



Tour Information

The specialists in designing individualised European travel experiences.



England & Scotland Tour

Romantic Europe

Grand European Loop

Italian Loop

France Spain Tour

White Christmas

Luxury Tours for Independent Travellers

Select one of our independent tours. Then choose from a smorgasbord of unique travel experience options and we will design your very own tailor-made holiday of a lifetime.

Add extra days, sightseeing, experiences or excursions. As an independent traveller you can even undertake the tour in either direction, take a detour or a break in the tour to do 'your own thing' for a while, like hiring a car in Tuscany or Provence to explore the hills and villages to create a truly individualized and unique itinerary.



England & Scotland Tour

Highlights

14 DAYS

LONDON | WINDSOR CASTLE | DOVER | BATH | STONEHENGE
LAKE DISTRICT | EDINBURGH | SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS | LONDON



London

Your *England Scotland* tour starts in London. Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and the changing of the guard, Tower of London, Piccadilly Circus, Westminster Abbey, Soho, historic pubs, Hyde Park. Excursion to Windsor castle, the white cliffs of Dover, Canterbury Cathedral and Leeds Castle.

Bath and Stonehenge

Drive through the picture-perfect Wiltshire countryside to Stonehenge; see the Royal Crescent, Circus, Abbey and Pulteney Bridge in Bath; visit Lacock and Cotswold village.

The Lake District

Cruise on Lake Windermere; visit Beatrix Potter's Hill Top farm and medieval village of Hawkshea; drive through the beautiful Yewdale Valley; tour ten lakes and three mountain passes, visit the Castlerigg Stone Circle and the ancient township of Keswic.

Edinburgh and Scottish Highlands

Stay in the 13th Century Dalhousie Castle; visit Edinburgh Castle and the Royal Yacht Britannia; explore the Scottish Highlands and visit Stirling Castle and Loch Lomond.



England & Scotland Tour

Prices & Inclusions

Accommodation and Meals

- 13 nights in first class, 4 star hotels, castle hotel or B&B guesthouse
- 13 breakfasts

Travel

- 1st class train tickets between destinations. Seat reservations where required and available.
- Airport transfer to hotel with pre-paid Underground railway ticket on arrival and departure

Sightseeing and Excursions

- Sightseeing with a double-decker 'hop-on-hop-off' bus in London and Bath
- Admission ticket to Windsor Castle
- All day guided coach excursion to Dover, Canterbury Cathedral and Leeds Castle from London
- Priority admission ticket to Leeds Castle
- 'Changing of the Guards' at Buckingham Palace walking tour
- 'Rock 'n Roll' or 'Jack the Ripper' walking tour in London
- Cruise on the Thames in London
- Admission ticket to the Jane Austen Centre in Bath
- All day small group guided coach excursion to Stonehenge from Bath
- Beatrix Potter half day tour in Windermere including Lake Windermere lake cruise
- All day guided coach excursion of Lake District from Bath including lake cruise
- Priority admission ticket to Edinburgh Castle and guided tour
- Guided walking tour of Edinburgh with local expert guide
- Visit to the Royal Yacht Britannia including audio guide
- All day small group guided coach excursion into the Scottish Highlands and Loch Lomond

Not included

Travel insurance. Admission to Stonehenge. Local transport in Edinburgh to the Royal Yacht Britannia at Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre. Cruise on the River Avon. Flights to and from Europe.

Tour prices

All tour prices are published on our **website**

Upgrades to superior luxury hotel accommodation for this England Scotland tour can be arranged on request at extra cost. We also cater for solo travellers, families and groups. Prices by application.

Surcharges apply if travelling during holidays, New Year's Eve or other local events. These prices and tour information are correct at the time of the website going live, however are subject to confirmation at the time of booking.



Romantic Europe

Highlights

13 TO
33 DAYS

AMSTERDAM OR LONDON | BRUGES | PARIS | HEIDELBERG | LUCERNE
LAKE COMO | FLORENCE | TUSCANY | SORRENTO | ROME | VENICE
AUSTRIAN ALPS | MUNICH | SALZBURG | VIENNA | PRAGUE | BERLIN

Amsterdam



Get the feel for dream-like Amsterdam on an evening walk along the old cobbled streets with the bridge lights reflecting in the canals or during a candle-lit canal cruise.

Enjoy the picture-perfect Dutch countryside with millions of tulips and daffodils in bloom or the little fishing villages with their windmills and unique wooden houses on stilts.

London

Sip champagne on a memorable panoramic flight on the world's highest observation wheel, the 'London Eye'.

Browse the stalls of Petticoat Lane and Portobello Road market for art and quirky collectables.

Bruges

This medieval town is the Venice of the North.

Watch the swans floating by your window from your canal boat hotel.

Indulge in the best Belgian chocolate or visit the famous lace makers of Bruges.

Ride a bicycle along the canals and the tunneled alleyways of the town or take a leisurely canal boat cruise. See the sun come up over Bruges from a hot air balloon.



Paris

Sail past the illuminated sights and under the bridges of Paris in a bateau while enjoying your champagne.

Watch the sun set over Paris from the top of the Eiffel Tower. Search for antiques at an open air flea-market or stroll along the Left Bank with its bohemian cafés.

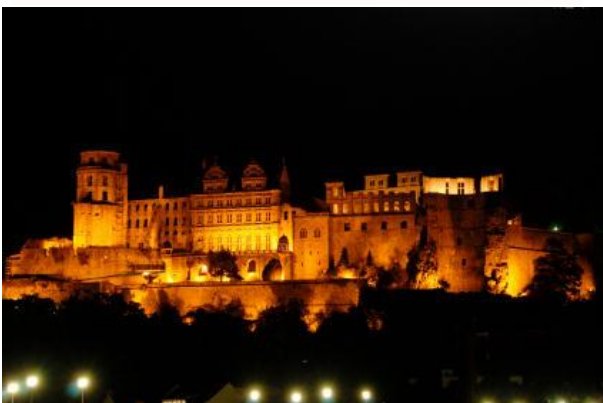


Heidelberg - Germany's Romantic centre

Stroll through this 12th century small town with its world famous castle, picturesque setting and Mediterranean climate and vegetation.

Float up the Neckar River, past the Heidelberg castle and through several lochs, passing monasteries, hill-top castles, vineyards and small villages on this ultimate romantic day river cruise.

Enjoy a drink in the club car of your train as you travel along the Rhine River to your next destination in Switzerland.



Lucerne

Board the vintage paddlewheel steamer across Lake Lucerne, then take the historic cogwheel train up to Mount Rigi.

Marvel at some of the most magnificent views in the European Alps while enjoying your gourmet picnic on top of Mount Pilatus.

The spectacular return trip to delightful Lucerne by cable car with take your breath away.

Lake Como

Lake of Lovers, said to be the most romantic lake in the world. Spend the day criss-crossing the lake by boat, visiting its tiny waterside villages, in particular Bellagio, the pearl of the lake.

Touch and feel the gossamer silk creations of the traditional silk weavers of Como. Dine at a lake front restaurant. Ride the funicular railway up 2000 feet for a dramatic view over Lake Como.

Watch the sun set over the Alps from the centre of the lake during a private boat trip



Florence and Tuscany

Hike along some picturesque Tuscan country paths. Enjoy the panoramic views over Florence from the Etruscan city of Fiesole. Sample some regional foods at little local eateries.

Stroll through the vineyards and olive groves of Chianti. Enjoy a Tuscan lunch in the hills of Siena. Roam in the maze of cobbled streets and small squares and walk between San Gimignano's 14 towers.



Sorrento

Watch the buzzing Italian night life on Tasso Square during a dinner on your little 'Romeo and Juliet' balcony.

Get carried away by the breathtaking scenery of the Amalfi Drive, one of the most spectacular coastal roads in Europe. Enjoy the serene beauty of the Isle of Capri as your rowing boat glides into the magic world of the Blue Grotto.

Walk the pretty, narrow streets of Positano with its pastel-coloured houses and steps carved out of the rock.

Rome

Start your day with a double-espresso hit at Casanova's favorite café. In the evening join the lovers on the Spanish Steps, the perfect spot to watch the sun set.

Hire a vintage Vespa and live out your 'Roman Holiday' fantasy. At night purchase a rose for your loved one from the flower sellers at the Trevi Fountain.



Venice

Stroll along the tiny cobble-stoned alleyways, canals, bridges and piazzas of this historic city.

Ride the Vaporetto up the Grand Canal and visit the glass blowing and lace making artisans.

Cherish the views from your waterfront suite across the lagoon to St Mark's Square.

Be serenaded during your gondola ride on the canals of Venice.



Take to the canals in a hire boat and putter along the tranquil backwaters passing palazzo after palazzo - Moor up for a prosecco at a tiny waterside café.

Do as George Clooney does and have one or two of Venice's famous Bellini cocktails at the Gritti Palace.

Austrian Alps

Pamper yourself in the Spa Resort of Bad Hofgastein, surrounded by glacier-covered mountain peaks of 3500m height.

Walk through blooming Alpine meadows and in the 'Valley of Water' with clear streams and rivers, mysterious dark lakes and thunderous waterfalls.

Experience Austrian hospitality in a rustic alpine inn.

Munich

Climb or take a horse-drawn carriage up to the fairytale castle of Neuschwanstein.

Visit the world-famous woodcarvers in Oberammergau and admire the richly painted Bavarian houses.

Enjoy fine dining by candle-light in the award winning restaurant Koenigshof.



