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# Fashion Design & Creative Arts Tour

Rome, Milan & Paris - 14 Nights

September 2019 & April/September 2020

## Proposed Itinerary

**Day 1: Sunday.** Depart Australia

**Day 2: Monday.** On arrival at Rome airport you will be met and transferred by coach to your accommodation Hotel Villa Rosa (or similar). Owing to the anticipated late arrival at the hotel after a long flight from Australia, it is unlikely there would be much time to undertake any sightseeing this evening. After checking in, unpack and relax before dinner.

**Day 3: Tuesday.** After breakfast you will embark on your first full day of sightseeing in Rome. Using your Metro cards, make your own way to the Vatican City. Guided visits of the Vatican Museum & St Peters Basilica – (€6.00 each payable on arrival). The museums of the Vatican City are located within the city boundaries. They display works from the immense collection built up by the Roman Catholic Church throughout the centuries, including some of the most renowned classical sculptures and most important masterpieces of Renaissance art in the world. Choose from one of the many eateries for lunch. This afternoon you will have a reservation for a visit to the National Gallery of Modern Art.

The Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, established in 1883 for the purpose of documenting the "living" art, is today a museum with two souls, just like the two centuries it deals with - the 19th and the 20th.

This evening enjoy dinner before returning to your hotel.

**Day 4: Wednesday.** After breakfast make your way by the Metro to the Coliseum. A guide will take you around this attraction and the Roman Forum. Also known as the Flavian Amphitheatre, the Coliseum is an elliptical amphitheatre in the centre of the city of Rome. Built of concrete and stone, it was the largest amphitheatre of the Roman Empire and is considered one of the greatest works of Roman architecture and engineering. It is the largest amphitheatre in the world.

This excursion runs for a full day so please don't forget to bring some lunch!

After dinner at a local restaurant, return to your hotel.

**Day 5: Thursday.** This morning, after breakfast, make your way to the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and several fashion boutiques where you will be guided through the city.

**Spanish Steps** – This monumental stairway of 135 steps was built with French diplomat Étienne Gueffier's bequeathed funds of 20,000 scudi in 1723–1725, linking the Bourbon Spanish Embassy and the Trinità dei Monti church that was under the patronage of the Bourbon kings of France. The stairway was designed by architects Francesco de Sanctis and Alessandro Specchi.

**Fashion boutiques** – Whilst the guide is taking you through the streets of Rome to see the tourist sights, they will point out the flagship stores and boutiques of some of the most famous fashion brands in the world like Chanel, Dolce & Gabbana plus many more.

**Trevi Fountain** – This is a fountain in the Trevi district of Rome designed by Italian architect Nicola Salvi and completed by Pietro Bracci. Standing 26.3 metres high and 49.15 metres wide, it is the largest Baroque fountain in the city and one of the most famous fountains in the world.

In the afternoon you will go back via the Time Elevator 3D, an exciting journey that involves all the senses. Thanks to digital-mechanical and stereoscopic technologies you can travel back in time and learn more about history, science, art and nature: a great launch pad to the most exciting explorations of our time.

Dinner and return to your hotel.

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### Includes

- Return airfare & taxes to Rome and back from Paris
- One way train fare Rome to Milan
- One way airfare & taxes from Milan to Paris
- 2 x Free of Charge staff in Single rooms
- Accommodation for students on a multi-bedded room basis
- 5 x nights accommodation in Rome
- Continental breakfast & dinners in Rome
- 4 x nights accommodation in Milan
- Continental breakfast & dinners in Milan
- 5 x nights accommodation in Paris
- Continental breakfast & dinners in Paris
- Airport transfers as detailed in itinerary
- Railway station transfers as detailed in itinerary
- Rome Metro Pass for duration of stay
- Paris Metro pass for duration of stay
- Attractions & excursions as detailed in itinerary

### What's Extra

- Lunches in Rome, Milan and Paris
- Attractions not specified in itinerary
- Entrance fees for guided visit of Vatican Museum & St Peters Basilica (€6.00 each)
- Travel insurance (approx. \$130.00)
- Tips (approx. \$60.00)
- Items of a personal nature



## Itinerary Continued

**Day 6: Friday.** After breakfast begin your day by heading to the Pantheon, Piazza Navona and more fashion boutiques. Once again a guide will take you through the streets of this beautiful city.

The Piazza Navona is a city square. It was built on the site of the Stadium of Domitian in the 1st century AD and follows the form of the open space of the stadium. The ancient Romans came here to watch the agones ("games") and hence it was known as "Circus Agonalis" (competition arena). It is believed that over time the name changed to "in avone", then to "navone" and eventually to "navona".

The Pantheon is a circular building with a portico of large granite Corinthian columns (eight in the first rank and two groups of four behind) under a pediment. A rectangular vestibule links the porch to the rotunda which is under a coffered concrete dome with a central opening (oculus) to the sky. Almost 2000 years after it was built, the Pantheon's dome is still the world's largest unreinforced concrete dome.

