



## MOIRA FITZPATRICK'S EUROPEAN TRIP OCTOBER 2018

**December 2018**

**Dear Colleagues & Friends:**

**Greetings from Vancouver – If you're tired of reading endless headlines announcing the depressing news of the day – it's time for a distracting getaway to lift your spirits – somewhere exciting, relaxing, interesting. I managed to escape to Europe the beginning of October and enjoyed some wonderful, warm sunny days traveling around France and Italy. I spent time in Paris, Bordeaux, Provence, Marseille and then flew to Naples to discover the Amalfi coast and Capri for the first time, before moving on to Rome. I thought you might be interested to know about some of the fantastic hotel properties I visited, plus many impressive points of interest along the way. Other highlights included some wonderful art exhibitions and museums, to-die-for restaurants and a series of interesting city walking tours. I hope you will find some suitable suggestions for your client's European holidays in 2019.**

### **FRANCE - Paris**

**October 1-4<sup>th</sup> 2018**

#### **HÔTEL DU ROND POINT DES CHAMPS ÉLYSÉES ESPRIT DE FRANCE**

10 Rue de Ponthieu

75008 Paris, France

Tel: +33 (0)1 44 29 98 45

General Manager: Inna Doroshenko

Tel: +33 (0)1 44 29 98 37

Website: [www.paris-hotel-rondpoint-champselysees.com/](http://www.paris-hotel-rondpoint-champselysees.com/)

What better way to start off a European vacation than a visit to iconic Paris! Moira was welcomed at the

newly opened **Hôtel du Rond Point**, which just opened its doors in the summer of 2018. This lovely 4-star hotel boasts a great location in the heart of Paris, just a short walk from the Champs-Élysées. Some of the hotel amenities include complimentary cellphone with international calling, complimentary international and French newspapers, and also Museum passes on sale. Guests can enjoy access to the hotel's Wellbeing facilities, which include a 43-foot-long pool, a hammam and relaxation area.



**October 2nd 2018**

## **LE BAUDELAIRE RESTAURANT HOTEL LE BURGUNDY**

8 Rue Duphot, 75001 Paris, France

Tel: +33 1 42 60 34 12

Website: [www.leburgundy.com/en/](http://www.leburgundy.com/en/)

Moira enjoyed an exceptional lunch at **Le Baudelaire Restaurant**, which was awarded one Michelin Star in 2011. Thanks to the work of the Executive Chef Guillaume Goupil and his teams, this typical Parisian table offers a superb example of contemporary French Gastronomy.

The restaurant is located in the hotel Le Burgundy Paris, which occupies a prestigious site at the very heart of an eminently fashionable district. A short stroll will take visitors to the establishments of the master jewelers of the Place Vendôme, the legendary boutiques of the Place de la Madeleine and the upmarket retail opportunities to be found within the shops of the rue Saint-Honoré.



## CONTEXT TRAVEL TOUR



Tel: 1-215-392-0303 / 1-800-691-6036

Email: [info@contexttravel.com](mailto:info@contexttravel.com)

Website: [www.contexttravel.com](http://www.contexttravel.com)

**Moira highly recommends Context Tours for the intellectually curious traveler. Context comprises a network of scholars and specialists**, with a focus on archaeology, art history, cuisine, urban planning, history, environmental science, and classics. These experts **design and lead in-depth walking seminars for small groups** (6 or fewer). Visitors participate in an intimate, hands-on, conversational experience that offers priceless local knowledge. Context, which adheres to the precepts of sustainable travel, is lauded in travel publications, guide books, and by its customers for its innovative approach to travel. For information on how to arrange for a city walking tour call 1-800-691-6030 or visit [www.contexttravel.com](http://www.contexttravel.com).

### **Musée d'Orsay 3-hour Walking Tour - Paris**



## Le Musée d'Orsay

Paris

Located in the centre of Paris on the banks of the Seine, opposite the Tuileries Gardens, the Musée d'Orsay was installed in the former Orsay railway station, built for the Universal Exhibition of 1900.

