



## TOPDECKER, meet Europe

Is this trip for you? JAM-PACKED. CHARACTERISTIC. FUN.

You've got 10 days, some awesome AF inclusions, free time to explore the cities you've been dreaming about and a bunch of people just as stoked to be here as you are. Tick off the crowd-pleasers. Explore the Alps. Relax on the coast. Uncover the history. And dig into 5-countries-worth of drool-worthy food. This? This is your road to one life-changing adventure.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Hotel



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)

- + Walking tour of Rome
- + Walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- + Walking tour of Venice
- + Gondola ride down the Grand Canal
- + Driving tour of Paris

### MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Walking tour of Rome
- + Rome metro tickets
- + Walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- + Venice bus tickets
- + Walking tour of Venice
- + Gondola ride down the Grand Canal
- + Driving tour of Paris

## YOUR TRIP WILL START

### PICK UP:

Rome  
Italy

## YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

### DROP OFF:

London  
United Kingdom

## TRIP CURRENCIES

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

# YOUR ITINERARY



AWESOME  
TRIP  
LEADER

## DAY 1 | ROME, ITALY

Leave the everyday behind and uncover extraordinary. We'll rendezvous with the gang in la bella Roma before embarking on a walking tour to end all walking tours. 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, throw our two cents in the Trevi Fountain, (don't) sit on the Spanish Steps and wind things up under the shadow of the mighty Colosseum. Epic doesn't even cut it. Then, tuck into a drool-worthy Italian indulgence at tonight's included dinner. You wore your fat pants, right?



### MEALS:

+ Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Rome  
+ Rome metro tickets

## DAY 2 | ROME

You've got 24 hours to live out all your Eat. Pray. Love. fantasies. Get out there and do your own, spontaneous, this-is-what-you-came-for thing. But if you need some local tips, we've got your back. Count your blessings on an optional tour of Vatican City. Hike up Capitoline Hill for awesome views of the Roman Forum and Colosseum. Head to the Knights of Malta Keyhole to see an alternative view of the city. Battle the lunchtime rush for a slice at Pizzarium Bonci. Hunt down the Mouth of Truth. Or simply do as the locals do and indulge in a little dolce far niente (delicious idleness) at a local cafe. You're in Disneyland for foodies, so finding dinner tonight is gonna to be a breeze. Thought you'd tried all the gelato flavours? Head to Fatamorgana – and think again.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Locally guided tour of  
Vatican City: from €45

## DAY 3 | ROME TO FLORENCE

Prepare to make your food baby sing as we roll into Florence. This place has more stories than you can poke a stick at, more culture than a Fitzroy hipster, AND it gave the world gelato – praise be. We'll get the lay of the land on an in-depth walking tour with a local guide. Then: take your new-found knowledge and hit the streets solo. Uffizi Gallery. Ponte Vecchio. Piazza della Signoria. The Duomo. You can't see it all, but you sure as hell can try! Did someone say karaoke? If you're feeling it, join the gang in a battle of the classics at the bar later.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast  
+ Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Florence with  
a local guide

## DAY 4 | FLORENCE TO VENICE

You've got this morning to explore – make it count. Get to the Galleria dell'Accademia early to make eyes at David. Or head to the top of the Duomo for allll the views (get your tix in advance!). Later, we're off to Venice. 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. Dinner tonight is on you, but your Trip Leader has the low-down on where to go. What delicious carb-laden Italian meal are you going to try first? Order two.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Venice bus tickets  
+ Walking tour of Venice



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

## DAY 5 | VENICE

Time to see what all the fuss is about. Centuries-old architecture. Inventive cuisine. And a bucket-load of culture. Venice is just begging to be explored. After an included gondola ride along the Grand Canal, you've got the whole day to do just that. Need suggestions? Insider tip: spend some time seeking out the epic Libreria Acqua Alta bookshop or head off the tourist trail with a trip to Giudecca Island. Go wandering. Chat to the locals. Get lost in the maze of canals and piazzas. Watch the sun go down with a refreshing spritz in hand. That's what makes the memories.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Gondola ride down the Grand  
Canal

## DAY 6 | VENICE TO SWISS ALPS, SWITZERLAND

From cityscapes to landscapes, prepare yourself for some I-N-C-R-E-D-I-B-L-E scenery as we make our way to the Swiss Alps. Warm up those vocal cords, we'll be busting out some bangers on the ride into the mountains. Cue the fairytale villages of your imagination – the oh-so-quaint Engelberg is where we'll be spending the night. After dinner, you can head to the hotel bar with the gang or enjoy some me-time relaxing in the fresh Alpine air. You're finally here, stop and enjoy it.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast  
+ Dinner

## DAY 7 | SWISS ALPS

This is your day. So, enjoy it your way. This place should have been sponsored by GoPro. Ready to explore? Hiking. Biking. Thrill-seeking. It's all here. You could take the revolving gondola to the top of Mt Titlis for all the epic views (without the effort). Or head into town in search of the world's best hot chocolate and cheese fondue – unless you're lactose intolerant. After grabbing dinner, sit back and enjoy the view. This is livin'.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Scenic excursion to Mt Titlis:  
from CHF 92 (summer only)

## DAY 8 | SWISS ALPS TO PARIS, FRANCE

Buy that mini-fondue set for mum. Down your coffee. And wave goodbye to Switzerland – we're off to the City of Love. 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, haute couture and drool-worthy food. Glue your face to the coach windows as we pass showstoppers like the Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre, Rue de Rivoli, the Seine and THAT Tower on a driving tour. Then, you've got the evening free to uncover why they call this place the City of Lights. Hint: head up the Montparnasse observation tower at night and you might get a better idea.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Driving tour of Paris

## DAY 9 | PARIS

This is your day, your way. So, make every second count. Create a solid dent in your bucket list with a visit to see ol' Mona (book your tickets in advance!) and the Musée d'Orsay. Flash some plastic along the Champs Elysées. Discover the hidden gems down Paris's back-streets. Walking not your thing? Give those calves a workout on an optional bike tour. Or soak up the Parisian vibes from the water while cruising the river Seine. Tonight, dress to impress for an optional cabaret show. Think: sparking lights, death-defining acrobatics, OTT costumes and the Cancan (of course). For tonight's grand finale, shake out those fat pants and enjoy one last dinner with the gang.



### MEALS:

+ Breakfast

+ Dinner



### OPTIONAL

#### ACTIVITIES:

+ Parisian cabaret show: from €80

+ Seine river cruise in Paris: from €10

+ Bike tour of Paris: from €30

## DAY 10 | PARIS TO LONDON, ENGLAND

Today we say goodbye. But who said all good things must come to an end? There's plenty of time to plan the reunion trip on the coach back to ol' Blighty. Where to next?



### 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 yoghurt, 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

## NO TIP NECESSARY

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 traveling 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.

[GET IT FOR IPHONE](#)

[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!)

Heading on our Namaste India trip? Your luggage is capped at 15kg, so maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

- + 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
- + Towel
- + Toiletries
- + Hat and sunscreen
- + Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- + Insect repellent
- + Conversion plug
- + Reusable water bottle
- + Snow gear



## THAT'S IT!