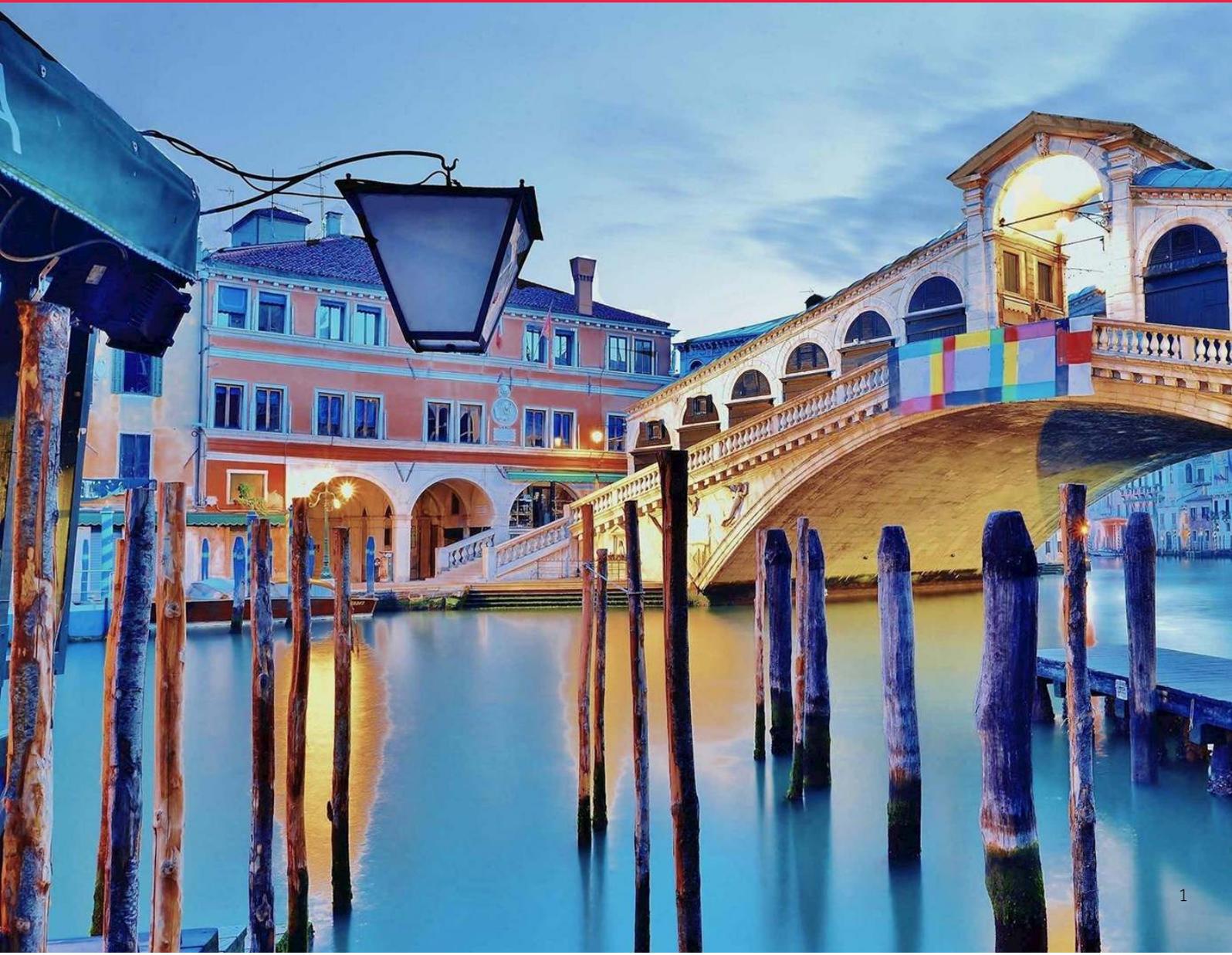


# European Whirl End Paris



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-  Start Location
-  Visited Location
-  Plane
-  End Location
-  Cruise
-  Train
-  Over night
-  Ferry

## Day 1 | Eurostar™ to Brussels and on to Amsterdam



A brief interlude with the British capital this morning sees us meet our Travel Director before travelling to London's St. Pancras International where we will board the Eurostar™ for a high-speed train journey to Brussels and a luxury coach journey to Amsterdam. Enjoy an orientation of this historic Dutch city before joining your fellow travellers and Travel Director for a Welcome Reception dinner cruise on its canals.

