



**St Margaret's School and Berwick Grammar School
International Tour Testimonial
Sophie Ward and Olivia Butler, France Tour 2014**

After embarking on our journey through Paris visiting many incredible Parisian monuments, we headed south on a high speed train to the beautiful town of Lyon. Our stay in Lyon was highlighted by the fact that we were living with host families; a fantastic way to immerse ourselves in the language and experience first-hand the traditions of a typical French family. Our days in Lyon were quite adventurous as we explored the sights and of course, had an opportunity to do some fantastic shopping as we wandered along the beautiful streets.

After leaving Lyon we drove through the Loire Valley and visited the stunning Chateau de Chenonceau and explored its beautiful grounds. We got a taste of French culinary delights at a goat's cheese farm and visited the racing museum at Le Mans. The medieval town itself was a beautiful place to spend a sunny afternoon. Mont St Michel was another highlight as was the opportunity to see the Bayeux Tapestry.

One of the most moving aspects of our tour was the opportunity to reflect on the significant sacrifices that Australians made during the ferocious battles of the First World War. We visited memorials in Ypres, Belgium and The Somme battlefields where we paid respect at the graves of fallen ancestors.

Visiting the Grand Apartments in Versailles and spending a day at Disneyland Paris was certainly a nice way to round off our amazing tour. We had a fantastic time and were pleasantly overwhelmed by all of the experiences and memories we shared.