



# TOPDECK

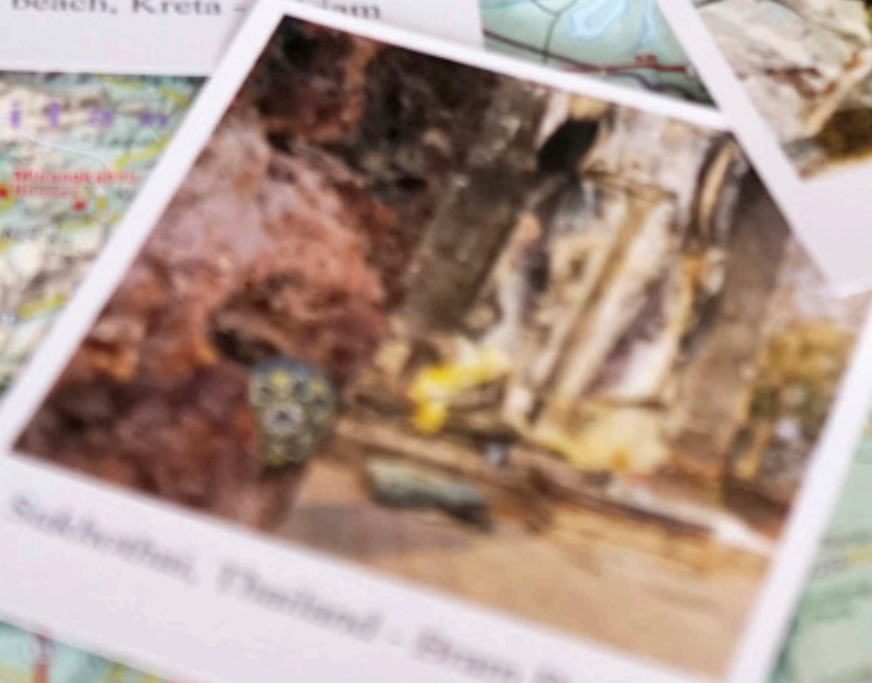
## 34-Day Trip to Discover Europe



Milatos beach, Kreta - ...



Schottland - Foto: Paul J...



Sukkerhofen, Thailand - ...

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# The Bucket List

Discover the best that Europe has to offer on a trip that will throw you headfirst into the history, culture, cuisine, landscapes and nightlife of this terrific continent. Make love heart eyes in Paris, marvel at Barcelona's Sagrada Família, be a spectator of history in Rome and glimpse the intricate past behind the Berlin Wall. Our Discover Europe trip is sure to leave you with memories that will last a lifetime.

The following lists are Topdeck's Bucket Lists for the 34-Day Discover Europe trip:

## Central Europe

- Driving tour of Berlin
- Visit former concentration camp Mauthausen
- Driving tour of Vienna
- Canal dinner cruise in Amsterdam
- Walking tour of the restored city of Dresden
- Bordeaux winery experience
- Walking tour of Prague
- Driving tour of Budapest
- Visit a traditional French perfumery
- Walking tour of Monaco
- Driving tour of Paris & gourmet picnic by the Eiffel Tower

## Southern Europe

- Gondola ride in Venice
- Walking tour of Venice
- Walking tour of Rome
- Visit Pisa & the famous Leaning Tower
- Walking tour of Verona
- Driving tour of Tirana with local guide
- Driving tour of Barcelona
- Walking tour of Florence with local guide
- Walking tour of Dubrovnik with local guide



# Trip Itinerary

## Day 1: London to Paris

Say yes to Paris! Meet the crew and hit the road in London before we jump across to Paris and say bonjour to the city where food is king. Pinch yourself and instagram your first selfie before we kick off the trip with a guided tour with your Trip Leader (aka living guide book). Complete your foodie mission with a picnic under the Eiffel Tower and watch Paris sparkle for your first 'wow' moment.

