



Classical PARIS, NORMANDY & BELGIUM

Hosted by
KAI GLEUSTEEN &
CATHERINE ORDRONNEAU

24 May – 07 June, 2027



SPECIAL
TRAVEL
INTERNATIONAL

PARIS • GIVERNY • NORMANDY • ANTWERP • BRUSSELS

An invitation from your hosts



Kai & Catherine

Following our musical voyage to Munich and Vienna, many of you asked where we might travel together next. Paris and Normandy immediately came to mind—regions Catherine and I know intimately, where extraordinary music is complemented by art, gardens, history and landscapes of remarkable beauty. Our travels together are also about discovery, sharing, friendship...and music! So, we have put together a special trip for you, with incredible musical experiences in Paris, plus an emphasis on famous gardens and impressionism. With special lectures on the relationship between the impressionists and Normandy, we will then take you to some of the places that made the most "impression" on these very painters. And to round off the trip, before ending up in Brussels, we'll take you to some exceptional places in Northwest Belgium.

As always, Catherine and I will prepare a couple of programs for you and perform them exclusively for you. We will share our insights and opinions about the concerts we attend and our wealth of experiences in Normandy. In Belgium, we'll have access to a private castle that has a gorgeous Fazioli piano...

We hope you can join us next spring for this musical and visual feast!

Signature Experiences

A richly layered journey where exceptional performances, private musical encounters and the landscapes of the Impressionists come together.

On Europe's Great Stages

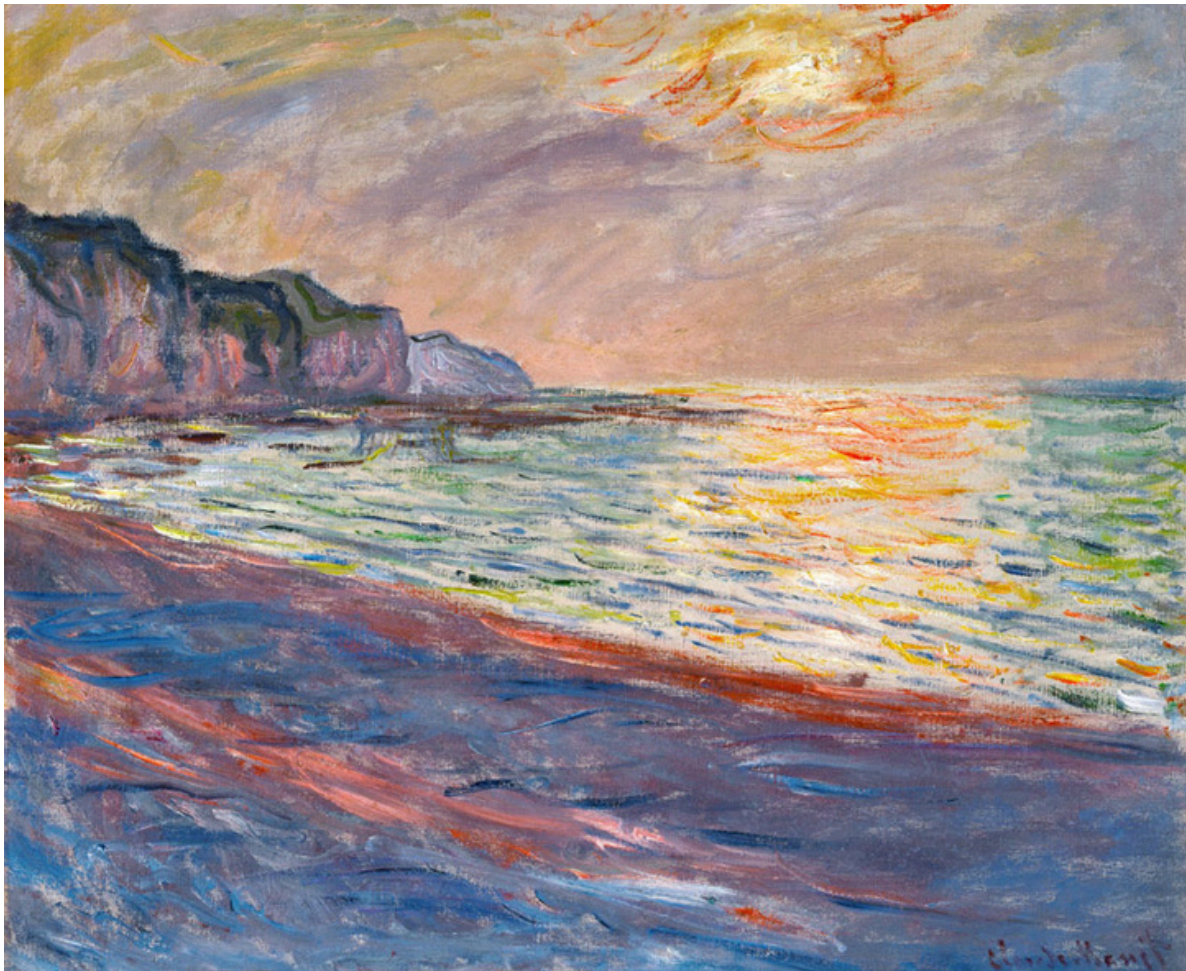
- Paris - Grigory Sokolov at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées
- Paris - Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France with Mahler 7
- Paris - Mozart's Don Giovanni at the Opéra Bastille
- Paris - Lang Lang with the Gewandhaus Orchestra performing the Emperor Concerto and Pastoral Symphony at the Philharmonie de Paris
- Paris - An additional performance to be announced
- Antwerp - Lucifer en de Schelde at Opera Ballet Vlaanderen

