

# Topdeck

## PLAY & PAUSE: EPIC EUROPEAN



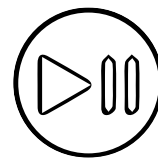
### TOPDECKER, meet Europe (TD)

TRIP VIBE = the perfect mix of group activities and all-important YOU time. This? It's basically the OG of Europe trips. 36 mind-blowing, jaw-dropping days of pure unadulterated Europe-ness. Take 17 countries, the sun-bleached coastlines of the Adriatic, the dizzying mountain peaks of the Swiss Alps and cities that have straight-up shaped the world's history. And add in bags of free time to do whatever it is you came for. Discover Europe, discover yourself along the way. It's a win-win.

### WORTH NOTING...

The Venice Gondola Ride and Budapest Dinner Cruise will float from Included Experiences into Optional Activities in 2024. Meaning: more free time to do what YOU want. Joining us on our 8 September departure? On Day 8 and 9 we'll be staying in glitzy Marseille (French Riviera) rather than Nice (or visiting Monaco).

### 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).

**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
- Visit to Loire Valley
- Orientation walk of Bordeaux with Trip Leader
- Wine tasting at Château du Taillan
- Orientation walk of Carcassonne with Trip Leader
- Visit Andorra
- Barcelona highlights drive
- Orientation walk of Nice with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Monaco with Trip Leader
- Walking tour of Venice with Trip Leader
- Gondola ride down the Grand Canal (included experience for 2023 trips only)
- Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower
- Walking tour of Florence with local guide
- Walking tour of Rome with Trip Leader
- Tirana highlights drive with local guide
- Visit Budva
- Walking tour of Dubrovnik with local guide
- Budapest highlights drive
- Danube dinner cruise (included experience for 2023 trips only)
- Vienna highlights drive
- Visit former concentration camp Mauthausen
- Orientation walk of Prague with Trip Leader
- Orientation walk of Dresden with Trip Leader
- Berlin highlights drive

### YOUR TRIP WILL START

#### PICK UP:

London  
Europe

### YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

#### DROP OFF:

London  
Europe

## TRIP CURRENCIES

- England - GBP
- France - EUR
- Andorra - EUR
- Spain - EUR

- Monaco - EUR
  - Switzerland - CHF
  - Italy - EUR
  - Vatican City - EUR
  - Greece - EUR
  - Albania - ALL
  - Montenegro - EUR
  - Croatia - EUR
  - Slovenia - EUR
  - Hungary - HUF
  - Austria - EUR
  - Czech Republic - CZK
  - Germany - EUR
  - Netherlands - EUR
-

# YOUR ITINERARY

## DAY 1 | LONDON (ENGLAND)

London: one iconic city to kick off 36 days of life-changing Euro adventures. Makes sense. First: meet the small bunch of trip mates who'll be sharing the ride. Then: sit back and let it all soak in at our first included group dinner. Yep, you're really here.



### MEALS:

- Dinner

## DAY 2 | LONDON – PARIS (FRANCE)

Rise and shine! We're hitting the road early to jump across the Channel. The home of Coco Chanel, the Mona Lisa and the world's best pastries – Paris deserves its rep as the European capital for all things haute couture, culture and drool-worthy food. Get to know the City of Lights better with a drive around the must-sees. And for dinner? The choice is yours, but your Trip Leader's got all the hot tips – just ask. Bon appétit!



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Paris highlights drive

## DAY 3 | PARIS

This is your day to simply do you. Create a solid dent in your bucket list with a visit to the Louvre (book your tickets in advance!) and the Musée d'Orsay. Hunt down the best patisseries in town (ask your Trip Leader for recommendations). Get lost amongst the shelves of history at Shakespeare and Co. Bookshop. Flash some plastic along the Champs Elysées. Or inject some feel-good vibes at the I Love You Wall. Not a walker? Work those thighs on an optional bike tour. Or get an alternate view of the City of Love with a river cruise down the Seine. Tonight, go all-out with an optional evening at the cabaret. Think: bright lights, OTT costumes and death-defying acrobatics.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Seine River cruise: from €15
- Bike tour of Paris: from €34
- Parisian cabaret show: prices available locally

