



GET SOCIAL: MEGA EUROPEAN



TOPDECKER, meet Europe (TD)

TRIP VIBE = fast-paced fun with tons of socialising, bucket-list sights and good times all round.

Mega. European. Says it all really doesn't it? Seriously though, this trip is really f**king big. We mean, like, 49 days big. 19 countries big. If you don't do things by halves, this is the one for you. From the old capitals of the west to the re-emerging Balkans and beyond, believe us when we say that the Mega European is FULL. Full of culture, full of food, full of weird, full of wonderful. And when it's done? You will be: wiser. free-er. complete-er. And you won't ever look at the world the same.

WORTH NOTING...

Psst... Bookin' on the 3 June 2023 departure? On Day 5, you'll be crashin' the night in Bilbao instead of San Sebastian. Same goes for all 2024 departures!

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.

INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

- Paris highlights drive
- Orientation walk of Bordeaux with Trip Leader
- Orientation walk of Bilbao with Trip Leader
- Barcelona highlights drive
- Orientation walk of Nice with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Monaco with Trip Leader
- Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower
- Walking tour of Florence with local guide
- Orientation walk of Orvieto with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Rome with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Venice with Trip Leader
- Overnight ferry to Athens
- Athens highlights drive
- Visit the cliffside monasteries of Meteora (entry not included)
- Tirana highlights drive with local guide
- Visit Budva
- Walking tour of Dubrovnik with local guide
- Orientation walk of Mostar with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Sarajevo with local guide
- Entrance to Plitvice Lakes National Park
- Visit Lake Bled
- Budapest highlights drive
- Walking tour of Kraków with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Prague with Trip Leader
- Orientation walk of Dresden with Trip Leader
- Berlin highlights drive
- Copenhagen highlights drive
- Orientation walk of Hamburg with Trip Leader

YOUR TRIP WILL
START

YOUR TRIP WILL
FINISH

TRIP CURRENCIES

PICK UP:

London
Europe

DROP OFF:

London
Europe

- England - GBP
 - France - EUR
 - Spain - EUR
 - Monaco - EUR
 - Switzerland - CHF
 - Italy - EUR
 - Vatican City - EUR
 - Greece - EUR
 - Albania - ALL
 - Croatia - EUR
 - Montenegro - EUR
 - Bosnia & Herzegovina - BAM
 - Slovenia - EUR
 - Hungary - HUF
 - Poland - PLN
 - Czech Republic - CZK
 - Germany - EUR
 - Denmark - DKK
 - Netherlands - EUR
-

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | LONDON (ENGLAND) – PARIS (FRANCE)

Get ready to leave the everyday behind and uncover extraordinary. Meet the gang in LDN-town, stock up on Pringles and pull out the AUX cord – we're hitting the road early for the City of Lights. The home of Coco Chanel, the Mona Lisa and the world's best pastries – Paris has earned its rep as the European capital for all things fashion, culture and drool-worthy food. Tick off all the showstoppers on a driving tour before getting OUT there. Wanna know how we'd start? By soaking up Parisian vibes from the water while cruising the River Seine on an evening cruise. Get ready for the magic.



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Paris highlights drive



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Seine River evening cruise: from €15

DAY 2 | PARIS

This is your day, your way. So, make every second count. 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 Élysées. Discover the hidden gems down Paris's backstreets and alleyways. Walking not your thing? Give those calves a workout on an optional bike tour. Tonight, commit those faces to memory at our welcome meal. Then: dress to impress for an optional cabaret show. Think sparking lights, death-defining acrobatics, OTT costumes and the can-can (of course).