Private Musical Encounters

- Two exclusive performances by Kai and Catherine
- An intimate musical gathering in Belgium

Art, Gardens & Inspiration

- A private visit to the magnificent Palais Garnier
- Monet's gardens and the artistic landscapes of Normandy



The landscapes of Normandy inspired some of Impressionism's most celebrated works.

Itinerary

CLASSICAL PARIS, NORMANDY & BELGIUM
24 MAY - 07 JUN 2027

Day 01

May 24, Mon

Canada to Paris

Depart Canada on your overnight flight to Paris, beginning a journey celebrating exceptional music, art and the cultural landscapes of France and Belgium.

Day 02

May 25, Tue

Arrive Paris

Arrive in Paris and meet your Tour Director, Herbert Gall, before transferring by private coach to your hotel. This evening, gather for a welcome dinner and an introduction to the journey ahead. (D)

Optional Performance: Depending on final flight arrangements, an evening concert by the Toulouse Orchestra may be possible on arrival: Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto and Rachmaninov Second Symphony – or similar.

Day 03

May 26, Wed

Paris

Discover Paris on a privately guided tour featuring its celebrated landmarks, elegant boulevards and historic neighbourhoods. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure before attending a recital by legendary pianist Grigory Sokolov at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées. (B,D)

Included Performance: This evening, enjoy an included performance at Théâtre des Champs-Élysées – Grigory Sokolov piano recital

Day 04

May 27, Thu

Paris

Step inside the magnificent Palais Garnier during a privately arranged visit showcasing its grand staircase, gilded salons and extraordinary theatrical history. The afternoon is yours to enjoy before an evening concert personally selected by Kai and Catherine. (B,D)

Included Performance: This evening, attend an additional performance selected from Paris's outstanding musical calendar, at the Philharmonie de Paris or a comparable venue.

Day 05

May 28, Fri

Paris

This morning, enjoy a guided visit to the Musée d'Orsay, with a special focus on the relationship between Normandy and the Impressionists. Later, there is time to linger on the Left Bank, whether over lunch, a quiet café, or a leisurely stroll, before this evening's included performance. (B,D)

Included Performance: This evening, attend a performance by a Radio France orchestra featuring Mahler's Symphony No. 7, or a Baroque concert at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées.

