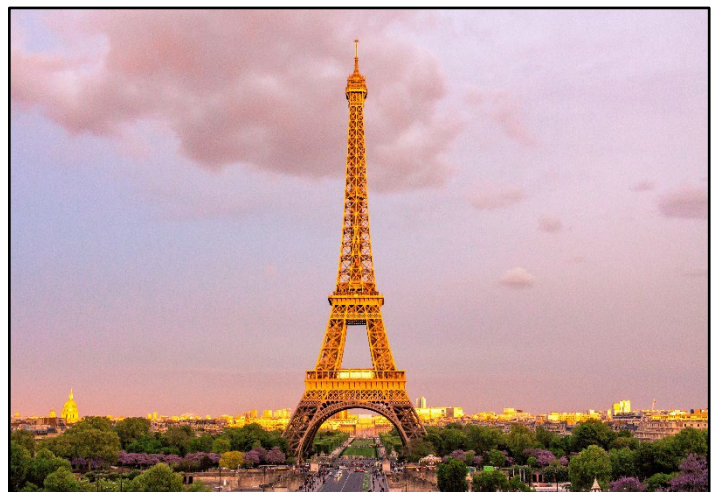


# EUROPEAN INNOVATION: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



JANUARY 8-20, 2024

**Day 1 ~ Monday, January 8, 2024****USA/ En Route**

Depart the United States flying overnight to Florence, Italy.

**Day 2 ~ Tuesday, January 9, 2024****Florence**

Arrive to Florence Airport and continue to a **local restaurant for lunch**. Enjoy a **short introduction to Italy's favorite Renaissance city – Firenze**, listening to intriguing tales of feuding painters, Medici rulers and religious fanatics, who all left their mark on the city. The excitement, artistry, and intrigue of Medieval and Renaissance Florence truly comes alive, strolling through this glorious city and its maze of backstreets. Learn about Florence's most important highlights, including the gigantic **Duomo** - the city's most famous Cathedral with its iconic dome, **Piazza della Repubblica**, **Piazza della Signoria** - home to the **Uffizi Gallery** and **Palazzo Vecchio**, and **Ponte Vecchio** - Florence's oldest bridge. Enjoy a refreshing **gelato, granita, or freshly baked pastry** before heading to the hotel.

**Overnight: Florence (D)**

**Day 3 ~ Wednesday, January 10, 2024****Florence**

This morning, visit the **Galileo Museum**, home to the only surviving instruments designed and built by Galileo himself. Step back in time to discover one of the greatest minds in history and journey **along the pathways that led to Galileo's confirmation of the Copernican structure of the universe**. On show are the two most **important original telescopes**, and the **objective lens of the telescope** with which Galileo discovered Jupiter's moons. With over 1,000 original instruments and devices of major scientific importance and exceptional beauty on display, learn about the historical context and functions of these instruments, with several demonstrations along the way. Continue with a guided tour, discovering all about the intricate architecture behind the construction of the famous "**Cupola**", with a visit to the wonderful museum of the **Opera del Duomo**. With over 750 works of art covering 720 years of history, admire the largest concentration of **Florentine monumental sculptures in the world**. Explore the medieval and Renaissance statues and reliefs in marble, bronze, and silver by the leading artists of the era including masterpieces from **Donatello, Verrocchio and Michelangelo**. Most of the displays were specifically designed to adorn the interior or exterior of the religious monuments that still stand on the museum's doorstep: the **Baptistry of San Giovanni**, the **Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore** (the "**Duomo**"), and **Giotto's Bell Tower**.

