

# STS TOURS

7181 Woodbine Ave, Suite 114. Markham, Ontario. L3R 1A3  
Tel: (905) 415-2552 Fax: (905) 415-2557  
Toll Free: 1-800-663-5013  
[Sts1@sts-tours.com](mailto:Sts1@sts-tours.com) [www.sts-tours.com](http://www.sts-tours.com)



## France & Italy Tour Prepared for PSB/Interplay Dance July 2012

### **Day 1: Saturday June 30: Toronto – Paris**

Depart from Toronto on an overnight flight to Paris. Meals will be served at appropriate times and headsets will be supplied so you may enjoy the full-length movie and the many audio channels available.

### **Day 2: Sunday July 1: Paris (D)**

Arrive Paris. After clearing immigration and customs, you will be met by your tour guide and taken to your awaiting tour coach. En route to your centrally located accommodation, *enjoy a guided sightseeing tour of this unique city: see the Tour Eiffel, Les Grands Boulevards, l'Opéra, Place de la Concorde, Les Champs Elysées, l'Arc de Triomphe, Les Invalides, and visit Notre Dame Cathedral.*

Paris is a city of perfume and charm, everlastingly beautiful and unchanged. No other city possesses night-time attractions as varied or as numerous. No other city lavished such energy and attention upon its music-halls and cabarets: such names as "Opéra Comique", "Folies Bergère" and "Casino de Paris" are famous around the world. The twenty arrondissements (districts) of Paris are in the form of a clockwise spiral around the Hôtel de Ville. There are very few places in Paris which are further than 400 metres from a Métro station.

Dinner and overnight in Paris – FIAP or similar.

### **Day 3: Monday July 2: Paris (B/D)**

*This morning, you will go on a guided excursion to Versailles*, the creation of the French monarchy at the moment of its greatest splendour. Consisting of the great palace, the gardens and the Trianons, it is a wonderful harmonious composition of building and landscape, a unique expression of the vitality of French art during the 17th-18th century. Between 1682 and 1789, Versailles was the seat of government and France's political capital. Today the chateau of Versailles seems outrageously large, but in 1682 when Louis XIV took up residence it housed about 15,000 noblemen, servants, and hangers-on who moved in with Louis. Built between 1662 and 1690 it took 26,000 labourers and soldiers to construct. See the Grand Appartement, Hall of Mirrors, King's and Queen's suites, as well as many other sights. After the tour of Versailles Palace, return to Paris for an independent lunch and tour of the Louvre.

*After lunch, tour the Louvre Museum with your guide.* This former Royal Palace, transformed by the Revolution into a museum, lays claim to the title of "Most beautiful museum in the world". You will enter through I.M.Pei's pyramids, highlights of the major modernization program; in the course of their construction the medieval foundations were unearthed and are displayed as an integral part of the museum's collection. Containing over 200,000 works of art in 225 galleries, it is impossible to view them all so you must be very selective. Some of the most famous exhibits are: Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa, the soaring 3rd century BC statue

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Victory of Somathrace, the celebrated Vénus de Milo (2nd century BC) and the realistic Egyptian Seated Scribe.  
Remainder of your day is at leisure.

## **Day 4: Tuesday July 3: Paris (B/D)**

Entire day at leisure for personal sightseeing.

***This evening, take a journey along the Seine on the Bateaux Mouches. You will see a floodlit Paris from the river (Bateaux Mouches tickets provided but group will have to make their own way to and from Bateaux Mouches).***

## **Day 5: Wednesday July 4: Paris – Marseille (B)**

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight to Marseille.