**Meals:** Welcome Reception

**Hotel:** Mercure City

## Day 2 | Journey to the Rhineland and a Scenic Cruise



Driving through the lush landscapes of The Netherlands and Germany, we arrive in Boppard where we board a cruise along the Rhine to St. Goar, passing vineyard-clad hills and medieval castles perched above riverside towns. Arriving in the Baroque city of Heidelberg, we explore its unexpected highlights before travelling to your hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Leonardo

## Day 3 | Off to Innsbruck



Crossing the Swabian Alps on the edge of the Black Forest, we arrive in the Bavarian capital of Munich. Our orientation takes us past the Hofbrauhaus, reputedly the most famous Beerhall in the world, and the neo-Gothic Town Hall which dominates the Marienplatz. We cross the Austrian border next, arriving in Innsbruck, the capital of the Alps. Admire the Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture of the Old Town, including Emperor Maximilian's famous Golden Roof with its ornate façade and consider an evening of traditional Tyrolean entertainment.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Tivoli Innsbruck

## Optional Experiences:

**Tyrolean Evening With Dinner** - Enjoy a delicious meal of traditional Tyrolean cuisine before a lively folklore show, where singers, dancers and musicians dressed in national costume provide an evening of entertainment and fun. Drinks are included.

**Adult: 76.00 EUR**

## Day 4 | Onwards to the Canals of Venice



Journey through the emerald-green landscape along the Brenner Pass into Italy and across the Dolomite Mountains to Venice. We cruise the beautiful Venetian lagoon by private launch to the gateway of Venice, St. Mark's Square. View the ornate Doge's Palace and the Bridge of Sighs, so named for the sound made by condemned prisoners as they took one last longing look at their beautiful city before meeting their fate. Enjoy a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience where you'll witness the centuries-old craft of Venetian glassblowing. You'll learn how the master craftsmen shape the molten glass to make the exquisite and delicate works of art that adorn homes all over the world and perhaps be inspired to buy your own souvenir as a reminder of this special visit. There's time later to enjoy the city your way. Get lost in Venice, cross bridges and discover hidden campi where locals share their daily stories over a glass of Venetian Spritz.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Novotel Mestre Castellana

### 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: 79.00 EUR*

## Day 5 | All Roads Lead to Rome



Travel south across the Veneto Plain, passing Bologna and the dramatic Apennine Mountains as well as the green and golden fields of Lazio before reaching Rome, the 'Eternal City'. En route, we Connect With Locals over lunch at a Be My Guest experience and enjoy true Tuscan hospitality with a local family on their private estate in the Chianti countryside.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Be My Guest

**Hotel:** Barceló Aran Mantegna

### Optional Experiences:

**Piazzas and Fountains** - Discover the most charming areas in the city with a Local Specialist. Wander through the labyrinth of narrow streets and beautiful squares of Rome's historic centre, leading to highlights such as the Trevi Fountain and the Pantheon, as well as hidden corners of the Eternal City.

*Adult: 37.00 EUR*

## Day 6 | Discover Ancient Rome and the Vatican City



Our first stop today sees us discover the divine beauty of the Vatican City. We'll visit St. Peter's Basilica with a Local Specialist to view Michelangelo's Renaissance masterpiece, the Pietà. We continue to Ancient Rome to view the iconic Colosseum and Circus Maximus, once the site of exhilarating chariot races centuries ago. The afternoon is yours to explore the city on your terms. Sit on the Spanish Steps savouring a tasty *gelato*, shop up a storm on the trendy Via Condotti or perhaps join an Optional Experience to see the magnificent frescoed ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Barceló Aran Mantegna

### Optional Experiences:

**Inside The Vatican & Colosseum** - We skip the lines at the Vatican Museums for a tour with our Local Specialist that shows not just remarkable works of art collected and commissioned over the history of the Papacy, but also Michelangelo's amazing ceiling frescoes in the Sistine Chapel. Later, we hear fascinating tales of gladiatorial combat and more on our visit to the Colosseum, again with a time-saving entrance.

**Adult: 89.00 EUR**

**Roman Evening with Dinner** - Tonight, spend a lively evening with us in Rome. After a short drive, we'll arrive at a characteristic trattoria to relax and enjoy a typical Italian meal, soaking up The Eternal City's unique atmosphere all the while.

**Adult: 62.00 EUR**

## Day 7 | Continue to Renaissance Florence



From Rome, we travel north through the rolling countryside of Tuscany and along the Arno valley to the 'Cradle of the Renaissance', Florence. Delve into the rich Medici heritage of this beautiful medieval city with your Local Specialist. Visit what was once the political hub of the city, Piazza della Signoria, with its impressive sculptures and stunning palazzi. View the imposing Duomo, crowned by Brunelleschi's dome, and the Baptistery, renowned for its sculptured bronze doors.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Hilton Metropole

### Optional Experiences:

The Michelangelo's David & Accademia optional experience is only available on trips departing London on a Sunday.

**Michelangelo's 'David' & Accademia** - Enjoy an insight into the world of Michelangelo and his masterpiece, David. We'll visit the Academy of Fine Arts and its Michelangelo collection, where you'll learn all about the life and works of this immortal Renaissance genius through the expert commentary of our Local Specialist.

**Adult: 49.00 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.*

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

### **Dinner, Wine and Music in the Tuscan Hills -**

This evening we'll take a scenic drive to experience a fun and relaxed evening at a friendly, typical restaurant in the countryside. The chef will delight our senses with regional dishes, made with freshly-bought ingredients from the local farmers' markets. Your delicious meal will be accompanied by excellent wines from the vineyards for which this area is so well known. In short, a Tuscan dream come true in an authentic setting.