Activities:

- Driving tour of Paris
- Gourmet picnic by the Eiffel Tower

Meal(s) included:

- Dinner

## Day 2: Paris

A free day in Paris means it's time to make like a local. Browse through bookshops in Le Marais, sip on espresso or just do 'you'. With Parisian charm crammed into every nook and cranny, make sure you hit all of the iconic haunts. If you are in the mood for an optional cabaret show, bike tour or cruise along the Seine, let us know—we'll sort it.

Activities:

- *Traditional cabaret show in Paris*
- *Scenic river cruise on the Seine*
- Bike tour of Paris

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 3: Paris to Bordeaux

If you haven't gone totally fromage crazy just yet, grab a few wheels before we go and bid au revoir to Patee. Next, we make a quick stop in the heart of the Loire Valley. Later, watch the world go by and grab a window seat as we head to Bordeaux to become masters of the grape in the red wine capital. Drink the best drops and hear tales of how these fiery reds came to be.

Activities:

- *Visit Château de Chambord*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

- Included activities
- *Optional activities*

## Day 4: Bordeaux to Carcassonne

Wake up and learn the A to Z of wine before we move on from Bordeaux. Head off to the historic walled city of Carcassonne and to see why it is famed for its restored medieval fortress and the poetic sonnets written about it.

Activities:

- Bordeaux winery experience

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 5: Carcassonne to Barcelona

Roll through the Pyrenees today with a quick stop in Andorra on our way to tapas town. Get hungry on a guided driving tour, ticking off the Columbus Monument, Montjuic (site of the 1992 Olympics) and Gaudi's yet to be finished Sagrada Familia. Round off the day with churros and tapas, and feed your cravings for Catalan zest at tonight's included dinner.

Activities:

- Bordeaux winery experience

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 6: Barcelona

Wake up and get moving, you've got a city to explore! Uncover the food market gems scattered across Barcelona and satisfy your inner gastronome. Try: La Boqueria in Barcelona for a luxe open air experience. Feast until you drop on bite size pieces of local goodness, guaranteed to make you drool and ignite instantly culinary delight. Then, hit the side streets and rumble along the Las Ramblas, take in the eccentric work of artist Antoni Gaudi at Parc Güell or give in to your inner football tragic and kneel to the sporting gods at Camp Nou. Shall we dance? The only way to end an evening in Barcelona is with a traditional flamenco show (to make you regret not taking those dancing lessons at school way back when).

Activities:

- *Flamenco show in Barcelona*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 7: Barcelona to French Riviera

Get that selfie stick out as we roll on north along the coast to rub shoulders with the rich and famous at the world's most lavish waterfront property, aka the French Riviera. Swap your patatas bravas for hearty French cooking and get ready for tomorrow's adventures.

Activities:

- Visit a traditional French perfumery

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 8: French Riviera & Monaco

Bring your paparazzi posse to the beach or let loose among the designer boutiques in Nice's Old Town. Later: Roll with the jet set as we hit up the Monaco for a guided tour and the chance to see how the 1% live (hint: it involves lots of fur and bathing in caviar).

Activities:

- Walking tour of Monaco

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

Feeling lucky? Hit the tables at the Monte Carlo Casino and make it rain (or not).

## Day 9: French Riviera to Swiss Alps

The view out your window today plays like a documentary on 'world's sexiest views'. Unlike Toblerone, the Swiss Alps aren't all lined up perfectly so we weave up through the sexy valleys and handsome peaks. Grab your forks and prepare to chow down on Swiss cuisine then hit the bar for a nightcap.

Activities:

- *Take it easy*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 10: Swiss Alps

Laid-back, Alpine village living on the cards. Take in the mountain air by foot, bike or goat (if you can get them to stand still long enough). With the potential offered by these mountains, dinner will be calorie neutral. If you get a second wind, jump on the revolving gondola to the top of Mt Titlis and test your pano photo skills. Then head back down for some snow angels and hot chocolate. #hardlife.