MEALS:

- Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Parisian cabaret show: price and location available locally
- Bike tour of Paris: from €34

DAY 3 | PARIS – BORDEAUX

Don't drink your vino out of a cask? You're gonna love the next stop on our mega roadie. Bordeaux: where half the city is UNESCO World Heritage-listed and vineyards reign supreme. We'll get our bearings around this 1200-year-old city with our expert Trip Leader. Then enjoy free time to explore. Dinner tonight is up to you, but you're in France – anywhere is going to be delicious.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Bordeaux with Trip Leader

DAY 4 | BORDEAUX

Less hectic than its touristy big brother and way cooler (in our opinion) – today is your day to explore Bordeaux, your way. Need some suggestions? Explore la Cité du Vin: a wine-themed museum, 'nough said. Arrange a day trip to St Emilion. Hunt down a local patisserie for all your cream-filled, carb-loaded desires. Or buy some local cheese, a bottle of the good stuff from L'Intendant, and picnic like a true Frenchman. Just make sure you leave room for desert – you're going to want to try a canelé (can-eh-lay). Trust us.

DAY 5 | BORDEAUX – BILBAO (SPAIN)

Peer out the window as we roll through the vineyard-covered French Basque country into Spain. Unload the coach and get your bearings on an orientation tour of Bilbao. DW our in-the-know Trip Leader will point out the best pintxos places along the way. Then the rest is up to you. Enjoy a delish cortado in the sun. Stroll around the city's BEAUT Old Town. Or pop into the world-famous Guggenheim Bilbao Museum for some eye-popping artwork. Later, choose your pants wisely – if you're embarking on a pintxos-bar-crawl tonight, you're gonna need a LOT of room.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Bilbao with Trip Leader

DAY 6 | BILBAO – BARCELONA

Onwards to the capital of Catalonia. Bienvenidos to the city of art nouveau, sexy accents and (most importantly) tapas. Get a feel for Barça on a driving tour – ticking of the likes of Olympic Park, Plaza Espanya, the National Museum and Montjuïc Hill. Then: time to track down some bombas – tennis ball-shaped croquettes of dreams. They're the bomb, hence the name.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Barcelona highlights drive

DAY 7 | BARCELONA

Time to do your own spontaneous-this-is-what-I-came-for thing, amigos. But if you need some suggestions, we've got your back. Park Güell and Sagrada Família are straight-up must-sees. BUT don't think you can just stroll up in there – you're gonna need to book tix online first. Then: explore the crazy that is Las Ramblas, head into the National Museum for an education in over a thousand years of art, or get lost amongst the maze of winding alleys in the Gothic Quarter. Lose yourself, find yourself, then grab a beer at Els Quatre Gats. Later, there's an optional show on the cards at the oldest flamenco tablaos in Barcelona.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Flamenco show in Barcelona:
from €22

DAY 8 | BARCELONA

There's no way you'd be able to fit everything in with just 24 hrs – so, here's another day to do whatever YOU want. Thank us later. Organise a stadium tour of Camp Nou (home to one of the greatest teams in soccer history, just sayin'). Arm yourself with snacks, then head up el Turó de la Rovira for next level views over the city. Or take some time out from the adventuring and sangria-drinking with a swim at Barceloneta Beach. This is your last chance to work out what Ed Sheeran was on about, so hit the d-floor later with your trip mates – we're out of here in the morning.

DAY 9 | BARCELONA – FRENCH RIVIERA (FRANCE)

Start practising your bonjours and s'il vous plaît's as we follow the Mediterranean coast to the glamorous French Riviera. After dumping your stuff and getting the run about town with our Trip Leader, the rest of the afternoon is 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



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Nice with Trip Leader

DAY 10 | FRENCH RIVIERA, INCLUDING MONACO

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).



