

martinitours

Classic Motoring & Historic Aviation Tours



Classic Motoring Icons of Europe

2017

June/July 2017




TOUR ITINERARY

Host:	Martini Tours
Tour:	Classic Motoring Icons of Europe
Code:	Tour 4
Dates of travel:	26th June - 15th July 2017
Preliminary Itinerary:	April 2016

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Experience the best of European motoring and motor racing history. Begin this extraordinary tour in Venice before heading to Modena. The journey continues by taking in the iconic motoring marques of Italy, Germany and France. We tour Porsche, Audi, Lamborghini and Ferrari museums, encountering legendary racing and sports cars, fascinating production models and unusual prototypes. Admirers of Bugatti will never forget their visit to the world's largest collection of these amazing automobiles. See the undeniable icons of world motor sport including Le Mans, Spa and the Nürburgring. Steeped in history, you'll feel the overwhelming presence of champions past and present as you take in these fabled motor circuits. Drive the most beautiful racetracks in the world in your choice of car ranging from entry level race cars to super cars! Unique in design, carved into mountain sides, traversing beautiful green forests – driving these circuits is every motor enthusiasts dream. The highlight of this tour is attending Classic Le Mans – a biennial vintage sports car event held at the track of the *24 heures du Mans*. This tour allows you to create your own history and memories through the extraordinary experiences and activities that bring all these motoring icons to life. This is the trip of a lifetime that you will never forget!



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DAY 2**VENICE – MODENA****Monday 26th June 2017 (B)****Morning Breakfast at your accommodation****Main Group** This morning you will have a 2 hour drive to the town of **Modena**Enjoy a visit to the **Enzo Ferrari Museum****9:30-6:00pm MUSEO ENZO FERRARI MUSEUM**

The space dedicated to Enzo Ferrari, rather than a museum in the traditional sense of the word, is a fascinating, exciting event that manages to combine truly unique elements: in the futuristic 2,500 m² pillar-free hall visitors can get close and personal with the many cars exhibited, but also experience a show that – through an immersive biopic screened using 19 projectors, tells Enzo Ferrari's incredible life story, spanning 90 years, taking them through his various incarnations, from the child who discovered racing at the beginning of 1900 to the pilot, from the manager of Scuderia Ferrari through to the manufacturer with so many triumphs to his credit. The counter-piece to this injection of pure emotion is the Museo dei Motori Ferrari, housed in the painstakingly renovated workshop where Enzo's father used to work: a history within the history that enables visitors to understand why Ferraris are such unique cars

**Current exhibitions include:****A tribute to Ferrari and Pavarotti, international celebrities of Modena-based talent**

An encounter which is presented in the MEF main hall with a stunning video which, with 19 multi-projectors, completely immerses visitors in exhilarating music and history and guides them through the most beautiful Ferraris of all time

The Museo dei Motori

The historic workshop where Enzo Ferrari's father used to work has become the Museo dei Motori: racing car models from various periods are displayed alongside various types of engine including small two, four and six cylinder ones, the classic twelve cylinder engine, eight cylinder and turbo engines as well as Formula One engines. In every area videos illustrate the requirements and characteristics of what have always been considered, and rightly so, the heart of Ferrari cars



From here it is a short drive to the **Maranello Ferrari Museum** which is next to the Ferrari factory and the Fiorano track

9:30-7:00pm MARANELLO FERRARI FACTORY

The Museo Ferrari in Maranello focuses on Ferrari's present and future, whilst remaining deeply rooted in the Prancing Horse's extraordinary history. A permanent exhibition dedicated to Formula 1 and the World Championship, complete with cars and a "pit stop wall" where visitors can gain an understanding of telemetry and pilots' in-race driving behaviour, is flanked by five rooms that host themed exhibitions with wide-ranging appeal. Many other attractions await visitors, including themed films screened, F1 simulators, the opportunity of tackling a real tyre change, mega screens to view Grand Prix action, and a large Ferrari Store.



Current exhibition includes:

Ferrari – Genius and secrets

A company is built by its people. People who, in the case of Ferrari, have created and taken bold risks with pride and determination needed to challenge the entire world in racing and on the market. Ferrari's success in both racing and on the market. Ferrari's success in both racing and sales is the most evident and well know result of this dedication. But those outside the company do not know what actually happens in its office and factory. This exhibition presents, with the personal testimony of those involved, eight different secret stories of



choices, experimentation and decisions which contributed to setting Ferrari apart as a unique brand. The queen of the Ferrari Sporting Spirit Exhibition, on the other hand, was most definitely the famous Ferrari P3, one of the cars that delivered the famous one-two-three finish of 1967. In the course of 2014, the year of the launch of the California T and Ferrari's 60th Anniversary in America, the theme was "California Dreaming" which produced a spectacular exhibition. Immersing visitors in Ferrari's American history, it told a whole series of entrancing stories through a mix of one-off models and stunning backdrops. California Dreaming spanned everything from racing with the Formula 1, sports prototype and GT cars that dominated the American circuits, to Hollywood and Los Angeles via some of the most beautiful Ferrari's ever created including the first 250 California and the 512M, star of the movie, Le Mans, with Steve McQueen

Alternative Spend the day exploring Verona

Enjoy a walking tour of Verona including **Piazza Brà**, the **Roman arena**, the famous shopping streets of **Via Mazzani** and **Via Cappello**, **Juliet's House and Balcony**, **Piazza delle Erbe**, the **Torre dei Lamberti** and the **Castelvecchio**

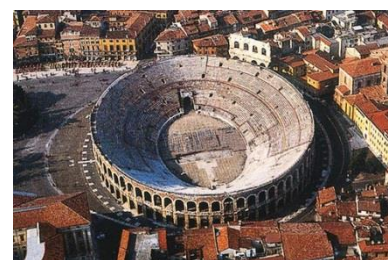
PIAZZA BRÀ

Piazza Brà, often shortened to Brà, is the largest piazza in Verona, with some claims that it is the largest in the country. The piazza is lined with numerous cafés and restaurants, along with several notable buildings. The Verona Arena, originally an amphitheatre built nearly 2000 years ago, is now a world-famous music venue with regular operatic and contemporary music performances. Verona's town hall, the Palazzo Barbieri, also looks out across the piazza. A garden within Bra is shaded by cedar and pine trees. It surrounds the fountain of the Alps and a bronze statue of Victor Emmanuel II. This monument to the first king of Italy, in which he is sat atop a horse, was inaugurated on 9 January 1883, five years to the day after his death. There are many significant buildings within and around Bra, with construction taking place over many centuries



10:00-5:45pm ROMAN ARENA

The Verona Arena (Arena di Verona) is a Roman amphitheatre in Piazza brá, built in 1st century. It is still in use today and is internationally famous for the large-scale opera performances given there. It is one of the best preserved ancient structures of its kind. As famous as Romeo and Juliet and smaller only than the Colosseum and the Amphitheatre of Capua, the Arena of Verona was built by the Romans in the 1st century AD, in the Augustan period. Its name comes from its central area, which was covered with sand, precisely arena in Latin. As in all amphitheatres, the famous gladiator fights were held here, as too were the venations, the hunts of fierce exotic animals



VIA MAZZANI

The Via Mazzini forms a direct connection between the Piazza Brà and the Piazza delle Erbe. It is not only the largest pedestrian area of Verona, but is also one of the busiest streets of the city and Verona's shop window. Row upon row of shops line the road, and large crowds of tourists amble from window to window. All major Italian fashion brands are represented here and offer their goods



VIA CAPPELLO

When on the Via Cappello, most tourists only make it as far as the Casa di Giulietta (Juliet's house), but the Via Cappello with its many shops and restaurants is a popular shopping street for the locals. The Via Cappello was once the main road when you were coming from Bologna and entered the city through the Porta Leoni. The Via Cappello divides at the remains of the old city gate and you can visit the excavations of the Porta Leoni in the middle



1:30-7:30pm JULIET'S HOUSE AND BALCONY

Juliet's house and balcony is a popular attraction for many tourists who travel to Verona to see the balcony where Juliet stood while Romeo declared his love in Shakespeare's famous tragedy. The building, dating back to the 13th century and renovated in the last century, is where the Capulet family is 'said' to have lived. Inside the house is a museum containing a small collection of Renaissance frescos, rescued from other demolished palaces and the bed from Zeffirelli's 1968 movie. In the courtyard you can also find a bronze sculpture of Juliet. Despite that Shakespeare's story is complete fiction, the city of Verona has still become a place of pilgrimage to the point that a team of secretaries were hired to answer mail left for the mythical Juliet



PIAZZA DELLE ERBE

The Piazza delle Erbe has remained the vibrant heart of Verona. Many restaurants have their tables and chairs on the streets and market stalls, which offer mainly souvenirs but also fruits and vegetables, are set up in the middle of the square every day. The Piazza delle Erbe was also the central square in Roman times, the forum romanum, which played host to Verona's political, economic and social life. Many magnificent buildings, including the baroque Palazzo Maffei and the Case dei Mazzanti with its beautiful frescoes inside, surround the square. The Torre del Gardell, a clock tower which was built in 1370 by the Scaliger Cansignorio is located right next to the Palazzo Maffei. In 1421 a clock face was added to the bell tower to show the citizens the correct time. The winged lion in front of the Palazzo, the Colonia di San Marco, was created by the Venetians and served as a symbol of Venice's might



TORRE DEI LAMBERTI

Torre dei Lamberti, built by the powerful Lamberti Family in 1172, belongs to a whole group of towers which rose next to the Palazzo della Ragione. The tower is 84 metres in height and is particularly interesting as it was built "piece-meal" over the centuries. In addition to its alternating bands of tufa and brick-work, the Venetians added certain features in the 16th century and raised the tower to its present height. The tower houses two famous bells, the Rengo and the Marangona, which kept time and regulated city life. The view of the city from this tower (you can ascend by stair-way and lift) is spectacular.



