





# **TOPDECKER,** meet Australasia (TD)

Yahoo! It's Euro trip time. Take in all the highlights of the continent with this classic bucket list itinerary, taking you from Amsterdam to Italy. The perfect trip for those who want to get straight into it, there's no point in delaying this adventure any longer.

#### **WORTH NOTING...**

This trip forms part of the 14 Day The Euro Trip.

## WHAT YOU **NEED TO KNOW**



Play & Pause



Nights



Download app



Meals

## Thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

Ready for the time of your LIFE?

The countdown's on...

## **ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES**

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – from where to meet your Topdeck fam to what we suggest you bring.

Read them on the train, in the supermarket queue or on the loo – we don't mind, just look through them carefully so you know what to expect on your trip. We recommend you download this document so it's with you when you travel (and give a copy to your MVPs so they know what you're up to).

#### **INCLUDED EXPERIENCES**

- · Walking tour of Amsterdam
- · Walking tour of Munich
- Visit former concentration camp Dachau
- · Walking tour of Venice
- Vaporetto ride
- Walking tour of Rome

<b>IMPORTANT:</b> please refresh this doc as close to your departure to-date info available.	e as possible. This means you'll have the most up-
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## YOUR ITINERARY

#### DAY 1 | AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

DAM it's going to be a good day! First things first: get to know Amsterdam on a walking tour hosted by yours truly. We're talking the Dam Square, the Royal Palace and the National Monument, so get your cameras at the ready. Tonight there's an included dinner to help break the ice.

MEALS:



#### **INCLUDED TODAY:**

Dinner

 Walking tour of Amsterdam

#### DAY 2 | AMSTERDAM TO HEIDELBERG, GERMANY

It's get up and go time, #Topdeckers. Wave bye-bye to windy Amsterdam – Germany awaits! Hear that? It's a bratwurst and Weissbier calling your name...



#### **MEALS:**

Breakfast

#### DAY 3 | HEIDELBERG TO MUNICH

It's time to get to know the city where beer is officially considered a food. Your Trip Leader will clue you up on the Bavarian capital on a walking tour. Then: slide on your lederhosen and have a royal Happy Hour experience (none of that craft beer nonsense here) at the 428-year-old Hofbräuhaus. Did you know that the recipes here were passed down from Wilhelm V, the Duke of Bavaria? You do now!

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**MEALS:** 



#### **INCLUDED TODAY:**

Breakfast

· Walking tour of Munich

### DAY 4 | MUNICH TO VENICE, ITALY

Did someone say pizza? Today we're off to Venice – but we'll be stopping at Dachau, one of Germany's former WW2 Concentration Camps for a sobering lesson in the resilience of humanity. Afterwards, it's all systems go to Venice, where our Topdeck Chefs have an Italian feast waiting.



**MEALS:** 



#### **INCLUDED TODAY:**



#### **OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Breakfast

Dinner

 Visit former concentration camp Dachau  Get a personalised trip T-shirt or hoodie

## DAY 5 I VENICE

Buongiorno - it's gelato time! Today, Venice is all yours. We'll help you out with a walking tour so you can wander the canals that have made this city famous like a pro. Got vaporetto envy? Not for long! Enjoy an included ride along the Grand Canal (it's the only way to travel here). Be sure to give a regal wave to the tourists taking photos as you float by.

**MEALS:** 



INCLUDED TODAY:



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Breakfast

Walking tour of Venice

Gondola ride

Dinner

Vaporetto ride

## DAY 6 | VENICE TO ROME

From one Italian city to another, today we'll journey to Rome and hit the ground running. Waiting for you when you get there? One hell of a walking tour. Spot the Spanish Steps, throw a coin into the Trevi Fountain and claim Insta fame at the Colosseum. Your Trip Leader is your Rome travel encyclopedia, so soak up those facts in preparation for your free day tomorrow.



**MEALS:** 



#### **INCLUDED TODAY:**

Breakfast

· Walking tour of Rome

Lunch

#### DAY 7 I ROME INCLUDING VATICAN CITY VISIT

Holy cannoli! It's your free day in arguably the best city in Europe. So much to eat, so little room in your stomach. Say hi to the Pantheon, endless Roman ruins, the Vatican City (optional) and more! We haven't even mentioned the espresso. Is it aperitivo time yet?