**Overnight: Florence (B,D)**

**Day 4 ~ Thursday, January 11, 2024****Pisa/Florence**

This morning, depart for a half-day excursion to the legendary city of **Pisa**. Embark on a walking tour of the world-renowned **Piazza dei Miracoli** (Field of Miracles) and the iconic **Leaning Tower**. Admire the **Baptistry**, the **Campo Santo** and the **Duomo**, learning more about these magnificent buildings before **climbing to the top of the leaning tower of Pisa** and posing for a photo! Walk along **Knights' Square** (Piazza dei Cavalieri), Pisa's second most famous square and the city's political center throughout Medieval times. Head back to **Florence** after lunch, visiting the **Galleria dell' Accademia**, where the world's most celebrated statue awaits. Marvel at **Michelangelo's exquisite David**; a colossal 17-foot sculpture inspired by the biblical hero renowned for killing the giant Goliath. Afterwards, continue to the awe-inspiring **Uffizi Gallery** where, by visiting the halls on the 2nd floor, you can admire some of Florence's most striking works of art from the 13th through to the 18th centuries including **Botticelli's Birth of Venus** and **Leonardo da Vinci's Annunciation**.

**Overnight: Florence (B,D)**

**Day 5 ~ Friday, January 12, 2024****Florence/Zurich/Bern**

Morning flight to **Zurich**. Transfer to **Bern**, and begin exploring this **medieval city** that features fountains, cobbled streets, unique monuments, and a well-preserved old town - a designated **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

**Overnight: Bern (B,D)**

### Day 6 ~ Saturday, January 13, 2024

Bern

This morning, embark on a walking tour of the wonderfully preserved **medieval Old Town** of the federal capital and **university city of Bern**. Learn about various points of interest dotted around this beautiful city, which was designated a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 1983. Visit Bern's **15th-century Gothic cathedral** and attempt the 344-step climb up the spiral staircase for stupendous views. Continue to **Zytglogge**, Bern Old Town's most famous landmark - this marvelous ornate clock tower dates from the early 13th century and is said to have played a role in Albert Einstein's development of his theory of relativity. As people gather on the hour to **see the mechanical figures perform all the way through to the clock's famous third crow**, receive a **behind-the-scenes private tour** to follow the clock's movements step by step, from inside the tower. Visit **Einstein's apartment**, where his family resided for two years during which he pioneered this revolutionary theory. Admire the impressive **Parliament building** at the edge of the old town, home to the Swiss Federal Government. This afternoon, head to a **local chocolate boutique** and immerse yourself in the **wonderful world of Swiss chocolate**. **Meet a professional chocolatier**, getting the opportunity to discover the artistry goes into creating chocolate. **Try your hand at becoming a master chocolatier**, under expert guidance, to make and sample these delicious treats yourself - the perfect way to round off your experience Later, **lace up into ice skates** and glide across the ice on the **600-square-meter illuminated rink**, before dinner in a local restaurant.  
**Overnight: Bern (B,D)**

### Day 7 ~ Sunday, January 14, 2024

Geneva/ Paris

This morning, an important visit to **CERN**, the **European Organization for Nuclear Research**, where physicists and engineers are probing the fundamental structure of the universe. The name CERN is derived from the acronym for the French 'Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire', or European Council for Nuclear Research, a provisional body founded in 1952 with the mandate of establishing a world-class fundamental physics research organization in Europe. At that time, pure physics research concentrated on understanding the inside of the atom, hence the word 'nuclear'. **Discover the mysteries of the Universe** and the work of the **world's biggest physics laboratory** through a **guided tour of the permanent exhibitions**. Afternoon train to the city of lights, and love, - **Paris!**  
**Overnight: Paris (B,D)**

