



Private Paris & Beyond
Exemplary Classical Architecture, Decorative Arts, Residences, Chateaux & Gardens
during the 26th Biennale des Antiquaires

Sponsored by the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art
Arranged by Pamela Huntington Darling, Exclusive Cultural Travel Programs

Saturday, September 8 to Saturday, September 15, 2012
7 days and 7 nights



Back by popular demand, ICAA's "Private Paris & Beyond" tour offers unrivaled access to the finest classical architecture, decorative arts and gardens in Paris, including exclusive visits and receptions with prominent officials, private individuals and acclaimed experts. This year's tour coincides with the world-renowned *26th Biennale des Antiquaires*.

For seven extraordinary days, "Private Paris & Beyond" takes a behind-the-scenes look at Paris's outstanding classical architecture, including sites by François Mansart, Louis Le Vau, Antoine Lepautre, Jules Hardouin Mansart, Ange-Jacques Gabriel and Claude-Nicolas Ledoux. Expert-led tours provide exclusive access to ambassadorial residences, renowned French institutions, private homes and châteaux of distinction, where we will view exquisite décors, rare art collections and extensive gardens and enjoy private receptions, music and dinners.

We will also make a special visit to the world-class *26th Biennale des Antiquaires*—decorated by Karl Lagerfeld—to view museum quality art and artifacts dating from ancient times to the present.

Accommodations: We will stay in elegant Saint-Germain-des-Près at the Hotel Saint Vincent, 5 rue du Pré aux Clercs, hotelsdufaubourgsaintgermain.com; or the Hotel Duc de Saint Simon, 14 rue Saint-Simon; hotelducdesaintsimon.com. Rooms are beautifully furnished with marble bathrooms and gracious service.

Tour Price: \$7,000 per person double occupancy; \$1,000 single supplement; based on an exchange rate of \$1.35/1 Euro; with a maximum of 22 participants (minimum 15); plus a fully tax-deductible \$500 donation to ICAA. Members at the Contributor or Individual-Professional level or higher may attend the ICAA tours.

Rate includes: 7 days of private visits and receptions; 7 nights accommodation in a 3-star, elegant boutique hotel; all breakfasts, 5 lunches, cocktail receptions, and 4 dinners in private residences; all costs involved in the program, transport to and from events during the tour, all private visits, expert lecturers, etc.

For more information and to assure availability, please reserve now. Reservations are confirmed according to registration date. Confirmed participants will receive a full itinerary and description. **Please call** Pamela Huntington Darling: Tel. (Paris, France) +33 1 45 67 62 81; or email: pdarling@exclusiveculturaltours.com.

Private Paris & Beyond Exemplary Architecture, Decorative Arts, Residences, Chateaux & Gardens

Paris's architectural, intellectual and artistic eminence dates from the 12th century, when the Capetian kings made the city capital of the Kingdom of France, yet much of the classical architecture of France was influenced by the Italian Renaissance. Many residential, civic and religious structures built between the late 15th and early 17th centuries exhibit a uniquely French classicism that became known as the French Renaissance style, incorporating the Greco-Roman influences of the Italian Renaissance with Gothic traditions in subtle but important ways. Paris's *hôtels particuliers* (private mansions) and many chateaux display the classical influence.

This period also saw the ascendance of chateau gardens and the great collaborations between architects and landscape designers, such as Louis Le Vau and André Le Nôtre. The garden-to-residence relationship can be seen in many of the private mansions of the Marais, the Tuileries gardens, and Vaux le Vicomte, reaching its pinnacle at Versailles.

Tour Highlights

Bernd H. Dams, a recognized expert in 18th-century architecture, will accompany us for two days of our tour. Mr. Dams' expertise combines an astute knowledge of art, architectural and social history with particular knowledge of the history and development of European royal chateaux, garden architecture and pavilions. In collaboration with Andrew Zega, Mr. Dams is currently preparing a companion volume to their first book, *Pleasure Pavilions and Follies*. ICAA awarded Zega & Dams the Arthur Ross Laureate for Art in 2011.

[Private Visit: Château de Chantilly with Members of the American Friends of Chantilly](#)

Home of the Princes of Condé, the splendidly restored Château de Chantilly houses one of the foremost collections of paintings in France; its park, with extensive parterres and fountains, was designed by André Le Nôtre. Distinguished members of the American Friends of Chantilly and the Head Curator will lead us on an exclusive tour of the private apartments of the Duc and Duchess d'Aumale, the exquisite chapel, the library and its collection of rare books and manuscripts, and the art galleries. We will visit the English garden and its charming cottages, the restored sculpted fountain—climbing 100 feet to view the stupendous 18th-century hydraulic system and the views beyond—and see a special dressage demonstration at the Grand Stables. A prominent and noble French family will receive us for tea at their beautiful country home.