Upon arrival, transfer to your accommodations in Marseille which are arranged by PSB/Interplay Dance. **End of STS services for the next 7 days: Day 5-Day 12.**

## **Day 6: Thursday July 5: Marseille**

## **Day 7: Friday July 6: Marseille**

## **Day 8: Saturday July 7: Marseille**

## **Day 9: Sunday July 8: Marseille**

## **Day 10: Monday July 9: Marseille**

## **Day 11: Tuesday July 10: Marseille**

## **Day 12: Wednesday July 11: Marseille – Gorge du Verdon – Lac de St. Croix – Marseille**

***Today's self-guided excursion** takes you to *Gorge du Verdon*, know as "The Grand Canyon" of France. This gorge, a 21km long winding corridor, varies from 6-100 metres wide at the bottom and 200-1500 metres wide at the top, cuts through the limestone plateau of Haute-Provence.*

Travelling along the sublime cornice you will see impressive ravines, the views down the canyon are superb with immense horizons opening up it finishes at *Lac de St Croix*. With the construction of the dam, the lake was enlarged to cover over 6000 acres.

Return to Marseille in the late afternoon.

## **Day 13: Thursday July 12: Marseille / Les Baux-de-Provence / Bonnieux / Marseille**

***Full day self-guided excursion to Les Baux and Bonnieux.*** Depart early this morning and make your way to Les Baux-de-Provence where you will spend the first part of today's excursion. After lunch you will continue on to Bonnieux. Explore this lovely town on your own. In the late afternoon, make your way back to Marseille.

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## **Day 14: Friday July 13: Marseille – Aix en Provence – Marseille**

*Transfer this morning to Aix en Provence.* This charming town is rich in culture, colourful markets, architecture and monuments. *Following a guided tour*, you will have the opportunity to further explore these treasures by simply walking around town.

Transfer back to Marseille in the late afternoon.

## **Day 15: Saturday July 14: Marseille – Cassis – Marseille**

*Depart early this morning to Cassis.* Cassis is a small fishing port with a beautiful harbour where you see many yachts and tourist boats visiting the Calanques. The *calanques* are deep narrow inlets, sort of Provençal fiords, in the rocky cliffs along the coast between Cassis and Marseilles.

Return to Marseille for overnight.

## **Day 16: Sunday July 15: Marseille – Venice (D)**

*Upon arrival at Venice airport, you will be met by an STS Representative (Tour Manager) and assisted to the Vaporetto for transfer to your hotel.* After check in, take a walk with your tour manager and get acquainted with your surroundings. The “Queen of the Adriatic” is considered by many to be the most unusual city in the world. Built for defense on a group of tiny islands, it is a labyrinth of 150 canals; graced by hundreds of bridges and abounded with narrow alleys and canyon-like footpaths. The vast S-shaped Grand Canal flows serenely under the Rialto Bridge and past more than 200 palaces lining its two and a half mile course. Much of the architectural splendor of Venice is of Byzantine, Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance marble. Enjoy a welcome dinner this evening.

**Hotel Belle Arti or similar.**

## **Day 17: Monday July 16: Venice (B/D)**

After breakfast, *meet your guide and enjoy a full day tour of Venice.* The tour is highlighted by a visit to *St. Mark’s Cathedral* where you can see the *Pala d’Oro*, a magnificent jewel encrusted altar piece whose origin dates back to 1105. Walk around St. Mark’s Square and see the Clock Tower whose two huge bronze Moors parade and strike the time every quarter hour. Also included is a visit to *Doge’s Palace* which is of striking beauty. It contains works of the great Venetian masters: Tintoretto, Bellini, Tiepolo, Veronese, Tiziano and Carpaccio.

**The afternoon is at leisure for personal sightseeing.**

You may want to explore the islands of *Burano*, the picturesque centre of the Venetian lace industry and *Murano* the centuries-old glass-blowing centre.

Dinner and overnight in Venice.

## **Day 18: Tuesday July 17: Venice – Florence (B/D)**

After breakfast, travel to Florence. Upon arrival, enjoy a *guided walking tour of Florence.* The name “City of Flowers” is very appropriate because flowers grow in abundance in its gardens

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and fields. With its river, bridges, cupolas, market places, fine squares, streets and boulevards, it is a marvellous sight.

