Go Ahead travel gift and membership in our World Traveler Club, which includes credit toward your next tour

GUIDED SIGHTSEEING

DAY 5: Aix-en-Provence

DAY 6: Arles

DAY 9: Florence

DAY 10: Pitti Palace

DAY 11: Siena

Tour Highlight

Siena has long stood in the shadow of its Renaissance big brother, Florence, but one of the advantages to the rivalry is that Siena has remained largely untouched by mass tourism. Explore this medieval town, featuring some of the best food, wine and local spirit in Italy.

Insider's Tip

During your free time, get a feel for local culture. In Aix-en-Provence, stroll through the Parc Jourdan, where you may catch a match of pétanque, a game similar to bocce.



Enjoy a *café au lait* and lively conversation in Paris.



Fall in love with the rustic rolling hills, brilliant light and medieval towns of Tuscany.

DAY 7: CASSIS

As you head south along the French Riviera toward Nice, stop in the hillside town of Cassis, overlooking the Mediterranean. Enjoy a boat cruise amid the rocky inlets in Cassis' harbor. Reach Nice this evening, where dinner is included. Included meals: breakfast, dinner

DAY 8: CINQUE TERRE

Cross the border into Italy and reach magnificently beautiful Cinque Terre. Meaning "five earths," this region of five seaside villages comprises breathtaking scenery with winding roads and rolling hills. Lunch is included in Cinque Terre. Continue on to Florence, birthplace of the Renaissance. Dinner is included tonight in Florence. Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 9: FLORENCE SIGHTSEEING

Guided sightseeing of Florence introduces you to the city's architectural splendor. Marvel at Brunelleschi's masterpiece—Florence's massive pink, white and green *duomo*. Discover the church of Santa Croce, where the tombs of Galileo and Michelangelo as well as the Dante Memorial are displayed. Later, join in an unforgettable experience this evening at our optional Monastery Dinner. Included meals: breakfast
Included entrances: Chiesa di Santa Croce

DAY 10: PITTI PALACE AND CHIANTI

Continue your tour of Florence this morning with a visit to the Renaissance Pitti Palace, a complex built

in the 15th century that today houses the Silver Museum, the Gallery of Modern Art and the Palatine Gallery. This afternoon, your Tour Director leads a sightseeing tour of the Chianti wine route, and you'll sample some regional vintages. Arrive later in Siena, one of Tuscany's stunning medieval towns. Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Included entrances: Pitti Palace, Wine tasting

DAY 11: SIENA SIGHTS

This morning, a local guide leads a walking tour of Siena. You'll see its cathedral and famed Campo, where the annual Palio is held. This evening, partake of a unique event at our optional Tuscan Dinner, highlighting the culinary specialties of medieval Tuscany. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 12: TRANSFER TO ROME

Continue your journey southward to Rome, the Eternal City. Opt to end the day at a Dinner with Tenors, an evening of traditional Italian dishes and live opera music. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 13: DEPARTURE

If you are not staying for our tour extension in Rome, a Go Ahead representative accompanies you to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home. Included meals: breakfast
(In the case of early morning departures, breakfast may not be provided.)

