

# Topdeck

## SPIRIT OF EUROPE



## Topdecker, MEET EUROPE

Uncover the real spirit of this magnificent continent as you soak up the splendour of Western Europe and the lesser-known treasures of Central and Eastern Europe. From the charismatic canals of Venice and the glitzy coastlines of the French Riviera to the uber-cool bars of Budapest and the fairytale vibes of Prague, your holiday dreams will be well and truly made on this trip of a lifetime.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Hostel Plus



Nights



Android/iPhone app  
download info



This is a principal  
package.

# Hi, AND THANKS FOR CHOOSING TO HOLIDAY WITH TOPDECK

## HI, AND THANKS FOR CHOOSING TO HOLIDAY WITH TOPDECK!

We really appreciate your decision to travel with us, and rest assured that the entire Topdeck team will be pulling out all the stops to make your trip an unforgettable one.

Now it's time to get excited and get ready for a fantastic holiday!

From all the crew at Topdeck Travel

## ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs, including where to meet, what to bring and what you can expect on your trip of a lifetime! Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can check off the lists or bring it with you when you travel.

Please do bear in mind though, some points should be taken as a guide only - after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary greatly from one person to the next so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much! However, we're sure you'll find the information in general to be very useful.

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**PLEASE NOTE:** We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

### ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Driving tour of Berlin
- + Visit Pisa and the famous Leaning Tower
- + Canal dinner cruise in Amsterdam
- + Visit former concentration camp Auschwitz Birkenau
- + Driving tour of Budapest
- + Walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- + Walking tour of Prague
- + Walking tour of Monaco
- + Walking tour of the restored city of Dresden
- + Vaporetto ride in Venice
- + Visit a traditional French perfumery
- + Walking tour of Amsterdam
- + Walking tour of Kraków
- + Walking tour of Venice
- + Driving tour of Paris and gourmet picnic by the Eiffel Tower
- + Driving tour of Vienna
- + Walking tour of Verona
- + Walking tour of Bratislava
- + Walking tour of Rome

### MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Driving tour of Paris and gourmet picnic by the Eiffel Tower
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- + Walking tour of Prague
- + Walking tour of the restored city of Dresden
- + Driving tour of Berlin
- + Dutch cheese and clogs demonstration
- + Walking tour of Amsterdam

## YOUR TRIP WILL START

### PICK UP:

Paris

## YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

### DROP OFF:

London

## *Trip currencies*

- + France - EUR
- + Switzerland - CHF

Europe

Europe

- + Monaco - EUR
  - + Italy - EUR
  - + Vatican City - EUR
  - + Austria - EUR
  - + Slovakia - EUR
  - + Hungary - HUF
  - + Poland - PLN
  - + Czech Republic - CZK
  - + Germany - EUR
  - + Netherlands - EUR
-

# Your Itinerary



**AWESOME TRIP  
LEADER**

## DAY 1 | LONDON, ENGLAND TO PARIS, FRANCE (OR JOIN IN PARIS)

All good things start with Paris. Meet the crew, grab some supplies and hit the road early in the morning as we jump across the English Channel. Pinch yourself and Instagram your first selfie before we kick off the trip with a driving tour and picnic next to the Eiffel Tower. Home to Coco Chanel, the Pompidou Centre and the Mona Lisa, Paris more than deserves its reputation as the European capital for all things culture, fashion and food. Now's your chance to find out why.



### MEALS:

- + Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Driving tour of Paris and gourmet picnic by the Eiffel Tower

## DAY 2 | PARIS

This morning: free time en Français. From the Louvre and the Musée d'Orsay to the Arc de Triomphe and the Champs Elysées, you'll be sure to make a solid dent in your bucket list. Later on, you can stretch those legs on an optional bike tour of Paris, or simply roam the streets on your own. End your day with an optional Seine River cruise or a #throwback bohemian cabaret show.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Traditional cabaret show
- + Seine river cruise
- + Bike tour of Paris

## DAY 3 | PARIS TO SWISS ALPS, SWITZERLAND

Trade in Parisian streets for snowy peaks. Home to the highest point in Europe, 72 waterfalls and one of the largest nature conservations in Switzerland, Lauterbrunnen is where we'll be spending the night. Upon arrival, chow down on fondue and hit the bar for a nightcap.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner

## DAY 4 | SWISS ALPS

Scenic hikes and jaw-dropping views are high on today's agenda. Go low key with a mountain walk or hop on board the Jungfraubahn railway for an optional visit to the Jungfrau Mountain summit. Expect fairytale villages en route and skydiving out of a helicopter upon arrival (if heights don't scare you). Another feast awaits your return, regardless of how you make your way back down.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Scenic excursion to Jungfrau ('The Top of Europe')
- + Skydiving
- + Scenic helicopter ride
- + Tickets for the Schilthorn cable car
- + Visit a Swiss watch shop

