

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND
SCIENCE
JUNIORS AND SPORT**

Travelling: France Tour

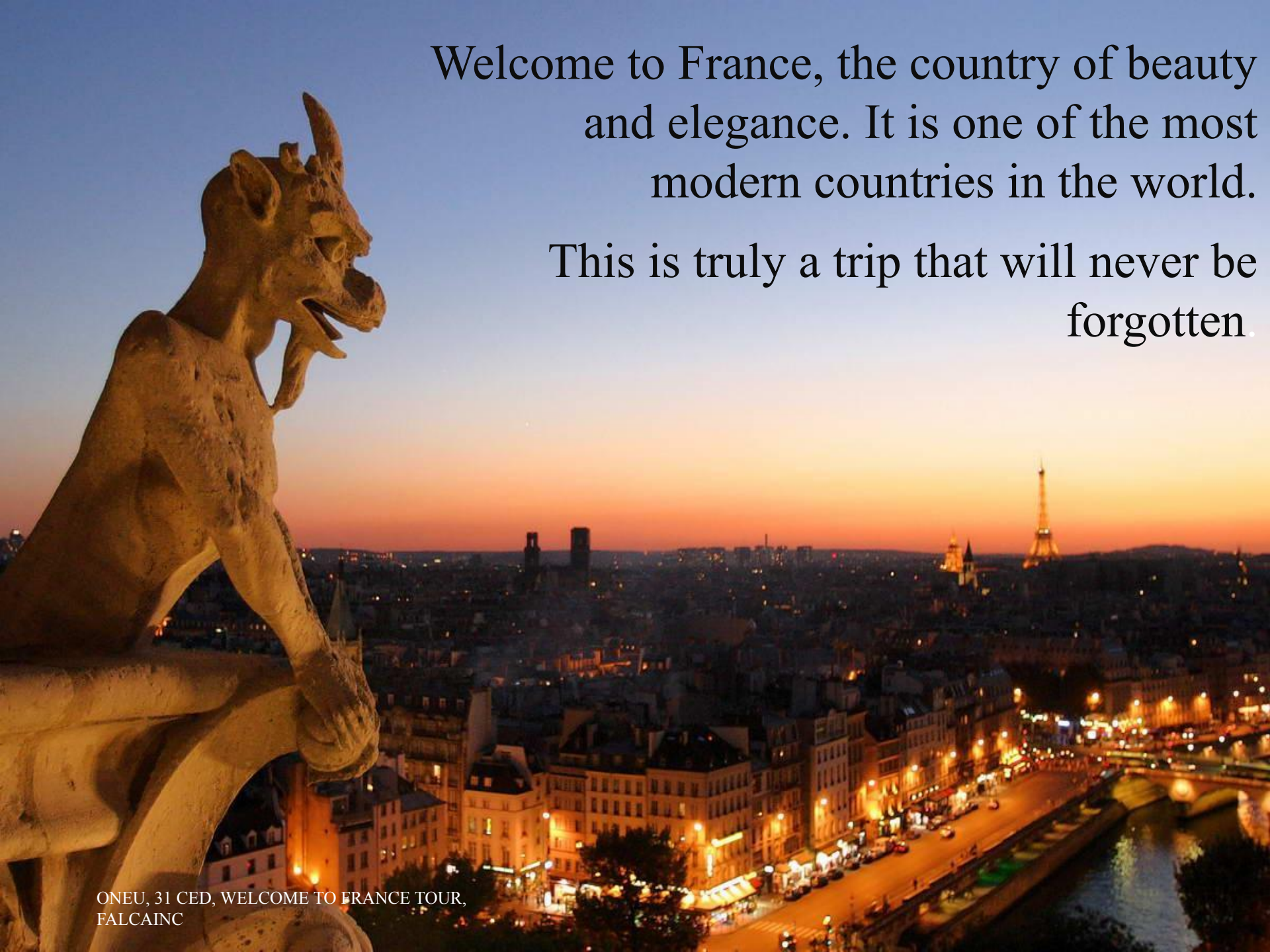
ONEU 2012

Every man has two homelands
- his own and France

CONSTANCE

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-

INTRODUCTION

A stone gargoyle statue is positioned on the left side of the frame, looking out over a city at sunset. The city is illuminated with warm lights, and the Eiffel Tower is visible in the distance. The sky is a mix of orange and blue.

Welcome to France, the country of beauty
and elegance. It is one of the most
modern countries in the world.

This is truly a trip that will never be
forgotten.