Salzburg

City of Mozart. Admire the fortress, bridges and stunning mountain ranges during a relaxing river cruise. Try your luck in the illuminated baroque Palace Klessheim Casino.

Visit the Wedding Church from the 'Sound of Music' movie and enjoy the boat ride on picturesque Lake Wolfgang in the Salzburg Lake District.

Listen to the 'clip-clop' of the horses hooves as your carriage takes you on a tour of the heart of the city.



Vienna

Lose yourself in the hedge maze of Schloss Schönbrunn before visiting the Carriage Museum, filled with gilded Cinderella coaches.

Sip wine in a 17th century tavern, tucked away in a cobbled courtyard in the Esterházy palace.

Slip into the romance and red velvet of the 19th century at Café Sacher where a pianist, chandeliers and gilt-framed oil paintings create a grand setting while you crack the icing on a rich Sachertorte chocolate cake.

Take a dreamy tram ride through historic Vienna or a cruise on the Danube



Prague

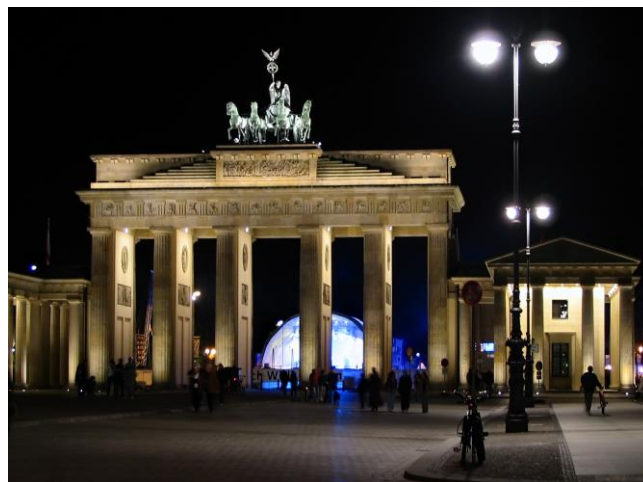
Break open a bottle of Bohemian sparkling wine in the scented rose gardens of Petrin Hill overlooking the Spires of Prague.

Feed the swans along the embankment of the Vltava River. Let the glowing lanterns of the Stavovske Divadlo theatre mesmerize you.

Polish the statue of St. John of Nepomuk and make a wish. Glide past the illuminated Prague Castle and Charles Bridge on your romantic dinner cruise.



Berlin



Time-travel back to the time of Frederick the Great when you are greeted by staff and performers wearing period costumes for your dinner and concert in the Charlottenburg Palace, the setting and ambience a reminder of how things may have been in days of long ago.

Discover that Berlin has more bridges than Venice during your magic cruise on the River Spree.

Enhance your romantic holiday in Europe by upgrading to a stay in a historic palace, a honeymoon suite with private terrace overlooking the rooftops of Rome, a boathouse on a canal in Bruges, a castle, a self-contained apartment in the Latin Quarter in Paris or a room with balcony overlooking Hyde Park.





Romantic Europe

Prices & Inclusions

Accommodation

- 32 nights in first class hotels, some in historic buildings, on a canal boat barge-hotel or apartment.

Travel

- Eurostar train tickets with reserved standard class seats between London and Bruges.
- 1st class train tickets between destinations in continental Europe. Seat reservations where required.
- Airport transfer to hotel with pre-paid Underground railway ticket on arrival in London.
- Touring coach ticket and seat reservation between South-Austria and Venice.
- Transport from train station to hotel on arrival and back to train station on departure in Bad Hofgastein.
- Shared shuttle transport to airport from hotel on departure.

Meals

- 30 breakfasts.
- 5-course dinner in Bruges.
- Small box of Belgian chocolates.
- 2-course dinner in Lucerne featuring Swiss cuisine.
- Packed lunch basket for your day excursion to Mount Pilatus in Lucerne.
- Dinner with spectacular views over Venice. (If staying in the hotel on the Lido)
- Two 4-course meals featuring the best of Austrian cooking in the Austrian Alps.
- Rustic Austrian meal in wine tavern in Vienna.
- 2-course meal offering a selection of Czech specialties in Prague.
- Night Dinner cruise in Prague on river Vltava
- Sparkling wine and strawberries in Berlin
- 3-course candle-lit dinner with wine in Berlin.



Sightseeing and Excursions

- Excursion to the tulip fields in Holland or to the fishing villages and windmills.
- Candle-light canal cruise in Amsterdam with wine and cheese.
- Sight-seeing with a double-decker hop-on/hop-off bus in London.
- 'Changing of the Guard' at Buckingham Palace walking tour.
- 'Rock 'n Roll' or 'Jack the Ripper' walking tour in London.
- Cruise on the Thames in London.
- Flight on the 'London Eye' with glass of champagne.
- Boat trip through the canals of the historic centre of Bruges.
- Visit to chocolate or diamond museum or entry to Belgian beer brewery in Bruges.
- Use of bicycles in Bruges to explore the inner city or the countryside further afield.
- Sightseeing tour in Paris.
- Priority tickets (no queuing) to top of the Eiffel Tower.
- Tickets for Mount Pilatus lift in Lucerne.
- Sightseeing tour with local English-speaking guides in Florence.
- Full day excursion into the Tuscan countryside with visit to Siena, San Gimignano and Pisa, including lunch and wine tasting.
- 3-day pass for transport in Rome.
- Admission into the Colosseum (priority entry ticket), Roman Forum and the Galleria Borghese.
- 2-day Venice canal boat pass. (If you opted to stay on the Lido)
- Canal boat excursion to Murano and visit to glass blowing artisans.
- Guided walking sightseeing tour in Venice.
- Lift ticket to the 'Schlossalm' mountain in Austrian Alps. Or admission ticket to the Thermal Spa complex.
- Use of bicycles in Austrian Alps.
- All day excursion to King Ludwig's fairytale castle Neuschwanstein and to Oberammergau.
- In Salzburg 'Sound of Music tour' or 'Austrian Lakes and Mountain tour'.
- Cruise on the Salzach River in Salzburg.
- Admission to Salzburg fortress and funicular train.
- Admission to Mozart's birthplace and Christian catacombs in Salzburg.
- Transport and admission to Hellbrunn Palace and the Archbishop's Trick Fountains.
- 3-day pass for all transport in Vienna.
- Admission to Palace Schönbrunn in Vienna
- Sightseeing tour in Prague
- Sightseeing bus tour and river cruise in Berlin



Not all inclusions will be available at all times and the tour price will be reduced accordingly. Inclusions can be opted out of and the tour price reduced, unless they are part of a package arrangement with a hotel.

Not included: Flights to and within Europe; some city tourist taxes; train ticket from Naples to Sorrento and return.

Optional sightseeing and excursions, not included in tour price

- Excursion into the Cotswold villages from London
- Tower of London admission tickets and Yeoman Warder 'Beefeater' tour
- Hot air ballooning in Bruges
- Admission tickets to the Louvre, Versailles and other attractions in Paris
- Champagne tasting cruise in Paris
- Horse-drawn carriage ride in Paris
- Dinner and show at the Moulin Rouge
- Night cruise with dinner on the Champs-Elysees
- Perfume workshop in Paris
- Excursions to the castles of the Loire valley
- Excursion to Verona from Florence
- Wine tasting tour into Chianti from Florence
- Discovering Tuscany by Vespa, bike or horse
- Exploring Rome by Vespa
- Excursion to Assisi & the Umbrian hills
- Wine tasting tour in the Frascati region
- Gondola ride with or without serenade in Venice
- Danube river day excursion in Vienna
- Dinner & concert in Charlottenburg palace in Berlin
- Transfers to and from airport to hotel
- Upgrades to superior accommodation

Tour prices

All tour prices are published on our [website](#)

Surcharges apply if travelling during Easter and Christmas holidays, New Year's Eve, Venice Carnival, Salzburg Festival, Bastille Day and arrival of the Tour de France in Paris. If travelling from London to Paris on Friday/Saturday/Sunday an extra charge may apply. These prices and tour information are correct at the time of the website going live and the brochure being published, but are subject to confirmation at the time of booking.





Grand European Loop

Highlights

25 DAYS

LONDON | PARIS | PROVENCE | NICE | CINQUE TERRE | FLORENCE
ROME | VENICE | AUSTRIAN ALPS | SALZBURG | VIENNA | PRAGUE

London

Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and the Changing of the guard, Tower of London, Piccadilly Circus, Westminster Abbey, Soho, historic pubs, Hyde Park. Travel on the Eurostar to Paris.

Paris

View the city from the top of the Eiffel Tower and Montmartre. Enjoy the tree shaded cafes and bars on the wide boulevards, Champs Elysee and Arc de Triomphe at night. Stroll along the banks of the river Seine. Spend a day at Versailles or EuroDisney. Travel in one of the world's fastest trains from Paris to Nice.



Nice and Provence

The azure blue sea of the Bay of Angels of the French Riviera, flower market and cobble-stoned passageways of 'Old Nice'. The excursion to the lavender fields and beautiful villages of Provence. Nearby Monaco or Cannes with their yachts, villas, casino, Formula One Grand Prix circuit, delightful Antibes or the stars' handprints at the Cannes Film Festival Palace. The train ride along the picturesque Côte d'Azur to Cinque Terre.