[Dinner Reception at the home of Catherine Cormery with Andrew Zega & Bernd Dams](#)

Catherine Cormery, editor of *Connaissance et Mémoires*, will welcome us to her home in the historic Gallimard mansion for cocktails and a convivial dinner with Andrew Zega and Bernd Dams, where we will view their distinguished watercolors, limited editions and collection of rare porcelains. The work of Zega and Dams is included in the collections of the Cooper-Hewitt Museum, New York Historical Society, Princeton University, Columbia University's Avery Architectural Library and the Morgan Library.



Image: *Pavillon Monceau* © Edward Andrew Zega & Bernd H. Dams

[Private Visit: Château de Vaux le Vicomte](#)



Owner Count Patrice de Vogüe will welcome us for a private visit of this legendary Château—celebrating its 350th anniversary—and its marvelous gardens, precursor to those of the Château de Versailles. Designed by architect Louis Le Vau, 1656-1661, this was the most influential construction of its time. We will view the central interior salon, and explore the formal gardens' gravel walkways, water basins and canals. We will also enjoy a stunning view from the estate's roof.

[Recital with pianist Jay Gottleib & Dinner Reception at a Private Residence](#)

Our hosts will welcome us for a musical evening at their residence in a beautiful 17th-century *hôtel particulier* with a handsome décor and impressive works of art. Our hostess, an artist and sculptor in her own right, is also an author specializing in Frida Kahlo and Marc Chagall and a curator. We will enjoy cocktails and a special private recital by Franco-American pianist Jay Gottleib, followed by a convivial dinner. Such a Parisian *salon* is indeed a rare event.

[Private Visit: Hôtel de Beauharnais, Residence of the German Ambassador](#)



A distinguished member of the Hôtel de Beauharnais's restoration committee will guide us on a private visit through this extraordinary residence. Featured in many articles on outstanding historical homes, it is one of Europe's rare jewels. Exceptional for its opulence, its superbly preserved pure Empire décor, furniture and works of art have remained unchanged. In 1803, the adopted son of Josephine and Napoleon, titled Prince of Venice and Viceroy of Italy, purchased Hôtel de Beauharnais and decorated it for a phenomenal sum. It remains one of world's only completely preserved historical residences.

[Private Visit: Institut de France with Members of the Institute](#)

Distinguished members of the Institut and the architectural section of the Académie des Beaux-Arts, referred to as "Immortals," will take us on a behind-the-scenes tour of the Institut de France. We will visit the private quarters reserved for the Institute members—never open to the public—as well as Mazarin's astounding library. A specially organized exhibit of rare original drawings and watercolors by Le Vau, Lepautre, Hardouin Mansart, Gabriel, and Ledoux will be organized in our honor.

[Château de Versailles Behind-the-Scenes](#)



On the day closed to the public, we will enjoy a unique, behind-the-scenes visit with the Curator of Furniture and Works of Art to discover the recently restored work of Versailles's three master architects, **Louis Le Vau**, Jules Hardouin Mansart and **Ange-Jacques Gabriel**, including the reconstruction of Louis XIV's Royal Entrance Gate, the Royal Chapel, the Royal Opéra, the Hall of Mirrors, and the newly restored rooms in the King's Private Apartments and the Queen's Private Apartments.

[Private Visit: Hôtel Lauzun](#)

Rarely open to the public, this masterpiece of 17th-century architecture on the banks of the Ile Saint-Louis was built by Louis Le Vau in 1657. Hôtel de Lauzun is one of the best examples of interior décor during the reign of Louis XIV. The well-proportioned courtyard is proof of the serenity of fine classical architecture. Even Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II included a visit to Hôtel Lauzun during an official visit to France.



[Palais de Salm, Residence Grand Chancellor Legion d' Honneur](#)

The Cabinet Director of the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor will welcome us for an exceptional visit of this historic palace, built by architect Pierre Rousseau (1782-1787). The ultimate in Napoleonic splendor and majesty, the palace's architecture, decor and artwork are of rare beauty. The National Order of the Legion of Honor, founded by Napoleon in 1802, recognizes eminent service to the state and is the nation's highest honor.

Private Visit: Apartment of Mademoiselle Coco Chanel



Rarely opened, even to Chanel's most important clients, we will be welcomed on a tour of her cherished residence by Chanel's Director of VIP Relations. Chanel's in-house historian will guide us through rooms decorated in exquisite taste by Coco Chanel herself. We will discover details of Chanel's private life and the elites she invited into her confidential realm. We will also admire some of Chanel's latest haute couture and the private lounge designed by Karl Lagerfeld.



26th Biennale des Antiquaires: Special Welcome & Visit

We will be welcomed by a member of the Board of Directors of the French *Syndicat National des Antiquaires*, organizer of this world-renowned fair, where leading international art and antiques dealers and jewelers present their collections. After our visit, we will gather in the VIP lounge for champagne in honor of ICAA and the Biennale's 26th Edition.

