

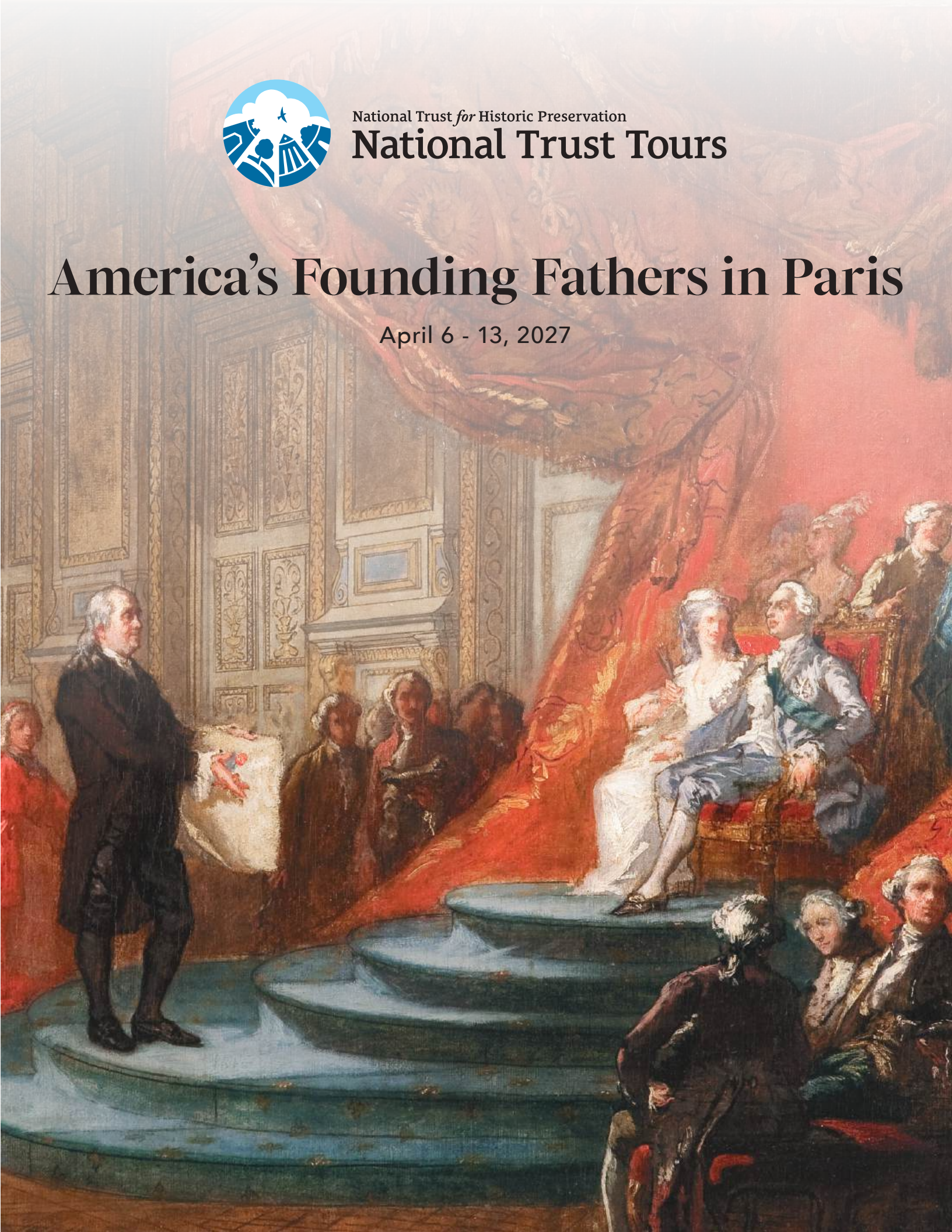


National Trust *for* Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

America's Founding Fathers in Paris

April 6 - 13, 2027



Trip Highlights

Discover historic sites during an expert-led walking tour of **Saint-Germain-des-Prés**, the neighborhood where Jefferson, Franklin, Adams, and Paine lived and worked.

Dine at **Le Procope**, Paris's oldest café, established in 1686, where Franklin, Jefferson, and later French revolutionaries once gathered.

Stand at the exact spot where American independence was formally recognized at the former site of **Hôtel d'York**, where the 1783 Treaty of Paris was signed.

Visit **Château de La Roche-Guyon**, set into limestone cliffs along the Seine, where the Duc de La Rochefoucauld translated the Declaration of Independence into French.

Gain special entrance to the **King's Private Apartments at Versailles**, closed to general visitors, including Louis XVI's library and the Porcelain Dining Room.

Take a guided look at the **Bibliothèque Municipale de Versailles**, housed in the former Foreign Affairs building, where French diplomacy helped secure the negotiations that made American independence possible.

