

## Monument Travel asks “What happened to the Art during WWII?”



During the war, the Nazis plundered works of art from Museums, Cathedrals, private collections and art dealers. The art was removed from their home countries and transported to areas controlled by Hitler and the Nazi party.

During this trip from France to Italy, you will discover the history of the **Monuments Men**, along with many of the art masterpieces they have saved. Discover some of the most beautiful European cities and how the citizens did protect their National treasures from theft and destruction.

**Monument Travel has designed the perfect tour for those interested in art, World War II and the mission of the now famous Monuments Men. Whether you are a seasoned traveler, or new to touring, you will find many unique features to our small, boutique trips:**

- Small groups – minimum of 20 travelers with a maximum of 40.
- Deluxe accommodations – all four and five star hotels
- Expert English-speaking local guides, hospitality professionals and on-site experienced international tour manager.
- Freedom to explore on your own – we have many wonderful excursions planned but there is also time for you to venture out on your own.
- Best time to travel – we plan our trips for when the majority of tourists are not visiting, thus allowing you to have a more authentic experience.
- Some included meals – all at fine restaurants, but also time to dine on your own as well.
- Ease of travel, reduced stress – we take care of all the airport transfers, luggage, etc. so you don't have to worry!
- Perfect for traveling couples, friends, or on your own!
- Pre and post trip information, insight, tips and service!
- Air fare is not included so you can book, use points or we are happy to assist!
- Please note many of our art tours include a full or half day walking through cities, museums and churches.
- Want to stay longer or arrive early? We are happy to assist with additional hotel reservations.

# March 24 --- DAY 1

## Welcome to Paris!

### Arrival in Paris

Once you exit French customs, you will be greeted by your private driver who will be holding a sign in your name. He will transfer you to your four star hotel for check in.

### Check in at hotel – InterContinental Hotel Paris Le Grand l’Opera

Note that check in at hotel is at 3.00pm

Your private hospitality desk staff will be at your service for any information you might need.

### Orientation tour via Iconic French cars: 2CV

This Citroën car was commercialized in 1942!

Enjoy a 45 minutes orientation tour around the city in this funny, and cute old convertible car (2 persons per car).

### Early dinner at a walking distance Parisian Brasserie

For your first evening, enjoy a French dinner in a typical brasserie. A three course meal including coffee, mineral and half bottle of wine! Our hostess will lead you to the restaurant and make sure you enjoy the evening.



# March 25 --- DAY 2 Paris

## What happened to the Art during WWII?

**The Allied Forces' "Monuments Men" saved many art masterpieces that were stolen by the Germans. The French population contributed by hiding as many masterpieces as possible, which were eventually returned to their original museums and collections.**

**Full day art tour via deluxe motor coach and private guide. From 9.00am to 6.00pm**

Today, you and your guide will be visiting the city of Paris, and together will discover the history of the Musée du Jeu de Paume where paintings by Vermeer, Rembrandt, Renoir, Matisse and other artists were looted by the German army. Walk through the Louvre Museum which was "the" main art warehouse where paintings and sculptures were stored and then loaded into trucks and sent to Germany. You will learn what happened to the Mona Lisa during this period of time and discover some of the Louvre Masterpieces such as the famous "Astronomer", by Vermeer, which was stolen off the walls of the Rothschild's Paris mansion, and ultimately saved by Monuments Men. Visit Notre Dame Cathedral and hear the story of the stained glass windows which were taken away, hidden, and ultimately restored in the Cathedral. The day ends with a visit to the Musée d'Orsay Impressionist Museum where many paintings, originally housed at the Musée du Jeu de Paume, saved by Monuments Men, are now on exhibit. Lunch is included and served in a local restaurant close to Notre Dame.



# March 26 --- DAY 3

## Enjoy Paris on your own!

### Hospitality desk staff from 8.00am to 11.00am

Our experienced hospitality desk staff will answer all your question regarding what to do on your own. Time to shop, explore various neighborhoods or visit more sites and museums!

