

### Jim Gold International Folk Tours

# FRANCE!

### France and the French Countryside!





July 16-29, 2016

### Led by Jim Gold





Brittany, Normandy, Loire Valley
Paris, Rouen, Le Havre, Bayeux,
D-day Landing Beaches,
Mont St. Michel,
St Malo, Quimper, Carnac, Nantes,
Angers, Blois, Chambord, Orleans,
Chartres,

Palace of Versailles.





Paris extension: July 29-August 2

- **★** Cornouailles Fest Noz Folk Festival (near Quimper)!
- **★** Visit historic cities, capitals, and folkloric villages!
- **★** Meet Breton, and local folk dancers!
- **★** International folk dancing!
- **★** Price includes round-trip airfare, city tours, transfers, hotels, two meals daily, and our own private bus.

#### **ITINERARY**

Day 1: July 16: Saturday: Departure flight from Newark, NJ on Delta airlines.



Day 2: July 17: Sunday: Paris

Arrive at 10:45 a.m. Before transferring to the hotel enjoy a motorcoach sightseeing tour of Paris: Sightseeing tour of Paris with stop for photos. Eiffel tower, Champs Elysees, Louvre, Opera Garnier, Montmartre. Free time for lunch. After the tour, transfer to the hotel. Dinner in hotel and overnight in Paris.



#### Day 3: July 18: Monday: Paris – Rouen – Etretat – Le Havre

**Havre** Depart for Normandy. Visit **Giverny** to see Monet's house and garden, then drive to ancient city of **Rouen**, which in Norman times was the home of William the Conqueror before he invaded England. It was in Rouen that Joan of Arc was tried and burned at the stake in 1431. The old town's narrow streets are lined with picturesque timber-framed houses. Tour with local guide. Free time for lunch Drive to the beautiful resort of Etretat and admire the famous cliffs painted by the impressionists. Folk dancing with Jim. Dinner and overnight in Le Havre or surroundings.

#### Day 4: July 19. Tuesday: Le Havre - Honfleur - Deauville - Bayeux

In the morning, cross the Seine to Honfleur, panoramic tour with stop for photos. Continue on to the glamorous haven for the rich and famous, the resort of Deauville. Appreciate its famous seafront boardwalk and casino. Free time for lunch in Deauville. Drive to Bayeux to see one of the oldest surviving complete tapestries in the world, the Bayeux Tapestry. This extraordinary masterpiece tells the story of William the Conqueror and his battle with the



English King Harold at the Battle of Hastings in 1066. Folk dancing with Jim. Dinner and overnight in Bayeux or surroundings.

#### Day 5: July 20, Wednesday: Deauville–Bayeux–D-Day Landing Beaches-Mont St. Michel:

This morning discover the D-Day Landing Beaches with a local guide. Despite Steven Spielberg's endeavors it's difficult to picture the dawn scene on D-Day, June 6th 1944, when



the Allied troops landed along the coast of Normandy. Now, more than 70 years later, the Normandy coast is peaceful with lovely picturesque beaches and seaside towns with a background of old-fashioned farming landscapes of grazing cattle, hedges and farmhouses. However, memories of D-Day are everywhere. One feels compelled to stop along the way at one of the beautiful cemeteries and reflect on the human cost of war. See the American cemetery, Omaha Beach and the Pointe du Hoc. From here to Mont St. Michel, one of the Wonders of the Western World. Free time for lunch.

In the afternoon, discover the Mont St Michel with a local guide: A dramatic island off the coast of Normandy linked to the mainland by a narrow causeway, it is an extraordinary site rich in history with one of the most splendid abbeys of France dating back to the 11th century. Folk dancing with Jim. Dinner and overnight in St Malo or surroundings.