CASTELVECCHIO

Castelvecchio is a castle in Verona and is the most important military construction of the Scaliger dynasty that ruled the city in the Middle Ages. It was constructed on the banks of the Adige by Cangrande II della Scala in 1354 in order to defend Verona's people and also to have a possible escape-route northwards where his Austrian relatives lived. If you look at it closely, the Ponte Scaligero, with its red-brick walls and soaring arches, is asymmetrical and slopes down towards the Adige's left bank, so as to facilitate a quick "get-away" to the country-side. The main restoration of the castle, in 1957, made by the architect Carlo Scarpa and by the director of the museum Licisco Magagnato, gave the museum its actual structure, with 29 rooms of paintings, sculptures, weapons and more, from 1300 to 1700



Enjoy a drink or a meal in one of the restaurants in Piazza Brà

Following your day in Verona you will drive approximately 2 hours to **Modena** to meet up with the rest of the group

Evening

Dinner

Overnight Modena

DAY 3 MODENA – BRESCIA – COMO

Tuesday 27th June 2017 (B)

Morning

Breakfast at your accommodation

Main Group

Today spend some time at the **Panini Museum I** (better known as the unofficial **Maserati Museum**) and the **Lamborghini Museum**

9:30-12:30pm

PANINI MUSEUM I

One of the most beautiful collections of Maseratis is hosted in a typical farm house located in Cittanova di Modena. West (company belonging to the Panini family) has been entrusted with safeguarding the Maserati Collection - which has been painstakingly built over the course of the years and the cars which mark some of the most important moments of its history. The Maserati Collection was first established by the Maserati brothers and was later expanded by Omar Orsi. It has remained almost intact to this day. It currently includes 23 motor vehicles, which are regularly on display and 3 vehicles which are undergoing restoration. The Collection contains a number of cars of great value for Maserati, partly because of their unique nature: such as the 6CM from 1936, of which only 27 were made and which dominated European races in the "vettuette" category and won the Targa Florio, and the A6GCS Berlinetta Pininfarina, of which only 4 were made and which won the Mille Miglia for its category three times with its "barchetta" design



1:30-5:00pm LAMBORGHINI MUSEUM

The Lamborghini Museum retraces the entire history of the House of the Raging Bull, from the 350 GT to the Aventador Roadster. There are several prototypes and exclusive models on display including the Reventón and the Egoista. The Lamborghini Museum reviews all the important milestones reached by the House of the Raging Bull, with a foray into the past that has a strong emotional impact on fans of luxury super sports cars. The Murciélago was the first masterpiece displayed in this inspiring location in Italy's Motor Valley. At its side gallops a broad collection that includes the Miura S and its iconic "eyelashes", the 350 GT, the Countach S, the Jalpa, the Espada, the Sesto Elemento, the Reventón and the other exclusive supercars that have turned the Raging Bull into a legend. Engines, models and photos help provide visitors with a complete overview of the history of this automotive saga, which is continuing in the slipstream of Ferruccio Lamborghini's first visionary idea



Alternative Enjoy the beautiful city of **Brescia**

BRESCIA

Set between Milan and Verona at the foot of the Alps, Brescia is the second-largest city in Italy's northern Lombardy region, with just under 200,000 people. The city's rich history dates back to pre-Roman times, when it was a Gallic capital. Among the many great local sights are the 11th-century **Duomo Vecchio** (Old Cathedral, also called La Rotonda), unique for its circular shape, the 17th-century Duomo Nuovo (New Cathedral) next door, and the first-century Roman ruins at **Tempio Capitolino**. Brescia is considered the industrial capital of Italy. The metallurgy and the production of machine tools and firearms are of particular economic significance, along with mechanical and automotive engineering



Following your day in Brescia the whole group will drive to **Mille Miglia**, an open road endurance race which took place in Italy and houses sports cars like Alfa Romeo, BMW, Ferrari, Maserati, Mercedes Benz and Porsche famous

10:00-6:00pm MILLE MIGLIA

The original Mille Miglia (Thousand Miles) ran between 1927 and 1957 and was one of Italy's most legendary endurance car races – it started in Brescia and took some 16 hours to complete. The race's colourful museum is loaded with some of the greatest cars to cross the finish line, as well as old-style petrol pumps and archive race footage



Drive to the beautiful lakeside town of **Como**, approximately 3 hours away

Overnight Como

DAY 4 COMO – MULHOUSE**Wednesday 28th June 2017 (B)****Morning Breakfast at your accommodation**

This morning you may like to spend some time exploring the historic centre of Como or take a walk around the scenic lake

COMO

With its charming historic centre, Como sparkles year-round. Within its remaining 12th-century city walls, the beautiful people of this prosperous city whisk about from shop to cafe, sweeping by the grandeur of the city's cathedral, villas and the loveliness of its lakeshore with admirable insouciance. The town is a lovely spot for an aimless wander, punctuated with coffee and drink stops, especially in Piazzas Cavour, Alessandro Volta and San Fedele. In 1127, the Milanese conquered Como's forces and ordered the destruction of all walls and buildings save its churches. Centuries later, Como built its wealth on the silk industry and it remains Europe's most important producer of silk products. The most important sight in town is the cathedral, the Duomo. This imposing church was built over a period of several centuries, from 1396-1740, and shows a range of influences, chiefly Renaissance and Gothic. The facade dates from the fifteenth century, while the dome was designed by Filippo Juvarra in the eighteenth century. Alongside the Duomo is the Broletto, Como's thirteenth-century striped-marble town hall



Following your time in Como you will drive approximately 4 ½ hours to **Mulhouse, France**

Main Group Visit the **Schlumpf Collection of Classic Cars** at the **Cité de l'Automobile**

10:00-6:00pm CITÉ DE L'AUTOMOBILE

Cité de l'Automobile, Collection Schlumpf is an automobile museum located in Mulhouse, France and built around the Schlumpf Collection of classic automobiles. It contains the largest and most comprehensive collection of Bugatti motor vehicles in the world. The impressive entrance to the Cité de l'Automobile is reached by a footpath across the canal. This area was designed by Studio Milou in 2006 as part of the development of new reception and exhibition areas. It symbolises human creativity and imagination, which have been particularly prolific in the motorcar industry. Upon your arrival you will see a spectacular door of wood, glass and steel, adorned with an unusual decoration of cars and animals. Going through the door, there is a wall of images featuring extracts of films where cars play a starring role. You are guided through to the next area by projections of motorcars in the Museum which move along at your pace. In this huge 17,000 m² hall, lit by 800 lamp posts identical to those on the Alexandre III bridge in Paris, 243 cars that have marked their era tell the story of the motorcar from 1878 through to the present today



Alternative Spend some time in the **Musee de l'Impression sur Etoffes de Mulhouse** (the Museum of Printed Textiles), a beautiful museum displaying the history and techniques of printing on fabrics

2:00-6:00pm MUSEE DE L'IMPRESSION SUR ETOFFES DE MULHOUSE

In 1833, a group of textile manufacturers based in and around Mulhouse formed an Industrial Society known as the "Société Industrielle". They decided to collectively archive the designs they produced.

In order to complement their own personal collections they added designs from other countries, and from earlier times. This collection grew in importance to become what is today the premier collection of printed textiles in the world. The original purpose of this design collection was to inspire artists and designers of the time by introducing them to new and different patterns and styles. This long established history of sharing ideas continues today in the form of the textile research room, the S.U.D. More than 3 million samples are housed here, spanning three centuries of design history.



