

## A Visit to Paris with Paul Davenport

*In the Footsteps of the Impressionists*

**August 4 – 14, 2018**

We spend nine nights in Paris, visiting Impressionist sites in Paris and the suburbs, and exploring other attractions in this extraordinary city. Dr. Paul Davenport was President of Western University from 1994 to 2009. In 2004 he began teaching courses in Continuing Studies at Western and at the University of Toronto entitled *In the Footsteps of the Impressionists*. Since 2007 he has led student and alumni bike tours in France, in Touraine, the Loire Valley, Provence, and Dordogne. He also leads walking tours of Paris; this will be the fourth. He lives in Tours, France, with his wife Josette.

Guests may want to purchase one of the standard guides to Paris, available in bookstores or on amazon.ca and amazon.com. His favorites include the *Michelin Green Guide Paris*, and *Rick Steves' Paris*. Where such guides may not offer a description of our visits when we are outside Paris, websites are suggested below—most are in English.

**Aug 4, Sat**                    **Departure from North America for Paris for many guests**

**Aug 5, Sun**                    **Arrival and visit to Montmartre Cemetery**

- Transfer from the airport by hired van to our 4\* hotel, Mercure Paris Montmartre Sacre-Coeur. <http://www.mercure.com/gb/hotel-0373-mercure-paris-montmartre-sacre-coeur-hotel/index.shtml> The hotel is located on the southwest edge of Montmartre, with easy access to restaurants and to Place de Clichy, where metro lines 2 and 13 intersect.
- Visit **Montmartre cemetery**, with tombs of famous writers (Zola, Murger), musicians (Berlioz, Offenbach, and Sax), painters (Greuze, Degas), and dancers (Najinsky, La Goulue). We discuss the fascinating lives of each of them.

**Aug 6, Mon**    **Louvre and Orangerie**

- We begin our tour of the Louvre with the **Medieval Louvre**, now below grade, with towers and a moat constructed by order of King Philippe August in 1190.
- We visit some of the outstanding **sculpture** of the Louvre, including stunning Greco-Roman works in the Salle des Caryatides (*Dianne and the Doe*, *La Supplice de Marsyas*), *Venus de Milo*, *Winged Victory*, the *Borghese Gladiator*, and two works by Michelangelo, *Dying Slave* and *Rebel Slave*.
- We view some of the great **19<sup>th</sup> century large paintings**, including works by David, Ingres, Géricault, Delacroix, and Gros. In an adjoining room are Da Vinci's *Mona Lisa* and *The Wedding Feast at Cana* by Veronese.
- 17th Century **Dutch painting** is always a favorite of our guests, including Jan Vermeer's *La Dentellière* and *L'Astronome* and Rembrandt's *Bathsheba in the bath holding a letter from David* (1654).

- Leaving the Louvre we have lunch, and then walk through the **Place du Carrousel**, where Dr Davenport tells a story involving Balzac's *Cousine Bette*, Hausmann, and Baudelaire.
- The ground floor of the **Orangerie Museum** features two oval shaped rooms with large water lily paintings by Monet, done near the end of his life specifically for these rooms. On the lower floor is a superb selection of Impressionist and post-Impressionist paintings.

**Aug 7, Tue                      Orsay, Left Bank, Notre Dame, Saint Chapelle**

- We visit the **Orsay museum**, home to many of the outstanding works of the great Impressionist painters, including Monet, Manet, Renoir, Pissarro, Sisley, and Morisot.
- We walk through the streets of the **left bank** and visit sites associated with great painters and artists, including Renoir, Voltaire, Monet, Manet, Oscar Wilde, George Sand, Richard Wagner, Delacroix, Man Ray, Hemingway, and Faulkner.
- We enter **Notre Dame Cathedral**, begun in 1163 and completed 182 years later in 1345. The artwork on the exterior and in the interior is stunning.
- We visit **Saint-Chapelle**, constructed in 1248 by Saint Louis, with its breathtaking stained glass windows.