#### Day 6: July 21, Thursday: Mont St Michel – St Malo – Quimper

On to St. Malo, a unique walled town. Stroll around the quaint narrow streets, walk on the ramparts to breath fresh air of the sea, admire a wonderful panorama and get acquainted with the more famous personalities of St. Malo, such as Jacques Cartier, or the well-known romantic writer Chateaubriand. Tour with local guide. Free time for lunch. Arrive in Quimper in the afternoon. Historical capital of Cornwall, Quimper is generally regarded as the cultural heart of Brittany. The town is real delight to visit, thanks to the quality of its architectural heritage which features the magnificent Saint Corentin's cathedral, the 16th and 17th century houses, and the quays along the River Odet. Tour with local guide. Dinner and overnight in Quimper or surroundings.



This morning, follow the painter paths in the southern Finistère: world famous Pont Aven, nestled in a rocky valley. Head on to Concarneau, a lovely fortified "ville close" nestled in

a charming bay. Tour with local guide. Free time for lunch. In the afternoon drive back to Quimper. Time at leisure to discover the **CORNWALL FESTIVAL**, with its traditional music, dances, and costumes. One of the most important traditional festival in Brittany. Dinner and overnight in Quimper or surroundings

#### Day 8: July 23, Saturday: Quimper

The Cornouailles Festival continues: Join the dances, admire traditional clothes, listen to local music. The festival ends with a grand parade! End of the day at leisure in Quimper to take part to the festival. Free time for lunch. Dinner and overnight in Quimper or surroundings.



#### Day 9: July 24, Sunday: Quimper - Carnac - Morbihan Gulf - Nantes

In the morning, you will admire the traditional clothes & dances and listen to the local music during the Parade. This is the most important day of the Festival. 3000 dancers and musicians. Drive to **Nantes**. Panoramic tour if time permits. You will want to stay at the festival! Dinner and overnight in Nantes - or surroundings.

#### Day 10: July 25, Monday: Loire Valley: Nantes-Angers-Azay-le-Rideau-Villandry-Tours

Drive through the Loire Valley known for its wines and chateaux, to the beautiful chateau of Azay Le Rideau. Built in the early 1500s and one of the earliest



Renaissance chateaux it is surrounded by imposing landscaped gardens and was purchased by the French government and restored; its interior completely refurbished with Renaissance pieces and is now open to public visits. Guided Visit. Drive to the Chateau of Villandry, the last of the great Loire valley castles built in the Renaissance, owes its fame not only to its Spanish-inspired interiors but to the magnificence of its



gardens. Set in 17 acres are its beautiful ornamental gardens, water gardens, herb and kitchen gardens. By the end of the day, join the city of Tours. Folk dancing with Jim. Dinner, and overnight in Tours hotel.

#### Day 11: July 26, Tuesday: visit Loire Chateaux: Chenonceau, Amboise and wine:

In the morning, visit the jewel of Renaissance architecture, the Chateau de Chenonceau. Set in the perfect setting of river, forests and gardens in the Loire Valley, the beautiful castle in its present form was built in 1513, though its history dates back to 11th century. It has a large collection of Renaissance furniture and art masterpieces, such as Rubens and Le Tintoret. Head on to Amboise. Free time for lunch. Then we proceed to Amboise for a visit of its castle. Free time to visit Clos Luce on your own or just enjoy a coffee in this charming city. Folk dancing with Jim. Dinner, and overnight in Tours



#### Day 12: July 27, Wednesday: Blois, Chambord, Orleans



Drive on to the Royal Castle of Blois which dominates the Loire River and is one of the most prestigious monuments in France. Free time for lunch. Then travel to Chambord. Built on the order of Francis I from 1519, the castle is without doubt the largest and most impressive Loire chateau, with its towering facade and its rich and the vast interior. Guided tour. Drive between the rich cornfields of the Beauce to the north and the heaths and forests of the Sologne to the south, and arrive at Orleans, the capital of the Loire Valley. Dinner, and overnight in Orleans – or surroundings

From here drive to Versailles, created at the time of the French monarchy's greatest splendor. When Louis XIV moved there from Paris in 1682 it became the center of political power until the Royal Family was forced to return to Paris in 1789 during the French Revolution. With its ornately decorated rooms, chandeliers, marble, bronze and large paintings, Versailles remains the finest jewel of the French Crown. The gardens, created for perfection in their symmetry and harmony, were designed for walking, while the flower beds designed to highlight the castle, with many statues and fountains decorating its paths. Transfer to your hotel in Paris. Free time to get ready for a **farewell romantic boat cruise on the River Seine.** Farewell dinner. Overnight in Paris

Day 14: July 29, Friday: Paris. After breakfast, depart for airport for return flight home. OR:

#### PARIS EXTENSION: July 29-August 2:

#### Day 14: Friday, July 29:

Paris extension participants transfer to Ibis Tour Eiffel Hotel.

