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# FRANCE and FRENCH OPEN 2000 Friendship Tennis Exchange!

May 28 – June 8, 2000

ASD Reference No.: FR1A00

## DAILY ITINERARY

### **DAY 1 / SUNDAY MAY 28 WASHINGTON TO PARIS**

7:00 PM meet at Washington/Dulles airport for check-in at British Airways counter. Depart from Washington on British Airways on our transatlantic overnight flight departing at 9:15 PM bound for London, England. Enjoy your in-flight meals and movies! (D on flight)

Overnight Transatlantic flight

### **DAY 2 / MONDAY MAY 29 ARRIVE PARIS**

Mid-morning arrival in London/Heathrow airport at 9:30 AM. We change flights and depart London/Heathrow on British Airways at 11:50 AM to Paris, France, where we arrive at 1:55 PM. Upon arrival to Paris airport, you will be met by your local ASD Cultural Exchange transfer assistant who will transfer you by private coach to your centrally located hotel. Orientation sightseeing on the way during the transfer. Check-in at your hotel. After check-in, the remainder of the day is at leisure. (B, S on flights)

Accommodation in Paris: Millennium Opera Paris (4-star Superior First class)

### **DAY 3 / TUESDAY MAY 30 PARIS**

Welcome to exciting and vibrant Paris! Today you will enjoy a morning Paris City Panorama Sightseeing Tour featuring Champs-Elysees, Sacre-Coeur, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, Arc de Triomphe, Montmartre and many more famous sights. Following our sightseeing, afternoon at leisure to explore Paris on your own. Perhaps spend the afternoon by visiting the Palace and Gardens of Versailles. Starting in 1668 with his father's modest hunting lodge, Louis XIV built the largest palace in Europe, housing 20,000 people at a time. Tonight, we will enjoy an evening of inter-group tennis matches at local tennis courts in Paris. (B, D)

Accommodation in Paris: Millennium Opera Paris (4-star Superior First class)

### **DAY 4 / WEDNESDAY MAY 31 PARIS**

Morning and early afternoon at leisure in Paris. The day is free in Paris for sightseeing on own, as well as ample time to visit museums and shop. Perhaps spend the morning and afternoon by visiting the superb museum Musee d'Orsay, which is set up to present each of the arts of the period from 1848 to 1914, including an outstanding collection of Impressionist and Neo-Impressionist art. Or visit Musee Picasso, shop the famous fashion street Rue Saint Honore, home to all the world famous designers, enjoy coffee at a street café by the Opera, or simply enjoy strolling along the grand boulevards in the heart of this magnificent city. Our hotel is located on Boulevard Haussman, near the Opera, which is the home of the "Grands Magasins" – these large and typically Parisian department stores. Perhaps visit two of Paris best department stores – Galeries Lafayette and Le Printemps – both which are within easy walking distance



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from the hotel. We all meet up at the hotel again at 3:45 PM, and at 4:00 PM we depart for our visit to the world-famous Musee du Louvre. Home to French kings for almost four centuries, the Louvre is now a museum with one of the world's great art collections, including Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa. Our pre-booked special guided tour of Louvre start at 5:00 PM for 1/2group, and other 1/2group spends time at Louvre with our Tour Manager, then we switch and the second guided tour starts at 7:00 PM for the other half. After the guided Louvre Musuem Tour, we return to our hotel and balance of the evening is free. (B)  
Accommodation in Paris: Millennium Opera Paris (4-star Superior First class)

#### **DAY 5 / THURSDAY JUNE 1      PARIS**

Today is scheduled to attend the Paris Open Grand Slam Tennis Tournament, at the Roland Garros stadium. Tickets included to premier courts. Transfer from our hotel to the stadium is included. We depart our hotel at 10:00 AM by private coach direct to Roland Garros Stadium. Dependent on weather and play schedule at the tournament, our return transfer from Roland Garros direct to the hotel is preliminary scheduled for departure at 8:00 PM. Balance of the evening free. (B)  
Accommodation in Paris: Millennium Opera Paris (4-star Superior First class)

#### **DAY 6 / FRIDAY JUNE 2      PARIS**

Enjoy another day at the Paris Open Grand Slam Tennis Tournament, at the Roland Garros stadium. Tickets included to premier courts. Transfer from our hotel to the stadium is included. We depart our hotel at 10:00 AM by private coach direct to Roland Garros Stadium. Dependent on weather and play schedule at the tournament, our return transfer from Roland Garros direct to the hotel is preliminary scheduled for departure at 8:00 PM. Balance of the evening free. (B)  
Accommodation in Paris: Millennium Opera Paris (4-star Superior First class)