Visit the grave of the Marquis de Lafayette at **Cimetière de Picpus**, one of Paris's two private cemeteries, and attend a farewell dinner at **Lafayette's**, the restaurant in the Marquis's former mansion.

Experience the **Louvre with priority access** and a personalized welcome from staff, bypassing crowds to view paintings Thomas Jefferson would have admired during his visits here.

Wander through magnificent French gardens with experts, including **Claude Monet's** flower-filled paradise at **Giverny** during peak spring bloom.



Château de La Roche-Guyon

Dear National Trust Traveler,

In 2026, we traveled to **Paris**—yes, Paris!—to mark the 250th anniversary of the **Declaration of Independence**. By popular demand, we're excited to invite you on our return trip to the French capital in 2027. After all, France helped make independence possible: **Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, John Jay**, and **Thomas Paine** all spent significant time in Paris, building the diplomatic ties that helped secure the future of the United States.

From **April 6 to 13, 2027**, follow in the footsteps of our Founding Fathers through the city they knew and loved. Stand at **56 rue Jacob**, the former Hôtel d'York, where Franklin, Adams, and Jay signed the 1783 Treaty of Paris, formally ending the Revolutionary War. Walk through **Saint-Germain-des-Prés**, the neighborhood where several American figures once lived, and dine at Paris's oldest café, **Le Procope**, founded in 1686 and long frequented by intellectuals, including Voltaire, Rousseau, Diderot, Franklin, Jefferson, Danton, and Robespierre.

With early-morning priority access to the **Louvre**, receive a personal staff greeting and a privately guided tour of Old Master paintings that Jefferson would have encountered during his time in Paris. At **Versailles**, enter the **King's Private Apartments**, rooms closed to regular visitors, and tour the **Bibliothèque Municipale de Versailles**, housed in the former Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where French diplomacy helped determine the outcome of the American Revolution.

You may find one of the most moving moments at **Cimetière de Picpus**, one of Paris's two private cemeteries. The **Marquis de Lafayette**, the French military officer who greatly contributed to the U.S. victory during the Revolutionary War, rests there beneath soil brought from Bunker Hill, with an American flag permanently flying at his grave.

The journey ends with a farewell dinner at **Lafayette's**, set in the former Paris mansion of the Marquis himself. **Space is limited, and I encourage you to reserve by calling National Trust Tours at 888-484-8785.** We hope that you join this special journey exploring U.S. history in the French capital.

Sincerely,



Meg Annacone-Poretz
Director, National Trust Tours

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities. For more information, visit the Trust's website at www.savingplaces.org or phone (800) 944-6847 or (202) 588-6000.



Map of the region

Activity Level:
Intermediate



Pace Level:
Moderato



Visit Arrangements Abroad's website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels at www.arrangementsabroad.com/faqs.



Lafayette's memorial, Cimetière de Picpus

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Tuesday, April 6: *Departure*

Depart on an overnight flight to Paris.

Wednesday, April 7: *Paris, France*

(D)

Upon arrival in **Paris**, join a group transfer to the hotel. After arrival, you may depart for an optional guided visit to the **Hôtel National des Invalides**, commissioned by Louis XIV in 1670 as a veterans' home and hospital. Inside, learn about French military power at the **Musée de l'Armée**, which hosts one of the world's largest collections of military history. This evening, gather for a **welcome dinner**.



Hôtel National des Invalides, Paris



Saint Michael Slaying the Dragon by Eugène Delacroix, Chapelle des Saints-Anges, Église Saint-Sulpice, Paris

Thursday, April 8: *Paris*

(B,L)

Enjoy a guided morning walk through the **Saint-Germain-des-Prés** neighborhood. Here, John Jay, Thomas Paine, and John Paul Jones once lived among the cafés, bookshops, churches, and private houses of the Left Bank.

Pause at the former **Hôtel d'York** at 56 rue Jacob, where Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay met British negotiator David Hartley to sign the Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783, formally ending the Revolutionary War.

Gather for lunch at **Le Procope**, Paris's oldest café, founded in 1686. Frequented by Napoleon, Voltaire, Victor Hugo, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau, it was also a meeting spot for French revolutionaries such as Danton and Robespierre.

Afterwards, walk through one of Paris's most elegant public gardens, the **Jardin du Luxembourg**, begun in 1612 for Marie de Médicis. Next, visit the nearby **Église Saint-Sulpice**, where Delacroix painted three murals inside the **Chapelle des Saints-Anges** (Chapel of the Holy Angels) between 1854 and 1861.



