

ANDRÉ RIEU IN MAASTRICHT WITH FRANCE, BELGIUM

**André Rieu in Maastricht, Northern
France, Belgium, Art, Castles, Opera,
gourmet food, charming towns and
historic hotels!**



operatunity

TRAVEL OF NOTE

8 JULY - 1 AUGUST 2023

FRANCE, BELGIUM WITH ANDRÉ RIEU IN MAASTRICHT

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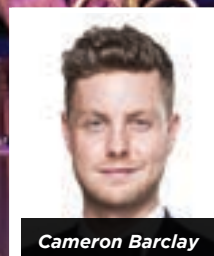
André Rieu in Maastricht, Northern France, Belgium, Art, Castles, Opera, gourmet food, charming towns and historic hotels!

Experience the Exceptional...

- We bring you one of our most extraordinary music travel extravaganzas: the Waltz King, **André Rieu Live in Maastricht** premium tickets (confirmed) plus **Romeo and Juliet** at Bastille Paris Opera confirmed, **Moulin Rouge** (confirmed), **The Story of Manon** traditional ballet, presented by the Paris Opera and Ballet based on the music of Massenet at the Opera Garnier plus shows and private concerts with dinner.
- We stay in historic houses and châteaux, some from the 15th century in beautiful cities and small towns: Paris (5 nights), Maastricht (2 nights), Amsterdam (2 nights), Antwerp (2 nights), Bruges (3 nights), Rouen (2 nights), Bayeux (2 nights), Loire Valley (3 nights).
- We visit elegant chateaux and grand boulevards, small charming villages, fairy tale castles, thousand year old cathedrals and glorious countryside and gardens and be enthralled by it all.
- We visit many famous museums, houses and gardens including Claude Monet's house and glorious gardens, the 16th century Château de Villandry, The Château de Chenonceau 'The Castle of the Six Ladies', Rubens House, the Louvre, Musée d'Orsay, Rijksmuseum, Bayeux Tapestry, Ghent Altarpiece, and diamond tour in Antwerp.
- Walking tours in ancient town centres like Bruges, Ghent, Rouen, Tours, Bayeux, Caen, Maastricht as well as canal tours, boat cruises, horse and carriage, tuk tuk tour in small towns!
- Special interest tours like Joan of Arc Square, Les Mans museum, Commonwealth War cemetery, Dunkirk, D-Day landing beaches and Arromanches Museum and Brussels EU Headquarters.
- Escorted by Cameron Barclay and Kelly Lim Harris, this tour is part of our Operatunity Travel of Note series of boutique tours limited to 18 travellers.



OUR ARTISTS FOR THIS TRIP



Cameron Barclay



Kelly Lim Harris

PLACES WE STAY

(HOTELS ARE STILL SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT TIME OF PRINTING)

Hôtel Westminster, Paris (5 nights) is located in central Paris, between the Place Vendôme and Opéra. It offers individually decorated rooms with antique furniture, and a wellness centre.

Amrâth Grand Hotel de l'Empereur, Maastricht (2 nights) is a 4-star hotel and is located in an Art-Nouveau style listed building. The property is located in the centre of Maastricht, opposite the Central Station.

Hotel Estherea, Amsterdam (2 nights) is situated in a beautiful seventeenth-century building along Amsterdam's oldest canal: the Singel with the richly coloured interior, the crystal chandeliers, the luxurious fabrics and the expressive prints.

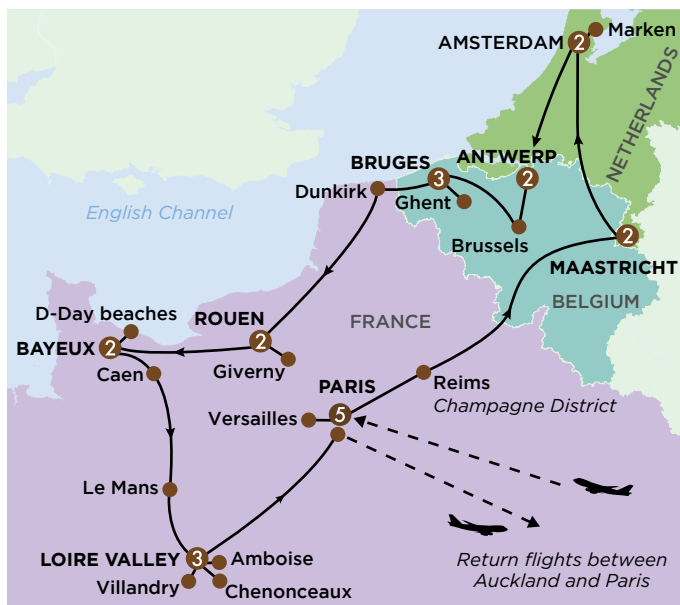
Sapphire Hotel, Antwerp (2 nights), built into the old gemstone trading building, this brand new hotel combines the new and history in a centrally located location close to the shopping mall.

