

# JOIN THE CAA IN FRANCE



SEPTEMBER 12-21, 2025





## About The Trip

Embark on a journey with the CAA to France. This trip includes stays in the historic towns of Versailles and Chantilly, and offers unique opportunities to explore private collections and learn from expert curators. You'll also enjoy a full day at Compiègne, with behind-the-scenes access to one of France's most significant collections of carriages, harness, and appointments. Throughout the tour, you'll experience France's rich history while staying in carefully selected hotels, traveling by private motorcoach, and enjoy French hospitality and *joie de vivre*. The package includes accommodation, lunches where specified, a welcome and farewell dinner, as well as all guide services and entry fees. Whether you're discovering royal history or exploring the works of the finest French coachbuilders, this trip promises an enriching experience.



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# Itinerary

(Subject to Change)  
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## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 - ARRIVALS IN PARIS

The trip begins with an overnight stay at the Sheraton located handily within Terminal 2 of Charles de Gaulle International Airport (CDG). Check-in begins at 2:00 PM, no taxi needed.

- Overnight at the Sheraton Charles de Gaulle Airport, Located in Terminal 2
- Welcome Dinner at the Hotel



## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Saturday we depart for central Paris for a private charter boat trip along the Seine including lunch onboard, passing the City of Light's most famous landmarks—the Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame Cathedral, and the Louvre.

- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Check Out of the Airport Sheraton and Depart for central Paris
- Private Charter Sightseeing Cruise on the Seine from Central Paris
- Lunch Onboard
- Transfer to The Waldorf-Astoria Trianon Palace Hotel, Versailles
- Dinner on Your Own

**Optional Evening Activity Saturday: The Night Fountains Show.** When night falls, the gardens of the Château du Versailles (next to the hotel) are transformed to offer a stunning visual and musical treat as fountains and groves come alive with colourful and dramatic lighting effects along a two-and-a-half-hour walk. A fireworks display in front of the Grand Canal concludes the evening's entertainment. Tickets can be advanced purchased on your own through the official website.





# Versailles



Saturday afternoon we settle into Versailles: a town born from the will of King Louis XIV, designed by Jules Hardouin Mansart, chief architect of the King. Versailles in itself is a cultural city, with its own museums, gardens, restaurants, and shopping. Of course known for the magnificent Chateau and its gardens, the town is a destination in its own right where Parisians escape the bustle of Paris for a more relaxed atmosphere.

In addition to the Palace and its 2,000 acres of gardens, the town boasts an Antiques Market with more than 50 vendors (le Village des Antiquaires), theaters, shops, restaurants (including several with Michelin Stars), easy access to central Paris via train, and the Royal Opera.







WALDORF ASTORIA®  
VERSAILLES • TRIANON PALACE  
★★★★

## THE WALDORF ASTORIA TRIANON PALACE

The host hotel for our time in Versailles is the Waldorf Astoria Trianon Palace, so named for its proximity to the Grand and Petit Trianon within the Parc du Versailles. The hotel overlooks the sprawling gardens of the Château, and is adjacent to the Porte de la Reine (The Queen's Gate) to the Parc, providing easy access for strolls through the sumptuous gardens.

The hotel's four star rooms in its Pavillon du Trianon wing offer modern amenities and tranquil surroundings. The Waldorf Astoria Trianon Palace boasts several bars and restaurants, a spa, a Greek inspired indoor heated swimming pool, sauna, and steam room.





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Sunday we head outside of Paris to visit historic Rambouillet Castle, a medieval fortress turned Royal and Presidential Palace only recently opened to the public. After lunch we will visit a nearby private collection of carriages, one of the largest in France.

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Depart for the Rambouillet
- Visit Château de Rambouillet
- Lunch
- Visit to Private Collection
- Return to Versailles
- Dinner on your own



The **Great and Small Stables at Versailles** equal the Palace in their scale and decoration. Completed in 1682, they housed 2,000 horses for the King's hunting and sport. We are privileged to receive private access to the **Coach Gallery** housed in a wing of the Great Stables, with a visit led by chief curator Helene Delalex. The Coach Gallery houses the opulent state and semi-state carriages of the Ancien Régime, the Empire and the Restoration, including the collection's centerpiece: the Coronation Coach of King Charles X, along with its gilt bronze mounted harness.