Cinque Terre

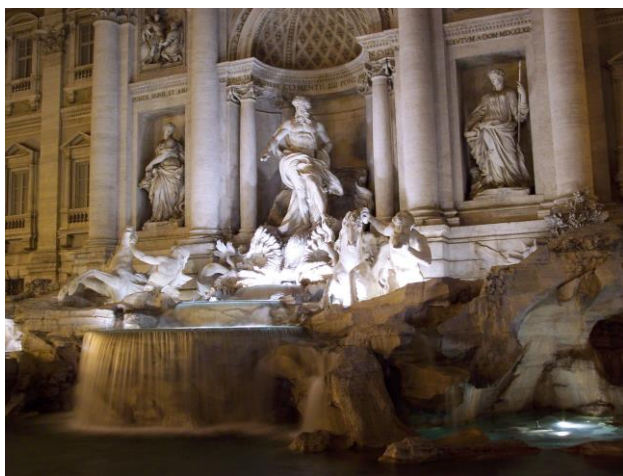
The dramatic view of the Mediterranean Sea and the tiny picturesque fishing villages from the terraced vineyards, the red cliffs of Monterosso, walking the Via Dell'Amore, the Gulf of Poets.

Florence

The art, culture and history of this magnificent city, the pink, white and green marble façade of the Duomo, the 14th Century Ponte Vecchio lined with gold and silversmith artisan shops, Michelangelo's David. Excursion into Tuscany and viewing the leaning tower of Pisa.

Rome

Michelangelo's ceiling in the Sistine Chapel, the Vatican, Colosseum and Roman Forum, Spanish Steps, Pantheon, Trevi Fountain.



Venice

Canale Grande and gondolas, St.Marks' Square, the Doges' Palace and the Bridge of Sighs, glass blowing factory. Lose yourself in the labyrinth of canals, bridges and cobble-stoned alleyways.



Austrian Alps/Bad Hofgastein

Alpine meadows, breathtaking views of the 3000 m high glacier-covered mountains, Austrian culinary specialties, hot springs thermal baths and healing caves.

Salzburg

The cogwheel ride to the Fortress, Mozart's birthplace, the 'Sound of Music' or 'Austrian Lakes' tour, Mozartkugeln, Hellbrunn Palace and quirky Trick Fountains.



Vienna

Stroll along the Danube river. Visit the Imperial Palace and the baroque palace Schönbrunn, Viennese café-houses, wine taverns and listen to zither music.

Prague

The fully lit Prague Castle and Charles Bridge at night, the Astronomical clock, the funicular ride to the top of Petrin Hill and Czech traditional food.



Grand European Loop

Prices & Inclusions

Accommodation

- 24 nights in first class hotels, some in historic buildings.

Travel

- Eurostar train tickets with reserved standard class seats between London and Paris.
- 1st class train tickets between destinations in continental Europe except for Nice to Monaco (20 minutes) where only 2nd class is available. Seat reservations where required and available.
- Airport transfer to hotel with pre-paid Underground railway ticket on arrival.
- Touring coach ticket and seat reservation between South-Austria and Venice.
- Transport from train station to hotel on arrival and back to train station on departure in Bad Hofgastein.
- Shared shuttle transport to airport from hotel on departure.

Meals

- 24 breakfasts.
- 3-course Provencal meal in Nice.
- Lunch with wine tasting during the excursion into Tuscany
- Dinner in Venice with spectacular views over Venice.
- Two 4-course meals featuring the best of Austrian cooking in the Austrian Alps.
- 3-course lunch in Bad Hofgastein.
- Welcome drink on panorama roof terrace in Bad Hofgastein.
- Rustic Austrian meal in historic wine tavern in Vienna.
- 2-course meal offering a selection of Czech specialties in Prague.

Sightseeing and Excursions

- Sightseeing with a double-decker 'hop-on-hop-off' bus in London, Paris and Rome. (In Rome you can choose the '3 hour Classic Tour' instead of the 'Hop-on-hop-off' bus)
- Sightseeing tours with local English speaking guides in Florence, Venice and Prague.
- 'Changing of the Guard' at Buckingham Palace walking tour.
- 'Rock 'n Roll' or 'Jack the Ripper' walking tour in London.
- Cruise on the Thames River in London.
- Priority tickets (no queuing) to top of the Eiffel Tower.
- Tour of the lavender fields and villages in Provence from Nice.
- Excursion from Florence into Tuscany.
- 2-day Venice canal boat pass.
- Canal boat excursion to Murano and visit to glass blowing artisans.
- 'Roma pass' - free transport for 3 days.
- Admission into the Colosseum (priority entry ticket), Roman Forum and the Galleria Borghese.
- Lift ticket to the 'Schlossalm' mountain in Austrian Alps. (Or, in bad weather, admission ticket to the Thermal Spa complex.)
- Use of bicycles in Austrian Alps.
- In Salzburg 'Sound of Music tour' or 'Austrian Lakes and Mountain tour'.
- Cruise on the Salzach River in Salzburg.
- Admission to Salzburg fortress and funicular train.
- Admission to Mozart's birthplace and Christian catacombs in Salzburg.
- Transport and admission to Hellbrunn Palace and the Archbishop's Trick Fountains.
- 3-day pass for all transport in Vienna.

Tour prices

All tour prices are published on our [website](#)

Surcharges apply if travelling during Easter and Christmas holidays, New Year's Eve, Venice Carnival, Salzburg Festival, Bastille Day and arrival of the Tour de France in Paris. If staying in Nice during the Monaco Grand Prix or the Cannes Film Festival a surcharge of \$150 per person per night will apply. If travelling from London to Paris on Friday/Saturday/Sunday an extra charge may apply.

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Italian Loop

Highlights

11 DAYS | ROME | FLORENCE | CINQUE TERRE | COMO | VENICE | ROME

Rome

Michelangelo's ceiling in the Sistine Chapel, the Vatican, Colosseum, Spanish Steps, Pantheon & Trevi Fountain.

Florence

The art, culture and history of this magnificent city, the pink, white and green marble façade of the Duomo, the 14th Century Ponte Vecchio lined with gold and silversmith artisan shops, Michelangelo's David. Excursion into the Tuscan countryside and visit to Pisa with its leaning tower.



Cinque Terre

The breathtaking view of the Mediterranean Sea from the vineyard terraces, walking the Via Dell'Amore that connects the picturesque villages, the Gulf of Poets.

Como

The myriad of colours and patterns in the silk shops. Views from your hotel over Lake Como surrounded by the majestic Alps.

Venice

Canale Grande and gondolas, St. Mark's Square, the Doges' Palace and the Bridge of Sighs, glass blowing factory, losing yourself in the labyrinth of canals, bridges and cobble-stoned alleyways.

Italian Loop

Prices & Inclusions

Accommodation

- 10 nights in first class hotels, some in historic buildings.

Travel

- Shared shuttle transfer from airport to hotel on arrival.
- 1st class train tickets between destinations. Seat reservations where required and available.
- Shared shuttle transfer from hotel to airport on departure.

Meals

- 10 breakfasts.
- Lunch with wine tasting during the excursion into Tuscany.
- Dinner in Venice with spectacular views across the lagoon towards St. Marks. (If staying on the Lido)

Sightseeing and Excursions

- Sightseeing with a double-decker 'hop-on-hop-off' bus in Rome. (Or instead the '3 hour Classic Tour')
- 'Roma pass' - free transport for 3 days.
- Admission into the Colosseum (priority entry ticket), Roman Forum and the Galleria Borghese.
- Sightseeing tour with professional local guide in Florence.
- Full day Tuscany excursion from Florence.
- Venice canal boat pass.
- Sightseeing tour in Venice with professional local guide.
- Canal boat excursion to Murano and visit to glass blowing artisans.

Tour prices

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Surcharges apply if travelling during Easter and Christmas holidays, New Year's Eve and Venice Carnival and other local events. The prices and tour information are correct at the time of the website going live, but are subject to confirmation at the time of booking.



France Spain Tour

Highlights

19 DAYS | PARIS | LOIRE VALLEY | BORDEAUX | NARBONNE | BARCELONA
SEVILLE | GRANADA | MADRID

Paris

View the city from the top of the Eiffel Tower and Montmartre. Stroll along the banks of the river Seine, the tree-shaded boulevards dotted with cafes and bars and the Champs Elysee at night.



Loire valley – Amboise

Witness the glamour and grandeur of French royalty and gain insights into 'castle life' of days gone past during your visit to the famous Loire valley castles. Enjoy a wine tasting in a cellar cave and lunch in a family estate vineyard.

Bordeaux

Explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site Bordeaux and discover the beautiful medieval village of St Emilion, one of the most picturesque villages in France.

Narbonne and Carcassonne

Be fascinated by these two ancient cities and their history dating back to the Bronze age. Walk among the walls and fortifications of Carcassonne with its 52 towers. Take a cruise on the Canal du Midi for a panoramic view of this medieval city.

Barcelona

The flamboyance and colour of Barcelona's art and architecture will take your breath away. Visit the medieval Gothic quarter and Gaudi's famous Sagrada Familia Cathedral.

Seville

Be seduced by the charm of this magical city with its marvelous architecture, a legacy of the Moors, the Gothic cathedral with its minaret transformed into a Christian bell tower. Feel the passion and drama of a flamenco show.

Granada

Indulge in a feast of the senses in Granada. Visit the Alhambra fortress, palace and garden then get pampered in an Arabian bath for the total experience of Granada's Moorish heritage.

Madrid

Immerse yourself into Madrid's colours and vibrancy - the magnificent Royal palace, the flamenco and tapas bars. Walk the cobble-stoned alleyways of medieval Toledo and visit its castle and 13th century cathedral.

France Spain Tour

Prices & Inclusions

Accommodation

- 18 nights in first class hotels, some in historical buildings.