## DAY 4 | PARIS – LOIRE VALLEY – BORDEAUX

Don't drink your vino out of a cask? You're gonna love our next stop. Glue your nose to the window and watch rows of centuries-old grapevines rush past as we make our way through the Loire Valley. First stop? The ultra-boujee Château de Chambord. Supposedly designed by Leonardo da Vinci himself – if you want, there's time to explore the 60 opulently decorated rooms, surrounding gardens (as big as inner-city Paris) and climb the mind-boggling double helix staircase. This place will have you feeling like French royalty (minus the ridiculous hairstyles). Later, we'll make tracks to Bordeaux and get the run around this 1200-year-old city with our expert Trip Leader. Then, the rest is up to you. Our suggestion? Buy some local cheese, a bottle of the good stuff 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.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit to Loire Valley
- Orientation walk of Bordeaux with Trip Leader



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Visit Château de Chambord: from €15

## DAY 5 | BORDEAUX – CARCASSONNE

It's always wine o'clock at the Château du Taillan winery, mon ami. Get to know the owners, tour the rustic cellar and practise your best tasting face as you learn your A-B-Cabernets of good wine. Then: we'll set our sights on Carcassonne. If you've ever played the board game, you'll know that the walled citadel of Carcassonne is as medieval as it gets. Get your bearings on a stroll with your Trip Leader – ticking off the Château Comtal, Basilica of Saints Nazarius and fortifications of the ancient city. Tonight, we'll rendezvous back at the hotel for a group dinner. This day in one word? Extraordinaire.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Wine tasting at Château du Taillan
- Orientation walk of Carcassonne with Trip Leader

## DAY 6 | CARCASSONNE – ANDORRA – BARCELONA (SPAIN)

We'll roll through the scenic Pyrenees mountain range today – with a quick stop in Andorra. Fun fact: this country is only about 40 km drive from one side to the other. Onwards to the capital of Catalonia! Bienvenidos (welcome) to the city of art nouveau, sexy accents and mouth-watering tapas. Get a feel for Barça on a driving tour – ticking off the likes of Olympic Park, Plaça d'Espanya, the National Museum and Montjuïc Hill. Then: quiz your Trip Leader on where to find the best paella (pah-AY-yuh) for dinner.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Andorra
- 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 Familia 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 craziness 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. Need some time out from all the adventuring? Head to Barceloneta Beach for a swim. Later, there's an optional show on the cards at the oldest flamenco tablaos in Barcelona.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Flamenco show in Barcelona: from €22

## DAY 8 | BARCELONA – FRENCH RIVIERA (FRANCE)

Start practising your bonjours and s'il vous plaît's – they'll come in handy with the locals. Trust us. Today, we're following the Mediterranean coast to Nice, the capital of the glamorous French Riviera. Get the run about town with our in-the-know Trip Leader before having the rest of the afternoon to do 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, sit back and enjoy those relaxed coastal vibes. This is what you came for.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Orientation walk of Nice with Trip Leader

## DAY 9 | FRENCH RIVIERA, INCLUDING MONACO

Free day = your chance to do exactly what you want. Laze on a sun lounger at Blue Beach. Go wild in the designer boutiques in Nice's Old Town. Or trek up Castle Hill for allll the views. The choice is yours. Later: we'll turn it up a notch with a visit to Monaco. Home of the Grand Prix and the Monte Carlo Casino, we'll see how the 1% live on a walking tour (hint: it involves Ferraris and bathing in caviar). Then, ogle at the superyachts and their perfectly manicured owners along the waterfront. Or hit the tables and make it rain (or not).



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Monaco with Trip Leader

## DAY 10 | FRENCH RIVIERA – SWISS ALPS (SWITZERLAND)

If the Swiss Alps had a Tinder bio it would read: fun-filled outdoor enthusiast – looking for a fellow adrenaline junkie to share adventures with. Swiping right? Hell yes. Warm up those vocal cords, we'll be busting out some bangers on the ride through Provence into the mountains. Cue the fairytale villages of your imagination – the oh-so-quiet Engelberg will be our base for the next two nights. Later, 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 11 | SWISS ALPS