A 3-hour, in-depth **Musée d'Orsay tour** examines the rich 19th- and early 20th-century collections of this world-class museum. Equipped with skip-the-line tickets, visitors are accompanied by an historian, who guides them through one of the best collections of Impressionist art in Paris. They learn about the major art movements of the period—from the Barbizon school and Realism, to Impressionism—as well as their most celebrated players, including Monet, Degas, and Courbet.



During Moira's visit, she was drawn to the special exhibit of Pablo Picasso called “**Picasso Bleu et Rose**”. This depicts his work between 1900 – 1906 referred to as the “Blue” and “Rose” Periods. The exhibit is open until January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, and well worth a visit.

**October 3rd 2018**

## **LES TABLETTES DE JEAN LOUIS NOMICOS**

16 Avenue Bugeaud, 75016 Paris, France

Tel: +33 1 56 28 16 16

Website: [nomicos.fr](http://nomicos.fr)

This was Moira's second visit to Les Tablettes de Jean-Louis Nomicos. Highlighting the talented Chef's Mediterranean roots, Moira describes it as... "hands down one of the most cheerful gastronomic restaurants in Paris". This superb, 1-Michelin star restaurant with an ever-changing menu, offers great value 7 days a week. For just 65€, its all-inclusive lunch menu features a starter, main course, cheese, dessert, water, coffee and wine. Nomico's signature dish is Black Truffle Macaroni with Foie Gras.

Other inspired dishes include citrus caviar and ris de veau (veal sweetbread), a French delicacy. The chef also inspires a friendly, generous, gregarious ambiance in his restaurant.

## FRANCE - Bordeaux

October 7- 9th 2018

### LA GRANDE MAISON DE BERNARD MAGREZ – Relais & Châteaux

10 Rue Labottière, 33000

Bordeaux, France

Tel : +33 5 35 38 16 16

General Manager: Julien Gardin

Website: <https://lagrandemaison-bordeaux.com/>



From Paris, Moira traveled to Bordeaux where she stayed at the 5-star luxury hotel **La Grande Maison de Bernard Magrez**. Fronted by an ornate gate, this stately neoclassical mansion is located just 2 km from both the 18th-century Grand Théâtre de Bordeaux and the 12th-century Romanesque Bordeaux Cathedral.

This boutique hotel offers 6 prestigious rooms that feature elegant, Second Empire–style décor. Other amenities include lush gardens, airport and train station transfers by private chauffeurs, and valet services, as well as personal trainers and vineyard tours. The hotel's posh gourmet restaurant, awarded a

2 Michelin star, features cuisine from renowned chef Pierre Gagnaire.

Bernard Magrez also owns the Cultural Centre across the street from the hotel where guests can enjoy the owner's private collection of contemporary art on permanent exhibition. Plus Mon. Magrez owns several wineries in the Bordeaux region and more in other parts of France, as well as Spain, Portugal, [Chile](#), [Argentina](#), Japan, Morocco and [California](#). Moira tasted some "incredible" wines at the nearby **Château Pape Clément Winery in Pessac** – the oldest vineyard in the region, planted in 1300. The *Grand vin*, Chateau Pape Clément, is produced annually in 7,000 cases of red wine and 350 cases of dry white wine. Moira says the tour and tasting are well worth a visit.

