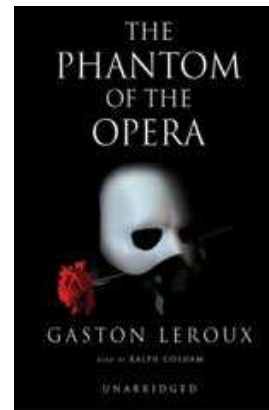
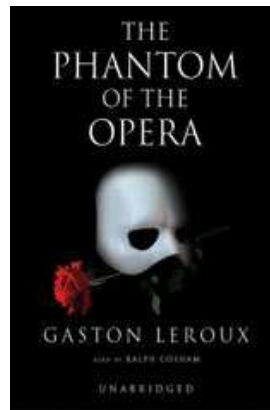




Decouvertes

Exclusive cultural tours
Luxury independent Travel



The Phantom of the Opera, A private and behind the scene visit of the Opera Garnier

Half-day tour to Paris & to the Opera Garnier outside Opening hours

You will have the opportunity to enjoy a panoramic tour of Paris and see the most famous monuments and the unique advantage to visit the Opéra Garnier in the footsteps of the Phantom of the Opera

Make it Backstage!

DECOUVERTES ADVICE for a special optional venue: you are invited to discover the hidden heart of the Eiffel Tower's backstage through a guided tour.

Please see the last page for more information

Make it Secret!

DECOUVERTES ADVICE for an optional venue: Follow your expert-guide through the secret covered passages of Paris

Please see the last page for more information



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Paris

2:30 pm.: Meet your driver-guide in the lobby of your hotel for a **panoramic tour of Paris** including the most famous monuments of this beautiful city such as the Grand Louvre, Notre Dame, the Bastille, l'Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Invalides, the Concorde, the Madeleine, the Opera, Bibliothèque Nationale de France and he will tell you the history of the districts of l'Île de la Cité, Saint Germain des Prés, Champs Elysées, and Défense district.

From the Eiffel Tower, the Arrondissements (districts) of Paris radiate before you like spokes on a wheel. Notre Dame's delicate buttresses almost take flight beside the River Seine. The Arc de Triomphe and the Champs-Élysées, Montmartre and the Left Bank. And of course there are the food, cafés, bistros, and Michelin-starred restaurants.

Enjoy a **tour around the Trocadero**, from where you can admire the spectacular Eiffel Tower. At the time of its construction in 1889, the tower was the tallest structure in the world, a title it retained until 1930, when New York City's Chrysler Building was completed. The tower is the second-highest structure in France and the highest structure in Paris.

5.00PM the Opera house is yours! You will discover the entire mythical opera house! Expect to be thrilled!!

The Paris Opera House of the last quarter of the nineteenth century, in which Gaston Leroux set *The Phantom of the Opera*, was remarkable by any standards. The huge building was constructed to designs by Charles Garnier from 1861-1875. At the time in which the novel is set, the Opera House boasted over fifteen hundred employees and had its own stables of white horses for the opera troupe underneath the forecourt.

The Paris Opera House survives in much the same form described in the novel. It occupies a three-acre site and **some idea of the labyrinthian nature of the building** can be appreciated if one considers that the auditorium accounts for less than one fifth of the total space.

Charles Garnier was selected to build the opera, he was a 35 year old architect and totally unknown at the time. Building work, which lasted fifteen years, from 1860 to 1875, was interrupted by numerous incidents, including the 1870 war, the fall of the Empire and the Commune.





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We offer a **guided tour of the Opera following the figures and stories that happen in the book**. Discover the Palace in an unusual way and let yourself be amazed by its charm.

Enter into the **Library-Museum** and discover temporary exhibitions. Its permanent gallery also presents paintings, drawings, photographs and scale models of sets.

Walk also in **the Rotonde de l'Empereur**, the Salon du Glacier and in the vast and richly decorated Grand Foyer, recently restored.

The red and gold Italian-style horseshoe-shaped auditorium comprises 1,900 red velvet seats. The magnificent stage screen represents a draped curtain with gold braids and pompoms. The room is lit by an immense crystal chandelier hanging below famous Marc Chagall's brightly colored ceiling.

This private visit takes place **outside public opening hours** and enable you to experience a unique moment.

6:30 pm. Transfer back to your hotel in Paris by your driver-guide.





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*NB: Please note that some sites mentioned in the itinerary might not be available every day or all year long.
We suggest you to check with our Production Managers*

This package includes

- Minivan which can carry up to 6 passengers
- Services of a professional English speaking guide-driver who is licensed to guide and accompany you on walking tours, as well as into museums and monuments
- Entrance fees to the Opéra Garnier of Paris
- Découvertes fees
- Concierge service: 24 hour assistance available during your stay
- All taxes

This package does not include

- Tips
- Lunch or dinner

Découvertes can also suggest:

- Lunch reservations



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Make it Optional

Make it Backstage!

DECOUVERTES ADVICE for a special optional venue

You are invited to discover the hidden heart of its backstage through a guided tour. You will enter the surprising machinery room located under the structure and from which the elevators are controlled. Then visit the old military bunker under the Champ de Mars, formerly dedicated to radio – telegraph equipments and staffs. Then have a walk on the Technical gallery under the first floor of the Eiffel Tower from which the view is spectacular. During this visit, the most fascinating aspects of the Eiffel Tower's history will be related.



Please contact us for more information and price. Visit available everyday. Upon request and availability.

Make it Secret!

DECOUVERTES ADVICE for an optional venue

Follow your expert-guide through the secret covered passages of Paris. This passages, or arcades, are a kind of time machine, transporting us back to the bustling street life of the nineteenth century. With their mazelike alleys protected from the elements by glass roofs and hemmed in by cafés, bookstores, art dealers, and antique shops, they offer a jumble of sights, a plethora of unexpected objects. The passages are almost without a specific history, evoking not an epoch per se but a way of perceiving the world around us outside of the logical rhythm of everyday life.



Please contact us for more information and price. Visit available everyday. Upon request and availability.