



TOPDECKER, meet Australasia (TD)

Is this trip for you? CAPTIVATING. DIVERSE. EXCITING.

Like the name suggests - this one's all about uncovering the REAL Europe. Paris's bustling boulevards and Berlin's buzzing nightlife, mixed with the 'holy sh*t' scenery of the Swiss Alps and drool-worthy food of Florence. Add a pinch of Croatia's beaches and a teaspoon of the Czech culture, and you've got yourself one delicious recipe for adventure. Pack your bags. This Euro-trip has your name all over it.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Delve Deep



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
- Walking tour of Monaco
- Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower
- Walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- Visit Orvieto
- Rome walking tour
- Rome metro tickets
- Walking tour of Venice
- Venice bus tickets
- Gondola ride down the Grand Canal
- Visit Lake Bled
- Walking tour of Salzburg
- Visit former concentration camp Mauthausen
- Walking tour of Prague
- Prague metro tickets
- Orientation tour of the restored city of Dresden
- Driving tour of Berlin
- Amsterdam metro tickets

YOUR ITINERARY

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

Meet the crew in LDN-town and grab some snacks – we're hitting the road early to jump across the English channel. Or meet us in Paris tonight. It's up to you. 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. Get to know the City of Lights better with a driving tour before our first dinner with the fam.



MEALS:

- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving tour of Paris

DAY 2 | PARIS

Today is all about free time en Français. 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 Elysées. Or discover some hidden gems down the back-streets and alleyways. Walking not your thing? Give those thighs a workout on an optional bike tour. Later, you can jump aboard an optional river cruise down the Seine or dress to impress for an optional cabaret show.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Parisian cabaret show: from €80
- Seine river cruise: from €10
- Bike tour of Paris: from €30

DAY 3 | PARIS TO SWISS ALPS, SWITZERLAND

From cityscapes to landscapes, today we're off 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-quiet Engelberg is where we'll be spending the night. Tonight, we'll get stuck into a group dinner before heading to the hotel bar or relaxing in the fresh Alpine air.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 4 | SWISS ALPS

Yep, you're finally here. So, don't muck about – get exploring! Hiking. Biking. Thrill-seeking. Cheese-eating (unless you're lactose intolerant). Need some suggestions? You could take the revolving gondola to the top of Mt Titlis for all the epic views (without the effort), then head back down in search of the world's best hot chocolate. Or sit back and enjoy a cold beer back at the hotel. How you spend today, is 110% up to you.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

DAY 5 | SWISS ALPS TO FRENCH RIVIERA, FRANCE

Trade in your gruezi for bonjour as we follow in Napoleon's footsteps down to the glamorous French Riviera. After dumping your stuff at the accommodation, this afternoon is totally up to you! Indulge in a bit of celeb spotting. Head to the beach for a dip. Or find a local haunt for some seriously good seafood. Tonight, it's happy hour with the gang (happiness guaranteed, discounted cocktails are not).



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 6 | FRENCH RIVIERA INCLUDING MONACO VISIT

This morning, you do you! Sleep in. Laze on the beach. Go wild in the designer boutiques in Nice's Old Town. Try all the decorative pastries your elastic waistband can handle – then work them off with a walk up Castle Hill for all the views. Later: roll with the jet set on a walking tour of Monaco and see how the 1% live (hint: it involves Ferraris and bathing in caviar). Feeling lucky? Hit the tables at the Monte Carlo Casino and make it rain (or not).



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Monaco

DAY 7 | FRENCH RIVIERA TO FLORENCE, ITALY VIA PISA

Squeeze in one last swim. Down your coffee. And wave goodbye to France – we're heading for the land of the long boot. First stop: Pisa – better think of a creative pose for THAT photo. After, make your food baby sing as we roll into the capital of Tuscan cuisine. We've got a wine tasting and al fresco dinner on the cards tonight – so go easy on gelato. Or don't.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower

DAY 8 | FLORENCE

Florence has more stories than Bilbo Baggins, more culture than a London hipster, AND it gave the world David (you know, the giant naked guy). 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! Tonight, catch the epic sunset from Piazzale Michelangelo. Trust us, this is what you came for.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Florence with a local guide

DAY 9 | FLORENCE TO ROME VIA ORVIETO

Southward and downward with a pit stop at the hilltop town of Orvieto – to see the grand cathedral and dig into a wild boar panini (unless you're a vegetarian). Then: la bella Roma awaits! Dump your stuff at the hotel and prepare for a walking tour to end all walking tours. We'll 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. Tonight, you're in Disneyland for foodies so you can guarantee dinner is gonna' be good.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Orvieto
- Rome walking tour
- Rome metro tickets

DAY 10 | ROME

Time to live out your Lizzie McGuire Movie fantasies – today is all about Vespas, espresso, two-cheeked kisses and pizza (the way it's supposed to taste). Head up to Capitoline Hill for awesome views of the Roman Forum and Colosseum. 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. Tonight, shake out those fat pants for round two.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 11 | ROME

Not ready to say ciao yet? DW we've got you. You've got another full day to really destroy that ancient Roman bucket list. Castel San Angelo. The Baths of Caracalla. Circus Maximus. Go get it. There's an optional guided tour of Vatican City on the cards too. Or take a slice to Villa Borghese Park for some chill-out time away from the crowds. Tonight, ask your Trip Leader where to find the best cacio e pepe – trust us, you won't be disappointed.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Guided tour of Vatican City:
from €45