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Day 06
May 29, Sat

Paris

Visit the restored Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris and the exquisite Sainte-Chapelle, renowned for its medieval stained glass. After an afternoon at leisure, experience Mozart's Don Giovanni at the Opéra Bastille. (B,D)

Included Performance: Tonight, attend Don Giovanni at the Opéra Bastille

Day 07
May 30, Sun

Paris

Travel to the Château de Fontainebleau for a guided visit through its opulent royal apartments and Renaissance interiors. Return to Paris for an exceptional performance by the Gewandhaus Orchestra with Lang Lang, featuring Beethoven's "Emperor" Concerto and "Pastoral" Symphony. (B,D)

Included Performance: This afternoon, attend a Gewandhaus Orchestra concert with Lang Lang as soloist, performing the Emperor Concerto and Pastoral Symphony at the Philharmonie de Paris

Day 08
May 31, Mon

Paris – Giverny – Normandy

Leave Paris behind and travel to Normandy. En route, visit Monet's house and gardens in Giverny, one of the most evocative artistic settings in France. Continue through Rouen to Normandy's dramatic Alabaster Coast, arriving in time for dinner. There, settle into Hôtel de la Terrasse, a charming and characterful coastal property selected for its intimate atmosphere and scenic surroundings. (B,D)

Day 09
Jun 01, Tue

Normandy

Explore the artistic landscapes surrounding Varengeville-sur-Mer, including the Church of Saint-Valery and its peaceful cliffside cemetery. The day may also include the Parc des Moutiers and the coastal village of Pourville. (B,D)

Private Performance: Later today, enjoy a private performance by Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordronneau in Varengeville.

Day 10
Jun 02, Wed

Normandy

Visit Le Vasterival, the remarkable garden created by Princess Greta Sturdza and celebrated for its artful design and botanical collection. Continue to picturesque Veules-les-Roses, with its timbered homes, gardens and historic watermills, before returning to the hotel. (B,D)

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Day 11
Jun 03, Thu

Normandy – Antwerp
Journey northeast toward Belgium. Arrive in Antwerp and attend *Lucifer en de Schelde* at Opera Ballet Vlaanderen, followed by a late dinner. (B,D)

Included Performance: *Lucifer en de Schelde* at Opera Ballet Vlaanderen

Day 12
Jun 04, Fri

Antwerp
Discover Antwerp's elegant squares, historic guild houses and artistic heritage on a guided city tour. Visit the Royal Museum of Fine Arts and the Cathedral of Our Lady before travelling to a private Orangerie in Kapellen for an intimate musical gathering. (B,D)

Day 13
Jun 05, Sat

Antwerp – Ghent – Antwerp
Enjoy a private performance by Kai and Catherine at a historic estate associated with the world of Rubens. Continue to Ghent for a guided walk through its medieval centre, handsome quays and atmospheric streets before returning to Antwerp. (B,D)

Private Performance: Enjoy an exclusive performance by Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordronneau at a historic private estate in Hamme associated with the world of Rubens.

Day 14
Jun 06, Sun

Antwerp – Brussels
Travel to Brussels for a guided introduction to its architectural treasures, from the magnificent Grand-Place to the city's Art Nouveau heritage. Enjoy a tasting of fine Belgian chocolate and pastries before gathering for a farewell dinner. (B,D)

Day 15
Jun 07, Mon

Brussels – Canada
Transfer to the airport and depart for Canada, bringing this richly layered journey through Paris, Normandy, and Belgium to a close. (B)

Concert & Itinerary Note

Music is at the heart of this journey. The performances and itinerary elements listed in this brochure represent the program we are planning at the time of printing; however, schedules, venues, artists, concerts, and certain sightseeing arrangements may occasionally change. If adjustments are necessary, we will ensure that the final program remains true to the artistic quality, atmosphere, and spirit of the tour.

Hotel Information



Paris

May 25 -31
(6 nights)

Les Jardins du Marais

Set in the heart of Paris, Les Jardins du Marais offers a refined and welcoming base, selected for its elegant atmosphere, comfortable accommodation and convenient location for exploring the city.



