

 **Duration**
8 days

 **Activity Level**
Active Travel

 **Journey Type**
Land



Paris featuring the African American Experience

September 5-13, 2026

Starting from \$4,945/pp

In the years following World War I, Paris offered unparalleled freedoms and opportunities for African Americans to work and live in a way not possible in America. During thoughtfully curated excursions, gain an in-depth perspective on the profound, lasting influence and contributions of Paris's African American expatriates and luminaries. You'll also experience Paris' storied arrondissements, celebrated cuisine, inspiring jazz music and a magical evening cruise on the Seine — with ample free time to explore on your own!



Day-by-Day Itinerary

Paris ~ featuring the African American Experience

Air Program: 9 days/8 nights (includes 1 air night)

Land Program: 8 days/7 nights

Breakfasts: 7

Lunches: 2

Receptions: 2

Dinners: 3

B | L | D denotes included breakfasts, lunches, receptions and dinners.

- A special note about air: If you have purchased only the Land Program, please book flights that arrive on Day 2, the first day of the Land Program. The date is listed at the top of your Reservation Confirmation.
- This itinerary is subject to change due to operational conditions.
- This ACTIVE program is designed for people who are in good health and can comfortably participate in a demanding daily schedule of physical activities. The itinerary may feature full days of ongoing activities. Excursions on this program require:
 - walking distances of up to 3 miles on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces, and walking up and down narrow, steep streets with cobblestones and/or uneven surfaces
 - navigating 100 or more stairs to get in and out of Métro stations (elevators are often not available)
 - getting on/off motor coaches, Métro trains and a boat on your own
- Paris recently enacted new restrictions on where coach buses can circulate within the city limits. Therefore, additional walking may be required.

Day 1 | Depart gateway city

Paris, France

AHI FlexAir passengers depart for Paris, France. Please check your luggage from your gateway city to your arrival city. Your claim checks should have the following airport code: CDG.

Day 2 | Paris, France

Crowne Plaza Place de la République

D

Arrive at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport. Proceed through immigration to the baggage claim area and retrieve your luggage. After completing customs, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for the group arrival transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer should exit the baggage claim area and proceed to the designated meeting spot, where an AHI Travel representative will meet you. The meeting location will be provided with your final documents.

Transfer to the first-class Crowne Plaza Place de la République. Please note that if you arrive before check-in time, your room may not be immediately available.

Welcome to Paris! Join your Travel Director for a short orientation walk to get to know the neighborhood around your hotel and learn how to use Paris' famous Métro subway.

Welcome Reception & Dinner. Meet your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception at the hotel, followed by a Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 3 | Paris

Crowne Plaza Place de la République

B | L

Breakfast will be served at the hotel each morning.

Spirit of Black Paris. Today, you'll be introduced to Paris' African American history during a city coach and walking tour. Discover the Paris that welcomed Josephine Baker, Langston Hughes and other African American luminaries. From Sally Hemings to Richard Wright, African Americans have long found an acceptance in Paris that they did not find at home in the United States. See the favorite haunts of Langston Hughes, W.E.B. DuBois, James Baldwin and others as you ride along the Champs Elysees, drive up the narrow, hilly streets of Lower Montmartre, past Luxembourg Garden and through the Latin Quarter and other Paris districts.

Along the way, your guide will overlay the achievements and challenges of African American expatriates, Afro-Caribbean and African immigrants. You'll see and learn about the Black heritage connection to the Louvre; the Madeleine Church, which hosted Josephine Baker's funeral; the Grand Opera where Marian Anderson performed; Langston Hughes' impoverished home turf near the Moulin Rouge; the grand museums where the African American art competed alongside international contenders; and aviator Eugene Bullard lighting the Flame to the Unknown Soldier at the Arc de Triomphe. Your guide will share stories and analyses and point out distinguishing features of each district that expatriates would have experienced. Along the way, stop in the city's south end for a more in-depth discussion at the Josephine Baker marker. In the north end, see the memorials and statues celebrating three generations of Alexandre Dumas' family and learn how they illustrate France's relations with slavery and race.

Conclude the tour with lunch at a local Parisian restaurant.

Free Time: Indulge in some time at leisure to discover the city. You may wish to remain in Le Marais, where the narrow lanes give you an idea of what the area looked like during the Middle Ages. Browse through art galleries and stylish boutiques or stroll through Place des Vosges, Paris' first square. Also, Notre-Dame Cathedral has reopened! Ask your Travel Director how to obtain tickets online on the day you wish to visit inside the cathedral.