The Museum's vocation is to understand and make known to as many people as possible the history and technique of printed textiles. Decorative Art Museum, Industrial Museum, Local History or Museum of Fashion, the Museum of Printed Textiles is situated somewhere between memory and creation. To accomplish its mission the Museum's first priority is to preserve the history and practice of printed textiles. Secondly, to share this with as many people as possible. Focusing on every aspect of the art and craft of textile design, the Museum's rich history in qualitative as well as quantitative terms is its strength. The many, varied and innovative services to the public include Temporary exhibitions, publications, demonstrations of hand and machine printing techniques and creative workshops

Evening **Dinner**

Overnight in Mulhouse

DAY 5 MULHOUSE – STUTTGART – MUNICH Thursday 29th June 2017 (B)

Morning **Breakfast at your accommodation**

This morning board your train for a 2 ½ hour journey to **Stuttgart**

Main Group This morning, take a **guided tour** at the **Mercedes Museum**

9:00-6:00pm **MERCEDES MUSEUM**



The Mercedes-Benz Museum is the only museum in the world that can document in a single continuous timeline over 125 years of auto industry history from its very beginnings to the present day. On nine levels and covering a floor space of 16,500 square metres, the museum presents 160 vehicles and over 1,500 exhibits. As a place of innovation, it also demonstrates that history can point the way ahead

During a **two-hour guided tour** of the exhibition, visitors experience a unique journey through automotive history. Transported by lift to the uppermost level of the museum, the visitor arrives back in the year 1886, where two museum tours gradually spiral their way down through the extensive collection and back to the museum exit

Choose from the following tours:

Automobile Tour –Milestones and their history

Welcome to the home of the inventor of the motor car! Experience 160 vehicle exhibits and numerous special exhibition pieces and gain an overview of the history of the motor car. The chronological tour through the Legend halls takes you on a journey through time, from the dawn of automotive history in 1886 right through to the present day. In addition, you will also travel through a series of theme-based collections spanning various eras, housed in five different Collection halls

Architecture Tour – You're allowed to be amazed

Discover the unique architecture of the Mercedes-BenzMuseum, which rises up into the sky like a spiral. The shape is reminiscent of a DNA double helix structure, and represents the heritage of the Mercedes brand, as expressed in each of the more than 1,500 exhibits which are on display. The tours are conducted by guides who have been specially trained by architects to ensure that you get to discover this impressive structure in great detail. It is a milestone in contemporary architecture, providing an altogether unique perspective on structural design. Learn how this work of art, composed of glass, concrete and steel, pushed the boundaries of feasibility during its construction. Immerse yourself in the fascinating world of a building which is second to none, and experience the exciting interaction between automotive and architectural elements which come together superbly in a construction which was specifically built around the unique exhibition which it now houses.

This afternoon visit the **Porsche Museum for a guided tour**

9:00-6:00pm **PORSCHE MUSEUM**



Enjoy a guided close-up experience of the history of Porsche. Encounter legendary racing and sports cars, fascinating production models as well as unusual prototypes. More than 80 vehicles will take you from the early years of Porsche's history, all the way to the present day. After being drawn in by the workshop's display of vintage metal, visitors will turn around to find an escalator and stairway leading from the ground level to the display space. The exhibit is broken down into two groupings: one with cars from before 1948 and the other beginning with the first Porsche-badged vehicle produced, a 1948 356 roadsters



Other tours of the facility include:

Guided architectural tour

Experience the Museum from a different point of view. During a 60-minute tour, you will learn the concept developed by architects, Delugan Meissl, who designed both the internal and external architecture. Join the tour through the Museum and then discover the history of the company

Audio Guides

Visitors can use the audio guides to explore the exhibition in any sequence and at any pace they prefer. It contains sound tracks for motion pictures, information about individual vehicles and topical information about Thematic Islands and individual arrangements

Alternative Spend some time in the beautifully preserved medieval city of **Esslingen am Neckar** including the **Inner Bridge**, the **Hafenmarket**, ancient wine cellars and vineyards, the **Old City Hall** and the **Marketplatz**

Drive approximately 3 hours to **Munich**

Evening **Dinner**

Overnight in Munich

DAY 6 **MUNICH**

Friday 30th June 2017 (B)

Morning **Breakfast at your accommodation**

Main Group Enjoy a visit to the **BMW Museum**, **BMW Welt** and a **guided tour** of the **BMW Plant**

10:00-6:00pm **BMW MUSEUM**

The BMW Museum offers a fascinating presentation of the company, brand and product history of BMW. About 125 of the brand's most valuable and attractive automobiles, motorcycles and engines are displayed on a surface area of 5000 m². BMW Museum embodies the brand experience in Munich along with the BMW Plant and BMW Welt. It was founded in 1973 as one of the first ever brand museums and was redesigned and expanded in 2008. Enjoy deep insights into the tradition, present and future of the BMW brand

7:30-12:00am **BMW WELT**

Set in a spectacular modern structure across the street from the museum, BMW Welt is where new owners pick up their car and visitors can see various exhibitions and learn about the complex logistics of automobile delivery

9:00-4:30pm BMW PLANT TOUR

The BMW Plant Munich is the BMW Group's home plant. It employs a workforce of around 9,000 people from more than 50 countries around the world, including around 700 apprentices. As a part of the BMW Group's worldwide production network, the BMW Munich Plant builds more than 900 cars and up to 1,400 engines a day. The plant offers visitors a direct insight into state-of-the-art automobile manufacture.



The tour through BMW's original plant offers an exciting insight into all areas of automobile production. The experts guiding the tour naturally focus on the guests' specific requests and questions. In its concept and route, the BMW plant tour follows specific content-related criteria, giving students access to all automobile production technologies at BMW Plant Munich: the Press Shop, Body Shop, Paint Shop, Engine Shop, the Production of Interior Equipment and Seats, as well as Assembly

**Alternative
11:30am**

Take a **guided bike tour of Munich** which will include the historic city centre, **the English Garden** and a nice stretch along the Isar River where you can see one of Munich's most popular beaches and the beautiful **Peace Angel monument**, the **Maximilianeum** (the Bavarian Parliament building), the **Volksbad**, **Lukas Kirche** and the **Deutsches Museum**

ENGLISH GARDEN

"The Englische Garten ("English Garden") is one of the largest urban parks in the world. The layout has undergone constant change throughout the centuries as new buildings and green spaces were added time and again. The English Garden is both beautifully designed and historically very important as the first public garden on the Continent, which paved the way for the further development of public green areas in towns. With its generous dimensions and constantly changing views of park architecture and landscape features, its enclosed spaces and the play of light and shade, the English Garden is an outstanding example of a classical landscape garden

**PEACE ANGEL MONUMENT**

The Friedensengel (Angel of Peace) is a monument built at the end of the 19th century to celebrate 25 years of Peace after the Franco-Prussian war ended in a victory for the German troops in 1871

The focal point of the monument is the 25 metre tall Corinthian column topped by a gilded bronze statue of the Angel of Peace. The figure is modelled after the statue of Nike - Goddess of Victory - that once crowned a column in front of the Temple of Zeus at Ancient Olympia

**LUKAS KIRCHE**

St. Luke's Church is the largest Protestant church in Munich. It was built in 1893-1896 and is the only almost perfectly preserved Lutheran parish church in Munich. Lukas Kirche is located on the banks of the Isar River



9:00-5:00pm DEUTSCHES MUSEUM

This amazing attraction is the largest technological museum of its kind in the world and is renowned for its incredible historic artifacts, which mark important steps in the field of science and technology. Exhibits at the Deutsches Museum are many and varied and cover topics such as aerospace, astronomy, agriculture, computers, chemistry, electricity, marine navigation, mining, music, railways and telecommunication. Visitors can view the first Siemens dynamo engine in the Electrical Power exhibit; see musical instruments of all varieties, from ancient brass instruments to modern synthesizers; and enjoy woodcuts and copper engravings that date back to Gutenberg and his early printing press

Instead of going on a bike ride, you may choose to experience a **guided tour of Dachau**, the first established concentration camp and a haunting memorial of Europe's darkest days

9:00-5:00pm DACHAU

On March 22, 1933, a few weeks after Adolf Hitler had been appointed Reich Chancellor, a concentration camp for political prisoners was set up in Dachau. This camp served as a model for all later concentration camps and as a "school of violence" for the SS men under whose command it stood. SS is the abbreviation for The Schutz-Staffel, which translates to Protection Squadron or Defence Corps. The SS was one of the largest and most powerful organizations in the Third Reich. Built upon the Nazi ideology, the SS was responsible for many of the crimes against humanity during World War II



In the twelve years of Dachau's existence, over 200,000 persons from all over Europe were imprisoned here and in the numerous subsidiary camps. 41,500 were murdered. On April 29 1945, American troops liberated the survivors. The Memorial Site on the grounds of the former concentration camp was established in 1965 on the initiative of and in accordance with the plans of the surviving prisoners who had joined together to form the Comité International de Dachau. The Bavarian state government provided financial support. Between 1996 and 2003 a new exhibition on the history of the Dachau concentration camp was created, following the theme of the "Path of the Prisoners"

