



THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF VERSAILLES

REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY

FOR A

BENEFIT EXTRAORDINAIRE

Le Gala des Fleurs d'Oranger

IN HONOR OF

THE HISTORIC FRENCH AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

FRIDAY, MAY 31 THROUGH MONDAY, JUNE 3

THE PALACE OF VERSAILLES

WITH SURROUNDING EVENTS IN PARIS

2024



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Dear Friends,

I am honored and thrilled to have officially accepted the position of President of the American Friends of Versailles. This role carries with it a profound sense of responsibility, and I approach it with both humility and enthusiasm. Mrs. Catharine Hamilton, my distinguished predecessor, set a formidable standard, and her legacy will undoubtedly endure, bestowing the gift of French culture upon generations to come.

Each of you, as supporters of this esteemed organization, or as potential future contributors, possesses a unique privilege. The American Friends of Versailles has a rich history of fortifying the ties between the United States and France. Its unwavering commitment to funding restoration projects at the Palace of Versailles and its magnificent gardens is a testament to its significant impact.

My aspiration is to infuse our benefit gatherings, from engaging dinners to extended moments of historical and inspirational reflection, with a renewed sense of purpose and enjoyment. I'm confident that my life experiences have prepared me to help others deeply appreciate the treasures of Versailles, with its manifestations of the highest levels of human creativity.

"To whom much is given, much is expected." is the timeless maxim that my parents instilled in me. I view this philanthropic appointment as a calling to be a conscientious steward of the precious resources that have brought profound enjoyment to many others. Preservation of our Western world's history and its enduring beauties, ranks among my highest priorities and is surpassed only by my unyielding faith in God who has bestowed these remarkable gifts upon us.

I am eager to embark on this journey alongside all of you and to work collectively to further the mission of the American Friends of Versailles. Together, we will continue to cherish and uphold the legacy of this unparalleled cultural treasure.

In addition to heightening the awareness of the Château de Versailles in the United States, to date, the American Friends of Versailles, a 501(c)3 charitable organization, has continued to provide financial support as gifts to France from the United States, much in the same spirit as the Statue of Liberty was presented to America. The following are the various areas in which the American Friends of Versailles has provided funding:

- Replanting of Trees after the storm of 1999.
- The restoration of Le Bosquet des Trois Fontaines, which had lain in ruin since the 18th century.
- For a Pierre Arizzoli-Clémentel project, Conservator of Versailles and other French museums.
- Cultural Seminar and Internet Project.
- Photo and painting exhibition in Palm Beach.
- In honor of Frank Schork, American GI who stayed in France and volunteered at Versailles.
- The restoration of Le Pavillon Frais at Marie-Antoinette's Petit Trianon.
- The complete restoration of the Ceiling of La Salle des Gardes de la Reine, on main visitor's tour
- The planting of Virginia Tulip trees and a bench in the Bosquet de la Reine.
- General management of the Château.

I look forward to seeing you in June!

Most sincerely,

Alicia Bryan
President, The American Friends of Versailles

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT AMBASSADORS
FOR ALL OF YOUR HELP TO MAKE
Le Gala des Fleurs d'Oranger
A GRAND SUCCESS!



1695 L'Orangerie du château de Versailles par Étienne Allegrain - Collections du château du Versailles

“In 1663, the resplendent Palace of Versailles gained a remarkable addition: the Orangerie crafted by the expert design of Louis Le Vau. Strategically positioned to face the sun's embrace from the south and shielded from the chill of prevailing winds by its location beneath the South Parterre, this architectural marvel now graces the palace grounds.

Twenty years later, Jules Hardouin-Mansart expanded the initial structure, transforming the Orangerie into a colossal edifice. Its central gallery stretches over 150 meters, crowned by a soaring 13-meter-high vaulted ceiling. Two side galleries are nestled beneath the monumental Hundred Steps staircases. With walls measuring 4-5 meters in thickness, double windows, and a southern exposure, the Orangerie maintained a winter temperature that never descended below 40 degrees.

Louis XIV, with regal vision, gathered orange trees from royal houses and procured an impressive array of new specimens from Italy, Spain, and Portugal. In the etiquette of the era, courtiers gifted the King their most cherished orange trees. The Versailles Orangerie soon reigned as Europe's largest with an unrivaled collection.”