Travel

- 1st class train tickets between destinations. Seat reservations where required.
- Airport transfer to hotel with shared shuttle bus.
- Transport from hotel to airport on departure with shared shuttle bus.

Meals

- 18 breakfasts.
- Wine tasting and lunch during the Loire valley castle tour.
- Tapas and wine during the Flamenco show in Seville
- Tapas in Madrid

Sightseeing and Excursions

- Sightseeing with a double-decker 'hop-on-hop-off' bus in Paris.
- Priority admission ticket to Versailles Palace.
- Priority tickets (no queuing) for the Eiffel Tower.
- Priority admission ticket to the Louvre.
- Priority admission ticket to the Arc de Triomphe etc
- Loire valley castle tour
- Excursion to St. Emilion from Bordeaux
- Independent train excursion to Carcassonne from Narbonne.
- Gothic Quarter walking tour or guided sightseeing tour by bicycle in Barcelona
- Guided tour of the Sagrada Familia including admission ticket in Barcelona
- Sightseeing tour in Seville
- Seville night tour with Tablao Flamenco Show
- Guided tour of the Alhambra including admission tickets in Granada
- Arab bath visit in Granada
- Guided coach sightseeing tour or walking tour with visit and admission to the Royal Palace in Madrid
- Half-day excursion to Toledo from Madrid
- Tapas night walking tour in Madrid

Not included

Some city tourist taxes.

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Tour prices

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We also cater for solo travellers, families and groups. Prices by application. Upgrades to superior luxury accommodation can be arranged on request at extra cost.



White Christmas

Tours

Choose one of our White Christmas tours and then extend, shorten or modify the tour to your heart's content.

Creating magical memories to last a lifetime

We have tours for non-skiers and skiers, families and romantics, tours where you visit many traditional Christmas markets and a tour for those who want to extend their Christmas holiday and waltz into the New Year in Vienna.



For Families

For Romantics

Christmas New Year Tour

Christmas in a Castle

Christmas in Germany

Christmas Markets Tour

For Skiers and Snowboarders

Markets Tour & Danube River Cruise

White Christmas

For Families

PRAGUE | VIENNA | SALZBURG | GARMISCH | CASTLE NEUSCHWANSTEIN

Highlights

16 and 17 December – Prague

Explore the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage listed inner city and the spectacular Christmas market on the Old Town Square with its local handicrafts, like Bohemian crystal and lace.

18 and 19 December - Vienna

Vienna's spectacular architecture, its cosy coffeehouses, atmospheric wine taverns and musical tradition will enchant you. The Christmas market in front of City hall, huge Christmas trees, a visit to the magnificent baroque Palace Schönbrunn, sampling hot mulled wine, traditional Austrian Christmas carols at the famous Christmas market in front of the palace will make you fall in love with Vienna.



20 and 21 December - Salzburg

Enjoy visits to the Salzburg's fortress, the quaint car-free inner city, Mozart's birthplace, the majestic Cathedral, catacombs, the Christmas markets and the funicular railway ride up to the fortress overlooking Salzburg.

A 4-hour 'Sound of Music' tour will take you to the locations where many of the scenes for the movie were filmed: the wedding chapel, Hellbrunn castle and the beautiful lake-side village of Mondsee where you can taste the best crisp apple strudel at Mrs. Brown's café. (Or choose the 'Austrian Lakes and Mountains' tour)



22 - 26 December - Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Castle Neuschwanstein

The breathtakingly beautiful town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen, at the foot of Germany's highest glacier covered mountain, the Zugspitze, will be a place like no other to celebrate a traditional German Christmas. Stroll through this quaint little township and admire the traditional painted house facades and let the yule-tide spirit enchant you at the village Christmas market with Alpine music, festively decorated booths and culinary regional specialties.

You will have guaranteed snow on the mountain and can enjoy skiing, snowboarding, hikes in the snow and any kind of winter activities imaginable. For a thrill of a lifetime go tobogganing on the glacier.

Or take a romantic evening torch-lit guided hike through the dramatic Partnach Gorge complete with a visit to a rustic mountain hut where some hearty refreshments await you.

Christmas Eve will be celebrated with a festive gala dinner and, if you like, you can afterwards walk through the silent village to attend midnight mass at a little local church.

Another of the highlights of your White Christmas in Germany holiday will be a romantic horse-drawn sleigh ride into a picturesque valley. A winter experience that will fill your heart with peace and joy.

Garmisch-Partenkirchen has a lot to offer to non-skiers and skiers alike. During a one day excursion to nearby Neuschwanstein you have the opportunity to visit King Ludwig II fairy-tale castle Neuschwanstein.

Oberammergau, less than one hour from Garmisch-Partenkirchen, world-famous for its woodcarvers, richly painted houses and Passion Play is well worth a visit.

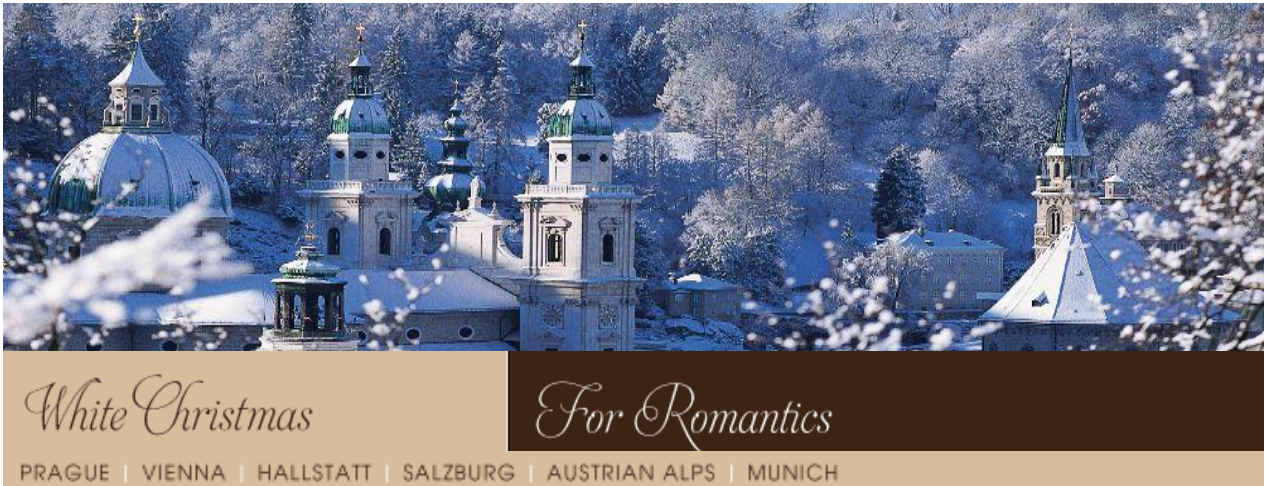
27 December - Munich

Enjoy the view of the picturesque Bavarian mountains and villages during your train ride from Garmisch-Partenkirchen to Munich airport.



Tour price

All prices for this tour are by application. The tour price depends on the number of persons in your family or group, the choice of hotels and age of children under 16.



Tour Highlights and Itinerary

14 December - Prague

Take the afternoon and evening to familiarize yourself with this UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage listed inner city and its amazing architecture, winding streets and famous sights. In the evening enjoy a traditional Czech dinner.

15 December - Prague

A local guide will take you on a leisurely tour of the historical buildings in 'Old Prague'. At the Christmas market you will find local handicrafts, like Bohemian crystals and lace. In the evening you have the choice of either experiencing a performance in a 'Black Light' theatre or seeing the magic of Prague unfold during a romantic dinner cruise.

16 December - Vienna

Stroll around the historic inner city and you will be enchanted by Vienna's spectacular architecture, its cosy coffeehouses, atmospheric wine taverns and musical tradition. Take a dreamy ride on a Viennese tram to one of the oldest traditional 'Heurigen' Pubs and enjoy a traditional Austrian meal and zither music.

17 December – Vienna

Explore the entire city at your leisure. Hire ice-skates and skate on the frozen Danube or on the Ice Rink (with hot punch stalls) in front of the baroque historic museum. In the afternoon visit the magnificent baroque Palace Schönbrunn. Stay on afterwards to listen to the choirs singing traditional Austrian Christmas carols in front of the palace.



18 December – Hallstatt

You will arrive by boat at your romantic lakeside hotel. The picturesque town of Hallstatt is surrounded by some of the most breathtaking scenery in the world and listed as a World Cultural Heritage Site. In the evening enjoy a candle-lit dinner in your lake front restaurant.

19 December - Salzburg

Explore the small, car-free inner city. Visit Mozart's birthplace, the majestic Cathedral, the Christmas markets and take the funicular cog-wheel train up to the fortress overlooking Salzburg.



20 December - Salzburg

The 4-hour 'Sound of Music' tour takes you to the location where many of the scenes for the movie were filmed. Explore the beautiful villages of the lake district and taste the best 'crisp apple strudel' at Mrs. Brown's café. Alternatively you can choose the 'Austrian Lakes and Mountains' tour.

21 - 25 December - Austrian Alps/Bad Hofgastein

In just over one hour your train takes you up to 1000m into the winter wonderland of Bad Hofgastein, surrounded by 3500m snow and glacier covered mountains. In this well-known resort with its historical and rustic houses you will experience an Austrian Christmas and have 5 days to enjoy the snow and all the snow based activities that you ever wanted. On your first evening you can choose to meet up with other travellers for a welcome drink in the lounge in front of the fireplace.