Evening Dinner

Overnight Munich

DAY 7 MUNICH – INGOLSTADT – NÜRBURG**Saturday 1st July 2017 (B)**

Morning Breakfast at your accommodation

This morning drive approximately 1 ½ hours to **Ingolstadt**

Main Group Enjoy a visit to the **Audi Museum**



9:00-6:00pm AUDI MUSEUM

At the Audi factory in Ingolstadt sits the huge Audi Forum, which offers Euro delivery, factory tours, several levels of restaurants and the superb Audi Museum. The museum showcases examples of all four brands from 1903 through to the modern Audis. The museum showcases examples of all four brands from 1903 through to the modern Audis. In the '30s, Horch was a luxury brand rivalling Mercedes, offering both V8 and V12 engines. Several of these cars are on display, including the rare 855, of which only 10 were built. A cutaway of a complete luxury Audi from the '20s shows the wooden body structure exposed

Discovery Tours

Experience the Audi brand at the Ingolstadt plant in all its diversity: in the Audi museum mobile or in production, on an overview tour or with a special custom programme. The selection of programmes is as diverse as our visitors' interests. We are happy to arrange individual tours or tourist programmes. Special children's programmes open up the fascinating world of the car to the "drivers of tomorrow" in a particularly interactive way

Choose from the following:**Overview tour of Production****Experience the entire production process of an Audi – up close and personal**

You'll find out interesting facts about all European Audi locations as well as the main plant in Ingolstadt. In the press shop you'll feel the pressure produced by the metal-forming tools; in the body shop you can watch the fascinating ballet performed by welding robots. Learn about bonding technology and witness a "marriage" – when the powertrain and body are joined together during final assembly

Paint Shop Tour

Before slipping into protective clothing for a tour of the "top coat application" section, you'll be given basic information on the subjects of surface protection and paint structure. In the clean-room areas, you'll find out about the structure and organisation of the paint shop, manual and automated paint application methods and how custom paint finishes are realised – and, of course, about the important aspect of environmental technology. Finally, you'll visit the finishing lines where the vehicle paintwork is inspected once again

The making of an A3 body

In the body shop you can watch as steel parts are delivered, moved through the band-cutting unit and the large-capacity suction press, all the way to the parts warehouse, and find out about the latest metal-forming technologies along the way. Afterwards, you'll visit one of the most advanced body manufacturing facilities in the world. The body shop for the A3 is a new, highly efficient factory for a new, highly efficient car. Using innovative technologies, the A3 body is manufactured on state-of-the-art machinery. Efficiency and sustainability were the focus during planning of this production hall

The making of an Audi

Accompany the production process of an Audi, from the delivery of the steel panels through to the delivery centre. This one-day programme takes you first to the north end of the plant where you'll visit the press shop and body shop. A tour of the paint shop and its clean-room areas concludes part one. After lunch at the Audi Forum, you'll follow the further production stages in final assembly, before finding out about vehicle delivery procedures in the Customer Centre

Alternative

Time for some shopping! **Ingolstadt Village** is a Chic Outlet Shopping Village and home to over 100 famous brands

10:00-8:00pm CHIC OUTLET SHOPPING

Each Chic Outlet Shopping® Village is home to an unrivalled mix of both quintessentially European and international fashion and luxury brands, which offer their previous seasons' collections with savings of up to 60%, and sometimes more, on the recommended retail price throughout the year.

Anya Hindmarch, Cath Kidston, Comptoir des Contonniers, Diane von Furstenberg, Escada, Hoss Intropia, Karen Millen, Le Creuset, Matthew Williamson, Missoni, Mulberry, Penhaligon's, Sandro, Temperley London, Tory Burch, Vivienne Westwood, and Yves Saint Laurent are just a few of the brands that have chosen to open boutiques within the Collection of Chic Outlet Shopping® Villages



Afternoon Transfer approximately 5 ½ hours to **Nürburg**

Evening **Dinner**

Overnight Nürburg

DAY 8 NÜBURG**Sunday 2nd July 2017 (B, D)**

Morning **Breakfast at your accommodation**

Main Group This morning, visit the **Nürburgring Race Museum**

10:00-5:0pm NÜRBURGRING RACE MUSEUM

Alongside the Grand Prix track, Erlebnis-Welt (the Nürburgring Hall of Fame and Indoor Attraction Park) offers fun, action and exciting information for adults. Embark on a journey of discovery through the world of motorsport. Everything revolves around the legend, motor racing and mobility and you can experience the world of the Nürburgring with all your senses. The space which totals more than 10,000 square metres, occupies three buildings. Erlebnis-Welt includes a racing museum, GT4 race-driving and G-force simulators, a "Playstation-Gameworld", a panoramic cinema and an indoor kart track



OPTIONAL You may have the option to take the **VLN Adventure**

VLN ADVENTURE

The VLN race series with a wide range of touring cars takes place exclusively at the Nürburgring. With almost 200 vehicles per race start its four to six hours over time Grand Prix circuit and the Nordschleife. The smorgasbord of different brands and horsepower Mercedes to Mini, as well as the up-close experience in motorsport paddock, in the stands and along the Nordschleife make the race unique. With the included **backstage tour** you become a Nürburgring insider and throw a look behind the scenes of the racing action. Expert guides accompany you to the historic paddock, the press centre, the podium and tell interesting facts about the history and present of the Nürburgring



Alternative The **Wessex Region** is famous for its castles. This afternoon you will have the opportunity to explore the medieval Nürburg Castle

9:00-6:00pm **NÜRBURG CASTLE**

Nürburg is a town in the German district of Ahrweiler, in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate. It is also the name of the local castle, Burg Nürburg (Nürburg Castle), which was built in the High Middle Ages. The town is best known for its 24 kilometre race track, the Nürburgring. Five kilometres of the track are used for a Formula One grand prix

The Nürburg rises above the village of the same name (in the district of Ahrweiler) on the second highest hill in the Eifel (678m). The castle and hill are regarded as a characteristic feature of the Eifel. Even though it is one of the most significant castles in the Eifel, it nevertheless still needs to be researched in full. There are almost no written sources relating to the history of the castle's construction in the Middle Ages. The hill is referred to in documentary evidence in AD 954 by the name "mone nore", which means black hill.

In descriptions of boundaries which served to clarify which property belonged to whom, it was used as a significant reference marker. The name Nürburg is thought to derive from mons nore, as the colour of the volcanic basalt used to build the castle exhibits an unusually dark colour. The Nürburg is considered to be the "highest castle in Rhineland-Pfalz" and on a clear day, the spires of the Cologne Cathedral may be seen. The main feature is a tower that you can climb to enjoy the panoramic views from the top



Evening **Dinner is included tonight at the Pistenklause Restaurant**

PISTENKLAUSE RESTAURANT

Enjoy a unique racing atmosphere as you dine at the venue where legends such as Nikki Lauda, Ayrton Senna and Mikka Hakkinen have celebrated their victories

Overnight Nürburg

DAY 9

NÜRBURG – SPA

Monday 3rd July 2017 (B)

Morning **Breakfast at your accommodation**

Main Group Today you will experience the thrill of **driving the Nürburgring** in your choice of car. You may also like to explore the Nordschleife

GRAND PIX CIRCUIT

Come to the Nürburgring and feel like Michael Schumacher! The fascination racing track can so regularly be experienced by everyone. The 5.148 km long route provides long run-off zones, gravel beds, seven left and ten right curves - and a lot of cult potential!

NORDSCHLEIFE CIRCUIT

Racing and winning on the Nordschleife has always been very special for racing drivers, because the track is one of the most demanding in the world. Tricky corners, treacherous crests, steep inclines and gradients and constantly changing road surfaces demand great skill from the driver and put vehicles to a hard test.



Alternative Today you will spend some time exploring the city of **Cologne** including a visit to the **Dom**, one of the largest churches in Europe, the love lock bridge and perhaps enjoy a visit to the **Chocolate Museum** where you can taste freshly made chocolate while taking in views of the Rhine

COLOGNE

Cologne Cathedral spires tower over Germany's oldest city and its innumerable cultural and historical treasures, world-famous museums and active art scene. Take a trip through 2000 years of history and visit cultural monuments from the Roman Empire to modern times. Built between 1248 and 1880, Cologne Cathedral is regarded as a masterwork of medieval Gothic architecture. It is one of the finest ecclesiastical edifices in the world. Whether visiting the Romano-Germanic Museum, looking around the Roman Praetorium or taking a walk past the medieval city gates – Cologne's 2,000-year history can be felt everywhere. The Romano-Germanic Museum is, besides its outstanding glass collection, home to the Dionysos mosaic and the famous tomb of Pöblius. Situated directly on the Rhine and marked by narrow gables and high slated roofs, a district of its own type asserts itself in the Old City of Cologne, the unmistakable, historically appearing character of which stands out immediately



6:00-9:00pm COLOGNE CATHEDRAL

It can be seen from nearly every point in the city centre and from many places elsewhere: The magnificent Cologne Cathedral hovers above the roofs and chimneys of the city. It is not only used as a point of orientation but is the pride of the people in Cologne. The panorama of the city has been dominated by the Cathedral's gigantic pair of towers since their completion in 1880