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Monaco with Trip Leader

DAY 11 | FRENCH RIVIERA – SWISS ALPS (SWITZERLAND)

Rise and shine. Down your coffee. And wave au revoir to France – we'll be trading ritz and glitz for snowy peaks as we head to the mountains. Home to the 'Top of Europe', 72 waterfalls and one of the largest nature conservations in Switzerland – tonight we're bunking down in the mind-blowing Swiss Alps. This eve: sit back in the fresh alpine air with an ice-cold bevvie and crack open that pack of UNO. Cue: suspicion that all the Wild Cards went to one person, and it's not you.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 12 | SWISS ALPS

Wake to the sounds of rushing waterfalls and Swiss birds chirping (they're like normal birds – but better). You're finally here. So, don't waste a second. Hiking. Biking. Skydiving. Helicopter-ing. This place has it all. Prefer to stay grounded? Slip on the Birks and walk the valley floor. Or hop aboard the Jungfrau railway for an optional visit to the Jungfrau Mountain summit. Trust us, whatever you choose - you'll have views for days.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Scenic excursion to Jungfrau ('The Top of Europe'): from 165 CHF
- Skydiving in the Swiss Alps: from 475 CHF

DAY 13 | SWISS ALPS – PISA (ITALY) – FLORENCE

Buy that fondue set for mum and take one last wistful glance at the Alps – we're hitting the frog and toad after breakfast. First stop: Pisa. Think of a creative pose for THAT photo (please). Then, make your food baby sing as we roll into the capital of Tuscan cuisine. You've got free time to stroll along the Arno River and watch the sunset, before hunting down a local restaurant for dinner. Did someone say karaoke? If you're feeling it, join the gang in a battle of the classics at the bar later.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower

DAY 14 | FLORENCE

Florence 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! Tonight, catch the epic sunset from Piazzale Michelangelo. Trust us, this is what you came for.



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Florence with local guide

DAY 15 | FLORENCE – ORVIETO – ROME

Onwards! First: 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, sorry). Then: bella Roma awaits. Strap on your Nikes, fill up your water bottle and pack your anti-chafing cream – today's walking tour is one for the books. 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 your 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. Tonight: go show that pizza who's boss.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Orvieto with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Rome with Trip Leader

DAY 16 | ROME

You've got 24 hours to live out all your Lizzie McGuire Movie fantasies. Get out there and do your own, spontaneous, this-is-what-you-came-for thing. But if you need some ideas, we've got your back. Opt to see the glory that is the Vatican City on a guided tour. If the Catholic Church isn't your vibe, choose a tour that hits classic Rome. We're talking the Colosseum, Palatine Hill AND Roman Forum. Or fill up on delish pasta and wine during an optional food tour around Insta-worthy Trastevere. Tonight, shake out those fat pants for round two.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Guided tour of Vatican City:
from €50
- Tour of Colosseum, Palatine Hill
and Roman Forum: from €50
- Food and wine tour of Rome:
from €69

DAY 17 | ROME – VENICE

No lies – we have a long drive. Now is the chance to share snaps with your new mates, catch up on some zzzzs and text the 'rents (trust us, you'll be too busy later). We'll park up later in Venice – home to over 400 bridges and birthplace of Vivaldi. Tonight, this beautifully romantic city is yours for the taking.

MEALS:

- Breakfast

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Get a personalised trip T-shirt or hoodies: from €23

DAY 18 | VENICE

You know it as the Floating City, but this place is actually sinking (slowly). Acquaint yourself with the usual suspects on a walking tour – ticking off the likes of St Mark's Square, Doge's Palace and Accademia Bridge. Then make like Dora and get exploring! Need some suggestions? Float past the famous Rialto Bridge on a gondola ride. Spend your time seeking out the epic Libreria Acqua Alta bookshop. Or forget all the above and hunt down the perfect gelato. It's your trip after all. Later, score a cheap meal at Osteria Al Portego or enjoy a spritz overlooking one of Venice's fuchsia-pink sunsets.

INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Venice with
Trip Leader

DAY 19 | VENICE – OVERNIGHT FERRY TO ATHENS (GREECE)

Truth bomb alert: you've got a bit of a drive from Venice to Ancona today (where we'll swap the coach for a ferry). BUT once we're on board you're gonna have a quad room with an en suite for the ride. Plus you've got your awesome AF trip mates to keep you entertained. And when you wake up? You're in Greece – heck, yes!