Venture out for dinner at a wonderful Parisian café or restaurant for dinner this evening on your own. Your Travel Director can assist you with recommendations.

Day 4 | Paris

Crowne Plaza Place de la République

B

AHI Connects| Documentary Screening with the Filmmakers: View the 2016 documentary "Paris Noir: African Americans in the City of Light." The film explores the relationship between Paris and African American expatriates in the decades following World War I. After the screening, engage in a question-and-answer session with the filmmakers.

Montmartre's Entertainers of the 1920s. On a guided walking tour, explore Montmartre and learn about the influence of the Harlem Renaissance and jazz in Paris. The U.S. Army's 369th Infantry Regiment soldiers are credited with introducing jazz to Europe during World War I. Nicknamed the Harlem Hellfighters by the Germans for their valiant and fearless battlefield fighting, the unit significantly impacted French culture. Before the Hellfighters returned home with medals on their chests, they left the French hungry for American jazz. A similar movement bloomed in Paris' Montmartre district as the seminal Harlem Renaissance blossomed in New York. The city fell in love with the cultural scene created by African American musicians, entertainers and club owners. You'll also see the nightclubs owned by legends Bricktop and Eugene Bullard to gain further insight into how African American culture influenced European culture.

Free Time: The rest of the afternoon is at leisure. The city brims with historic landmarks, museums, world-class shopping and more! Don't miss the opportunity to walk down the Champs Élysées, one of the most recognizable boulevards in the world, to the Arc de Triomphe or go to the top of the Eiffel Tower for the best view of the city.

Try another Parisian café or brasserie for dinner on your own this evening in the City of Light!

Day 5 | Paris

Crowne Plaza Place de la République

B

Flavors of France. Step into the world of French gastronomy in the neighborhood next to the Champs-de-Mars, a park stretching from the foot of the Eiffel Tower. It's only fitting that this walking food discovery occurs in the area where Paris' 16th-century market garden once existed. Discover and sample some of the city's best artisan-made foods with an expert leading the way. Depending on the season, tastings may include cheese, French wine, truffles, foie gras, Provençal sweets and traditional biscuits.

Free Time: The remainder of the afternoon and evening are at your leisure, including lunch and dinner on your own.

Day 6 | Paris

Crowne Plaza Place de la République

B | D

Free Time: If you have opted not to join today's Elective Activity excursion to Versailles, spend the day charting your own itinerary in Paris. Your Travel Director will be available to offer suggestions on sightseeing, shopping and dining.

Elective Activity: Palace of Versailles. Travel to France's grandest palace today! Versailles, a baroque château that was once the kingdom's political capital and the seat of the royal court, delights visitors with its ornately painted ceilings, rich tapestries and lavish galleries. With your local guide, step back in time to walk in the footsteps of kings, queens and courtiers. Tour the palace, stroll the regal gardens, and see the Grand Trianon and Petit Trianon, including Marie-Antoinette's estate. See the Hall of Mirrors, the lavishly decorated room where the Treaty of Versailles was signed. After your guided tour, enjoy some time at leisure for lunch and further exploration on your own. Perhaps view the remarkable Neptune Fountain or stroll the labyrinthine walkways and paths of the gardens. Available at an additional cost

An Evening of Jazz. Trace the evolution of French jazz during a tour of Saint-Germain-des-Prés and the Latin Quarter. After World War II, African American jazz musicians played to adoring audiences at the clubs here. Learn why the clubs are called "caves" and hear stories about the great musicians that graced their stages. Then, experience Parisian jazz firsthand as you settle in at the jazz club to enjoy a delicious dinner and a concert.

Day 7 | Paris

Crowne Plaza Place de la République

B | L

Pioneers of the Left Bank. African American expatriates, along with other communities of the African diaspora, flourished on the Left Bank. Enjoy an enlightening walking tour with a local guide focusing on the Pantheon and the Sorbonne, two iconic symbols of greatness. On your tour, you'll explore the explosion of Black consciousness and expression through the Négritude Movement, Harlem Renaissance writers, and African and Caribbean intellectuals. As you pass by the Sorbonne, your guide discusses the far-reaching significance of the First International Congress of Black Writers and Artists held in 1956, featuring such speakers as Richard Wright, Léopold Senghor, Aimé Césaire and Frantz Fanon. You'll also see where Wright, author of "Uncle Tom's Children" and "Native Son," lived with his wife and two daughters.