**Aug 8, Wed                      Bougival, Restaurant Fournaise, Musée de la Grenouillère**

- We take a hired bus to an island in the Seine at **Bougival**, a site linked to works by Monet, Morisot, Renoir, and Georges Bizet (*Carmen*).
- We walk up an unpaved path along the island past the site of **La Grenouillère**, a 19<sup>th</sup> century night club with music and dancing on a boat tethered in the Seine, made famous by Monet, Renoir, and Maupassant. We have lunch at the **Restaurant Fournaise**, where Renoir did his celebrated *Luncheon of the Boating Party* (1881). In years past we have been able to eat our lunch in the very room where Renoir painted his *Luncheon*. The meal at the Restaurant Fournaise is always a treat.  
<http://www.restaurant-fournaise.fr/le-dejeuner-des-canotiers.html>
- After lunch we take the bus to the **Musée de la Grenouillère**, featuring sketches, caricatures, and displays which take us back to the gay times along the Seine from the 1870s to the 1890s. <http://www.grenouillere-museum.com/grenouillere/current/> Then we walk to the Chatou Station and take the train back to the Saint Lazare station in Paris, along the same route which Monet and Renoir took to reach the western suburbs of Paris.
- In Paris, we visit the **Saint Lazare station** and the **Europe Quarter**, the site of great paintings by Monet, Manet, and Caillebotte in the 1870s.

## Aug 9, Thu                      Giverny

- We take a bus to **Giverny** where we visit the gardens and house where Monet lived for 43 years, from 1883 until his death in 1926. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giverny> He completed a vast number of paintings here, of the gardens, the lily pads, and the surrounding countryside. <http://fondation-monet.com/en/>
- **Monet's house** was restored after 1977 and today we can visit the rooms where he lived and met with friends.
- The house looks down on the *Clos Normand* where Monet planted some two acres of flowers, mixing colors and heights in ways that appealed to his artistic sense.
- Nearby is the **water garden**, begun in 1893, using a diversion of the Epte River to create the waterlily pond, patterned on the Japanese gardens so common in the Japanese prints that Monet loved and which are prominent in the house on the property. All our guests should have their pictures taken on the Japanese bridge.
- We have lunch at the **Restaurant Baudy**, well known for the many American and other foreign artists who came here during Monet's life and after his death. In the back yard is an impressive artist's studio. <http://lacuisinededoria.over-blog.com/article-giverny-ancien-hotel-baudy-105288988.html>
- We then visit the **Saint Radegonde Church** of Giverny, where Monet and several member of his family are buried. [http://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowUserReviews-g187185-d3322447-r231680300-Giverny\\_Church-Giverny\\_Eure\\_Haute\\_Normandie\\_Normandy.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/ShowUserReviews-g187185-d3322447-r231680300-Giverny_Church-Giverny_Eure_Haute_Normandie_Normandy.html) - photos
- Our final stop in Giverny is at the *Musée des Impressionnismes*, which as the name implies, is "dedicated to the Impressionist movement, but also offers an exploration of this aesthetic movement beyond the circle of painters generally recognized as Impressionists." The special exhibition when we visit will be on the works of the French Neo-Impressionist Henri-Edmond Cross (1856-1910), whose landscapes of southern France feature lovely scenes with bold colors. <http://www.mdig.fr/en/henri-edmond-cross?type>

## Aug 10, Fri                      Montmartre, Marmottan Museum, Boat trip on the Seine

- We walk through **Montmartre** with many important historical sites: the Theatre Elysées Montmartre; the statue of the Knight of la Barre; Sacré Coeur church; Place du Tertre, with outdoor painters; Le Lapin Agile, a famous night club; Rue Lépici; and Place Blanche, with the famous Moulin Rouge.
- We visit the **Musée de Montmartre**, with fascinating artistic works and political documents which describe the history of the town on the hill. Renoir had a studio here when painted his famous *Dance at the Moulin de la Galette*.
- Leaving Montmartre, we visit the **Marmottan Museum**, with an outstanding collection of Impressionist paintings, including works by Claude Monet, Berthe Morisot, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Edgar Degas, Édouard Manet, Alfred Sisley, and Camille Pissarro.
- We have dinner in the Place Trocadero, and then take a **boat trip on the Seine**, leaving from under the Eiffel Tower to see the beautiful monuments of Paris illuminated in all their glory.