In Bad Hofgastein there is plenty to do and see for skiers and non-skiers alike. Stroll among the stalls of the quaint village Christmas market, just next to your hotel, where local musicians play their 'Alpenhorns' and provide a very festive atmosphere.

Ski downhill or cross country, go tobogganing (for a special thrill go tobogganing after nightfall), snow-shoe hiking, snow-boarding or build a snowman/woman/child or snow kangaroo. Take a cable car to the summit of one of the mountains surrounding Bad Hofgastein and gasp at the views of glacier-covered mountain peaks. During a one day excursion to nearby Zell am See you have the opportunity to visit a very picturesque traditional Christmas market.

Or just be cosy and toasty in front of a fireplace in your warm and delightful hotel and look out into a magic winter wonderland. After a day in the snow relax in the hot thermal spa complex of your hotel.

Experience several joyful advent festivities that will get you into the 'Christmas spirit'. One of these is a horse-drawn sleigh ride into the romantic Prossau valley. Every evening indulge in a 4-course meal featuring different Austrian specialties.

Christmas in continental Europe is celebrated on Christmas Evening. Your celebration will start with a Christmas cocktail, followed by Christmas festivities and a grand Christmas dinner. Don your snow-boots just before midnight and walk through the crunching snow to the village chapel for mass. This will be a Christmas you will remember and cherish forever.



26 December - Munich

The afternoon is yours to explore Munich. Visit the 14th Century residence of the Bavarian rulers, the church of St. Michael, Germany's grandest Renaissance church and the neo-gothic old town hall at the Marienplatz. Or sample one of Bavaria's famous beers at the Hofbräuhaus and listen to an oompah band.

27 December - Munich - Excursion to Castle Neuschwanstein

Hidden in the seclusion of the Bavarian mountains, King Ludwig II built his dream castle, Neuschwanstein. During your all day trip from Munich you will visit this extraordinary castle, the legacy of Bavaria's fairytale King.

28 December - Munich

Your driver will take you directly from your hotel to your departure terminal at the Munich international airport.

Tour prices

All tour prices and inclusions are published on our [website](#)



White Christmas

New Year Tour

MUNICH | CASTLE NEUSCHWANSTEIN | AUSTRIAN ALPS | SALZBURG | BUDAPEST | VIENNA

Tour Highlights and Itinerary

18 December - Munich

Your driver will take you directly from the airport to your hotel in the center of Munich.

The afternoon is yours to explore Munich. Visit the Christmas market in front of the neo-gothic old town hall at the Marienplatz and sample your first cup of hot mulled wine. Or visit the less famous but very interesting medieval market at the Odeonsplatz. See the 14th Century residence of the Bavarian rulers and the church of St. Michael, Germany's grandest Renaissance church.

19 December - Munich - Excursion to Castle Neuschwanstein



Hidden in the seclusion of the Bavarian mountains, King Ludwig II built his dream castle, Neuschwanstein. During your all day trip from Munich you will visit this extraordinary castle, the legacy of Bavaria's fairytale King.

20 December - Munich - Excursion to Nuernberg

180 wooden stalls, festooned with red-and-white cloth, have given the Christmas Market in Nuernberg its name of 'Little Town from Wood and Cloth'. Stroll through this medieval city and enjoy one of Europe's best and most authentic Christmas markets.

The medieval fortifications, Gothic churches, colourful market places and the hilltop castle of the old imperial city of Nuernberg are as awe-inspiring today as ever.

21 - 25 December - Austrian Alps/Bad Hofgastein

In just over one hour your train takes you up to 1000m into the winter wonderland of Bad Hofgastein, surrounded by 3500m snow and glacier covered mountains. In this well-known resort with its historical and rustic houses you will experience an Austrian Christmas and have 5 days to enjoy the snow and all the snow based activities that you ever wanted. On your first evening you can choose to meet up with other travellers for a welcome drink in the lounge in front of the fireplace.

In Bad Hofgastein there is plenty to do and see for skiers and non-skiers alike. Stroll among the stalls of the quaint village Christmas market, just next to your hotel, where local musicians play their 'Alpenhorns' and provide a very festive atmosphere.



Ski downhill or cross country, go tobogganing (for a special thrill go tobogganing after nightfall), snow-shoe hiking, snow-boarding or build a snowman/woman/child or snow kangaroo. Experience the iridescent- blue of the frozen waterfalls and go ice-climbing (beginners to advanced). Take a cable car to the summit of one of the mountains surrounding Bad Hofgastein and gasp at the views of glacier-covered mountain peaks. During a one day excursion to nearby Zell am See you have the opportunity to visit a very picturesque traditional Christmas market.

Or just be cosy and toasty in front of a fireplace in your warm and delightful hotel and look out into a magic winter wonderland. After a day in the snow relax in the hot thermal spa complex of your hotel. Experience several joyful advent festivities that will get you into the 'Christmas spirit'. One of these is a horse-drawn sleigh ride into the romantic Prossau valley. Every evening indulge in a 4-course meal featuring different Austrian specialties.

At midnight and walk through the crunching snow to the village chapel for mass. On your short walk you might come across small groups of carol singers. This will be a Christmas you will remember and cherish forever.

26 December - Salzburg



Explore the small, car-free inner city. Visit Mozart's birthplace, the majestic Cathedral and take the funicular railway up to the fortress overlooking Salzburg.

27 December - Salzburg

The 'Sound of Music' tour takes you to the location where many of the scenes for the movie were filmed. The English speaking guide not only shows you the highlights of the 'Sound of Music' but also the historical and architectural landmarks in the city, as well as a part of the picturesque lake district. Explore the beautiful village of Mondsee and taste the best crisp apple strudel at Mrs. Brown's café. Or you can choose to undertake the 'Austrian Lakes and Mountains' tour.

28 & 29 December - Budapest

Visit the landmark building in Budapest, the neo-gothic Parliament on the banks of the Danube, topped by an elegant dome. The 691 rooms and staircases stretch for more than 12 miles.

During a half-day guided coach and walking tour you will see the Royal castle and Matthias Church and walk along Fishermen's Bastion.



29 December - Vienna

Stroll around the historic inner city and you will be enchanted by Vienna's spectacular architecture, its cosy coffeehouses, atmospheric wine taverns and musical tradition. In the evening take a dreamy ride on a Viennese tram to one of the oldest 'Heurigen' pubs and enjoy a traditional Austrian meal and zither music.

31 December - Vienna

You have a pass for all local transport in and around Vienna. Explore the entire city at your leisure. Hire ice-skates and skate on the frozen Danube or on the Ice Rink (with hot punch stalls) in front of the baroque historic museum. Visit the magnificent baroque Palace Schönbrunn. Stay on for a last stroll across one of Europe's most famous Christmas markets in front of the palace. Vienna offers everything for young and old on New Year's Eve. For children there is a special 'Okidoki' program starting from 2pm in the afternoon.



The historic inner city has what is called a 'Sylvesterpath' with food stalls, music and other entertainment. It is tradition in Vienna to waltz into the New Year. At the stroke of midnight the fireworks will start and so will the Vienna Waltz music. This will be a very special and joyful moment to dance the Blue Danube Waltz on the squares of old Vienna at midnight.

1 January - Vienna

Your driver will take you from your hotel to the airport.

Tour prices

All tour prices and inclusions are published on our [website](http://www.tailormadetravelling.com)

White Christmas

PARIS | STUTTGART | MUNICH | CASTLE NEUSCHWANSTEIN | SALZBURG | AUSTRIAN CASTLE

Christmas in a Castle

Itinerary

Paris

What better way to start your Christmas holiday than finding a good vantage point, perhaps from the top of Montmartre, and watch thousands of little lights cascading up and down the world's most famous monument, the Eiffel Tower.

During the days that follow visit other iconic landmarks, the Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame and of course the Eiffel Tower itself. Perhaps even treat yourself to a dinner at one of the Eiffel Tower restaurants. Stroll along the festively decorated Champs Elysees, charming little Christmas markets that line the squares and streets. Visit the enchanting outdoor ice rink at the light-festooned city hall. Or perhaps even take a look at the Christmas window displays at Dior and Vutton.



Stuttgart

Explore Stuttgart's historic inner city and spectacular Christmas market on the palace square. Visit the old palace which has its origins as a water fortress build in the 10th Century.



Excursion to baroque Christmas market Ludwigsburg and/or visit to Mercedes Benz museum

A very special treat will be your excursion to the baroque Christmas market in Ludwigsburg. This Christmas market on the market square is laid out in the typical symmetry of baroque architecture, flanked by two festively illuminated baroque churches. The market square is surrounded by arcades and the thousands of tiny light globes, decorating the arches and gates, create a warm golden glow.

Make time to visit the Palace in Ludwigsburg with its porcelain factory, the hunting lodge and the lakeside palace Monrepos.

And for motoring fans, and Mercedes lovers in particular, the excursion to the Mercedes-Benz museum will be a dream come true. Choose from numerous themed tours and view 160 vehicles and another 1,500 exhibits.

Munich

The afternoon is yours to explore Munich. Visit the Christmas market in front of the neo-Gothic old town hall at the Marienplatz and sample some hot mulled wine. Or visit the less famous but very interesting medieval market at the Odeonsplatz. See the 14th Century residence of the Bavarian rulers and the church of St. Michael, Germany's grandest Renaissance church.

Excursion to Nuernberg Christmas market

180 wooden stalls, festooned with red-and-white cloth, have given the Christmas Market in Nuernberg its name of 'Little Town from Wood and Cloth'. Stroll through this medieval city and enjoy one of Europe's best and most authentic Christmas markets.