MAP OF TOUR

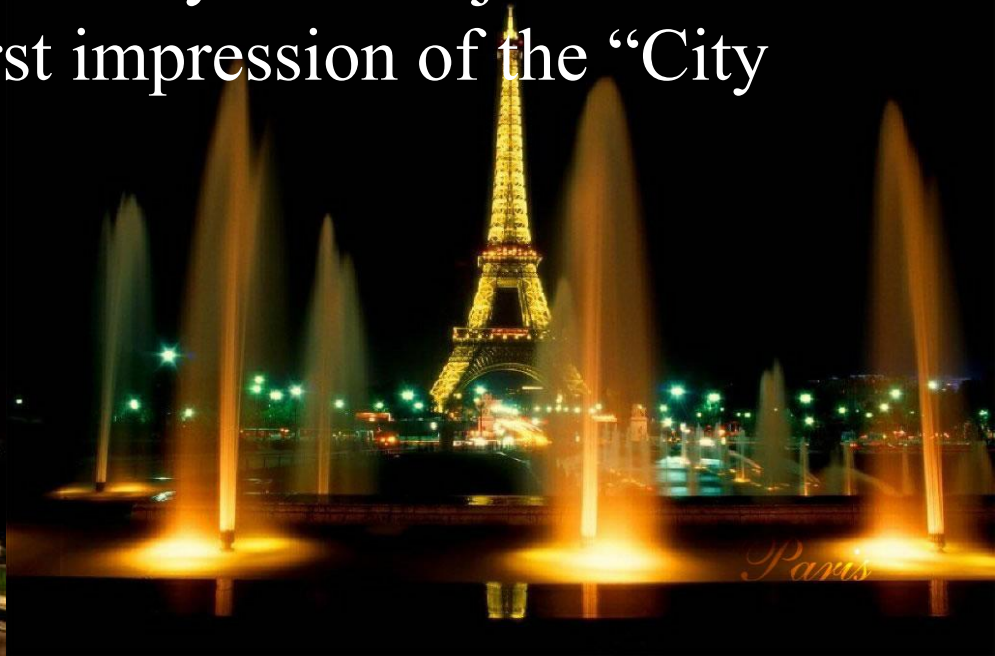


- 1** = Overnights
- 2** = Start City
- 1** = End City

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN PARIS, FRANCE

The day is free to rest or to start exploring the splendid French capital. At 6 pm, meet your Tour Director and traveling companions and leave the hotel for a welcome dinner with wine at one of Paris' lively restaurants. After dinner you may wish to join an optional outing to get a first impression of the "City of Light."



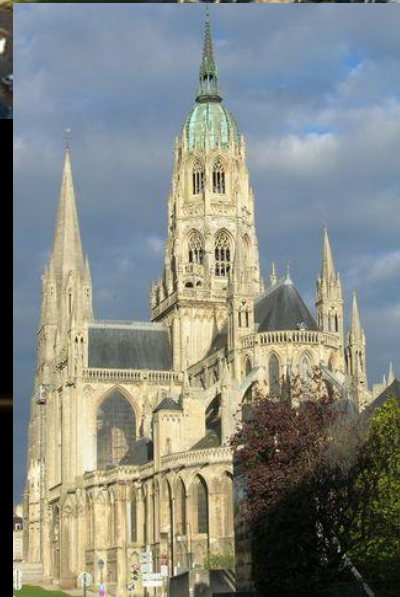
DAY 2: PARIS

Sightseeing with a Local Guide features the Arc de Triomphe, Opera, Madeleine, Louvre, and Champs-Elysees. Visit magnificent NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL and for a panoramic view, take the elevator to the second floor of the EIFFEL TOWER. Balance of the day at leisure. An optional afternoon excursion to the Palace of Versailles and evening excursions are available.



DAY 3: PARIS–HONFLEUR–DEAUVILLE–BAYEUX

A pleasant drive through the rural area west of Paris takes you to picturesque Honfleur and the elegant resort of Deauville on the coast. Time to explore both towns before heading to Bayeux, where you can admire **QUEEN MATILDA'S TAPESTRY**, depicting in extraordinary detail William the Conqueror's conquest of England.



DAY 4: BAYEUX–NORMANDY BEACHES–MONT ST. MICHEL–ST. MALO

Drive by the Normandy Beaches and arrive at the famous ABBEY OF MONT ST. MICHEL, perched on a rocky isle in the Gulf of Saint Malo. Overnight in St. Malo. This evening, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.



DAY 5: ST. MALO-LOIRE VALLEY

Ride through Brittany before arriving in the Loire Valley for your overnight stay.