## LA CITÉ DU VIN

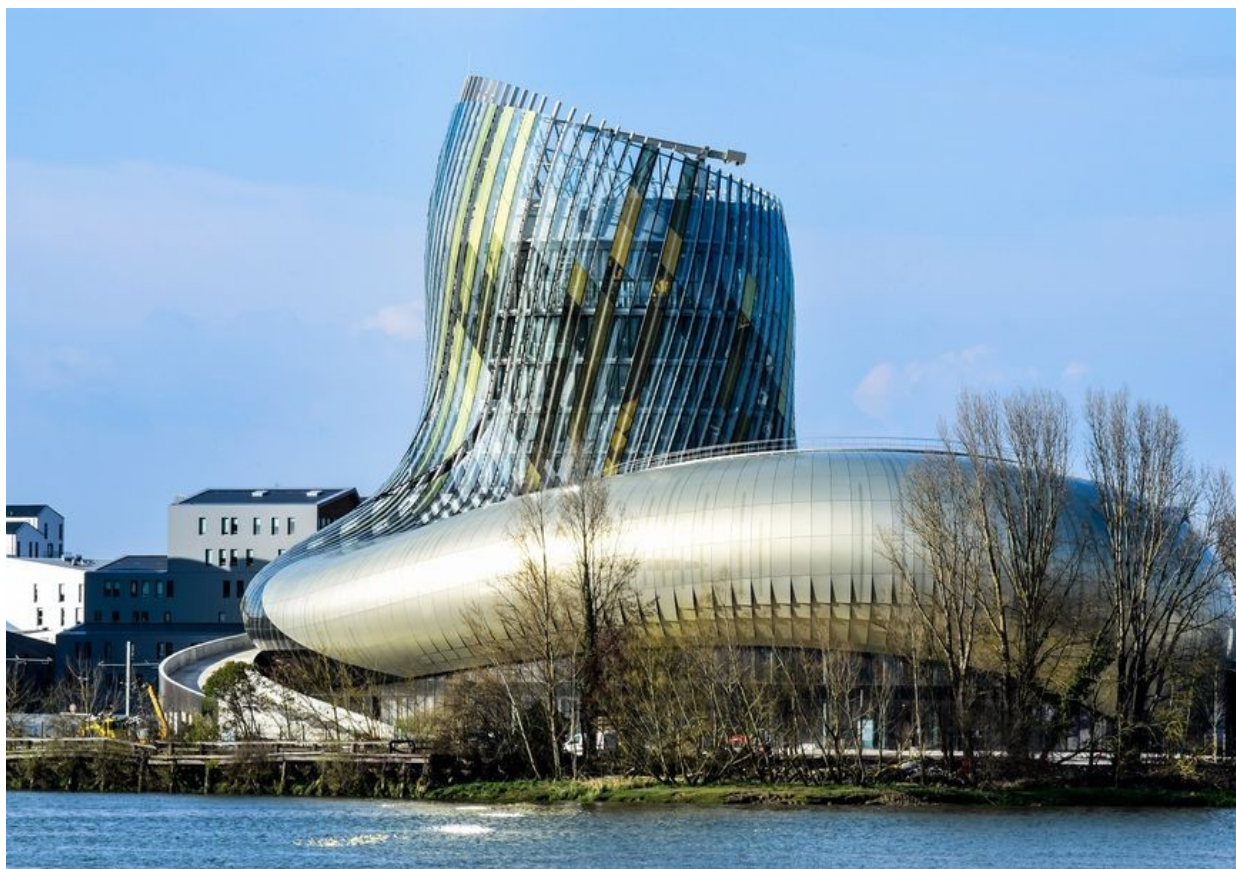
Esplanade de Pontac, 134 Quai de Bacalan, 33300

Bordeaux, France

Tel: +33 5 56 16 20 20

Website: <https://www.laciteduvin.com/en>

**A definite highlight of Moira's visit to France was La Cité du Vin in Bordeaux** This unique facility, which officially opened in 2016, comprises a mega-museum that delivers a glorious, high-tech immersion in the world's wine cultures – plus a fabulous Belvedere wine bar on the top floor, giving a panoramic view over Bordeaux. Designed to resemble "the swirl in a wine glass," the shimmering museum features exhibitions, shows, movie projections and academic seminars on the theme of wine. It provides an immersive, fun and gently educational tour through the world of wine, from 6,000 BC to today. Aimed at those who want to learn more (and that includes families), it has some pretty nifty high tech devices, such as glass bell jars emitting aromas and interactive maps loaded with video-game technology. It's been some years in the making and is the result of unparalleled co-operation between Bordeaux wine makers and those from around the world. Over 100 advisors from over 40 countries have made this a truly international museum.



## FRANCE - Provence

From Bordeaux, Moira traveled to Aix-en-Provence, the sun-drenched, laidback hometown of Paul Cézanne and Émile Zola – a charming city with monuments, distinctive architecture, winding streets full of shops, museums, gardens, galleries and other attractions. The cultural capital since Roman times, Aix-en-Provence hosts an annual summer festival that includes operas, plays, concerts and recitals.

