

Topdeck

GET SOCIAL: USA & CANADA EXPRESS



TRIP CODE:
TECNC3

TOPDECKER, meet North America (TD)

TRIP VIBE = fast-paced fun with tons of socialising, bucket-list sights and good times all round. Game time: would you rather travel the USA or Canada? Psych! On this 12-day adventure you get both rolled into one. From the land of the free and beyond, we'll tick off the A-listers New York, Boston, Quebec City, Montreal, Toronto and Washington, DC. Plus, get sprayed (in the best way) by the mighty Niagara Falls. Visit the homes of sporting legends. Test our waistbands with alllll the diverse foodie delights. And uncover the heart-and-soul of these incredible cities. Ready to embrace it all? We thought so.

WORTH NOTING...

A Sector trip is part of a larger journey, meaning your new friends might continue on or after you leave, or you might be joining a trip already in progress.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Get Social



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.

ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- Driving/walking tour of New York with Trip Leader
- Driving/walking tour of Boston with Trip Leader
- Orientation walk of Quebec with Trip Leader
- Driving/walking tour of Montreal with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Toronto with Trip Leader
- Visit Niagara Falls
- Driving/walking tour of Pittsburgh with Trip Leader
- Driving/walking tour of Washington, DC with Trip Leader

MORE INCLUSIONS

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YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

New York City
United States of America

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

New York City
United States of America

TRIP CURRENCIES

- United States of America - USD
- Canada - CAD

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

The Big Apple. One iconic city to kick off one UNbelievable US and Canadian adventure. Makes sense. First: get some bucket listers under your belt with a driving-walking tour of NYC's hot spots. Then? Get cheers-ing your trip mates over tonight's included dinner. Ready for 12 days of jam-packed, fun-filled North American road trippin'? Hell yeah!



MEALS:

- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving/walking tour of New York with Trip Leader

DAY 2 | NEW YORK CITY TO BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Stock up on snacks and whip out the AUX cord – we're heading to Boston first thing. A city that was key to the American Revolution and Independence movement, Boston's got a BIG past– and our expert Trip Leader has the lowdown on today's driving-walking tour. Tick off the likes of Bunker Hill, Charleston Bridge, the USS Constitution and North End Neighbourhood. And tonight? Head to Faneuil Hall Marketplace for alllll the foodie goodness.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving/walking tour of Boston with Trip Leader

DAY 3 | BOSTON

This is your day, your way. But if you need some suggestions, we've got some immense optional activities lined up (obvs). Get on your bike and explore six different neighbourhoods with an in-the-know local. Or brush up on your Red Sox trivia with a visit to Fenway Park. Rather go cultural? Follow the story of the American Revolution along the Freedom Trail. Jump aboard the USS Constitution. Check out the Boston Tea Party Museum. Then, round up the fam and hunt down the perfect cannoli in North End. It doesn't get much better than this.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Guided tour of Fenway Park: from \$25 USD
- Bike tour of Boston: from \$60 USD

DAY 4 | BOSTON TO QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC

Wave goodbye to Beantown – the French-speaking city of Quebec is calling our name. Oh là là. Fun fact: Quebec City is one of North America's oldest settlements. And it's looking goooooood for its age. We've got a bit of a drive across the Canadian border, so settle in and verse your trip mates to a not-so-friendly game of UNO. When we roll in, our Trip Leader will point out the must-sees. And tonight: there's the option to wander the cobblestone streets on a spine-tingling ghost tour. With over 400 years of murder, tragedy and hauntings – you might need a spare pair of undies for this one.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Quebec with Trip Leader



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Ghost tour of Quebec: from \$25 CAD

DAY 5 | QUEBEC CITY TO MONTREAL

Au revoir, Quebec – after another group brekkie we’re swapping you for Montreal today. Gawp at the big guns on a driving-walking tour, then dump your stuff and get exploring. Head to Old Montreal and check out the Place d’Armes, Place Royal and Notre Dame Basilica. Get all the views of City Hall and Nelson’s Column from Place Jacques-Cartier. Stroll along the waterfront and Old Port. Or flash some plastic in the boutiques and stalls of Bonsecours Market. Haven’t tried poutine yet? Go. Now.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving/walking tour of Montreal with Trip Leader