**MEALS:** 



#### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Breakfast

Guided tour of the Vatican City

#### DAY 8 | ROME

Wahh, this morning marks the end of the trip. It's not goodbye, it's see you later. \*Don't cry\*



#### **MEALS:**

Breakfast

## MEALS

Your included meals are detailed in the 'Included Essentials' section of this document.

Breakfasts (usually continental breakfasts) are included every day, except on the first morning of your trip. A typical continental breakfast may consist of cereals with milk or yogurt, bread, croissants, cold meats, and cheese - with fruit juice, tea or coffee to drink. It is rare to get a hot breakfast in continental Europe, though on some occasions some hot food may be available.

Included meals will be provided at local restaurants and the accommodations in which we stay. In most cases, table water is provided with meals. If you wish to purchase additional drinks, you can do so at your own expense.

If you have any dietary requirements, we'll make every effort to cater to your needs – as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book. You can also make a note of dietary requirements in the Topdeck app when you check-in.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Although we'll do everything in our power to cater to your needs, we cannot guarantee this will be possible in every restaurant we visit. We also cannot cater to tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu.

## OTHER INFORMATION

## TOPDECK APP

Feeling appy? Download the Topdeck app and get PUMPED for the adventure ahead. Best bit is: from 45 days before departure you'll be able to chat with your soon-to-be tripmates.

Plus, get your itinerary at your fingertips – so you know where you'll be going and what you'll be doing on each day of your trip. Nice!

Links:

Apple https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/topdeck/id994727866

Android https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.FlexiTechSolutions.TopDeck&hl=en





## YOUR SAFETY

#### **NIGHTS OUT**

We love a good night out – experiencing the nightlife and entertainment places have to offer is a big part of travelling. But alongside the fun it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety.

When you're out late, 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 so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. Make sure you have your 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.

#### **DRUG USE**

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Customers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana – even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip immediately. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

REMEMBER: if you are found in possession of drugs, not only do you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if they are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you don't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

#### MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!

- Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations
- Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home too so they're sure to know some tried- andtested ways to beat the blues
- Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (fact!)

#### **TRAVEL SINCE COVID-19**

Travel looks a bit different since COVID-19. That's why we've put some new procedures in place to help keep you safe on the road.

What remains the same? Your Topdeck trip will be run hygienically, responsibly, and with your safety at the forefront of everything we do. End of.

Here's the info: https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/travel-safely

## RESPECT ON THE ROAD

#### RESPECTING FELLOW TRAVELLERS

Our trips are for everyone. We're a family – and we want every Topdecker to have an incredible time.

What we're not about is excluding people or making them feel like they don't belong. That's why we always encourage Topdeckers to be kind and courteous to their fellow tripmates. The golden rules? Respect each other's space, be mindful of causing excessive noise in shared accommodation, and treat others how you'd wish to be treated. Easy!

#### **HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER**

Responsible travel isn't difficult to achieve. With a little conscious thought and preparation, you can have an awesome adventure AND a positive impact on the places you visit. Sweet!

Here are five things you can do to ensure you're travelling responsibly:

- Conserve water. You know the drill reuse your room towels, take short showers and remember to turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth
- Reduce your waste. Ditch the plastic bag, refuse unnecessary packaging, dispose of your waste responsibly and recycle as much as possible
- Go local. Hunt down locally owned and operated restaurants and bars, shop in local markets, and book tours and activities run by local guides
- Consider the wildlife. Avoid any attractions that involve closely engaging with wild animals
- Respect local people and culture. Obeying local laws is a given but also remember to dress and behave in a manner appropriate to the community. Be polite and keep an open mind!

## **INSURANCE**

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

Got more Qs? Chat with our Customer Service team: https://www.topdeck.travel/about-us/contact

## **PASSPORTS AND VISAS**

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip's departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling. Check out our handy interactive map showing global visa requirements:

https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/latest-border-restrictions

PLEASE NOTE: some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

## **TIPPING**

Your Topdeck Trip Leaders and Drivers never expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead – spoil yourself with the money you save travelling with us (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

## **WHAT TO BRING**

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it! (As long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is.)

1 pair of comfortable walking shoes

1 pair of smart casual shoes

1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops

2 pairs of jeans/trousers

2 pairs of shorts/skirts

4 shirts/T-shirts

2 sweaters/jumpers

Smart casual evening wear

1 rainproof jacket

1 warm jacket

Underwear and socks

Swimwear

Snow gear

Towel

**Toiletries** 

Hat and sunscreen

Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)

Insect repellent

Conversion plug

Reusable water bottle