This is your day. So, enjoy it your way. Hiking. Biking. Thrill-seeking. It's all here. You could take the revolving gondola to the top of Mt Titlis for all the epic views (without the effort). Or slip on your Birks and head into town in search of the world's best hot chocolate and cheese fondue – unless you're lactose intolerant (obvs). Whatever you choose, you're going to have views for days. After grabbing dinner, chill back at your pad or hit the town with the gang. The choice is alllll yours.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

## DAY 12 | SWISS ALPS – VENICE (ITALY)

Buy that mini-fondue set for mum and wave goodbye to the Alps – 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. Or hunt down a hidden gem for a delicious carb-laden Italian meal. What are you going to try first? Order two.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Venice with Trip Leader



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

## DAY 13 | VENICE

Time to see what all the fuss is about. 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 out-of-this-world Libreria Acqua Alta bookshop or head off the tourist trail with a trip to Giudecca Island. Or forget all the above and hunt down the perfect gelato. Go wandering. Chat to the locals. Get lost in the maze of canals and piazzas. Watch the sun go down with the gang. That's what makes the memories.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Gondola ride down the Grand Canal (included experience for 2023 trips only)

## DAY 14 | VENICE – PISA – FLORENCE

Onwards! We're rolling on to the capital of Tuscan cuisine and birthplace of gelato. But first: Pisa. If you're gonna take THAT photo, think of something unique. Please. Before dinner tonight, take a stroll along the Arno River at sunset for those this-is-what-I-came-for-vibes. Then: did someone say karaoke? If you're up for it, join the gang in a battle of the classics at a local bar. Or hunt down a gelateria for a scoop (or two) of the good stuff. What'll it be? Salted caramel? Lavender? White chocolate? Cinnamon? Must. Try. Them. ALL.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower

## DAY 15 | FLORENCE – ROME

Florence has more story lines than Game of Thrones, more culture than a Fitzroy hipster AND it gave the world David. Delve deeper into this incredible city on a walking tour with a local guide. Later, bella Roma is calling our name. Once we arrive, prepare yourself for a walking tour to end all walking tours. 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. We'll pass by the Pantheon, throw our two cents in the Trevi Fountain, (won't) sit on the Spanish Steps and wind things up under the shadow of the mighty Colosseum. Epic doesn't even cut it. Tonight, you're in Disneyland for foodies – go get it.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Florence with local guide
- Walking tour of Rome with Trip Leader

## DAY 16 | ROME

You've read Eat. Pray. Love. (or been made to watch the movie) – now, it's time to make like Julia Roberts and put this city to the test. You have 48 hours of freedom to explore. Feel your eyes pop out of your skull on a guided tour of Vatican City. Hunt down the Colosseum, Palatine Hill and the Roman Forum with a local guide. Grab a bite at Lost Food Factory (arguably one of the best sandwich spots in town). Or do as the locals do and indulge in a little dolce far niente (delicious idleness) at a local cafe or piazza. Tonight, shake out those fat pants for round two. 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 €50
- Guided tour of the Colosseum, Palatine Hill and the Roman Forum: from €50

## DAY 17 | ROME

Vespas. Espresso. Two-cheek kisses. Aggressive hand gestures. And pizza the way it's supposed to taste. Here's another free day we prepared earlier. Don't just skim the surface, experience every moment to the fullest. History buffs should arrange a day trip to Pompeii. Or head to the Knights of Malta Keyhole to see an alternative view of the city. Battle the lunchtime rush for a slice at Pizzarium Bonci. Shop till you drop on Via Condotti. Take some time to relax with a picnic at Villa Borghese Park. Thought you'd tried all the gelato flavours? Head to Fatamorgana – and think again.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



## DAY 18 | ROME – OVERNIGHT FERRY TO CORFU (GREECE)

Truth bomb alert: you've got a bit of a travel day today. We'll head from Rome to Ancona (where we'll swap the coach for a ferry). On board you'll have a cabin with an en suite for the ride. Plus, you've got your awesome trip mates to swap tales of the adventure so far. Make the most of the down time – relax, refresh and recharge those batteries. And when you wake up? You're in Greece – heck, yes! Please note: single cabins aren't available on the overnight ferry. You'll be sharing a cabin with up to 3 trip mates of the same gender.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast

