

INSIGHT VACATIONS

The Art of Travelling in Style

HIGHLIGHTS OF EUROPE





KEY

1 Central
Hotels + Nights

1 Scenic
Hotels + Nights


● Place Visited

○ Optional Place
Visited

||||| Trip Option

 Cruise

 Train

 Join/Leave Options

 Included Flights

 UNESCO
Heritage Site

Day 1 | Depart London by Eurostar and onto Amsterdam



At 06:45, meet your Travel Director and transfer to London's St. Pancras Station to board the high-speed Eurostar. Your comfortable rail journey takes you via the historic Channel Tunnel to Brussels where you will drive to Amsterdam. Later, join your Travel Director at 17:00 for a Welcome Reception. Mingle and get to know your fellow travellers as you cruise along some of the many tree-lined canals, to explore the heart of the Old City, before enjoying a pleasant evening of dinner with wine at a local restaurant.

Meals: Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Bilderberg Garden Hotel Amsterdam

Day 2 | The Rhine Valley and Heidelberg

Take a scenic drive through the Rhine Valley to see quaint villages, hilltop castles and hear the legend of the Lorelei Rock. Follow the Neckar River to Heidelberg and visit Heidelberg Castle with a Local Expert.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Marriott Hotel Heidelberg.

Day 3 | Mountain-ringed Innsbruck

Skirt the northern Black Forest and head towards the rolling Bavarian Alps. Stop beneath the royal castles of Hohenschwangau and King Ludwig's Neuschwanstein, rumoured to have inspired Walt Disney's iconic castle. Once over the Austrian border, continue to the Tyrolean capital of Innsbruck. Tour the architectural jewels of the city, seeing the Imperial Palace, Golden Roof and the 14th century houses of the Old Town.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: AC Hotel Innsbruck.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Tyrolean Evening With Dinner - Enjoy a lively evening including dinner, featuring dancers in national costume, yodelling and entertainment typical of the life, crafts and traditions of the Tyrolean people. Drinks are included.

Adult: 81.00 EUR

Day 4 | Across the Dolomites to Venice



Continue your journey, crossing the Italian border and on through the Dolomites. Amongst the hills of Conegliano Veneto, stop at a local family winery in Veneto to discover the art of prosecco production. Savour a tasting of these luxurious sparkling wines and discover how to make the perfect Bellini. Continue to the romantic city of Venice, Queen of the Adriatic. In the evening, enjoy a dinner with wine.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Hotel Indigo Venice - Sant'Elena.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Gondolas & the Grand Canal - Join us for a breathtaking cruise by private water taxi along Venice's Grand Canal. You'll admire the magnificent palazzi, catching a glimpse of the Rialto Bridge and St. Mark's Square. Later on, you'll glide gracefully on a gondola along Venice's dreamy, narrow waterways.

Adult: 84.00 EUR

Day 5 | The Magic of La Serenissima



Wake up ready to embrace this romantic city. Join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience as you witness the skill of glassblowers on a visit to a traditional arts centre. Take a private cruise to St. Mark's Square where the city's former wealth and power is evidenced by the riches of St. Mark's Basilica. Admire the Doge's Palace and its adjoining Bridge of Sighs. With the rest of the day free, why not cruise the Venetian lagoon to the island of Burano for a meal of local specialties and wine?

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Hotel Indigo Venice - Sant'Elena.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Hidden Venice - To only experience Venice's big set pieces - St Mark's Square; the Rialto; the Grand Canal - is to miss out on a hidden world full of surprises! Join a Local Expert for a fascinating walk through some of the lesser known quarters of Venice. The back lanes and 'campi', small squares, where tourists seldom tread are full of history and great places to sample local life.

Adult: 37.00 EUR

Burano Excursion & Meal - Leave the hustle of St Mark's Square behind on a delightful private cruise around the islands of the Venetian lagoon. Alight at the island of Burano, a photographer's paradise, famous for its candy coloured houses, artisan lace makers and leaning bell tower that would give Pisa a good run for its money. Enjoy a superb meal sampling the local specialties with wine included. An excursion not to be missed!

Adult: 82.00 EUR

Day 6 | The Eternal City of Rome



Head into the Apennine Mountains and venture through the peaceful landscapes of Tuscany and Umbria. Follow the course of the Tiber to your hotel in the Eternal City of Rome. Italian culture is deeply rooted in hospitality with food, friends and family being central to everyday life. You're invited into the home of a Roman local to experience Italian hospitality at its best, as you enjoy a delicious home-cooked meal with your host.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Golden Tulip Rome Piam.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Piazzas & Fountains - With our Local Expert, let's take a "passeggiata" (stroll) to enjoy the backstreets and secrets of pedestrian Rome. Be amazed at sights such as the fascinating Pantheon and the beauty of 17th-Century fountains and beautiful Piazzas. Come and enjoy the Rome of the Romans.

