



TOPDECKER, meet Australasia (TD)

Take a road trip from London to Rome, stopping to experience the magic of some of Europe's most awesome winter destinations. When you're not exploring the charming streets of Paris (sans crowds), making snow angels in the Swiss Alps or brushing up on your art knowledge in Florence, you'll be enjoying Rome at its quietest and kicking your feet up in hotels. Winter never looked so hot.

WORTH NOTING...

This is a sector of the 14 Day Winter Wonder trip and the 20 Day Discover Winter trip.

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

- English Channel crossing
- Driving tour of Paris
- Local guide in Florence
- Walking tour of Rome

YOUR ITINERARY



AWESOME
TRIP
LEADER



DRIVER

DAY 1 | LONDON, ENGLAND TO PARIS, FRANCE

Say bonjour to Paris and welcome to the trip! See the City of Light at its best on a driving tour and play landmark bingo with the Eiffel Tower, the Champs Élysées and the Arc de Triomphe. What a welcome. Bring on the next week of exploring!



MEALS:

- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- English Channel crossing
- Driving tour of Paris

DAY 2 | PARIS

A free day in Paris to get involved with as much as you possibly can. Bike along the Seine on an optional tour, get your obligatory Eiffel Tower #selfie then shop 'til you drop on the Champs-Élysées. Tonight, experience the razzle dazzle of a cabaret show or hop on a boat down the river to crank the romance dial to 11 (both optional).



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Traditional cabaret show in Paris
- Seine river cruise in Paris
- Bike tour of Paris

DAY 3 | PARIS TO SWISS ALPS, SWITZERLAND

Tear yourself away from that baguette – fondue awaits! The landscape out of your coach window today will be gorgeous. Trust us. Prepare for Instagram paradise as we head into the fairytale territory of the Swiss Alps. Dinner's on us tonight.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 4 | SWISS ALPS

Wake up, eat breakfast and go exploring. You could jump on the revolving gondola to the top of Mt Titlis and test your pano photo skills. Then, head back down for some snow angels and hot chocolate. What a day!



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Scenic excursion to Mt Titlis

DAY 5 | SWISS ALPS TO FLORENCE, ITALY

We're travelling to the land of Tuscan cuisine and the birthplace of gelato: Florence. After dinner with the group, the evening's on your terms.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 6 | FLORENCE TO ROME

Today, we'll explore the city on foot with a local Italian guide and check out top sights like the Ponte Vecchio, the Duomo Cathedral and the Uffizi Gallery. Afterwards, we're making tracks to Rome. Ready for the Colosseum, the Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain? They're all here and we're gonna show you around. Tonight, you're in Disneyland for foodies. Have fun!



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Local guide in Florence
- Walking tour of Rome

DAY 7 | ROME INCLUDING VATICAN CITY VISIT

Rome is where the heart is. Visit the world's smallest country aka Vatican City (optional), hang with the locals, or eat as much pizza and gelato as you can possibly handle. Question is, how many gelato flavours can you try during your time here? Challenge accepted! Let's go.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Guided tour of Vatican City

DAY 8 | ROME

The trip ends today! Where did the time go?! But, Rome wasn't built in a day so why not spend a few more and get to know this amazing place a little better?



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!