



Spain & France

Itinerary prepared on 04 Apr 16 for:

Martin Newland

Briar Newland

Room Configuration: Double

Your Bunnik Tour Transfers

The following procedures refer to the arrival and departure transfers booked for you by Bunnik Tours. This includes transfers for your Bunnik group tour, separate independent or extension packages and pre and post tour accommodation. Unless otherwise specified the standard procedure applies.

Standard Arrival Procedure:

Upon arrival into Madrid, after completing formalities you will be met by a local representative holding a sign labelled 'Bunnik Tours', who will assist you with your transfer.

Flight Details: Flight LX 2020 departing Zurich 07:00 on 03 May, arriving into Madrid at 09:20

Your flights have not been booked by Bunnik Tours.

Standard Departure Procedure:

Upon departure from Barcelona, you will be met by a local representative who will assist with your transfer. Please reconfirm your pick-up time locally.

Flight Details: Flight LH 1131 departing Barcelona at 14:00 on 27 May, arriving into Frankfurt at 16:10

Your flights have not been booked by Bunnik Tours.

Spain & France Bunnik Tour

Start: 03 May 16

End: 27 May 16

Tue 3 May 16 | Madrid

Spain & France

Welcome to Madrid, the capital of the Spanish Empire, once the richest and most powerful city on earth. Today, its palaces, museums and concerts are up there with the best in the world. Be entranced by Madrid's energy as you people-watch from a café, view eclectic architecture along the Gran Vía and savour Spanish fare in Puerta Del Sol. This evening meet your fellow travellers and tour director for a welcome cocktail at the hotel. Overnight in Madrid.

Wed 4 May 16 | Madrid

Spain & France

Our tour of Madrid today will give you an introduction to this marvellous city and includes driving past the well-known avenues of Gran Vía and Castellana and famous squares such as Plaza de España, Oriente, Mayor, Puerta Del Sol, Atocha, Neptuno, Cibeles, Puerta de Alcalá, Colón and Plaza de Castilla. Madrid comprises 21 districts and we will visit some of these with particular historic relevance such as the Austrian, the Bourbon and Salamanca quarters. We continue to Oeste and Retiro Parks, Madrid's bullring, the Santiago Bernabeu soccer stadium and the University Campus. The rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight, enjoy a group welcome dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Madrid.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Tip: Be sure to make some time to visit the famous Reina Sofia Art Museum, famous for housing Pablo Picasso's 'Guernica', and the Museo del Prado, known as having one of the finest art collections in the world.

Thu 5 May 16 | Madrid - Bilbao

Spain & France

We travel north today to the city of Burgos, the historic capital of Castile. The Cathedral of Burgos is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the jewel of the city centre. Construction began on this gothic-style cathedral in the 13th century continuing through to the late 16th century. Burgos was selected as the Spanish Gastronomy Capital in 2013 so whilst here you might like to sample some of the local cheese, Queso de Burgos, made from whey and the local sausage, Morcilla de Burgos, a pig's-blood sausage that is a staple across the Iberian Peninsula. We continue to Bilbao in the afternoon. Overnight in Bilbao.

Meals: Breakfast

Fri 6 May 16 | Bilbao

Spain & France

Our day begins at the top of Mount Artxanda, where we witness some of the best views over the city. We descend the mountain to begin our city tour and on the way down cross the 'ensanche' of the city into the old part and pedestrian area, which boasts more than 700 years of history. Here, we see Bilbao's oldest building, the Santiago Cathedral, which was built on the site of an old shrine that dates back to the Jacobean pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. The Jacobean pilgrimage began in the 12th century and takes place during a Jacobean Holy Year that occurs when St James' Day (25th July) falls on a Sunday, an important time for Catholics. Next we visit the popular Plaza Nueva with its neoclassical-style arches known as caves and then to the Mercado de la Ribera. Built on the site of the original Rivera Street market, it is said to be one of Europe's biggest covered food markets. The afternoon is at leisure. In the afternoon we visit the world famous Guggenheim Museum, an architectural masterpiece that hosts a large collection of modern and contemporary art. The Guggenheim Foundation was founded in 1937 by Solomon R Guggenheim and is dedicated to encouraging the appreciation and understanding of art and architecture, primarily of the modern and contemporary periods. We will have free time to wander the museum at leisure with audio guide headsets and marvel at the pieces on display. Overnight in Bilbao.