POST-TOUR EXTENSION

Rome

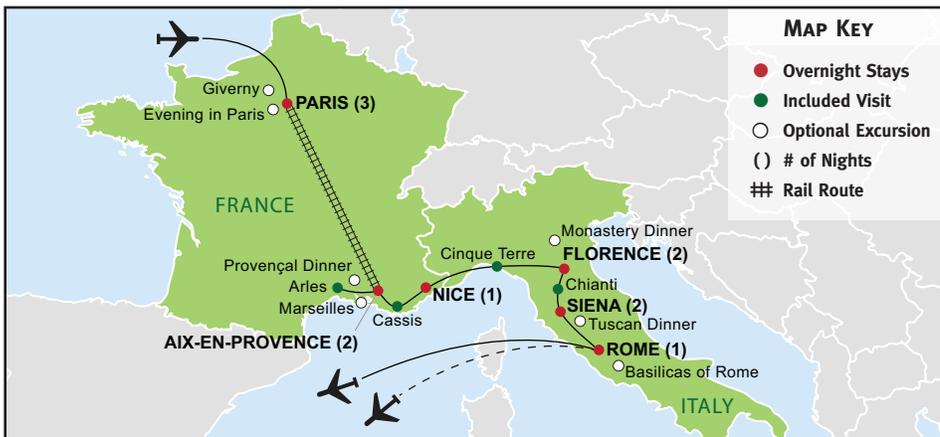
2 nights

DAY 13: Stay in Rome for another two days to examine the myriad treasures of the Italian capital. Today, you might wish to join an optional excursion to Vatican City, featuring visits to St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 14: Spend another day at your leisure in Rome or join an optional Basilicas of Rome excursion, which introduces you to many of the most significant religious sites in the city. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 15: A Go Ahead representative accompanies you to the airport for your return flight home. Included meals: breakfast
(In the case of early morning departures, breakfast may not be provided.)

Extension is available on select departure dates, and space is limited. Please call early to hold your spot. Extension also requires a minimum of 10 travelers.



Travel Pace: 3

Travel pace levels are based on criteria such as length of tour, number of cities visited, number of included activities, as well as length of flights and land transfers.

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 - leisurely | 3 - active |
| 2 - comfortable | 4 - challenging |

Walking on Tour

"The Best of France & Italy" involves a slightly higher degree of walking than our city tours. Sightseeing in Aix-en-Provence, Arles and Siena is conducted on foot, and travelers should be prepared for some moderate winding pathways, medieval streets and uphill climbs.

Visit goaheadtours.com for:

- Enhanced destination information
- Fun traveler scrapbooks
- Featured Tour Directors
- Personalized "My Account" Page
- Tour planning
- Meeting fellow travelers and sharing travel tips in Trip Forums
- Suggested reading lists

Climate

The following guide provides the average temperatures for a sampling of the regions on your itinerary.

PARIS

Jan-Feb	34°-44°F / 1°-7°C
Mar	38°-54°F / 3°-12°C
Apr	43°-60°F / 6°-16°C
May	49°-67°F / 9°-19°C
June	55°-73°F / 13°-23°C
July-Aug	58°-75°F / 14°-24°C
Sep	53°-70°F / 12°-21°C
Oct	46°-60°F / 8°-16°C
Nov	40°-50°F / 3°-10°C
Dec	36°-44°F / 2°-7°C

FLORENCE

Feb	37°-54°F / 3°-12°C
Mar	41°-59°F / 5°-15°C
Apr	46°-66°F / 8°-19°C
May	52°-74°F / 11°-23°C
June	58°-81°F / 14°-27°C
July-Aug	63°-88°F / 17°-31°C
Sep	58°-80°F / 14°-27°C
Oct	50°-70°F / 10°-21°C
Nov	42°-59°F / 6°-15°C

ROME

Feb	40°-56°F / 4°-13°C
Mar	43°-59°F / 6°-15°C
Apr	47°-63°F / 8°-17°C
May	54°-71°F / 12°-22°C
June	61°-77°F / 16°-25°C
July-Aug	66°-83°F / 19°-28°C
Sep	62°-79°F / 17°-13°C
Oct	56°-71°F / 13°-22°C
Nov	46°-62°F / 8°-17°C

Pre-departure information for “The Best of France & Italy”

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

In order to enter France and Italy, U.S. & Canadian citizens need a valid passport. The expiration date must extend six months beyond the date of your return home. No visa is required for U.S. or Canadian citizens. If you are not a U.S. or Canadian citizen, you must contact each country's consulate for your specific entry requirements.

AIRPORT AND DEPARTURE TAXES

All airport and departure taxes for “The Best of France & Italy” are included in the total trip cost printed on your invoice.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

Airlines have varying weight restrictions on luggage. Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies. Bear in mind that your luggage will probably weigh more on your return trip due to souvenir shopping. We allow only one suitcase per person. One carry-on bag is also permitted, provided that it does not exceed 45 inches (length + width + height). There may be select times when you will have to handle your own bags, and you'll find that lightweight luggage provides a distinct advantage. Make sure you label your baggage and carry valuables, medication and documents in your carry-on luggage.

CLOTHING AND PACKING TIPS

Light, loose-fitting clothing that provides comfort when exploring the sights is essential for your tour. A sun hat, sunglasses and a sturdy pair of walking shoes or sneakers are recommended for sightseeing. It's always a good idea to be prepared for any eventuality—a lightweight sports jacket and emergency rainwear are advised. If you plan to visit an especially elegant restaurant or attend the opera or theater, you will probably feel more comfortable in something more formal. Also, remember that bare legs and shoulders are officially not allowed in churches or other religious sites. Entrance may be denied on this basis.

