

Paris



FEATURING THE
AFRICAN
AMERICAN
EXPERIENCE

SPONSORED BY

UCLA alum

September 5-13, 2026



Dear UCLA Alumni and Friends,

Discover the reach of African American culture in Paris on this enlightening seven-night journey. From jazz musicians and club owners to writers and scholars, many African American expatriates felt welcome in Paris in the years following World War I. Learn about their valuable contributions while tracing rich history through legendary neighborhoods, including Montmartre and the Left Bank.

During specially designed excursions, walk in the footsteps of African American luminaries and gain a deeper appreciation of this influential community through enriching lectures. Plus, enjoy quintessential Parisian experiences: visiting a jazz club, savoring French cuisine, cruising along the Seine River and exploring world-class museums!

Your itinerary has been carefully crafted to include enriching cultural excursions, preferred access to popular attractions and an engaging educational component. Expert guides and lecturers will provide meaningful context for what you encounter during your travels. You'll also delight in the fellowship of traveling with a small group, plus forge your own path during ample free time.

Make plans to be a part of the adventure by reserving your space today!

Regards from Westwood,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christel Aragon".

Christel Aragon
Director, Alumni Travel

UCLA Alumni Travel is an advantage reserved for UCLA Alumni Association sustaining donors. Sustaining donors include Gold, Life and Blue Members as well as anyone who has made a qualifying donation of \$100 or more to the UCLA Alumni Association Support Fund in the past year.

UNESCO World Heritage

Paris, Banks of the Seine

Landmarks along the city's historic river





Discovery begins here



Explore the intersection of U.S. and French history as you trace the journeys of prominent African American musicians, writers and luminaries in Paris. Learn how their experiences in the French capital shaped their lives and also how these individuals influenced contemporary Paris. Using the city's famed Métro system, navigate the city like a local on several of your excursions. Plus, delight in an evening of jazz and savor French cuisine!

Top: Seine River and Pont Neuf

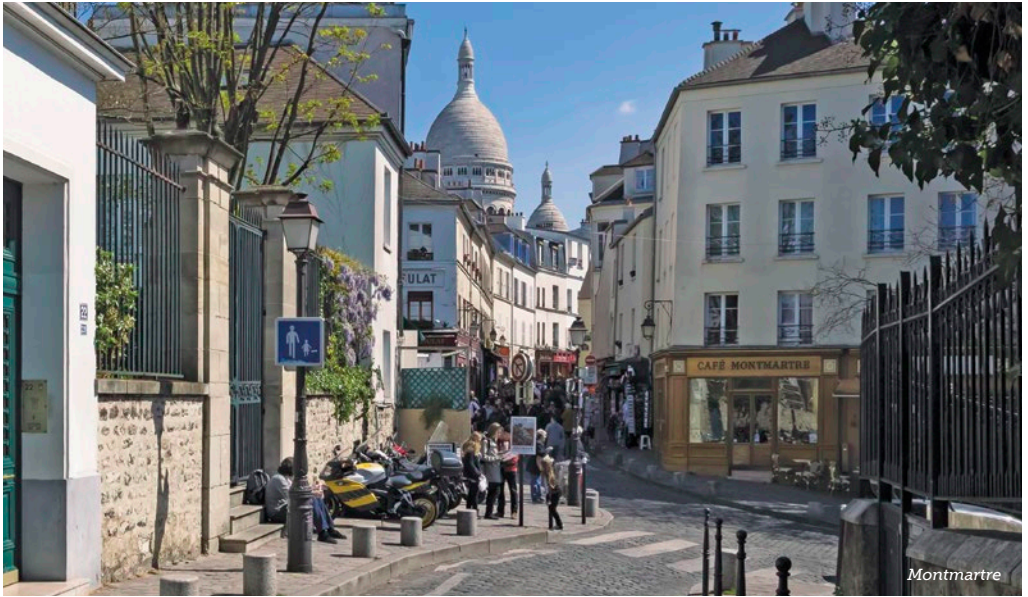
Cover: Eiffel Tower | Inset: Jazz performers

Mail panel: Métro sign | Hôtel de Ville, Marais

Inspiring Moments



- Unravel the relationship between **African American expatriates and Paris**.
- Explore **Montmartre**, where African American jazz musicians created their own Harlem in the 1920s.
- Enjoy an evening at a Paris **jazz club**.
- Attend a screening of a **documentary about African Americans** in Paris after World War I and meet the filmmakers.
- Gain the insights of an **African American author** living in Paris.
- Savor French treats during a fun **gastronomic walking tour**.
- Discover the multicultural collections of the **Musée du quai Branly**.
- Gain a new perspective of Paris in its **historic arrondissements**.
- Experience Paris' Banks of the Seine, a **UNESCO World Heritage site**.



Montmartre

Day 1 | In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Paris, France. 🌐

Day 2 | Paris, France

Upon arrival in Paris, transfer ➡ to the Crowne Plaza Paris – République.

Welcome to Paris! Join your Travel Director for a short stroll and learn how to navigate the Métro, Paris’ transit system.

Mingle with your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner tonight.