DAY 6: LOIRE VALLEY–CHENONCEAU CASTLE–BORDEAUX

First stop this morning is a visit to the 16th-century castle of Catherine de Medici, lovely CHENONCEAU. Continue to Bordeaux, and join your Tour Director for a walking tour through this pretty city.



DAY 7: BORDEAUX. EXCURSION TO ST. EMILION

Morning at leisure or join an optional excursion to Arcachon. Situated at the southern entrance of the Atlantic Ocean, Arcachon Bay is crowned by Europe's largest sand dune, the Dune de Pyla. This afternoon, join your Tour Director and visit St. Emilion, world famous for its wines. Enjoy a **WINE TASTING** and tonight, savor a dinner at a local restaurant



DAY 8: BORDEAUX–BIARRITZ–LOURDES

Visit Biarritz, an ancient fishing village turned trendy seaside resort on your way to Lourdes, one of the world's most famous places of pilgrimage. Visit the GROTTO where the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858. You can join this evening's memorable rosary and candlelight procession.



DAY 9: LOURDES—CARCASSONNE—NIMES

From Lourdes to the beautifully preserved, medieval, walled town of Carcassonne for a leisurely walk on the ancient **SATTLEMENTS** and time to explore the town on your own. Overnight in Nimes.



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DAY 10: NIMES–PONT DU GARD–AVIGNON–NICE

Motor through the splendid vineyards of Languedoc-Roussillon. At Pont du Gard, admire the Roman Aqueduct, a monumental feat of engineering completed in the year 19 BC. Stop in Avignon for pictures of the magnificent Palace of the Popes and the bridge of the popular song. Arrive in Nice, the sophisticated “Queen of the Riviera.” Later, why not join an exciting optional outing to Monte Carlo?



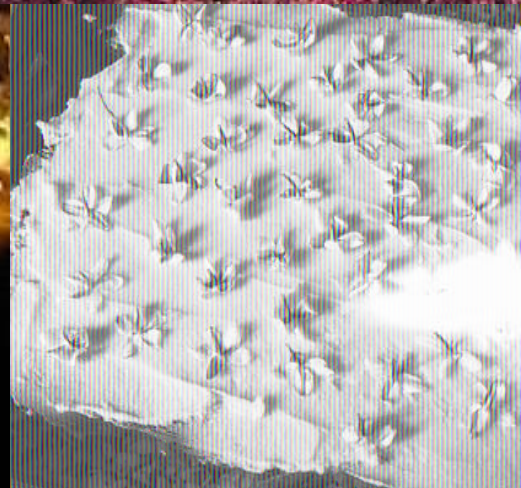
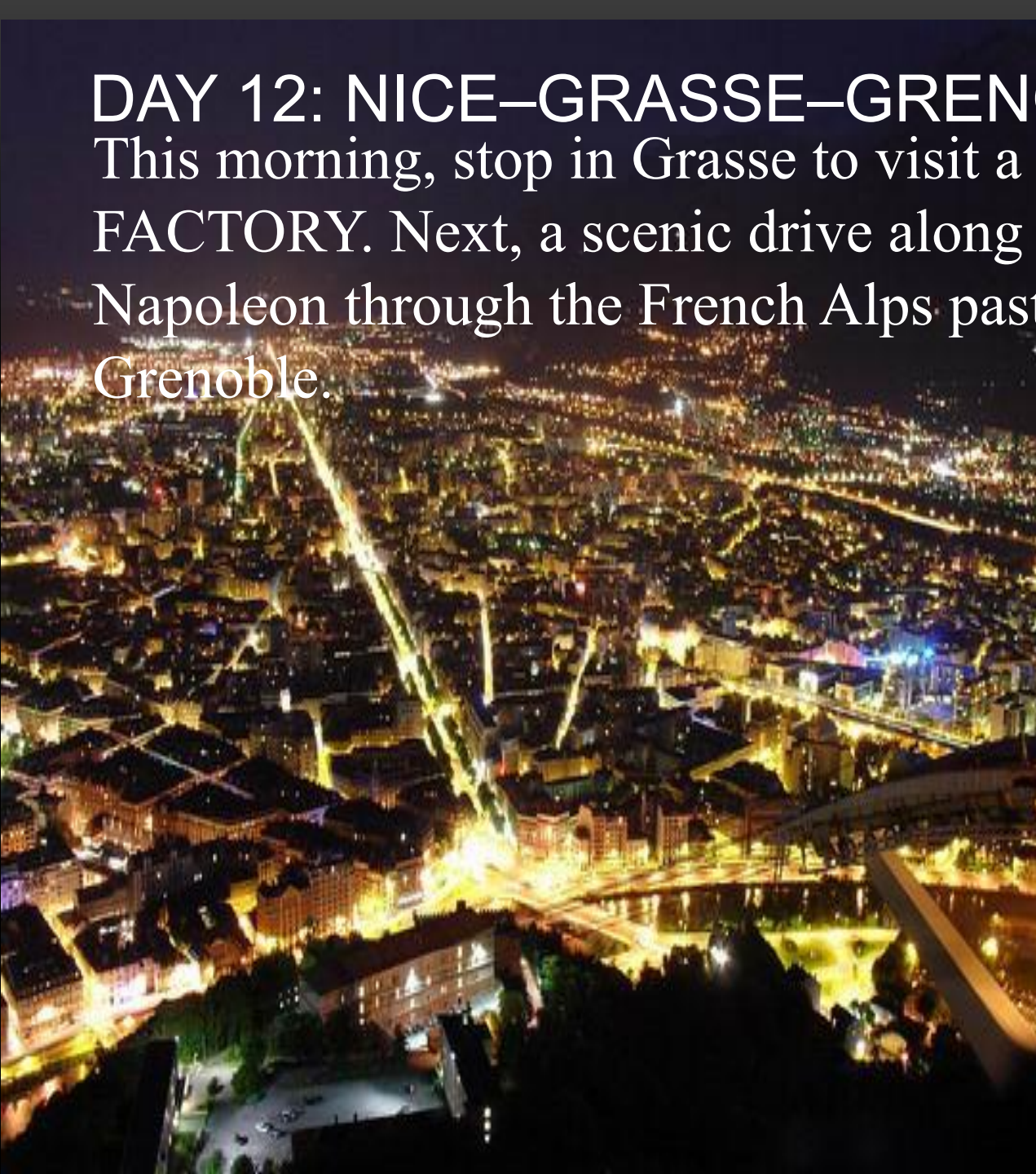
DAY 11: AT LEISURE IN NICE