**October 11 – 15th 2018**

### **HOTEL LE PIGONNET – Small Luxury Hotels**

5 Avenue du Pignonnet, F-13090

Aix en Provence, France

Tel: +33-442-590-290

Director of Operations: Tatiana Halimi

Chef: Thierry Balligand

Website: [www.hotelpignonnet.com](http://www.hotelpignonnet.com)





Moira stayed at the lovely 18th century **Hotel & Spa Le Pignonnet**, which is within walking distance of the city centre. This contemporary style, 44 room/suite luxury boutique hotel features magical and immaculately maintained gardens and hotel terrace with a wonderful view of Mount Sainte Victoire, once a favorite subject of Cézanne. She enjoyed a delightful dinner at **La Table du Pignonnet**, expertly prepared under the guidance of Chef Thierry Balligand. The hotel also offers cocktails at the indoor bar or champagne with a light meal at the garden lounge bar **Le 5** during the summer weather.

**October 27<sup>th</sup> 2017**

## **CAUMONT CENTRE OF ART**

3 Rue Joseph Cabassol, 13100 Aix-en-Provence, France

Tel: +33 4 42 20 70 01

Website: [caumont-centredart.com/en](http://caumont-centredart.com/en)



**Marc Chagall from Black and White to Color – the exhibition runs until March 24th 2019.**

The **Caumont** Centre d'Art presents the "**Chagall, From black and white to colour**" exhibition. Culturespaces is presenting an exhibition that sheds light on an unexplored dimension of **Marc Chagall**, who was celebrated as a master of **colour** by the artists and critics of his day. For more information about the exhibition, please [click here](#).

## **ITALY - Amalfi Coast**

**October 15th 2018**

### **BELLEVUE SYRENE 1820 – Relais & Châteaux**

Piazza della Vittoria, 5, 80067

Sorrento NA, Italy

Tel: +39 081 878 1024

Manager: Nello Pane

Website: <http://www.bellevue.it>



Moira's visit to Italy's Amalfi coast started with a stay at **R&C Bellevue Syrene 1820** in Sorrento. Housed in a former aristocracy villa and overlooking the Gulf of Naples, this elegant hotel is a 6-minute walk from the Sorrento Cathedral and a 15-minute walk from Museum Correale.

The bright rooms and suites feature a chic mix of modern and traditional decor, sea-view balconies, free Wi-Fi and flat-screen TVs, along with minibars and living areas. Some suites add whirlpool tubs or spa-style in-room pools.

Breakfast, snacks and drinks are complimentary in the elegant lounge. There are 2 restaurants with panoramic terraces, a wine cellar, and a veranda near an outdoor pool. Additional amenities include a spa with massage treatments, and private beach access.

## ITALY - Capri

October 20 - 22nd 2018

**HOTEL CAESAR AUGUSTUS – Relais & Châteaux**

Via Giuseppe Orlandi, 4, 80071

Anacapri NA, Italy

Tel: +39 081 837 3395

Owner & Manager: Francesco Signorini



Next stop along the Amalfi Coast was the **R&C Hotel Caesar Augustus** in Anacapri. Perched on a cliff overlooking the sea, the hotel offers beautiful views from every corner. Here you can savor the stunning infinity pool overlooking the Bay of Naples.

The elegant rooms include free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs and minibars, plus marble bathrooms. Upgraded options add terraces or balconies. Lavish suites offer sitting areas and Jacuzzis; some have antique furniture and 4-poster beds, plus gardens and sundecks.

The hotel includes daily breakfast, and features a fine-dining restaurant with a terrace and bay views, plus a terrace bar. Other amenities include an infinity pool, and a spa and gym in the garden. Kids age 11 and older are welcome.

## ITALY - Naples

October 22nd 2018

## GRAND HOTEL PARKER'S

Corso Vittorio Emanuele, 135, 80121

Napoli NA, Italy

Tel: +39 081 761 2474

General Manager: Giampaolo Padula

Website: <http://www.grandhotelparkers.it>



Moira's visit to Naples included a stay at **Grand Hotel Parker's**, a stately 19th-century hotel overlooking the Bay of Naples, just a 5-minute walk from the Amedeo metro station and 2.3 km from the Royal Palace of Naples.

