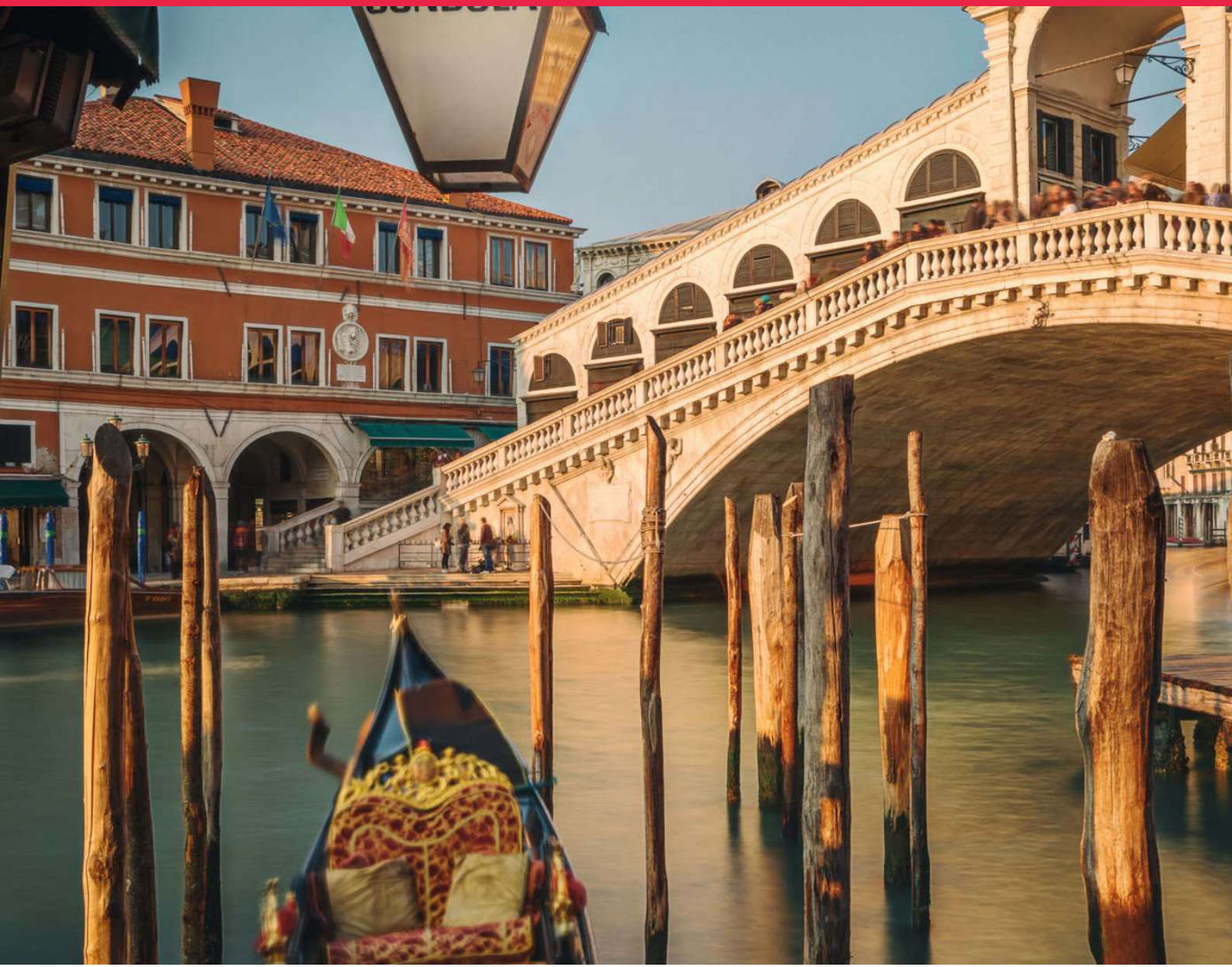


# European Whirl End Paris



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-  Start Location
-  Plane
-  Cruise
-  Over night

-  Visited Location
-  End Location
-  Train
-  Ferry



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



A brief interlude with the British capital, this morning you will meet your Travel Director before travelling to London's St. Pancras International where you 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 dinner cruise on its canals.

**Meals:** Dinner

**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 our Rhineland hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Sinsheim

## 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 facade and consider an evening of traditional Tyrolean entertainment.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Hilton Garden Inn Innsbruck Tivoli

## 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: 90.00 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 Venezia 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: 93.00 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, Lunch

**Hotel:** A. Roma Lifestyle/Precise House Mantegna

### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

***Piazzas and Fountains*** - Discover the most enchanting areas of the city with a Local Specialist. Stroll through the maze of narrow streets and picturesque squares in Rome's historic centre, uncovering famous landmarks and hidden gems in the Eternal City.

