

Paris and visit Versailles – France 2026

RING CYCLE IN PARIS – 2026

11 days

Departure: November 4, 2026

Return: November 14, 2026

The Paris Ring Cycle - A Defining Experience of Wagner's Ring 150th Year On

*In 2026, the opera world marks 150 years since the first complete performance of **Richard Wagner's Der Ring des Nibelungen**, a once-in-a-generation milestone. While Ring Cycles schedule throughout the year, the **Paris performances in November** are among the final opportunities to experience the Ring during this historic anniversary period, offering a special sense of culmination and reflection.*

*The cast is the heart of it. **Andreas Schager**, the leading Heldentenor of his generation and the Opéra National de Paris's Siegfried, is paired with **Tamara Wilson**, whose Brünnhilde brings vocal power and real interpretive depth. **Christopher Maltman** sings Wotan. **Stanislas de Barbeyrac** is Siegmund to **Elza van den Heever's** Sieglinde, with **Eve-Maud Hubeaux** as Fricka, **Mika Kares** as Hagen, and **Marie-Nicole Lemieux** as Erda. On the podium, **Pablo Heras-Casado** shapes the score with clarity and structure, giving singers and orchestra room to breathe.*

*Opéra Bastille is among the largest and most technically capable opera houses in Europe, built for work on Wagner's scale. **Calixto Bieito's** staging is one of the most discussed of the cycle, contemporary in vision and unafraid of the work's themes.*

The journey is shaped around the festival's rhythm, four operatic evenings across eleven days, with nine nights in Paris and unhurried days in between. The pacing is deliberate, leaving room to absorb both the music and the city without rushing between the two. Premium orchestra seating, dinners arranged around the intermissions, and the carefully curated details that define our tours are all in place, so the days run smoothly and the opera stays at the center.

*We will once again make our base at the **InterContinental Paris Le Grand**, a Belle Époque landmark inaugurated under Napoleon III and standing directly opposite the **Palais Garnier**. Between performances the itinerary moves at a considered pace to visit **Sacre Coeur**, **the Louvre** and **the Musée d'Orsay**, **the Marais**, the stained glass of **Sainte-Chapelle**, and a day at **Versailles**.*

Opera Performances

In Paris:

November 6 - **Das Rheingold** at Opéra Bastille

November 7 - **Die Walküre** at Opéra Bastille

November 10 - **Siegfried** at Opéra Bastille

November 13 - **Götterdämmerung** at Opéra Bastille



Cast:

Production - Calixto Bieito

Conductor - Pablo Heras-Casado

Wotan - Christopher Maltman

Alberich - Brian Mulligan

Fricka - Eve-Maud Hubeaux

Sigmund - Stanislas de Barbeyrac

Sieglinde - Elza van den Heever

Brünnhilde - Tamara Wilson

Siegfried - Andreas Schager

Hagen - Mika Kares

Der Wanderer - Iain Paterson

Hunding - Günther Groissböck

Erda - Marie-Nicole Lemieux

Fafner - Mika Kares

Mime - Gerhard Siegel

Wednesday, November 4. (D)* DEPART FOR PARIS

Depart this evening aboard any airline of your choice to Paris, France. Dinner and light breakfast served on the plane.

Thursday, November 5. (B,D). PARIS

Upon arrival at Paris International Airport, you will be transferred by taxi to your five-star luxury **Inter Continental Paris - Le Grand hotel**, where you will enjoy a nine-night stay. The evening begins with a welcome briefing, followed by a **Gala Welcome dinner** at the hotel's gourmet restaurant.

Friday, November 6. (B). PARIS

Morning sightseeing tour by bus to Montmartre and the magnificent Sacré-Cœur Basilica, offering sweeping views over Paris. We then continue with an orientation tour of the Right Bank, passing the Opéra Garnier, Place Vendôme, Place de la Concorde, the Champs-Élysées, the Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre, the elegant Marais district, and other landmarks that showcase the history, architecture, and grandeur of the French capital. Afternoon at leisure. This evening, we will see the opera **Das Rheingold** by **Wagner** at Opéra Bastille.

Paris has been the political and cultural heart of France for centuries, firmly established as the nation's capital in the Middle Ages. The Revolution of 1789 began in its streets and reshaped not only France but democratic thought across Europe. In the nineteenth century, Baron Haussmann redrew the city, giving it the wide boulevards, uniform façades, and long views we still walk today. Paris lived through occupation from 1940 until its liberation in 1944, and emerged with



its character intact. It remains what it has long been: a city where art, music, and ideas belong to everyday life.

