

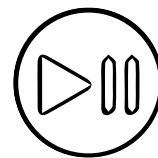


TOPDECKER, meet Australasia (TD)

Is this trip for me? **ICONIC. LIVELY. VARIETY.**

They said you couldn't do Western Europe in under two weeks. No free time, they said. Too hard to get from A to B, they said. More expensive, they said. Well, they are wrong. From the culture-filled Parisian streets and the jaw-dropping vistas of the Alps, Venice's timeless elegance and the history-laden 'Eternal City' - discover Western Europe's best and brightest with a bunch of like-minded adventurers. In. Just. Ten. Days. And the logistics? Sorted.

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).

IMPORTANT: please refresh this doc as close to your departure as possible. This means you'll have the most up-to-date info available.

INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

- Driving tour of Paris
- Venice bus tickets
- Venice shuttle train tickets
- Walking tour of Venice
- Vaporetto ride
- Walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- Walking tour of Rome
- Rome Metro tickets

YOUR ITINERARY

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

Three classic Western European countries. Some pretty sick optional activities. All the inclusions you actually want. And a mix of people as keen as you to experience every moment to the fullest. The next ten days? Unforgettable. Meet the crew in London. Or later tonight in Paris (we get it, international flights are a pain). The home of the Mona Lisa, pointy monuments and all your cream-filled, carb-loaded faves – Paris has earned its rep as the European capital for all things culture, fashion and food. Tick off all the showstoppers on a driving tour before tonight's dinner together.



MEALS:

- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving tour of Paris

DAY 2 | PARIS

You're finally here. So, we've given you 24hrs to make every second count à Paris. Create a solid dent in your bucket list with a visit to the Louvre (book your tickets in advance!) and the Musée d'Orsay. Flash some plastic along the Champs Élysées. Discover the hidden gems down Paris's back-streets. Get lost amongst the shelves of history at Shakespeare and Co. Bookshop. Cover more ground on an optional bike tour. Or skip leg day altogether and soak up the Parisian vibes on an optional Seine river cruise. Tonight, throw the sparkling-feather-covered-acrobatic cherry on top with a night at the cabaret. You're in Paris after all.



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

No lies, today's drive is long. BUT you've got banging tunes and scenic views to keep you occupied – not to mention your sick AF trip mates. Home to the 'Top of Europe', rushing waterfalls and one of the largest nature conservations in Switzerland – tonight we're bunking down in the lush valley of Lauterbrunnen. Hear that? It's the sound of jaws dropping to the floor as we drive pass some EPIC scenery. After dinner, sit back in the fresh Alpine air and enjoy the moment. This is what you came for.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 4 | SWISS ALPS

If the Swiss Alps had a Tinder bio it would read: fun-filled outdoor enthusiast – looking for a fellow adrenaline junkie to share adventures with. Swiping right? Hell yes. Hiking. Mountain biking. Skydiving. Helicopter-ing. This place has it all. More of a thrill-dodger? Slip on the Birks and go chasing waterfalls (TLC were wrong). Or hop aboard the Jungfraubahn railway for an optional visit to the Jungfrau Mountain summit. Whatever you choose – you're not gonna be bored here.



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 100 (plus €20 deposit)

DAY 5 | SWISS ALPS TO VENICE, ITALY

The drive to Venice is your chance to share snaps with your new mates, catch up on some zzzzs and text the 'rents (trust us, you'll be too busy later). Who's got the AUX cord? We'll park up in the birthplace of Vivaldi later this afternoon. Acquaint yourself with the who's who of Venice's usual suspects on a walking tour – ticking off the likes of St Mark's Square, Doge's Palace and Accademia Bridge. Then, the rest is up to you. Our suggestion? Embrace the moment and enjoy a spritz or scoop (or two) of the good stuff overlooking one of Venice's fuchsia-pink sunsets.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Venice bus tickets
- Venice shuttle train tickets
- Walking tour of Venice



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Get a personalised trip T-shirt or hoodie: from €21

DAY 6 | VENICE

You know it as The Floating City, but this place is actually sinking (slowly). So get cracking! Do the obvious and take an optional gondola ride down the Grand Canal. Head off the tourist trail with a trip to Giudecca Island. Seek out the quirky Libreria Acqua Alta bookshop. Or hunt down the perfect gelato. Centuries-old architecture. Inventive cuisine. And a bucket-load of culture. Kudos if you get lost – that's what it's all about. For dinner tonight, score a cheap meal at Osteria Al Portego or take to the back streets – you're bound to find something delicious.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Vaporetto ride



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Gondola ride: from €20

DAY 7 | VENICE TO FLORENCE

Florence has more stories than you can poke a stick at, more culture than a Melbourne hipster, AND it gave the world David (putting dad bods to shame since 1504). We'll get the lay of the land on an in-depth walking tour with a local guide. Then: you've got free time to stroll along the Arno River and watch the sunset, before dinner. Did someone say karaoke? If you're feeling it, join the gang in a battle of the classics at the bar later. Or hunt down a gelateria for a scoop (or two) of the good stuff – we mentioned it was invented here, right?



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Florence with a local guide

DAY 8 | FLORENCE TO ROME

Rise and shine! You've got this morning to tick those Florence A-listers off. Uffizi Gallery. Ponte Vecchio. Piazza della Signoria. The Duomo. You can't see it all, but you sure as hell can try! Then: la bella Roma awaits. Strap in for one helluva walking tour. We're talking a solid few hours of non-stop sights, off-the-tourist-trail hidden gems and a run-down of almost 3000 years of history. Pass by the Pantheon, (don't) sit on the Spanish Steps, check out the mighty Colosseum and throw your two cents in the Trevi Fountain. Then, you're in carb-loaded Disneyland for foodies so go get it!



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Rome
- Rome Metro tickets

DAY 9 | ROME

Vespas. Espresso. Two-cheek kisses. Aggressive hand gestures. And pizza the way it's supposed to taste. Here's a free day we prepared earlier. Count your blessings on an optional tour of Vatican City, then get lost amongst two-and-a-half millennia worth of history. Head up Capitoline Hill for awesome views. Grab a bite at Lost Food Factory (arguably one of the best sandwich spots in town). Or do as the locals do and indulge in a little dolce far niente (delicious idleness) at a local cafe or piazza. Tonight, get the gang together for one last group dinner – we're gonna give this adventure-of-a-lifetime the send-off it deserves!



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Guided tour of Vatican City: from €45

DAY 10 | ROME

Get down to breakfast and say your goodbyes – we're outta here. Swap those Insta handles and pencil in next year's reunion trip. What. A. 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.

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- 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 (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.

Head to our FAQ for more info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/faqs-0>

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



THAT'S IT!