

# 9 DAYS

# GLOBAL BOWL FRANCE

## Fans & Family Itinerary



The Louvre Museum's Pyramid Entrance

The Impressive Eiffel Tower in Paris

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Champs Elysees
- Arc De Triomphe
- Eiffel Tower
- Versailles Palace
- Seine River Cruise
- Notre Dame Cathedral
- Louvre Museum
- Loire Valley Chateaux
- D-Day Normandy

## INCLUDED

- Round-trip airfare
- Hotel Accommodation
- 5 nights in Paris
- 2 nights in Amiens
- Private bus
- Buffet Breakfast Daily
- Welcome dinner
- Farewell awards dinner
- Dinner with team
- Tour Director
- Guided sightseeing tours
- Walking Tours
- Entrances to attractions
- Stars & Stripes v Belgium

### Saturday 3/13 > Overnight Flight to Paris

### Sunday 3/14 > Paris Sight-Seeing

What's that huge white arch at the end of the Champs-Élysées? The Arc de Triomphe, commissioned by Napoleon in 1806 after his victory at Austerlitz. A licensed local guide will give the goods on this, and other, Parisian landmarks. Spot chic locals (and tons of tourists) strolling the Champs-Élysées. Look up at the iron girders of the Eiffel Tower, built for the 1889 World's Fair to commemorate the centenary of the French Revolution. See Les Invalides (a refuge for war wounded), the École Militaire (Napoleon's alma mater), and the Conciergerie (the prison where Marie Antoinette was kept during the French Revolution). Then head to the Île de la Cité -- a small island in the Seine -- to see Notre Dame Cathedral. Look up at the great gray spires, grotesque gargoyles, and huge, round stained-glass windows.

Welcome dinner

### Monday 3/15 > Paris Walking Tour

Your Tour Director will show you some of the most famous sites, including the ornate, 19th-century Opera, the Presidential residence, the ultra-chic shops of the Rue du Faubourg St-Honoré, and the gardens of the Tuileries. You'll pass the Place de la Concorde (that pointy thing in the middle is the Obelisk of Luxor, a gift from Egypt in 1836).

### Tuesday 3/16 > Chateaux of the Loire Valley

France's aristocrats began building defensive castles in the Loire Valley in the 11th century. A few hundred years later, their descendants created pleasure palaces among the lush green forests and wandering waterways. Today, sumptuous Renaissance castles stud the banks of the silvery Loire River, the longest in France. But few castles can compete with Château de Chenonceau. Built on a series of arches over the Cher River, Chenonceau was designed by a woman in the 16th century. It was once inhabited by Catherine de Medici, who commissioned the delicate spirals and of the formal gardens, and had the bridge covered by a two-story stone gallery. You'll also visit Château Chambord, the largest and most lavish of the Loire châteaux (and that's saying a lot). It took 1800 workers over a decade to complete the palace for King Francois I, who once suggested that the river be diverted to make a moat (a smaller river was later diverted). The palace has 440 rooms, and in many of them you can see Francois' salamander emblem—reported to have been an appropriately slimy symbol for the king.

### Wednesday 3/17 – Louvre Museum

The world's largest art museum, the Louvre is housed in a medieval fortress-turned-castle so grand it's worth a tour itself. You walk through the 71-foot glass pyramid designed by I.M. Pei and added in 1989, and step into another world-one with carved ceilings, deep-set windows, and so many architectural details, you could spend a week just admiring the rooms. But check out the art on the walls. The Mona Lisa is here, as well as the Venus de Milo and Winged Victory (the headless statue, circa 200 BC, discovered at Samothrace). The Louvre has seven different departments of paintings, prints, drawings, sculptures and antiquities. Don't miss the Egyptian collection, complete with creepy sarcophagi, or the collection of Greek ceramics, one of the largest in the world.

### Thursday 3/18 > Versailles Palace

The ultimate palace, Versailles was built by Louis XIV, and housed the royal family and its groveling court from 1582, when the Sun King moved in, to the French Revolution. Everything in Versailles is worth a look, from the 250-foot-long Hall of Mirrors, with themed salons—"war" and "peace"—on either side, to Marie Antoinette's faux country hamlet. When being a queen became too much to bear, she would pretend to be a commoner, tending her sheep and wearing peasant clothes.

- Eiffel Tower & River Cruise

See the city from the water on an hour-long cruise along the River Seine. The enjoy unparalleled views from the summit of the Eiffel Tower.

- Dinner with team

### Friday 3/19 > D-Day Normandy

See the D-Day beaches where on June 6, 1944, thousands of Allied troops landed in an effort to recapture the coast from Germany. All along the beaches, deserted German bunkers have been turned into memorials and the stark white crosses and stars that mark the cemeteries are grim reminders of the war. Visit Omaha Beach, the site of the landing of the American 1st division and walk through the American cemetery commemorating their sacrifice. Continue to Amiens where you will spend the next two evenings.

### Saturday 3/20 > Game Day & Awards Dinner

Enjoy a game against the Belgium national junior team in Amiens (100 miles north of Paris) and relax afterwards and make new friends and reminisce on your adventures and game at the post-game awards dinner.

### Sunday 3/21 > Flight home