Adult: 44.00 EUR

Day 7 | Papal and Imperial Rome



During your two-night stay, join a Local Expert for a private tour of the priceless art housed in the Vatican Museums and the frescoes of the Sistine Chapel. Your priority visit includes fast-track entry and behind-the-scenes access to the Bramante Staircase, a part of the Vatican usually closed to the public. Then explore St. Peter's Basilica, one of the largest churches in the world. Cross the River Tiber to see the largest amphitheatre of the Roman Empire, the Colosseum and enjoy the afternoon at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Golden Tulip Rome Piram.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Rome Of The Ancient Christians - Outside the ancient Roman city walls, we'll visit the early Christian Catacombs, underground cemeteries carved out of soft Tufa Stone, with our Local Expert. Nearby, we'll also visit one of the major basilicas of Rome, St Paul's, the burial place of St Paul the Apostle, famous for its Byzantine Mosaics. * Please note: on some departures, the Catacombs are offered with a visit to St Peter in Chains to view the magnificent 'Moses' sculpture by Michelangelo, instead of St Paul's.

Adult: 43.00 EUR

Roman Dinner Party - Enjoy an evening of delicious Roman cuisine with drinks and a great Italian ambiance.

Adult: 71.00 EUR

Day 8 | The Chianti Hills to Florence



Drive to the Chianti Hills and the city of Florence. A Local Expert will accompany you to the Duomo where the Gates of Paradise adorn the baptistery. Continue to Piazza della Signoria, the political heart of the city, lined with fountains and statues it acts as a virtual open-air gallery of Renaissance masterpieces. A leisurely afternoon gives you time to shop for quality goods, like gold and leather, which Florence is famous for. Alternatively, there is the option to visit the Accademia Gallery with an art historian to see Michelangelo's famed masterpiece, 'David.' In the evening, savour an authentic meal at a local trattoria in the heart of Florence.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: NH Firenze, Florence.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Jewels of the Renaissance - Enjoy priority reserved entry, with our Local Expert, into the most important Renaissance museum of Florence, the 'Accademia di Belle Arti', Academy of Fine Arts. Amongst the masterpieces you will see are an outstanding collection of 15th & 16th Century Florentine paintings by the likes of Uccello, Ghirlandaio, and Sandro Botticelli, and Michelangelo's four unfinished 'Prisoners'. The highlight of the visit is Michelangelo's 'David'. Created between 1501-1504 it was once the symbol of Republican

Florence and is considered by many to be the greatest sculpted masterpiece in the world.

Adult: 54.00 EUR

** This optional is subject to availability and involves reservations and entrance prepayments. If you decide to cancel this optional, a 50% cancellation fee will be incurred.*

*** Sunday departures the Accademia is not available due to Monday closure.*

Discover Palazzo Vecchio - Marvel at the legacy of the Medici as you visit Palazzo Vecchio, the symbol of Florence's political power for over seven centuries. With our Local Specialist we'll visit the wonderful "Hall of the Five Hundred", dedicated to the Medici popes. We'll also visit rooms decorated with masterpieces by famous artists of the Renaissance like Michelangelo and Donatello.

Adult: 46.00 EUR

Day 9 | Lake Maggiore



Travel past Milan, the capital of Lombardy, as you journey north to the beautiful Italian Lake District, a favourite retreat of the rich and famous where Alpine scenery combines with luxuriant subtropical vegetation. Relax and enjoy an afternoon at leisure at this popular resort and beautiful lake. Perhaps choose to take a cruise to the lovely Isola Bella for a guided tour of the incredible palace and stunning Botanical Gardens? Later, the choice is yours for your Dine-Around Evening. Enjoy your preferred dining experience from a selection of hand-picked local restaurants, each offering their own unique cuisine and ambience.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Hotel Simplon, Baveno.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Isola Bella - The premier attraction of Lake Maggiore is the Borromean Islands. We'll take a private boat over to Isola Bella, the largest and most famous island, renowned for its incredible palace and stunning Botanical Gardens. Our Local Expert will take us on a guided tour of this privately-owned palace, with free time to admire the gardens. A must!