MEALS:

- Breakfast

INCLUDED TODAY:

- Overnight ferry to Athens

DAY 20 | ATHENS

Spartans, assemble. We'll dock at Patras and roll on to the ancient capital of Athens. Tick off your ancient (and not-so-ancient) must-sees today on a driving tour. The Museum of the City of Athens. Hotel Grand Bretagne. National Garden. Hadrian's Arch. Temple of Olympian Zeus. Panathinaiko Stadium. The Unknown Soldier's Tomb. The Acropolis. We'll see it all. Tonight, hunt down the best souvlaki outside Olympus.



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Athens highlights drive

DAY 21 | ATHENS – MYKONOS (CYCLADES)

This morning's an early one – but it's going to be oh-so-worth it! If Athens invented democracy, Mykonos pioneered the beach party that followed. Take a wander to the windmills, check out the white-washed shopfronts of Old Town, and make a mental note of all the beachfront cocktail bars to check out later. Then: tonight's plans are up to you! Ever heard of Paradise Beach? It's where Europe goes to party. 'Nough said.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 22 | MYKONOS

Sore head this morning? DW we've got the cure – a free day lazing on Mykonos' sun-soaked beaches. If you're up for it, why not arrange a trip to Delos Island to check out the birthplace of the sun god Apollo. Or head to Giora's Wood Medieval Bakery for pastries that legit melt in your mouth. You've got 48 hours on paradise – make the most of it!

DAY 23 | MYKONOS

Swim. Souvlaki. Siesta. Swim again. Today is 100% up to you. Have you checked out Paradise Beach by day? Take the short hike from Platis Gialos along the south coast of the island. The views are worth the sweaty back. Trust us. Then cool down with a dip or hire a paddleboard. This is your last night here, so gather the gang for gyros and bíras on the beachfront.

DAY 24 | MYKONOS – ATHENS (GREECE)

Whip out your camera and snap one last pic – we'll be back in Athens before you know it! You've got free time this afternoon to do your own thing. Our suggestion? Check out the Byzantine churches in Plaka or hit up the flea markets in Monastiraki. After stuffing your face with yet another souvlaki for dinner, head to Lukumades for a second fill of Greek doughnuts. Mmm.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 25 | ATHENS – METEORA

Suffer from acrophobia? Better keep your eyes closed for this one. Today we're leaving Athens behind to visit the monasteries of Meteora – perched high atop the nail-biting cliffs of Thessaly. If you're interested, pay the entrance for the Grand or Varlaam Monasteries and explore a little deeper (pssst wear a long skirt, ladies). Or just stop and enjoy the moment. The view from up here is pretty epic. Tonight, enjoy a bit of 'me-time' after a hectic first half of the trip. Or gear up for another game of UNO – this time, it's personal.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit the cliffside monasteries of Meteora (entry not included)

DAY 26 | METEORA – TIRANA (ALBANIA)

What happens when you paint a former communist capital in vivid colours? According to Tirana's artist-turned-mayor-turned-TED speaker Edi Rama, people start paying taxes and crime rates plummet. True story. Say hello to our local guide when we tick off the main sights on a driving tour. Then: make sure you check out the crazy number of old bunkers here. Tonight, your mission – should you choose to accept it – get out there and find the city's best fried kaçkavall cheese.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Tirana highlights drive with local guide

DAY 27 | TIRANA – BUDVA (MONTENEGRO) – DUBROVNIK (CROATIA)

Press your nose to the window and soak up all the stunning views racing past the coach window as we make our way to the most famous walled city in Europe. But first: a quick stop in Budva – the 'Miami of Montenegro'. Three countries in one day? Only with us. This afternoon, we'll take a wander around Dubrovnik's tiny cobblestone streets with a local guide. Then: round up the group and go sample some aporki makaruli, aka 'dirty macaroni'.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Budva
- Walking tour of Dubrovnik with local guide

DAY 28 | DUBROVNIK

Don't be fooled. Dubrovnik is so much more than snapping a selfie on some steps. Although, you can totally get your fill of GOT with a Cersei-themed tour if that's your thing. Rather take to the water? Sign up to a sea kayaking excursion – swim stops at the island of Lokrum included. Get your fix of awesome views with a stroll along the ancient city walls or take the cable car up Mt Srd. Then tonight: hit the d-floor at Revelin nightclub. Did we mention it's in a 16th-century fortress?



