

Topdeck

WINTER ESCAPE



TRIP CODE:

EEWGVL-0



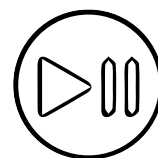
TOPDECKER, meet Australasia (TD)

There's nothing like Europe in winter. Starting in Venice, we'll weave our way through some of the most awesome countries Europe has to offer. We've got Salzburg, Prague, Berlin and Amsterdam to look forward to, so get pumped - this is gonna be a good one!

WORTH NOTING...

This is a sector of the 18 Day Winter Getaway 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).

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

- Walking tour of Venice
- Vaporetto ride in Venice
- Walking tour of Salzburg
- Visit former concentration camp Mauthausen
- Walking tour of Prague
- Orientation tour of the restored city of Dresden
- Driving tour of Berlin
- Orientation tour of Amsterdam
- Canal dinner cruise in Amsterdam
- English Channel crossing

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | VENICE

Today's the day your epic trip begins! Join the rest of the crew this evening and get to know your fellow Topdeckers. Say cheers over dinner together and get ready for some exploring tomorrow...



MEALS:

- Dinner

DAY 2 | VENICE

With so much to see in the floating city of Venice, let us help you tick off some of the best bits with a walking tour. When you walk past the Grand Canal and St Mark's Square, you'll feel like you've stepped onto a movie set. Then: hop on the optional gondola ride for the most stunning city views.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Venice
- Vaporetto ride in Venice



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Gondola ride in Venice: from €20

DAY 3 | VENICE TO SALZBURG, AUSTRIA

Music lovers, this is your city! Get your bearings on a walking tour of Salzburg's cobblestone streets, where you'll spot Mozart's birthplace and The Sound of Music film locations. Treat yourself to coffee and a slice of Sachertorte (Austria's famous cake).



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Salzburg

DAY 4 | SALZBURG TO PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

It's a sobering start to the day with a visit to former concentration camp Mauthausen. Next up, a walking tour of Prague that promises beautiful Old Town views, the gothic Charles Bridge and the largest ancient castle in the world.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit former concentration camp Mauthausen
- Walking tour of Prague

DAY 5 | PRAGUE

Seek out the vibrant John Lennon Wall or get a taste of the quirky local culture at a marionette puppet opera (you gotta see it to believe it). After your action-packed day, eat a hearty roast pork dish or Czech savoury pancakes and sip the local beer. Really. Good. Beer.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Local beer tasting in Prague: from 800 CZK

DAY 6 | PRAGUE TO BERLIN, GERMANY

Off to Berlin via Dresden, home to elegant architecture rebuilt after WWII. Then, Berlin history awaits with a driving tour hitting up all the highlights: the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag building.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation tour of the restored city of Dresden
- Driving tour of Berlin

DAY 7 | BERLIN

Make a visit to hipster-chic Neukölln, Friedrichshain or Kreuzberg for more döner kebabs and currywurst than your Instagram can handle. There's also an optional history walking tour today and some pretty famous nightlife on the cards tonight (optional).



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Third Reich walking tour of Berlin: from €12
- Street art and nightlife tour of Berlin: from €20

DAY 8 | BERLIN TO AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

Get your bearings on an orientation tour of Amsterdam. Then: see the sights including Dam Square, the Royal Palace and National Monument. After you scope out the famous Red Light District, end the night with a cone of hot chips with mayo. Mmm.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation tour of Amsterdam

DAY 9 | AMSTERDAM

Amster-DAM it's going to be a good day! Hop on a bike tour to explore the canal-lined city (optional). Then: phones at the ready for our farewell dinner cruise.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Canal dinner cruise in Amsterdam



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Bike tour of Amsterdam: from €14

DAY 10 | AMSTERDAM TO LONDON, ENGLAND

Noooo! Time to say goodbye. Or, you could always spend a few more days in London...



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- English Channel crossing

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!