



Day 1: Fly to Great Britain

Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to London.

Day 2: London

Arrive in London: Welcome to the cosmopolitan city of London. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to settle in and explore on your own.

Explore London: Ready to see London on foot? Stretch your legs and set out on a walking tour of the city. Time permitting, you'll explore Trafalgar Square, Covent Garden, the Strand, and Leicester Square.

Dinner: Tonight, enjoy a delicious meal with your group.

Day 3: London

Sightseeing tour of London: From Big Ben to the Houses of Parliament, London's royal traditions and rich history greet you at every turn. Admire architectural marvels like St. Paul's Cathedral, check out the five-way intersection at Piccadilly Circus, and stroll through the urban greenery of Hyde Park. You may even get a chance to witness the ceremonial Changing of the Guard. Cap off your tour at the River Thames and snap photos of the Tower of London.

📍 **Windsor Castle:** Choose to take an optional excursion to Windsor, a riverside town with a rich royal history. It's home to Windsor Castle, one of the British Royal Family's official residences, as well as Eton College, where both Prince William and Prince Harry went to school.

Day 4: London

Free day in London: London is yours to explore as you wish. Browse new and vintage wares at Notting Hill's Portobello Market, or simply relax in one of the many green spaces the city has to offer. Alternatively, get lost in the Tate Modern's stunning collections of contemporary art.

Day 5: London | Paris

Travel to Paris: Board a Eurostar train and travel to the City of Light.

Free time: Take the rest of the day to get to know the city as you explore it on your own.

Dinner: Tonight, enjoy dinner with your group in Paris.

Day 6: Paris

Sightseeing tour of Paris: Get a taste of Parisian style as you ride down the famous Champs-Élysées, an elegant boulevard packed with high-fashion boutiques. You'll pass by grand monuments, including the obelisk in the Place de la Concorde and the Arc de Triomphe. Next, strike a pose in front of the Eiffel Tower. Your guide will share insight into the city's military history when you continue past Les Invalides.

📍 **Versailles:** Nobody does decadence like Louis XIV, and there's no better testament to his extravagance than Versailles. Under the direction of the Sun King, the palace that began as a modest hunting lodge exploded into one of the largest royal courts on earth. On your optional excursion to this lavish palace, explore the State Apartments and the magnificent Hall of Mirrors. Those who do not choose to go to Versailles will enjoy free time in Paris.

Day 7: Paris

Louvre: Explore art from around the world as you wander through the renowned Louvre, the most-visited museum in the world. Built to defend the city in the 13th century, today the Louvre safeguards collections that span continents and the ages. Enter by I. M. Pei's glass pyramid, considered a controversial addition by many resident Parisians. Inside, discover Greek, Roman, and Asian antiquities, as well as precious objects from the Middle Ages. These massive halls are home to over 35,000 objects, including Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*. Be sure to get an up-close look at her beguiling smile.

Walking tour of the Latin Quarter: Stroll through the Latin Quarter, so named because the language was once commonly spoken by the Sorbonne students that populated the area.

Notre-Dame Cathedral: Admire Notre-Dame's sculptured facade, stained-glass rose windows, and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Day 8: Paris | Brussels | Amsterdam

Travel to Amsterdam via Brussels: This morning, travel to Amsterdam by way of Brussels.

Walking tour of Amsterdam: With 1,200 bridges crisscrossing 160 canals, Amsterdam is one of Europe's most charming cities. On your walking tour, pass by the 13th-century dam built to prevent the Zuiderzee sea from flooding the city. See the Begijnhof, a 14th-century sanctuary for the Catholic sisterhood of Begijnhofites, before making your way to the city square of Waterlooplein.

Dinner: Tonight, enjoy dinner with your group.

Day 9: Amsterdam

Sightseeing tour of Amsterdam: A local guide will show you the Westerkerk (West Church), where Rembrandt is buried, and the flower markets—Amsterdam is known for its colorful tulips. See the Koninklijk Paleis (Royal Palace), once the home of the Dutch Royal Family, before continuing to Dam Square, a bustling city square.

Anne Frank House: Visit the Anne Frank House, where the young girl hid with her family from 1942 to 1944. This is also the site where she penned her poignant diary, which has been translated into 67 languages worldwide.

📍 **Volendam and Zaanse Schans:** Venture a half hour north of the city for an optional excursion that begins in the fishing village of Volendam, where many residents still wear traditional Dutch clothing. Then, continue on to Zaanse Schans, which features a collection of well-preserved houses and windmills that date as far back as the 15th century.

Dinner: Reflect on the day's activities over dinner with your group.

Day 10: Amsterdam | Heidelberg

Travel to Heidelberg: This morning, travel to the majestic city of Heidelberg, a city set in the lush green foothills of the Neckar Valley.

Sightseeing tour of Heidelberg: Travel along medieval streets lined with peaked red roofs on your sightseeing tour. Numerous Nobel Prize winners and philosophers studied in Heidelberg and established it as Germany's premier university city.

Heidelberg Castle: Ride a funicular up to Heidelberg Castle and see the stunning views that inspired Goethe, as well as a statue dedicated to the poet in the gardens. While on the grounds, check out the castle's famous wine barrel—it's so large that a dance floor was once built on top of it.