Hotel Dukes' Palace, Bruges (3 nights) is a superior former residence of the Burgundian aristocracy and a unique five-star hotel in Flanders, is ideally located in the heart of the UNESCO World Heritage city of Bruges.

Hotel de Bourgtheroulde, Rouen (2 nights) is a genuine Renaissance jewel housed in a 15th century building. This is a five-star, city-centre hotel on the Place de la Pucelle a perfect setting for our visit to this region.

Grand Hotel Luxembourg, Bayeux (2 nights) located in a 17th-century mansion which has been converted into a charming hotel with a gastronomic restaurant and an outdoor heated pool which is accessible all year round.

Chateau de Le Choiseul, Loire Valley (3 nights) is a charming small castle-hotel. Located at the edge of the Loire and at the foot of the Royal Castle of Amboise, the hotel is a charming house typically from Tours built in 18th century.



Château de Le Choiseul



Grand Hôtel du Luxembourg



Hotel de Bourgtheroulde



Hotel Dukes' Palace

PARIS (5 NIGHTS) - HÔTEL WESTMINSTER

Paris is the capital and largest city of France. One of the most beautiful cities in the world, it is divided into two parts: the Right Bank to the north and the smaller Left Bank to the south. Paris is famous for its tree-lined boulevards such as the Champs-Élysées, and for its many architectural gems.

Highlights in Paris Include:

- Full day off to get over our long flight.
- A beautiful welcome dinner cruise on the Seine River to enjoy the lights and sights of Paris.
- Drive of Paris to see some of its famous monuments by night.
- Tour of the Opéra Garnier, Paris, famous opera house and setting for Phantom of the Opera.
- City tour of Paris including Champs-Élysées, Arc de Triomphe, Les Invalides and Eiffel Tower.
- Tour of the Louvre Museum with private guide and see amongst other famous art treasures, Mona Lisa.
- Visit to Musée d'Orsay to see their amazing collection of Impressionist artworks.
- Day free to explore Paris at leisure.
- **Romeo and Juliet** Opera at Opéra Bastille (confirmed).
- Dinner and show at **Moulin Rouge** (confirmed).
- Excursion to Versailles Palace and Gardens when the fountains are operating.
- Lunch and dinner experiences at some of Paris's most famous cafes and restaurants.
- **The Story of Manon**, a traditional ballet, based on the music of Massenet in the beautiful Opera Garnier.

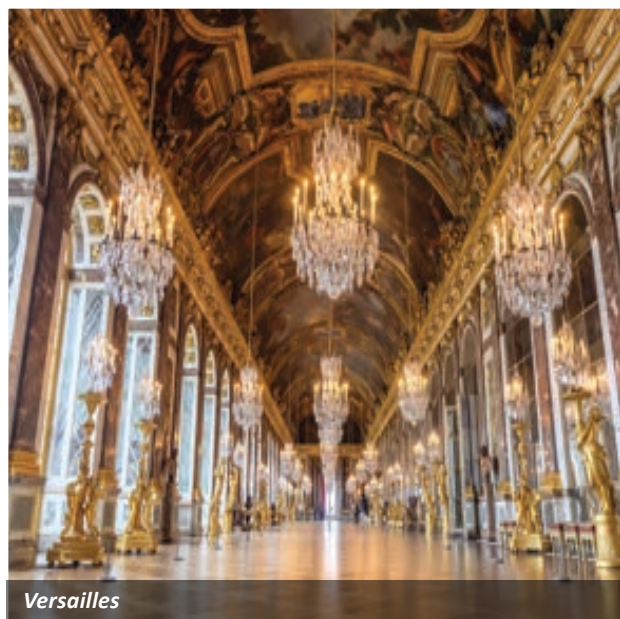
ON WAY TO MAASTRICHT WE STOP IN REIMS, CHAMPAGNE DISTRICT.

Highlights in Reims Include:

- Visit to magnificent Cathedral of Notre Dame.
- Tour and tasting of Champagne in this historic champagne district.



