



## Prix d'Amérique 2012

Trip to Paris January 26 – 30

### ***Bienvenue! Welcome to the 2012 Prix d'Amérique Tour***

*This wonderful tour gives you an exciting opportunity to see Paris, the City of Light, while also seeing the unforgettable Prix d'Amérique, which features the world's best trotters in action at the magnificent Vincennes Racecourse.*

*You'll also visit the resplendent Grosbois training centre, truly a kingdom for a horse, plus an auction of trotting horses and a trade fair with many vendors. And you can soak up all the sights in this beautiful and historic city.*

**Airfare** – Take the airline of your choice to Paris. Airfares in January are usually quite reasonable. Schedule your arrival and departure as you wish **but please note that our tour begins on Thursday evening January 26 and ends on Monday January 30**. You may wish to stay longer and see more of France or travel elsewhere in Europe

### **Thursday January 26 – Arrival, sightseeing & welcome-dinner**

Plan to arrive in Paris by this morning. Leave us your estimated arrival time at the Hotel, and we'll do our best to let you have an early check-in. Otherwise it's 3 pm. On the day of your arrival, walk the streets of the city's famed arts district Montmartre, where Picasso and so many others created their masterpieces. Tour the stunning Sacre-Coeur Basilica, which stands guard over the city and affords visitors with a marvellous vista of Paris spread out below.

Evening – The City of Lights is at her glittering best at night. Our sightseeing bus leaves at 4 o'clock and will take us around the city to see the Arch of Triumph, Place de la Concorde and Eiffel Tower while an English-speaking guide describes the wonders of the city. We'll finish our first evening with a three-course French meal, accompanied – of course – by French wine and coffee.

### **Friday January 27 – Fair & Moulin Rouge**

Morning – At your leisure. Stroll the sidewalks of Paris, the hills of Montmartre, or along the banks of the Seine. Walking in Paris is one of the most divine pleasures in the world. Perhaps you'd prefer to do some shopping or tour one of the city's many museums.

Late afternoon - We'll go by bus to the huge Vincennes Racecourse for an auction of trotters and a trade fair with vendors selling artwork, jewellery, clothing, equine accessories, and much more. This is a chance to get some unique equine gifts for your self or for friends.

Evening – This evening is open for you to explore Paris on your own and perhaps revisit some of the places you saw on the sightseeing tour the previous evening. Optional – Dinner, champagne, and a show (or, just Champagne & show at 10.30pm) at the world-famous Moulin Rouge, not far from your hotel in Montmartre.

## Saturday January 28 – Grosbois & Cocktail Party

Morning - We'll board a bus to the nearby Grosbois Training Centre. No matter where you've travelled, you've never seen a training centre quite like Grosbois, where the horse is truly the king. We'll have a chance to tour the facilities and talk to Swedish and French trainers and get their opinions on the Prix d'Amerique. Maybe we'll even get a chance to inspect one of the Prix d'Amerique starters. At the end of the visit, you have the opportunity to visit the brand new Trotting Museum.



Afternoon – Board a bus for the day's races at Vincennes. Every race is an adventure at Vincennes as you will see trotters race at varying distances and probably even see trotters racing under saddle. Many people think Vincennes is the most opulent harness track in the world; take time to explore all of it. On this day, you are on your own. The options you have are to stroll around, have a seat at the indoor grandstand (for a small fee) or you can eat lunch at one of the three restaurants. Today it's about 60-80 US dollars for a menu.

Evening – International Trotting Cocktail Party – Here's a chance for you to meet Scandinavians who have come to cheer on their favourites in the Prix d'Amerique. You'll have a chance to swap stories with other trotting devotees. You'll learn about Swedish and French trotting, and make new friends. You can discuss your picks in the Prix d'Amerique. During the party, you'll enjoy French wine and snacks---sausages, cheese, pate, and French bread.

