

PROGRAMME OUTLINE
21st September – 9th October 2008

**PARIS – ILE DE FRANCE – STRASBOURG – ALSACE –
BORDEAUX – DORDOGNE – TOULOUSE – BEZIERS – LANGUEDOC**

(Please note that the actual order of the organ visits may be subject to change)

21 September : Arrival in Paris – *Meet & Greet* with Tour Leader & Tour Manager. Late afternoon recital in Notre-Dame Cathedral followed by visit to the organ during Vespers. Festive Welcome Dinner

22 September : Organ visits – Sainte Clotilde & Basilique Saint Denis (with guided visit of Basilica). Discovery walking & coach tour of Paris

23 September : Organ visits : St Roch, Saint Sulpice & Royal Chapel Versailles
Guided visit Chateau of Versailles

24 September : Organ visits : St Louis en L'Ile & St Gervais
Walking tour of historic part of Paris Le Marais and Guided visit of Orsay (French Impressionist Museum)

25 September : Organ visits : Saint Severin & the Madeleine Church
Guided walking tour of the historic Latin Quarter
Guided visit of the Musical Instrument Museum (Cité de la Musique)

26 September : By high-speed TGV train to Strasbourg
After lunch & settling in hotel, visit to the workshops of organ builders Alfred Kern on the outskirts of Strasbourg. In the evening, dinner in the celebrated historic Strasbourg restaurant, the Kammerzell.

27 – 29 September : the following organ visits have been confirmed .(The actual timing is subject to coordination between churches, especially Sunday).
Strasbourg Cathedral, St Pierre le Jeune (both Protestant and Catholic churches), Ebersmunster, Molsheim, Obernai, Eglise du Bouclier (and of course St Thomas if the organ has not been dismantled for planned restoration).
Visits to Kaysersberg and Gunsbach on the trail of Albert Schweitzer. Travel the Wine Route through some of the loveliest villages in France, wine-tasting and lunch in beautiful Riquewihr, & visit the Haut Koenigsberg castle.

30 September : Across France in the high-speed TGV! Morning return to Paris. After lunch to Bordeaux.

1 October : Morning guided visit of the historic World Heritage centre of Bordeaux. The afternoon will be spent at the church of Sainte Croix to visit the celebrated Dom Bedos de Celles organ

2 October : first to the Bordeaux wine-capital of Saint Emilion , then on to Montpon for a guided visit of the Francis Chapelet Organ Collection (it is planned for Francis Chapelet to lunch and discuss with the group after the visit). Afternoon via Bergerac (visit the pneumatic organ) followed by a wine-tasting. Then by the spectacular route along the river Dordogne into Sarlat

3 October : Morning guided visit of Sarlat ending at the church for a short visit and recital on the completely restored historic organ.
Afternoon excursion into the Dordogne valley & region around Sarlat

4 October : Morning guided visit of the celebrated village of Rocadamour.
After lunch, to the World Heritage abbey and cloisters of Moissac. Into Toulouse for the evening and concert on the opening day of the Organ Festival

5 – 6 October. Concerts and visits as part of the International Organ Festival, including a visit of the recently restored Eglise de Jésus, official home of the festival. (The programme has not yet been announced.)
Guided visit of the Capitole, Jacobins and the Augustins. Two excursions are planned to Auch and St Bertrand de Comminges

7 October : morning drive to St Pons de Thomieres to visit the celebrated Micot organ. After lunch, through superb scenery, first to the Herepian Bell Foundry, then into Beziers. A musical evening is arranged at Cazouls

8 October : Excursion to visit local organ builder Claude Berger, then to the historic jewel of St Guilhem-le-Desert (short organ visit), return via the Chateau d'Assas to see and hear the historic harpsichord. Early evening organ concert Beziers cathedral (offered by volunteer members of the group!), followed by the festive Farewell Dinner

9 October : Departure by TGV to Paris (or return to Toulouse)