Eiffel Tower



Versailles

MAASTRICHT (2 NIGHTS) - AMRATH GRAND HOTEL DE L'EMPEREUR

Our chance to see André Rieu and The Johann Strauss Orchestra live as the Waltz King returns, once again, to his hometown of Maastricht and to Vrijthof Square. Join us for an extraordinary summer night of magnificent music in this magical setting!

Highlights in Maastricht Include:

- Premium tickets to **André Rieu Live in Maastricht 2023** (now confirmed). Premium are the best seats, central and in the front section.
- Walking tour of Maastricht.
- Time to enjoy soaking up the André Rieu atmosphere, markets and great shopping!

ON THE WAY TO AMSTERDAM WE VIEW THE FAMOUS WINDMILLS, CANALS AND COUNTRYSIDE IN MARKEN.

AMSTERDAM (2 NIGHTS) - HOTEL ESTHEREA

Highlights in Amsterdam Include:

- Walking tour of Amsterdam, including Begijnhof historic houses area, floating Flower Market, Lord in the Attic, which is Amsterdam's 2nd oldest Museum housed in a 17th Century Canal House with a church in the attic.
- Introductory cruise along river, seeing this beautiful city from the river.
- Visit to Rijksmuseum which houses the most amazing Rembrandt and Vermeer paintings.

ON WAY TO ANTWERP WE VISIT THE VAN GOGH ART MUSEUM.



ANTWERP (2 NIGHTS) - SAPPHIRE HOUSE HOTEL

Antwerp is the second largest city of Belgium. It has a beautiful historic city centre, and is world-renowned for its diamond and fashion industry.

Highlights in Antwerp include:

- Walking tour of Antwerp with guide.
- Private concert in the famous French Salon.
- Visit to Rubens House.
- Visit to Diva Museum with its Museum of Diamonds, Silver and Antique Jewellery. Learn the history of the diamond trade in Antwerp.

TRAVEL FROM ANTWERP TO BRUGES VIA BRUSSELS

Tour of Brussels including Grand Palace Square, Notre Dame, and a tour of the Brussels EU Headquarters.

BRUGES (3 NIGHTS) - DUKES' PALACE HOTEL

Bruges, the capital of West Flanders in northwest Belgium, is distinguished by its canals, cobbled streets and medieval and beautiful buildings.

Highlights in Bruges include:

- Guided tour of Bruges including Madonna di Michelangelo, one of his most famous statues.
- Private canal cruise.
- Horse and carriage ride through small streets.
- Free time to wander this wonderful town.
- Guided visit to Historium Museum.
- Visit chocolate factory with tour and making -Belgium chocolates yum!!
- Full day tour to Ghent to see the famous Ghent Altarpiece at St Bavo's Cathedral, walking tour of Ghent plus canal cruise.
- Opera or private concert depending on availability.
- Gourmet meal experiences, some with music.

TRAVEL FROM BRUGES TO ROUEN VIA THE DUNKIRK BEACHES

Visit the Dunkirk Beaches, Museum and Commonwealth War Graves.

ROUEN (2 NIGHTS) - HOTEL DE BOURGTHEROULDE

Ancient, magical and medieval, the charming city of Rouen is the capital of Normandy, home of the famous painting by Monet and where Joan of Arc was tried and executed.

Highlights in Rouen include:

- On arrival in Rouen, we immerse ourselves in Monet!
- Monet tour including walking tour and visit to the famous Rouen Cathedral captured on many Monet landscapes.
- Understand what inspired Claude Monet to paint his cathedral series.
- Visit Rouen's old town and Joan of Arc Square with insightful commentary from our guide.
- Walk down "antique-dealer's row" and see Rue du Gros Horloge's Renaissance architecture.
- A visit to Giverny to see Claude Monet's house and glorious gardens including lunch.
- Normandy is the home of Camembert and great dairy products so some cheese tasting seems a plan too.



BAYEUX (2 NIGHTS) - GRAND HÔTEL DU LUXEMBOURG

Home of the famous 11th century Bayeux Tapestry, base to explore the D-Day beaches and charming towns of Normandy.

Highlights in Bayeux include:

- Drive to the D-Day landing beaches and visit Arrormanches Museum.
- View the 11th century tapestry embroidered by Queen Mathilde.
- Time off to enjoy this little town.

TRAVEL FROM BAYEUX TO LOIRE VALLEY VIA LE MANS MUSEUM AND CAEN

- Visit Musée des 24 Heures du Mans - The Museum of the 24 Hours of Le Mans is a motorsport museum located at the Circuit de la Sarthe in Le Mans, France.
- Visit Caen, known for its historical buildings built during the reign of William the Conqueror, who was buried here.
- Walking tour of Caen and visit the Ladies Abbey.