Enjoy this enchanting resort on the Cote d'Azur at your own pace. Browse through the elegant shops or stroll along the Promenade des Anglais. Join your Tour Director for a walk through the OLD TOWN and its colorful flower market, and you may wish to join an optional excursion to the famous artist town of St. Paul de Vence.



DAY 12: NICE-GRASSE-GRENOBLE

This morning, stop in Grasse to visit a PERFUME FACTORY. Next, a scenic drive along the famous Route Napoleon through the French Alps past medieval towns to Grenoble.



DAY 13: GRENOBLE—LYON—DIJON

Your orientation of Lyon includes a panoramic view from FOURVIERE HILL with its basilica to enjoy a breathtaking panorama of the city and its Roman ruins. Then, drive north into Burgundy, where road signs read like the wine list of an expensive restaurant, to Dijon, which was the capital of Burgundy from the 11th to the 15th centuries. During your orientation, hear about the various dukes who ruled over the area, then have the rest of the afternoon to browse the shops and enjoy this charming city.



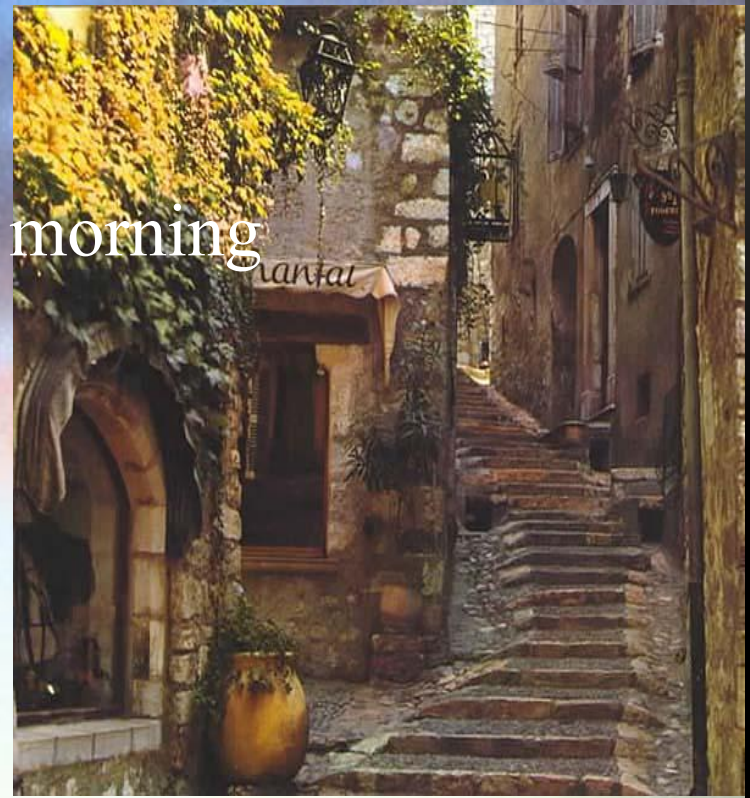
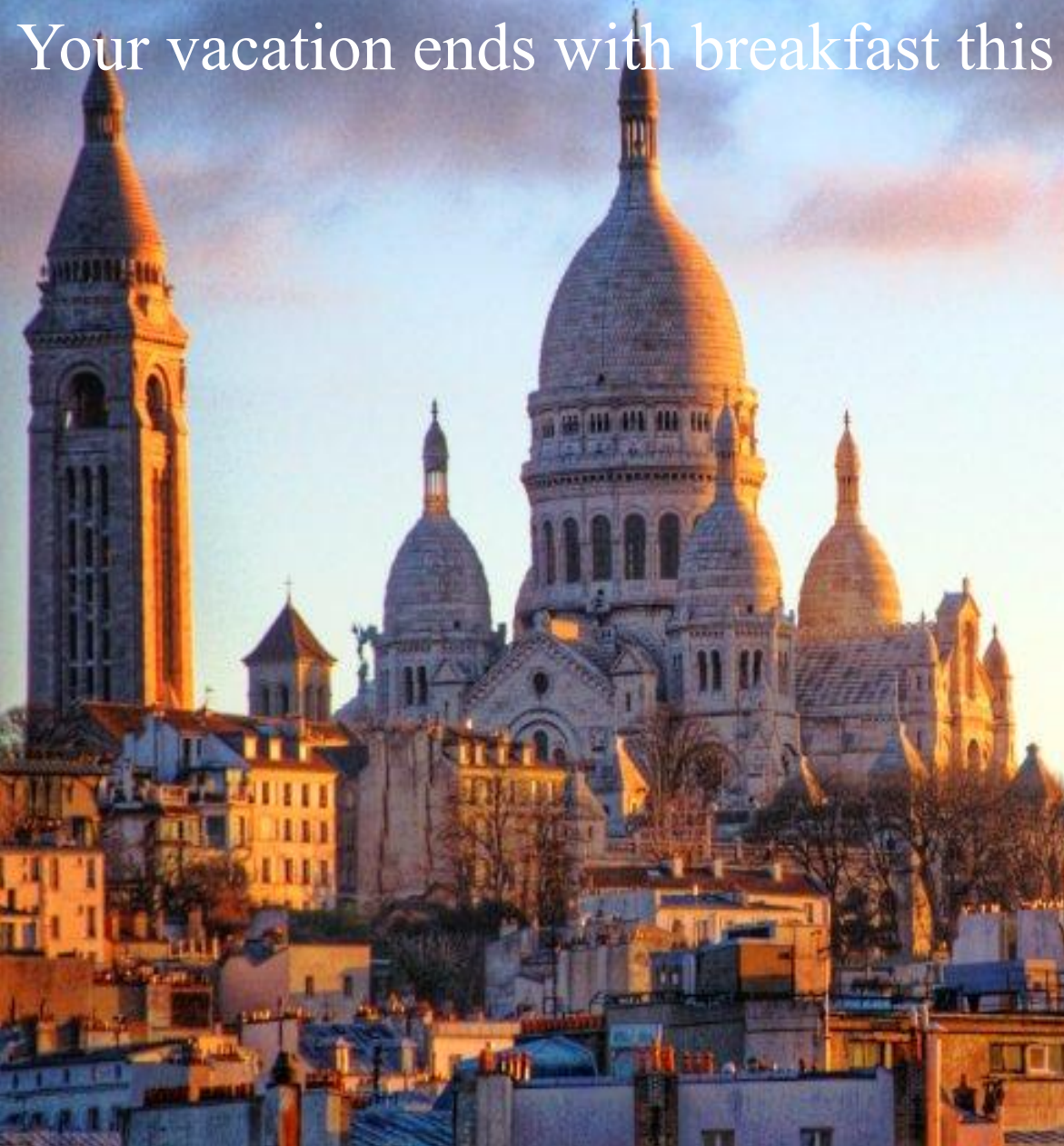
DAY 14: DIJON-PARIS

Enjoy a ride on the high-speed TGV TRAIN to Paris. In the afternoon, an optional excursion to the Louvre Museum is available, as well as exciting possibilities for an unforgettable night out on the town!



DAY 15: PARIS

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning





**Thanks for
watching**