Activities:

- *Scenic excursion to Mt. Titlis*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 11: Swiss Alps to Venice

Roll on down to Venice, but first, squeeze a visit to Verona. Then, Venice—you know it as the floating city, but this place is actually sinking (slowly). Check out St. Mark's Square, Accademia Bridge and a who's who of Venice's usual suspects.

Activities:

- Walking tour of Verona

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 12: Venice

Get your bearings, then get hopelessly lost. Soak up St Mark's Square before a quintessential gondola ride on the Grand Canal. This afternoon, snoop the Doge's Palace, cross Rialto Bridge and shop for Carnevale masks.

Activities:

- Walking tour of Venice
- Gondola ride in Venice

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 13: Venice to Florence

Head over to Florence, but not before we stop for THAT photo at Pisa. Make your food baby sing as we roll into the land of hearty Tuscan cuisine and birthplace of gelato: Florence. Whip around Santa Maria del Fiore before tucking into amore on a plate. Then the evening is yours to stroll along the real-life watercolour of the Arno River, wishing you were a painter.

Activities:

- Visit city of Pisa
- Visit the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 14: Florence to Rome

Make time for a walking tour in the morning with local guide in Florence before we reach our next stop: Rome. Epic cities deserve epic walking tours, naturally. Cross off some red hot ruins, oodles of obelisks and of course, the big ticket sights. Make like Caesar (the emperor, not the salad) and work up a colossus hunger as you pass by the Pantheon, throw your two cents in the Trevi Fountain, sit on the Spanish Steps and visit ancient history's version of the Hunger Games set at the Colosseum. Tonight, you're in Disneyland for foodies. Have fun.

Activities:

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

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 15: Florence to Rome

Rome is the city of Renaissance, 'la dolce vita', pizza and typically colourful hand gestures. Tick another country off the 'places to visit before I die' list with a stop at the Vatican City. Before the day is out, make it your mission to discover why Italy is home to some of the best gastronomic traditions in the world, with one of those being gelato—of course.

Activities:

- *Guided tour of Vatican City*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast



## Day 16: Rome to Corfu

Jump on the ferry in Italy, wake up in Greece and find some gyros.

Activities:

- Overnight ferry to Corfu, Greece

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 17: Corfu

Home to a UNESCO World Heritage-listed Old Town, a fortress, a castle and enough beaches to satisfy the biggest sun-worshipper; Corfu is base camp. Explore endless architecture, which owes much to Corfu's tumultuous history.

Activities:

- Explore Corfu

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 18: Corfu

Offering a distinct and independent culture from the mainland (thanks to the culturally-rich history from past occupation) and home to thousands of olive trees, there's something for everyone to fall in love with in Corfu.

Activities:

- Explore Corfu

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 19: Corfu

Para-para-paradise. Had enough of it yet? Surely not. Count shades of blue and pinch yourself. Life doesn't get any better than this.

Activities:

- Explore Corfu

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 20: Corfu to Tirana

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. Also: rainbow-coloured buildings. #nofilter #dontjudge.

### Activities:

- Driving tour of Tirana, Albania with local guide

### Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 21: Tirana to Croatia

Pit stop via Montenegro en route to Dubrovnik. Lots more stunning gets pushed past the window as we head up the gorgeous coast of and make for the most famous walled city in Europe (nope, not history. See: Game of Thrones). Wander Dubrovnik's tiny cobblestoned streets and explore hidden cafés and shops before grabbing some dinner and checking out the glitzy nightlife.

### Activities:

- Walking tour with local guide in Dubrovnik
- Visit Budva

### Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 22: Dubrovnik

A free day in Dubrovnik for the win! Check out the residential homes further up in the old town for awesome views and a local perspective. Then: a cold beer on the wall as the sun sets over the Adriatic. This is the good life.