## DAY 19 | CORFU

Home to a UNESCO World Heritage-listed old town, a medieval fortress and more sun-bleached beaches than you can shake a snorkel at – welcome to Corfu! Thanks to its former Byzantine and Venetian occupiers, this place has a distinct and unique culture from mainland Greece. You're gonna love it. Dinner tonight is sorted so sit back and enjoy the view.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## DAY 20 | CORFU

Swim. Souvlaki. Siesta. Swim again. Today is 100% up to you. Have you checked out the Old Town yet? Wander the narrow streets in search a local haunt serving up loukoumades (Greek donuts) or the best frozen yogurt you've ever had. Sugar rush? Head up to the fortress for panoramic views over the town. Tonight, dinner is up to you. Find a local tavern and get stuck into some mouth-watering Corfiot cuisine. Unique and delicious – you can't go wrong.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast

## DAY 21 | CORFU

You've got another 24 hrs to soak up as much of this island paradise as you can. So what'll it be? For €2.50, a local fisherman will boat you over to the tiny island of Pontikonisi (aka Mouse Island). Enjoy the serenity, visit the church and pull up a pew at the cafe. Or go west and hit up Palaiokastritsa for beaches so remote they're almost private. This is your last night here, so gather the gang for gyros and sunset bíras on the beachfront. These are the take-your-breath-away moments you've been waiting for.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast

## DAY 22 | CORFU – 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. Once we roll into Albania's unique capital, say hello to our local guide before we tick off the main sights on a driving tour. Then: make sure you check out the crazy number of old bunkers here. Tonight, we'll quiz each other's newfound historical knowledge at dinner.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Tirana highlights drive with local guide

## DAY 23 | 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 – before tucking into dinner at a local haunt. Later: gather the gang and hit the d-floor at a nightclub in a 16th-century fortress. Or grab some R&R back at the hotel. You do you.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit Budva
- Walking tour of Dubrovnik with local guide

## DAY 24 | 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. Later, you can head to Bu~a 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.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

## DAY 25 | DUBROVNIK – ZADAR

Ready for something a bit... quirky? It's called the Sea Organ. And we'll check out this unique art installation – along with the Zadar's eclectic mix of Roman ruins and public art on a whip around town with our Trip Leader. Bearings established, the rest of the day is yours for the taking. Explore the Old Town, check out the city walls or sit back with a cold beverage at the Garden Lounge. 100% up to you.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast

## DAY 26 | ZADAR – LJUBLJANA (SLOVENIA)

Today we're plugging Ljubljana into the GPS. Try pronouncing it, we dare you. After a quick stroll around the Old Town, head out and explore! The castle has been waiting for you since Celtic times – so don't keep it hanging any longer. Or see the city come alive on an optional food tour. Tonight, hit the town for a vino with a side of live music or dance the night away with the locals at Metelkova Art Center.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Food tour of Ljubljana: from €54

## DAY 27 | LJUBLJANA – BUDAPEST (HUNGARY)

Our Ljubljana love affair was short but oh-so-sweet. Up next? The twin cities of Buda and Pest. See why they call this place the City of Bridges, as we're chauffeured past the Chain Bridge, Castle District, Gellert Hotel, Heroes' Square and House of Terror on a driving tour. SD cards full and tummies grumbling, it's time to go one step further with an included dinner cruise down the Danube – Buda Castle and House of Parliament look even better lit up like Christmas. Trust us.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Budapest highlights drive
- Danube dinner cruise (included experience for 2023 trips only)

## DAY 28 | BUDAPEST

You wanted freedom to explore – here it is. Check out the Central Market Hall. Explore the Jewish Quarter. Play pinball at the Flippermúzeum. Get a harrowing education at the House of Terrors. Hunt down the Anonymous Statue. Soak in the therapeutic waters of the Széchenyi Thermal Baths. Head to Buda Castle and check out all the views from Fisherman's Bastion. Get stuck into some local fare: goulash, chicken paprikash, langos, dobos cake. Hopefully you like paprika, they're kinda obsessed with it here. Tonight, hang with the hipsters and drink pálinka (fruit brandy) at one of the original ruin bars. Maybe even sample a pickled carrot or two (random? yep, but they're a thing).