### Day 8 ~ Monday, January 15, 2024

Paris

**Paris** boasts some of the most famous landmarks and museums in the world. Embark on a panoramic tour, seeing sights such as the **Eiffel Tower**, **Arc de Triomphe**, **Champs-Élysées** and the **Ile de la Cité**. Pause here to view the exterior of beautiful **Notre Dame Cathedral**, a Gothic masterpiece that has become one of the world's most recognizable places of worship, as they work to rebuild following the tragic fire of 2019. **Discover the highest point in the city**, **La Butte Montmartre**, forever associated with the Bohemian lifestyles of the late nineteenth century. The area is known for its **steep cobblestone streets and its charming village-like atmosphere**, which has attracted artists, musicians, and writers for centuries. Walk up to the **Sacré-Coeur Basilica** for spectacular views over the city. Next up, the **National Air and Space Museum of France**, one of the first aeronautics museums in the world, both for its age and the wealth of its collections. Founded in 1919, it features an exceptional historic ensemble in the three domains of flight: aerostation, aviation, and space. Thanks to a rich collection, the museum tells the incredible story of mankind's skyward journey. **Board and explore the Boeing 747, the Dakota and two Concorde and discover the secrets of these legendary planes**. The **Paris-Le Bourget control tower**, restored in its 1953 architecture, is one of the rare few to be open to the public. Enjoy the **extraordinary view of the airport's runways**, and when the sky is clear, of the **Sacré-Coeur and the Eiffel Tower**. The Museum also offers **40 interactive activities**, aspiring pilots and astronauts will get to **board the cockpit of a commercial plane, observe an airport's activity from a control tower, and discover the planets of the solar system**.

**Overnight: Paris (B,D)**

**Day 9 ~ Tuesday, January 16, 2024****Paris/ Greenwich/London**

Leave Paris behind and board the train to **London**. On arrival, transfer to **Greenwich**. Visit the remarkable **Royal Observatory**, known throughout the world as the location for the prime meridian, which gave its name to Greenwich Mean Time. Continue to **London**, gaining a spectacular panorama of the city during a **flight on a private pod in the London Eye**, the world's largest cantilevered observation wheel, which is located on the **South Bank of the River Thames**.

**Overnight: London (B,D)****Day 10 ~ Wednesday, January 17, 2024****London**

Head north out of London to **Bletchley Park**, which was once Britain's best kept secret. During World War II, it was of vital importance to the national security and the ultimate victory in the war. Codebreakers studied and devised methods to enable the Allied forces to decipher the military codes and ciphers that secured German, Japanese, and other Axis nation's communications. Explore some of the iconic **World War II code-breaking huts** and **marvel at the astonishing achievements** of the **codebreakers** whose work is said to have helped shorten the war by two years. Later, visit the **National Museum of Computing (TNMOC)**, housing arguably the biggest collection of historic computers in Europe. TNMOC is a tenant of Bletchley Park Trust, which manages the entire **Bletchley Park estate**, the de facto home of the British codebreaking operation during World War II in its previous incarnation. TNMOC offers the chance to **experience and understand the evolution of United Kingdom's computing history** from its clandestine use by the military in the 1940s, to the introduction of mainframes between 1950s and 1970s, and eventually, the growth of the personal computing space from the 1980s onwards. This evening, enjoy dinner in a local restaurant.

**Overnight: London (B,D)****Day 11 ~ Thursday, January 18, 2024****London/Cambridge**

Venture north out of London to the **university city of Cambridge**, where you find **medieval streets** and the picturesque **River Cam** with its famous punts. Embark on a **private punting ride along the river**, seeing the city in a truly unique way. This traditional and authentic activity is a favorite Cambridge past time, which involves sitting in a **long flat boat with a driver who uses a long pole to push the boat downstream**. Afterwards, visit **King's College Chapel**, built by Henry VI at the end of the 15th century, in the Perpendicular Gothic style. Look for the **flying buttresses, long slim spires, and the vast expanse of glass**. At the far end of the church, behind the altar, see **Rubens 'Adoration of the Magi Return**. Back to London at the end of the day for dinner in a **local restaurant** and a **theatrical performance**.

**Overnight: London (B,D)****Day 12 ~ Friday, January 19, 2024****London**

Become a scientist for the day at the **L'Oréal Young Scientist Centre (LYSC)**, an imaginative **science laboratory** at the heart of the Ri, where science and technology can be explored outside the classroom. **Test ideas by designing creative experiments**, igniting a passion for scientific discovery and curiosity-driven learning. Get time and space to experiment, and just as in the best research laboratories, this includes **access to advanced technology and experiments** outside the remit of the normal school curriculum. Later, **discover science directly from the minds of the world's leading scientists and thinkers** at the **Royal Institution** with talks and discussions (*pending 2024 program availability*). This evening, enjoy a group **Farewell Dinner** in a local restaurant.