#### Day 15: Saturday July 30: Paris

Full day use of a bus and local guide for a panoramic city tour including a visit to Notre Dame and the Eiffel Tower (entrance fees not included) or other sites not visited on the first tour in Paris. All breakfasts and overnights in Paris at the Ibis Tour Eiffel Hotel.

#### Day 16: Sunday July 31: Paris

Full day use of a bus and local guide for a visit to Fontainebleau Castle and Vaux le Vicomte Castle (entrance fees not included).

#### Day 17: Monday August 1: Paris

Day at leisure.

#### Day 18: Tuesday August 2: Paris.

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for return flight to US.

## Land Only: \$4895 Land and Air: \$5695 Paris extension: \$1495

**REGISTRATION FORM:** I can't wait to go! Enclosed is my registration deposit of \$200 per person. Single supplement: \$895. Paris single supplement: \$495. Additional charges: Air tax: \$395. Service charges:\$85. Gratuities and drinks during meals not included. Program subject to change without notice. Group air: Minimum 10 people needed for group air rate to apply. If not met, additional fees will be added. Air taxes and fuel surcharges not guaranteed until ticketing one month before departure. Group rate: A minimum of 15/20 or 25 people required or additional fees may apply. Cancellations 45 days prior to departure: Refund: 50% of total price. Less than 30 days: No refund. Travel insurance recommended. **Total balance due May 1, 2016** 

Name						_
Address						_
No. of people	Phone (	)				

Make checks payable to: **Jim Gold International**, 497 Cumberland Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666 U.S.A Phone (201) 836-0362. Web site: www.jimgold.com E-mail: jimgold@jimgold.com







#### JIM GOLD INTERNATIONAL: TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**Air Transportation:** International air not included except as noted.

**Rates**: Tour rates are subject to change in the event of currency fluctuations or increase in costs. Inclusive tour rates are per person in double occupancy. In case of computer or human billing errors, we reserve the right to reinvoice clients with corrected billing.

**Reservations:** Deposits and Payments: Deposit of \$200 per person is required at time of reservation. Balance is due 90 days prior to departure date.

**Changes:** Prices and program subject to change without notice **Baggage:** One baggage per person and a carry on is allowed.

**Cancellations:** Cancellations 45 days prior to departure: Refund 50% of total price. Less than 30 days: No refund. Additionally, any cancellation fees imposed by the respective hotels, airlines,

tour companies and cruise lines will be charged. Travel Insurance is non-refundable as are unused services.

**Gratuities:** Tipping to guides, drivers, transfer personnel and hotel staff is left to the discretion of the participants and is not included.

Insurance: Tour participants are strongly recommended to purchase insurance for trip cancellation, trip interruption, accident, sickness and/or loss of baggage and personal effects. Dispute Resolution: The sole and exclusive method of resolving any dispute which might rise under this agreement and any agreement between Jim Gold International, Inc., and another party (ies), the brochure or website and deemed to arise in the United States of America, shall be by arbitration before the American Arbitration Association in New York City pursuant to the Association's rules then in effect. Any such arbitration must take place in N.Y.C., N.Y. In any such arbitration, the substantive law of N.Y. will apply. In the event a tour participant should find a service or hotel unacceptable, it should be reported immediately to the local representative and to Jim Gold International, Inc. upon their immediate return. No claim shall be deemed legitimate if not reported to the local representative and if reported after the scheduled service or after departure from the hotel.

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that you have read these Terms and Conditions, and that you have agreed to them. Prices are subject to change.

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