



## TRIP ITINERARY

### PARADES TO PIAZZAS 2010 - 2011

8 days, 4 countries

Be amazed by Europe in the winter! History, culture, cuisine, stunning landscapes and the nightlife of this great continent! Climb the Eiffel Tower and explore the Colosseum! 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 'Parades to Piazzas' trip is sure to leave you with memories that will last a lifetime!

#### **DAY 1            LONDON TO PARIS, FRANCE**

An early morning departure from London to join the ferry from Dover to Calais. There will be an opportunity on board the ferry to exchange some money into Euros, the main currency required for the trip. On arrival in Calais we meet our coach and make our way to Paris and our hotel accommodation. After dinner we head into "The City of Lights" for a spectacular night light tour. Paris is renowned for its beauty, which will be evident as we pass some of the many famous sights along the River Seine. This comprehensive city tour takes us past the Place de la Concorde, Champs Elysees, Arc de Triomphe, the Eiffel Tower and much more.

#### **DAY 2            PARIS**

We have plenty of free time to explore the sights of Paris at our own pace - Notre Dame Cathedral, the Georges Pompidou Centre, the Louvre or the impressive Musee D'Orsay. A great way to see this spectacular city is on a bicycle tour. Wander through the shops on Rue de Rivoli or spend the afternoon in a sidewalk cafe. After an authentic Parisian meal, take an optional Seine River cruise or see one of the oldest cabaret shows in Paris at the famous 'Paradis Latin'. (B,D)

#### **DAY 3            PARIS TO SWISS ALPS**

This morning we depart Paris and travel through the French countryside to stunning Switzerland. After the border formalities, we head on through the beautiful Swiss countryside, taking in the majestic Swiss Alps and the crystal clear waters of Lake Lucerne. Tonight we enjoy a traditional Swiss dinner. (B, D)

#### **DAY 4            SWISS ALPS**

Enjoy a day in Lucerne, a traditional Swiss town full of architectural jewels to visit such as the Lion Monument, Chapel Bridge and Water Tower. The shopping and eating are second to

none! (B, D)

#### **DAY 5 SWISS ALPS TO FLORENCE, ITALY**

We move from the mountain beauty of Switzerland southwards in to Italy, where we have ample time to take in the wonderful countryside, culture, and cuisine of this fantastic country. Our first overnight stop is fabulous Florence, birthplace of the Italian Renaissance and a city full of artistic treasures! Tonight we get to enjoy our first sample of delicious Italian cookery! (B, D)

#### **DAY 6 FLORENCE TO ROME**

Get your walking boots on! This morning we enjoy a tour of Florence with an experienced local guide, hearing tales of the incredible Renaissance period and the luminaries who made the city so important, such as Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo. The spectacular Duomo, Ponte Vecchio bridge and the famous statue of David will all take the breath away in this most beautiful of places.

Our short drive to Rome gives you time to edit those photos – because you'll need some space on your camera for this afternoon! Our walking tour with our Topdeck 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 as we make our way through the 'Eternal City'. (B)

#### **DAY 7 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 8 ROME**

Our trip finishes this morning after breakfast, when it's time to say a fond farewell to our Topdeck travelling companions. (B)

## IMPORTANT NOTES

- To be fully prepared, download the following documentation from [www.topdecktravel.co.uk](http://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 3 April 2011.