### 2 Half day Optional tours available today (additional charge)

#### Versailles Palace and gardens



After a 40 minute drive out of Paris, your experienced guide will tell you about the history but also all the interesting and funny anecdotes related to the Palace and the fascinating 17<sup>th</sup> century “Royal” life. Versailles Palace stands as a witness to the power, splendor and romance of The Golden Century in France. The visit will also include some time at leisure and a promenade through the Palace’s famous gardens.

#### Behind the scenes of the Eiffel Tower



You will first enter into the former bunker hidden under the Champ de Mars, a true privilege! You will then slip backstage to the surprising and impressive engine room of origin, which still controls the elevators. Arriving next at the second floor, you will be greeted by the amazing and unusual view that awaits you. As a VIP, you ascend the roof of the prestigious restaurant Le Jules Verne to exclusively discover an unprecedented 360° panorama of Paris.

March 26 --- DAY 3

## Farewell to Paris: Seine River Dinner Cruise

Gliding under 33 of the Seine River bridges, guests will see some of Paris' most famous monuments. On board a beautiful glass roofed riverboat the Seine River Dinner Cruise is a perfect farewell to the "City of Light". As you enjoy dinner, Paris' world famous landmarks, straight from the pages of history unfold before your eyes. The best seating, in a semi private area on the very front of the boat is reserved for us, along with a fabulous three course dinner menu with accompanying wines. This unforgettable cruise along the Seine will highlight the monuments of Paris including Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame, Statue of Liberty, Musée d'Orsay and Louvre Museums, St Louis Island and more!



# March 27 --- DAY 4

## Goodbye Paris!

After your check out you will be transferred via deluxe motor coach with English-speaking escort to the airport in time for your flight to Italy!

## Welcome to Pisa!

The destruction of the Campo Santo in Pisa brought tears to Monuments Man Deane Keller's eyes. When he first visited Pisa, he found pieces of the famous frescoes laying on the floor and the roof had been torn off by Allied bombing. Painstakingly, he started picking up fragments of the frescoes and decided how the restoration work should be carried out. Deane Keller, who had studied art in Italy, was one of the **Monuments Men** who helped to save and restore Italian art during World War Two after the Allies landed in the country. These courageous men and women, risking their lives, worked with Italian government ministers and museum curators, saving art from German looting or damage from bombing.

# March 27 --- DAY 4

## Pisa & Florence

### Afternoon Arrival in Pisa

At Pisa airport, you will be greeted by your private guide and board our deluxe motor coach to the “Miracle Square”, home of the Campo Santo in Pisa for a visit prior to your drive to Florence.



### Check in at hotel in Florence

#### St. Regis Hotel, Florence

5 star deluxe hotel

Note that check in at hotel is at 3.00pm

### Dinner at Frescobaldi

For your first evening in Florence, enjoy a delicious dinner in a place of culture, enjoyment and sophistication, where the main focus is wine with great food. The Frescobaldi wine bar located in the very heart of the city

A three course meal including coffee, mineral and half bottle of wine! Our hostess will walk with you to the restaurant and make sure you enjoy the evening



# March 28 ---DAY 5

## Florence

### The art of Michelangelo --- Medici Family's Library & the Academy of Fine Arts

**Full day walking and discovery of art tour via with a private guide. From 10.00am to 4.00pm**

Today touring the city of Florence, which was heavily bombed during the war, you will visit the Academy of Fine Arts, home to Michelangelo's *David*, which survived the war by being encased in a brick cocoon. As you walk through the streets and piazzas of Florence your guide will explain the ideas of the Renaissance, the lives of many famous artists, the Medici family that showered Florence with countless masterpieces and will explain how the Renaissance changed the world forever. Visit the family library which Cosimo and Lorenzo Medici had Michelangelo design. Now a scholarly library housing more than 10,000 manuscripts from as far back as the 11<sup>th</sup> century, is an opportunity often missed by many travelers.