### Activities:

- *Sea kayaking around Dubrovnik Wall & Lokrum Island*
- *Game of Thrones tour*

### Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 23: Dubrovnik to Zadar

Time to check out the oh-so romantic Zadar where you can chill out, kick back and enjoy the essence of Croatia. Plus, the architectural beauty of the Sea Organ is seriously #impressive.

Activities:

- Explore Zadar

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 24: Zadar to Ljubljana

Giddy up, we're off to Ljubljana (lyoob-lya-nah)—aka the capital of Slovenia. Tonight, hit up military-barracks-turned bar-and-gallery-strip, for a tea or vino with a side of live music and underground art installations or join the optional food tour to satisfy your hunger.

Activities:

- *Food tour of Ljubljana, Slovenia*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 25: Ljubljana to Budapest

Two countries in one day? Easy. Prepare for two days to get down and Danube (that'd be the river) with twin cities, Buda and Pest. Check out Hero's Square, Parliament House, the National Palace, Fisherman's Bastion and swanky Andrassy Ave. After gorging on cabbage rolls, dumplings and local fare, roll into bed. Or, hit the town for a night out. Your choice.

Activities:

- Driving tour of Budapest, Hungary

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 26: Budapest

Free day = Put down your Rubik's Cube and take on a city with enough baroque, neoclassical and art nouveau architecture to keep you puzzled for hours. Top tip: goulash is a MUST. Hot and dangerous (in a good way) this dish is the definition of 'Hungary'. Slurp your way through away a big ol' bowl of slow-cooked meat and spiced goodness. To round off the night, join the crew for an optional dinner cruise along the Danube. #Fancy.

Activities:

- *Dinner cruise on the Danube river*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 27: Budapest to Vienna

Pick your Baroque from Rococo as we slide into The City of Dreams (kudos, Freud)! The Vienna Orchestra provides the soundtrack while we check out Europe's classiest capital. Wave hello to the President as we go past the Hofburg Palace. And because one palace isn't enough, we also take peek at the Schönbrunn. Top off your day with a schnitzel and apple strudel if you can find one.

Activities:

- Driving tour of Vienna
- *A night at the Viennese hamber Orchestra (dinner optional at an additional expense)*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 28: Vienna to Prague

First, a visit to Mauthausen concentration camp for a lesson in the resilience of humanity. Then, fuel up on trdelník (pastry deliciousness) before a walking tour amongst spires and cobblestone streets and czech out Prague. Suss out the castle deemed worthy by Guinness World Records as being the largest ancient castle in the world, cross medieval Charles Bridge and watch 'Death' toll the hour on an astronomical clock that's over 600 years old.

Activities:

- Visit Mauthausen former concentration camp
- Walking tour of Prague, Czech Republic

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 29: Prague

Another free day for the win. Channel your inner bohemian and seek out the John Lennon memorial wall, then soak up some more Czech history at the National or Communist Museum or get a taste of the quirky local culture at a marionette puppet opera (you gotta see it to believe it). Snap a selfie at Prague's own Eiffel Tower, visit a miniatures museum, eat roast pork from one of the street vendors lining Old Town Square and drink beer. Good beer.

Activities:

- *Local beer tasting in Prague*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 30: Prague to Berlin

Catch ya later, Prague! Roll over and out to 800 year-old Dresden—a city virtually destroyed in WWII and then rebuilt—and ogle the Frauenkirche before seeing what the crazy city of Berlin is all about. We'll drive you around to see (what's left of) the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag building before making your food baby sing with a hearty German meal.

Activities:

- Walking tour of the restored city of Dresden, Germany
- Driving tour of Berlin, Germany

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 31: Berlin

Free day to do 'you' in Berlin. For the history fanatics, we've got the option of the Third Reich walking tour to offer insight into what the city was like under Nazi rule during World War II. Afternoon suggestion? Have a picnic at the historic Tempelhof airport turned public park #picniconthetarmac. Tonight: hit the hotspots on an optional nightlife tour. Next: currywurst is another MUST try. Curry what? Wurst—and don't forget the name. Somehow the trendy Germans managed to make a sausage a 'thing'.