Adult: 49.00 EUR

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



Our first stop today sees us discover the divine beauty of the Vatican City with a Local Specialist. We continue to Ancient Rome to view the Roman Forum, the walls of 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, or shop up a storm on the trendy Via Condotti.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** A. Roma Lifestyle/Precise House Mantegna

### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

***Inside The Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel*** - Join us for an extension to your included sightseeing tour, which gives you a chance to see the artistic masterpieces collected and commissioned by the Popes. With our Local Specialist, we'll visit the Tapestry Gallery, Gallery of Maps and the Sistine Chapel. Michelangelo spent four years preparing the vault and altar wall, and we'll give you plenty of time to admire just how much painstaking work went into his creations.

Adult: 99.00 EUR

***Roman Evening with Dinner*** - Tonight, spend a lively evening with us in Rome. After a short drive, 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: 77.00 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 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:

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on seasonal changes and departure date:

**Michelangelo's 'David' & Accademia** - Step inside the Accademia Gallery for a closer look at Michelangelo's David, one of the world's most celebrated sculptures. With guidance from your Local Specialist, discover how this Renaissance masterpiece was brought to life and hear the stories behind Michelangelo's work and legacy in Florence.

Adult: 62.00 EUR

*\*The Accademia is not available on Mondays due to weekly closure day.*

**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 your Local Specialist you'll visit the wonderful "Hall of the Five Hundred" dedicated to the Medici popes. You'll also visit rooms decorated with masterpieces by famous artists of the Renaissance, like Michelangelo and Donatello.

Adult: 54.00 EUR

You will be offered one of the following two Optional Experiences depending on seasonal changes and departure date:

**Dinner in the Tuscan Countryside** - This evening, 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: 78.00 EUR

**Tuscan Dinner at Villa Machiavelli** - Through the Chianti hills, you'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, enjoy the best of Tuscan cuisine accompanied by great music and drinks, including of course, Chianti from the Villa's own vines.

Adult: 78.00 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. View the mournful, mortally wounded lion carved from rock to commemorate the Swiss Guards who lost their lives defending Louis XVI. Walk along the flower-lined 14th-century covered Chapel Bridge, crossing the river Reuss.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Grand Europe Lucerne

### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

***Swiss Folklore Evening with Dinner*** - Tonight we'll enjoy a tasty Swiss meal, including the famous Swiss cheese fondue, in a typical restaurant. While enjoying dinner, you can also join in a lively folklore show which includes yodelling, flag-throwing and Alpine horn-blowing. Two drinks are also included.

Adult: 116.00 CHF

## Day 9 | Explore Lucerne



This morning join an exciting Optional Experience to one of the surrounding peaks for breath taking views of the Swiss countryside. We have some time later to discover the best Swiss chocolates in town.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Grand Europe Lucerne

### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

***Mount Pilatus And Lake Cruise*** - 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, you'll descend by cable-car to enjoy a scenic lake cruise.

Note: from mid-November to mid-May the ascent will be by a series of cable cars.

Adult: 127.00 CHF

*\*On certain departures this optional experience 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 local homestead where you'll savour local drinks and snacks.

Adult: 81.00 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 Light'. 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:** Evergreen Laurel

### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

***La Nouvelle Eve Cabaret and Dinner*** - Nouvelle Eve has been spotlighted by 'Emily in Paris' and has hosted events for high-fashion icons like Dolce & Gabbana, Christian Louboutin and Vivienne Westwood. An icon of Parisian elegance for 125 years, this chic revue theatre is your ticket to an unforgettable night. An a la carte meal and dazzling cabaret will bring the French Cancon to life before your eyes. Performances run from April 20 to October 26.

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 19th-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 dinner in a local bistro.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Evergreen Laurel

### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

***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 led 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: 85.00 EUR

*\*This optional is subject to availability.*

***Seine Cruise and Parisian Icons*** - Discover the heart of Paris with a cruise along the Seine. Take in the city's most iconic sights, from the Eiffel Tower to the Grand Palais from a scenic vantage point. Then, sit back and relax as you drive through the enchanting streets of the City of Love, uncovering even more of its timeless landmarks.

Adult: 50.00 EUR



## Day 12 | Farewell Paris



Today bid adieu to your fellow travellers and Travel Director at the end of your memorable experience.

**Meals:** Breakfast