*During the three hundred years between 12c to 15c, some of the greatest architects of all time lived in Florence; men like Arnolfo di Cambio (the Duomo), Giotto (Campanile), Michelozza (the Medici Palace), Alberti (the Rucellai Palace) and above all Brunelleschi (the vast span of the dome of S.Maria del Fiore) - and worked on the great masterpieces which are the glory of the city today.*

See / visit: Piazza de la Signoria with Neptun's fountain, Giotto's Bell Tower, the Baptistry's bronze doors, the Cathedral with it's famous cupola built by Bruneschi, Church of Santa Croce and the Town Hall.

Dinner and overnight in Florence. **Hotel Corona d'Italia or similar.**

## **Day 19: Wednesday July 18: Florence (B/D)**

This morning visit the *Accademia Museum*, the centre of art known from the medieval time which house priceless collection of sculptures and painting. Here you will see an extraordinary group of Michelangelo sculptures. There are seven in all, the most admired of them is David; the most famous male nude in the history of art.

This afternoon is at leisure. You may wish to spend some time at the San Lorenzo open air market with over 500 booths selling typical Florentine souvenirs.

## **Day 20: Thursday July 19: Florence (B)**

Entire day at leisure for personal activities.

## **Day 21: Friday July 20: Florence – Siena – Rome (B/D)**

Following breakfast, board your coach and travel to the medieval walled city of *Siena*. It is one of Italy's great art centres with a profusion of fine architecture. Perched on three dramatic hills, Siena's Piazza del Campo is shaped like a gigantic seashell and is considered to be one of the most magnificent sites in the world. *Enjoy a guided tour of Siena including a visit to the remarkable black and white Cathedral.*

Following lunch (approximately 14h00), continue on to Rome.

Upon arrival, check in and freshen up for dinner. **Hotel Medici or similar.**

## **Day 22: Saturday July 21: Rome (B/D)**

*Full day guided tour of magnificent Rome and Vatican City.* The tour is highlighted by a visit to the *Colosseum*. See Palatino Hill, Piazza Venezia, Piazza Navona, Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, and much more.

Following an independent lunch you will visit Vatican City. The Vatican has its own flag and national anthem, mints its own coinage, prints its own postage stamps, has its own polyglot daily newspaper and is an independent state ruled by the Pope, the only absolute sovereign in Europe. All these activities take place in an area just over 100 acres, a considerable part of which is taken up by St. Peter's, the world's largest basilica in the world's smallest state. Your tour includes *St*

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*Peter's basilica, the Vatican Museum, and Sistine Chapel*, famous for its beautiful ceiling painted by Michelangelo.

Dinner and overnight in Rome.

## **Day 23: Sunday July 22: Rome (B)**

Entire day at leisure for personal sightseeing.

## **Day 24: Monday July 23: Rome – Toronto (B)**

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to Canada.

**Cost based on 30-35 paying passengers sharing in triple/quad occupancy:  
\$4,195 package cost (excluding tax)**

## **Cost Includes:**

- Round trip airfare: Toronto – Paris – Rome – Toronto (**Based on Air Transat flights**)
- Domestic Flights: Paris – Marseille & Marseille – Venice
- All airport transfers by private coach

## **France Program:**

- Assistance by a professional guide upon arrival in Paris
- 3 nights accommodation with private facilities in Paris – FIAP or similar – students in multiple bedded rooms.
- Chaperones/Adults in twin occupancy rooms.
- Continental breakfast & dinner in Paris
- Guided sightseeing tour of Paris including Notre Dame Cathedral
- Full day guide on Day 3 for tour of Versailles and Louvre Museum
- Coach transportation to Versailles and Louvre (Day 3)
- Bateaux Mouches tickets
- Motor coach at your disposal for Days 12, 13, 14 and 15
- Guided tour of Aix-en-Provence