DONATION CATEGORIES

An Extraordinary Donor's Recognition inside the Château de Versailles: For a gift of €1,000,000 Euros and above, per individual or couple, your name or corporation's name will be engraved on the permanent stone principal Benefactors' Plaque within the Château de Versailles.

An American Friends of Versailles Legacy Donor: We invite you to become an AFV Legacy Donor by making a one-time endowment contribution of \$500,000 or more. Your generous donation will help us continue our mission of supporting historic restoration, international volunteerism and friendship. As an AFV Legacy Donor, **you will receive lifetime benefits of complimentary invitations for two people to all AFV gala dinners and picnics at Versailles and their surrounding events at the Roi level**, as well as complimentary invitations to AFV's annual Board of Directors meetings, and recognition on the AFV website.

Donation Levels for this benefit from Friday, May 31 through Monday, June 3, 2024.

For longer event descriptions, please refer to the following pages.

Cercle du Roi: Includes contributions of \$25,000 per guest and 5 events with this symbol



FRIDAY. COCKTAILS ET DÎNER DE SUPRÊME ÉLÉGANCE in the CHÂTEAU DE BAGATELLE.

SATURDAY. LE GALA DES FLEURS D'ORANGER at the CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES. A divine evening in the Palace and the Orangerie of dinner, dancing and fireworks! (Black-tie).

SUNDAY. COCKTAIL RECEPTION AT THE HÔTELS DE SOUBISE ET DE ROHAN IN PARIS. One of the most magnificent early 18th-century palaces in Le Marais.

MONDAY. PICNIC IN THE PETIT TRIANON DOMAIN at the CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES.

MONDAY. FAREWELL FÊTE IN THE EXQUISITE HÔTEL CLAUDE PASSART, the Parisian residence of Pilar and Juan Pablo Molyneux, one of the world's most talented interior designers.

Cercle de la Reine: Includes contributions of \$12,500 per guest and 4 events with this symbol



SATURDAY. LE GALA DES FLEURS D'ORANGER at the CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES. A divine evening in the Palace and the Orangerie of dinner, dancing and fireworks! (Black-tie).

SUNDAY. COCKTAIL RECEPTION AT THE HÔTELS DE SOUBISE ET DE ROHAN IN PARIS. One of the most magnificent early 18th-century palaces in Le Marais.

MONDAY. PICNIC IN THE PETIT TRIANON DOMAIN at the CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES.

MONDAY. FAREWELL FÊTE IN THE EXQUISITE HÔTEL CLAUDE PASSART, the Parisian residence of Pilar and Juan Pablo Molyneux, one of the world's most talented interior designers.

Cercle du Dauphin: Includes contributions of \$5,000 per guest and 2 events with this symbol



SATURDAY. LE GALA DES FLEURS D'ORANGER at the CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES. A divine evening in the Palace and the Orangerie of dinner, dancing and fireworks! (Black-tie).

MONDAY. PICNIC IN THE PETIT TRIANON DOMAIN at the CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES.

Please note space is strictly limited and all benefit donations will be processed in the order in which they are received (AFV will not hold reservations without full financial contribution.) The estimated value of goods and services to be received per ticket is \$5,000 for the Cercle du Roi, \$3,500 for Cercle de la Reine, and \$3,000 for the Cercle du Dauphin. AFV is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Its Employer Identification Number is 36-4237214. The itinerary is subject to slight changes.

FRIDAY, May 31, 2024 PARIS

7:00 pm - COCKTAILS ET DÎNER DE SUPRÊME ÉLÉGANCE in the magnificent
10:00 pm CHÂTEAU DE BAGATELLE, A ROYAL RESIDENCE IN THE CLOSE
ENVIRONS OF PARIS, in honor of international friendship. This extraordinary dinner soirée, set in the splendor of a historic dwelling, promises to be an evening of a special kind, where you will step into a world of bygone elegance. **You will be among the first to dine here after its restoration. A rare invitation indeed.** This event is more than a gathering, it's a celebration of beauty and cultural unity in which bonds transcend borders. (dark suit and dressy cocktail attire).