**Overnight: London (B,D)****Day 13 ~ Saturday, January 20, 2024****En Route/ USA**

Flight to the USA, with arrival to the United States later today.

*\*Itinerary subject to change. Appointments subject to confirmation\**

## FROSCH

### **TOUR PRICE: \$9,975 per person double occupancy**

All prices quoted are based on a specific number of participants traveling together in the group, on occupancy at hotels, and on land rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change.

### **DEPOSITS & PAYMENTS**

**DEPOSIT** \$500.00 per person to reserve space at time of reservation, \$250.00 of which is non-refundable.  
**FINAL PAYMENT** due on **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023**

### **WHAT IS INCLUDED**

- 11 nights' hotel accommodation with private facilities and including daily breakfast
- 11 days' sightseeing program as outlined on the itinerary by private motor coach
- Meals as outlined on itinerary: all breakfasts and dinners
- Services of a full-time Tour Director throughout
- Local licensed guides in each city
- Transportation as outlined on itinerary by private motor coach
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Houston (*1 checked bag per person included*)
- Economy class airfare from Florence to Zurich
- Eurostar Train Service from Geneva Cornavin to Paris Gare du Nord
- Eurostar Train Service from Paris Gare du Nord to London St Pancras International Station
- Entrance fees to all sightseeing venues
- Gratuities to Tour Director, local guides, and drivers
- *Whispers* audio system
- 24-hr local emergency contact service

◆ **AIR TRANSPORTATION** from Houston, Texas, including 1 checked bag per person (*up to 50 lbs*). The airfare included in the tour price is based upon the Super Advanced Purchase Excursion fare in effect at the time of the printing and is subject to change. The tariff governing this airfare contains conditions and restrictions on its use. These will be provided upon request. 1 checked bag included with international airfare.

◆ **HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS** are provided based on two persons sharing a double-bedded room, in the hotels selected for the tour. FROSCH and its subagents reserve the right to substitute hotels of the same category when necessary for the proper handling of the tour. Single rooms available for students pending approval from Kinkaid School.

◆ **MEALS** included are 11 breakfasts and 11 dinners.

◆ **PERSONAL TIPS** to your Tour Director, Guides and Drivers.

◆ **TRANSFERS AND TOURING** is provided by modern heated motorcoach and includes the full touring program outlined in the itinerary. All entrance fees to the places listed in the itinerary are included.

◆ **TOUR DIRECTOR** who will accompany the tour throughout the program and will aid with all formalities.

◆ **TOUR GUIDES** are government-licensed per country visited.

## **WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- ◆ **PERSONAL ITEMS & OTHER EXPENSES** not specified in the above package inclusions, such as laundry
- ◆ **LUNCHES**
- ◆ **BAGGAGE FEES**

## **CANCELLATION PENALTIES**

### ◆ **CANCELLATION OF AIR AND LAND ARRANGEMENTS**

Cancellations and refunds are governed by the tariff applying to the Super Apex airfare and/or other tariffs of the airlines concerned. This airfare is non-refundable once ticketed. Land arrangements are non-refundable upon Final Payment **Friday, October 6, 2023**.

### ◆ **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS RECCOMENDED AND IS AVAILABLE THROUGH FROSCH TRAVEL.**

Contact Nancy Barr at (713) 590-8152 or email [groups@frosch.com](mailto:groups@frosch.com) for further assistance.

## ***RESPONSIBILITY***

This tour is arranged by FROSCH Travel, One Greenway Plaza, Suite 800, Houston, Texas 77046 and Kinkaid School. All tickets and coupons governing transportation and other services and facilities furnished are issued by FROSCH Travel only as agents for such other companies furnishing such services and facilities, and neither they nor their sub-agents shall be held liable for loss or damage to property or injury to person caused by reason of any defect by any transportation company, agent, or any such party providing such services. FROSCH Travel, Kinkaid School and its sub-agents reserve the right to withdraw services and make changes and alterations in the itinerary as may be necessary in their judgment for the proper handling of the tour. The airlines concerned are not to be held liable for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The passage contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchasers of this tour.