Adult: 49.00 EUR

Day 11 | Lakeside Lucerne



The emotive Lion Monument, carved into a limestone cliff, is a memorial dedicated to the heroic Swiss Guards who died defending King Louis XVI during the French Revolution, which is a source of great pride to the people of Lucerne. See this beautiful work before strolling across the Chapel Bridge to see the ornate Jesuit Church. With the day free, there is plenty of time for shopping for delectable chocolate and glamorous Swiss watches in the traffic-free Old Town. Perhaps venture into the countryside for a delightful horse-drawn carriage ride and meet the local farmers?

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Hotel Astoria, Lucerne.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Carriages & Countryside - In a typical rural community, meet local farmers for a delightful horse-drawn ride. Clip-clop your way through bright green pasture, where the angular spire of a traditional white church shoots skyward and rickety old wooden storehouses still dot the landscape. Call in at a local farm where a wonderful spread of homemade drinks and snacks is served.

Adult: 77.00 CHF

** Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

Day 12 | Sights and delights of Paris



Journey through the rural French country side of Alsace and Burgundy regions, famous for its vineyards and wines, to arrive in the vibrant City of Light. During your time in Paris, see the impressive Eiffel Tower, the magnificent Notre Dame Cathedral and the imposing facades of the Louvre. Discover the banks of the Seine with its many romantic bridges, see the obelisk in the centre of the Place de la Concorde and drive along the Champs Élysées to the Arc de Triomphe. With the evening free, there are countless opportunities to enjoy the lively atmosphere of this glittering city. Why not visit one of the world-famous cabaret shows?

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Le Méridien Etoile, Paris.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

In Paris, depending on availability, you will be offered one of the below two cabaret:

Please note both involve a pre-paid reservation. Cancellation within 24 hours will be subject to a 50% cancellation fee.

Moulin Rouge Cabaret and Dinner - Enjoy dinner and cabaret, including wine and champagne, at the world-famous Moulin Rouge – the original Paris cabaret. Immortalized by the award-winning film of the same name, this Parisian institution features 60 dancers and entertainers and over 1000 costumes!

Adult: 192.00 EUR

La Nouvelle Eve Cabaret and Dinner - Set in the heart of Montmartre District and famous for the filming of 'Emily in Paris' plus host to numerous fashion events including Dolce & Gabbana, Christian Louboutin & Vivienne Westwood, Nouvelle Eve is a must! Celebrating 125 years as one of the most elegant revue theatres in Paris, you will enjoy a night of sumptuous surroundings, a la carte menu and a sparkling cabaret highlighting the spectacular French Cancan.

(Open Thursday April 27th until Sat Oct 21st)

Adult: 160.00 EUR

Day 13 | The Food and Flavours of Paris



Today you can enjoy an Insight Choice. Choose to explore community life in the picturesque Montorgueil district. Alternatively, join an avid foodie as you head into areas where Parisians go about their daily lives to explore small shops and sample local treats and delicacies. In the evening, enjoy a Celebration Dinner at the historic restaurant La Coupole. Delight in French cuisine and delicious wine.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

Hotel: Le Méridien Etoile, Paris.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Notre Dame & Latin Quarter - A guided drive through Paris' bohemian Left Bank, with our Local Expert, brings us to amazing Notre Dame. One of the world's most famous Cathedrals and the epitome of Gothic architecture, it is thankfully still standing after the tragic fire of 2019. While admiring its miraculously untouched Gothic features, we'll follow the progress of the restoration work as they reinforce the precious medieval structure before starting in on the challenge of replacing the roof. Afterwards, we'll take a stroll through the delightful Latin Quarter, a medieval maze of winding cobblestone alleyways where you'll have free time to enjoy the sidewalk bistros, boutiques, and hidden squares.

Adult: 36.00 EUR

Seine Cruise and Illuminations - The City of Light really lives up to its name when the city's monuments, buildings and bridges are lit up in all of their glory. First, a specially-designed sightseeing boat takes us for an unforgettable cruise along the Seine and beneath famous bridges to appreciate the Left and Right Banks and the Île de la Cité and St Louis. Then, we'll enjoy an illuminations tour, when the rubies and diamonds of the Champs Élysées and the Eiffel Tower are at their magnificent best.

Adult: 47.00 EUR

Day 14 | Au Revoir Paris

Bid farewell to your travelling companions as your journey comes to an end. Transfers arrive at Charles de Gaulle Airport at 08:00 and 11:00.

Meals: Breakfast