In 1775, Count d'Artois, brother of King Louis XVI and future King Charles X, purchased the Bagatelle estate in the Bois de Boulogne. He wagered with Queen Marie Antoinette that he could build a château in a few weeks during the court's stay at Château de Fontainebleau. His neo-Palladian château was completed in just sixty-four days. Over 900 workers contributed to its construction with prestigious craftsmen decorating the interior. Famed artist Hubert Robert painted six landscapes for a ground-floor boudoir.



Ceiling in the Bagatelle

Botanist Thomas Blaikie created an English garden for Bagatelle in 1778, adorned with ponds, rivers, waterfalls, picturesque bridges, pavilions, and sculptures inspired by ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. During the 1780s, it became a fashionable pleasure garden, attracting visitors including Thomas Jefferson frequently when he was Ambassador to France.



Château de Bagatelle

a Trianon named after the one at Versailles. Lady Wallace, inheriting the estate in 1890, bequeathed part of the priceless art collection to the British nation, establishing the renowned Wallace Collection in London.

Spared from destruction during the Revolution, Bagatelle became state property before being acquired by Napoleon I in 1806. The 4th Marquess of Hertford later purchased Bagatelle in 1835. He frequently stayed at his "Bois de Boulogne retreat," receiving Queen Victoria there in 1855 during the Paris International Exhibition. After Lord Hertford's death, his son Sir Richard Wallace inherited Bagatelle and added

Richard Wallace's secretary inherited Bagatelle and sold it to the City of Paris in 1905. The city's Commissioner for Gardens developed botanical collections while maintaining the harmony of the original English garden. In 1907, the commissioner initiated the Concours International de Roses Nouvelles (International Competition for New Roses), a prestigious event still held each June in the garden's rosarium.

We are extremely appreciative for the opportunity to spend an evening here amidst the captivating beauty of the Bagatelle and its gorgeous garden, an experience made even more special by its rich, historical significance.

SATURDAY, June 1, 2024 VERSAILLES

7:30 pm -
Minuit



LE GALA DES FLEURS D'ORANGER, CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES.

A divine evening in the Palace and the Orangerie, that even the Sun King would find radiant! (Black-tie and Long dress) An incredible time when we shall celebrate history, beauty, and international friendship. Stroll up the majestic Escalier Gabriel and wander through the stately and exquisite Appartements du Roi toward the Hall of Mirrors. Experience the majestic and dazzling Galerie des Glaces, one of the most famous and significant rooms in the world, where numerous events of the utmost importance have taken place. Construction began in 1678 by Louis XIV. 357 mirrors are featured



The Hall of Mirrors

within seventeen arches reflecting seventeen arcaded windows that overlook the breathtakingly beautiful garden vista. An impressive luxury at that time. The ceiling decoration is dedicated to the military victories of Louis XIV. During the 17th century, the Hall of Mirrors was used daily by the King when he walked from his private apartment to the chapel. In the successive reigns of Louis XV and Louis XVI, the Hall of Mirrors continued to serve for court and family functions. Marriages and births were celebrated in this room, as well as Ambassadors upon presenting their credentials.