**Lunch is included** in one of the best settings in town, with tables under a 14<sup>th</sup> century vaulted ceiling whose ribs and lunettes are covered with fading 18<sup>th</sup> century frescoes. This day of art would not be complete without an afternoon visit to The **Uffizi Gallery**, including masterpieces by Giotto, Botticelli, Mantegna, da Vinci, Raphael, Michelangelo and Caravaggio. Then visit the Vasari corridor, the passageway built atop the Ponte Vecchio which was often used for secret escapes. **Dinner at leisure.**



# March 29 --- DAY 6

## Florence

### Morning tour of the Pitti Palace and Boboli Gardens

Miraculously spared during the bombing of Florence in WWII, the imposing and grandiose Pitti Palace, once residence of the Medici Grand Dukes of Tuscany and later of the King of Italy, now houses several important collections of paintings and sculpture, works of art, porcelain and a costume gallery. Here Hitler looted such masterpieces as Raphael's *Madonna of the Chair* and *La Donna Velata*, Andrea del Sarto's *The Holy Family*, and Caravaggio's *Sleeping Child*. Rising behind the Pitti Palace are the beautiful Boboli Gardens. Originally designed for the Medici family they are one of the earliest examples of Italian Garden which later inspired those of many European courts. The gardens extending over a vast area form an open-air museum with antique and Renaissance statues, grottoes and large fountains.

**Lunch included in a nearby restaurant.**



**Afternoon and evening at leisure – shop, dine, sip and explore!**

March 30--- DAY 7

## From Florence to Rome via Siena!

### Morning departure to Rome with lunch in Siena

On the way to Rome, we will make a stop in Siena, the first town in Tuscany to be liberated by the Allies. The city suffered minimal damage due to the fact it was “artistically bypassed” by the Germans on their way to Florence. Here we will visit the “Duomo”, which is Siena “Cathedral”, the medieval church dedicated from its earliest days as a Roman Catholic Marian Church and now to *Santa Maria Assunta* (Most Holy Mary of Assumption). We will then visit Piazza del Campo, regarded as one of Europe's greatest medieval squares, and the Civic Museum, an example of Gothic art, located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Town Hall, known as Palazzo Pubblico, which dates back to the first half of XIV century and housed the Republican Government.

**Lunch included in Siena** before drive to Rome

### Late afternoon – Check-in St. Regis Hotel, Rome

5 star deluxe hotel

Note that check in at hotel is at 3.00pm



# March 30 --- DAY 7

## Welcome dinner in Rome

### Welcome dinner in Rome (included)

After check in and some time to freshen up, a great dinner will be served at the « Target » restaurant, "Target", a sophisticated restaurant and pizzeria on Via Torino, a short walk from the hotel. The restaurant is divided into two floors, upstairs you can find a classy restaurant, ranging from meat to fish, grilled in front of guests, on the lower floor is a pizzeria that recalls the ancient tradition of Roman pizza. Quality and innovation are combined with the simplicity of the ingredients of a classic cuisine.



# March 31 --- DAY 8

## Rome, Art and the Vatican

### Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel

Saved from Allied bombing due to President Roosevelt's assurance to the Pope, Vatican City, the world's smallest sovereign state, houses one of the richest art collections acquired throughout the centuries. St. Peter's Basilica served as a safe warehouse for many of Italy's treasures during the war. Visit the world-renowned Sistine Chapel, once the Papal private chapel, now used for conclaves, this "jewel" was built on the precise dimensions of the Temple of Solomon, as described in the Bible.

Your visit is highlighted by the masterpieces of Michelangelo, who spent 4 years painting the Chapel ceiling with frescoes depicting scenes from the Old Testament, including the incredible scene of the Creation.

**Lunch is included** on the Piazza Navona, with its three Bernini fountains, is one of the most famous, lively and beautiful of Rome's many squares

**Afternoon visit of the Borghese Gallery**, with a small yet world famous art collection the Gallery has just reopened after 13 years of arduous restoration.



**Dinner at leisure**

# April 1st --- DAY 9

## Monte Cassino

### Full day at Monte Cassino Memorial

The Abbey of Monte Cassino was founded by St. Benedict around the year 529 AD. Destroyed several times in the past and always rebuilt, the Abbey was the subject of fierce bombings during the World War II that led to the final destruction of the monastery. During the war, the Abbey was also used as a warehouse for art looted from the National Museum of Naples. It is only possible to visit the oldest and deepest area of the Abbey, the only original side which was not destroyed by the bombings in 1944. Here you can see the cell of St. Benedict, where he lived, the “Miracle Stone”, and the Staircase of Epigraphs, where many refugees and some monks found a shelter during the bombardment in February, 1944 and survived.