Day 3 | Paris

Spirit of Black Paris. Venture out for an enriching overview of Black history in Paris. Uncover the city that welcomed Josephine Baker, Langston Hughes and other African American luminaries. Pass by the haunts of Langston Hughes, W. E. B. Du Bois and James Baldwin along the Champs-Élysées, and discover the Latin Quarter. See where entertainers and writers from the African American expatriate community lived, including Henry Ossawa Tanner, Miles Davis and Bud Powell. Plus, witness memorials and statues that celebrate Alexandre Dumas’ family and learn how they illustrate France’s relationship with slavery and race. Enjoy lunch after the tour.

Free Time: Explore more of Paris on your own.

Paris by Boat. Glide along the storied Seine River on a sunset cruise to behold beloved Parisian sites. Witness the Notre-Dame Cathedral, the Louvre Museum and Île St. Louis, and cruise beneath the iconic Pont Neuf bridge, passing by the Île de la Cité.

Day 4 | Paris

🌐 **AHI Connects | Paris Noir.** Settle in for a screening of “Paris Noir: African Americans in the City of Light,” a fascinating documentary that examines the relationship between the city of Paris and African American expatriates following World War I. An enriching question-and-answer session with the filmmakers follows.

Montmartre’s Entertainers in the 1920s.

Learn about the influence of jazz and the Harlem Renaissance on Paris. The African American soldiers of the U.S. Army’s 369th Infantry Regiment introduced jazz to Europe during World War I. The city became hungry for American jazz and the cultural scene created by African American musicians, entertainers and club owners. See nightclubs owned by Bricktop and Eugene Bullard and learn how African American culture influenced European culture.

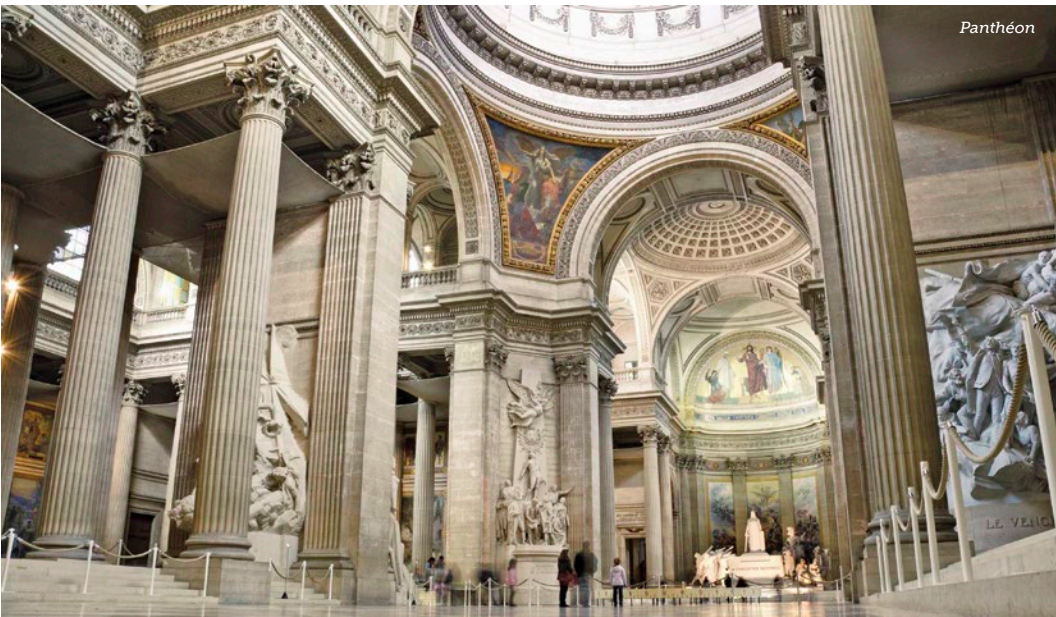
Free Time: Your afternoon is at leisure. Walk down the Champs Élysées and explore!

Day 5 | Paris

Flavors of France. Step into the world of



Flavors of Paris



French gastronomy during a walking tour and savor traditional elements of French cuisine. Seasonal samplings may include cheese, wine, truffles, foie gras, cookies and more.

Free Time: Take advantage of free time to discover Paris on your own!

Day 6 | Paris

Free Time: Chart your own path through Paris today or join our elective activity to Versailles.

🕒 Elective | Versailles. Travel to France's grandest palace, a baroque château that was once the kingdom's political capital and the seat of the royal court. Walk in the footsteps of kings, queens and courtiers while visiting the palace and its gardens. Delight in ornate ceilings, rich tapestries and lavish galleries, and see the Hall of Mirrors, the room where the Treaty of Versailles was signed.

Following your tour, enjoy lunch at leisure and explore the grounds at your own pace.

An Evening of Jazz. Trace the evolution of French jazz during a fascinating tour of Saint-Germain-des-Prés and the Latin Quarter.

Listen to stories about great musicians and settle in at a Paris jazz club to enjoy a delicious dinner and a special jazz concert.