Saturday, November 7. (B,D). PARIS

Morning transfer by coach to the historic Marais district for a gentle walking tour of one of Paris's most atmospheric quarters. We discover its aristocratic mansions, hidden courtyards, lively streets, the famous Marché des Enfants Rouges, and the elegant Place des Vosges. We then visit the Musée Carnavalet, dedicated to the history of Paris and housed in two beautiful historic mansions. Afternoon at leisure. This evening, we will see the opera **Die Walküre** by **Wagner** at Opéra Bastille.

Sunday, November 8. (B) PARIS

This morning we enjoy an orientation tour of Paris's Left Bank by bus, passing through Saint-Germain-des-Prés, the Latin Quarter, the Panthéon, the Luxembourg Gardens, Les Invalides, and the Eiffel Tower. We then visit the Musée d'Orsay, housed in a magnificent former railway station and home to one of the world's finest collections of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art. Following a guided introduction to the museum's highlights, guests are free to continue exploring at their leisure and enjoy lunch independently.

Monday, November 9. (B). PARIS

A guided visit to the **Musée du Louvre** the world's largest art museum, housed in a former royal palace introduces highlights spanning classical antiquity, Egyptian civilization, and the Renaissance, including works by Leonardo, Raphael, and Vermeer. The scale of the collection rewards focusses over breadth; your guide will lead you through the essential masterpieces without fatigue. This evening is at leisure.

Tuesday, November 10. (B,D). PARIS

This morning, we visit **Sainte-Chapelle**, the magnificent Gothic royal chapel located within the medieval Palais de la Cité, once the residence of the Kings of France until the 14th century. Built in the 13th century to house sacred Christian relics, the chapel is celebrated for its extraordinary stained-glass windows, which depict over 1,000 biblical scenes and rank among the finest achievements of Gothic architecture in Europe. Afternoon at leisure. This evening, we will see the opera **Siegfried** by **Wagner** at Opéra Bastille.

Wednesday, November 11. (B,L). PARIS - VERSAILLES

A morning excursion to the **Palace of Versailles**, the former residence of the French kings. We explore the State Apartments, Hall of Mirrors, and portions of the formal gardens. Lunch enroute. Return to Paris in the afternoon. Evening at leisure.

A short drive from Paris, Versailles began as a royal hunting lodge and became, under Louis XIV, the seat of the French monarchy and the model every European court tried to imitate. The



king moved his government here in 1682, and for more than a century Versailles was the center of French political life. Its Hall of Mirrors and formal gardens remain among the great achievements of the age. The Revolution forced the royal family back to Paris in 1789, and Versailles endured, later hosting the treaty that ended the First World War in 1919.

Thursday, November 12. (B,D). PARIS

Today is free to enjoy Paris at your own pace. You may wish to revisit a favorite museum, explore one of the city's charming neighborhoods, browse the elegant shops and galleries, or simply relax at a Parisian café and soak in the atmosphere. This evening, we gather for our **Gala Farewell Dinner** at a gourmet restaurant to celebrate our time together in Paris.

Friday, November 13. (B,D). PARIS

Enjoy a final day at leisure in Paris. Perhaps visit a favorite museum, stroll along the Seine, or return to a neighborhood that particularly captured your imagination during the tour. This evening, we will see the opera **Götterdämmerung** by **Wagner** at Opéra Bastille.

Saturday, November 14. (B). PARIS – BACK HOME

We will assist you in arranging transport to the airport for your flight back home arriving the same afternoon. A bien tot. See you soon on another HAT Tour.

* B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner (including wine)



LAND COST

DOUBLE: \$16,900 PER PERSON

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$3,500 PER PERSON

DEPOSIT: \$3,000 PER PERSON

BALANCE DUE: AUGUST 4, 2026

TOUR INCLUDES

- Up front orchestra level seats in theaters
- Four operas
- Deluxe centrally located hotel
- Buffet breakfast daily, five dinners with wine, and one lunch
- Welcome reception with cocktails
- Excursion trip to Versailles
- Private sightseeing
- Experienced English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees to museums
- Deluxe coach services
- Transportation to and from theaters
- Baggage handling
- Guide, driver, and bellboy gratuities
- Complete package with details of all operas listed

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