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Sea kayaking around the ancient City Walls of Dubrovnik: from €35

DAY 29 | DUBROVNIK

Shake the confetti from your hair – you’ve got another full day of exploring to do. Didn’t get round to ticking everything off your bucket list? Now’s your chance. If you’re feeling up to it, make the climb to Lovrijenac for the best views over Dubrovnik Old Town. Or take your towel, SPF and shake off that hangover at Banje Beach. Later, you can head to Buža Bar for relaxed cliffside bevies at sunset. Or find a local wine bar to sample Croatia’s delicious grape-juice. Have you tried peka yet? Go. Now.

DAY 30 | DUBROVNIK – MOSTAR (BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA) – SARAJEVO

Shake off the crowds of Dubrovnik in up-and-coming Sarajevo – a city that’s leaving its tragic past behind. But first: a quick stop in Mostar to see THAT bridge (and the Red Bull-style-bridge-jumpers). Then: we’ll roll into Sarajevo, where you’ve got some free time to explore. Our suggestion? Head to Bascarsija – an Ottoman-influenced 15th-century bazaar and cultural heart of the city.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Mostar with Trip Leader

DAY 31 | SARAJEVO

You wanted freedom to discover the unknown. So, this is your chance to explore one of Europe’s most underrated cities. First: we’ll walk around the Sarajevo Museum, Gazi Husrev-Beg’s Bezistan, the Latin Bridge and Sebilj Fountain with our local guide. Then: it’s your turn to hit the streets. Check out the Sarajevo Roses – resin-filled memorials to the Siege of Sarajevo. Marvel at Vijecnica’s amazing stained-glass ceiling. Head to Sevdah Art House and tuck into Bosnian coffee and pastries as you learn about the history of traditional Sevdah music (it’s folk). Or hike up to Yellow Bastion Hill for the best views over the city. Later, find a local restaurant and fill up on cevapi, washed down with a glass of bambus (wine + coke – don’t knock it until you try it).



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Sarajevo with local guide

DAY 32 | SARAJEVO – PLITVICE (CROATIA)

Say sayonara to Sarajevo after breakfast – we’re headed to the little slice of paradise known as Plitvice. Unless you’ve been living under an Instagram-less rock, you’ll recognise this place for its #wanderlust National Park, which is on the cards tomorrow. And tonight? Kick back at your digs and chill with your legendary trip mates. Who’s up for the Forehead Game?



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 33 | PLITVICE – LJUBLJANA (SLOVENIA)

Made up of 16 lakes connected by streams and waterfalls, and surrounded by 300 square kilometres of national park, Plitvice Lakes didn't make it onto the UNESCO World Heritage list for nothing. You've got the whole morning to explore this maze of natural serenity. Then: onwards to Slovenia's capital Ljubljana. Try pronouncing it, go on we dare you. After a quick stroll around the Old Town, you're free to explore the underground art installations and live music scene with the fam.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Entrance to Plitvice Lakes National Park

DAY 34 | LJUBLJANA, INCLUDING LAKE BLEĐ

Ljubljana Castle has been waiting for you since Celtic times – so don't keep it waiting any longer. Later, we'll jump aboard the coach for a family outing to Lake Bled. You've heard of this one, surely. Take a stroll around the glistening blue lake. Go for a refreshing dip. Or hire a boat across to the island and ring the wishing bell. You wished for more wishes, didn't you? Back in L-Town, gear up for round two of hip bars and restaurants. Add in an optional mouth-watering food tour and your stomach will thank us, pinky swear.