Day 7 | Paris

Pioneers of the Left Bank. African American expatriates, along with other communities of the African diaspora, flourished on the Left Bank. Enjoy an enlightening tour focused on the Panthéon and the Sorbonne, iconic symbols of greatness. This guided walk explores the explosion of Black consciousness and expression through the Négritude Movement, Harlem Renaissance writers and African and Caribbean intellectuals. As you pass by the Sorbonne, your local guide discusses the far-reaching significance of the First International Congress of Black Writers and Artists held in 1956, featuring such speakers as Richard Wright, Léopold Senghor, Aimé Césaire and Frantz Fanon. Your guide will also show you where author Richard Wright lived with his wife and two daughters.

Enrichment: An African American Writer in Paris Today. Delight in a discussion with



Musée du quai Branly

Luxembourg Gardens, Latin Quarter





Award-winning writer Jake Lamar. The Bronx transplant discusses his experiences in Paris, where he has lived since 1993. A former writer for Time magazine, Lamar has written novels, a play, a memoir and short stories.

Free Time: After a group lunch, indulge in fine art collections and relics at Paris' museums or unwind in the lush Luxembourg Garden.

Day 8 | Paris

Musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac.

Join an expert guide in one of Paris' premier cultural institutions. Opened in 2006, the museum features collections focused on non-European cultures with a rich variety of art, artifacts and objects from Oceania, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

Free Time: Visit a museum or relish a final espresso and croissant on your final afternoon in Paris.

Celebrate your enchanting adventure at a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

Day 9 | In Transit

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Flights and transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Elective experiences available at an additional cost.

Active Travel

This **Active Program** is designed for people who are in good health and can comfortably participate in a demanding daily schedule of physical activities. For more details, please call or visit our website.

Excursions on this program require:

- walking distances of up to 3-5 miles
- walking on unpaved or uneven surfaces
- climbing several flights of stairs and getting on/off motor coaches and boats

Included Features



Accommodations (with baggage handling)

– **7 nights** in Paris, France, at the first-class Crowne Plaza Paris – République.

Extensive Meal Program

– 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- **Small group:** Sized just right at 28 guests.
- **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
- **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **Electives** and free time to pursue your individual interests.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- **Métro tickets** for all tours using Paris' transit system.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:** We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

Sorbonne Université





Paris Discovers Jazz

After World War I, Parisians rebuilt their lives as jazz, a new sound introduced to France by African American soldiers, filled the air. Lively and unique, jazz was the perfect soundtrack to a fresh start, both for French music fans and African American troops. The 369th Infantry Regiment is credited with transforming Paris' cultural scene. The unit became famous for its bravery and its band, led by Lieutenant James Reese Europe and Sergeant Noble Sissle. Attached to the French army because U.S. forces were still segregated, the 369th Infantry was brave in battle. Nicknamed the "Harlem Hellfighters" by the Germans, the 369th and several individual soldiers were singled out for France's highest award for valor. Off the battlefield, the band boosted morale across France with music that would soon fill Parisian clubs. For two decades, Montmartre hosted the flourishing jazz community, which drew African American musicians and club owners from the U.S. Several musicians left Paris during Germany's World War II occupation, but the city's love of jazz never wavered. Jazz surged again after the war with great African American musicians leading the way, and the music still delights concertgoers today.

Arc de Triomphe and the Champs-Élysées



2026 | Departure Details

Program Dates

Travel dates † **September 5-13, 2026**

† Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

Tour dates* **September 6-13, 2026**

* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

Land Program

Full Price **\$4,945**

Special Savings **\$750**

Special Savings Price* **\$4,195**

***This Special Savings Price includes our \$250 Early Booking and \$500 Pay-in-Full discounts and is valid if you book by the date on the address panel and pay in full at booking.**

Deposit amount is \$750 per person.

Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure.

Price includes applicable program taxes (such as VAT and port charges).

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

Single accommodations are an additional \$1,395 (limited availability).

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://ucla.ahitravel.com/destinations/1939A?schoolId=170>.

AHI FlexAir

Let us arrange your flights

Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure **transfers** on group dates
- **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply.)
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays

AHI Travel Expertise



Travel Consultants assist with the reservation process.

Travel & Air Coordinators offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

Travel Information provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

Your Travel Director, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

Handpicked Expert Guides and Knowledgeable Lecturers deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.

Accommodations



Crowne Plaza Paris - Republique | Paris



Paris is at your doorstep when staying at the Crown Plaza Paris – Republique. The Canal Saint-Martin, the Opéra Garnier and other landmarks are just a short stroll away, and a nearby Métro station can whisk you away to all corners of the city. The hotel has two restaurants and a fitness center. Enjoy a comfortable, well-appointed room. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



 TripAdvisor



Le Marais

Book your journey today!

**Visit ucla.ahitravel.com/destinations/1939A?schoollid=170
or contact **UCLA Alumni Travel** at
310-206-0613 | travel@alumni.ucla.edu.**

UCLA alum

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Los Angeles, CA 90095-1397

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Explore the significance of African American culture in Paris!

Committed to connecting travelers
to the people, places and cultures
of the world for more than 62 years.



**Please call or refer
to our website for
the most current
program information,
discounts and pricing.**

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