TOURS, LOIRE VALLEY (3 NIGHTS) - CHATEAU DE LE CHOISEUL

The Loire Valley is in the region of Saumur, famous for its fairytale castles, sparkling wine and mushrooms.

Highlights in the Loire Valley include:

- Final night private concert in Amboise (subject to availability), site of the French Kings and tomb of Leonardo da Vinci.
- Visit the Château de Villandry, and enjoy a guided tour of the Château and its famous 16th century gardens.
- Wine tasting and lunch at Château Gaudrelle.
- Free time to enjoy our town and lovely hotel.
- Visit Château de Chenonceau 'The Castle of the Six Ladies' with local guide plus gardens.
- Visit the quaint little town of Amboise.

TRAVEL FROM LOIRE VALLEY BACK TO PARIS FOR FINAL DAY IN PARIS BEFORE FLIGHT TONIGHT.

Visit to the Eiffel Tower plus lunch cruise on the River Seine to say our farewells to one of the most beautiful cities in the world.





\$21,845 per person
twin share
Single Room supplement add \$5660

Initial Deposit on booking \$2000
Second Deposit due 16 January 2023 \$3000
Final Balance due: 21 March 2023

*First and second deposits are refundable minus office costs of up to \$500. **After the final balance due date, we are unable to give refunds.** This becomes an insurance claim. All itinerary details are subject to change but any changes will be replaced with a comparable or better option.*

THIS TRIP INCLUDES:

- Return direct economy Emirates flights Auckland - Paris via Dubai / Paris - Auckland via Dubai including taxes.
- All accommodation on this fully escorted tour staying in beautiful historic hotels and châteaux: Paris (5 nights), Maastricht (2 nights), Amsterdam (2 nights), Antwerp (2 nights), Bruges (3 nights), Rouen (2 nights), Bayeux (2 nights), Loire Valley (3 nights).
- Extraordinary music travel extravaganzas: the Waltz King, **André Rieu Live in Maastricht** premium tickets (confirmed) plus **Romeo and Juliet** at Bastille Paris Opera confirmed, **Moulin Rouge** (confirmed), **The Story of Manon** traditional ballet, presented by the Paris Opera and Ballet based on the music of Massenet at the Opera Garnier plus shows and private concerts with dinner.
- Art and architecture tours to many famous museums, houses and gardens including Claude Monet's house and glorious gardens, the 16th century châteaux and gardens of Château Villandry, The Château de Chenonceau 'The Castle of the Six Ladies,' Rubens House, Louvre, Musée d'Orsay, Rijksmuseum, Bayeux Tapestry, Ghent Altarpiece, diamond tour in Antwerp.
- Visiting and walking tours in ancient town centres like Bruges, Ghent, Rouen, Tours, Bayeux, Caen, Maastricht as well as canal tours, boat cruises, horse and carriage, tuk tuk tour in small towns!
- We visit elegant châteaux and grand boulevards, small charming villages, fairy tale castles, thousand-year-old cathedrals and glorious countryside and gardens and be enthralled by it all.
- Special interest tours like Joan of Arc, Les Mans Museum, Commonwealth War Cemetery, Dunkirk, D-Day landing beaches and Arranches Museum and Brussels EU Headquarters.
- All tours listed in brochure, all tips, portorage and taxes included.
- All breakfasts, wine, cheese and chocolate tastings, gourmet food experiences, 10 lunches and 13 dinners included.
- Escorted by Operatunity favourites Cameron Barclay and Kelly Lim Harris.
- An Operatunity Travel of Note Boutique tour limited to 18 travellers.

EXPLORING TOUR

This is still a moderately paced tour, but you will be required to walk longer distances, walk on cobblestones and stand in museums. To really get the best out of this tour you need to be able to stand or walk for a couple of hours comfortably, be it at a leisurely pace.

At the time of printing all Operatunity travellers will be required to be vaccinated. In Europe, all regulations are subject to change, but at present vaccine passes are required for all travellers in Europe.

This trip is one of our special boutique Travel of Note tours where the number of passengers is limited to 18 plus 2 escorts.



Toll Free: 0508 886 489

email: travel@operatunity.co.nz | www.operatunity.co.nz

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All trips are subject to change but any changes will be of equal or greater value.
- Deposits refundable until final payment date minus any costs incurred, or an administration fee of up to \$500.
- Travellers need to be independently mobile and fit to travel.
- Travellers are required to obtain comprehensive travel insurance for all international trips.
- Please refer to terms & conditions on our booking form.