

**Join us in Paris for Wagner's Ring Cycle, November 28-December 7, 2020!**

There is arguably no performing arts experience comparable to attending, in the span of less than a week: a fully staged production of **Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen***. The Paris Opera's modern house on the Place Bastille is one of the few in the world with the resources, both artistic and technical, to fully realize the composer's vision. Your ticket package provides excellent seats to all four operas, with light snacks and drinks provided before *Das Rheingold* and during intermissions of *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried*, and *Götterdämmerung*. You will also be treated to welcome and farewell dinners ranking among the best of the Dean Dalton Tours gastronomic tradition as well as conversations before and/or after each production moderated by Dean and enlivened by your fellow participants, some of whom qualify as experts.

**Check out the details below and get your reservation in right away.**

**We have an option for only 20 tickets to all four operas and reservations will be honored in the order we receive your deposit; in any event, reservations must be received not later than July 15, 2019.**

*Since we must pay for the tickets in full or release them by that time, your \$1,000 deposit is non-refundable once we have purchased tickets on your behalf. However, in the event that you must cancel at any point between July 15 and payment of the final invoice, we will make every effort to resell your place on the tour or the tickets themselves; if we are successful, we will return your deposit, less a \$100 administrative fee.*

**THE ITINERARY**

**Saturday Nov. 28**  
**Depart for Paris**



**Sunday Nov. 29**  
**Arrival and welcome dinner**



**Monday Nov. 30**  
***Das Rheingold***



**Tuesday Dec. 1**  
**Free day or optional day tour**



**Wednesday Dec. 2**  
***Die Walküre***



**Thursday Dec. 3**  
**Free day or optional day tour**



**Friday Dec. 4**  
***Siegfried***



**Saturday Dec. 5**  
**Free day**



**Sunday Dec. 6**  
***Götterdämmerung***



**Monday Dec. 7**  
**Depart for home**

**THE CAST**

Iain Paterson – Wotan/Wanderer

Ekaterina Gubanova – Fricka

Jonas Kaufmann – Siegmund

Eva-Maria Westbroek – Sieglinde

Martina Serafin – Brünnhilde (*Walküre* and *Siegfried*)

John Relyea – Hunding

Ricarda Merbeth – Brünnhilde (*Götterdämmerung*)

Andreas Schager – Siegfried

Gerhard Siegel – Mime

Jochen Schmeckenbecher – Alberich

Dimitry Ivashchenko – Fafner

Anna Gabler – Guttrune

Sarah Connolly – Waltraute

Johannes Martin Kränzle – Gunther

**THE CONDUCTOR**

The Paris Opera's music director, Philippe Jordan, is rapidly becoming one of the today's most respected Wagner conductors. He will be on the podium for the entire Cycle, as he was at the MET in New York earlier this year. In 2020, he assumes the musical leadership of the Vienna State Opera.

## THE PRODUCTION

It is safe to say that this new production, by noted Spanish director Calixto Bieto, will not be “traditional,” if that term has any meaning in reference to an opera about gods and giants and dwarfs and the end of the world. But whether we will witness the kind of confrontational approach that Bieto is most noted for (viz. his Carmen) or the “softer gentler” Bieto evident in the Paris Opera’s new production of Simon Boccanegra,

remains to be seen. One thing that critics seem to agree upon is that his productions are intellectually sound and plumb the depths of whatever work he takes on. The Wagner Ring is the greatest challenge any director is likely to confront.

### THE PRICES (per person):

**\$ 4,450 sharing  
a superior double  
\$ 5,950 superior double  
for single occupancy**

*(a limited number of  
"Cozy" rooms are available,  
single occupancy only,  
for a discount of \$250)*



**Prices are stated in  
U.S. Dollars  
calculated on an exchange  
rate of \$1.15 to the Euro.**



### Package prices include:

**8 nights accommodation at  
Hotel Mansart**



Breakfast each day



Welcome and Farewell Dinners  
*(drinks included)*



Light snacks and drinks  
at the performances



Airport transfers



Informal discussions before  
and/or following performances



Assistance in the purchase of  
tickets for optional performances



The possibility of a backstage  
tour of the Opéra Bastille and/or  
the Palais Garnier will be  
determined by rehearsal  
schedules and technical  
considerations

## YOUR TICKETS

We chose second category seats (there are 11 categories), since first and optima categories are only available in a package, including a substantial mandatory donation to the Friends of the Opera and seated dinners before or after the performances, which inevitably drive their cost to two and a half times face value of the tickets. Our seats will be just a row or two farther back or to the side than first category seats; not at the back or far right of the hall by any means. Your tickets also entitle you to light refreshments before *Das Rheingold* and during the intermissions of the other three operas. Each individual or couple will receive a program booklet for each opera.

