



THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliance with the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland



MUSEUM TRAVEL  
— ALLIANCE —

BY ARRANGEMENTS ABROAD



**An American Impressionist in Paris**  
**Tracing Mary Cassatt's Legacy, 100 Years Later**  
with Jennifer Dasal, Lecturer

**May 8 – 15, 2026**



## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

**FOLLOW** the path of **Mary Cassatt** through Paris and its environs, enjoying an exclusive in-depth look at this pioneering American Impressionist who redefined women's roles in the art world

**TRAVEL** with the guidance of art historian **Jennifer Dasal**, who will share research on Cassatt and details from her new book *The Club: Where American Women Artists Found Refuge in Belle Époque Paris*

**JOIN** local historians behind the scenes at Cassatt's countryside estates that are both closed to the public: **Château de Bachivillers**, where she painted for the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, and **Château de Beaufresne**, her long-time summer home

**TRACE** Cassatt's footsteps through **Montmartre**, visiting the artists' studios, salons, and cafés where she worked alongside other masters

**MEET** a private guide for a tour through the **Musée de Montmartre** and the gardens that inspired Renoir's *La Balançoire*

**GAIN** exclusive after-hours access to the Musée Marmottan Monet, home to the world's largest collection of Claude Monet's works

**ROAM** Monet's garden estate in **Giverny**, whose lily ponds and Japanese bridge are featured in his famous works, then explore the nearby **Musée des Impressionnismes** with a curator

**ENJOY** inside looks at contemporary artists' **private studios and gardens**, gaining firsthand insight into how Impressionist techniques continue to shape modern painting

**UNCOVER** Cassatt's Japanese influences at the **Musée des Arts Décoratifs**, where a curator-led tour will trace how Japanese woodblock prints transformed her approach to composition, color, and line





## THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

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From **May 8 to 15, 2026**, join the Royal Oak Foundation and the Museum Travel Alliance as we follow in the footsteps of American Impressionist **Mary Cassatt** (1844–1926) through **Paris** and its surroundings. Travel with the guidance of **Jennifer Dasal**, acclaimed art historian, author, and creator of the *ArtCurious* podcast. Jennifer spoke with us about why this exclusive journey promises profound insights into Cassatt's life, her pioneering depictions of women's intimate lives, and her role as a cultural ambassador for Impressionism in the U.S.

**To reserve your place**, contact the Museum Travel Alliance at Arrangements Abroad at 212-324-1893 or [trips@museumtravelalliance.com](mailto:trips@museumtravelalliance.com).

**You mention Mary Cassatt in your new book, *The Club: Where American Women Artists Found Refuge in Belle Époque Paris*. What makes her such a fascinating figure to explore through this journey?**

**Jennifer Dasal:** Mary Cassatt was an absolute powerhouse—a wealthy Pennsylvania-born woman who defied 19th-century expectations. She pursued a professional painting career in Paris when women couldn't even attend art school. What makes her story so delicious is the sheer audacity of it all! Barred from the École des Beaux-Arts? She copied the Old Masters in the Louvre instead. Frustrated with the stuffy Salon system? She became the only American invited into the French Impressionist circle, where she befriended artists like **Degas**, **Monet**, and **Pissarro**.

The 2026 centennial of her death offers the perfect opportunity to honor her life in Paris. Experts will lead us on tours of the spaces she frequented, including **Montmartre**, the famous hilltop artists' neighborhood where she lived and

worked. We'll gain rare insights into her influences.

On a curator-led tour of the **Musée des Arts Décoratifs**, we'll see how Japanese prints and other East Asian traditions inspired some of her important works.

**What special access will travelers experience on this journey?**

**Jennifer Dasal:** The exclusive access will be exciting, including an after-hours tour of the **Musée Marmottan Monet**. An incredible highlight: Outside Paris in **Le Mesnil-Théribus**, we'll share exclusive tours of **Cassatt's two private country estates**, both closed to the public, accompanied by a Cassatt historian and the president of the Friends of the Mary Cassatt Association. We'll also share a "full circle" moment: We'll meet a member of the **Académie des Beaux-Arts**, which once rejected her visionary works, for an inside look at their exhibition space.

## TRAVELING WITH YOU



**Jennifer Dasal** is an art historian, lecturer, and tour director. She is the author of the book *ArtCurious: Stories of the Unexpected, Slightly Odd, and Strangely Wonderful in Art History* (Penguin). She is also beloved as the creator/host of the worldwide hit

podcast *ArtCurious* (2016-23). Her second book, *The Club: Where American Women Artists Found Refuge in Belle Époque Paris*, was published by Bloomsbury in July 2025. She previously served as Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the North Carolina Museum of Art for 13 years. She earned a B.A. from the University of California, Davis, and an M.A. from the University of Notre Dame, both in art history. She also completed Ph.D. coursework in art history at Pennsylvania State University.