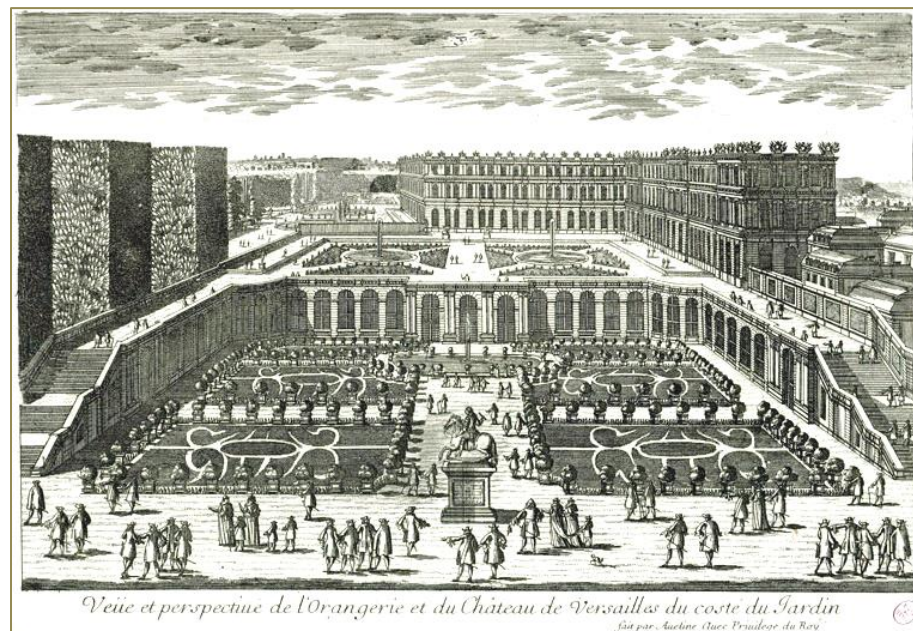
Walk through the Apartments to LA SALLE DES GARDES DE LA REINE, the Queens' Guards Room. The American Friends of Versailles remains honored and humbled to have helped restore the exquisite ceiling frescoes and other architectural details in this room to their original beauty. "When Louis XIV installed the Court in Versailles in 1682 he chose other rooms for his personal use, so the King's Grands Appartements became the designated setting for the ceremonies of the Court. The Queen's Grands Appartements, however, remained her living quarters (or the Dauphine's) until the departure of the royal family in 1789. The Queen's Guards Room was the last room of the Queen's Grands Appartements whose paintings and architectural features had not yet been fully restored. In 1680, it became a transition area between the Queen's staircase and the Appartements as such, used as a vestibule in which the officers in charge of the protection of the Queen stationed day and night."

Over 8 million people view this significant room annually. Our visit is on a Saturday evening when the Château is closed, truly a rare privilege.



The ceiling of the Queen's Guards Room was restored with the help of the American Friends of Versailles.

PRESIDENT OF VERSAILLES, CHRISTOPHE LERIBAUT will then welcome you to a festive dinner set amidst the timeless grandeur of the 17th-century Orangerie and its exquisite garden. Prepare to be swept away by the ambiance infused with the intoxicating fragrance of blooming orange trees. Dance to lively band entertainment by INSPIRATION MUSIC & ARTS with singers, strings, guitar, piano, saxophone, percussion, and a DJ. They have performed for the King of Morocco's Birthday, Kim Kardashian and Kanye West's Wedding, the Bulgari Family party, the Doha Grand Prix, the Opening of Cartier in Paris, and more.



1685 Vue de l'orangerie et du château de Versailles du côté du jardin by Pierre Aveline

The gala will feature meticulously curated cuisine. In addition, you will have the opportunity to indulge in Tequila and Margarita bars, adding a delightful French-American touch of flair to the culinary experience. In 1948, wealthy American socialite Margaret "Margarita" Sames, famous for her extravagant parties, needed a unique

cocktail for one of her legendary soirées. Drawing on her love for orange Cointreau liquor from France and tequila, she perfected her signature recipe, featuring lime juice and a rim of salt. Her creation, dubbed "The Margarita" by her husband, became an instant hit, spreading by word of mouth among her influential friends. We're pretty sure you'll relish this citrus French-American drink, with its delightful touch of oranges, as you sip it in the enchanting Orangerie at Versailles.

OUR NEW PRESIDENT, ALICIA BRYAN, originates from the vibrant state of Texas. In this light, our gala celebration becomes not only a warm welcome from her, but also a heartfelt tribute to her Texas roots. Après le dîner, the sky will be illuminated by a spectacular, grand display of **FEUX D'ARTIFICE**, in the manner of the 18th century, perfectly synchronized with the glorious melodies of Baroque music, reminiscent of the era of Louis XIV. An unbelievable feast for the eyes where history and magic will unite in breathtaking harmony!

Roundtrip coach transportation will be offered from the Hôtel Ritz, Place Vendome. Picking up in Paris close to 6:30 pm and departing Versailles at 11:00 pm and Midnight.

SUNDAY, June 2, 2024 PARIS

6:30 pm -
8:30 pm



COCKTAIL RECEPTION AT THE HÔTELS DE SOUBISE ET DE ROHAN.
IN PARIS WITH DISTINGUISHED GUEST OF HONOR LE VICOMTE DE ROHAN (OLIVIER) who is the co-founder of the American Friends of Versailles. The Hôtel de Rohan was built during the early 18th century as a private mansion for the Rohan family during the last years of the reign of the Sun King. A powerful French noble family of viscounts, dukes and princes, the Rohan family played an important role in French and European history.