THE DOM

The platform of Cologne Cathedral's South Tower offers an impressive view from a height of approximately 100 m. In order to enjoy the impressive view across the city and the Rhine from this spot you must first climb the 533 steps. When the weather is good it is possible to see as far as the hills of the Siebengebirge. The climb up the steps to the platform takes visitors past the bell chamber. Out of the Cathedral's eight bells, St. Peter's Bell (in Kölsch "d'r Dicke Pitter"), is the largest freely swinging church bell in the world and weighs 24 tonnes



LOVE LOCK BRIDGE

For several years now, love locks have been considered one of Cologne's most charming traditions. As proof of their love, couples fix padlocks to the railings on the Hohenzollern Bridge; to ensure everlasting love, they then throw the key into the Rhine River below. It is thought that the romantic custom originated in Italy. Over time, tens of thousands of couples and friends in Cologne have sworn their loyalty to one another in this way. Along with padlocks in all colours and shapes, there are also combination padlocks and bicycle chains on the bridge. Many of them have been elaborately designed; often engraved, painted, adorned, or decorated with home-made stickers



CHOCOLATE MUSEUM

Visitors of all ages can satisfy their sweet tooth in the Chocolate Museum in Cologne, which showcases the 3000-year long culture of chocolate around the world. The futuristic museum's complex, made of steel and glass, is situated right on the banks of the Rhine River, close to Cologne's Old Town. In its exhibition, you can learn about the history of chocolate, from the Mayan's chocolate "drink of the gods" to today's chocolate commercials. Stroll through the museum's greenhouse with its cocoa trees, and find out how the cocoa bean becomes a chocolate bar from start to finish in the museum's mini-production unit



Later this afternoon, transfer approximately 1 ½ hours to **Spa in Belgium**

Evening

Dinner

Overnight in Spa

DAY 10

SPA

Tuesday 4th July 2017 (B)

Morning

Breakfast at your accommodation

Main Group

Visit the **Spa-Francorchamps Racetrack museum**

10:00-6:00pm SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS RACETRACK MUSEUM

Wrapped in a curtain of greenery between Stavelot, Malmédy and Spa, scene of so many car and motorcycling exploits, the Spa-Francorchamps racetrack is still considered by many racing drivers as the "most beautiful track in the world". The Museum, located in Abbey's magnificent vaulted cellars, retraces the prestigious history of the track. Original visual documents, educational panels and a continually renewed presentation of exceptional vehicles retrace the passion of the competition, from the pioneers to the present day: Ferrari, March, Chevron, Porsche, Cooper, Formula 1, but also the epic 24-hour motor and motorcycle races, take on a new dimension



Visit the **Circuit de Spa Francorchamps** and drive on the most beautiful racetrack in the world in your choice of car, ranging from entry level race cars up to supercars



Alternative

The local **healing cold springs** gave Spa its name and are thought to have been in existence since as far back as the 14th century. The small town is dotted with spa facilities including **natural mineral geysers**. Spend some time at "**Les Thermes de Spa**" rejuvenating body and mind. Spa's enviable location, surrounded by forests, valleys and mountains, also make it the ideal spot for hiking and walking

9:00-9:00pm LES THERMES DE SPA

A unique establishment surrounded by nature, perched atop a hill overlooking the town and nestling like a jewel amid the greenery and authentic natural High Fens habitat that is the source of Spa's iron bearing spring waters. An extraordinary view brought to you by an architectural style open on its surroundings, with pure lines and gentle curves, endowed with monumental bay windows. The aesthetics of its lines and the beauty of the materials combine to make it an exceptional location. The new spa has been newly renovated with around 8600 square feet of hot swimming pools, with water temperatures of 90 degrees. Open for visits ranging from a few ours to a full day, this spa will take you straight to a state of blissful relaxation. The water comes directly from the "Clementine" spring, and is filled with natural minerals good for cleaning the skin. Thanks to the bells of water, geysers, bubble seats, couches and other bubbling water cannons, you will be relax, un-winded and tone up



Evening Dinner

Overnight Spa

DAY 11 SPA – LE MANS**Wednesday 5th July 2017 (B)**

Morning Breakfast at your accommodation

Drive approximately 3 hours to **Reims, France**, for lunch

From Reims it is a 3 ½ hour drive to **Le Mans**

Evening Dinner

Overnight Le Mans

DAY 12 LE MANS**Thursday 6th July 2017 (B)**

Morning Breakfast at your accommodation

Main Group To be advised

Alternative Today you will spend the day in the Loire Valley region visiting **Tours, Château de Chenonceau and Château d'Amboise**

9:00-7:30pm CHÂTEAU CHENONCEAU

Take an **audio guide** of the most spectacular Chateaux in the Loire Valley, built over a river. It has a fascinating history. Property of the Crown, then royal residence, Château Chenonceau is an exceptional site not only because of its original design, the richness of its collections, its furniture and its decorations, but also because of its destiny, since it was loved, administrated and protected by women, who were all extraordinary and who, for the most part have marked history. It is specifically known as the Château des Dames as it was mostly owned by Queens of France, powerful mistresses of the Kings or other extraordinary women.



Château Chenonceau has an exceptional museum collection of the Old Masters' paintings: Murillo, Tintoretto, Nicolas Poussin, Le Corrège, Rubens, Le Primatice, Van Loo as well as an extremely rare selection of Flanders Tapestries from the 16th century. See the room of Five Queens, the living room of Louis XIV, the grand gallery overlooking the River Cher, fabulous kitchens constructed in the piers of the bridge and the Green Cabinet of Catherine de Medici

9:00-7:00pm CHÂTEAU D'AMBOISE

Situated in the Centre Val de Loire region in the town of Amboise, the medieval fortress of Amboise was replaced by a royal residence during the reigns of Kings Charles VIII and François I (late 15th - early 16th century). Impressive and refined, the Château d'Amboise is situated on a ridge overhanging the valley. Besides being a royal residence, it is also known for its Saint Hubert chapel, a masterpiece of extravagant gothic architecture, which houses the tomb of Leonardo da Vinci, and also for its gardens



Evening Dinner

Overnight Le Mans

DAY 13

LE MANS CLASSIC

Friday 7th July 2017 (B)

Morning Breakfast at your accommodation

Main Group Attend the Le Mans Classic

LE MANS CLASSIC

The Le Mans Classic is a biennial vintage sports car event held on the grounds of the 24 Hours of Le Mans. It began in 2002 and runs every two years in July on the full circuit, also used for the annual modern day 24 Hours of Le Mans. The Le Mans Classic event of 2002 was the first time since 1923 that the full 24-hour Circuit, part of which is public road the rest of the year, was closed specifically for an event, allowing car owners to experience what it must have been like to race

Alternative Spend a second day exploring the Loire region with a visit to the historic town of Orléans

ORLÉANS

The largest town in the Loire Valley after Tours, Orléans is a designated UNESCO World Heritage City and a good base to begin exploring the region. The city of Orléans is inseparably bound with the history of Joan of Arc, the Maid of Orléans. The city has a small museum devoted to Joan of Arc in a restored 15th-century house. Another tourist attraction is the Cathédrale Sainte-Croix, founded in 1278 on the site of an earlier 10th-century church. The cathedral's monumental exterior features twin towers (81 meters high), five doorways, and elaborate Baroque decoration. The sheer size of the interior leaves a lasting impression. The cathedral's chapels date from the late 13th century to the 14th century. The cathedral also boasts a fine 17th-century organ. The treasury includes Byzantine fabrics and enamelwork. Orléans's Musée des Beaux-Arts contains an extensive collection of art works from the 15th to the 19th century including pieces by Gauguin, Soutine, Kupka, Mathieu and Dufy.



Evening Dinner

Le Mans stages a spectacular light show, **La Nuit des Chimères** throughout the summer. Lasers striate the walls of the old city to create incredibly detailed tableaux of Plantagenet banquets, mythical Roman monsters and fairy-tale forests

LA NUIT DES CHIMÈRES

The Night of chimeras is an evening cultural event organized by the City of Le Mans. The principle is to illuminate the old town, to using holograms during the summer, from Tuesday to Saturday. Seven sites are highlighted in the Old Mans. It is proposed to spectator's free evening stroll to discover the architectural heritage. Projected graphics achievements are due to Skertzò. On the play, they tell the history of the Plantagenet town. These projections also reconstruct the life of the Middle Ages



Overnight Le Mans

DAY 14 LE MANS CLASSIC**Saturday 8th July 2017 (B)****Morning Breakfast at your accommodation**

Main Group Option to spend a second day at the **Le Mans Classic**

Alternative Today you will explore the largest wine producing area in France with a one day **Loire Wine Discovery Tour**. Your tour will include plateau-top vineyards, centuries old wine caves and also a beautiful lunch

10:00am LOIRE WINE DISCOVERY TOUR

Immerse yourself in a tour which gives a fascinating insight into the wines and winemakers of the Loire valley. The day includes a comprehensive tasting and lunch in the comfort of the old winemaker's home followed by a guided winery visit in the afternoon. Enjoy a tutored tasting of 6 wines reflecting the diversity of this great winemaking region in the comfort of the 16th century tasting room. You will learn the basics of tasting technique, discuss the geography of the region and unravel the mysteries of French wine labelling. Relax in the garden with an aperitif before moving into the cellar for a delicious home-made 3 course lunch with wine in the old barrel maturation cellar beneath the house. Indulge in a selection of dishes creatively prepared using local ingredients sourced from our neighbouring potager and fresh herbs from the garden

