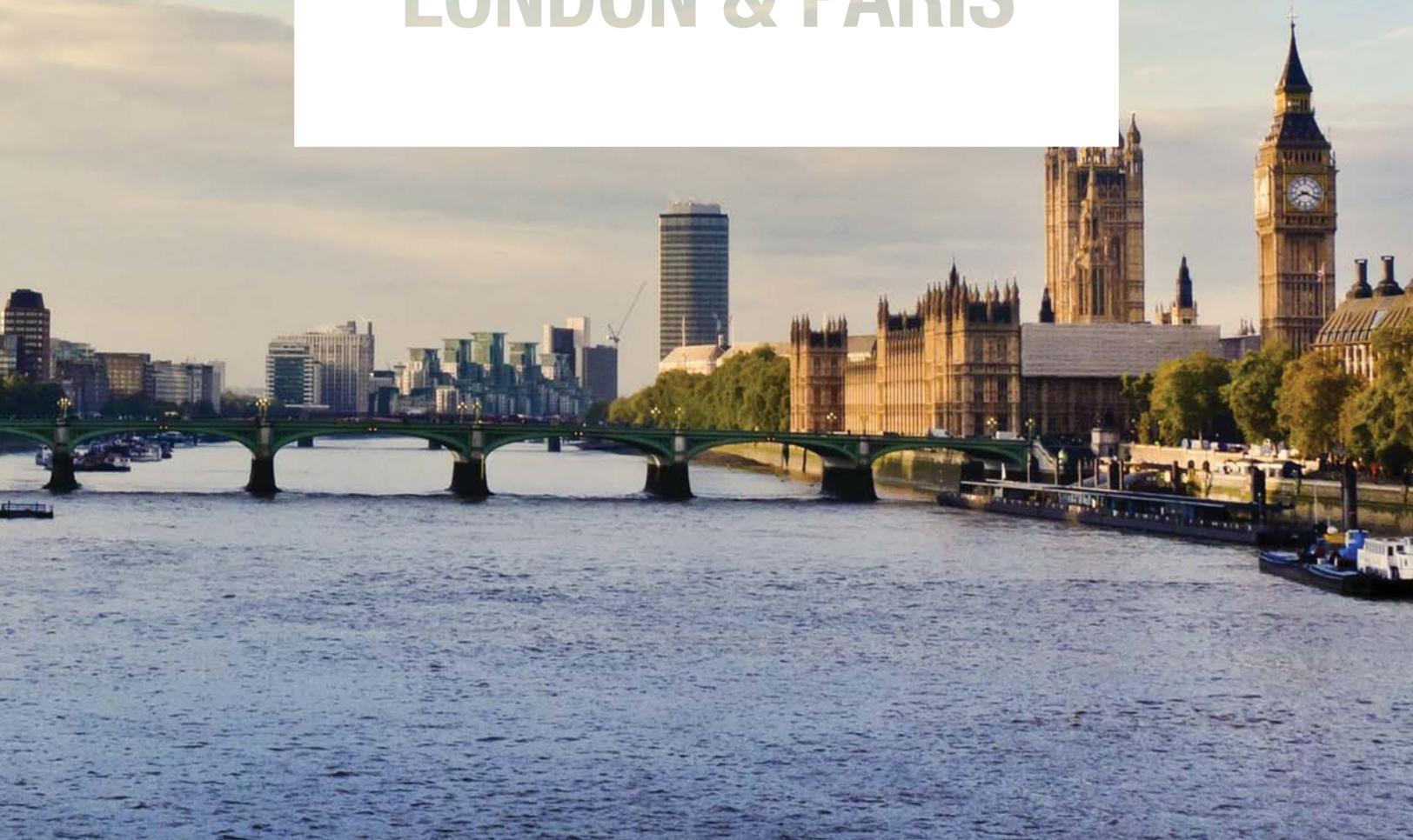




Education First

# College Study Tours

# LONDON & PARIS



# LONDON & PARIS

London and Paris have been linked through the ages—and have ranked as a popular travel combination for nearly as long. Now that they are connected by the high-speed Eurostar train, it's easier than ever to write your own “tale of two cities.”

Introduce yourself to some of Europe's best on both sides of the English Channel. Survey rich landscapes from the banks of the Thames and the Seine, and measure skyline-shaping domes at St. Paul's Cathedral and Sacré Cœur Basilica. Compare medieval stalwart Windsor Castle, part-

time home to royals from William the Conqueror to William and Kate, to its much younger and more decadent French cousin the Palace of Versailles. In any language, and no matter what you're after, London and Paris always deliver.

*Vive la différence!*



### Day 1: Fly to Great Britain

Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to London.