#### **DAY 7 / SATURDAY JUNE 3      PARIS TO DIJON (BURGUNDY WINE DISTRICT)**

Depart Paris this morning for a leisurely and scenic drive through French countryside to the famous Burgundy Wine District. Our day begin with Reims and Epernay, the famous Champagne district of France. We will enjoy a short panorama orientation tour of Reims, including a visit to the Cathedrale Notre Dame, and then continue to Epernay where we will visit the vast cellars of the champagne house Moet et Chandon. After a familiarization tour about champagne production and an explanation of the "methode champenoise", our journey continue to Dijon in Burgundy, which considers itself the heart of France. Burgundy is France's richest province – historically, gastronomically and economically. Late afternoon arrival to Dijon. We will enjoy an evening and overnight around Dijon, noted for its architectural splendor. Dependent on final schedule - today we are also trying to meet up with a local tennis club in Dijon or on the way to Dijon for a few hours of tennis play early to late afternoon. (B)  
Accommodation in Dijon: Hotel Mercure Clemenceau Chateau Bourgog (4-star First class)

#### **DAY 8 / SUNDAY JUNE 4      DIJON TO ANTIBES, THE FRENCH RIVIERA**

We depart Dijon and our hotel at 9:00 in the morning. We begin our day with a visit to the historic wine chateau Clos de Vougeot, where we will tour the chateau and visit the 13<sup>th</sup> century cellar with massive winepresses, the kitchens and the monks' dormitory. We then continue by coach to nearby Beaune. In the heart of Burgundy, Beaune is a wine town and we enjoy a short stop to take in the charm of this famous wine center. Our jouney continue and we enjoy a leisurely drive through scenic French countryside to the French Riviera, where the charming seaside town Antibes will be our home for the next few days. Antibes is located close to Cannes, which is known for its glittering events, such as the Cannes Film festival. The lively town of Antibes was founded by the Greeks as Antipolis and settled by the Romans. (B)  
Accommodation in Antibes: Hotel Apogia (3-star Superior Tourist Class)



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**DAY 9 / MONDAY JUNE 5                    ANTIBES AND CANNES SIGHTSEEING**

We start our morning with an overview sightseeing in the seaside town of Antibes. We then continue to Cannes where we will enjoy a Panorama sightseeing, including the famed Boulevard de la Croisette. Following the sightseeing, we have free time to enjoy and explore Cannes on own, as well as perhaps enjoy lunch at some of the genuine French Café's or restaurants. We meet again early afternoon and continue with an afternoon and evening with friendly tennis meet in the Antibes area, followed by a social get-together hosted by ASD Cultural Exchange and the host club – Sophia Country Club. Evening return to our hotel in Antibes. (B, D)

Accommodation in Antibes: Hotel Apogia (3-star Superior Tourist Class)

**DAY 10 / TUESDAY JUNE 6                    ANTIBES**

Today we will enjoy a morning visit to Chateau Grimaldi, formerly a residence of Monaco's ruling family. Built in the 12th century, it now houses the Musee Picasso – in 1946 the artist used part of the castle as a studio and, in gratitude, donated all 150 works completed during his stay, including paintings and sculptures. After our museum visit, we have time at leisure to enjoy Antibes and the beautiful French Riviera. Afternoon and evening friendly tennis meet at the Sophia Country Club in Antibes, followed by a Farewell Party with dinner/music/dancing hosted by ASD Cultural Exchange and the host club – Sophia Country Club. (B, D)

Accommodation in Antibes: Hotel Apogia (3-star Superior Tourist Class)

**DAY 11 / WEDNESDAY JUNE 7                    FRENCH RIVIERA SIGHTSEEING**

Enjoy a beautiful day in the French Riviera – the famous Cote d'Azur! We start early morning by traveling to Nice, the largest resort on the Mediterranean coast and the fifth biggest city in France. Nice was founded by the Greeks and colonized by the Romans. Nice is the capital of the Cote d'Azur. We explore Nice with an orientation sightseeing including the seafront boulevard Promenade de Anglais. After our visit to Nice, we continue to Monaco and Monte Carlo. We will enjoy a Panorama City Sightseeing in this charming city, followed by free time to enjoy Monaco on Own. Arriving among the skyscrapers of Monaco today, it is hard to imagine the turbulence of its history. At first a Greek settlement, later taken by the Romans, it was bought from the Genoese in 1309 by the Grimaldis who still rule as one of the world's oldest monarchies. Monaco occupies an area smaller than that of New York City's Central Park! Today, Monaco is a tax haven for thousands, and its residents have the highest per capita income in the world. Monaco is also known for its Grand Casino, and the Grand Prix de Monaco, as well as being home for many famous tennis players. We will enjoy a Panorama City sightseeing as well as free time to explore Monaco. Evening return to our hotel in Antibes. (B)