The rooms feature period furnishings and marble bathrooms, plus free Wi-Fi, flat-screens, minibars and 24-hour room service. Upgraded rooms have balconies with city and/or ocean views; the suites add whirlpool tubs and living rooms. Kids age 12 and under stay with their parents at no charge.

A breakfast buffet and parking are included. There's also a rooftop restaurant and bar with panoramic sea views, plus a fitness room and a spa with a hammam, sauna and hot tub.

**October 22nd 2018**

## CAFFE GAMBRINUS

Via Chiaia 1/2 80132 Napoli - Italia

Tel: +39 081 41 75 82

Website: <http://grancaffegambrinus.com/en/>

During her stay in Naples, Moira enjoyed a leisurely coffee break at the famous Gambrinus, the city's oldest and most venerable cafe, serving superlative Neapolitan coffee under flouncy chandeliers. Located right at the corner of Piazza Plebiscito, the historic coffee house has been a meeting place for intellectuals, politicians, and everyday folk since 1860.

## ITALY - Rome

October 23rd 2018

### **PALAZZO MANFREDI - Relais & Châteaux**

Via Labicana, 125, 00184 Roma RM, Italy

Tel: +39 06 7759 1380

Hotel Manager: Matteo Moretti

Website: [www.palazzomanfredi.com](http://www.palazzomanfredi.com)



From Naples, Moira traveled back up to Rome, where she stayed at the **R&C Palazzo Manfredi**, an elegant hideaway in the centre of what was once Imperial Rome. This charming 17th-century palace combines spectacular views of the Colosseum, the Forum, and the Domus Aurea – and offers superb

hospitality. The hotel is built over the ruins of the Ludus Magnus, the training grounds used by Roman gladiators.

Moira's visit to Palazzo Manfredi's **1 Michelin starred AROMA**, one of the most romantic restaurants in the world, rewarded her with a most magnificent view of the Colosseum. The restaurant has only 28 seats – a perfect environment for a romantic dinner or private party.

## CONTEXT TRAVEL TOUR



### **Roman Forum Tour: Roma Antica**

**Moira enjoyed the Roman Forum Tour – Roma Antica** – a perfect way to begin a visit to Rome. The 4-hour walking tour (private and small group format) explores the ancient Roman Forum and the archeological core of the city, focusing on three key monuments: the **Roman Forum, the Palatine Hill and the Colosseum**. Using these spectacular ruins as a backdrop, the tour guide offers a detailed explanation of ancient Roman politics, society, and empire, giving participants a deeper knowledge of ancient Rome – its emperors, history, and feats of engineering. The tour conveniently supplies skip-the-line tickets. For more information [click here](#).

**Moira would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish you a wonderful holiday season!**

Very best wishes,  
Moira

Moira Fitzpatrick



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**Please call Moira directly for bookings, "VIP" treatment and an added amenity at all of the properties.**

**The Post Hotel & Spa**

Relais & Chateaux  
Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada  
[www.posthotel.com](http://www.posthotel.com)

**Manoir Hovey**

Relais & Chateaux  
Virtuoso & Ensemble  
North Hatley, Quebec, Canada  
[www.manoirhovey.com](http://www.manoirhovey.com)

**Borgo Santo Pietro,**

Relais & Chateaux & Virtuoso  
Chiusdino, Siena, Italy  
[www.borgosantopietro.com](http://www.borgosantopietro.com)

**Villa La Vedetta**

Concerto Fine Italian Hotels  
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[www.villalavedettahotel.com](http://www.villalavedettahotel.com)

**Hotel Il Negresco**

Concerto Fine Italian Hotels  
Forte Dei Marmi, Italy  
[www.hotelilnegresco.com](http://www.hotelilnegresco.com)

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[www.hotelpignonnet.com/en/](http://www.hotelpignonnet.com/en/)

**Le Mas de Pierre,**

Relais & Chateaux & Ensemble  
St. Paul de Vence, Provence, France  
[www.lemasdepierre.com](http://www.lemasdepierre.com)

**La Villa Haussmann,**

Paris 8ème, France  
[www.lavillahaussmann.fr/en/](http://www.lavillahaussmann.fr/en/)

**East Winds, Ensemble**

St. Lucia, Eastern Caribbean  
[www.eastwinds.com](http://www.eastwinds.com)

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