Normandy

May 31 - June 3
(3 nights)

Hôtel de la Terrasse

Set in a beautiful coastal location, Hôtel de la Terrasse is a charming and characterful Normandy property selected for its intimate atmosphere and scenic surroundings.



Antwerp

June 3-6
(3 nights)

Hyllit Hotel Antwerp

Ideally situated in central Antwerp, the Hyllit Hotel offers contemporary comfort and understated elegance, providing a convenient base for discovering the city's artistic and architectural treasures.

Hotel Information



Brussels

June 6-7
(1 night)

Hotel Le Plaza Brussels

A distinguished Brussels landmark, Hotel Le Plaza combines historic character with gracious surroundings, offering an elegant setting for the final night of the journey.

The hotels featured are those currently anticipated for the journey. Should a change be required, a carefully selected alternative of comparable quality and character will be arranged.



Included

Exceptional Music

- Included performances as detailed in the itinerary.
- Two private performances by Kai and Catherine.
- Exclusive musical gathering in Belgium.

Thoughtfully Curated Touring

- Privately guided visits and entrance fees.
- Private air-conditioned coach transportation.
- Experienced Tour Director and specialist local guides.

Accommodation & Dining

- Thirteen nights in carefully selected hotels.
- Breakfast daily and dinners as indicated.

Not Included

- International Flights
- Travel insurance
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Drinks with meals
- Visas (if required)
- Items of a personal nature

Tour Costs in Canadian Dollars

\$11,850*

Per Person, twin-share

\$2,950*

Single Supplement

*Based on a minimum of 20 travellers



RESERVE YOUR PLACE

Space on this intimate musical journey is limited.

2 Ways to Register

1. Scan the QR Code

OR

2. Visit our website www.specialtravel.ca/ClassicalEurope27



FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT:

\$3,000 per person deposit due at time of booking

2nd installment of \$5,000 pp due by November 13, 2026

Balance due by February 26, 2027

Tour documents will be sent to you approximately 14 days prior to your trip departure, provided full payment has been received.

TOUR PRICES:

All tour prices for land arrangements are based on rates effective at the time of printing and are expected to be in effect at the time of departure. Should these rates change, it may be necessary to surcharge the price of your vacation. Should the tour price increase by more than 10%, the passenger shall have the right to cancel within seven days of notification without penalty.

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS:

Notice of cancellation must be made in writing. The effective cancellation date is the date on which written notification is received by Special Travel International (hereinafter referred to as Special Travel). Deposits are non-refundable. The following scale of charges will apply per person when cancellation is received prior to departure:

Until November 12, 2026	\$3,000
November 13 – February 25, 2027	\$8,000
From February 26, 2027	100% non-refundable

NB: different payment/cancellation policies apply to airline tickets; you will be advised at time of booking.

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Special Travel strongly recommends that each tour participant has health, cancellation, interruption, accident and baggage insurance for the duration of his/her travels.

FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY:

Special Travel acts only as an agent in securing all services related to the tours described in this brochure, including transportation, sightseeing and accommodation. Special Travel shall not be responsible or liable for any loss, cost, damage, injury, delay or expense arising from the use of any conveyance, accommodation or service or from acts of God, war, acts of terrorism, strikes, weather, quarantine, accidents, sickness, government regulations, insufficient documents and any loss expense resulting from the above contingencies shall be borne by the tour member. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort of the passenger, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operators. Additional expense, if any, shall be borne by the passenger. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, and also to decline to accept or retain any passenger as a member of the tour. In such instances, the full or an equitable amount will be refunded.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, VISAS AND VACCINES:

It is entirely the passenger's responsibility to possess any documents, visas, and vaccinations required by the laws of the countries visited on the tour.

AIRLINE RESPONSIBILITY:

Any air carrier providing transportation in connection with these tours is not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time the passenger is not on board its planes. The passenger contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchase of these tours and/or passenger. Similar responsibility as noted applies to all types of carriers, including car rental companies.