Meals: Breakfast

Sat 7 May 16 | Bilbao - Pamplona

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This morning we travel to San Sebastian, located on the northern Spanish coast in the Bay of Biscay. Home to some wonderful beaches and resorts, San Sebastian is a popular getaway for Spaniards during the hot summers. The

cultural capital of the Basque region has a great mix of cosmopolitan lifestyle blended with the rural old-world feel. Upon arrival, we take a short tour of the city before taking the cable car to the top of Igueldo Mountain which offers incredible panoramic views of Santa Clara Island, Mount Ulia and La Concha Bay. After some free time for lunch we continue to Pamplona where the rest of the afternoon is at leisure. Overnight in Pamplona.

Meals: Breakfast

Sun 8 May 16 | Pamplona - Bordeaux

Spain & France

Our morning begins with a tour of Pamplona beginning at the 16th century complex of Ciudadela with its city walls, parks and gardens. Pamplona has been made famous by the yearly festival of San Fermin, or as it is better known: The Running of the Bulls. The event began when the locals needed a way to get the bulls that were corralled outside of the city into the central bullring. During the weeklong festival which takes place in July, the Encierro or Running of the Bulls begins when the clock of the church of San Cerin strikes 8am, a few rockets are launched and the bulls are set free to charge the 825 metres through the town behind brave (some might say foolhardy) runners towards the bullring. From Pamplona, we cross the border into France and continue to Biarritz. One of France's most welcoming towns, thanks to the Empress Eugenie, when over a century ago the little whaling town became a fashionable summer resort. Today, Biarritz is undoubtedly the only town where you can see wetsuit-clad surfers with their boards under their arms crossing paths with business men in suits and ties carrying beach towels. After a short stop, we continue to Bayonne (time permitting) the capital of the Basque country, a picturesque fortified city with a beautiful cathedral and cloister that is listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. Later in the afternoon we arrive in Bordeaux, where the remainder of the day is at leisure. Overnight in Bordeaux.

Meals: Breakfast

Mon 9 May 16 | Bordeaux

Spain & France

We start our day travelling to nearby Saint-Emilion where we explore part of the underground village. Saint-Emilion is regarded as one of the most interesting towns in France because of the many old buildings confined within a very small space and for the poetic charm of its ruins. As we walk through both the lower and upper parts of the town we see some of its fortifications, including the Hermitage, the Trinity Chapel, the Catacombs, the Monolith Church and visit the Kings Tower. We also see the square steeple of the Jacobins and the town wall. Once we have finished our sightseeing, we will spend some time at a local cellar door where we have the chance to sample the local drop. After returning to Bordeaux we explore this city with over 350 historic monuments in a protected area of 147 hectares. First of all, we visit the three churches of Saint-André, Saint-Michel (outside only), and Saint-Seurin (outside only) which have been included on the list of UNESCO World Heritage sites. Our sightseeing continues on foot as we marvel at the splendid architecture of the 18th century buildings, including the outside of the Theatre of Bordeaux. Overnight in Bordeaux.

Meals: Breakfast

Tue 10 May 16 | Bordeaux - Tours

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We travel north today to the 'Garden of France', Tours. Here, locals are said to speak the 'purest' form of French. Famous for its medieval district and many bridges spanning the Loire River, the city is a picture postcard of a typical northern French city. The buildings are white with blue slate roofs, a marked point of difference to the southern cities where the roofs are mainly tiled with terracotta. Tours was badly damaged during the First and Second World Wars but significant rebuilding has taken place to restore the city's major sights. We spend the next two evenings in Tours, a perfect base for the nearby wineries of the Loire Valley. Overnight in Tours.