Bibliothèque Municipale de Versailles, photo © Christophe Fouin, ville de Versailles

End the afternoon in the **Latin Quarter**, Paris's old university district. Pass the **Panthéon**, the civic mausoleum where many of France's greatest figures, including Voltaire and Rousseau, are buried, and the **Sorbonne**, one of France's oldest universities, founded in the 13th century, before browsing the food stalls along **Rue Mouffetard**. Dinner is at leisure.

Friday, April 9:

Paris / Versailles / Paris

(B,L)

Travel to **Versailles** for a private tour of the **Bibliothèque Municipale de Versailles**, housed in the former Foreign Affairs building, which was completed in 1763. Benjamin Franklin was formally received here in 1778, as France prepared the financial and military support that helped secure American independence. Inside, see its collections of paintings amid richly decorated 18th-century interiors.

Gather for a special lunch at the **Waldorf Astoria Versailles - Trianon Palace**, recognized by Historic Hotels Worldwide, a program affiliated with the National Trust.

After lunch, enter the **Château de Versailles** and view the **Galerie des Glaces**, the famous Hall of Mirrors. Gain guided access to the **King's Private Apartments**, an exclusive experience beyond the reach of regular visitors. Return to Paris, where dinner is at leisure.

Saturday, April 10:

Paris

(B,L)

As American Minister to the Court of Versailles, Thomas Jefferson observed the first stirrings of the French Revolution in the late 1780s, meeting frequently with the Marquis de Lafayette and other key figures. Explore his role in these pivotal years on a private tour of the **Musée Carnavalet**, where artifacts and documents trace the revolution's early days.

After lunch at a bistro in **Le Marais**, take time to explore the formerly aristocratic neighborhood's courtyards, shops, and museums on your own. Then, visit **Cimetière de Picpus**, one of Paris's two private cemeteries, where Lafayette is buried. Stand at his grave, where soil from Bunker Hill was placed after his burial, and see the American flag that has flown here since World War I. Dinner is at leisure this evening.



Musée Carnavalet, Paris

Sunday, April 11:

Paris / Giverny / La Roche-Guyon / Paris

(B,L)

Travel to **Giverny**, the Normandy village where Claude Monet lived and painted from 1883 until his death in 1926. After lunch, visit **Monet's home and gardens** and begin in the **Clos Normand**, the flower garden he planted in front of his pink house.

Walk through the **Water Garden**, reached by a pedestrian tunnel, and view the green Japanese bridge, wisteria, and water lilies that appear in many of Monet's late paintings.

Visit **Château de La Roche-Guyon**, the ancestral home of the La Rochefoucauld family, built into limestone cliffs along a bend in the Seine. Here, the young Duc de La Rochefoucauld translated the Declaration of Independence into French, helping French readers understand the American cause.

Return to Paris by way of the **Champs-Élysées**, passing the **Arc de Triomphe** and addresses linked to John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson. Dinner is at leisure.



Water Garden, Monet's home and gardens, Giverny



Lafayette's, Paris

Monday, April 12:

Paris

(B,D)

Begin at the **Musée du Louvre** with a personalized welcome and first access to the galleries on a specially arranged tour. View European paintings from the former royal collections, including works by Titian, Veronese, and Rembrandt that Thomas Jefferson encountered during his years in Paris.

After lunch at leisure, choose how to spend the afternoon on your own. Gather this evening for a farewell dinner at **Lafayette's**, set in the former mansion of the Marquis de Lafayette at 8 rue d'Anjou. Dine in this beautifully restored 18th-century house, where the menu draws on French classics.

Tuesday, April 13:

Paris / Return

(B)

Following breakfast, depart the hotel on a group transfer to the airport.

DISCLAIMER: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of National Trust Tours and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

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Accommodations

Hôtel Bel Ami, Paris

Tucked into the literary quarter of Saint-Germain-des-Prés, this hotel places you steps from legendary cafés and art galleries. Inside, sleek lines and polished materials strike a balance between Left Bank heritage and modern restraint.



Restaurant, Hôtel Bel Ami, Paris

Program Rate

\$8,499 per person, double rate
\$10,499 single rate

Rate Includes

- Six nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine included at all group lunches and dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

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

INSURANCE: National Trust Tours strongly suggests the purchase of travel insurance. For more information on policy options, visit <https://my.travelinsure.com/nationaltrust/plan/> or call 1-800-937-1387.

RESERVATION INFORMATION

To secure your place, please call

National Trust Tours at

888-484-8785.

A deposit of \$2,000 per person is required
(of which \$1,000 is non-refundable for
administrative fees).



Hôtel Bel Ami, Paris



National Trust for Historic Preservation

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Front cover: George Peter Alexander Healy, *Franklin Urging the Claims of the American Colonies Before Louis XVI*, 1847, photo © American Philosophical Society. Back cover: Galerie des Glaces, Château de Versailles (top) and Louis XIV statue, Louvre, Paris (bottom).
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