DAY 6 | MONTREAL

Today, it’s all about you. Need some suggestions? Put your fat pants to the test on a food tour of the Mile End district. Think: three hours of the best carb-laden, cheese-topped, bagel-shaped stops in the city. Mmmmm. Or tackle the Lachine Rapids with an adrenaline-fuelled jet boating experience. Spoiler: you will get wet. Prefer to do your own spontaneous this-is-what-I-came-here-for thing? Climb Mt Royal for alllll the views. Or uncover the maze of shops and museums hidden beneath the city streets at the Underground City. Tonight, you’re in Disneyland for foodies – go get it.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Food tour of Montreal: from \$45 CAD
- Jet boating in Montreal: from \$55 CAD

DAY 7 | MONTREAL TO TORONTO, ONTARIO

Sum up Toronto in one word: diverse (that’s not cheating). Welcoming over 40 million people annually, speaking over 140 different languages and home to Canada’s largest LGBTIQ+ community – this place has got acceptance down pat. When we reach T-dot, tick off all the showstoppers on a walking tour. We’re talking: CN Tower, Rogers Centre, Old City Hall, Yonge-Dundas Square and Hockey Hall of Fame. Then, gather the gang and sample a slice of this city’s famous nightlife.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Toronto with Trip Leader

DAY 8 | TORONTO

A city exploding with culture and seriously good food – you’ve got 24 hrs of freedom to embrace it all. So, don’t muck about. Do the obvious and scale the CN Tower – with a stomach-churning glass viewing platform at over 342m high, this one’s pretty epic. Let your inner hockey-freak flag fly at the Ice Hockey Hall of Fame (home to the Stanley Cup). Wander the cobbled alleyways of the Distillery District. Put your waistbands to the test at St Lawrence Market. Explore the 98 OTT rooms of Casa Loma. Channel your inner hipster at Kensington Market. Then, head to Chinatown for cheap beers and drool-worthy dumplings. This is what you came for.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Climb the CN Tower: from \$25 CAD

DAY 9 | TORONTO TO PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, VIA NIAGARA FALLS

Down that coffee and wave goodbye to Toronto – we're outta here. But before crossing back into the States, we'll treat our eyeballs to the 'holy sh*t'-worthy Niagara Falls. Watch from Table Rock as 600,000 gallons of water cascade into a thunderous show of mist and rushing water. Wanna get closer? There's an optional boat tour on the cards (if you brought your raincoat). Next: Pittsburgh we're coming for ya. Rally the troops and swing by The Church Brew Works for tonight's feed. PB and jelly cocktails? Yes please.



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Niagara Falls



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Niagara Falls boat tour: from \$40 CAD

DAY 10 | PITTSBURGH TO WASHINGTON, DC

You want more city highlights? Alright, greedy. We'll kick things off today with a driving-walking tour around the 'burgh. This place is known as the 'Steel City', so things are about to get shiny. Then: onwards to the OG of American politics! When we pull up in Washington, the evening's yours for exploring. Our hot tip? Track down some pupusas – think pocket-sized, cheese-and-bean-stuffed pouches all the way from El Salvador (not literally, they'd go cold).



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving/walking tour of Pittsburgh with Trip Leader

DAY 11 | WASHINGTON, DC

We're squeezing one last driving-walking tour into this trip. 'Cos that's how we roll. Then? Grab yourself a set of wheels on a Segway or bike tour. Or hit up the array of FREE museums. From the National Museum of American History to the National Air and Space Museum, and the International Spy Museum - there's something for literally everyone. And this far into the trip, you know the bud who'll be into it too... Just make sure you're back in time for tonight's farewell dinner – this UNreal adventure deserves one super-sized American send-off!



MEALS:

- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Driving/walking tour of Washington, DC with Trip Leader



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Bike or Segway tour: from \$40 USD

DAY 12 | WASHINGTON, DC, TO NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

And just like that, it's all over. Jump on the coach back to NYC, say your goodbyes (no tears, pls) and get planning next year's reunion trip. Where to next?

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>

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!