Dinner: Enjoy dinner with your group in Heidelberg.

Day 11: Heidelberg | Lucerne region

Travel to Lucerne region via the Black Forest and Rhine Falls: Travel by way of the legendary Black Forest, once the province of wolves, hermits, and mad monks. On your way, behold the thundering Rhine Falls.

Dinner: After arriving in Lucerne, gather with your group for dinner at your hotel.

Day 12: Lucerne region

Sightseeing tour of Lucerne: The Swiss Alps rise behind the shores of Lake Lucerne and provide the stunning backdrop to one of Switzerland's most picturesque cities. You'll see the poignant Lion Monument known as Löwendenkmal, a sandstone statue commemorating the Swiss Guards slain in the 1792 Paris storming of the Tuileries Palace. Follow Lucerne's cobbled streets, winding past fairy-tale houses, to the Kapellbrücke. Stroll along this covered bridge, which dates back to medieval days, and admire the colorful murals overhead.

➤ **Swiss Alps experience:** This exciting half-day adventure takes you to the top of one of the Swiss Alps. Journey to the base of the mountain by boat and ride a cog railway to the top. You'll reach the summit and be rewarded with a splendid panorama of Lucerne, its lake, and the glorious snow-capped Alps. On a clear day, you can see for more than 200 miles. You'll get back to the foot of the mountain by way of a gondola ride. (Please note: mountains can be cold, even in summer; warm clothes and appropriate shoes are recommended.)

Dinner: Enjoy dinner with your group at your hotel.

Day 13: Lucerne Region | Neuschwanstein Castle | Munich

Travel to Munich: Travel via Neuschwanstein Castle to Munich.

Neuschwanstein Castle: This Bavarian wonder may look familiar—it's the inspiration for Disneyland's iconic *Sleeping Beauty* Castle. Commissioned by "Mad" King Ludwig, Neuschwanstein Castle's original plans were drawn up by a theater set designer, not an architect.

Dinner: Tonight, enjoy dinner with your group in Munich.

Day 14: Munich

Sightseeing tour of Munich: Your sightseeing tour will take you past the Olympic Stadium, Marienplatz, the fashionable Schwabing district, and the Residenz, former home of the Wittelsbach dukes of Bavaria.

Dachau: Take time to reflect at Dachau, a WWII Nazi concentration camp built in 1935. In 1945, the Allies liberated the camp. Today, Dachau serves as a memorial museum, and a stark reminder of the darkest chapter in this country's long story.

Munich walking tour: Stroll through the heart of Munich, where medieval trade routes once intersected. In Marienplatz, see the Neo-Gothic New Town Hall with its famous Glockenspiel. Continue past the Munich Cathedral and the famous Hofbräuhaus, once the royal brewery of the Kingdom of Bavaria.

Day 15: Munich | Salzburg | Munich

Day trip to Salzburg: This full-day experience takes you to the village of Berchtesgaden, where you'll travel by underground train, boat, and wooden slides through the 450-year-old salt mines. Next, tour musical Salzburg, city of Mozart and the backdrop of *The Sound of Music*, before returning to Munich for the evening.

Day 16: Munich | Innsbruck | Venice

Travel via Innsbruck to Venice: On your way to the Floating City, travel through Innsbruck, the capital of the beautiful Austrian province of Tyrol that's situated at the intersection of several Alpine passes.

Dinner: Enjoy a pasta dinner when you arrive in Venice.

Day 17: Venice

Sightseeing tour of Venice: Today, see gondolas glide down the Grand Canal before stopping in St. Mark's Square. Look for the golden weathervane, which resembles archangel Gabriel, atop the 323-foot Campanile (Bell Tower). Attend a glass-blowing demonstration and watch expert craftsmen spin molten-hot wares.

Doge's Palace: At the pink-and-white Doge's Palace, see where mighty Venetian dukes once ruled. Stroll over the Bridge of Sighs, which links the palace to a prison. As they crossed the bridge, prisoners supposedly sighed with perfect sadness as they regarded their beautiful city for the last time.

Free time: Spend a half day exploring Venice's canals and winding streets on your own.

➤ **Gondola tour:** Traverse the City of Bridges on an authentic gondola ride that takes you through Venice's world-renowned canals.

Day 18: Venice | Florence

Travel to Florence: Make your way to Florence, the birthplace of the Italian language, opera, and the Renaissance.

Dinner: Have dinner with your group in Florence.

Day 19: Florence

Sightseeing tour of Florence: Florence is home to world-renowned works of art, including Michelangelo's *David* and Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus*. As you explore the city, pass by the Duomo and the classical statues at the Piazza della Signoria. You'll also walk across the Ponte Vecchio, a medieval bridge where many of Florence's famed leather and gold artisans keep shop.

Day 20: Florence | Assisi | Rome

Travel to Rome via Assisi: On your way to Rome, make a stop in the town of Assisi, nestled between Mount Subasio and fields of olive groves on a hill overlooking Umbria.