In the afternoon after a spot of lunch you will visit the Campo de Fiori, a market square. The name came from the Middle Ages when the area was a meadow of flowers – hence the name "field of flowers". This is a chance to have some time to relax before dinner and the final evening in Rome.

**Day 7: Saturday.** This morning after breakfast you will be transferred to the railway station for the train journey to Milan (approximate travelling time is 6 hours). On arrival in Milan you will be met and transferred to your hotel Ostello Burigozzo Hotel (or similar). Dinner at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel.

**Day 8: Sunday.** After breakfast you will visit Palazzo Morando Attendolo Bolognini. This museum is located inside the palace of one of the oldest families of the nobility of Milan. In 2010 the museum enriched its exhibits with magnificent clothing from the Sforza Castle's collections. The splendid clothes alone are well worth the visit to the museum – a perfect homage to the capital of modern fashion.

The afternoon is free to explore the city at your leisure. Evening meal and return to your hotel.

**Day 9: Monday.** After breakfast, an English speaking guide will accompany you on a half day walking tour of the Milan fashion district, taking you through the streets, visiting the boutiques and giving you a background history of fashion in Milan. The afternoon is free to explore the city at your leisure. Dinner at your hotel.

**Day 10: Tuesday.** This morning after breakfast, you will have another half day tour of the fashion district with an English speaking guide. You will pick up from where you left off yesterday as there are so many boutiques and flagship stores to visit in a city that has been called the fashion capital of the world. The afternoon is free to explore the city at your leisure. Dinner and return to your hotel.

**Day 11: Wednesday.** After breakfast you will check out and be transferred to the airport for your flight to Paris. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel – Hotel Ambassadeur (or similar). After checking-in, you are at leisure until dinner.

**Day 12: Thursday.** Today after breakfast you will meet your guide for a morning walk through the main fashion district of Paris, learning all the tips and tricks of Parisian style and glamour. Stroll down the historic cobbled streets of the Marais, stopping at cool and quirky boho boutiques that you wouldn't normally find without a local expert.

After lunch at one of many local cafés you will visit the Gobelins Tapestry Factory located at Avenue des Gobelins, near the Les Gobelins Métro station in the 13th arrondissement. Established in 1627, it was set up under the banner of the royal manufacture of furniture for the crown, producing furnishings intended for royal houses and as diplomatic gifts. Even today it employs 30 weavers with 15 looms. Visitors can discover temporary exhibitions relating to the art of tapestry. It is now run by the French Ministry of Culture. Dinner and return to your hotel.

**Day 13: Friday.** After breakfast you will take the Metro and do a tour of the Fashion and Textile Museum. And why not go into the Louvre which is located right next door? As both visits are likely to take up a whole day, please prepare to eat lunch on the go. This will not be a problem as there are plenty of eateries in the vicinity.

Fashion and Textile Museum – Housing a fascinating collection of textiles and textile-based artwork, the Musée de la Mode et du Textiles collections include 16,000 costumes, 35,000 fashion accessories and 30,000 pieces of textile. In all, over 81,000 works tracing the history of costume from the Regency period to the present day innovations in textiles can be found here.

The Louvre – This is one of the world's largest museums and an historic monument. A central landmark of Paris, it is located on the Right Bank of the Seine in the 1st arrondissement. Dinner and return to your hotel.

**Day 14: Saturday.** Today, after breakfast, you will visit the House of Yves Saint Laurent, one of the most recognised fashion brands in the world. The guide will take you through the history, tracing the growth from the very beginning to its current standing as a thriving international empire. This will be followed by a cruise on the River Seine.

In the afternoon you have a special "To the Top" ticket to visit the world famous and awe inspiring Eiffel Tower. From here you can enjoy views of the most romantic city in the world, down the Champs Élysées, up the Seine and right across the Luxembourg Gardens to Montparnasse. Dinner and return to your hotel.

**Day 15: Sunday.** Today have a little break from fashion! After breakfast you will visit Montmartre and Sacré Coeur Basilica for even more astonishing views of the city, this time combined with some incredible architecture and history. Montmartre is a hill located in the north of Paris. It is 130 metres high and gives its name to the surrounding district in the 18th arrondissement, which is considered part of the Right Bank. The Basilica of the Sacred Heart, commonly known as Sacré-Coeur Basilica, is a Roman Catholic church and minor basilica dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

This afternoon you will visit Marche de St Pierre. Paris is one of the world's fashion capitals, and home to some high quality fabrics. France is known for its Chantilly lace, but this shopping district is where couturiers and amateur craftsmen alike go for the finest in local and imported silk, duchesse satin and tulle. The area takes its name from the Marche Saint Pierre, a multilevel emporium of fabric commonly known as Dreyfuss, named after one of its founding families. Although this is the prime shop in the area, many other textile stores are located in the vicinity. The displays of colour and texture are well worth a look, as the marketplace is an experience of the real Paris and an insight into one of its main industries – fashion. Enjoy your final dinner in Paris tonight and return to your hotel.

**Day 16: Monday.** Soon after breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back to Australia.

**Day 17: Tuesday.** Arrive back in Australia.



For bookings contact the group tour specialist



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\* Day tours and excursions subject to change without notice