



TRIP ITINERARY

HADRIAN'S PATH 2010 - 2011

9 days, 6 countries

Be amazed by Europe in the winter! History, culture, cuisine, stunning landscapes and the nightlife of this great continent! Explore the Colosseum, glide in a gondola and cycle like the Dutch in Amsterdam! Do it all with the services of our expertly trained Topdeck road crew, on a modern European coach, and with a group of like-minded young travelling companions - our 'Hadrian's Path' trip is sure to leave you with memories that will last a lifetime!

DAY 1 ROME

Make your way to the 'Eternal City' of Rome where you will meet your fellow travellers and Topdeck Crew in the afternoon. Our walking tour with your Trip Leader takes in the full majesty of this iconic city, centre of the Roman Empire. The mighty Colosseum, towering Pantheon, the opulent Trevi Fountain and bombastic Victor Emmanuel II Monument are all to be seen.

DAY 2 ROME

This morning we visit the Vatican City, home of the Catholic faith. There is an option to take a guided tour of Vatican City, the world's smallest state and home of the Catholic religion. An experienced guide can show us the treasures of the Vatican Museums, the world famous Sistine Chapel with its ceiling frescoes by Michelangelo, and inside the world's largest church, the incredible St Peter's Basilica.

The rest of the day is ours to indulge in the sights and sounds of Rome - an architect's dream, a shopper's paradise and food fan's delight! You could take a tour of the Colosseum or ancient Roman Forums, join the locals lounging on the famous Spanish Steps, shop 'til you drop on the exclusive Via Condotti, or simply relax in a local restaurant with a wood-fire pizza and a glass of red wine! (B)

DAY 3 ROME TO VENICE

Today we move on from one unique city to another – Venice! On the way we stop at Verona, home of the tragic lovers Romeo and Juliet with time to check out Juliet's balcony. This evening we settle in to our hotel and enjoy an included group dinner, after which there is always the option of sampling the local nightlife! (B, D)

DAY 4 VENICE

This morning we head in to Venice itself, a city consisting of a dizzying array of islands, interconnected by countless bridges, and serviced by a beautiful network of canals – there really is no other city like it on earth! We make our way to St Mark’s Square with its magnificent basilica, and then pay a visit to a local lace school to see how these delicate masterpieces are created by the talented Venetians. An optional ride on a gondola is a must do being the traditional (and most romantic) way to navigate the waterways that link this great city. The rest of the day is ours to spend how we wish. (B)

DAY 5 VENICE TO SALZBURG, AUSTRIA

This morning we leave Italy and head upwards – literally - as we make our way in to the Austrian city Salzburg with a view out the window to rival Switzerland. The city known for ‘The Sound of Music’ and home to composer Wolfgang Mozart, offers us an alpine setting for our overnight stay in Austria. Our walking tour unveils magnificent baroque architecture all around and medieval Hohensalzburg Castle sits on a hill above the Old Town with spectacular views across the city. (B, D)

DAY 6 SALZBURG TO HEIDELBERG, GERMANY

Willkommen zum Deutschland! Welcome to Germany! Heidelberg is a popular University City humming with activity and dominated by the ruins of Heidelberg Castle. With so many students in the city there are over 300 bars to choose from – finding a delicious German beer is never too difficult! (B, D)

DAY 7 HEIDELBERG TO AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

Our trip moves on to the Netherlands, famous for many things- cheese, clogs, windmills and bikes may spring to mind! On arrival cosmopolitan Amsterdam beckons so our walking tour takes us into the heart of the city, Dam Square, as well as the famous Red Light district! (B)

DAY 8 AMSTERDAM

This morning we have a Topdeck exclusive; an included bike ride of Amsterdam, giving us the chance to cycle around the canals and parks of this gorgeous city, just as the locals do. We have plenty of free time to take in the abundant culture of Amsterdam, perhaps paying a visit to the Rijksmuseum, Anne Frank House, the Van Gogh Museum.... This evening, we have a farewell dinner in a local restaurant, followed by an optional canal cruise around the waterways of this city, the perfect way to round off a memorable trip! (B, D)

DAY 9 AMSTERDAM TO LONDON, ENGLAND

Today we say farewell the Netherlands, heading to Belgium and the incredibly well preserved medieval city of Brugges. A short walking tour is followed by free time to explore and sample some delicious Belgian specialities; chocolate, waffles, and for the more sturdy souls- beer! We then head to Calais and catch our ferry back to England, where the trip finishes this evening in London, and we say our fond farewells to our Topdeck companions! (B)

IMPORTANT NOTES

- To be fully prepared, download the following documentation from www.topdecktravel.co.uk and go to the relevant Itinerary Page of your trip:
 - * Pre-departure information
 - * Optional Activities
- Luggage Allowance - 1 Backpack plus a day pack. Maximum weight of backpack must not exceed 20kgs. Size must not exceed 70cmx45cmx25cm. Due to the strict weight regulations for coaches in Europe, passengers whose luggage exceeds 20kgs will be asked to offload the excess on departure morning. Storage facilities are available at the departure point in London.
- This is a suggested itinerary and should be used as a guide only. The day to day itinerary may vary depending on the availability of sights and products. Admission fees are not included in the trip cost.
- Please check your visa requirements.
- Check in time on departure day is between 6 – 6.30am
- This itinerary is only valid if you are travelling before 9 April 2011.