**Lunch is included:** In the heart of the city, at the foot of the Abbey of Monte Cassino.



# April 1st --- DAY 9

## Farewell dinner in Rome

### Farewell dinner at the “Camponeschi” Restaurant

After a little rest, we gather for a farewell dinner in an elegant neighborhood of Palazzo Farnese Square, with a gastronomic meal at the restaurant highly rated “Camponeschi”. In this elegant atmosphere, we enjoy the fruits of the experienced kitchen and culinary team, offering the best in fresh fish, meats and regional specialties. For the true connoisseurs, the included wine pairings represent a careful selection of Italian and French labels, by the Azienda Vinicola Camponeschi.



# April 2nd --- DAY 10

## “Arrivederci” Rome

### Check out from the hotel and private departure transfers from your hotel to the Airport

AlliedPRA and Monument Travel, once again will provide “service with a smile” with deluxe transportation, staff assistant and luggage handling.

[Monument Travel](#), founded by Marjorie Lane, an experienced international tour manager, as well as a Tufts University graduate with a degree in Fine Arts and Romance Languages, has studied art at the Tyler School of Art in Rome, Italy and the Université de Paris, France, returns to her original passion for travel and art! After a successful career as a marketing executive and consultant in the hospitality industry, Ms. Lane is designing small luxury tours visiting the art capitals of the world. Initial itineraries will follow in the steps of the Allied Monuments Men and the “greatest treasure hunt in history” (Robert M. Edsel, “[The Monuments Men](#)”). Working with destination partner, [Allied PRA](#) of France and Italy, a distinguished and reputable firm with over 50 years of travel experience, Monument Travel presents a unique opportunity to learn more about this vital mission to save the art treasures and culture during World War II.

# Summary of Tour - France

## Includes

Accommodation and breakfast in a deluxe 4 star centrally located hotel, based on double occupancy

### Day 1

- Private arrival transfers
- Hospitality desk staff
- 2CV orientation tour
- Dinner and escort assistance

### Day 2

- Full day Art tour, motor coach and guide
- Entrance fees and lunch

### Day 3

- Seine River dinner cruise including round trip transfers and escort

### Day 4

- Departure transfer via motor coach and escort
- Flight to Pisa.

All taxes and Service.

## Excludes

- Flight from your home city to Paris
- Incidentals at hotel
- Meals not listed in the itinerary
- Single supplement @ 250€uros per person per night

## Optional tours

- Versailles – 4 hours. Operates with a minimum of 20 people. Includes coach, guide, entrance fee, reservation fee and headsets. 92 €uros per person
- Eiffel Tower – 3 hours. Operates with a minimum of 10 people. Includes coach, escort, and private Eiffel Tower guide and elevator fee up to 2<sup>nd</sup> level. 115 €uros per person.

# Summary of Tour - Italy

## Includes

Accommodations and breakfast in deluxe 5 star centrally located hotels in Florence and Rome, based on double occupancy

### Day 4

- Meet, Greet, Pisa visit and transfer to Florence via motor coach with guide
- Dinner and escort/Assistance

### Day 5

- Full day walking tour, with guide
- Entrance fees and lunch

### Day 6

- Morning tour with guide
- Lunch

### Day 7

- Transfer from Florence to Rome
- Visit of Siena with lunch
- Welcome dinner in Rome

### Day 8

- Full day tour in Rome with coach & guide,
- Entrance fees and lunch

### Day 9

- Full day tour to Monte Cassino with coach & guide
- Entrance fees and lunch
- Farewell dinner in Rome

### Day 10

- Private departure transfers and assistance

All taxes and Service.

## Excludes

- Incidentals at hotel
- Meals not listed in the itinerary
- Single supplement in Rome & Florence @ 170€uros per person per night

## Price of 10 day tour:

- 5460€ per person based on double occupancy/ \$7371 estimated – reserve and pay by Dec. 1, 2014 and receive a discount of 250 € per person.
- Single supplement (meaning private room accommodations at all hotels): 1770€/ \$2390 estimated.