**Activity Level:**  
Intermediate

**Pace Level:**  
Moderato



Visit Arrangements Abroad's website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels at [www.arrangementsabroad.com/faqs](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/faqs).

# An American Impressionist in Paris

## Tracing Mary Cassatt's Legacy, 100 Years Later

May 8 – 15, 2026



### FRIDAY, MAY 8: DEPARTURE

Depart on an overnight flight to Paris.

### SATURDAY, MAY 9: PARIS, FRANCE

Arrive in Paris this morning and transfer to the **Hôtel Montalembert**. After checking in, take a relaxed stroll past Parisian landmarks along the Champs-Élysées and cross the Seine to pass **Cassatt's final Paris residence** at 10 avenue Marignan. Enjoy time at leisure before gathering for a welcome reception. R

### SUNDAY, MAY 10: PARIS

Walk in Cassatt's footsteps through **Montmartre**, the historic bohemian enclave perched above Paris. In the 1870s, her parents settled along its winding streets while she established a nearby studio. Discover how she formed friendships with fellow Impressionists, including Edgar Degas, Camille Pissarro, and Berthe Morisot.

Take the Montmartre Funicular from the base to the summit of the **Butte Montmartre**, home to the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and the historic Place du Tertre. Walk through the district on a guided tour, passing the former residences of Cassatt, Degas, and other noted artists.

Following lunch, step inside a **local artist's studio** for an exclusive look at his workspace, his craft, and insights from more than 35 years of painting.

Enjoy an expert-led visit to the **Musée de Montmartre**, housed in a 17th-century residence where Renoir, Suzanne Valadon, and Maurice Utrillo lived and worked. View a collection of paintings, posters, and drawings, including pieces by Toulouse-Lautrec and Modigliani. Wander through the **Jardins Renoir**, where the artist found inspiration for works such as *La Balançoire*.

Conclude the day with a private guided visit to **Vignes du Clos Montmartre**, one of the last remaining vineyards in central Paris. Created by the city in 1933, this historic vineyard preserves the area's winemaking traditions dating back to the fourth century A.D. Enjoy a private tasting before heading to a local bistro for a group dinner. B,L,D

### MONDAY, MAY 11: PARIS / LE MESNIL-THÉRIBUS / SAINT-PAUL

Spend the morning on a special excursion to **Le Mesnil-Théribus** with Marijke Chaneaud of the Friends of Mary Cassatt Association and historian Michel Chacon. Gain exclusive access to Cassatt's two private estates, both closed to the public.





Begin at the tranquil, early 19th-century **Château de Bachivillers** in the Oise countryside, where Cassatt settled in 1891 to escape the bustle of Paris. In a converted woodshed, she built a studio where she painted, including her mural *Modern Woman* for the Chicago World's Fair.

Continue to the 18th-century **Château de Beaufresne**, her summer retreat for decades, which she purchased in 1894 and equipped with electricity and running water, luxuries at the time. Visit the nearby **Cimetière Saint-Louis**, where Cassatt rests alongside her family—a poignant reminder of her deep ties to France despite her American birth.

After lunch, enjoy an exclusive look at the **Jardin du Peintre André Van Beek**, a prominent contemporary artist who paints in the Impressionist tradition. His landscapes feature floral arrangements and shrubs surrounding seven interconnected pools, crossed by a Picardy bridge and Japanese-style stepping stones. Return to Paris for dinner at leisure. B,L

## TUESDAY, MAY 12: PARIS

During an exclusive guided exploration of the **Musée d'Orsay**, housed in a former railway station, experience one of the world's greatest Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art collections. A highlight amid works by Manet, Degas, Courbet, and Renoir is Mary Cassatt's *Young Girl in the Garden (Woman Sewing)*—a recognition of the American artist's crucial role in the Impressionist movement.

Jardin du Peintre André Van Beek, Saint-Paul



House of Claude Monet, Giverny, photo © Marie-Anaïs Thierry

Enjoy lunch aboard a **péniche on the Seine**, taking in gorgeous Parisian views. Afterwards, meet with an Académie des Beaux-Arts member for a private tour of the **Pavillon Comtesse de Caen**. While today it displays the Académie's prize-winning photography, drawings, and architectural works, this institution once represented the conservative art establishment that Cassatt fought against. The evening is at leisure. B,L

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 13: PARIS / GIVERNY

Journey to **Giverny** to visit the **Fondation Monet**—the house where the Impressionist genius (and friend of Cassatt) lived for over 40 years. Walk the pathways that sparked his famous *Nymphéas* series, pausing to appreciate flowerbeds, weeping willows, and the Japanese-inspired bamboo groves that fascinated him.