Accommodation in Antibes: Hotel Apogia (3-star Superior Tourist Class)

**DAY 12 / THURSDAY JUNE 8                    ANTIBES – RETURN TO THE USA**

Bid farewell to Antibes, the beautiful French Riviera, and France. Early morning transfer - 5:50 AM - direct to Nice airport for your return flight back home to the USA. We depart Nice at 8:20 AM on British Airways to London/Heathrow, arrival at 9:30 AM. Upon arrival to London/Heathrow airport, we enjoy some free time at London Heathrow airport to relax or for last minute shopping. We continue on British Airways from London/ Heathrow airport at 12:30 PM on our non-stop transatlantic flight to Washington/Dulles, with an arrival at 3:35 PM. (B and L/D, S on flight)

Transatlantic flight  
**End of tour**



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ITINERARY FOR  
**BARCELONA, SPAIN POST-TOUR**

ASD Reference No.: FR1A00

**DAILY ITINERARY**

**DAY 12 / TUESDAY JUNE 8      ANTIBES TO SITGES/BARCELONA, SPAIN**

Bid farewell to Antibes, the beautiful French Riviera, and France! 7:45 AM - morning departure from your hotel and our journey by private motorcoach to Sitges/Barcelona, Spain. We will enjoy scenic touring of the French country side en route, including stopping in Aix-en-Provence, where we will have a short orientation sightseeing. We then continue to Pont du Gard, which is an awe-inspiring Roman remain. This aqueduct is an impressive sight of the Roman ability to build and their engineering skills. Our journey today continues to Perpignan, which is a nice stop en route. With its palm trees and colorful facades, this city has a distinctly southern feel. We arrive to Sitges, south of Barcelona, late afternoon or early evening. Check-in at our resort, located near the Mediterranean Sea, about 30 minutes from Barcelona city center. Balance of the day free to enjoy dinner on your own at the hotel or start exploring the area. (B)

Accommodation in Sitges: Hotel Terramar (4-star First class)

**DAY 13 / FRIDAY JUNE 9      BARCELONA SIGHTSEEING**

Morning departure to Barcelona city center. Barcelona, one of the Mediterranean's busiest ports, is more than the capital of Catalonia. In culture, commerce and sports it not only rivals Madrid, but also considers itself on a par with the greatest European cities. Morning sightseeing in this beautiful and historic city. Your sightseeing highlights Old Town, one of the most extensive and harmonious medieval city centers in Europe, and you will see the Cathedral and the ancient Royal Palace, as well as La Ribera, full of 14th-century mansions, one of which is occupied by the Museu Picasso. You will also see the Barcelona seafront, which has miles of beaches, the Olympic Village and the Old Port. Balance of the day at leisure to further sightsee on own in Barcelona. Late afternoon return from Barcelona city center via motorcoach to our hotel resort in Sitges. (B)

Accommodation in Sitges: Hotel Terramar (4-star First class)

**DAY 14 / SATURDAY JUNE 10      SITGES/BARCELONA**

For your convenience and being able to spend more time in the city center of Barcelona, we have a one way transfer for our group from the hotel to the city departing at 10:00 AM today. Return transfer to Sitges and the hotel is on your own.

Full day at leisure to enjoy your resort hotel, Sitges as well as in the beautiful and exciting city of Barcelona. Perhaps enjoy sightseeing on own, visit to museums, go shopping or simply relax by the beach. (B)

Accommodation in Sitges: Hotel Terramar (4-star First class)



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**DAY 15 / SUNDAY JUNE 11      SITGES**

Another full day at leisure to fully enjoy Sitges and Barcelona, the capital of the Spanish province of Catalonia. Take the easy train from Sitges to Barcelona city center, or simply enjoy the Mediterranean coast in Sitges. (B)

Accommodation in Sitges: Hotel Terramar (4-star First class)

**DAY 16 / MONDAY JUNE 12      SITGES – RETURN TO THE USA**

Early morning departure from your hotel in Sitges for a short transfer to Barcelona airport. Bid farewell to Barcelona and Spain today! We depart Barcelona at 8:55 AM on British Airways to London/Heathrow, arrival at 10:15 AM. Upon arrival to London/Heathrow airport, we enjoy some free time at London Heathrow airport to relax or for last minute shopping. We continue on British Airways from London/Heathrow airport at 12:30 PM on our non-stop transatlantic flight to Washington/Dulles, with an arrival at 3:35 PM. (B and L/D, S on flight)

Transatlantic flight

**End of tour**

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