## **Italy Program:**

- Accommodations in 3 star centrally located hotels with private facilities: 2 nights in Venice, 3 nights in Florence, 3 nights in Rome – triple/quad occupancy
- Chaperones/Adults in twin occupancy
- Continental breakfast daily
- 6 Dinners (3 course meals excluding drinks)
- Professional Tour Escort included upon arrival in Venice (9 days)
- Transfer from Venice airport to hotel by Water Taxi

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- Transfer from Venice hotel to Tronchetto – coach pick up for Florence transfer
- Coach transfer Venice to Florence
- Coach transfer Florence to Siena to Rome
- Half-day guided tour of Venice
- 1-Day Vaporetto Pass (Day 17)
- Entrance fees: Doges Palace in Venice, Accademia Gallery in Florence, Colosseum and Vatican Museums in Rome.
- Guided walking tour of Florence
- Guided tour of Accademia Gallery
- Guided tour of Siena
- Full day guide and coach for tour of Rome including Colosseum and Vatican
- Local taxes and service charges

## Exclusions:

- **Air/Departure Tax: \$565** (subject to change and cannot be guaranteed until tickets are issued)
- **All Inclusive Travel Insurance for 24 Days: \$240** (students up to 29 years of age)
- **Single Occupancy Supplement: \$550**
- **Adult / Twin Occupancy Supplement: \$175**
- Any meals not listed above
- Drinks with meals
- Any attractions not listed above
- Tips and gratuities for guides, drivers and tour escort
- **Insurance Coverage for adults as follows:**

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## **ALL-INCLUSIVE (cancellation/interruption/medical insurance)**

<b>Insurance Premium for 24 Day Tour</b>	<b>30-59 years</b>	<b>60-64 years</b>	<b>65-69 years</b>
Sum Insured \$5000 (twin occupancy)	\$326	\$479	\$554
Sum Insured \$5400 (single occupancy)	\$354	\$499	\$578

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## **SEMI-INCLUSIVE (non-medical)**

<b>Insurance Premium for 24 Day Tour</b>	<b>30-59 years</b>	<b>60-64 years</b>	<b>65-69 years</b>
Sum Insured \$5000 (twin occupancy)	\$271	\$315	\$354

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Sum Insured \$5400 (single occupancy)	\$287	\$335	\$378
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## METHOD OF PAYMENT

Please make cheques payable to Student Travel Society Inc. as follows:

\*\* If you choose to use Credit (Visa only), a 3% surcharge will apply

- **\$500 + Applicable insurance with application form due July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011**
- **\$1000 Post-dated for September 28, 2011**
- **\$1000 Post-dated for January 27, 2012 (If single or twin supplement applies, please include with this payment)**
- **Balance due April 27, 2012**

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**Returned Cheque:** A fee of \$30 will be charged if cheque returned by bank N.S.F.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

Once deposit is received this tour is guaranteed. Any cancellation made must be submitted IN WRITING to this office. Penalties for any cancellation are to be assessed according to the date of receipt of such cancellation as follows:

- Outside 120 days prior to departure: \$500 + cost of insurance non-refundable
- Between 119 – 60 days prior to departure: 50% + cost of insurance, if any
- Between 59 – 30 days prior to departure: 75% + cost of insurance, if any
- 29 days or less: 100% Non Refundable

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## SPECIAL REQUESTS

Special requests, for example, in-flight meal requirements, in-flight seating requirements, dietary/allergic meal requirements cannot be guaranteed by S.T.S. TOURS. While S.T.S. TOURS will attempt to accommodate such special requests, S.T.S. TOURS will not be held responsible if such special requests cannot be fulfilled.

**FINAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Flight times, hotel telephone numbers, etc., will be sent out about 2 weeks prior to departure.

**PROGRAM :** This program is subject to change mainly in the order of events.

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**A VALID PASSPORT IS ESSENTIAL AND MUST BE VALID FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS BEYOND THE INTENDED LENGTH OF STAY.**

**TRAVEL REGISTRATION NO: 2659042**

**June 16, 2011**