After lunch at the museum restaurant, explore the history and evolution of Impressionism during a guided tour of the **Musée des Impressionnismes**. View works by Monet, Cassatt, Manet, Degas, and Renoir, as well as pieces by artists influenced by Monet, including Alfred Sisley, Maurice Denis, and Hiramatsu Reiji. Conclude with a walk through the museum's peaceful gardens.





Berthe Morisot, *Shepherdess Lying Down* (1891), (detail), Musée Marmottan Monet, Paris

Enjoy an exclusive after-hours visit to the **Musée Marmottan Monet** to appreciate the world's largest collection of Monet's works without crowds. Study *Impression, Sunrise*—the painting that named an entire movement—along with *The Japanese Bridge* and *The House Seen from the Rose Garden*, both inspired by his Giverny gardens.

Discover paintings by Berthe Morisot, Cassatt's close confidante and artistic ally. These two women alone broke into the Impressionist exhibitions of the 1870s, forging a bond as they conquered the male-dominated Parisian art scene together. End the evening with a private dinner at a local restaurant.

B,L,D



Jardin des Tuileries, Paris



Monet's *Water Lilies*, Musée de l'Orangerie, Paris

#### THURSDAY, MAY 14: PARIS

Begin the day at the **Petit Palais**, originally built for the 1900 Universal Exhibition before becoming a museum two years later. Admire its decorative murals and sculptures, along with works by Rembrandt, Rubens, Fragonard, Monet, Cézanne, and Delacroix.

Next, take a guided tour of the **Musée de l'Orangerie** and stand before Monet's *Water Lilies*. Considered one of the great monumental achievements of the early 20th century, this masterpiece spans the museum's curved walls in two oval rooms. Explore the Walter-Guillaume collection, featuring 144 paintings by artists such as Cézanne, Matisse, and Modigliani.

Following lunch and free time, meet your guide to explore the **Jardin des Tuileries**. First created in 1564 by Catherine de' Medici, these gardens gained their signature French design when André Le Nôtre, King Louis XIV's landscape architect, redesigned them a century later. Young Cassatt frequently left her copying sessions at the Louvre to find fresh inspiration beneath the garden's leafy alleys.

Stroll through the **Musée des Arts Décoratifs**, home to the world's largest fashion and textile exhibition space, showcasing haute couture designs by Yves Saint Laurent and Christian Dior. Follow the influence of Asian arts on European artists, including Mary Cassatt, during a guided tour focused on Orientalism and Japanese art.

This evening, gather for a festive farewell dinner.

B,D

#### FRIDAY, MAY 15: PARIS / RETURN

Depart the hotel early this morning for the flight home.

B

**DISCLAIMER:** This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Museum Travel Alliance and The Royal Oak Foundation. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at <https://museumtravelalliance.com/faq.php>.

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# ACCOMMODATIONS



Hôtel Montalembert, Paris

## HÔTEL MONTALEMBERT, PARIS

Experience this boutique retreat on Paris's chic Left Bank near cultural landmarks and renowned cafés. Blending classic Parisian style with modern comforts, this refined hotel offers thoughtfully designed rooms, gourmet dining, and personalized service.

### PROGRAM RATE

**\$10,499 per person, double rate**

**\$12,599 single rate**

### RATES INCLUDE

- Six nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine and beer at included lunches and dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for participants on arrival and departure days
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATES:** International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Cover: Mary Cassatt, *Young Girl in the Garden (Woman Sewing)*, 1880-1882 (detail), Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Highlights page: Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris.

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Péniche on the Seine, Paris

## THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION AN AMERICAN IMPRESSIONIST IN PARIS MAY 8 – 15, 2026 RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please call Museum Travel Alliance at 212-324-1893 or 855-533-0033, fax: 212-344-7493; email: [trips@museumtravelalliance.com](mailto:trips@museumtravelalliance.com); or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$2,000 per person (of which \$1,000 is non-refundable for administrative fees) to Museum Travel Alliance. Mail to: Museum Travel Alliance, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

### ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Room Preference ☐ One bed ☐ Two beds ☐ Single

I wish to share a room with \_\_\_\_\_

### FORM OF PAYMENT

☐ Enclosed is my check (Museum Travel Alliance)

☐ Debit card ☐ Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see <https://museumtravelalliance.com/faq.php> to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment by check, wire transfer, or credit card 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date