Afternoon Lunch

After lunch, you will drive to one of the many famous appellations and visit a winery where you'll have the chance to taste a range of wines, stroll around the vineyards and buy wine at cellar door prices

Evening Dinner

Overnight Le Mans

DAY 15**LE MANS – PARIS****Sunday 9th July 2017 (B)****Morning Breakfast at your accommodation**

This morning visit the **Musée Automobile De La Sarthe (Sarthe Automobile Museum)**

10:00-7:00pm Musée Automobile De La Sarthe

The Museum of the 24 Hours, Sarthe Circuit belongs to the County Council of the Sarthe and is managed by the Cultural Centre. Focusing on a key ruling, Sarthe Circuit sports a scenography presenting the great History Le Mans 24 Hours and the evolution of the automobile. A sequenced course in six areas, combining technical and industrial heritage culture, invites visitors to discover more than a hundred vehicles and many collectibles, movies and archival photo graphs. Originally founded in the legendary circuit of Le Mans 24 Hours in 1961, then called the Museum of Sarthe Automobile Museum was rebuilt in 1991 at the main entrance of the circuit. Totally renovated in 2009, it re-opens its doors and offers a whole new set design that relies more on the relationship between the famous race car and the local heritage



Transfer approximately 3 hours to **Paris**

Afternoon Lunch will be en-route to Paris

On arrival, Enjoy an **orientation tour of Paris** en route to the hotel. Your tour will include views of amazing squares, monuments and architecture such as the **Opéra Garnier, Place de la Concorde, Champs-Élysées, Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Centre Pompidou, Le Louvre and Notre Dame Cathedral**

10:00-5:00pm OPÉRA GARNIER

Opera Garnier is the largest opera theatre in the world with enough staging for 450 performers. Made famous by Gaston Leroux in his novel, The Phantom of the Opéra, it is a fabulous building to visit. Seating 2,200 people, the imposing Opéra Garnier in Paris is an architectural treasure and essential spot for the city's ballet and classical music scene. Designed by Charles Garnier and inaugurated in 1875 as the Academie Nationale de Musique -Theatre de l'Opéra (National Academy of Music - Opera Theatre), the neo-baroque style Opéra Garnier is now the home of the Paris ballet

**AVENUE DES CHAMPS ÉLYSÉES**

The name Champs-Élysées refers to Greek mythology, and literally means Elysian Fields, symbolising the place of the blessed. Located in the north-western part of the city, it spreads over two kilometres through the 8th arrondissement, starting from the Place de la Concorde and running to the Place Charles de Gaulle in the west. Like the Eiffel Tower, this avenue is a symbol of Paris. It is lined with luxury boutiques including Louis Vuitton, Mont-Blanc, Guerlain and Ferrari, flagship stores such as Banana Republic, Abercrombie and Sephora and popular restaurants Hard Rock Café, l'Atelier Renault and Ledoyen.



It is also the location for some of the top museums in Paris: the Grand Palais, the Petit Palais, the Palais de la Découverte and the Espace Culturel Louis Vuitton. Avenue des Champs Elysées is the setting each year for major events such as the Bastille Day military parade, the arrival of the Tour de France and the Christmas lights. Frequently described as 'the world's most beautiful avenue', the Avenue des Champs-Élysées is a Paris must-see

ARC DE TRIOMPHE



The **Arc de Triomphe** is one of the most famous monuments and French symbols in Paris. This triumphal arch was built to commemorate the victory of the battle of Austerlitz. Construction finished in 1836 and it soon became a place of national importance. The ashes of Napoléon Bonaparte and Victor Hugo were guarded here before their burial ceremony. Many official military parades were also held here. Beneath the Arc de Triomphe rests the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which commemorates soldiers who lost their lives during World War I

9:00-12:00am EIFFEL TOWER (LA TOUR EIFFEL)

Truly the symbol of Paris and the most Built in 1887, it is still the tallest structure storey building. You will return tomorrow magnificent views over the city. Split into operates as the main viewing gallery on bet for getting some fantastic photos of majestic Sacre-Coeur on the hill of Seine winding across the city



visited monument in the world. in Paris, equivalent to an 81-to climb to the 2nd floor for two sections, the second floor the Eiffel Tower and is your best the Parisian landscape, from the Montmartre to the ribbon of the

11:00-10:00pm LE CENTRE POMPIDOU

Le Centre Pompidou is the National Centre for Art and Culture. This was the invention of Georges Pompidou, President of France. Located in the heart of Paris, this building is an architectural landmark and contains a huge collection of modern and contemporary art, a large public library and a music research institute



Check into your accommodation

Evening

Dinner

Overnight in Paris

DAY 16

PARIS

Monday 10th July 2017 (B)

Morning

Breakfast at your accommodation

This morning return to the **Eiffel Tower** and travel to the **2nd floor** for magnificent views over the city

PLEASE NOTE: It is not always possible to book timed tickets for the Eiffel Tower, although we do our best to obtain tickets if we can. If not, and you would still like to ride to the top, you will need to stand in line with the public.



Afternoon Lunch is on your own

This afternoon travel on Le Metro, the underground rail system in Paris, to the **Musee d'Orsay**

MUSEE D'ORSAY

This monumental art gallery displays France's national collections of paintings, sculptures, objets d'art and other works produced between 1848 and 1914. They are spectacularly housed in this former train station, built in 1900. It is also the home of the Impressionists



Spend the rest of the afternoon and evening exploring the **Saint-Germain** district of Paris

SAINT-GERMAIN

The St-Germain-des-Prés neighbourhood lines the Left Bank of the Seine and extends southwards towards the sprawling Jardin du Luxembourg. It is one of the swankier, upscale neighbourhoods in Paris. Situated along the Seine River, the area is also an artistic hub, with some of the city's most prestigious museums, art dealers and small galleries. Once a spot for existentialist thinkers like Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir, this is the place to see and be seen, window shop for Swarovski crystal and take home a piece of modern art for your mantel



Evening Dinner

Overnight Paris

DAY 17 PARIS

Tuesday 11th July 2017 (B)

Morning Breakfast at your accommodation

This morning you will explore **Le Louvre** to see the famous Mona-Lisa painting. There are also other beautiful paintings, sculptures and Museum's to see

LE LOUVRE

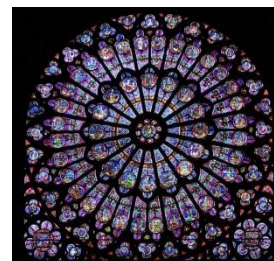
The Louvre Museum is one of the most visited, oldest, largest, and most famous art galleries and museums in the world. The building was previously a royal palace, and is famous for holding several of the world's most prestigious works of art. The collection of the Louvre Museum was first established in the sixteenth century as the private collection of King Francis I. One of the works of art he purchased was the now famous Mona Lisa painting. The collection grew steadily thanks to donations and purchases by the kings. In 1793, during the French Revolution, the Louvre became a national art museum and the private royal collection opened to the public. The museum has a collection of over one million works of art, of which about 35,000 are on display, spread out over three wings of the former palace. The museum has a diverse collection ranging from the Antiquity up to the mid-nineteenth century



Following your time at Le Louvre wander along the Seine and visit the **Île de la Cité**

8:00-6:45pm NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL

This is a Gothic cathedral on the eastern half of the Île de la Cité in Paris, with its main entrance to the west. It is still used as a Roman Catholic cathedral and is the seat of the Archbishop of Paris. Notre Dame de Paris is widely considered one of the finest examples of French Gothic architecture. It was restored and saved from destruction by Viollet-le-Duc, one of France's most famous architects. Notre Dame translates as "Our Lady" from French. The site of the Notre Dame is the cradle of Paris and has always been the religious centre of the city. The Celts had their Sacred ground here; the Romans built a temple to worship Jupiter. A Christian basilica was built in the 6th century and the last religious structure before the Notre-Dame construction started was a Romanesque church. The beautiful three rose windows you will see here contain much old glass, particularly the north window. Rose windows in particular have been a source of great beauty and inspiration throughout the centuries



9:30-6:00pm SAINTE-CHAPELLE

Beside the Palais de Justice— you can see **Sainte-Chapelle**, built between 1242 and 1248. The stained glass windows, the finest in Paris, illustrate more than a thousand biblical scenes

St Louis had the chapel built to house the Crown of Thorns and other precious holy relics that now can be seen in Notre-Dame. Despite being enclosed by the Palais de Justice it remains one of the city's jewels



Evening

Dinner

10:00-11:00pm This evening take a night time **cruise on the River Seine**, passing many of Paris' most stunning monuments and districts Taking a tour of Paris by boat is unparalleled as experiences go. The city seems to fan out before you as you cruise down the river. You will see monuments including Notre Dame Cathedral and the Eiffel Tower. This is not an experience easily forgotten!



