

# Topdeck

## EUROPEAN WONDER



TRIP CODE:

EEEWLL-1

## TOPDECKER, meet Europe

Is this trip for you? Iconic. Whirlwind. Awesome.

So your boss only gave you two weeks leave? Lucky for you this firecracker of a Euro trip fits so perfectly into 14 days it's almost too good to be true. Get a taste of Europe with the big-gun cities, the bucket-list items and alllllll the carb-loaded, cheese-topped, sugar-filled delights that only Europe can deliver. There's not really a better introduction to Europe than this.

### 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

You can rest assured that we'll pull out all the stops to make your trip unforgettable.

Now it's time to get excited about your holiday...

## ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – including where to meet and what to bring. We recommend that you read these notes thoroughly so you know what to expect on your trip of a lifetime. Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can bring it with you when you travel.

Please bear in mind that some points should be taken as a guide only – after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary from one person to the next, so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much!

**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 Paris
- + Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower
- + Walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- + Walking tour of Rome
- + Walking tour of Venice
- + Walking tour of Munich
- + Driving tour of Berlin

### MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Driving tour of Paris
- + Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower
- + Walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- + Walking tour of Rome
- + Rome metro tickets
- + Walking tour of Venice
- + Vaporetto ride
- + Venice bus tickets
- + Walking tour of Munich
- + Driving tour of Berlin

## YOUR TRIP WILL START

### PICK UP:

London  
United Kingdom

## YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

### DROP OFF:

Amsterdam  
Netherlands

## TRIP CURRENCIES

- + France - EUR
- + Switzerland - CHF
- + Italy - EUR
- + Vatican City - EUR
- + Germany - EUR
- + Netherlands - EUR

# YOUR ITINERARY



AWESOME  
TRIP  
LEADER

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

Meet the crew in London and load up the coach - we're hitting the road early to jump across the channel. Flights cheaper to Paris? Meet us there tonight if you want. The home of Coco Chanel, the Mona Lisa and world's craziest roundabout - Paris deserves its rep as the European capital for all things culture, fashion and bloody good food. Get to know the City of Love with a driving tour before tonight's first dinner together.



### MEALS:

+ Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Driving tour of Paris

## DAY 2 | PARIS

This is your day, your way. So make every second count. Create a solid dent in your bucket list with a visit to the Louvre (get your tix in advance!). Snap a pic of the Arc de Triomphe. Wander the Champs Elysées. Or discover the hidden back-streets on your own. Walking not your thing? Stretch out those legs on an optional bike tour. Or jump aboard an optional river cruise down the Seine. Tonight, dress to impress for an optional cabaret show. Or head up the Montparnasse observation tower to see why they call this place the City of Lights.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Parisian cabaret show: from  
€65

+ Seine river cruise: from €10

+ Bike tour of Paris: from €30

## DAY 3 | PARIS TO SWISS ALPS, SWITZERLAND

Trade in Parisian streets for snowy peaks. Warm up those vocal cords, we'll be blasting some tunes on the ride into the mountains - stopping for a few pics on the way. Home to the 'Top of Europe', 72 waterfalls and one of the largest nature conservations in Switzerland - tonight we're bunking down in the lush valley of Lauterbrunnen. After dinner, sit back in the fresh Alpine air with a cold beverage. This is livin'.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast

+ Dinner

## DAY 4 | SWISS ALPS

If the Swiss Alps had a Tinder bio, it'd be: fun, outdoor enthusiast - looking for a fellow adrenaline junkie to share adventures with. And we'd swipe right. Hiking. Biking. Skydiving. Helicopter-ing. It's all here. If you're wanting something a bit more low key - strap on the Nikes and walk the valley floor. Or hop on board the Jungfraubahn railway for an optional visit to the Jungfrau Mountain summit. Expect plenty of fairytale villages en route. Haven't had cheese fondue yet? Go. Now.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Scenic excursion to Jungfrau ('The Top of Europe'): from CHF 161.80 - 189.60

