
GEEO ITINERARY

France and Spain 7/6/2027

Day 1: Paris Arrive in Paris at any time. Meet your group for a welcome meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m., followed by an orientation walk and optional dinner.

Arrive at any time. There are no planned activities until the Welcome Meeting in the evening. This tour begins and ends in Paris, and the nearest airport is **Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG)**.

Consider arriving 1-2 days early to explore the city, adjust to the time zone, and buffer against flight delays. We can request extra hotel nights for you before the program begins.

Hotel Check-in and Welcome Meeting

Hotel check-in is normally between 2-3 p.m. Check with reception for the exact time and location of the group welcome meeting, typically between 6-7 p.m. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. If you're running late, send a message in the group WhatsApp or call the emergency number on your trip voucher so that your tour leader can let you know where and when to meet the group.

After the welcome meeting, set off with your tour leader on an orientation walk to explore Paris at night, followed by an optional group dinner.

The "City of Lights" is unlike any other place on Earth. Known for its glorious monuments, museums, and markets, from the Eiffel Tower to the Louvre, Montmartre to the Marais, Paris has something for everyone. Discover for yourself Paris' "je ne sais quoi."

Joining Instructions

Check your voucher for your specific starting hotel.

If your start hotel is Mama Shelter Paris East

From Charles de Gaulle Airport

Train: (~€13 | 50 mins total) Take RER B to Opéra Station, then Metro Line 3 to Gambetta Station. Walk about 11 minutes down Rue des Pyrénées to the hotel on Rue de Bagnole.

Taxi: (~€50) Direct to hotel from airport.

From Orly Airport

Train: (~€13 | 40 mins total) Take Metro Line 14 to Saint-Lazare, then Metro Line 3 to Gambetta Station. Walk about 11 minutes down Rue des Pyrénées to the hotel on Rue de Bagnole.

Taxi: (~€50) Direct to hotel from airport.

For detailed directions: Use Citymapper or Google Maps with your hotel address (found on your voucher) for step-by-step transit instructions. Purchase train tickets via the Île-de-France Mobilités app or at ticket machines in the airport.

Accommodation: Mama Shelter Paris East

* To confirm the hotel that your group will be using, please reach out to us or check your service voucher.

Day 2: Paris Visit the historic Parisian neighborhood of Montmartre, then enjoy a free afternoon in Paris.

Take the metro to Montmartre for a walking tour. Arrive at the famous Abbesses station, which features one of Hector Guimard's cast iron Art Nouveau entrances. The historic Montmartre neighborhood served as a hub for painters during the Belle Époque. The affordable living and inspiring scenery attracted artists like Picasso, Renoir, Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, van Gogh, and Monet. The walking tour will take you by Picasso's studio, where Cubism was born, and end at Toulouse-Latrec's final home.

While in the neighborhood, opt to sample a mouth-watering croissant or pain au chocolat. Once oriented, explore the city during a free afternoon.

Accommodation: Mama Shelter Paris East (*or similar*)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 3: Paris/Lyon After a morning in Paris, take the train to Lyon and set off on a walking tour. The rest of the evening is free.

Enjoy a leisurely morning for some final sightseeing in Paris before boarding a train to Lyon. Upon arrival, check into the hotel and then set off to explore some of the city's highlights on a walking tour, ending at the Basilica of Notre Dame de Fourvière, which offers great views over the city. Lyon is considered to be an economic and cultural hub in France, and the city is home to several historical landmarks, including ancient Roman theaters and the Medieval-Renaissance District of Old Town.

Use your free time in the evening to visit on the city's amazing restaurants for dinner.

Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by train

Accommodation: TBD

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4: Lyon Enjoy a free day in Lyon.

Take advantage of a free day to explore Lyon. Wander the picturesque streets and visit some of the historic landmarks, take an optional food tour, visit the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Lyon, or just relax at one of the many quaint cafés and watch the world go by.

Lyon has become known as the gastronomic capital of not only France but the world! The city is celebrated for its culinary traditions, hearty regional dishes, traditional bouchons (bistro-style eateries), world-class chefs like Paul Bocuse, and vibrant food markets like Halles de Lyon Paul Bocuse. It offers everything from haute cuisine to authentic, affordable local fare, making it a major food destination.

Accommodation: TBD

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5: Lyon/Nîmes Travel to Nîmes, known as the "French Rome," and set out on a walking tour. The rest of the afternoon and evening is free.