Overnight at Paris

DAY 18

PARIS

Wednesday 12th July 2017 (B)

Morning

Breakfast at your accommodation

This morning travel on Le Metro to **Musée Rodin**, housed in a beautiful Hôtel (small chateau) and surrounded by beautiful gardens

10:00-8:45pm MUSÉE RODIN

Auguste Rodin is regarded as one of the most remarkable sculptors of his time. The Musée Rodin contains the largest collection of the sculptor's works at two sites, in Paris, at the Hôtel Biron, which is where you will go, and in Meudon, site of his former home. Created in 1916, thanks to Rodin's donation of his works and his collections to the French State, it opened in 1919. Rodin started to place selected works in the overgrown garden that he liked so much in 1908, together with some of the antiques from his personal collection. Male and female torsos, copies made in the Roman or modern period, after Greek works, were presented in these natural surroundings, their contours dappled by the sunlight: "Nature and Antiquity are the two great sources of life for an artist. In any event, antiquity implies nature. It is its truth and its smile." (Rodin) The first bronzes were erected in the gardens before World War I. Since 1993, they have been regularly cleaned and treated so as to preserve their original patinas



Afternoon

Lunch is on your own

After lunch, visit **Hotel Des Invalides**

7:30-7:00pm HOTEL DES INVALIDES and NAPOLEON'S TOMB

The most notable tomb at Les Invalides is that of Napoleon Bonaparte (1769–1821). Napoleon was initially interred on Saint Helena, but King Louis-Philippe arranged for his remains to be brought to France in 1840. Napoléon's ashes were first buried in the Chapelle Saint-Jérôme in the Invalides until his final resting place, a tomb made of red quartzite and resting on a green granite base, was finished in 1861.



Later this afternoon have the opportunity to spend time in **Montmartre** to visit the **Basilica of the Sacre Coeur** and the artists of the **Place du Tertre**

**MONTMARTRE**

The name signifies "mount of martyrs" because by tradition it is the place of the martyrdom of Saint Denis, the first bishop of Paris (late 3rd century) and his companions. Many saints have come to this hill including, Saint Germain, Saint Clotilde, Saint Bernard, Saint Joan of Arc and Saint Vincent de Paul. Saint Ignatius of Loyola and Saint François-Xavier founded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) here in 1534. In Montmartre, many very famous artists had studios or worked around the community. These include Salvador Dalí, Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Vincent van Gogh, Henri Matisse, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Edgar Degas and Toulouse-Lautrec to name just a few. This area really has the most extraordinary history. Now, as you walk the cobbled streets, you will see many modern day artists painting in this area as well as tiny shops selling their paintings

6:00-10:30pm SACRÉ COEUR

If you wish, you may choose to take the funicular up a steep hill to the white church of Sacré Coeur. The **Basilica of the Sacré Heart of Paris**, commonly known as **Sacré-Cœur Basilica** is a Roman Catholic Church and minor basilica, dedicated to the Sacré Heart of Jesus. A popular landmark, the basilica is located at the summit of the *Montmartre*, the highest point in the city. Sacré-Cœur is a double monument; political and cultural. It is a national penance for the supposed excesses of the Second Empire and socialist Paris Commune of 1871, crowning its most rebellious neighbourhood. It is also an embodiment of conservative moral order, publicly dedicated to the Sacré Heart of Jesus, which was an increasingly popular vision of a loving and sympathetic Christ. The style of Sacré Coeur is Romano-byzantine and it was built between 1875 and 1919

Evening Dinner will be in Montmartre

Overnight Paris

DAY 19 PARIS – AUSTRALIA**Thursday 13th July 2017 (B)****Morning Breakfast at your accommodation**Transfer to **Charles de Gaulle Airport** for your flight home to Australia

Flight times to be advised

DAY 20 IN TRANSIT**Friday 14th July 2017****DAY 21 ARRIVE HOME TO AUSTRALIA****Saturday 15th July 2017**

Arrive home, proceed through immigration and collect your bags

END OF TOUR ARRANGEMENTS**INCLUSIONS****ACTIVITIES**

- Entrance to the Enzo Ferrari Museum
- Entrance to the Maranello Ferrari Museum
- Walking tour of Verona
- Entrance to the Panini Museum
- Entrance to the Lamborghini Museum
- Visit to the beautiful city of Brescia
- Visit to Mille Miglia
- Visit to the historic centre of Como
- Entrance to the Schlumpf Collection of Classic Cars at the Cité de l'Automobile
- Entrance to Musée de l'Impression sur Etoffes de Mulhouse
- **Guided tour at the Mercedes Museum**
- **Guided tour at the Porsche Museum**
- Visit to the city of Esslingen am Neckar
- Entrance to the BMW Museum, BMW Welt and a **guided tour of the BMW Plant**
- **Guided bike tour of Munich**
- **Guided tour of Dachau**
- Entrance to the Audi Museum
- Visit to Ingolstadt Village
- Entrance to the Nürburgring Race Museum
- Entrance to Nürburg Castle
- Driving the Nürburgring in your choice of car
- Visit to the city of Cologne
- Entrance to the Spa-Francorchamps Racetrack museum
- Entrance to the Circuit de Spa Francorchamps
- Entrance to "Les Thermes de Spa"
- Entrance the Le Mans Classic
- Day in the Loire Valley region visiting Tours, Château de Chenonceau and Château d'Amboise
- Day exploring the Loire region with a visit to the historic town of Orléans
- **Loire Wine Discovery Tour**
- Entrance to the Musée Automobile De La Sarthe (Sarthe Automobile Museum)

- **Orientation tour of Paris**
- Entrance to the 2nd floor Eiffel Tower
- Entrance to the Musee d'Orsay
- Visit to the Saint-Germain
- Entrance to Le Louvre
- Visit the Île de la Cité
- **Cruise on the River Seine**
- Entrance to Sainte-Chapelle
- Entrance to Musée Rodin
- Entrance to Hotel Des Invalides
- Visit to the Basilica of the Sacre Coeur

ADDENDUM A | Optional Tour Extension to Venice

Note: this Add-on would commence before the start of the group tour

PRE DAY 1 MELBOURNE – VENICE

Thursday 22nd June 2017

Arrive at your international airport for your flight to London Heathrow

Board your flight, arriving early morning the next day

PRE DAY 2 VENICE

Friday 23rd June 2017 (B)

Morning

Arrive in Venice

The day is at your leisure. Perhaps you would like to explore the narrow streets, cobbled laneways, bridges and canals of Venice and visit the **Rialto Markets** and the **Rialto Bridge**

RIALTO MARKETS

The Rialto area was the first part of Venice to be developed and quickly became the centre for local trade. The town's principal market was transferred here at the end of the 11th century where Venetians and merchants could buy and sell exotic imported goods just unloaded from ships. In the sixteenth century, after a destructive fire, a complex of squares and porticoes were constructed to the west of the Rialto Bridge, with areas dedicated to different products. These are still recorded in the names of the local lanes and squares: Erberia (fruit and vegetable market), Naranzeria (oranges), Speziali (spices) and Pescaria (fish). Fish, fruit and vegetables are still sold here, from a colourful array of stalls where you can buy provisions or just admire the displays



RIALTO BRIDGE

The Rialto Bridge is one of the most exquisite sights in all of Venice. Connecting the districts of San Polo and San Marco across the Grand Canal in the heart of the city, the Rialto Bridge (opened in 1591) has always been a busy crossing in Venice. For nearly three hundred years, it was the only way to cross the Grand Canal on foot. The bridge replaced various wooden bridges that had occupied the same location since the 12th century. Now, it is one of the most visited and photographed bridges in Venice



Check in to your accommodation

Evening

Dinner is on your own tonight

Return to your accommodation at your leisure

PRE DAY 3 VENICE**Saturday 24th June 2017 (B, D)****Morning**

Breakfast is at your hotel

Meet your local guide and begin the day with a **guided walking tour** of Venice, including visits to **Piazza San Marco**, the **Basilica of San Marco**, **Doge's Palace (Palazzo Ducale)** and **Torre dell'Orologio**

8:30-7:00pm**DOGE'S PALACE**

The magnificent Doge's Palace is one of the most important buildings in Venice. It was the centre of power, from where the Venetian Republic was ruled. The Doge's Palace sits on a site that was once occupied by a 10th century wooden stockade with watch towers and moat and later another similar fort, which were both destroyed by disasters. By the 14th century, the hierarchy of Venice decided that a grand palace was needed, a building befitting the city's new wealth and power. The Palazzo Ducale was constructed in two phases. The eastern wing, which faces the Rio di Palazzo, was built between 1301 and 1340. The western wing, facing the Piazzetta San Marco, took an additional 110 years to build and was completed in 1450. The architectural style is generally referred to as Venetian Gothic - a gothic structure with byzantine influences