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Walk to The Grand Ecurie, Château du Versailles (0.75 mi)
- Private visit to the Coach Gallery with head curator Helene Delalex
- Lunch in Versailles
- Dinner on your own





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## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Free Day On Your Own

Visit the State Apartments at the Château du Versailles, explore the Grand and Petit Trianon, shop for antiques in the Versailles antiques market, or take the train into central Paris. The day is yours.



Wednesday we transfer to **Chantilly**, the equestrian-centric town in the countryside in the Hauts-de-France region of Northern France. The Château de Chantilly was the hunting lodge of HRH Prince Henri of Orléans, Duke of Aumale, who was an avid horseman and lover of art and culture. As the next to the last son of King Louis-Philippe, he played no dynastic role, and spent his time decorating his beloved Chantilly with art, furniture, porcelain, and filled the 18th-century Great Stables (the largest princely stables in Europe, so large that since their construction they have often been confused for the Château) with horses for hunting and racing. The recently restored Great Stables now host the **Le Musée Vivant du Cheval** (Museum of the Living Horse) and overlook the Chantilly Racecourse.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Check Out of Waldorf Astoria Trianon Palace
- Transfer via Bus to Chantilly
- Lunch
- Guided Tour of the Château de Chantilly
- Guided Tour of the Gardens of the Château
- Visit Le Musée Vivant du Cheval (Museum of the Living Horse) and the Great Stables of Chantilly
- Check into hotel Auberge du Jeu de Paume
- Dinner on your own







## AUBERGE DU JEU DE PAUME

Our host hotel in Chantilly is the 5\* Auberge du Jeu de Paume, conveniently located on the main avenue of the charming town of Chantilly, next to the Château and across the street from the Great Stables. The hotel overlooks the gardens of the Château and offers two restaurants including the 1 Michelin starred La Table du Connétable, bar, spa, & indoor pool.



## CHANTILLY

The charming town of Chantilly provides a lovely, and very French, experience for the rest of the trip. The hotel is along the main street, the Rue du Connétable, and is a short walk to restaurants, shops, cafés, crêperies, and of course local patisseries serving all manner of delicious desserts and the famous local Chantilly Creme.





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At the World's Fair in Paris in 1900, a transport retrospective was formed by coachbuilder Georges Kellner, and with that the idea of a museum dedicated to the history of the carriage and automobile was born. This later spurred another coachbuilder, Paul Leon, into founding the **Le Musée National de la Voiture** (the National Carriage and Car Museum) in 1925, the first museum of its kind in Europe. The museum collection, housed in a wing of the Palace of Compiègne, is now renowned around the world, and has grown for the last 100 years to contain some 15,000 objects including 100 carriages representing vehicles from each century of the art of carriage building.

As we spend the day exploring the museum, we will be greeted by its long-time chief curator, Maria-Anne Privat, and her team who will take us through the collections of the museum including the vehicles, the newly reopened harness room with priceless 18th century gala harness, as well as into the museum's stores to see objects not shown to the public. In addition to an extensive library and archive, the museum houses hundreds of sides of harness, liveries, whips, stirrups, and other items saved for the nation in its collections.



## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Bus to Compiègne
- Private Tour of the **Le Musée National de la Voiture** with Chief Curator Maria-Anne Privat
- Lunch in Compiègne
- Private Tour Continues Behind-the-Scenes into the Museum Storerooms
- Opportunity for those who do not wish to continue the afternoon private tour of the carriage museum to see the Grand Apartments in the Palace of Compiègne on their own
- Return to Chantilly
- Dinner on your own





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## Reims

Friday we depart for an excursion to the historic city of Reims, where we will visit the **Cathedral of Reims**, a masterpiece of high gothic architecture and the place where the Kings of France were crowned. A day in the Champagne region is not complete without a visit to **Maison Veuve Clicquot**, where we will visit the Crayères – the House's historic, Unesco World Heritage-listed champagne cellars, followed by a tasting of some of the house's offerings.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Depart for Reims
- Visit Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Reims
- Lunch
- Cellar Tour and Champagne Tasting at Maison Veuve Clicquot
- Return to Chantilly
- Dinner on your own





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In the 1830's, the Duke de Aumale, noting that the lawn in front of his Great Stables at Chantilly would be conducive to racing, created the Chantilly Racecourse with the first race held in 1834. We will finish our time in France enjoying the sport of Kings from this historic course enjoying lunch overlooking the course with views of the Château & Great Stables.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Walk to Chantilly Racecourse
- Lunch Overlooking the Course
- Enjoy the Afternoon at the Races
- Farewell Dinner in the Hotel

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- Departure Day
- Breakfast in the Hotel
- Private Transfers from Chantilly to Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG)



## STAYING ON IN FRANCE

For those wishing to stay on in France, Chantilly is conveniently located 25 minutes via RER (high speed train) to central Paris Gare du Nord, with several departures daily from Chantilly - Gouvieux station.