Travel by train from Lyon to the city of Nîmes, known as the "French Rome," in the Occitanie region of France. Upon arrival, drop off your bags at the hotel, and then set out on a walking tour of the old part of the city. Marvel at the Roman amphitheater, stroll around the Roman temple Maison Carrée (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), and observe the Tour Magne or Magne Tower, the only remaining vestige of the ancient fortifications of Nîmes built by the emperor Augustus. Standing on Mount Cavalier, the highest point in the city, the tower overlooks the Jardins de la Fontaine.

Use your free time in the afternoon and evening to explore. Wander through the Jardin de La Fontaine or pay a visit to the Musée de la Romanité to learn about the Roman influence on the area throughout the

centuries.

Approximate travel time: 1-1.5 hrs by train

Accommodation: TBD

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 6: Nîmes/Barcelona Visit the Pont du Gard, and then enjoy a farm-to-table lunch in a small village. In the afternoon, catch the train to Barcelona.

Drive from Nîmes to the magnificent Pont du Gard, the highest Roman aqueduct bridge in the world—an impressive 160 feet high. It is the only example of an ancient three-tier bridge still standing today, and it is another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Take in views of the Gardon River and learn about how this structure once supplied water to the city of Nîmes.

Later, stop for a delicious farm-to-table lunch from a traditional French restaurant in a village near the Pont du Gard, prepared from fresh and local ingredients.

Upon returning to Nîmes, climb aboard a train to Barcelona, Spain.

Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by private vehicle (with stops), 3.5 hrs by train

Accommodation: TBD

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Day 7: Barcelona Go on a walking tour of Barcelona with a local guide, then explore the city in the afternoon during your free time. Regroup in the evening for an optional farewell dinner.

This morning, set off on foot with a local guide for a walking tour of Barcelona, enjoying the sights and sounds of this iconic and vibrant Spanish metropolis. Discover the enchanting Gothic Quarter, a maze of narrow, winding streets filled with medieval architecture, hidden plazas, and ancient Roman remnants. Stroll past the majestic Barcelona Cathedral, charming shops, and cozy tapas bars, while soaking in the history that dates back over 2,000 years. The tour is a captivating journey through the city's oldest and most atmospheric neighborhood.

The rest of the day is free for exploration. Visit one of the city's many museums, parks, or plazas, check out the iconic Sagrada Família, stroll through Parque Güell, or wander down Las Ramblas.

In the evening, meet back up with your group for an optional farewell dinner.

Accommodation: Hotel AA Viladomat Barcelona (*or similar*)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8: Barcelona/Madrid Catch a train to Madrid, with free time upon arrival.

Travel from Barcelona to Madrid by high speed train, and then enjoy free time in Madrid upon arrival.

Approximate travel time: 2.5-3 hrs by train

Accommodation: Hotel Europa (*or similar*)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 9: Madrid Depart Madrid at any time.

There are no planned activities today, so you may depart Madrid at any time. We highly recommend spending at least another day or two in Madrid. If you wish to extend your stay in Madrid, consider booking post-tour accommodation with us.

Please note that check-out time from the hotel is usually mid-morning, but luggage storage services are available at the reception desk.

Meals included: Breakfast

Want more adventure? Book two or more GEEO programs in the same school year and receive 10% off the lesser value program(s), up to 3 programs per year.

Interested in extending your time abroad? We can help you find a trip from our tour partner G Adventures' larger catalog. Their tours are open to the general public and not designed specifically for educators, but by booking through GEEO we can offer you a discounted educator price, and you will be helping our non-profit.

Accommodations List

The hotels listed below reflect the properties *expected to be used* for this program. Final accommodations are subject to change based on group size, availability, or seasonality. **The confirmed start and end hotels are listed on your trip voucher:**

Day 1 Paris (Jul 6): Mama Shelter Paris East

Day 2 Paris (Jul 7): Mama Shelter Paris East

Day 3 Lyon: TBA

Day 4 Lyon: TBA

Day 5 (Nîmes): TBA

Day 6 Barcelona (Jul 11): Hotel AA Viladomat Barcelona

Day 7 Barcelona (Jul 12): Hotel AA Viladomat Barcelona

Day 8 Madrid (Jul 13): Hotel Europa

***Itinerary Disclaimer:** *While it is our intention to adhere to the routes described on our website, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable, to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The information on our website is a general guide to the tour and region, and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.*