Meals: Breakfast

Wed 11 May 16 | Loire Valley

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À votre santé! A day to sit back and enjoy the delights of the Loire Valley as we spend the day exploring the renowned wineries of this region. A portion of this area is even listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site due to its great natural beauty and outstanding architecture, displayed in the châteaux of this region. The châteaux themselves are a sight to behold, with more than 300 in this area alone! Visit the royal Château de Chambord, one of France's most recognised palaces with its distinct French Renaissance style architecture. Also visit Château de Chenonceau, built as it is across the River Cher, it is the second most visited château in France after Versailles. We finish the day with some wine tasting at a local cellar door. Overnight in Tours.

Meals: Breakfast

Thu 12 May 16 | Tours - Caen**Spain & France**

We travel to Normandy today, stopping en route at Mont Saint-Michel. Mont Saint-Michel is one kilometre off the French coastline with a population of just over 40 people. This tiny township and the surrounding bay are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site and, as such, are icons of France. More than 3 million people visit the ancient abbey and fortifications each year. During low tide, the many pilgrims were able to walk across the sand to reach the abbey and monastery that gave this island its name, back in the 8th century. We continue to Caen, final resting place of William the Conqueror and also known for the heavy fighting that took place here during the Battle of Normandy in 1944. Overnight in Caen.

Meals: Breakfast**Fri 13 May 16 | Caen****Spain & France**

A very moving and somewhat sombre day lies ahead as we visit the D-Day beaches. Over 160,000 troops landed across the 80 kilometres of Normandy beaches on 6 June 1944. This joint operation between Allied Forces provided one of the most decisive turning points in World War II. Here, we visit the Arranches Museum which was opened in 1954 to commemorate the Normandy Campaign, as well as Pointe du Hoc and the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial. Today we also visit the Musée de la Tapisserie de Bayeux to view the Bayeux Tapestry. The Bayeux Tapestry is one of the most famous tapestries in the world and was woven in the 1070s, quite possibly in England rather than France. It is akin to an ancient comic book in some regards, depicting around 50 scenes, each with captions. It tells the story of the Battle of Hastings in 1066, a battle between the Anglo-Saxon King Harold and William, Duke of Normandy. Keep your eyes peeled for Halley's Comet which is captured within the embroidered cloth. Overnight in Caen.

Meals: Breakfast**Sat 14 May 16 | Caen - Villers-Bretonneux - Amiens****Spain & France**

Villers-Bretonneux is our destination today and we spend our day touring this small town. In World War I, Villers-Bretonneux was the site of the world's first battle between two tank forces. The Germans took the town but over the next 24 hours it was recaptured by Allied Forces at the cost of over 1,200 Australian lives. This town holds a very special link to Australia, forged over the course of that battle, and to this day the town still expresses heartfelt gratitude for the sacrifice made by the Australian soldiers. The school in Villers-Bretonneux was rebuilt by donations from Victorian school children, each of whom donated a penny, and renamed École Victoria. More recently the children of Villers-Bretonneux raised money to help rebuild one of the Victorian schools lost in the Black Saturday Bushfires. The motto written above the school blackboards is 'N'Oublions Jamais l'Australie' which translates as 'Let us never forget Australia'. Whilst in Villers-Bretonneux we also visit the Musée Franco-Australien which houses a vast array of memorabilia and documents from the war. After such a moving day, we drive to the town of Amiens where we will spend the night. Overnight in Amiens.

Meals: Breakfast**Sun 15 May 16 | Amiens - Paris****Spain & France**

We journey south to the town of Giverny to visit the spectacular gardens of Impressionist painter Claude Monet. Monet noticed the village of Giverny from a train window and decided that he would move there to paint the beautiful countryside. Some of his most famous paintings including his Water Lilly Pond were painted here. After a guided tour of the gardens we have some free time to enjoy this wonderful setting. We then continue to the beautiful city of Paris. Undoubtedly a highlight of any journey to Europe, Paris is a city everyone should visit at least once in their lives. Situated on the River Seine, Paris is home to an abundance of outstanding museums such as the Louvre, the Musée D'Orsay, the Musée de Moyen Age, the Centre Georges Pompidou and more; spectacular cathedrals and churches. Overnight in Paris.