The National Archives

The mansion was designed by the architect Pierre-Alexis Delamair and it is, without doubt, one of the most magnificent palaces in Le Marais, where at the time lived the Parisian elite and many aristocrats. The palace was constructed next to the Hôtel de Soubise, which was also a Rohan family home. The interior decor of the two palaces were reputed to be the best example of how the French elite lived during the early 18th century. By building these two substantial palaces, the Rohans intended to make it clear that after the royal family of France, no other family could



Oval Salon, Hôtel de Soubise

pretend to rank above them, illustrating the famous motto attributed to Louis René Edouard, Prince of Rohan: “Roi ne puis, Prince ne daigne, Rohan suis”: “King I cannot, Prince I do not deign, Rohan I am.” As a result of a Napoleonic decree after the French Revolution, the Hôtel de Rohan and the adjoining The Hôtel de Soubise became the property of the State and the location of part of the National Archives. The American Friends of Versailles is, indeed, fortunate and thankful to have Olivier, Le Vicomte’s continued generous support.

MONDAY, June 3, 2024 VERSAILLES

12:00 pm -

CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES, A GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE IN THE

12:45 pm

MAGNIFICENT TROIS FONTAINES BOSQUET. The recreation and restoration of this extraordinary treasure was made possible in large part by the American Friends of Versailles. A plaque honoring all of the major contributors was placed at the lower entrance of this grove of three fountains.



André Le Nôtre’s garden masterpiece was designed along with the Sun King in 1677 and reopened to its original splendor in 2004. A patriotic ceremony and celebration of our two countries uniting together in the cultural arena, was held then with our national anthems and flags waving. During your visit, the exquisite fountains will be cascading with water reaching to the sky. This Bosquet is a lasting symbol of American-French history and tradition, much like that of the Statue of Liberty.



Le Bosquet des Trois Fontaines was restored by the American Friends of Versailles. Copyright: Château de Versailles.

AFV, once again, extends a heartfelt toast to our Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Mrs. David R. Hamilton, all the donors, volunteers, board directors, and artisans for making this important restoration a dream come true!

1:00 pm -

DEJEUNER SUR L’HERBE IN THE PETIT TRIANON DOMAIN (PICNIC).

3:00 pm

Charm and delight will embrace you at this lovely, elegant picnic. The Petit Trianon domain was designed between 1762 – 1768 by Ange-Jacques Gabriel, in the neo-classical style. He was a distinguished architect in the service of Louis XV and is

renowned for his significant contributions to French architecture. Among his most notable achievements are the iconic Place de la Concorde, the prestigious École Militaire, and the exquisite Petit Trianon and Royal Opera Theater, both gracing the Palace of Versailles. His architectural style masterfully navigated the delicate equilibrium between the opulence of French Baroque and the elegant restraint of



Le Pavillon Frais was restored by the American Friends of Versailles. Copyright: Château de Versailles

French neoclassicism. Louis XVI gave it to his queen, Marie-Antoinette, for her to enjoy some private time away from the court.

You will **VISIT THE PAVILLON FRAIS**, also called Salon Frais (Cool Salon) or Pavillon du Treillage, to view the American Friends of Versailles' restoration participation. The Pavillon Frais was constructed during the reign of Louis XV between 1751 and 1753. It was used on warm spring and summer days as a private dining room for the Queen and ladies of court. Marie-Antoinette often included the King. (Business casual, wear your favorite hat and comfortable shoes. No shorts please.) Roundtrip coach transportation will be offered from the Hôtel Ritz, Place Vendome. Picking up close to 11:00 am and departing Versailles at 3:30 pm.



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MONDAY, June 3, 2024 continued PARIS

7:30 pm-

9:30 pm



FAREWELL FÊTE IN THE EXQUISITE RESIDENCE OF VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE BOARD, MONSIEUR JUAN PABLO MOLYNEUX, RENOWNED INTERIOR DESIGNER, AND HIS LOVELY WIFE, MADAME PILAR MOLYNEUX. They will generously host us for a cocktail party in their historic residence in the Marais. The Molyneux are charming, delightful and accomplished. They entertain with delectable innovation, warmth, fun and are the pinnacle of great style. Juan Pablo, who studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, is one of the world's most talented and well-known interior designers. The Hôtel Claude Passart with its lovely garden, is the magnificent 17th century private residence in Paris of the Molyneux. This exquisite hôtel particulier was built from 1618 to 1620 and designed by Gabriel de Soullignac for Claude Passart, the King's Secretary and Notary. The amazing interior and garden are stunning, not to be missed! It has been lovingly and beautifully restored by Pilar and Juan Pablo. We are most appreciative to them for their continued kindness to the American Friends of Versailles.