Sightseeing tour of Assisi: Assisi's religious significance and outstanding examples of early Renaissance art draw visitors from every corner of the globe. You'll see the Basilica of St. Francis, where Giotto's painted frescoes illustrate the life of one of Italy's most beloved saints. Here, the remains of St. Francis are entombed in a stone crypt above one of the altars. A local guide will also show you the birthplace of St. Clare, who founded the Franciscan Order of Poor Ladies in the year 1212.

Dinner: Enjoy dinner with your group upon arrival in Rome.

Day 21: Rome

Sightseeing tour of Vatican City: Your local guide will help you find the papal protectors who flank the entrance to St. Peter's Basilica—they're the highly trained soldiers of the Vatican City's Pontifical Swiss Guard. Inside, pass under gilded archways before visiting St. Peter's tomb. Then, experience the breathtaking ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

Sightseeing tour of Rome: No place integrates its past into the present quite like Rome. Walk through the Colosseum, the world's most famous arena. Here, you can almost hear the stamping feet of the crowds gathered for gladiatorial combat. Nearby, explore the ruins of the Roman Forum, which mark the former heart of the Roman Empire and the spot where Julius Caesar gave many of his great political speeches.

Rome on foot: On your self-guided walking tour, visit the Pantheon, built to honor all the gods of Rome. Continue to the widest staircase in Europe, the grand Spanish Steps. Then, relax in Piazza Navona, which is home to the famous Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi, or Fountain of the Four Rivers. Before you say "arrivederci," toss a coin into the Trevi Fountain to ensure a return trip to the Eternal City.

Day 22: Rome | Sorrento region

Travel to the Sorrento region: Continue to the Sorrento region, where mild weather, fragrant lemon groves, and the stunning Bay of Naples welcome you.

Dinner: Tonight, enjoy dinner with your group in the Sorrento region.

Day 23: Sorrento Region | Pompeii | Night ferry

Sightseeing tour of Pompeii: This morning, travel to Pompeii and see how the wealthiest ancient Romans lived. The artifacts they left behind make this one of the richest archaeological sites in the world.

Night ferry: Tonight, embark on an overnight ferry cruise to Patras.

Dinner: Enjoy dinner on the night ferry.

Day 24: Patras | Delphi region

Arrive in Patras: After the night ferry, travel to Delphi.

Dinner: Tonight, enjoy dinner with your group in Delphi.

Day 25: Delphi region | Athens

Sightseeing tour of Delphi: Travel to Delphi and visit the archaeological site and museum centered around the Oracle of Delphi, one of the most important landmarks of antiquity. The philosopher Socrates claimed to consult with the Oracle, and ancient military leaders were known to leave offerings here in the hopes of earning luck in battle. Ponder the mysteries that lie ahead as you climb the ruins of the Temple of Apollo. According to legend, this is where the gods chose to communicate with mortals. See a variety of artifacts dating back to 550 B.C. at the Delphi Museum, and learn more about the mythical past of Greece. Then, continue on to Athens, where you'll spend the night.

Dinner: Tonight, gather with your group for dinner in Athens

Day 26: Athens

Sightseeing tour of Athens: Your local guide will lead you up to the Acropolis to view the Parthenon, perhaps the world's greatest architectural feat and an enduring symbol of Athenian democracy. Visit the Temple of Athena Nike, which once housed a gold statue of the goddess, her wings clipped to prevent her from deserting the city. See where the first Olympic athletes displayed physical strength as a way to honor and entertain the gods of Mount Olympus at the Olympic Stadium.

Athens walking tour: Discover the ancient city named for Athena, goddess of

war and wisdom. Stroll through the Plaka district and the Temple of Olympian Zeus, built in 515 B.C. to honor the most powerful of all Greek gods.

Day 27: Athens

Free time in Athens: Enjoy free time to explore Athens on your own. You may want to take in some last-minute sightseeing or simply relax with friends. Be sure to ask your Tour Director for recommendations.

⊕ **Cape Sounion:** Take a late-afternoon optional excursion to Cape Sounion and view one of the most imposing sights in the ancient world. High above the sparkling Aegean Sea, one of Greece's most evocative ruins, the Temple of Poseidon, dominates the landscape. Sixteen elegant Doric pillars remain today, and on a clear day, you can view up to five Aegean Islands from the site. Later, have dinner with your group. Students who do not join the optional excursion will enjoy additional free time in Athens.

Dinner: Tonight, enjoy a special farewell dinner with your group.

⊕ **3-DAY PROGRAM EXTENSION**

Day 28: Greek island cruise: Mykonos

Three-day cruise: Discover the Greek islands. Enjoy on-board activities as you sail to Mykonos, Samos, Patmos, Crete, and Santorini. Beautiful crystalline waters and white sand beaches helped make these destinations prized—and disputed—territories. Roman and Greek influences shape the unique blend of cultures you'll encounter.

Three shore excursions and an all-inclusive water, tea, coffee and soft drink package is included.

Day 29: Greek island cruise: Samos | Patmos

Day 30: Greek island cruise: Crete | Santorini

Day 31: Depart for home

Return to Athens and check in for your flight home.