+ Skydiving in the Swiss Alps: from CHF 390 (plus €50 deposit)

+ Scenic helicopter ride in the Swiss Alps: from CHF 195 (plus €20 deposit)

## DAY 5 | SWISS ALPS TO FLORENCE, ITALY

Buy that mini-fondue set. Down your coffee. And wave goodbye to Switzerland – we're off to the land of the long boot. Get your creative juices flowing for THAT photo at Pisa, then make your food baby sing as we roll into the birthplace of gelato: Florence. Tonight, it's time tuck into some of that hearty Tuscan cuisine you've been dreaming about – plus a scoop (or two) of the good stuff. Challenge: decide on your favourite flavour in two days.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast  
+ Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower

## DAY 6 | FLORENCE TO ROME

Florence has more stories than Bilbo Baggins, more culture than a London hipster, AND it gave the world David (the massive marble naked guy FYI). We'll get the lay of the land on an in-depth walking tour with a local guide. Then: la bella Roma awaits! Dump your stuff at the hostel and prepare for a walking tour to end all walking tours. Pass by the Pantheon, throw our two cents in the Trevi Fountain, sit on the Spanish Steps and check out the mighty Colosseum – getting the scoop on allllllll the ancient history as we go. You're in Disneyland for foodies, so you know dinner tonight is gonna' be good.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast  
+ Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Florence with a local guide

+ Walking tour of Rome

+ Rome metro tickets

## DAY 7 | ROME

Time to live out your Eat. Pray. Love. fantasies – today is all about Vespas, espresso, two-cheeked kisses and pizza (the way it's supposed to taste). There's an optional guided tour of Vatican City on the cards, if that's your thing. Or head up to Capitoline Hill for awesome views of the Roman Forum and Colosseum. Feeling something a bit more relaxed? Do as the locals do and indulge in a little dolce far niente (delicious idleness) at a local cafe or piazza. Tonight, shake out those fat pants for round two. Thought you'd tried all the gelato flavours? Head to Fatamorgana – and think again.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Guided tour of Vatican City:  
from €45

## DAY 8 | ROME TO VENICE

Order one more espresso in poor Italian (hey, you tried!) – we're off to Venice after breakfast. You know it as The Floating City, but this place is actually sinking (slowly). Check out the usual suspects on a walking tour with our Trip Leader – ticking off the likes of St Mark's Square, Doge's Palace and Accademia Bridge. Then: take an optional gondola ride down the Grand Canal. When in Venice, right? Dinner tonight is on you, what delicious carb-laden Italian meal haven't you tried yet? Order two.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Venice  
+ Vaporetto ride  
+ Venice bus tickets



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Gondola ride down the Grand  
Canal: from €20  
+ Get a personalised trip T-shirt  
or hoodie: from €21

## DAY 9 | VENICE TO MUNICH, GERMANY

Next up? A country where beer is officially considered an essential food group (right next to sausage and sauerkraut). Helloooo Germany! We'll kick things off with a walking tour of Munich then it's the moment you've been waiting for – an appropriate occasion to wear lederhosen. Head to the 428-year-old Hofbräuhaus for a royal Happy Hour experience or find the Chinese beer garden (or any beer garden for that matter) for a stein-sesh with your trip mates. Prost!



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Munich

## DAY 10 | MUNICH TO BERLIN

Another day, another food-obsessed European city. Berlin we love you. Prep yourself for currywurst, bratwurst and more hipsters per capita than anywhere else. We'll drive you around to see the main sights including (what's left of) the Berlin Wall, Zoo Gardens, the Holocaust Museum, Charlottenburg Palace and Alexanderplatz. Then: the afternoon is 100% up to you! Our suggestion? Head to Burgermeister: a public toilet turned best-burger-joint-in-Berlin. Trust us.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Driving tour of Berlin