# Trip Packages

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	Price Per Person
<b>Double/Twin</b> (per person based on 2 to a room)	\$4,495
<b>Single</b> (1 full-sized bed, one person in room)	\$6,100
(Does not include airfare)	



## The 2025 CAA Trip to France Package Includes:

- One night accommodations at Sheraton Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport
- Four nights accommodations in the 4\* Pavillion du Trianon Wing at the Waldorf-Astoria Trianon Palace
- Four nights accommodations in the 5\* Auberge du Jeu de Paume
- Breakfast each morning in the hotel
- Welcome Dinner on Saturday, September 12
- Lunch daily as noted
- Farewell Dinner on Saturday, September 20
- Knowledgeable guides for private tours
- Use of private air-conditioned motorcoach
- All excursions, visits, private guided tours
- Taxes, portage, and gratuities
- Private airport transfer from Chantilly to Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG)
- ... and a few surprises!

Accompanied by a CAA Representative John Stallard

## THE DETAILS

Package prices are based on a minimum of 30 trip participants and are subject to change due to fluctuating rates of exchange.

- The rates listed above are for the complete trip package (hotel and all trip activities). The trip does NOT include airfare. Paris is served by Charles de Gaulle International Airport (CDG).
- Double/Twin rates are based on two people sharing a room.
- The trip does **NOT** include airfare, personal expenses, or trip insurance.
- CAA Membership is required for participation in our trips overseas.
- All participants must be in possession of a valid passport with validity 3 months beyond planned date of departure from the Schengen area.
- The nature of the access provided by France's national monuments is such that some visits require walking. Some visits require standing for periods of time, walking on uneven surfaces up and down hills, and ascending and descending stairs without handrails.
- The trip is limited to 50 participants.
- **Package prices are based on a minimum of 30 trip participants and are subject to change due to fluctuating rates of exchange.**
- The itinerary is subject to change.
- The departure of a coach will not be delayed by trip participants who are not onboard at the designated departure time.
- A deposit of **\$500.00** is required to reserve your place.
- An invoice will be sent to you for the selected trip package, plus any additional room nights requested. Payment in full is due by **July 25, 2025**.



RESERVATION  
2025 CAA Trip to France  
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Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CAA Member? (Circle One) YES NO

-Trip package includes room nights for Friday (September 12) through Saturday Night (September 20)-

I/we would like to book extra night(s) at the:

Sheraton - Charles de Gaulle Airport on \_\_\_\_\_ (Please provide dates).

Auberge du Jeu de Paumme, Chantilly on \_\_\_\_\_ (Please provide dates).

CAA Member? (Circle One) YES NO

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

**Room Request:**

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: Double (per person based on 2 to a room, 1 bed) | \$4,495 per person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: Twin (per person based on 2 to a room, 2 beds)  | \$4,495 per person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: Single (1 full-sized bed, one person in room)   | \$6,100 per person |

For **Twin** Room Reservations using separate forms, I will be sharing a room with: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I have previously paid my \$500.00 per person deposit.

☐ I have enclosed \$500.00 per person as a deposit.

☐ I am not a CAA member, but have enclosed \$75.00 as membership dues to join the CAA.

☐ I have enclosed a check, payable to the CAA, in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card, Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Payment:** An invoice for your trip package(s), plus any requested extra room nights will be sent to you for payment ahead of the departure date.

**Final Payment in Full is Due by July 25, 2025**

Note: When we receive your Reservation Form and deposit, we will send you additional information about the trip. All trip participants must be in possession of a valid passport. **Prices are subject to change due to fluctuating rates of exchange. Airfare not included.**

Questions? Call us at 859-231-0971

**Mail Registration Form and Payment to:**

Carriage Association of America

4075 Iron Works Parkway, Building D, Lexington, KY 40511

Or Email/Fax Form and CC info to: [info@caaonline.com](mailto:info@caaonline.com) or Fax: 859-231-0973



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