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Lake Bled



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Local food tour in Ljubljana: from €54

DAY 35 | LJUBLJANA – BUDAPEST (HUNGARY)

Our Ljubljana love affair was short but oh-so-sweet. Up next? The twin cities of Buda and Pest. We'll be chauffeured past the Chain Bridge, Castle District, Gellert Hotel, Heroes' Square and House of Terror on a driving tour of the city. Afterwards: free time to do your own sweet thing. Our rec? Swing by a few of the city's rooftop bars for sophisticated vibes and UN-real views.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Budapest highlights drive

DAY 36 | BUDAPEST

A free day to experience everything this firecracker of a city has to offer. Check out the Central Market Hall. Explore the Jewish Quarter. Play pinball at the Flippermúzeum. Hunt down the Anonymous Statue. Soak in the therapeutic waters of the Széchenyi Thermal Baths. Tonight, opt for a dinner cruise down the Danube (Buda Castle and House of Parliament look extra spesh lit up like Christmas). Or hang with the hipsters and drink local fruit brandy at one of the original ruin bars. Maybe even sample a pickled carrot or two (random? Yep, but they're a thing).



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Danube River cruise: prices available locally

DAY 37 | BUDAPEST – KRAKÓW (POLAND)

Legend has it a dragon had to be defeated in order for Kraków to be built. Game of Thrones, eat your heart out. Get acquainted with this gem of a city on a walking tour – complete with an introduction to its resident dragon. Then? Take Fleetwood's advice and go your own way. Top up your history knowledge at Wawel Castle, explore the hip cafes and boutiques in the Jewish Quarter, head to Schindler's Museum (prepare to queue) or find a local haunt and tuck into a piled-high plate of pierogi.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Kraków with Trip Leader

DAY 38 | KRAKÓW

Here's a free day we prepared earlier. Need some suggestions? Head to Hamsa in the heart of the Jewish Quarter for some 'Hummus and Happiness', shop for the 'Gold of the Baltic' in the UNESCO-listed Cloth Hall. Or do as the locals do and head to Okraglak for some drool-worthy street food – Zapiekanki is a must! Then: it's time to refine your vodka palette on an optional tasting tour. Learn the history behind Polish vodka and sample a few uniquely flavoured varieties as you go. Refuse to drink it without Red Bull? There are plenty of bars to pull into for a tasting of the local beer instead.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Vodka tasting: from 218 PLN

DAY 39 | KRAKÓW – PRAGUE (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Onwards to the spire-filled skyline and mysterious streets of Prague! Our Trip Leader will get us acquainted with this picture-perfect city – complete with quirky clock tower – and point out all the must-dos for our free day tomorrow. After hunting down some sma~ený sýr (fried cheese of dreams) for dinner, hit the town to try some local Czech beer or sample a cocktail at The Alchemist – an old-school venue with a 1950s' vibe. Hint: if you want the full experience, ask for the 'choose your fate'. We'll see you in the morning.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Prague with Trip Leader

DAY 40 | PRAGUE

Another day done completely your way. 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 all the views. Check out what the Dancing House is all about. 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.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Local beer tasting in Prague:
from €40

DAY 41 | PRAGUE – DRESDEN (GERMANY) – BERLIN

From one beer capital to the next. 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, Museum Island, the Holocaust Museum and Alexanderplatz. Then: hunt down a pretzel the size of your face and some Berliner Pfannkuchen – the doughnut's German cousin.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Dresden with Trip Leader
- Berlin highlights drive

DAY 42 | BERLIN

You've got 48 hrs here. Make the most of it. Our advice? Opt in for a historic walking tour that's actually interesting. You'll 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. Plus, all the insider tips on how to spend the rest of your free day. Or put those elastic waistbands to the ultimate test on a locally led food tour. We're talking kebabs, pastries, more currywurst, pierogi and local beers (of course). Regroup with the gang later to see whether this city's nightlife really lives up to the hype.