## DAY 11 | BERLIN

You've got 24hrs here. Make the most of it. Our advice? Opt in for a historic walking tour that's, you know – not boring. Get a local insight into what the city was like under Nazi rule and tick off the likes of the Reichstag, Checkpoint Charlie and Brandenburg Gate. Or put those taste buds to the ultimate test on an awesome AF food tour. We're talking kebabs, pastries, currywurst, pierogi and local beers (this is Germany after all). Tonight, it's time to see whether the nightlife here really lives up to the hype.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL

#### ACTIVITIES:

- + Third Reich walking tour: from €12
- + Berlin food tour: from €35

## DAY 12 | BERLIN TO AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

Ok, nobody panic – we've only got two days left. But the adventure sure as hell isn't over yet! We've got our eye on Amsterdam next – time to hit the cobblestones and explore. Check out the likes of the Dam Square, the Royal Palace and the National Monument with your free time. This place is a foodie's haven – so you'll have no trouble finding somewhere to settle in for dinner. Later, there's an optional show in the Red Light district. Or for a more local experience – head to a canal-side wine bar or brewery.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL

#### ACTIVITIES:

- + Red Light District show: from €30

## DAY 13 | AMSTERDAM

This is our last full day. So, don't hang about – get on your bike! Check out Amsterdam's iconic canals, bridges and parks on an optional bike tour. Or for the culture fiends – delve a bit deeper with a visit to the Anne Frank House (don't forget to book in advance!) or the Van Gogh and Rijksmuseum. Whatever you get up to, make sure you're back in time for tonight's group dinner – we'll be going out with a bang.



### MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



### OPTIONAL

#### ACTIVITIES:

- + Bike tour of Amsterdam: from €14

## DAY 14 | AMSTERDAM TO LONDON, ENGLAND

Two weeks. Six countries. Countless good times. What-an-epic-trip. After breakfast, it's time to hit the road back to ol' Blighty. Blast the Trip Song one last time and swap Insta handles – you'll need them to organise next year's reunion trip!



### 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.

## 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).

## TOPDECK TRAVEL APP

Our app is available to download before you travel. With a range of cool features including a currency converter, budget planner, check-in tool and group chat, it'll help you plan your trip like a pro. Think of it as your very own Topdeck Trip Leader in the palm of your hand.

### TRIP GROUP CHAT

Connect with your fellow Topdeckers before you depart and begin your magical friendship in the flash of a winking face emoji.

### ITINERARY VIEWER

Get the lowdown on where you'll be going and what activities you'll be doing on each day of your trip with this handy little tool.

### CHECK-IN

Plug in all your vital deets and we'll keep them safe for when you really need them. Making your life easier, one swipe at a time.

### BUDGET TRACKER

Keep an eye on your holiday spending, leaving you with more FUN-ds to play with. Think: elaborate Spanish feasts (not questionable supermarket sandwiches).

## MAPS

Navigate your way to meeting points and lesser-known local gems using pins dropped by your Trip Leader, seek out your own bucket list sites and take to the streets like a pro.

Once the trip is over, you'll need the app to give us feedback about your trip experience. We love to hear what you thought about your trip, as it helps to give us an idea of the things we're doing well and the things we could be doing better.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Topdeck Travel App should only be downloaded once you have booked your trip. You will not be able to log in unless you have a Topdeck booking reference number.

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[GET IT FOR ANDROID](#)



# PASSENGER SAFETY

## NIGHTS OUT

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.

## RESPECTING FELLOW PASSENGERS

Here at Topdeck, we're all about inclusivity. We want to make sure that everyone has a great time on our trips, and that everyone feels like they're part of one happy Topdeck family.

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

## DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Passengers 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. 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 could you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if drugs are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you wouldn'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 again.

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 of some tried-and-tested 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 (trust us).

## 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 holiday AND have 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 hotel 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!

## OTHER INFORMATION

### 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.

World Nomads provides comprehensive travel insurance for people from over 140 countries. For more information, visit [www.topdeck.travel/travel-insurance](http://www.topdeck.travel/travel-insurance).

### 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 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.

**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.

## 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



**THAT'S IT!**