Meals: Breakfast**Mon 16 May 16 | Paris****Spain & France**

This morning we begin exploring the French capital, taking an orientation tour where we see the imposing exterior of the Louvre Museum, pass by the Île de la Cité and see the famous Notre Dame Cathedral. We continue to the prestigious Sorbonne University and the Panthéon and, of course, no tour of Paris would be complete without a ride along the Champs-Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe. As part of our city tour we stop at one of the many Parisian crêperies to indulge in a local staple. We admire the beautiful Place de la Concorde and the Opéra before concluding our tour at the most well-known and recognised landmark; the Eiffel Tower. Take the lift to the second

floor of the tower where you can see for miles and admire an array of beautifully laid out avenues, gardens and parks such as the Luxembourg Gardens and the Jardin des Tuileries on the bank of the River Seine. Our sightseeing tour concludes here so if you wish to join the queue to reach the top of the tower or further explore this wonderful city, the choice is yours. Overnight in Paris.

Meals: Breakfast

Tip: You can save a lot of time and avoid many of the museum, gallery and monument queues by pre-booking your tickets online.

Tue 17 May 16 | Paris

Spain & France

Today is at leisure in this magnificent city. You may wish to visit some of the museums, take a day trip out to Louis XIV's magnificent palace and gardens at Versailles, or browse for some luxury brands whilst shopping in the world's fashion capital. Overnight in Paris.

Meals: Breakfast

Wed 18 May 16 | Paris - Lyon

Spain & France

We bid au revoir to Paris and journey to the town of Beaune in Burgundy. This region is famous for its wine, namely of the Burgundy variety. Beaune is its capital and home to many cellars for the surrounding wineries. After spending some time exploring we continue to Lyon, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Historically, Lyon played an important role in the production and weaving of silk and in more recent times the city has developed a reputation as the capital of French gastronomy. While here, it's worth taking the opportunity to enjoy some charcuterie of local products (such as Saucisson de Lyon - sausage of minced beef and bacon), washed down with a glass of Beaujolais. Overnight in Lyon.

Meals: Breakfast

Thu 19 May 16 | Lyon

Spain & France

This morning we enjoy a sightseeing tour of Lyon that includes the Roman district and Fourvière, Vieux Lyon (otherwise known as the Renaissance district or Old Lyon), the silk district, and the Presqu'île, which features architecture from the 12th century to modern times. The afternoon is at leisure. Overnight in Lyon.

Meals: Breakfast

Fri 20 May 16 | Lyon - Cannes

Spain & France

We depart Lyon and travel towards Cannes today, stopping en route at the town of Sisteron. Situated between two mountains, the town is also known as the 'Gateway to Provence'. We stop here for some time to stretch our legs, explore and find a bite to eat. Sisteron is an ancient town that has been inhabited for more than 4,000 years! We continue to Cannes via the town of Grasse along what is known as the Napoleon Route. Napoleon, on his return from exile on the island of Elba, took this route in 1815 up to Grenoble. Grasse is known as the world's Perfume Capital, with a prosperous industry dating back to the 18th century. It is also a training ground for 'le nez' (the nose) and many have spent time here learning how to discern more than 2,000 different scents. Putting our own noses to the test we visit the Fragonard Parfumerie. It houses a private museum that offers insight in to the 3000 year old history of perfume. Overnight in Cannes.

Meals: Breakfast

Sat 21 May 16 | Cannes

Spain & France

Welcome to Cannes, famous for the International Film Festival and part of the stunning Côte d'Azur. All the glamour of the Film Festival aside, Cannes is also home to 'the Man in the Iron Mask' who was imprisoned in the Fort of St Marguerite on Île Sainte-Marguerite for 11 years. Whilst his identity was never proven, it is believed he was of noble blood. Alexandre Dumas popularised the myth in his novel The Vicomte of Bragelonne. This morning we travel to nearby Nice to explore at our leisure or to simply sit back, relax and watch the world go by at one of the many cafés lining the waterfront. In the afternoon we continue to Monte Carlo, home to casinos, the Monaco Grand Prix and the Royal Family of Monaco. Overnight in Cannes.

