# Cost, Terms, & Essential Information

# Paris August 28-30, 2027

## KIND & FULL OF GRACE

**We try to be kind and full of grace to all those in our group. We are a happy group and you will enjoy the trip because of it!**

## Contact email: stitch@sewandsewretreats.com

- **Cost is $3,917 with Hotel and $2,717 without Hotel.**
- **Exchange rates vary, but the rate would be approximately £2,965 with Hotel and £2,056 without Hotel.**
- **Attendee's Spouse or Partner with No Workshop, Same Room is $2,517 or $2,317 Without Hotel & No Workshop.**
- **Deposit of $1,960 is due at time of registration and is non-refundable.**
  - **$1,957, or your total remainder, is due by February 2, 2027 and is non-refundable.**
  - **If you Register/Pay-your-Deposit AFTER February 2, 2027, you will be contacted to schedule the timing of your second payment.**
- If payment is not received by the due date, S&SR is entitled to give written notice that your 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 on the *Celebrate French Textiles* retreat will be confirmed once receiving the non-refundable deposit of $1,960 of the total amount due.
- Payment may be made by credit/debit card or wire transfer. If you are from a country other than the United States, a wire transfer has the lowest fees. Please contact us to make that arrangement at stitch@sewandsewretreats.com.

## Cancellation

1) **If You Cancel: Due to required payments by vendors of S&SR, 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. No refunds of any kind for any reason for any amount paid will be issued.
   a. 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**.

b. In the event you need to cancel, you may find a friend to take your place for the retreat. Also, if there is 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.

1) **If S&SR Cancels:** In the event that not enough people have signed up for a trip, S&SR may determine that the trip needs to be cancelled. Once informed of the cancellation, we **will issue you a refund within 30 days of being notified**. You will be refunded with a cashier's check or through the website where you purchased the trip by credit card or wire transfer.

## Photographs/Videos Consent

1) I authorize S&SR to photograph or video record me without payment or other compensation.
2) I release all claim to those photographs or videos and assign all rights of these images to S&SR.
3) I understand use of these images may include printed materials, websites or social media for promotion of S&SR. I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished photograph or video to the eventual use that it might be applied.
4) Assignment of these rights is not limited to any specific time period or purpose.

You understand, agree and consent to all of the above regarding Photographs/Videos.

## WhatsApp

**WhatsApp Messaging & Calling:** Send text messages, voice notes, photos, videos and documents, or make free voice and video calls globally over Wi-Fi or cellular data. The calls are **free**, have no time limits, and are end-to-end encrypted. You can call one-on-one or in groups across iOS, Android and web, using your mobile, desktop, or tablet devices internationally.

Please download the app to your mobile phone. S&SR will set-up a WhatsApp group for our specific group a few weeks prior to traveling. We will use this during the retreat to communicate with each other. You can keep access to the group after the trip to continue to communicate with each other.

## Zoom Meeting

In July 2027, a Zoom meeting will be held. During the meeting, we all introduce ourselves, discuss logistical topics and review the itinerary. Plus the teacher will talk about the workshop, supplies, etc. Look for an email in June about scheduling the July Zoom call.

## Meals Paid by Sew & Sew Retreats

When the group is having lunch or dinner at a restaurant that is included on the itinerary, S&SR has included one drink in the cost. If you desire any additional drinks, that will be at your expense and a separate bill will be given to you to pay.

## Hotel – Paris

Hotel Saint Petersbourg
35, rue Caumartin - 75009 Paris
+33142666038
https://www.hotelsaintpetersbourg.com/

Whereas, a quote has been received and accepted between S&SR and Hotel St Petersbourg, the contract is usually signed in March. So if you wish to extend your stay or upgrade your room, it is suggested you wait until the contract has been signed.

Regarding your stay at Hotel Saint Petersbourg, a security deposit of EUR 200 is required upon arrival. This must be paid by credit card. The deposit will be refunded on the day of your departure. The full amount will be refunded to your credit card, subject to a damage inspection of the property. Your lodging is paid for. But any damage would be your responsibility. So when you check-in you will need to present a card for the deposit.

