





# TOPDECKER, meet North America

From Manhattan to Miami, take on the East Coast with this one-of-a-kind trip. This adventure starts with the madness of NYC and winds up in the home to buff bodies, art deco and eternal sunshine: Miami. Pack your bags - we'll see you in Manhattan.

# WHAT YOU **NEED TO KNOW**



Play & Pause



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).

#### **INCLUDED EXPERIENCES**

- 7-day NYC Metro Pass
- Local legend walking tour
- 7 day NYC Metro Pass
- Traditional Cuban dinner
- Everglades airboat experience
- Driving tour of Miami
- Breakfast

<b>IMPORTANT:</b> please refresh this doc as close to your
departure as possible. This means you'll have the most up-to-date info available.

# YOUR ITINERARY

# DAY 1 | NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

What's up, New York? It's time to make the most of this crazy city. Tonight, meet with the group and feast on a welcome dinner together. Note: hot dogs between meals are highly encouraged.



## **INCLUDED TODAY:**

7-day NYC Metro Pass

## DAY 2 I NEW YORK CITY

Your mission today is to see what makes New York tick, from Wall Street to Fifth Avenue and everything else in between. First up: let a local legend take you around to show you the sights (juicy insider knowledge included). After that, the city's your oyster - so sit back, ride the subway and see where the day takes you with your included 7-day NYC Metro pass.





**INCLUDED TODAY:** 



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Breakfast

- 7-day NYC Metro Pass
- Local legend walking tour
- New York sightseeing pass

## DAY 3 I NEW YORK CITY

Today is all yours to spend how you please. In the unlikely event that you're stuck for ideas, NYC's awesome galleries, museums, epic bridges and the Statue of Liberty are good places to start. If all else fails, let your tummy lead the way - grab a bagel or fill up on pizza in Brooklyn.



**MEALS:** 



(☆) INCLUDED TODAY:

Breakfast

7 day NYC Metro Pass

# DAY 4 | NEW YORK CITY TO ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Are you ready to jet off? Pack yo' bags and get ready to visit the home of Mickey and friends in the one and only Orlando. Just one sleep till we can hit the theme parks!



#### **MEALS:**

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## DAY 5 | ORLANDO

Today's optionals will blow your mind. Gear up for nostalgia overload at Walt Disney World, thrills and spills of blockbuster proportions at Universal Studios, or a visit to the Kennedy Space Center that will make all your childhood space camp dreams come true.



## **OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

- Visit Universal Studios Orlando
- Visit Walt Disney World
- Visit Kennedy Space Center

## DAY 6 I ORLANDO

Wanna do yesterday all over again? Well, good news - you can! Or, if you've had your fill of roller coasters and rockets, you could always get some me-time strolling the city's picturesque tree-lined neighbourhoods and fascinating museums. You do you.



## **OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

- · Visit Universal Studios Orlando
- · Visit Walt Disney World
- Visit Kennedy Space Center

## DAY 7 | ORLANDO TO MIAMI

Ready to take Miami? Good. We've got a jam-packed day to keep you on your toes. We'll kick things off an airboat experience through the Everglades, followed by a Miami city tour - and to finish, we've got a tasty Cuban dinner to look forward to.



## **MEALS:**



## **INCLUDED TODAY:**

- Dinner
- Traditional Cuban dinner
- Everglades airboat experience
- · Driving tour of Miami

## DAY 8 | MIAMI

Hello, free day in Miami! Put on your exploring hat, because the likes of downtown Miami, the waterfront and Little Havana are just waiting for you to come and take a look around. If you get bored of hanging around on dry land, you could always take to the water on an optional speedboat trip.



#### **MEALS:**



## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Breakfast
- · Miami speedboat ride

## DAY 9 I MIAMI TO FLORIDA KEYS

Ready to hit the beach? We thought so. Florida Keys ticks all the boxes with scuba diving, snorkelling and suntanning opportunities aplenty. This famous chain of islands along the southern tip of Florida is all yours to enjoy over the next two days. Score!



#### **MEALS:**

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## DAY 10 I FLORIDA KEYS

Ahoy there! A taste of life on the ocean wave can be yours if you take the option to head out on an all-day sailing adventure today. Think: snorkelling + jet skiing + parasailing + food + drinks. Best. Day. Ever.





# 

Breakfast

Full day sailing adventure

## DAY 11 I FLORIDA KEYS TO MIAMI

Join the crew for one last breakfast together in Florida Keys before we make our way back to Miami, where our trip ends. But who says you can't keep the adventure going?



## **INCLUDED TODAY:**

Breakfast

# MEALS

Your included meals are detailed in the 'Included Essentials' section of this document.

Breakfasts (usually continental breakfasts) are included most days. A typical continental breakfast may consist of cereals with milk or yogurt, bread, croissants, cold meats, and cheese - with fruit juice, tea or coffee to drink. It is rare to get a hot breakfast, 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.

# 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- andtested 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.

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**

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 travelling with us (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

#### **TIPPING CULTURE IN NORTH AMERICA**

In North America, tipping is customary. Please bear in mind that you will be expected to leave a tip for optional meals and activities, as well as

during nights out.

# 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