Meals: Breakfast

Sun 22 May 16 | Cannes - Avignon**Spain & France**

We say goodbye to the glamorous French Riviera as we make our way inland to Aix-en-Provence. Aix is famous for its Cours Mirabeau, a picturesque thoroughfare lined with plane trees and fountains. It was also the birthplace of Paul Cézanne, the renowned Post-Impressionist painter. We enjoy free time to meander the streets of the old town before we continue towards Avignon. Overnight in Avignon.

Meals: Breakfast**Mon 23 May 16 | Avignon****Spain & France**

Today we start with driving a short distance to visit the Pont du Gard, a masterpiece in ancient architecture. Later we continue our sightseeing in Avignon, which is often referred to as the 'City of Popes' due to it being the Papal home of 7 Popes from 1309 to 1423. The city's ramparts are well-preserved as is its historic centre, the Palace of the Popes and the bridge. The city has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Overnight in Avignon.

Meals: Breakfast**Tue 24 May 16 | Avignon - Carcassonne****Spain & France**

After breakfast this morning we depart Avignon and travel to Carcassonne. Located near the Pyrenees Mountains, Carcassonne is an impressive fortified medieval city. Divided in two sections - the fortified old city, and the lower city, the ville basse, Carcassonne is thought to have been founded by the Visigoths during the 5th century. On arrival, we embark on a walking tour through the narrow streets of the town. We see the Chateau of Viscount Trencavel, the Former Cathedral, Basilique Saint-Nazaire, the Bastide Saint-Louis, and Memorial House. The afternoon is at leisure for you to further explore this UNESCO World Heritage-listed walled city. Overnight in Carcassonne.

Meals: Breakfast**Wed 25 May 16 | Carcassonne - Barcelona****Spain & France**

Travelling back to Spain, we arrive in Barcelona where our afternoon city tour includes a visit to Güell Park, where building began in 1900 and has been declared an artistic monument and World Heritage site by UNESCO. Güell Park was commissioned by Eusebi Güell who wanted a park where the aristocracy of Barcelona could go. The works of art by Antoni Gaudí in Güell Park are strongly influenced by natural shapes and decorated in colourful mosaic tiles and are truly unique! We continue to Plaza Catalunya, one of Barcelona's well known squares and Via Laietana to see the magnificent Barcelona Cathedral and its cloister. The cloister is an undisputed highlight of this city and a masterpiece in Gothic workmanship. Next, we visit the Gothic Quarter which was formerly an ancient Roman village. It features many buildings from the 14th century, and at the heart of the Gothic Quarter is Plaza San Jaume, originally the site of the Roman Forum. Lastly we travel to the Vila Olímpica which was the athlete's residential complex during the Olympics and the Port Olímpic (Olympic Harbour) before ascending Montjuïc Mountain to enjoy a panoramic view of the city and harbour. Overnight in Barcelona.

Meals: Breakfast**Thu 26 May 16 | Barcelona****Spain & France**

After breakfast we continue our sightseeing of Barcelona featuring the important artistic sights including Gaudí's famous buildings Casa Batlló, Casa Milà, (both outside only) and his unfinished masterpiece the Sagrada Família (Holy Family) Cathedral. Gaudí played an important role in the construction of La Sagrada Família from 1882 when work began and right up until 1926 when he passed away. Moving on, we pass by the Monumental Bull Ring and the city park 'Parc de la Ciutadella' which houses both the city zoo and the Museum of Modern Art. The park itself features pleasant tree-lined boulevards ideal to relax in during the heat of summer. The remainder of the day is at leisure before enjoying a group farewell dinner. Overnight in Barcelona.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Tip: Art lovers can choose to further explore Barcelona with a visit to the Picasso Museum which exhibits works from his 'Blue and Pink' periods. Your tour guide can help with directions.

Fri 27 May 16 | Barcelona**Spain & France**

Today marks the completion of our Spain & France group tour. We trust that you will leave with wonderful memories of your Spanish and French adventure.

Meals: Breakfast