Hôtel Claude Passart



Foyer, Hôtel Claude Passart

UN GRAND MERCI TO ALL OUR HOSTS THIS YEAR,
AS WELL AS TO ALL OF OUR PAST HOSTS SINCE 1998!!

The American Friends of Versailles truly appreciates your magnanimous kindness and generosity.

MISSION STATEMENT

The American Friends of Versailles (AFV) was established on June 30, 1998 as a charitable corporation for improving and promoting a positive American-French relationship. We serve as a sister organization to Les Amis de Versailles. AFV was and continues to be designated as the official representative for Versailles in the United States. The express purpose of the corporation is to encourage support of the Palace of Versailles and its gardens focusing on cultural interchange between the United States and France in the fields of education, architecture, fine and decorative arts, garden architecture and musical endeavors. AFV raises funds for the support of seminars, educational exchange and specific restoration projects within the Palace and its magnificent gardens.

The Palace of Versailles has always had a special place in the Franco-American relationship beginning with Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson. The French extended their friendship and financial support to the American Revolution; these negotiations took place at Versailles. The Treaty of Versailles, ending the First World War, was signed in the Hall of Mirrors on June 28, 1919. The French attribute John D. Rockefeller Jr. with saving Versailles with his visits and major restoration donations in 1924, 1927-28, and 1932-33. Gerald Van der Kemp, former Chief Curator from 1953 to 1980, with his dynamic American wife, Florence, provided a guiding light, encouraging continuing American involvement with substantial restoration and preservation projects. The Château continues to be the stage where the French greet American Presidents and heads of state hold meetings of world consequence. It is important to note that Americans more than any other foreign nationality visit the Palace regularly.

The American Friends of Versailles has, thus far, restored the Trois Fontaines Bosquet, the Pavillon Frais, the baroque, frescoed ceiling of the Queens' Guards Room, and the replanting of Virginia Tulip trees in the Queen's Grove. AFV has also donated financial support for the trees after the devastating storm in 1999, the research center at Versailles, international cultural seminars hosted there, as well as supporting traveling exhibitions of photographs and art from the Château. The American Friends of Versailles is dedicated to maintaining the American support and an active interest in this UNESCO-designated world-treasure in order to help preserve its history and beauty for future generations.



1688 View of the Orangerie by Jean-Baptiste Martin

RESPONSIBILITES: Prices do not include flights to Europe, airport transfers, hotels, personal expenses, trip insurance, and personal tips. Included meals are as listed in the invitation. Roundtrip coach transportation will be offered from the Hôtel Ritz, Place in Paris to Versailles on Saturday, June 1 for the Château and Orangerie gala benefit evening and the picnic luncheon on Monday, June 3, 2024. All other transportation not included, unless noted otherwise. Considering the preferences of our subscribers, we may add additional coaches from The Four Seasons and Plaza Athénée Hotels based on the number of reservations at these locations.

TRIP INSURANCE: Subscribers should consider getting private trip cancelation insurance.



Copyright: The American Friends of Versailles

LIABILITY: The American Friends of Versailles is not liable for the safety of the locations that we visit or for the risks attendant to various means of transportation, and in no event bear any responsibility or liability for injury, death, damage, loss, accident or delay and is not responsible for personal injuries or loss of property. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the subscribers.

CANCELATION POLICY: Again, we suggest to all participants to arrange personal travel insurance. If a subscriber desires to cancel, prior to March 1, 2024, AFV will be able to refund the subscriber 50% of the amount paid. Beginning March 1, 2024, there will be no further refunds for cancellations by a participant. If the benefit trip is unable to proceed as scheduled, due to force of nature, such as an epidemic lockdown, or otherwise, AFV would expect to reschedule the event to later dates and credit payments that it previously received.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: Please remember to check your passport's expiration date. That expiration date cannot be within 6 months of your United States' departure date. There is a NEW document THAT MAY BE required by the EU for travel to France. Please go to the ETIAS website and apply directly for travel authorization well in advance. Be sure to also check with your airlines for any specific documents they may require.