Why are we quoting prices in Euros? We pre-pay all the included items in Euros, which like any currency is subject to fluctuation in value. Your bank or Credit Card Company will give you the best conversion rate available. We have also provided estimated US dollar amounts based on the value of the Euro at \$1.35.

### Summary of inclusions:

- 9 nights four or five star hotel accommodations
- Private arrival transfer – Paris
- Private Paris orientation tour in a Citroën
- 4 full day art tours and three ½ day art tours with experienced and knowledgeable guides, entrance fees.
- Daily breakfast, 5 lunches and 5 dinners
- Flight to Pisa
- All airport transfers
- Transportation Florence to Rome
- All taxes and services
- Private departure services and assistance in Rome
- Tour manager and local hospitality representatives
- Donation to the WWII Museum or the Monuments Men Foundation

## **Frequently asked questions:**

### **If I am traveling alone will I have a roommate?**

If you are traveling alone and do not choose the single supplement, we will do our best to match you with a roommate, but we cannot guarantee this, and thus you may be obligated to purchase the single supplement option.

### **Can my children travel on this tour?**

Our small, boutique luxury tours are designed to appeal to travelers over the age of 18, and we do not suggest bringing anyone on the trip younger than 18.

### **Can Monument Travel book my airline reservation?**

Yes, we can assist with booking your airline reservation, but all payments must be made directly with the airline company.

### **What if I have dietary restrictions?**

Any dietary restriction information must be shared with Monument Travel at the time of the reservation. We make every effort to accommodate your needs, but we cannot be held responsible for any inaction. Please see our information below regarding travelers with special needs.

### **Where do I purchase the optional tours?**

To ensure availability we suggest you purchase an optional tour no later than 30 days prior to departure. If there is still availability we will offer on-site sales.

### **How can I best prepare for the pacing and physical requirements of the trip?**

Our tours require clients be able to participate in a full day of walking and touring. Some days are longer than other days, with some activities occurring later into the evening. Walking tours often include uneven terrain, climbing of stairs, and periods of standing. We do not suggest this tour for anyone who use walkers or wheelchairs.

### **What should I pack?**

No later than 60 days prior to your departure we will send you a list of our suggestions for packing. We do suggest a very comfortable pair of shoes for everyday walking and touring. Evening attire is generally considered casual elegance. A standard recommendation is rain wear, a portable umbrella, hat, scarf and/or pashmina for women and a light jacket.

### **Should I read any specific books prior to the trip?**

We do suggest you read Robert M. Edsel's *"Saving Italy – The Race to Rescue a Nation's Treasures from the Nazis"*.

### **Reservations, Deposits and Payments:**

- As space is limited we suggest making your reservation as early as possible.
- A deposit of \$1000 per person is due at the time of booking. Full payment is due 30 days after making your reservation.
- We accept all major credit cards, as well as checks or wire transfers.

### **Cancellations:**

- Cancellations of confirmed bookings are as follows:
  - 120 days prior to travel - full refund less \$150 per person fee
  - 90 days prior to travel - 50 % refund of deposit and payments
  - 60 days prior to travel – 25 % refund of deposit and payments
  - Less than 60 days, no refunds will be made.

**Travel Insurance:** We do suggest you purchase travel insurance and we would be happy to provide a recommendation.

**Baggage Insurance and disclaimer:** Although every effort is made to handle passengers' luggage as carefully as possible, Monument Travel or its travel suppliers is not responsible for and does not accept liability or accept claims for loss of or damage to luggage due to breakage, theft or wear and tear through hotel and group carrier handling. It is recommended for your own self-interest and protection that you have adequate insurance to cover these eventualities.

**Documentation:** All travelers are responsible for providing up to date government issued identification in the form of a valid passport. All passengers should check with the appropriate foreign consulate for entry and validity requirements. We recommend your passport has a minimum six months validity, and at least three (3) blank pages. Passports and visas are the responsibility of each client.

**Travelers Needing Special Assistance:** You must report any disability requiring special attention to Monument Travel at the time the reservation is made. We will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of our participants. Please be aware that the American with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion which is capable of and totally responsible for providing the necessary assistance. Monument Travel, and its travel suppliers cannot provide special individual assistance to our members with special needs for walking, dining and other routine activities.