## OUR HOTEL

We have selected a charming four-star boutique hotel, originally a private mansion built in 1720 on plans by Louis XIV’s chief architect. Just a few steps from the Louvre, Tuilleries Gardens, Place Vendome, and Rue de Rivoli, it is close to both the Opéra Garnier and Madeleine, from either of which you can take Metro Line 8 directly to the Opéra Bastille, where the Ring performances take place.

## OPTIONAL DAY TOURS

Two day-trips will be provided at additional cost, on days with no performances:

1. The Renaissance **Château de Chantilly**, home of Henri d’Orléans, Duke of Aumale and son of the last King of France (Louis-Philippe), is one of the finest jewels of France’s cultural heritage. Henri was considered to be the greatest collector of his time, amassing one of France’s largest collections of precious books, paintings and decorative arts. The Condé Museum - within the former princely apartments - offers the second biggest collection of ancient paintings after the Louvre. On the way back, we will stop in the enchanting medieval town of Senlis, with cobbled narrow alleys, small shops, charming squares, and houses from another time.

2. The **Palace of Fontainebleau** was the residence of French monarchs from Louis VII to Napoleon III. A UNESCO World Heritage site, the château dazzles not only in its size, but in its rich architectural styles and lavish interiors - the single greatest assemblage over time of French architecture and décor still in its original state. On the way back to Paris, we will stop at the charming village of Barbizon, the adopted home of the first landscape painters who ushered in the Impressionist movement (Corot, Millet, and Rousseau).

### **Flights Options:**

Only Air France offers non-stop service between Houston and Paris

Virtually any other provider of transatlantic service can get you there and back with a single change of planes. Prices and schedules vary widely, so shop around or go with an airline that honors your award miles

### **ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES**

It is too early to know the schedule for the Palais Garnier, Theatre des Champs Elysees, Chatelet, Philharmonie, or any of Paris's other venues. Once we have that information, we will share it with you and place orders for anything you want to attend on the nights between the Ring operas . . . if you are up to it and want a break from Wagner.

Participation is limited to 20; reservations must be submitted by July 15, 2019 and will be honored in the order received. Payment in full is due by August 1, 2020.

<u>Prices per person</u>	<u>Sharing a double</u>	<u>Single occupancy</u>
8 nights in Paris, 4 opera tickets	\$4,450	\$5,950

*The above prices are for Superior Double Rooms (270 sq. ft.), whether sharing or single occupancy; a limited number of Cozy Rooms (160 sq. ft.) are available for single occupancy only, at a discount of \$250*

For details, visit DeanDaltonTours.com or email DD@DeanDaltonTours.com or call 713-213-6447.

Complete and mail this form and your check for \$1,000 per person payable to **Dean Dalton Tours** to:

**Dean Dalton Tours**  
1904 Banks St.  
Houston, TX 77098

***Please note:***

***Your deposit for this tour is non-refundable after July 15, 2019, since performance tickets must be paid in full by the end of July. However, should you cancel, we will make every effort to fill your space on the tour or sell your tickets, in which case we will reimburse you accordingly, retaining only a \$100 administrative fee.***

Name 1 as it appears on passport (LAST / First): \_\_\_\_\_

Name 2 as it appears on passport (LAST / First): \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport # 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Issue date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date and **place** of Birth: ; \_\_\_\_\_

Passport # 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Issue date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date and **place** of Birth: ; \_\_\_\_\_