## DAY 5 | SWISS ALPS TO FRENCH RIVIERA, FRANCE

Trade in your gruezi for bonjour as we follow in Napoleon's footsteps down to the glamorous French Riviera. Try your hand at celeb spotting as you explore the world's most lavish waterfront property.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch

## DAY 6 | FRENCH RIVIERA INCLUDING MONACO VISIT

Hit the beach with the paparazzi posse, or go wild in the designer boutiques in Nice's Old Town. Later: roll with the jet set on a guided tour and see how the 1% live (hint: it involves Ferraris and bathing in caviar). Feeling lucky? Hit the tables at the Monte Carlo Casino and make it rain (or not). Also today: visit a traditional French perfumery.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of Monaco
- + Visit a traditional French perfumery

## DAY 7 | FRENCH RIVIERA TO FLORENCE, ITALY

Today it's up and onwards to the renaissance romance of Florence – but first, we've got a couple of pit stops. Have a look around a traditional French perfumery, then take THAT shot at the Leaning Tower of Pisa before trucking on to the Tuscan hills outside Florence. Ready to eat, sleep, repeat in the foodie capital of the world?



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit Pisa and the famous Leaning Tower

## DAY 8 | FLORENCE TO ROME

Time to give that bucket list a workout – after a walking tour of Florence, we're off to Rome! Make like Caesar (the emperor, not the salad) and work up a 'colossus' hunger as you pass by the Pantheon, throw your two cents in the Trevi Fountain, sit on the Spanish Steps and visit ancient history's version of the Hunger Games set at the Colosseum. Tonight, you're in Disneyland for foodies. Have fun.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- + Walking tour of Rome

## DAY 9 | ROME INCLUDING VATICAN CITY VISIT

Create the ultimate Roman Holiday in one day with a whirlwind of Vespas, espresso, two-cheek kisses and pizza the way it's supposed to taste. Count your blessings on an optional tour of the Vatican City, then play 'I-spy' with two-and-a-half millennia worth of history. Want more? Then you could always shop till you drop on Via Condotti, head to Capitoline Hill for awesome views of the Roman Forum and Colosseum or just kick back in Piazza Navona for some dolce far niente (delicious idleness).



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Guided tour of the Vatican City

## DAY 10 | ROME TO VENICE

Maketh haste to fair Verona, the place where Romeo and Juliet found love. Snap a selfie at Juliet's balcony and join throngs of lovers leaving notes on the wall (or avoid the crowds and just marvel at the ancient arena). Then: say ciao to Venice from across the lagoon as we check into our campsite, have an Eat Pray Love-worthy relationship with an irresistible Italian (meal) and get pumped for living out our own version of The Italian Job tomorrow.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of Verona



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Get a personalised trip T-shirt or hoodie

## DAY 11 | VENICE

You know it as The Floating City, but this place is actually sinking (slowly). Today we'll check out a who's who of Venice's usual suspects on a guided walking tour (ticking off the likes of St Mark's Square and Accademia Bridge), then jump on a vaporetto to explore the Grand Canal. If that's not enough, you can also hop on an optional gondola ride. Throw away your map in the afternoon and try to find the world's most epic little bookshop, Libreria Acqua Alta, or just go on a mission to find the perfect gelato.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of Venice
- + Vaporetto ride



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Gondola ride

## DAY 12 | VENICE TO VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Prepare your retinas – there's gonna be some amazing scenery playing outside the coach windows today as we make our way to Vienna. Don't forget to wave hello to the President as we go past the Hofburg Palace! Vienna is famous for three things: musicians, grand coffee houses and, of course, apple strudel. Bonus fact: Vienna is also the home of the croissant. Sorry, France. Top off your day with a schnitzel if you can find one.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Driving tour of Vienna

## DAY 13 | VIENNA

Vienna is yours for the day. Walk the grounds of the Schönbrunn Palace or feed your brain exploring the Museum Quarter. Not your thing? Then you could always primp your pinkie for an optional Schnapps Museum visit. Classical music fans, opt in for a night out to hear the works of Mozart, Beethoven, Bach and Strauss at the Viennese Chamber Orchestra.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Tickets to the Viennese Chamber Orchestra
- + Tickets to the Viennese Chamber Orchestra (dinner included)
- + Visit a Schnapps Museum

## DAY 14 | VIENNA TO BUDAPEST, HUNGARY VIA BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA

Hungary for more? Before we hit Budapest, we'll make a pit stop in Slovakia's capital city, Bratislava to. While checking out Bratislava Castle, see if you can spot the city's quirky bronze statues in the Old Town. Then: a driving tour will get you down and Danube (that being the river) with twin cities Buda and Pest. Check out Hero's Square, Parliament House, the National Palace, Fisherman's Bastion and the swanky Andrassy Avenue. Then it's time to meet the major food groups: goulash, cabbage rolls and dumplings.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Bratislava  
+ Driving tour of Budapest

## DAY 15 | BUDAPEST

A free day to take on a city with enough baroque, neoclassical and art nouveau architecture to keep you entertained for hours. Tonight, hang with the hipsters and drink local fruit brandy at one of the original ruin bars. Wanna go one step further? An optional dinner cruise on the Danube has your name on it.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Dinner cruise on the Danube River

## DAY 16 | BUDAPEST TO KRAKÓW, POLAND

Legend has it a dragon had to be defeated in order for Kraków to be built – bit tougher than the usual council approvals, no? Get acquainted with Poland's beating heart (and the largest medieval town square in Europe) with a walking tour. Buff up on history at Wawel Castle, feed the ducks from the banks of the Wisla and slay a few glasses of mead after dinner. Did someone say optional pub crawl?