Activities:

- *Third Reich walking tour*
- *Street art and nightlife tour of Berlin*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 32: Berlin to Amsterdam

Cheese lovers, rejoice. Next: Amsterdam, mayo-dipped fries and red lights. Get your bearings on a walking tour of the vibrant capital and see the Dam Square, Royal Palace and National Monument. Then: explore all that this notoriously liberal city has to offer.

Activities:

- Dutch cheese and clogs demonstration
- Walking tour of Amsterdam

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast

## Day 33: Berlin to Amsterdam

Rise and shine for another day in the 'Dam. Hit the streets like a local on an optional city bike tour of Amsterdam's iconic canals, bridges and parks then dance to the beat of your own drum. Culture fiends, delve deeper with a visit to Anne Frank House, Van Gogh or Rijksmuseum. Still thirsty for more? Check out the Heineken Experience for an interactive visit and tasting at the brewery.

Activities:

- Canal dinner cruise in Amsterdam
- *Bike tour of Amsterdam*

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

## Day 34: Amsterdam to London

The trip might be over, but there's always Facebook. Or another Topdeck trip...

Meal(s) included:

- Breakfast



# Provisions

## Hotel Accommodations

We endeavour to select a combination of good quality hotels that reflect the character of the local area as well as being as centrally located as possible, while striving to keep the cost affordable.

Your trip will stay in a range of European hotels of three and four-star quality.

Please be aware that European hotel rooms, especially those in major urban centres or older cities, may be smaller than what you are used to in other parts of the world. Standards and ratings may also be different to your home country.

Rooms are en-suite and either twin or triple-share, depending on what you have booked. If you are a solo traveller, you will always be sharing a room with someone of the same sex unless you have paid an extra fee for your own room.

If you are travelling as a couple and would prefer to have a double bed, please officially request a double room with your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant. We never presume that two people travelling together are a couple, even if you share the same surname, unless informed otherwise.



# Meals

Breakfasts are included every day in the hotel (except on the first morning). They are usually 'continental breakfasts', which are typical in most European countries. A typical breakfast may consist of cereals with milk or yoghurt, bread, croissants, cold meats, cheese and a range of spreads, with fruit juice, tea or coffee to drink. It is rare to get a hot breakfast in continental Europe, though on some occasions there may be some hot food available as well.

Included evening meals are in local restaurants or accommodations, and are either two or three courses. In most cases table water is provided with the meals, and if you wish to purchase additional drinks you can do so at your own expense.

If you have any dietary requirements we will make every effort to cater to your specific needs as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book, or make note of this in the Topdeck app when you check in (refer below). However, please be aware that although we will do everything in our power to arrange it, we cannot guarantee that every restaurant we use will be able to cater to all dietary needs, particularly in Eastern Europe. We also cannot cater for tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu.



## No Tip Necessary

Your Topdeck crew never expect tips themselves and will not ask for any; that's not what friends do! We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead, spoil yourself with the money you will save by travelling with Topdeck (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).



# Passenger Safety

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, it's important to be aware of the following:

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated.

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. Be cautious when accepting drinks from strangers and 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 don't be naïve, and be mindful of the signals you are sending out so that you don't find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

## Topdeck Travel App

Our travel app has landed! With a range of awesome features including a Currency Converter, Budget Tracker, Check-In tool and Social Timeline you can plan your trip like a pro. Think of it like your very own Topdeck Trip Leader, always on call with the latest info, weather, maps and city guides to give you the trip of a lifetime, all in the palm of your hand.

Please note: The Topdeck Travel App should only be downloaded once you have booked onto your trip. You will not be able to log in unless you have a Topdeck Booking Reference Number.