

Topdeck

EASTERN SPIRIT



TRIP CODE:

EECERL-9



Topdecker, MEET EUROPE

Eastern Europe has some of the hottest travel destinations on the continent. With rich cultures, cool architecture, epic histories and exciting futures. Cities such as Budapest, Kraków and Prague are on the cards. Ready to make a move? Let's go.

WORTH NOTING...

A Sector trip is part of a larger journey, meaning your new friends might continue on or after you leave, or you might be joining a trip already in progress.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Hostel Plus



Nights



Android/iPhone app
download info



This is a sector trip.

Hi, AND THANKS FOR CHOOSING TO HOLIDAY WITH TOPDECK

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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)

- + Canal dinner cruise in Amsterdam
- + Visit former concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau
- + Vaporetto ride in Venice

MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Walking tour of Rome
- + Walking tour of Verona
- + Walking tour of Venice
- + Vaporetto ride
- + Driving tour of Vienna
- + Walking tour of Bratislava
- + Driving tour of Budapest
- + Walking tour of Kraków
- + Visit former concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau
- + 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:

Rome
Europe

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

London
Europe

Trip currencies

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

Your Itinerary



AWESOME TRIP
LEADER

DAY 1 | ROME INCLUDING VATICAN CITY VISIT

Today we meet the group. Create the ultimate Roman Holiday in one day with a whirlwind of Vespas and all of the carbs. Someone say pizza?



MEALS:

+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Rome

DAY 2 | 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 3 | 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 4 | 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 5 | 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 6 | 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. 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 7 | 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 8 | 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 9 | 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 10 | 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 11 | 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 12 | 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 13 | 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 14 | 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 15 | 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 Eastern Spirit adventure than with a dinner cruise on the canal? Included activities: -Canal dinner cruise



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Bike tour of Amsterdam

DAY 16 | 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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[GET IT FOR ANDROID](#)



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!