DAY 12 | ROME TO VENICE

Down that macchiato, we're heading to that famous sinking city today. After checking in at the hotel, it's time to see what all the fuss is about. 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. And then – this beautifully romantic city is yours for the taking. Our suggestion? Enjoy a spritz overlooking one of Venice's fuchsia-pink sunsets. This is your moment.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Venice
- Venice bus tickets



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

DAY 13 | VENICE

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. That's what makes the memories.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Gondola ride down the Grand Canal

DAY 14 | VENICE TO PULA, CROATIA

Order one last coffee in poor Italian (hey, you tried!) – we're setting course for the Croatian coast. Dump your bags, change into your togs and make a B-line for the glittering water of the Adriatic. We'll get our bearings around the Old Town before tucking into dinner with the gang. Then: hit up one of the local bars, take a closer look at the Roman arena or relax back at the beach. It's totally up to you.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 15 | PULA TO LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA VIA POSTOJNA CAVE

After breakfast, we're off to Ljubljana (lyoob-lya-nah), aka the capital of Slovenia. But first: an optional round of stalagmite spotting at the beautiful Postojna Cave. Fun fact: this all-natural maze of tunnels and caverns was hollowed out by the Pivka River around two MILLION years ago. When we get to L-town, there's an optional food tour on the cards. Or just explore the underground art installations and live music scene on your own.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Visit Postojna Cave: from €25
- Food tour of Ljubljana: from €30

DAY 16 | LJUBLJANA TO SALZBURG, AUSTRIA VIA LAKE BLEED

So much more than strudel and The Sound of Music, we're setting course for Salzburg today. You've seen it on everyone's #wanderlust feeds but now experience the magic of Lake Bled without the filter. In Salzburg, we'll tick off the likes of the Mirabell Gardens, Mozart's birthplace, Fortress Hohensalzburg and the Cathedral. Getting hungry? Pull up a pew at a local restaurant and dig into a weiner schnitzel, washed down with a pint of Ottakringer for good measure.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Lake Bled
- Walking tour of Salzburg

DAY 17 | SALZBURG TO PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC VIA MAUTHAUSEN

First today: a visit to former concentration camp Mauthausen for a lesson in the resilience of humanity. Then: on to Prague. Our Trip Leader will help us get acquainted with this picture-perfect city on a walking tour. Wander through Wenceslas Square, cross Charles Bridge into the Castle district and check out the capital's quirky clock tower in Old Town. Tonight? We'll tuck into a delish dinner together before hitting the town to try some local Czech beer. It'd be rude not to.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit former concentration camp Mauthausen
- Walking tour of Prague
- Prague metro tickets

DAY 18 | PRAGUE

How you spend your day is 100% up to you. And trust us, there's plenty to Czech out (ha!). Seek out the John Lennon wall. Soak up some history at the Communist Museum. Take the funicular up Petrin Hill for allll the views. Or grab a delish roast pork roll at one of the street vendors lining Old Town Square. Fancy yourself as a bit of a beer connoisseur? Don't miss the beer tasting optional this afternoon. 11 different Czech beers + tapas = good times all around.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Local beer tasting in Prague:
from 800 CZK

DAY 19 | PRAGUE TO BERLIN, GERMANY VIA DRESDEN

Another day, another food-obsessed European city. God, we love this place. But first: get acquainted with 800 year-old Dresden – a city virtually destroyed in WWII and then rebuilt – before we make tracks to Berlin. Prep yourself for currywurst 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 Memorial, Charlottenburg Palace and Alexanderplatz. Then: a group dinner to test how far your jeans really stretch.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

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

DAY 20 | 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, more currywurst, pierogi and local beers (you're in Germany after all). Tonight, it's time to see whether this city's nightlife really lives up to the hype.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

DAY 21 | BERLIN TO AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

The trip may be coming to a close, but it's not over yet! We've got our eye on Amsterdam today. Hit the cobblestones and check out the likes of the Dam Square, the Royal Palace and the National Monument. Then, this place is a foodie's haven – so you'll have no trouble finding somewhere to settle in for dinner. Later, there's an option to experience a show in the Red Light district. Or for a more local experience – head to a canal-side wine bar or brewery.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Amsterdam metro tickets



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Red Light District show: from €30

DAY 22 | AMSTERDAM

This is our last full day together. 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 Museum and Rijksmuseum. Whatever you get up to, make sure you're back in time to toast the final night of our European adventure at tonight's group dinner.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Bike tour of Amsterdam: from €14

DAY 23 | AMSTERDAM TO LONDON, ENGLAND

Time to hit the road back to ol' Blighty. Blast the Trip Song and swap Insta handles – you'll need them to organise next year's reunion trip. Where to next?



MEALS:

- Breakfast

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

Basically: it's not necessary.

Your Trip Leader and Driver don't expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. Meaning? More dollar to spend on optional activities (and a souvenir for your nan).

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!).

Off to Japan? Your luggage must be no bigger than 160cm in total (height x width x length). So maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

Psst: this is a packing list for Topdeck trips in general. Obv you'd look silly splashing around the Greek islands in a snowsuit.

- 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 warm jacket + 1 rainproof jacket

- Underwear and socks + swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat and sunscreen
- Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- Adaptor plug
- Reusable water bottle
- Snow gear



THAT'S IT!