The medieval fortifications, Gothic churches, colourful market places and the hilltop castle of the old imperial city of Nuernberg are as awe-inspiring today as ever.

Excursion to Castle Neuschwanstein

Hidden in the seclusion of the Bavarian mountains, King Ludwig II built his dream castle, Neuschwanstein. During your all day trip from Munich you will visit this extraordinary castle, the legacy of Bavaria's fairytale King.

No visit to Munich is complete without tasting one of Bavaria's famous beers at the Hofbräuhaus and listening to an oompah band.



Salzburg

Explore the small, car-free inner city. Visit Mozart's birthplace, the majestic Cathedral and take the funicular railway up to the fortress overlooking Salzburg.

The 4-hour 'Sound of Music' tour takes you to the location where many of the scenes for the movie were filmed. The English speaking guide not only shows you the highlights of the 'Sound of Music' but also the historical and architectural landmarks in the city, as well as a part of the picturesque lake district. Explore the beautiful village of Mondsee and taste the best 'crisp apple strudel' at Mrs. Brown's café. Alternatively you can choose to undertake the 'Austrian Lakes and Mountains' tour.

Christmas in an Austrian Castle

You can choose to spend your Christmas days either in a medieval castle in the Austrian Alps near Salzburg, a luxury lake-side castle in fashionable Zell am See, an imperial hunting lodge in the mountains near Innsbruck or right in the city centre of Salzburg in the romantic Mönchstein Castle.

Castle Thannegg: Children as well as adults will enjoy a stay in the family rooms of medieval castle Thannegg, a short distance from Salzburg. While some of the Alps finest ski resorts are within easy reach there is plenty to do and enjoy around the castle and in the nearby little village. Go sledging on a natural toboggan run (even by moonlight), feed the deer and other wild animals near the castle and enjoy a snowshoe hike and a romantic carriage ride. The castle provides a wonderful setting for the daily children's program that includes a Knights' Table and ghosts in the vaults.



Castle Mönchstein: Spend the Christmas days in atmospheric Salzburg. Take a half-day excursion into the snow-covered mountains surrounding Salzburg for a romantic horse-drawn sleigh ride. In the afternoon of Christmas Eve enjoy an excursion to the Silent Night Chapel in Oberndorf. Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas at midnight mass in the cathedral.

Tour prices

All tour prices and inclusions are published on our [website](#)

Tour prices depend on the length of your holiday and the castle that you choose to spend your Christmas days at.



White Christmas

Christmas in Germany

FRANKFURT | HEIDELBERG | BERLIN | DRESDEN | NÜRNBERG
GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN | CASTLE NEUSCHWANSTEIN | MUNICH

Highlights

14 December – Frankfurt

After checking into your 5-star historic hotel in the centre of Frankfurt stroll to the Römerberg square, for your first experience of a traditional German Christmas market. Join a guided themed tour around glühwein, seasonal stories and delicious baked goods and discover the inside secrets and hidden delights of Frankfurt's Christmas market.

15 December - Heidelberg

Your day excursion to nearby Heidelberg and a visit to its famous medieval castle will be one of the highlights of your Christmas tour in Germany. Take the funicular from the city centre up to the 13th Century castle and enjoy the amazing view of Heidelberg's Christmas markets that extend across 5 town squares.

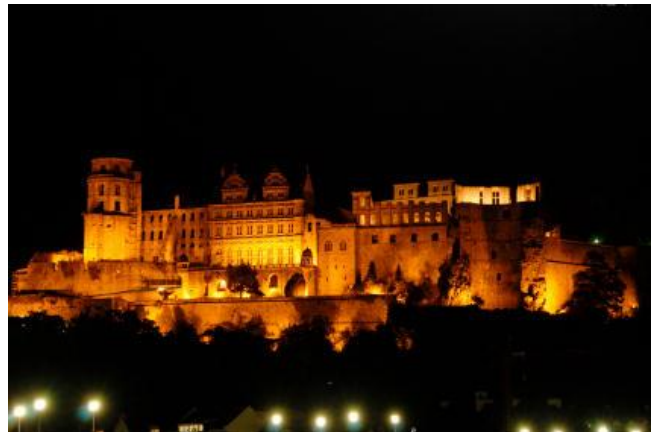
16 and 17 December - Berlin

On your first evening take a relaxing 'Christmas Lights coach tour'. Enjoy a glass of mulled wine while viewing the city illuminated in festive Christmas lights. Berlin offers you a choice of 60 Christmas markets. The Charlottenburg Castle and 'Gendarmenmarkt' Christmas Market are the most famous ones. In the festively decorated cabins and exclusive

glass pagodas taste delicious Christmas treats. Get to know Berlin's hidden sites during a half-day walking tour and see the Berlin Wall, Brandenburg Gate and Checkpoint Charlie, as well as the lesser-known hidden gems.

18 and 19 December – Dresden

Familiarize yourself with this city with a 'Hop-on/Hop-off' bus tour and visit the Zwinger Palace and Pillnitz Castle. The 'Striezelmarkt', Germany's oldest Christmas market, has its origins in the early 15th Century. Admire Dresden's Christmas pyramids, printed textile products blown glass tree decorations. Take this opportunity and watch the carvers, glass-blowers and bakers in action at the crafts market. The focal point of the Dresden Christmas Market is the world's tallest Christmas pyramid, with a height of 14 meters and the world's biggest nut cracker.



20 and 21 December - Nürnberg

A pleasant walking tour through the Old Town offers insights into the history of this ancient town, the castle, fortifications, wells and art treasures. The medieval fortifications, Gothic churches, colourful market places and hilltop castle of the old imperial city are as awe-inspiring today as ever. Nürnberg has one of Germany's most famous Christmas markets. Its 180 stalls festooned with red and white cloth have given this Christmas market its name: Little town of wood and cloth.



22 - 26 December - Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Castle Neuschwanstein

The breathtakingly beautiful town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen, at the foot of Germany's highest glacier covered mountain, the Zugspitze, will be a place like no other to celebrate a traditional German Christmas. Stroll through this quaint little township and admire the painted house facades and let the yule-tide spirit enchant you at the village Christmas market with Alpine music and festively decorated booths.

You will have guaranteed snow on the mountain and can enjoy skiing, snowboarding, hikes in the snow and any kind of winter activities imaginable. For a thrill of a lifetime go tobogganing on the glacier.

Or take a romantic evening torch-lit guided hike through the dramatic Partnach Gorge complete with a visit to a rustic mountain hut where some hearty refreshments await you. Christmas Eve will be celebrated with a festive gala dinner.

Another of the highlights of your White Christmas in Germany holiday will be a romantic horse-drawn sleigh ride into a picturesque valley. A winter experience that will fill your heart with peace and joy.

Garmisch-Partenkirchen has a lot to offer to non-skiers and skiers alike. During a one day excursion to nearby Neuschwanstein you have the opportunity to visit King Ludwig II fairy-tale castle Neuschwanstein.



27 December - Munich

Enjoy the view of the picturesque Bavarian mountains and villages during your train ride from Garmisch-Partenkirchen to Munich airport.

Tour prices

All tour prices and inclusions are published on our [website](#).



White Christmas

Christmas Markets Tour

PRAGUE | BERLIN | DRESDEN | NÜRNBERG | MUNICH | SALZBURG | VIENNA

Tour highlights and Itinerary

Your tour can start at any time from the end of November to Mid-December.

Prague

Familiarize yourself with this UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage listed inner city and its amazing architecture, winding streets and famous sights. Stroll around the spectacular Christmas market where you will find local handicrafts, like Bohemian crystals and lace and listen to choirs singing Christmas carols on the stage in the Old Town Square.



Berlin

Start your experience of a festive illuminated Berlin with a guided 'Christmas Lights Tour'. Berlin offers you a choice of 60 Christmas markets, traditional, historic or lively, modern. At the Charlottenburg Castle Market the castle is immersed in a special romantic light. In the festively decorated cabins and exclusive glass pagodas you can enjoy delicious Christmas treats.

The Highlights at the Christmas Market on the 'Reformationsplatz' are a Nativity scene with living animals and a medieval plague procession. Take part in a guided tour of the Reichstag (German Parliament) and view the city from the roof terrace of this spectacular glass dome. (Saturdays only).

Dresden

The 'Striezelmarkt', Germany's oldest Christmas market has its origins in the early 15th century and with its romantic and festive charm is a treasure trove for real traditional hand-made crafts. The focal point of the Dresden Christmas Market is the world's tallest Christmas pyramid, with a height of 14 meters and the world's biggest nut cracker.

Nurnberg

A pleasant walking tour through the Old Town offers insights and information about the history of this ancient town, the castle, fortifications, wells and art treasures.

180 stalls, festooned with red and white cloth have given this Christmas market its name: Little town of wood and cloth.

Munich

Start your visit to München with a guided tour to several of München's Christmas markets. See the nativity scene at Old City Hall and the Christmas Village in the Royal Palace courtyard and the Medieval Market near Odeonsplatz.

Hidden in the seclusion of the Bavarian mountains, King Ludwig II built his dream castle, Neuschwanstein. During your all day trip from Munich you will visit this extraordinary castle, the legacy of Bavaria's fairytale King.

Salzburg

Explore the small, car-free inner city at your leisure. Visit Mozart's birthplace, the majestic Cathedral, the Christmas markets and take the funicular railway up to the fortress overlooking Salzburg.