ITINERARY: It is important to note the benefit dinner will be in the Orangerie with limited seating. All subscriptions will be processed in the order in which they are received. AFV will not hold reservations without full financial contribution. The invitation itinerary is subject to slight changes. AFV is extremely thankful to all the hosts and donors.

AFV is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and its Employer Identification Number is 36-4237214. The office is located at 980 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1400, Chicago, Illinois 60611 info@americanfriendsofversailles.org Tel: 312.943.0173 Subscriptions are tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law. Several events and favors are generously underwritten by our French hosts and friends, resulting in higher tax-deductible portions of subscriptions. The estimated value of goods and services to be received is \$5,000 for the Cercle du Roi, and \$3,500 for the Cercle de la Reine and \$3,000 Cercle du Dauphin. <https://www.americanfriendsofversailles.org/>

MERCI MILLE FOIS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

FLAGSHIP HOTEL INFORMATION

Should you need to reserve a room, it is imperative that you contact a hotel now, as Paris is extremely busy in June.

Roundtrip coach transportation will be offered from the Place Vendome, in front of the Hotel Ritz, to Versailles. You can also meet the coach there if you are not staying at the Ritz. Considering the preferences of our subscribers, we may add additional coaches from The Four Seasons and Plaza Athénée Hotels based on the number of reservations at these locations.

Hôtel Ritz Paris

15 Place Vendôme, 75001 Paris
<https://www.ritzparis.com/en-GB>

Waldorf Astoria Versailles Trianon Palace

1, Boulevard de la Reine, 78000 Versailles
<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/cdgtpw-waldorf-astoria-versailles-trianon-palace/>

Airelles Le Grand Contrôle

12 rue Indépendance Américaine, 78000 Versailles
<https://airelles.com/en/destination/chateau-de-versailles-hotel>

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED HOTELS

We realize that your needs may vary and recommend the additional hotels listed below.

Hôtel Westminster

13, rue de La Paix, Place Vendôme, 75002 Paris
<https://www.warwickhotels.com/hotel-westminster>

Hôtel D'Aubusson

33, rue Dauphine, 75006 Paris
<https://www.hoteldaubusson.com/>

The Westin Paris – Vendôme

3, Rue de Castiglione, 75001 Paris
www.thewestinparis.com

Four Seasons Hotel George V

31 Avenue George V, 75008 Paris
<https://www.fourseasons.com/paris/>

Hôtel Plaza Athénée

25 Avenue Montaigne, 75008 Paris
<https://www.dorchestercollection.com/paris/hotel-plaza-athenee>

Le Pavillon Des Lettres

12 rue des Saussaies, 75008 Paris
<https://www.pavillondeslettres.com/>

Le Pavillon de la Reine

28 Place des Vosges, 75003 Paris
<https://en.pavillon-de-la-reine.com/>

Meliá Paris Vendôme

8 Rue Cambon 75001 Paris
<https://www.melia.com/en/hotels/france/paris/melia-paris-vendome>

TRAVEL SERVICES: Should you need assistance with flights, hotels or drivers, there are numerous travel companies available to help you. You may wish to contact the following for further information.

Currie & Co Travel Unltd. in Atlanta, member of Virtuoso, jessica@curriecotravels.com Luxury travel advisor.

KerryON Travel in Denver, awarded top 1% of advisors for Travel by Virtuoso. <https://travel.kerryon.net/>

THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF VERSAILLES

980 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 1400 Chicago, Illinois 60611
Tel: 312.943.0173 info@americanfriendsofversailles.org



THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF VERSAILLES

REPLY FORM. **ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE LIMITED.** PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE.

MAY 31 - JUNE 3, 2024


() **An Extraordinary Donor's Recognition inside the Château de Versailles:** For a gift of €1,000,000 Euros and above, your name, family name or corporation's name will be engraved on the permanent stone principal Benefactors' Plaque within the Château de Versailles.