*Adult: 65.00 EUR*

**Tuscan Dinner at Villa Machiavelli** - Through the Chianti hills, we'll drive past vineyards to a delightful hamlet. Our destination is the ancient stone house of Machiavelli, where the great political theorist wrote his immortal work, 'The Prince'. After a welcome drink and a visit of the villa and its wine-cellars, we'll enjoy the best of Tuscan cuisine accompanied by great music and drinks, including of course, Chianti from the Villa's own vines.

*Adult: 68.00 EUR*

## **Day 8 | Across the Alps to Lucerne**



Drive via the scenic Italian Lakes District, across the Alps into beautiful Switzerland, where we'll spend the next two nights in the medieval lakeside city of Lucerne.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Astoria

## **Day 9 | Explore Lucerne**



This morning, view the mournful, mortally wounded lion hewn from rock to commemorate the Swiss Guards who lost their lives defending Louis XVI. Walk along the flower-lined 14<sup>th</sup>-century covered Chapel Bridge, crossing the river Reuss. Or join an exciting Optional Experience to one of the surrounding peaks for breathtaking views of the Swiss countryside. We have some time later to discover the best Swiss chocolates in town.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Astoria

### **Optional Experiences:**

**Mount Pilatus And Lake Cruise** - We'll ascend by cog-wheel train to Mount Pilatus' summit, where you'll have time to explore, admire the views, and breathe the pure air. Then, we'll descend by cable-car to enjoy a scenic lake cruise.

*Adult: 113.00 CHF*

*\*On certain departures this Optional may be operated in reverse.*

**Swiss Countryside & Carriages** - A chance to get to know the Swiss, you'll meet local farmers and enjoy a delightful countryside tour in horse-drawn carriages. Soak up the stunning scenery as we trot around a typical rural community,

en route to a farm where you'll savour local drinks and snacks.

**Adult: 72.00 CHF**

*\*Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

## Day 10 | On to Captivating Paris



Crossing the border into France this morning, we travel past the picturesque vineyards and country towns of Burgundy en route to the 'City of Lights'. Spend some time this evening strolling along the Seine and grand boulevards in search of a cosy bistro for fine French cuisine or consider an Optional Experience to a colourful Parisian cabaret.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Renaissance La Défense

### Optional Experiences:

**Moulin Rouge Cabaret and Dinner** - It's world famous for a reason, and this is your chance to see the real-life inspiration behind the award-winning movie. This Parisian institution features 60 dancers and entertainers with over 1,000 costumes to create a dazzling spectacle. You'll enjoy wine, dinner and Champagne during this unforgettable soirée at the original Parisian Cabaret!

**Adult: 165.00 EUR**

## Day 11 | Discover the Sights of Paris



Join a Local Specialist today for a sightseeing tour of this romantic city. View the sophisticated Champs-Élysées, Place de la Concorde, the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Arc de Triomphe, honouring those who fought for France, and Notre Dame Cathedral, then enjoy a stroll through the Latin Quarter. Our European Whirl is almost at its end, we spend the evening with fellow travellers and our Travel Director, enjoying a Farewell Dinner in a local bistro.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

**Hotel:** Renaissance La Défense

### Optional Experiences:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

**Montparnasse and Napoleon's Tomb** - Take the fastest elevator in Europe to the Panoramic Observation Deck for unbeatable views of the Eiffel Tower and all of the city's iconic monuments. The highest rooftop terrace in Paris offers a breath-taking 360-degree view, with all of Paris at your feet! We'll also visit the Dôme des Invalides with our Local Specialist to see Napoleon's final resting place.

**Adult: 51.00 EUR**

**Versailles Palace And Gardens** - Built for the Sun King, Louis XIV, the Palace of Versailles was the envy of every European ruler, but loathed by the French commoners, which lead to the French Revolution. Step inside the opulent world of Versailles and our Local Specialist will take you through the palace's Hall of Mirrors and State apartments.

Then, enjoy free time to wander the symmetrical, tree-lined gardens.

**Adult: 73.00 EUR**

*\*This optional involves reservation and entrance pre-payments. Cancellation within 24 hours will incur a 50% cancellation fee.*

*\*\*This optional is subject to availability.*

**Seine Cruise and Paris Illuminations** - To truly see Paris in all its glory, you need to see it from the Seine. Enjoy a cruise along this famous river and take in unmatched views of the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Eiffel Tower. Afterwards, we'll drive through the City of Lights to see some of the fascinating sights this beautiful city has to offer.

**Adult: 43.00 EUR**

*\*In summer, this trip may take place before sunset.*

## Day 12 | Farewell Paris



Today bid adieu to your fellow travellers and Travel Director at the end of your memorable experience. Find out more about your free airport transfer at [trafalgar.com/freetransfers](https://trafalgar.com/freetransfers).

**Meals:** Breakfast