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Third Reich walking tour: from €20
- Berlin food tour: from €45

DAY 43 | BERLIN

Didn't tick everything off? We've got your back – here's another day of freedom. Head to the Mauerpark markets for stalls filled with stuff you didn't know you needed. Explore Museum Island. Take a ride in a Trabi and see why it's Germany's best-loved car. Or turn off Google maps and simply get lost in the unknown – who knows what you might find? Tonight, seek out Burgermeister. This place used to be a public toilet (ew) but now serves up the best burgers in Berlin (yum). You know you wanna try it...

DAY 44 | BERLIN – COPENHAGEN (DENMARK)

Thinking of relocating? Today we're going to find out why Copenhagen keeps popping up among the Top 5 Most Liveable Cities in the World. After a short ferry ride, we'll tick off the likes of Tivoli Gardens, City Hall, Nyhavn and the National Museum of Denmark on a driving tour. Take a stroll along the waterfront, hear the REAL story of the Little Mermaid (her statue is here) and hum Under the Sea while you hunt down a not-too-'spennie restaurant for dinner.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Copenhagen highlights drive

DAY 45 | COPENHAGEN

When in doubt, do as the locals do – hire a bike and explore this chilled-out Scandi city on two wheels. Spend some time wandering the waterfront in Nyhavn. Tuck into a smorgasbord of Nordic cuisine. Take a dip in the clean canals (clothing optional). Discover the city's thriving craft beer scene. Or swing by Tivoli Gardens – not only the second oldest theme park in the world, but also the most beautiful (according to us). Time it right, and you can take in the sunset from the top of the giant chair swing. Cue: goose bumps. For dinner tonight, head to Gasoline Grill – the definition of 'don't judge a book by its cover'.

DAY 46 | COPENHAGEN – HAMBURG (GERMANY)

With more bridges than Venice and Amsterdam combined, no skyscrapers (shook) and the first zoo with no enclosures, Hamburg is one of the hippest cities in Europe. Trust us. Get past the kinda grey first impression and you'll uncover a city teeming with fascinating culture, a strong beer hall scene and more quirky cafes than you can order a matcha latte at. Take a stroll with your expert Trip Leader to tick off St Nikolai Church, the Rathaus, Chilehaus and Miniatur Wunderland. Then: head to Sternschanze for a night out with the gang. Seriously, The Beatles started here so it's bound to be good.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Hamburg with Trip Leader

DAY 47 | HAMBURG – AMSTERDAM (NETHERLANDS)

Ok, nobody panic – the adventure is coming to a close. But we're not done yet! Set course for Amsterdam and use your free time to check out the likes of Dam Square, the Royal Palace and the National Monument. This place is a foodie's haven so you'll have no issues finding somewhere to quench your munchies. Give into temptation and grab a cone of hot chips with mayo. Mmm. Later, make a beeline for a canalside wine bar or brewery to keep the good times rolling.



MEALS:

- Breakfast

DAY 48 | AMSTERDAM

You can't be serious – this is our last full day? FFS don't hang about – join the locals and get on your bike! Check out Amsterdam's iconic canals, bridges and parks on an optional bike tour. History buffs should pay a visit to the Anne Frank House (don't forget to book in advance!). Didn't manage to get those tix? Choose to take her last walk, complete with a VR experience. And for the culture fiends – the Van Gogh Museum and Rijksmuseum. Feeling a more relaxed vibe? Head to Hannekes Boom for waterfront views, good food and all-round good energy. Or stop by Brouwerij't IJ Microbrewery – a bar next to a windmill, serving up craft beers and cheese-laden tapas. Just make sure you're back in time to toast the final night of our MEGA European adventure at tonight's group dinner.



MEALS:

- Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Bike tour of Amsterdam: from €28
- Anne Frank's Last Walk and VR experience: from €37

DAY 49 | AMSTERDAM – LONDON (ENGLAND)

49 days. 18 countries. Countless thrills, spills and good times. One f*cking huge adventure. You embraced it all and shared the ride with a bunch of strangers who are now like family. But it's time to hit the road back to ol' Blighty. Reunion trip next year?



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!