() **An American Friends of Versailles Legacy Donor:** We invite you to become an AFV Legacy Donor by making a one-time endowment contribution of \$500,000 or more. Your generous donation will help us continue our mission of supporting historic restoration, international volunteerism and friendship. As an AFV Legacy Donor, you will receive lifetime benefits of complimentary invitations for two people to all AFV gala dinners and picnics at Versailles and their surrounding events at the Roi level, complimentary invitations to AFV's annual Board of Directors meetings, and recognition on AFV's website.

() **An Event Ambassador for Le Gala des Fleurs d'Oranger:** Celebrate with our special offering: Secure six Roi tickets at \$25,000 each, and in appreciation, enjoy two complimentary Roi tickets, recognition on AFV's website, and acknowledgment by AFV President Alicia Bryan at the gala. An additional, rare privilege event will be added solely for Event Ambassadors and others in their groups. You may choose to settle the full amount independently or sell individual tickets at your discretion.

() **A Presidential Package for Le Gala des Fleurs d'Oranger:** Marking the inaugural gala of her presidency, Alicia Bryan is delighted to offer this unique ticket package: Purchase a Cercle du Roi ticket at \$25,000 and you may further purchase up to three more Roi tickets for an additional \$7,500 each. This package offering is limited to three in total. **SOLD OUT.**

Cercle du Roi 
() \$25,000 Individual Subscription,
includes 5 events with this
symbol.

Cercle de la Reine 
() \$12,500 Individual Subscription,
includes 4 events with this
symbol.

Cercle du Dauphin 
() \$5,000 Individual Subscription,
includes 2 events with this
symbol.

Please secure my Reservation(s). I have enclosed a check payable to the American Friends of Versailles in the amount of \$ _____

OR Please charge my Visa, Mastercard or AMEX. *Please note a 3% service fee will be added.

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Name as it appears on card _____ Amount _____

- Wire transfer and ACH information available upon request. Reservations will be processed in the order in which they are received. Subscriptions are tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law. AFV is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and its Employer Identification Number is 36-4237214.

I/We are unable to attend but would like to contribute. Please find my check payable to the American Friends of Versailles enclosed for: \$ _____

Subscriber Information. Please Print.

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Email _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The estimated value of goods and services to be received: is \$5,000 for the Cercle du Roi, and \$3,500 for the Cercle de la Reine and \$3,000 for the Cercle du Dauphin.

R.S.V.P. We kindly request that all reservations be made by April 30, 2024. Your timely response is appreciated. Thank you.

Responsibilities: Prices do not include flights to Europe, airport transfers, hotels, personal expenses, trip insurance, and personal tips. Included meals are as listed in the invitation. Roundtrip coach transportation is included from the Place Vendome in Paris, near the Ritz Hotel, to Versailles for the gala on Saturday, June 1 and for the picnic on Monday, June 3, 2024. All other transportation not included, unless noted. Considering the preferences of our subscribers, we may add additional coaches from The Four Seasons and Plaza Athénée Hotels based on the number of reservations at these locations.

Liability: The American Friends of Versailles is not liable for the safety of the locations that we visit or for the risks attendant to various means of transportation, and in no event bear any responsibility or liability for injury, death, damage, loss, accident or delay and we are not responsible for personal injuries or loss of property. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the subscribers.

Cancellation policy: Again, we suggest to all participants to arrange personal travel insurance. If a subscriber desires to cancel, prior to March 1, 2024, AFV will be able to refund the subscriber 50% of the amount paid. Beginning March 1, 2024, there will be no further refunds for cancellations by a participant. If the benefit trip is unable to proceed as scheduled, due to force of nature, such as an epidemic lockdown, or otherwise, AFV would expect to reschedule the event to later dates and credit payments that it previously received.

Trip Insurance: Subscribers should consider getting private, trip cancellation insurance.

Itinerary: It is important to note all subscriptions are limited and will be processed in the order in which they are received. AFV will not hold reservations without full financial contribution. The invitation itinerary is subject to slight changes. AFV is extremely thankful to all the hosts and in-kind donors.

Travel documents: Please remember to check your passport's expiration date. That expiration date cannot be within 6 months of your United States departure date. There may be a new document required by the EU for travel to France. Please go to the ETIAS website and apply directly for travel authorization well in advance. Be sure to also check with your airlines for any specific documents they may require.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you in June!