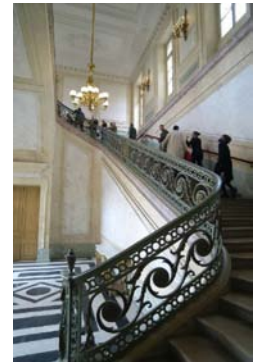
Cocktail Buffet Dinner Reception: Residence of Juan Pablo Molyneux and Pilar Molyneux



Renowned interior designer Juan Pablo Molyneux and his wife Pilar Molyneux will welcome us for a cocktail buffet dinner at their magnificent 17th-century Marais residence, Hôtel Claude Passart, designed by Gabriel Soullignac and exquisitely restored by Juan Pablo. Built between 1618 and 1620, the audaciously restored interior has all the sumptuous Molyneux signatures: colored marble, rare woods, painted ceilings, important sculptures, tapestries, paintings and art objects. Juan Pablo Molyneux also restored the exquisite French gardens based on a drawing by the original architect.

Private Visit: Ministère de la Marine, Hôtel de la Marine

We will have the rare opportunity of visiting Hôtel de la Marine, Ministry of the Navy, designed by Ange-Jacques Gabriel, Chief Architect of the King. Denis Lavalley, Chief Curator of France's Historical Monuments and Heritage, and Richard Morris Hunt laureate of the National Museum, Washington, DC, will be our guide through the gilded halls and magnificent galleries, with interiors by architect Jacques Gondouin and splendid views onto Place de la Concorde.



Private Visit: Pierre Chareau's famous Maison de Verre



The Maison de Verre (Glass House), built in 1928-1931 by architects Pierre Chareau and Bernard Bijvoet, is a unique construction, not visible from the street, like many unusual buildings in Paris. The courtyard wall is constructed of a single sheet of glass and visitors will appreciate the sophisticated spatial organization of the house and garden. The Glass House is still a private family home, and we are visiting at the owners' special invitation.

Lunch: Private Club, Cercle de l'Union Interalliée

Guests will enjoy lunch in the private setting of the Cercle de l'Union Interalliée, one of the oldest and most exclusive private clubs in France, adjacent to the residences of the American and British Ambassadors on the prestigious Faubourg Saint-Honoré. We will dine in the elegant State Dining Room overlooking one of the most beautiful private gardens in Paris or in the gardens, weather permitting.



Private Reception: Agnès Comar Residence

Internationally renowned interior designer Agnès Comar will welcome us for a private visit and drinks at her home, admirably redesigned in an 18th-century *hôtel particulier* in the aristocratic Saint-Germain-des-Près neighborhood. Agnès will discuss the institution she is creating for the study of classical to contemporary architecture, making for a most convivial and informative visit.

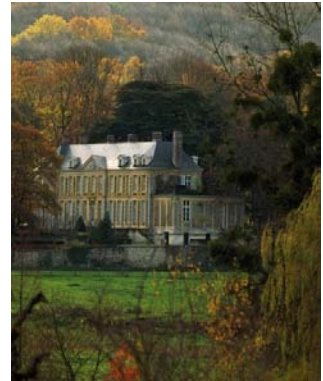
Tour of Paris's Art Deco neighborhood, Boulogne-Billancourt



An expert-guided tour of France's major Art Deco residential area in the town of Boulogne-Billancourt, near the Bois de Boulogne. Constructed during the 1920s and 1930s, the homes we will see include Le Corbusier's Villa Cook (1926-27) and other examples designed by Pingusson, Mallet-Stevens, Fischer, Patout, Niermans, and other notables, and the former atelier of renowned Art Deco architect August Perret, classed as a historical monument. Our visit concludes with tea at one of these historic residences.

Private Visit: Fondation de Coubertin with Lunch

Gilles de Navacelle, President of the Fondation de Coubertin, will welcome us for a private visit followed by lunch. Dedicated to the preservation and advancement of traditional crafts, this unique institution, on the vast Coubertin estate in Saint-Rémy-lès-Chevreuse, houses 120 of Europe's finest artisans working on special commissions. The works of the foundation can be seen in Versailles, Paris, Mont St Michel and around the world.



Farewell Dinner: Hôtel du Duc de Gesvres



The perfect way to end the grandeur of our program, we will dine at this extraordinary private residence in the Hôtel du Duc de Gesvres, the only remaining *hôtel particulier* designed by classical architect Antoine Lepautre and the sole residence in Paris with its original *cabinet de miroirs*. The splendidly restored and brilliantly decorated home, classified as a French Historic Monument, earned the owners the Institut de France's highest award for restoration.

For more information and to assure availability of this significant tour, please reserve now. Reservations are confirmed according to registration date. Confirmed participants will receive a full itinerary and description. **Please call** Pamela Huntington Darling: Tel. (Paris) +33 1 45 67 62 81; or email: pdarling@exclusiveculturaltours.com.