## Sunday January 29 – Prix d'Amérique

This is Prix d'Amerique day! Trotting fans all over the world will be watching to see what happens in this historic race. The Prix d'Amérique was started in 1920 (six years before the Hambletonian) as a way for the French to thank America for its assistance during World War I. It remains one of the most exciting and coveted harness races in the world. Eighteen trotters will begin from a standing start and trot 1-5/8 miles over the demanding Vincennes course.

We'll board the bus to make certain we're at Vincennes by 11:30 that morning. You'll have a choice of seating in either the Paddock or Sulky restaurants, both of which serve superb French cuisine. (Dining costs are not included in the tour price.) If you wish, you may move around the track and see the racing from different viewpoints. If you chose to be either in Sulky or Paddock restaurant, you'll have your seat during the whole day. In case you don't want to be in the restaurants we cannot guarantee a seat for you. Equi Tours will apply for grandstand tickets, but we cannot confirm them until your arrival in Paris.

Evening – After an exciting day at the races, you'll want to unwind, so the evening is at your leisure.

## Monday January 30 – Au revoir!

This ends Equi tour's 2010 Prix d'Amerique trip, so your day is at your leisure either to return home or to continue your stay in Europe.

### **Our Hotels in Paris**

You may choose from these two hotels. Accommodations are in a shared double room (single room supplement). Buffet breakfast is included.

#### **Hôtel Mercure Paris Montmartre\*\*\***

A nice three-star hotel with all necessary comfort. ([www.montmartre.net](http://www.montmartre.net))

#### **Hôtel Terrass \*\*\*\***

A four-star hotel with charm and atmosphere in the heart of Montmartre.

([www.terrass-hotel.com](http://www.terrass-hotel.com))



## Costs

Hotel Mercure Paris Montmartre	\$1145 US dollars per person
Hotel Terrass	\$1430 US dollars per person

## Costs include:

- Four (4) nights accommodations in shared double room
- Buffet breakfast each day
- Sightseeing tour with guide and three-course dinner, wine, and coffee
- Tour to Vincennes trade fair
- Tour to Grobois Training Centre and Vincennes on Saturday
- Entrance fee to Museum of Trot at Grosbois
- Transportation and entrance to and from Vincennes on Sunday
- International Trotting Cocktail Party with wine and French buffet-snacks
- Commentary by trotting expert Dean A. Hoffman

## Cost does not include

- Airline tickets and airport transfer
- Single room supplement 4 nights Mercure 390 US dollars / Terrass 620 US dollars
- Vincennes Prix d'Amerique Day. Restaurant Paddock: 245 US dollars / Sulky: 350 US dollars (include 3-course lunch, wine and coffee)
- Moulin Rouge: Dinner & champagne & show: 220 US dollars
- Moulin Rouge: Champagne & show: 135 US dollars
- Other personal expenses and meals not mentioned above.

**Please Note: 1 US dollar = 0,7 euro (approx, rate Aug 2011)**

The cost is based on a minimum of 20 persons in the group and today's exchange rate (eur, August 2011). If we don't reach 20 people, all payments will be promptly refunded. Equi Tours claims the right to make adjustments in the program and price adjustments due to exchange rate and other changes that's out of our control.

## Reservation

**Last day for reservation is December 15, 2011**

Please send us an email or fax with your name, address, phone number. Indicate also

- How many persons?
- What hotel have you chosen / how many rooms?
- Airline details if you need transfer

You'll get a confirmation and an invoice by mail or fax. Payment with bank transfer or credit card (Visa or Master Card)

### **Optional Extension Tour to Normandy January 30<sup>t</sup> – February 1<sup>st</sup>**

If you are interested, we can offer an extension tour to visit the d-day beaches and stud farms. Two days private bus/minivan and guide. Please inform us if interested, program will be finished by November.

In case you have any questions – please feel free to contact in the US –  
Dean Hoffman at [hoffman.communications@yahoo.com](mailto:hoffman.communications@yahoo.com) or call 614-457 8750,  
Or to Equi Tours Sweden at [info@equitours.se](mailto:info@equitours.se)

**Welcome to Paris and Prix d'Amérique 2012!**