### Aug 11 Sat                    A Free Day or Optional Visits to Versailles or Vimy Ridge

- We suggest a self-guided visit of the breathtaking **Palace of Versailles**, built over several decades in the 17<sup>th</sup> century at the direction of King Louis XIV. Guests will walk through the fabulous Royal Apartments, with the famous Hall of Mirrors. Equally wonderful are the extensive gardens, with lakes, fountains, trees, and statuary. On weekends the chateau has its “musical fountains show” with music playing in the groves of trees and the fountains running.
- If demand is sufficient, we will arrange a guided tour of **Vimy Ridge**, north of Paris near the city of Arras. In April 1917 all four divisions of the Canadian Corps attacked the ridge, took it, and held it. The battle brought great honor to Canada’s soldiers and helped the progress of Canadian sovereignty. We would visit Vimy Ridge National Historic Site of Canada and see some of the trenches and battle grounds.
- Guests may prefer to take a **free day in Paris**, for shopping and further visiting of this extraordinary city.

### Aug 12 Sun    Auvers-sur-Oise

- We take a hired bus to Auvers-sur-Oise, where we visit:
  - the Chateau d’Auvers, with its “Voyage in the time of the Impressionists;”
  - the Absinthe Museum, which celebrates the famous drink;
  - the Auberge Ravoux, where Van Gogh was living at his death in 1890;
  - the Church at Auvers, which Van Gogh painted in 1890;
  - the cemetery where Van Gogh and his brother Theo are buried side by side;
  - and the town park with a statue of Van Gogh by Zadkine.
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auvers-sur-Oise>

### Aug 13, Mon                    Les Grands Boulevards, Opéra Garnier, Petit Palais

- We walk through the **theatre district** of Paris, with famous sites including Les Folies Bergère; the rue Le Peletier, where Paul Durand-Ruel had his gallery; the Theatre des Variétés; the Opera Comique, where Bizet’s *Carmen* was first performed in 1875; Theatre des Bouffes Parisiennes, the first theatre owned by Jacques Offenbach; 35, Bd des Capucines, site of Nadar's studio, the First Impressionist Exhibition, and Monet's painting: *Boulevard des Capucines*, 1873.
- We take a guided tour of the sumptuous **Garnier Palace**, completed in 1876, and home then and now to great performances of music and dance.
- Time permitting, we conclude the day with a visit to the **Petit Palais**, the Fine Arts Museum of the City of Paris, with works by Ingres, Géricault, Delacroix, Courbet, Monet, Sisley, Pissarro, and Cezanne.

### Aug 14, Tue                    Departure from Paris

**TOUR COST: \$ 3525.00 CND per paying person based on single accommodation**

**\$ 2850.00 CND per paying person based on double accommodation**

**COST INCLUDES:**

- Round trip airport transfers from Charles de Gaulle to Mercure Paris Montmartre hotel and return if flights are booked for arrival August 5 and return August 14. Please confirm with Terri at Ellison Travel.
- 9 nights at Mercure Paris Montmartre Hotel
- 9 breakfast and 2 lunches
- Visits and admission costs (where fees exist) to the following Montmartre Cemetery, Louvre, Orangerie, Orsay, Notre Dame, St. Chapelle, Musee de la Grenouillere, Train to St. Lazare St, Monet's House, St. Radegonde Church, Musee des Impressionnistes, Marmottan, Boat ride on Seine, Chateau d'Auvers, Absinthe Museum, Abergé Ravoux, Church at Auvers, Opera Garnier, Petit Palais
- Bus transport to Bougival, Giverny and Auvers sur Oise
- Includes all applicable taxes and service charges
- Gratuities for bus driver
- 24-hour Ellison Travel & Tours Ltd. Emergency Contact Number while on tour

**NOT INCLUDED:**

- Meals other than mentioned above
- International flights
- Passport photos, government processing fees and visa fee if required

**OPTIONS:**

- Manulife All Inclusive Package Insurance, based on the price of your tour (coverage for all Canadian residents up to the age of 60 who have a **valid provincial health card** - *includes emergency medical coverage, cancellation and interruption, limited baggage insurance – see policy for terms and conditions*) (*ask our agents for details*)
- Manulife Non-Medical Insurance Package Plan – price based on the price of your tour per this quote (coverage for all Canadian residents who have a valid provincial health card – *includes cancellation and interruption and limited baggage insurance.*)

**CLIENT PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS:**

- Terms of Payment are Visa, MasterCard, American Express, cheque or Carlson Wagonlit Travel Gift Certificates (available to purchase with your RBC points)
- **Deposit \$600.00 per person at time of booking**
- **Balance May 23, 2018**

**CANCELLATION PENALTIES:**

- All payments received by Ellison Travel & Tours are 100% non-refundable
- \$40.00 service fee for NSF transactions