HEALTH

There are no major health risks when traveling to France or Italy. It is always advisable to check with your doctor or health-care provider for the latest updates and overseas travel requirements.

CUISINE

Throughout France, you'll find endless opportunities to sample wonderful food at every price range.

For a casual snack or picnic, stop at a small grocery store for cheeses, patés, cured meats, fresh-baked bread and fruit. Sidewalk vendors are known for their steaming crepes, filled with cheese, ham, fruit or chocolate. Mouthwatering pastries and hot café au lait beckon from the cafés. On the restaurant scene, the prix fixe option is popular, offering a three- or four-course set menu for a good price.

Most staples of the Italian diet have already become favorites in America, but on your tour, try those less familiar pasta sauces and the vast range of cured hams, cheeses, rustic breads and desserts. Tuscany is known for its subtle sauces, rich pasta and its wines, including Chianti. In Siena, be sure to try trattorias—small, family-run restaurants. Siena's pastries are also top-notch.

TRANSPORTATION

Round-trip flights arrive in Paris and depart from Rome. Included transportation on “The Best of France & Italy” is by train and private motorcoach. In your free time, you may wish to explore the major cities by public transportation.

Paris' massive Métro is world-class, easy to navigate and efficient. Make sure to take time and look for the best deal on travel passes. Ask your tour director which one might work best. Often the daily passes are not actually the best deal.

Florence is split up into two separate sections by the Arno River, with most attractions spread out around the Duomo. The city is walkable, although frequent local buses are also available. Purchase tickets at tobacconists or at vending machines.

Rome has one of Europe's best metro systems, serving all major attractions from the Roman ruins to Vatican City. Tickets can be purchased separately or in bulk and also cover bus and tram travel.

ELECTRICITY

France and Italy operate on the European standard 220 volts.

MUSEUMS IN FLORENCE

Steeped in culture and history, the museums of Florence are popular attractions that you might consider visiting during your free time in the city. However, Go Ahead recommends that you make reservations two months in advance if you would like to visit any of the museums in Florence, particularly the Uffizi or the Accademia. Call Go Ahead or visit www.polomuseale.firenze.it/english/musei for more information.

TIME ZONES

France and Italy are one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) and six hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST). When it's noon in New York, it's 6 p.m. in Paris and Florence.

CURRENCY

The Euro is the currency you will be using on your tour. Better rates of exchange are usually available in France and Italy, although it is worth ordering some currency from your local bank to use when you first arrive. We strongly advise that you take debit/bank cards and credit cards, which can be used to withdraw cash at local banks, as needed. You can use most debit/credit cards at ATMs on the international networks Cirrus and Plus, but make sure to check with your home bank about withdrawal fees. We suggest informing your bank and credit card company of your travel plans, so they don't confuse your international purchases for fraudulent charges. Please note: With the conversion to the euro, it has been increasingly difficult to exchange travelers checks outside of Europe's major cities—both at banks and shops—and they often attract higher fees.

TIPPING

At the conclusion of your tour, it is customary to offer your Go Ahead Tour Director and driver a gratuity. We recommend tipping in your tour country's currency, the equivalent of \$3USD/CAD per person per day for your driver and \$6USD/CAD to \$9USD/CAD per person per day for your Tour Director. If applicable, we also recommend the equivalent of \$2USD/CAD per local guide. Tips can only be paid in cash. Please keep current local currency exchange rates in mind when tipping.

PURCHASING OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS ON TOUR

If you have not yet purchased your optional excursions, you may be able to do so while on your tour. Your tour director will accept cash, Visa, MasterCard or American Express as payment for optional excursions. Please be advised that if you pay for an excursion by credit card while on tour, it may take up to three months for your card to be charged. Some optional excursions may only be purchased in advance. See the separate “Optional Excursions” sheet for more information.

International travel is, by its very nature, unpredictable. We must therefore reserve the right to change this itinerary without advanced notice to meet with local conditions at the time of travel. We appreciate your understanding. Please refer to the current catalog for terms & conditions, dates and prices.