**9:45-5:00pm****BASILICA OF SAN MARCO**

The **Basilica of San Marco** is the most famous of the many churches of Venice and one of the finest examples of Byzantine architecture in the world. Located just off the Grand Canal, the gleaming basilica overlooks Piazza San Marco (St. Mark's Square) and adjoins the Doge's Palace. San Marco is a cathedral, but has not always been so. It was the Doge's chapel until it became the seat of the Archbishop of Venice in 1807



9:45-7:00pm CAMPANILE DI SAN MARCO

The bell tower of the St. Mark's Basilica is one of Venice's most recognisable landmarks. The current tower is an early 20th century reconstruction of the original tower which collapsed in 1902. The first tower, standing at the site of the campanile, was built in the 7th century, possibly as a lighthouse. The first clock tower dates from around the year 900. Throughout the centuries, it was rebuilt a number of times, finally reaching its current look around 1513, after a restoration following a damaging earthquake

**TORRE DELL'OROLOGIO**

The Torre dell'Orologio (Clock Tower) is one of the most famous architectural landmarks in Venice, standing over an arch that leads into the main shopping street of the city (the old Merceria). It marks both a juncture and a division between the various architectural components of St. Mark's Square, which was not only the seat of political and religious power but also a public space and an area of economic activity. The Tower and its large Astronomical Clock, considered a masterpiece of technology and engineering, form an essential part of the image of Venice

**Afternoon Lunch is on your own today**

After lunch, take a **guided Vaporetto #1 tour of the Grand Canal**

GRAND CANAL

The Canale Grande (Grand Canal) is the watery main street of Venice, its main artery and primary boulevard. A two-mile ribbon of water plied by hundreds of ferries, gondolas, garbage scows, traghetti, speedboats, and small commercial craft daily, this inverted S-curve of a canal is spanned by just a handful of bridges. It is lined with more than 200 of the most gorgeous Venetian palazzi (palaces), called home at times by a legion of ex-pats like Wagner, Byron, Robert Browning, Hemingway, Proust, Henry James and Ruskin among many.



The buildings and palaces fronting the Grand Canal range in style from early Byzantine-Romanesque—where pale green, creamy yellow, or blood-red plaster walls are hung with marble sills sporting pointy, eastern style windows—to proportionately precise Renaissance palaces and neoclassical temple-like mansions. Relax on the no. 1 (local) vaporetto line and take an excursion from Piazza San Marco to the Ferrovia Santa Lucia (the train station). This tour will take approximately 30 – 45 minutes, followed by your walk back.

After your tour, explore Venice with a walk around the **Cannaregio district** to return to San Marco. Keep a look out for the **Bridge of Sighs**

CANNAREGIO DISTRICT

Cannaregio is one of the six historic districts of Venice. It is the second largest district by land area and the largest by population. The Cannaregio Canal, which was the main route into the city until the construction of a railway link to the mainland, gave the district its name. Development began in the 11th century as the area was drained and parallel canals were dredged.



Although elegant palazzos were built facing the Grand Canal, the area grew primarily with working class housing and manufacturing. Today, the areas of the district along the Grand Canal from the train station to the Rialto Bridge, are often filled with tourists, but the rest of Cannaregio is residential and relatively peaceful, with morning markets, neighbourhood shops and small cafés

BRIDGE OF SIGHS

Venice's famous Bridge of Sighs was designed by Antonio Contino and was built at the beginning of the 17th century. Spanning the Rio di Palazzo (Palace River), the bridge was intended to connect the Old Prison and interrogation rooms in the Doge's Palace to the New Prison, which was situated directly across the river. The view from the Bridge of Sighs was the last view of Venice that convicts saw before their imprisonment. The bridge name, given by Lord Byron in the 19th century, comes from the suggestion that prisoners would sigh at their final view of beautiful Venice, through the window, before being taken down to their cells



Evening **Dinner is included tonight at a local restaurant**

Return to your hotel

PRE DAY 4 VENICE

Sunday 25th June 2017 (B)

Morning **Breakfast is at your hotel**

After breakfast, meet your local guide for a **half day guided tour of the Venice Islands – Murano, Burano and Torcello**, including a glass blowing factory and museum in Murano

MURANO

Murano was a commercial port as far back as the 7th Century and by the 10th Century it had grown into a prosperous trading centre, with its own coins, police force and commercial aristocracy. Then, in 1291, the Venetian Republic ordered glassmakers to move their foundries to Murano because the glassworks represented a fire danger in Venice, whose buildings were mostly wooden at the time. It wasn't long until Murano's glassmakers were the leading citizens on the island. Glassmakers were the only people in Europe who knew how to make glass mirrors. They also developed or refined technologies such as crystalline glass, enamelled glass, glass with threads of gold, multi-coloured glass, milk glass and imitation gemstones made of glass. Their dominion over quality glass lasted for centuries, until glassmakers in Northern and Central Europe introduced new techniques and fashions around the same time that colonists were immigrating to the New World. Murano is still an exporter of traditional products like mirrors and glassware and its factories produce modern items such as faucet handles, glass lampshades, and electric chandeliers



10:00-5:00pm MUSEO DEL VETRO

The building in which the museum is set was originally the ancient residence of the bishops of Torcello. It was a patrician's palace in typical Flamboyant Gothic style and in 1659 became the residence of Bishop Marco Giustinian who later donated it to the Torcello diocese. It has been difficult to establish the origins of Venetian glassmaking. Originally it was thought that the earliest glassmaking began in the 900s AD, with proof gained from a signed document dated 962. More recently, in the early 1990s, an archaeological excavation resulted in the discovery of some ceramic fragments dating from between the end of the 4th and the beginning of the 5th century, together with two truncated cone-shaped beakers and a rounded long-necked bottle dating from the same period. The Museo de Vitro (Murano Glass Museum) collection is laid out chronologically. Starting from an archaeological section on the ground floor, containing noteworthy Roman works dating from the 1st to the 3rd century AD, it proceeds to the largest historical collection of Murano glass in the world. With glass pieces dating from the 15th to the 20th century, many of them world-famous masterpieces, you will be able to retrace the history of Murano Glass Art. This is a fascinating museum that also exhibits and explains the many different techniques used by the Master Glassblowers, from mosaic glass to millefiori and everything in between



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BURANO

Burano is one of the most memorable sights in the Venetian lagoon. Legend has it that Burano got its rainbow appearance from the fishermen that live there, who took paintbrushes to their walls so they could spot home from sea. Whatever the reason, these brilliant colours make for an incredible visit, made all the more picturesque by the island's sleepy nature. Burano is known internationally for its rare handmade lace. You may visit some of its lace stores and, if you do, you may spot workers carefully stitching. Alternatively, take your time to shop, explore and photograph this incredible corner of the world

**TORCELLO**

Torcello is the earliest centre of civilisation in the lagoon. Founded in the 5th Century, it is even older than Venice and was a very important island in ancient times, once having a population of approximately 20,000 people. Only the cathedral with its magnificent mosaics and the church of Santa Fosca remains as testimony of its former glory. Torcello's cathedral was built in 639 and has a tall 11th Century bell tower that dominates the skyline. Inside the Cathedral are stunning Byzantine mosaics from the 11th-13th centuries. One of the most impressive is the depiction of the Last Judgement

**Afternoon Lunch is on your own today**

After lunch, enjoy a 35 minute **Gondola Ride** and enjoy the beautiful sights of Venice

GONDOLA RIDE



The gondola is a traditional, flat-bottomed Venetian rowing boat, well suited to the conditions of the Venetian lagoon. For centuries gondolas were the chief means of transportation and most common watercraft within Venice. In modern times the iconic boats still have a role in public transport in the city, serving as traghetti (ferries) over the Grand Canal. Sit back on your seat and soak up the gorgeous scenes as your gondola bobs along some of Venice's prettiest waterways. Dip into romantic side canals and drift along a stretch of the Grand Canal past exquisite mansions and landmarks such as the Palazzo Barberino. Enjoy the dulcet tones and melodies of the singer traveling with

your flotilla as the notes drift through the air around your gondola. Lose yourself in the Italian songs as you watch for top Venice attractions including the Peggy Guggenheim Collection museum and the Rialto, the stunning marble bridge designed by one of the finest Italian architects of the 16th century, Anthony da Ponte

Evening **Dinner is on your own tonight at a local restaurant**

Return to your hotel

INCLUSIONS

ACTIVITIES

- Entrance to the Enzo Ferrari Museum
- Visit to the Rialto Markets and the Rialto Bridge
- **Guided walking tour of Venice**
- Visits to Piazza San Marco, the Basilica of San Marco, Doge's Palace (Palazzo Ducale) and Torre dell'Orologio
- **Guided Vaporetto #1 tour of the Grand Canal**
- **Half day guided tour of the Venice Islands – Murano, Burano and Torcello**, including a glass blowing factory and museum in Murano
- 35 minute **Gondola Ride**

TO BOOK THIS TOUR: Complete an Enquiry Booking Form at www.martinitours.com.au

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