

VMIFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS



Paris & London: Hidden Treasures

with Dr. Sylvain Cordier, Paul Mellon Curator and Head of the Department of European Art

April 30 - May 8, 2022



VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Dear Friends,

Global capitals with unrivaled beauty and influence, Paris and London offer an endless abundance of art, architecture, culture, and history. In April 2022, join us for a behind-the-scenes discovery of these cities' many underexplored highlights. Even if you've visited Paris and London many times before, this highly curated itinerary will provide dazzling revelations and rare access to art treasures. Delight in exclusive visits to extraordinary museums, including hidden gems on the grounds of the Palais du Louvre, and special tours of historic private homes.

You will travel in the company of Dr. Sylvain Cordier, VMFA Paul Mellon Curator and Head of the Department of European Art. Dr. Cordier was born and raised in France and has more than a decade of education and teaching experience at the Université Paris-Sorbonne. With his expertise in French painting and the decorative arts of France and Britain, Dr. Cordier will deepen your appreciation of the many artistic and cultural landmarks you will see on this trip.

Begin with four enchanting nights in the City of Light, and venture to the French imperial city of Compiègne for a private visit to Louis XV's lavish 18th-century château. At the Palais du Louvre, revel in a private guided tour of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs. Take an exclusive tour of Musée Marmottan Monet, home to hundreds of masterworks from the legendary Impressionist painter. View some of Paris' most historic architectural wonders up close, including a private tour of the city's oldest church, dating to the early Middle Ages.

TRAVELING WITH YOU



Dr. Sylvain Cordier

Dr. Sylvain Cordier joined VMFA in November 2019 as the Paul Mellon Curator and Head of the Department of European Art. Born and raised in France, Cordier received his doctorate in art history from Université Paris-Sorbonne in 2009.

Sylvain came to VMFA from the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, where he was Curator of Early Decorative Arts and the Napoleonic Collection. Previously he worked as curatorial assistant and assistant curator at the Musée Gustave Moreau, the château of Versailles, and the Mobilier National in Paris. As a doctorant, he lectured at the Sorbonne University, teaching French painting in the 19th century and the history of decorative arts. He then joined The Metropolitan Museum of Art as a Jane and Morgan Whitney fellow in the Department of Drawings and Prints and the Getty Research Institute as a postdoctoral fellow.

Travel by Eurostar to London for a three-night stay. Browse an exceptional collection of artworks in Ferdinand de Rothschild's splendid Neo-Renaissance château. Enjoy a before-hours tour of Sir John Soane's Museum, browsing the famed architect's vast drawing collections not usually on public display. Discover exquisite art holdings at some of London's grandest estates, including Peter Paul Rubens' dramatic painted ceiling at the Banqueting House. Conclude with two spectacular tours of iconic homes. Join Lady Caroline Percy for an intimate tour of Syon House, her longtime family home, and relish an expert-led tour of Queen Elizabeth II's residence Windsor Castle, home to British monarchs for nine centuries.

I hope you join us to experience Paris and London from an exciting new perspective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adele 'Hutch' Livingston".

Adele "Hutch" Livingston
VMFA Coordinator of Member Travel

HIGHLIGHTS

ADMIRE the lavish apartments and suites of Château de Compiègne—18th-century royal residence of Louis XV, later extravagantly renovated by Napoleon—on a private visit

VENTURE to the Palais du Louvre for a private guided visit of the vast collection of precious French furnishings and objects in the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, followed by an exclusive perusal of more than 300 Claude Monet masterpieces in the Musée Marmottan Monet

TAKE a private tour of the oldest church in Paris, the 6th-century Église Saint-Germain-des-Prés, marveling at its intriguing combination of architectural styles, from its original pillars and Romanesque arches to its Gothic vaulting

DISCOVER the Neo-Renaissance splendor of Ferdinand de Rothschild's Waddesdon Manor, and enjoy a curator-led tour of its impeccable art collection, including French tapestries, Dutch paintings, and Renaissance treasures

ENJOY a special early opening at the Sir John Soane's Museum, with its eclectic gathering of objects, drawings, and paintings owned by the renowned British architect, and revel in a rare visit to their off-view collections

SAVOR lunch and a curator-led visit at London's stately National Gallery, charting a comprehensive history of European art from the 13th through the 19th centuries

JOIN Lady Caroline Percy, the sister of the Duke of Northumberland, as she leads you on a special guided tour of Syon House, her family's expansive and historic home outside of London

MAKE your way to Windsor Castle, an official royal residence of Queen Elizabeth II, for an expert-led tour of its galleries



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The Louvre

SATURDAY, APRIL 30: DEPARTURE

Depart on an overnight flight to Paris.