### Day 2: London

**Arrive in London:** Welcome to the cosmopolitan city of London. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to settle in and explore on your own.

**Explore London:** Ready to see London on foot? Stretch your legs and set out through Trafalgar Square, Covent Garden, the Strand and Leicester Square on a walking tour of the city. Then, get to know your group as you share a local London dinner this evening.

### Day 3: London

**Sightseeing tour of London:** From Big Ben to the Houses of Parliament, Great Britain's royal tradition and rich history greet you at every turn. Admire architectural marvels like St. Paul's Cathedral, and check out the five-way intersection at Piccadilly Circus and the urban greenery of Hyde Park. You may even get a chance to witness the ceremonial Changing of the Guard. Cap off your tour at the River Thames and snap photos of the Tower of London.

**Windsor Castle:** At this former fortress, see priceless objects in the State Apartments, like paintings by Rubens and Holbein. Encounter the Gothic splendor of St. George's Chapel, final resting place of many monarchs. Discover Queen Mary's Dolls' House, where castle items are replicated in 1/12th scale—including a working lighting system and functional plumbing.

### Day 4: London

**Free day in London:** London is yours to explore as you wish. Grab some friends and browse new and vintage wares at Notting Hill's Portobello Market or simply relax in one of the many green spaces the city has to offer. Alternatively, get lost in the Tate Modern's stunning collections of contemporary art.

✦ **Oxford:** Join an optional that takes you to Oxford, home of one of history's most renowned learning institutions. Those who do not join the excursion will have free time in London.

### Day 5: London | Paris

**Travel to Paris:** Board a Eurostar train and travel to the City of Light.

**Sightseeing tour of Paris:** Ride down the famous Champs-Élysées, an elegant boulevard packed with high-fashion boutiques. Pass the Place de la Concorde and the Arc de Triomphe and strike a pose in front of the Eiffel Tower. Your guide shares insight into Parisian culture and stories of the city's military history when you continue past Les Invalides.

### Day 6: Versailles | Paris

**Versailles:** Nobody does decadence like Louis XIV, and there's no better testament to this than Versailles. At this lavish estate, explore the State Apartments and the magnificent Hall of Mirrors. Walk through the meticulously landscaped gardens and marvel at dozens of ornate fountains. Louis XIV hosted his royal court here to rein in their power and prevent their political rise. Later, return to Paris for the night.

### Day 7: Paris

**Explore Paris:** On your walking tour, head to the Latin Quarter, named because the language was once commonly spoken by the Sorbonne students that populate the area.

**Louvre:** Enter by I. M. Pei's glass pyramid, and discover the Greek, Roman and Asian antiquities, as well as precious objects from the Middle Ages, that await inside. The Louvre's massive halls are home to more than 35,000 objects; among them is Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece, the Mona Lisa. Get an up-close look at her beguiling smile.

**Notre Dame Cathedral:** Admire Notre Dame's sculptured façade, stained-glass rose windows and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

### Day 8: Depart for home

Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

### ✦ 2-DAY TOUR EXTENSION

#### Days 8-9: Paris | Amsterdam

**Explore Amsterdam:** Arrive on an afternoon train and explore Amsterdam on foot. With 1,200 bridges crisscrossing 160 canals, Amsterdam is one of Europe's most charming capitals. On your walking tour, pass by the 13th-century dam built to prevent the Zuiderzee sea from flooding the city. See the Begijnhof, a lovely 14th-century hidden sanctuary for the sisterhood of the Catholic Beguines, before making your way to the city square of Waterlooplein. Enjoy free time to roam the city on your own before a group dinner.

**Sightseeing tour of Amsterdam:** A local guide will show you the Westerkerk (West Church), where Rembrandt is buried. Pass by the lower markets—Amsterdam is known for its colorful tulips. See the Koninklijk Paleis (Royal Palace), once the home of the Dutch Royal Family before continuing to Rembrandtplein, a bustling square that comes alive at night.

**Anne Frank House:** Visit the Anne Frank House, where the young girl hid with her family from 1942 to 1944. This is also the site where she penned her poignant diary, which has been translated into dozens of languages worldwide.

### Day 10: Depart for home

Transfer to the airport and check in for your return flight home.

## INCLUDED ON TOUR:

 Round-trip flights on major carriers

 Full-time Tour Director

 Land transportation

 Hotels with private bathrooms

 Light breakfast daily; 2 local dinners or 3 with extension

 **Sightseeing tours**  
London; Windsor; Paris; *With extension: Amsterdam*

 **Entrances**  
Windsor Castle; Versailles; Louvre; Notre Dame Cathedral; *With extension: Anne Frank House*

 **Optional**  
Oxford

— the easiest ways to —

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