Name and phone of emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_

If reserving for two:  prefer one bed  prefer two beds

If reserving for one:  help me find a roommate  will be sharing with \_\_\_\_\_

**Travel Protection:** I/we prefer:  Group Deluxe, full  Group Deluxe \$0 trip cost  Decline \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read the brochure and accompanying "Terms and Conditions" and agree to their contents.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A Trip Protection plan is strongly suggested for all participants. We offer Travel Insured International's Group Deluxe Travel Protection plan. Plan details and pricing can be found via the links below. Payment may be made at any time up to your final payment for the tour, with checks payable to Dean Dalton Tours or included with your final payment. **If you decline to purchase our Trip Protection, please check the appropriate box on the reservation form and initial to indicate that you accept full responsibility.**

The "\$0 trip cost" plan does not cover pre-existing conditions or cancellation and only limited trip interruption benefits. Group Deluxe Travel Plan, description and prices: <http://www.deandaltontours.com/docs/InsDescr2017Plan.pdf>  
Complete Policy Document: <http://www.deandaltontours.com/docs/GroupDeluxeDoc2017.pdf>

## Terms and Conditions of Sale—Wagner Ring in Paris Tour November 28 to December 7, 2020

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to guarantee your reservation, with the date of receipt determining the order in which travelers are booked, in the likely event of a sold-out tour. The balance of the tour price is due on or before August 1, 2020.

### **Cancellation forfeitures:**

Up to 120 days prior to departure: deposit will be forfeited, unless we are able to fill the space or sell your performance tickets, in which case the deposit will be refunded, less a service charge of \$100 per person  
120 to 90 days prior to departure: full deposit is forfeited  
89 to 45 days prior to departure: 30% of tour cost is forfeited  
44 to 30 days prior to departure: 60% of tour cost is forfeited  
30 days or less, prior to departure: 100% of tour cost is forfeited

**Included in quoted tour prices:** Transfers from Charles de Gaulle Airport (Paris) to our Paris hotel on November 29 and returning on December 7; luggage handling (1 piece, maximum 50 pounds, at owner's risk); accommodations in the hotel listed in the itinerary or comparable, including hotel taxes and daily breakfast; lunches and/or dinners, sightseeing, entrance fees, performance tickets, guide and escort services, as indicated in the online itinerary.

**Not included in quoted tour prices:** Airfare to France and returning, costs of passports or visas (U.S. citizens may travel to France without visas, through 2020), laundry; any meals or beverages, optional performances, and sightseeing not specifically included in the itinerary; room service; travel insurance; gratuities to guides and drivers; communication charges; excess baggage fees.

**Exchange Rates:** Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to adjust prices to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. The listed prices for this program were calculated at an exchange rate of 1.00 euro = \$1.15 US dollar.

Dean Dalton Tours also reserves the right to withdraw a tour or any part of it, to make such alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary or desirable, to refuse to accept or retain as a member of any tour any person at any time, and to pass on to tour members any expenditures or losses caused by delays or events beyond its control.

**Passports and Visas:** Passports are required for international travel; visas are not required for U.S. citizens traveling to France.

**Itineraries:** Hotel accommodations, performances, and sightseeing are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

**Guaranteed Departures:** Dean Dalton Tours guarantees the departure of most escorted programs that reach the stated minimum number of participants (10 for this tour), with exception only in case of "force majeure." This includes any major world event that adversely affects international travel patterns, or other circumstances beyond Dean Dalton Tours' control.

**Claims and Refunds:** Except for verifiable extenuating circumstances, refunds are not made for any missed tour services. For verifiable claims to be considered, they must be received in writing within 30 days of the termination of the tour and be accompanied by supporting documentation. Any adjustment will be based on the actual cost of the services involved and not on a per diem basis. Adjustments will not be made for sightseeing trips or meals not used at traveler's choice. Dean Dalton Tours will not accept any liability for any claims not received within 30 days of the termination of this tour.

**Photography:** Dean Dalton Tours reserves the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any tour or part thereof, and to use the resulting photography for promotional purposes. By booking a reservation, tour members agree to allow their image to be used in such photography; tour members who prefer that their image not be used are asked to identify themselves to their tour escort at the commencement of the tour.

**Limits on Responsibility:** Dean Dalton Tours, LLC is a Texas corporation based in Houston. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Dean Dalton Tours CANNOT, THEREFORE, BE LIABLE FOR DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY OR ANY OTHER LOSS that may occur (1) due to any act or omission of any such supplier, (2) by reason of any other event over which Dean Dalton Tours has no control.