### MEALS:

- Breakfast

## DAY 29 | BUDAPEST – VIENNA (AUSTRIA)

Wave goodbye to Budapest, we're heading to Austria. Ten points if you can guess what Vienna is famous for. Musicians. Grand coffee houses. And strudel (duh!). Prepare to have your heart captured as we drive by the likes of the Opera House, Hofburg Palace, Museum Quarter and Ringstrasse. We'll have a poke around Princess Sissi's opulent gardens at the Schönbrunn Palace – with enough time to check out her extravagant decorating too, if you fancy it. Then: the afternoon is yours. Explore the Museum Quarter in depth. Head to Cafe Central for the most boujee afternoon tea you've ever had. Or enjoy the sweet sounds of Mozart and Bach played by a Viennese orchestra at an optional concert. Look at you, so cultured.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Vienna highlights drive



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Viennese orchestra experience: from €45

## DAY 30 | VIENNA – MAUTHAUSEN – PRAGUE (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Onwards to the spire-filled skyline and mysterious streets of Prague! But first: a visit to former concentration camp Mauthausen for a lesson in the resilience of humanity. Dump your bag at the hotel, before getting better acquainted with this picture-perfect city (complete with quirky clock tower) on a walking tour. Your expert Trip Leader will point out all the must-dos for tomorrow as we go. After dinner, you can 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
- Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

- Visit former concentration camp Mauthausen
- Orientation walk of Prague with Trip Leader

## DAY 31 | PRAGUE

That's right folks – it's your day, your way. So get out there and do your own spontaneous this-is-what-I-came-for thing. Check 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 hops connoisseur? Don't miss the beer tasting optional this afternoon. Czech beers + tapas = good times guaranteed. And then? Wander the cobbled streets, catch a smooooth jazz performance on Charles Bridge, or kick back at your digs and let it all sink in.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Local beer tasting in Prague: from €40

## DAY 32 | PRAGUE – DRESDEN (GERMANY) – BERLIN

Next up? A country where beer is officially considered an essential food group (right next to sausage and sauerkraut). Helloooo Germany! We'll get acquainted with 800 year-old Dresden on the way. Then: 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, the Reichstag, Checkpoint Charlie and Brandenburg Gate. After our group dinner, see if this city's nightlife really lives up to the hype. Or just relax on a sunny terrace with a bevvie or two – Germany is the OG of beer gardens, after all.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### INCLUDED TODAY:

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

## DAY 33 | BERLIN

You've got 24 hrs of free time here – don't muck around. Our advice? Opt in for a local walking tour that's, you know – not boring. Or put that elastic waistband to the test on the ultimate Berlin food tour. Rather explore solo? 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 stop by the Tiergarten park for chill vibes (and naked sunbathing, if that's your bag). Tonight, seek out Burgermeister. This place used to be a public toilet (ew) but now serves up the best burgers in Berlin. You know you wanna try it...



### MEALS:

- Breakfast



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

## DAY 34 | BERLIN – AMSTERDAM (NETHERLANDS)

Ok, nobody panic – the adventure is coming to a close. But we're sure as hell not done yet! We've got our eye on the one-and-only Amsterdam. Once we arrive, hit the cobblestones and explore 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 settle in for dinner. Give into temptation and grab a cone of hot chips with mayo. Mmm. Later, head to Proeflokaal Arendsnest for a selection of over 100 Dutch beers. Proost!



### MEALS:

- Breakfast

## DAY 35 | AMSTERDAM

This is our last full day. FFS don't hang about. 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!). If you \*did\* forget to book, there's the chance to join a virtual reality tour of the Secret Annex instead. Culture fiends should make a beeline for the Van Gogh Museum and Rijksmuseum. Or just get lost amongst backstreets of this city's diverse districts – each one's got a unique vibe and plenty to explore. Hint: head to Hannekes Boom for waterfront views, good food and all-round great vibes. Just make sure you're back in time to toast the final night of our Euro getaway at tonight's included dinner. What. A. Trip.



### MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

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

## DAY 36 | AMSTERDAM – LONDON (ENGLAND)

And just like that, it's over. 36 days. 17 countries. And alllll the mems. After breakfast, we'll make tracks back to London Town. Blast the Trip Song one last time – who's up for a 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!**