

Frequently Asked Questions

We've put together the most common questions you might have regarding travelling with us.

When does the tour start and end?

The next 'A Parisian Experience' September 2022, will begin at the Hotel Bel Ami in Paris from 3 pm on Sunday 4th September 2022 when we expect our rooms to be available. It will end on Friday 9th September 2022 with a check-out time of 12 noon from Hotel Bel Ami.

Which airport should I fly into?

Arriving internationally, you should fly into Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG) also known as Roissy Airport.

CDG is the largest airport and the major international hub. CDG is located about 30 km from central Paris and is about 45 minutes by taxi.

Do I need a visa to go to France?

For those travelling on an Australian Passport, visas are not required for visits lasting less than 90 days. Ensure your passport is valid for at least six months after the date you intend to return to Australia and has at least one blank page, as recommended by French authorities.

What will the weather be like in Paris?

Our tours are timed for the temperate months of September and May, being early autumn and late spring seasons. Historically the average daytime temperatures tend to be in the low-mid 20sC with cool to chilly late nights and early mornings.

Where is the Hotel Bel Ami located?

Hotel Bel Ami is located at 7/11 rue St-Benoit 75006 Paris, in the heart of Saint-Germain-des-Près. Situated on the Left Bank and part of the 6th arrondissement, Saint-Germain-des-Près is considered by Parisians and visitors alike to be the quintessential Paris neighbourhood.

How many people will be on the 'small goup' experience?

There will be a maximum of 8 guests on 'A Parisian Experience'. It will feel like you are on an indulgent holiday with of group of friends rather than a boring generic tour group.

What is the daily itinerary?

The itinerary covers 5 nights and 5 days in Paris staying at the Hotel Bel Ami, enjoying daily shopping, dining and cultural activities.

A daily itinerary starts with a group breakfast at The Bel Ami Cafe or market perhaps, followed by a guided shopping tour for the morning including a cafe stop en route. After lunch, we may linger, continue shopping or attend a cultural experience.

What is included in the package price?

'A Parisian Experience' 2022/23 includes:

- hotel accommodation
- pre-trip ISSELL STYLE consultation
- welcome drinks evening
- daily guided shopping tours
- gourmet picnic lunch (one day)
- wine-tasting session
- daily breakfast/brunch at Bel Ami Cafè
- local transport while in Paris

What is the deposit?

A deposit of 30% of the package cost will reserve your place for 'A Parisian Experience'. Payment can be made via bank deposit.

When is the full payment due?

Payment is due in full 60 days prior to the start date.

What is the cancellation policy?

There are no cancellation fees 90 days prior to the start of the 'A Parisian Experience' tour. If you cancel within 90 - 60 days of the start date your deposit may be forfeited to cover handling fees and the hotel's cancellation policy penalty. Less than 60 days before the start date you will receive a 50% refund on the experience price unless your place is re-sold.

What is not included?

The following is NOT included:

- airfare to Paris
- hotel transfers
- travel insurance
- tips, incidentals
- additional activities outside the included activities
- meals (other than daily breakfast, elected dinner and picnic lunch)

Note: It is a condition of travel that you have travel Insurance.

What is the currency to bring or exchange?

The official currency of France is the EURO (Sign €).

We suggest bringing a couple of hundred euros to pay for your taxi from the airport and some incidentals and then I recommend a prepaid credit card from your bank where you can load euros on your card prior to leaving Australia. Withdrawal transactions are capped at about €3.00 per transaction.

Do I need to speak French?

No. As your host I only have a very basic 'get by' retail/restaurant level French but have never found it a problem enjoying Paris.

Most Parisians are very friendly towards Australians and if you treat them as you would wish to be treated then usually everyone is happy.

How much time will we spend shopping each day?

After our wonderful breakfast at the Bel Ami, I imagine we will shop from around 10.00/11.00 am depending on the precinct, until about 1.00 pm when we will stop for a typical French lunch. In the afternoon we can either continue shopping, linger or take another activity. Everyone's needs can usually be met.

What will the ISSELL STYLE pre-trip consultation entail?

The pre-trip consultation can happen in person or virtually prior to the tour. It will give me insight as to your expectations and goals for the shopping component in Paris and how to guide you best on tour.

I'd like to extend my stay after 'A Parisian Experience'. Do you have any suggestions on what to do, or where to stay?

Many popular events are returning to Paris, and France on the tail end of this 2-year Covid-19 pandemic. If you would like a list of events during or after the tour, or suggestions on where to head next please ask. We have wonderful resources in Paris and France.

If you have any further questions for our travel experiences please let us know.

Sharon & ISSELL STYLE team