SUNDAY, MAY 1: PARIS, FRANCE

Upon arrival in Paris, enjoy time on your own for lunch, and gather later for a welcome cocktail reception and brief lecture by Dr. Sylvain Cordier, VMFA Paul Mellon Curator and Head of the Department of European Art. This evening, enjoy dinner at Le Procope, the oldest continuously operated café in Paris. R,D

MONDAY, MAY 2: PARIS

Travel to Compiègne for a private visit to the Château de Compiègne, a royal residence built for Louis XV and restored by Napoleon. Make your way to Saint-Denis for lunch and a visit to the famed Basilique Cathédrale de Saint-Denis. After returning to the city, the rest of the afternoon and evening will be free to savor the sights, sounds, and flavors of Paris on your own. B,L

TUESDAY, MAY 3: PARIS

On the grounds of the Palais du Louvre, enjoy a private guided visit to the Musée des Arts Décoratifs. Over lunch, take in stunning views of the Louvre Pyramid at the fabulously located Le Café Marly. In the afternoon, there will be free time before a special private visit at the Musée Marmottan Monet, followed by a reception at an elegant venue. The rest of the evening will be free to further explore Paris on your own. B,L,R

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4: PARIS

Take a short walk to the 6th-century Église Saint-Germain-des-Prés, the oldest church in Paris, for a private tour. Have lunch on your own prior to a special visit at one of Paris's esteemed private art galleries with the owner. This evening, bid Paris farewell with a celebratory dinner at the Palais Royal. B,D

THURSDAY, MAY 5: PARIS / LONDON, ENGLAND

In the morning, travel to London on the Eurostar. Upon arrival, transfer by motor coach to Buckinghamshire for a visit to Waddesdon Manor, built for Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild as a weekend residence in the Neo-Renaissance style of a French château. Inside, discover the Baron's collection of portraits by artists like Gainsborough and Reynolds, as well as French tapestries, furniture, books, Dutch paintings, and Renaissance treasures. Return to London in the afternoon and check into the hotel. The remainder of the day is free to explore the British capital before dinner. B,L,D

FRIDAY, MAY 6: LONDON

Visit Sir John Soane's Museum for a private tour, savoring drawing collections not usually on public display. In nearby Whitehall, marvel at the grandeur of the Banqueting House, designed by Inigo Jones. This opulent building is the only remaining component of the Palace of Whitehall, the residence of English monarchs from 1530 to 1698. Behold one of its most famous works of art, the central panel of the ceiling by Peter Paul Rubens. At the National Gallery, enjoy lunch and a curator-led guided visit. On the southeast corner of Hyde Park, delight in a visit to Apsley House, home of the Duke of Wellington, with its magnificent collection of paintings, silver, and porcelain. The evening is at leisure. B,L



The Great Hall, Syon House, photo courtesy of Syon House



SATURDAY, MAY 7: LONDON

This morning, travel the short distance to Richmond, a lovely suburb just west of our hotel, for a private visit to Syon House, one of the most extraordinary palaces in London and the house of the Duke of Northumberland. Join Lady Caroline Percy, the sister of the Duke, as she leads a tour of their family home. Later, continue west for the short trip to Windsor Castle, an official royal residence of Queen Elizabeth II, for a guided perusal of its galleries. This evening, gather for a festive farewell dinner back in London.

B,D

SUNDAY, MAY 8: LONDON / DEPARTURE

Take an included transfer to Heathrow Airport for flights home.

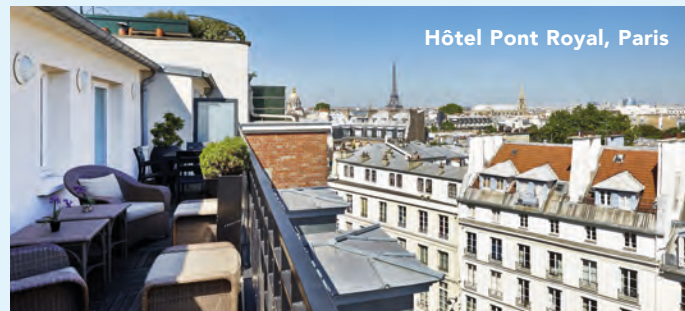
B

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

Windsor Castle



ACCOMMODATIONS



Hôtel Pont Royal, Paris

Hôtel Pont Royal, Paris

Located in the midst of the stylish Saint Germain-des-Prés area on the left bank of the Seine, the Hôtel Pont Royal immerses its guests in literary and artistic Paris.

St. James' Court, A Taj Hotel, London

A discreet Victorian masterpiece, the St. James' Court Hotel typifies the veiled charm of one of Britain's finest luxury hotels. Delight in its complimentary Wi-Fi, tailored treatments at the Wellness Centre, and a host of on-site dining options.



St. James' Court, London

PROGRAM RATE

\$5,699 per person, double rate

\$7,299 single rate

RATE INCLUDES

- Seven nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, R = Reception, D = Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at lunches and dinners
- Airport / hotel /airport transfers
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach and entrance fees for included visits
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



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PARIS & LONDON • APRIL 30 - MAY 8, 2022
RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please contact Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, or fax: 212-344-7493; or complete this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(mobile)

Fax

E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel room preference One bed Two beds Single

I wish to share a room with

FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date