Following your insightful excursion, enjoy a group lunch.

Enrichment: An African American Writer in Paris Today. Award-winning writer Jake Lamar, a Bronx transplant in Paris, discusses his experiences in Paris, where he has lived since 1993. A Harvard University graduate, former Time magazine writer and creative writing teacher, Lamar has written six novels, a play, a memoir, and many short stories, essays, and articles. His latest book, "Viper's Dream," is set in the jazz world of mid-century Harlem.

Free Time: The afternoon is free to explore on your own. Take in some of the city's wonderful museums or stroll through the Luxembourg Garden. Dinner is on your own tonight, either before or after your cruise.

Sunset Cruise. Sunset Seine River Cruise. Delight in a cruise on the Seine to see an illuminated Paris from the vantage point of this storied waterway. Glide along the UNESCO World Heritage-listed banks to gaze at world-famous sites, including Notre-Dame Cathedral, the Louvre Museum and Île Saint-Louis. Pass beneath elegant, ornate bridges and the iconic Pont Neuf, Paris' oldest bridge spanning the remarkable and historic Île de la City, which connects the Left and Right banks.

Day 8 | Paris

Crowne Plaza Place de la République

B | D

Musée du Quai Branly. Join an expert guide in the Musée du Quai Branly – Jacques Chirac, one of Paris' premier cultural institutions. Designed by architect Jean Nouvel and opened in 2006, the building is striking, innovative, modern, and bold. One of the most striking features is the distinctive, “living” green exterior wall designed by botanist Patrick Blanc. This living wall covers most of the building's exterior, creating a visually intriguing façade that blends nature with contemporary design. The greenery also adds an element of natural beauty to the urban environment, integrating with the surrounding landscape along the banks of the Seine River. Relish a guided tour of the Musée du Quai Branly, featuring collections focused on non-European cultures with a rich variety of art, artifacts, textiles and cultural objects from Oceania, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

Free Time: Make the most of your final afternoon in Paris! If shopping appeals to you, visit one of the city's famous department stores or stroll through the charming 19th-century glass-roofed Les Passages Couverts. A hidden Parisian gem, the delightful, elegant shopping and dining arcades feature mosaic tile floors, large windows, intricate moldings and decorative details blending Neo-classical and Belle Epoque architectural styles — a must-see for an intimate glimpse of Parisian life!

Farewell Reception and Dinner. This evening, celebrate your time together in this enchanting city at a Farewell Reception in the hotel, followed by a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 9 | Depart for gateway city

B

After breakfast, check out of the hotel.

AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for a group transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer depart for Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport for your return flights home. Your Travel Director will provide the details.

Note: This itinerary may change due to local conditions.



What's Included

Program Overview

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- 7 nights in Paris, France, at the first-class Crowne Plaza Place de la Republique.
- AHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact in the communities we visit.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners and 2 receptions.
- AHI Connects: Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Dinners to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Opportunities to sample authentic cuisine and local flavors.



On-site Features

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program with baggage handling.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.

FlexAir Travel Program

Need assistance booking your travel arrangements? Our experts are here to help. Our air program offers the following benefits.

Trip Transportation

- Assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays
- Arrival and departure transfers on group dates

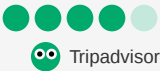
Price Guarantee

- Price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase

Travel and Hotel Accommodations

Crowne Plaza Paris République

The Crowne Plaza Paris République is centrally located near the vibrant Marais district, with convenient access to the Paris Métro. Housed in a beautiful historic 19th-century building, the hotel features spacious contemporary guest rooms, a peaceful outdoor courtyard and interior terrace (weather permitting), and a fine-dining restaurant, hotel bar and fitness center. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



Pricing

Trip Price (USD)	
Base Price	\$4,945
You Pay	\$4,945 per person

Package rates are per person based on Double occupancy from Land Only. Prices include all service charges; port charges when applicable; U.S. government taxes and fees. The minimum deposit is \$750.00 per person. To view Program Terms and conditions please click [here](#). 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.

*Full Payment Discounts are only available at the time of booking with initial payment 120+ days prior to departure. This offer only applies to full payment at the time of reservation. Details on how to qualify for this savings will be included when your reservation request is confirmed.

