

Cost, Terms, & Essential Information

Cost

In Paris, **hotel rooms** are **single** occupancy. Please email me if you have any questions about occupancy.

Single Occupancy - \$7,975

What IS included...

Pre-Trip Info & Zoom Meeting
12 Nights of Lodging in Paris at the Hotel Saint Petersburg Opera'
4 Workshops & 4 Kits
4 Textile Artists/Teachers
28 Meals or 12 Breakfasts, 9 Lunches, 7 Dinners
1 Welcome Reception
Tour Guides
1 Flea market tour
1 Haberdashery tour
Exclusive access to Au Ver à Soie & Sajou
6 Museum & Sight-Seeing Tickets
1 Dinner Cruise on the Seine River
10 Ground Transportation Vehicles, i.e., Shuttles, Vans, Bus
A Few Surprises! Oh Là Là!

What is NOT included...

Airfare
Transfer between Airport/Hotel – Both Arriving & Departing
Tips for Tour Guides/Bus Drivers
Travel Insurance
2 Lunches and 5 Dinners
Personal Shopping Purchases

Payment Schedule

- **Deposit of \$2,650 is due at time of registration and is non-refundable**
- \$2,663 due by March 9, 2024
- \$2,662 or total remainder, due by June 3, 2024

If payment is not received by the due date, Sew & Sew Retreats is entitled to give written notice that your guest retreat reservation is cancelled. You, the guest, will **remain liable to pay the balance of the reservation unless we are able to sell the retreat space.**

Your place for the *Celebrate French Textiles – Just Paris 2024* retreat will be confirmed once receiving the non-refundable deposit of \$2,650 of the total amount due. Payment may be made by credit or debit card or PayPal. Your confirmation email will include a Registration Form to fill out and submit. You should receive this email within 24 hours.

Cancellation

There are no refunds in the event of a guest cancellation. The deposit is **not** refundable and there is **no** refund after the balance has been paid. Guests are **strongly encouraged to arrange travel insurance including cancellation coverage**, plus coverage for personal belongings, public liability, medical, etc. When purchasing insurance, you can **use the start date for coverage as the day you paid the deposit.**

In the event you need to cancel, you may find a friend to take your place for the retreat. Also, if we have a wait list, we can contact people on that list to replace your spot. Please contact me as soon as possible to see if we can transfer your spot to someone else.

Hotel

Hotel Saint Petersburg Opera

35 Rue de Caumartin, 75009 Paris, France

<https://www.hotelsaintpetersbourg.com/>

All rooms have ensuite bathrooms.

The hotel has air conditioning and an elevator.

Breakfast is included.

U.S. State Department

Step Program - The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service to allow U.S. citizens and nationals traveling and living abroad to enroll their trip with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. <https://step.state.gov/step/>

Money Matters: Before going abroad, notify your bank and credit card companies of your travel, and check exchange rates. For information about using cash, debit/credit cards, and ATMs overseas, read information about your [destination](#).

Safeguard Your Documents! Make two copies of all your travel documents in case of emergency. Leave one copy with a trusted friend or relative at home and carry the other separately from your original documents. To help prevent theft, do not carry your passport in your back pocket, and keep it separate from your money.

Passport Validity for France

Entry into France for short-term tourism (90 days maximum) requires that your **passport be valid for at least three months beyond your intended date of departure** from the **Schengen Area**. If your passport does not meet the Schengen requirements, you may be refused boarding by the airline at your point of origin or while transferring planes. For this reason, it is recommended that your passport has at least six months' validity remaining when you travel abroad.

Visas: U.S. citizens with valid passports traveling for tourism or business can **enter France without a visa** for a period of 90 days out of every 180 days. You are responsible for having a valid passport for entry into France. Sew & Sew Retreats or Linda Sweek does not accept any responsibility should there be issues at the port of entry.

What is the Schengen Borders Agreement?

The [Schengen Borders Agreement](#) permits citizens from certain countries - including the United States - to travel freely to 26 European countries within the Schengen area for up to three months for tourism or business.

Travel Insurance

Get it! Well, it is strongly encouraged for you to get it. Think of it as a vital part of your travel arrangements. Insurance protects you, your trip, and your travel investment.

Travel suppliers, airline carriers, and Sew & Sew Retreats or Linda Sweek will not compensate any unforeseen expenses in the event of cancellation or failure to make your trip, missed flights, lost baggage, loss of health, death and/or accidents or emergency evacuation due to illness, natural disasters or acts of terrorism. Also, it is strongly recommended that you purchase a travel insurance policy for the duration of the journey, not just airfare.

Here are two recommended travel insurance companies.

- 1) **Squaremouth** - <https://www.squaremouth.com/>

2) **Travel Guard** - <https://www.travelguard.com>

Should you decide not to purchase travel insurance, you assume sole financial liability for all direct and indirect consequences and costs resulting from events occurring before or during the trip.

You do not have the right to demand compensation from Sew & Sew Retreats or Linda Sweek, or retreat teachers for any unforeseen expenses incurred as a direct result of cancellation or failure to make your trip, lost baggage, loss of health, death, accidents and/or emergency evacuation due to natural disasters or acts of terrorism.

As part of the Registration process, you need to ACCEPT or DECLINE that you will or will not purchase travel insurance.

Credit or Debit Cards & Cash

Make sure you contact your bank or credit/debit card company to inform them of your travel to France along with the dates of the trip. Otherwise, purchases may look suspicious and become alerted for fraud.

Cash is also accepted, but definitely get euro. This can usually be converted locally at a bank in the U.S. before the trip. Not all banks will do this, so investigate where you can exchange dollars for Euros before you go. Also, you can exchange money at the airport in Paris or Toulouse.

All purchases made to the vendors at the Flea Market will want cash in euro. They will **not** take U.S. dollars or credit/debit cards.

Covid-19 Policy for France

Per the U.S. State Department, dated August 4, 2022:

“All France Event: End of French COVID-related entry requirements. The government of France has announced that as of August 1, it has ended all COVID-related entry requirements for France. Travelers no longer require proof of vaccination or a negative test to enter France. In addition, the health/vaccine pass has been eliminated for all locations.”

WhatsApp

We will create a WhatsApp group while we are traveling in France. This is free and works internationally. It does require your cell phone number. This is how we will communicate any announcements, changes to the itinerary, trying to find each other and photos. The group name will be: **Celebrate French Textiles Just Paris 2024**. Please download the app prior to the trip. If you want to know, go to <https://www.whatsapp.com/>

Contact email: lsweek@lindasweekdesigns.com