A very special highlight of this Christmas market tour will be your excursion to the village markets of the Salzburg lake district. Stroll in the villages of St. Gilgen, Strobl and St. Wolfgang. Enjoy the wonderful atmosphere of these little lake



side markets and communities with thousands of candles, lanterns and hundreds of Christmas trees and a magic boat ride on Lake Wolfgang with a cup of hot Christmas punch. Available only on Saturdays and Sundays.

If you are in Salzburg during the week the 4-hour 'Sound of Music' tour takes you to the location where many of the scenes for the movie were filmed. The English speaking guide not only shows you the highlights of the 'Sound of Music' but also the historical and architectural landmarks in the city, as well as a part of the picturesque lake district. Explore the beautiful village of Mondsee and taste the best 'crisp apple strudel' at Mrs. Brown's café. Alternatively you can choose to undertake the 'Austrian Lakes and Mountains' tour.

If you want to spend the Christmas days in an Austrian mountain village not far from Salzburg and you have chosen your travel dates accordingly you can add a few days in Bad Hofgastein into your itinerary before travelling on to Vienna. For more details see our Romantic White Christmas tour.

Vienna

Stroll around the historic inner city and you will be enchanted by Vienna's spectacular architecture, its cosy coffeehouses, atmospheric wine taverns and musical tradition. Visit the Christmas market in front of City Hall and Palace Belvedere. In the evening take a dreamy ride on a Viennese tram to one of the oldest traditional 'Heurigen' Pubs in the 'Grinzig' districts and enjoy a traditional Austrian meal and zitter music in a building dating back to the 12th Century.

You have a 2-day pass for all local transport in and around Vienna. Explore the entire city with its Christmas markets, lights and huge Christmas trees at your leisure. Hire ice-skates and skate on the frozen Danube or on the Ice Rink (with hot punch stalls) in front of the baroque historic museum. In the afternoon visit the magnificent baroque Palace Schönbrunn. Stay on afterwards to listen to the choirs singing traditional Austrian Christmas carols in front of the huge Christmas tree at the famous Christmas market in front of the palace.



Tour prices

All tour prices and inclusions are published on our [website](#).



Experience a traditional European Christmas with all the trimmings and ski in three of Switzerland's most spectacular and famous resorts

Tour Highlights and Itinerary

Zermatt 11 to 16 December

Zermatt, the ultimate skier's heaven, with the best developed and highest ski area in the Alps. Almost one-third of the 4,000-metre high mountains in the Alps are grouped around this world-famous village.

Skiing on the Theodul Glacier - A mug of glühwine in a mountain hut before heading off for a romantic moonlight ski run back to the valley - Skiing into Italy (and back) - Kite skiing and paragliding - Fulfilling your dream of untouched powder snow at 4200m on a heli-skiing or heli-boarding excursion - Free-riding - Ski touring with an experienced mountain guide - Ice skating on a natural ice rink - Ice-curling and ice-stick shooting - A Swiss fondue or hot chocolate in front of a fireplace.

Glacier Express Panorama Train from Zermatt to St Moritz 16 December

A rail journey of a lifetime through the clouds and snow-clad pristine Alpine countryside with roaring mountain streams, past the Rhine Gorge, Switzerland's 'Grand Canyon', across viaducts and through tunnels while enjoying a



3-course meal.

St Moritz 16 to 21 December

St Moritz will have to be one of the most fashionable ski resorts in the world. The sun shines for 320 days of the year and you will find the best powder snow on the slopes of the entire ski area that surrounds St Moritz. Due to its high altitude snow is guaranteed in the pre- and after season.

Rustic and cosy ski lodges - A mind-boggling range of alternative winter sports: cricket, polo and golf are played on the frozen lake throughout the winter season - Walking and cross country trails on and around the lake - 'Shop until you drop' in the designer shops in glamorous St Moritz.



Klosters/Davos 21 to 26 December

Quiet Klosters, which has retained its village character is neighbouring famous and fashionable Davos. Choose from six great snow sport regions, 318 km of pistes with guaranteed snow and 61 ski lifts.

Klosters is the ideal place to experience a true traditional Swiss Christmas. Advent and Christmas Festivities - Ice bars - Festive music - A horse-drawn sleigh ride through a winter wonderland - Alphorns and an open-air Christmas night celebration in a forest clearing under the stars.



Deep snow free-riding on mount Pischa, Switzerland's largest free-ride region - Snowboarding on the Jakobshorn, offering kickers, rails and a monster pipe - Gliding through a romantic side valley on cross-country skies - 'Flying' over the snow on an Airboard - Skidooing, tubing and fun for the youngest skiers at the children's ski kindi - Recovering from the days exertions in a steam bath or in a log sauna.

Zürich (optional) 26 to 27 December

Add a day in Zürich before heading home. Stroll in the old town and along the river and lake - Take a steam-boat ride on the lake or a 19th Century funicular railway up to a viewing terrace above Zürich.

This tour can also be taken at any other time between mid-December & March as a skiing holiday. Tour prices by application.

Tour prices

All tour prices and inclusions are published on our [website](#).

White Christmas

Markets Tour & Danube River Cruise

LAND TOUR: PRAGUE | BERLIN | DRESDEN | NÜRNBERG | MUNICH

RIVER CRUISE: PASSAU | LINZ | MELK | VIENNA | BRATISLAVA | BUDAPEST

Combine our luxury Christmas markets tour with a Danube river cruise to create the ultimate European Christmas holiday

Itinerary

Prague Day 1 & 2 - Start of Christmas markets tour

Your English speaking driver will meet you at the airport and take you to your hotel right in the center of the city. Take the afternoon and evening to familiarize yourself with this UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage listed inner city and its amazing architecture, winding streets and famous sights. In the evening enjoy a traditional Czech dinner.

A local guide will take you on a leisurely walking tour of the historical buildings of 'Old Prague'. Stroll around the spectacular Prague Christmas Market where you will find local handicrafts, like Bohemian crystal and lace and listen to local and international choirs singing Christmas carols on the stage in the Old Town Square while you browse the market stalls and enjoy the food and hot Christmas punch.



Berlin Day 3 & 4



Berlin offers you a choice of 60 Christmas markets, traditional historic or lively and modern. At the Charlottenburg Castle Christmas Market the castle and its park are immersed in a special romantic light and the stalls present carefully selected arts and crafts and ancient handicrafts. In the festively decorated cabins and exclusive glass pagodas you can enjoy delicious Christmas treats.

The Highlights at the Christmas Market on the 'Reformationsplatz' are a Nativity scene with living animals and a medieval plague procession that takes place every Wednesday.

The 'Gendarmenmarkt' Christmas Market takes place in one of the most beautiful squares of the city. There is plenty of entertainment provided by jugglers, acrobats, fire artists, dance groups, choirs, classical, jazz and gospel ensembles and famous international artists.

Dresden Day 5 & 6

Familiarize yourself with this city with a 'Hop-on/Hop-off' bus tour and visit the Zwinger Palace and Pillnitz Castle.

The 'Striezelmarkt', Germany's oldest Christmas market has its origins in the early 15th Century. Traditional Christmas gifts, toys and decorations were invented hundreds of years ago in the nearby Erzgebirge (Ore Mountains). The traditional Dresden Christmas Market with its romantic and festive charm is a treasure trove of traditional hand-made crafts. Admire Dresden's Christmas pyramids, smoking figures, printed textile products and pottery from Lusatia, gingerbread from Pulsnitz, filigree lace products from Plauen or blown glass tree decorations from Lauscha.

The focal points of the Dresden Christmas Market are the world's tallest Christmas pyramid with a height of 14 metres, and the world's biggest nut cracker.



Nurnberg Day 7

A pleasant walking tour through the Old Town offers insights into and information about the history of this ancient town, the castle, fortifications, wells and art treasures. 180 stalls festooned with red and white cloth have given this Christmas market its name: Little town of wood and cloth.



Munich Day 8 & 9

Start your visit to München with a guided tour to several of München's Christmas markets. Your guide will lead you through the Old Town to visit München's most enchanting market stalls, steeped in history and festively decorated with fairy lights and Christmas decorations. See the nativity scene at Old City Hall and the Christmas Village in the Royal Palace courtyard and the Medieval Market near Odeonsplatz.

Hidden in the seclusion of the Bavarian mountains, King Ludwig II built his dream castle, Neuschwanstein. During your all day trip from Munich you will visit this extraordinary castle, the legacy of Bavaria's fairytale King.

Passau Day 10 - Start of Danube river cruise

After boarding your ship use the free time to explore delightful Passau or join the other travellers for a “welcome walk” to stretch your legs and start getting oriented.

Passau Day 11

Take a walking tour of elegant Passau, called the Dreiflüssestadt (City on Three Rivers), which is situated at the confluence of the Danube, Ilz and Inn Rivers. You will see the impressive *Veste Oberhaus*, a 13th-century fortress that served as a bishop’s stronghold for several centuries. In the afternoon you are free to further explore Passau. See the sights and experience the local culture, or simply relax on board before dinner.



Linz & Salzburg Day 12

The day’s activity is an excursion to the legendary Austrian city of Salzburg, the location for the film ‘*The Sound of Music*’. Ride through the scenic Austrian countryside to Salzburg’s Old Town area, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and take a walking tour featuring the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and the Hohensalzburg Fortress just above the city center. Take free time to explore Salzburg’s narrow cobbled streets and colorful buildings and get lunch in one of the charming cafés; return aboard for dinner and a late-evening departure.