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Kraków



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Kraków pub crawl

## DAY 17 | KRAKÓW

After breakfast it's your day, your choice. Our recommendations? Well, you could discover Kraków's inner hipster in the Jewish district or shop for amber in the UNESCO-listed Cloth Hall. If all else fails, there's always pierogi and potato pancakes to keep you busy.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast

## DAY 18 | KRAKÓW TO PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

First, a visit to former concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau for a lesson in the resilience of humanity. Then, on to Prague. Get Insta-happy and seek out the John Lennon Wall, soak up some Czech history at the National or Communist Museum or get a taste of the quirky local culture at a marionette puppet opera (you gotta see it to believe it).



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast  
+ Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Visit former concentration camp  
Auschwitz-Birkenau  
+ Walking tour of Prague

## DAY 19 | PRAGUE

Another free day for the win. Snap a selfie at Prague's own Eiffel Tower, visit a miniatures museum, eat roast pork from one of the street vendors lining Old Town Square and wash it all down with a beer. As in, a really good beer. Prague, we love you.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Local beer tasting

## DAY 20 | PRAGUE TO BERLIN, GERMANY

Get acquainted with 800 year-old Dresden – a city virtually destroyed in WWII and then rebuilt – and check out the Frauenkirche before we make tracks to Berlin. Prep yourself for currywurst, absinthe and more hipsters per capita than anywhere else. We'll drive you around to see (what's left of) the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag building.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of the restored city of Dresden
- + Driving tour of Berlin

## DAY 21 | BERLIN

Today, why not step out on an optional Third Reich walking tour for a local insight into what the city was like under Nazi rule during World War II? Kreuzberg is a hit for lunch. Afternoon suggestion? Have a picnic at the historic Tempelhof airport-turned-public park. Tonight: explore the city after dark on an optional alternative street art and nightlife tour.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Third Reich walking tour
- + Street art and nightlife tour

## DAY 22 | BERLIN TO AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

Start dreaming of cheese, clogs and cheeky café stops as we roll through tulip and windmill dotted fields to Amsterdam. DAM, it's going to be a good day! Learn how cheddar and clogs are made, then get your bearings on a walking tour of the vibrant capital. We're talking the Dam Square, the Royal Palace and the National Monument, so get your cameras at the ready. For the perfect end to the perfect day, give in to temptation and grab a cone of hot chips with mayo. Mmm.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Dutch cheese and clogs demonstration
- + Walking tour of Amsterdam

## DAY 23 | AMSTERDAM

Join 881,000 bikes and get your cycle on with an optional bike tour of Amsterdam's iconic canals, bridges and parks. Culture fiends, delve deeper with a visit to the Anne Frank House or the Van Gogh or Rijksmuseum. Still thirsty for more? Check out the Heineken Experience and indulge in a spot of beer tasting. What better way to toast the final night of your Europe Inspired adventure than with a dinner cruise on the canal? Included activities: -Canal dinner cruise



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Bike tour of Amsterdam

## DAY 24 | AMSTERDAM TO LONDON, ENGLAND

After all the Amster-damage has been done, it's time to hit the road back to ol' Blighty. Soak up all the happy group vibes you can possibly handle – this is your last coach ride with the gang. #sadface.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast

## Meals

Breakfasts are included every day (except on the first morning). Included meals will be a combination of those prepared by Topdeck On-Site Chefs, local restaurants and places in which we stay.

If you have any dietary requirements we will make every effort to cater to your specific needs as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book, or make note of this in the Topdeck app when you check in (refer below). However, please be aware that although we will do everything in our power to arrange it, we cannot guarantee that every restaurant we use will be able to cater to all dietary needs, particularly in Eastern Europe. We also cannot cater for tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu

## Topdeck Travel App

Our travel app is **AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD BEFORE YOU TRAVEL**. With a range of cool features including a Currency Converter, Budget Planner, Check-In tool and Social Timeline (so your next #TravelEnvy post is never too far away) you can plan your trip like a pro.

Think of it like your very own Topdeck Trip Leader, always on call with the latest info, weather, maps and city guides to give you the trip of a lifetime, all in the palm of your hand.

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## Passenger safety

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

# OTHER INFORMATION



**THAT'S IT!**