



Travel in the footsteps of Marie-Antoinette



Special **VIP** *Tours* 2008

Two VIP tours have been organized for 2008 to coincide with
Marie-Antoinette's wedding anniversary (May 14 - May 18)
Marie-Antoinette's birthday (October 29 - November 2)

The tour concludes with a "once in a lifetime" event - A tour of the Château de Breteuil as guests of M. Henri-François de Breteuil, the Marquis de Breteuil, whose ancestor the Baron de Breteuil was an important figure in the life of Marie-Antoinette, and lunch with France's most respected authority on Marie-Antoinette.

Evelyne is the author of several biographies of Marie-Antoinette, including "Marie-Antoinette Correspondence (1770 - 1793)" and "Marie-Antoinette - the Last Queen of France". We are privileged to be accompanied by Evelyne on our visit of the Château de Breteuil as we view mementos personally given to the Baron de Breteuil by Marie-Antoinette and her mother, the Empress of Austria. The Baron was a trusted advisor of Marie-Antoinette during the "affair of the necklace" and a wonderful recreation of "the" necklace is on display.

Over a special lunch, you will have the opportunity to talk to Evelyne about the life of France's last queen and as a permanent reminder of your journey in the footsteps of Marie-Antoinette, you will receive a personally signed copy of her biography.



Evelyne Lever
author of

Château de Breteuil



for itinerary highlights
please see overleaf or visit
www.frenchtravelboutique.com

Marie-Antoinette **VIP** Tours 2008

DAYS 1, 2 VERSAILLES



Today we head off for the first of two days exploring the Château of Versailles and the Domain of Marie-Antoinette, staying overnight at Versailles.

We will see all of the opulent state apartments, including Marie-Antoinette's beautiful bed chamber and the magnificently restored Hall of Mirrors. We will also go behind closed doors and visit the private apartments of Louis XVI, including the dining room where Marie-Antoinette enjoyed hosting dinner parties for her friends. We'll stand in the actual chapel where she was married on May 16, 1770. A special private *visite privilege* of Marie-Antoinette's private apartments is an experience you will never forget.

We'll take the time to enjoy the terraces and gardens that were a feature of Sofia Coppola's film and spend a whole afternoon in the Domain of Marie-Antoinette - her favorite place in the world, with its little theatre, newly restored English Garden and the amazing hamlet and farm.

An annual membership of the "Amis de Versailles" is included in these tours.

DAY 3



Today we trace the steps of Marie-Antoinette after she and her family were forced from Versailles to live in Paris. We'll walk through the sites of the Tuileries Palace, the Temple prison and various homes of her friends. At Carnavalet we will visit the recreation of the prison room at the Temple and see items belonging to Marie-Antoinette including her small shoe.

To lighten the mood after a sad day, we'll put ourselves in the atmosphere of the movie as we enjoy dinner at Ladurée on the Champs Elysées.

DAY 4



Today we follow the route taken by Marie-Antoinette on the last day of her life, from her prison cell at the Conciergerie, along the route taken by the cart to the guillotine. After lunch, we'll follow the route all the way to the Chapelle Expiatoire where she was buried immediately after her execution.

DAY 5



On the last day of this special tour, we will go to Rambouillet to visit the newly reopened "Queen's Dairy" before our special visit of the Château of Breteuil. Among personal items given to the Baron de Breteuil we will see an exquisite jeweled table - a gift from Marie-Antoinette's mother. We will also have the opportunity to see a magnificent recreation of the famous necklace, all accompanied by "the uncontested specialist of the Queen of France", Evelyne Lever.



Deborah is the Marie Antoinette expert who will accompany you

For tour costs and inclusions,
see our website
www.frenchtravelboutique.com
or contact Deborah direct -
Deborah@frenchtravelboutique.com

Deborah Anthony