## Flights & Shuttle – Chateau Dumas

1) If you are flying from Paris to Toulouse to participate in Week 1 at Chateau Dumas, you will receive booking information as soon as that date is posted by Air France, or the most economical airline. We fly together from the Paris–Orly Airport.
2) **The shuttle to the chateau leaves at 2:30 pm.** If you miss the shuttle, you'll need to hire an Uber to get to the chateau. The ride between the airport and the chateau is one hour.
3) You'll leave as a group from the chateau by shuttle on the last day. The shuttle takes you back to the Toulouse–Blagnac Airport. The departure time from the chateau is TBD but will be early afternoon.

## 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. **When purchasing insurance, you can use the start date for coverage as the day you paid the deposit**.

Travel suppliers, airline carriers, or Sew & Sew Retreats 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. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that you purchase a travel insurance policy for the duration of the journey, not just airfare. **Get comprehensive travel insurance, which includes cancellation, repatriation, medical and personal cover and also full cover for the party's personal belongings.**

**"Key reasons why travel insurance for medical is important:**

- **Coverage for Emergency Medical Expenses**: Travel insurance covers costs for unforeseen medical emergencies like broken bones, heart attacks, or severe illnesses, including doctor and hospital bills, surgeries, X-rays, lab tests, ambulance services, and prescription drugs.
- **Emergency Medical Evacuation**: In remote areas or places with inadequate medical facilities, this coverage pays for emergency transportation to the nearest high-quality hospital or even back to your home country. These costs can be extremely high, potentially exceeding $250,000.
- **Financial Protection**: Unexpected medical bills can be a significant financial burden. Travel insurance protects your savings and ensures you can receive necessary treatment without worrying about immediate, extensive costs.
- **Access to Assistance Services**: Most policies include a 24/7 emergency hotline, providing access to assistance in finding a doctor or hospital, coordinating medical treatment, and language translation services in a foreign country.
- **Repatriation of Remains**: In the tragic event of death while traveling, the insurance will cover the substantial costs of transporting the remains back to your home country.
- **Coverage for Trip Disruptions**: Many comprehensive plans also offer reimbursement for non-refundable, prepaid travel expenses if your trip is cancelled or interrupted due to a medical emergency.
- **Addressing Coverage Gaps**: Even if your domestic plan offers some international coverage, it may only cover "usual and customary" charges (which can be less than local costs) or require you to pay upfront and seek reimbursement later, which can be a difficult process.

"In essence, travel insurance provides a vital financial safety net… when you are far from home, offering peace of mind so you can focus on your travel experience." Travelers Insurance.

**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 Linda Sweek, Linda Sweek Designs, Sew and Sew Retreats, 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.**

## U.S. State Department – Travel Recommendations

https://travel.state.gov/en/international-travel/travel-advisories/france.html

**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.

**EU Entry and Exit System (EES)**

As of October 12, 2025, U.S. citizens will need to go through the EU's new Entry and Exit System when traveling to 29 European countries, including France. This applies to any visits lasting up to 90 days within an 180-day period.

- Your fingerprints, facial image, passport details, and entry and exit dates will be collected and stored digitally.

**Schengen entry and exit requirements sets the same immigration rules for 27 European countries. This lets you travel freely between them, with no border checks.**

- **Passport Validity**: **Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months** when you enter any EU country or the Schengen Area. **If your passport is valid for less than 6 months, an immigration officer may deny you entry. They could send you back to the United States right away.**
- **Tourism or business visits:** With a valid U.S. passport, you can stay up to 90 days during any 180-day period. You must wait an extra 90 days before applying to re-enter the Schengen area.

## KIND & FULL OF GRACE

**Please be kind to all.** Remember it's only a few days and you'll like the trip better if you don't worry about someone else that is bothering you. This includes the person who is late, or talks nonstop, or is always the last person getting on the bus, or is a slow walker, or has poor table manners or a million other little things that may bug you. This includes the teachers, trip manager or trip liaison. Please **do not speak badly** about someone to others on the trip – just don't spread your unhappiness to others. Instead, **choose to let it go** and **show grace** to that person. **You will be happier and you will enjoy the trip so much more!** Thank you.