Melk & Durnstein Day 13

In the morning visit the 900-year-old abbey at Melk, a Benedictine monastery that was originally one of Leopold II’s castles. See its spectacular wall and ceiling frescoes, note the library’s comprehensive collection of medieval manuscripts, and admire the graceful spiral staircase. After lunch aboard, the ship stops at the picturesque Wachau



Valley town of Dürnstein, where you can explore on your own, sample some local vintages from this famous wine-producing region, or join an optional walking tour of the town’s highlights. Dine aboard as you depart.

Vienna Day 14

Enjoy the tour of the Austrian capital Vienna. Ride along the Ringstrasse, which replaced the city walls in the mid-19th century. See some of the city’s baroque architecture, including the world-famous Opera House, St. Stephen’s Cathedral and Hofburg Palace. Return to your ship for lunch. The rest of the day is yours to further explore—as always, your Program Director can help you plan your free time. Or you may take an optional tour to Schönbrunn Palace, the Versailles of Vienna, with its formal gardens, classical statuary, the world’s oldest zoo and the “Roman ruin” erected in 1778. After dinner, relax or enjoy an optional classical concert.

Bratislava Day 15



Arrive in Bratislava in the morning and embark on a walking tour of Slovakia's charming capital—the only national capital that borders two other countries, Austria and Hungary—with a long and fascinating history. See attractions like the medieval Town Hall complex and fortifications at Michael's Tower, baroque Jesuit Church and Gothic St. Martin's Cathedral, and pass by several Habsburg-era baroque palaces before returning to your ship for lunch and departure. Enjoy relaxing Danube cruising; sail into Budapest late in the evening.

Budapest Day 16



Visit the highlights of both the older "Buda" and more the cosmopolitan "Pest" sides of the city, starting with Pest's National Opera House and historic Heroes' Square. In Buda, walk along Fishermen's Hill to Fishermen's Bastion and Matthias Church. Enjoy lunch aboard with the rest of the day to explore on your own—you may wish to visit the Art Deco Gellért Spa or one of the many other lavish facilities in this "City of Healing Waters." Return to your ship for a traditional Hungarian farewell dinner.

Budapest Day 17

After breakfast, disembark and proceed to the airport for your return flight.



Inclusions Danube River Cruise (excluding Christmas markets tour)

Accommodation

- Deluxe river-view stateroom

Meals

- All onboard meals: 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches & 7 dinners
- Complimentary beverages - wine, beer & soft drinks with onboard lunch and dinner

Shore excursions

- 6 included guided tours as per itinerary

Other

- Port charges
- Shipboard gratuities

Prices River Cruise (excluding Christmas markets tour)

Passau to Budapest 8 days / 7 nights

Prices vary depending on choice of cabin, optional excursions or extensions and the availability of discounts or special offers. Contact us for up to date price details.

Inclusions Christmas Markets Tour (excluding river cruise)

Accommodation

- 9 nights in first class, 4 and 5 star centrally located hotels

Travel

- First class train rides between destinations with seat reservations where required including from Munich to Passau.
- Transport by chauffeured car from the airport to hotel in Prague on arrival
- Transport to Budapest airport on departure. (or at extra cost to Vienna airport)

Meals

- 9 breakfasts
- 3-course Czech dinner
- Sparkling wine and strawberries on arrival in Berlin
- 3-course candle-lit dinner with wine in Berlin

Sightseeing, activities and excursions

- Christmas markets in Prague, Berlin, Dresden, Nürnberg and München,
- Walking sightseeing tour in Prague
- Guided tour of the Government district, Parliament house and visit to the glass dome in Berlin (Saturdays only)
- Hop-on/hop-off bus tour in Dresden
- Admission to the Zwinger Palace and Pillnitz Castle in Dresden
- Excursion to King Ludwig's fairytale castle Neuschwanstein, and Oberammergau.

Tour prices (excluding the river cruise)

All tour prices and inclusions are published on our **website**.

Upgrades to superior luxury hotel accommodation can be arranged on request at extra cost. We also cater for solo travellers, families and groups. Prices by application. The prices and tour information are correct at the time of the website going live, however are subject to confirmation at the time of booking.

Travel in Style

Comfort & Luxury

Travelling

Travel in style in Europe's luxurious superfast trains and arrive relaxed and in next to no time at your holiday destinations. Comfortable, fast and stress free. Enjoy the spacious seats, plenty of leg room, ability to move around and the magnificent views from the comfort of your reserved first class seat, the dining car or a standard seat in the famous Eurostar. Travel by coach between Venice and Austria. No early morning starts and no late afternoon arrivals at the next destination.

Accommodation

Your luxurious hotels will not just be a comfortable place to stay at but will be a feature in itself and enhance your European experience - the Parisian baroque-style boutique hotel, a lakeside hotel, a renovated 17th Century building right in the heart of the cities, close to all the historic sites and within 'strolling' distance of restaurants and cafes. Step out of the front door of your hotel and be surrounded by the sounds, sights, music and ambience of the town. Your hotel will also be a place to retreat to - be that in a peaceful inner courtyard, a lakeside terrace, a garden, or rooftop terrace.

Food

Taste the regional specialties. Your tour dinners feature the best of local produce and flavours. We will also provide you with information prior to your departure on local markets, restaurants, wine taverns or little 'hole in the wall' eateries that you might like to check out.

Atmosphere and sights

You will have ample time to explore and become familiar with each place as you are not spending a lot of travelling time getting from one destination to the next and staying 2 nights minimum everywhere. All of us have our own preferred way of how and what to see in a city and how much time to spend where. We have therefore given you sightseeing options to choose from that will fit your personal preferences.

Hassle free travelling

We take care to plan and organize your holiday in every detail and to your personal liking. Just pack your bags, get on the plane and enjoy a stress-free and well-paced holiday. Our programs are a well-balanced mix of magnificent architecture but also markets, river or lake cruises, walks in the countryside, themed excursions or strolls along rivers and little cobble-stoned alleyways.





Independent travelling

You are travelling as independent travellers, with your own tickets, reservations, detailed itinerary, directions, timetables, sightseeing and admission tickets, maps etc. Every day will be quite clearly laid out in your itinerary, with train departure and arrival times, seat reservation details, destination information, directions and maps where sightseeing tours will leave from or how to get to or from the train station to your hotel, usually in easy walking distance. The various sightseeing tours at your destinations will be pre-booked and we will provide you with detailed information regarding the time of the tour, content of the tour, from where it leaves (if there is no pick-up from the hotel it is usually in easy walking distance) and if it is a coach or walking tour.



Communication

Travelling in Europe, in particular Western Europe, you will find that you won't have any communication problems as good English is widely spoken. Sharing of local knowledge and insights into the culture and history of the country you are visiting, usually provided by a tour leader, will be available during your sightseeing tours by local expert guides.

Increased flexibility and choices

Having your own tickets for the train or city passes gives you more flexibility. For example in Venice if you want to see the glass blower artisans on the island of Murano and your travelling partner prefers to take the canal boat to the Lido you can do that - it's your choice. If you happen to fall ill and prefer to stay for another day you can catch the train the next day as your train ticket will be valid for up to two months. (Obviously you would have to pay for the extra day in the hotel and another train seat reservation). The usual departure time for the train is around 10 am, giving you plenty of time for a leisurely breakfast. However if you are early risers and would like to take an earlier train we can try and arrange that for you.

The choice is yours

We ensure that our tours are planned and organized with attention to every detail and we feel confident that you will find that everything works smoothly. As well, you will have the advantage of the substantial savings of the 'self-guided' tour price and you can choose to use these savings to splash out on some fun or exciting optional travel experiences, like extra excursions, pamper treatments, the odd sampling of a good glass of red or regional delicacies.

Tailor Made

About Us

Many years of travelling, living in various countries in Europe and intensive research of travel destinations have inspired us to create the tours in our program. Our personal experience has taught us that rushing from one place to the next is not the best way to experience a different culture. To enjoy every moment and have a truly memorable holiday one needs to travel at a leisurely pace.

We know that a holiday has to be well structured and balanced – not just a string of major European cities with their magnificent architecture. And we also know that tastes and preferences in regards to travel experiences vary greatly – while one traveller might want to spend an entire day in Paris at the Louvre another traveller would rather spend the day at EuroDisney. Our concept of self-guided, individualised tours can accommodate both with ease.

And this is what makes our tours unique.

We realize that not everyone wants to experience Europe with 40 other travellers in a bus on the exact same itinerary. Or – at the other end of the spectrum – not everyone wants to hire a car and make their own way, driving on the highways and into the cities of Europe.

That's why we have chosen the comfort and flexibility of train travel for you.

Travelling in Europe's super-fast trains nevertheless gives you the feeling of 'slow travel', as you have more time at each destination and never rush from place to place. We have designed the itineraries so that most mornings you will leave at about 10am and on average your travel time between destinations ranges from 2 ½ hours to 4 hours and 20 minutes, depending on your tour.

We are continually researching and visiting the destinations on the tours to ensure that all the services you receive are of the absolute highest standard.

As a registered travel agency and member of the Australian Travel Compensation Fund you can have the peace of mind that your money is secure and you will not find yourself stranded and without tickets or valid reservations. The Travel Compensation Fund has an ongoing financial monitoring system in place that helps prevent the failure of a participating travel agency. In the case of a financial collapse of the participating travel agency however, eligible travellers are provided with compensation through the TCF if the traveller has suffered a financial loss.

Our Travel Compensation Fund Number is: 10067

<http://www.tcf.org.au/index.as>

Our Travel Agent Number is: 3402878

<http://www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au/travel-agent-licence-check.htm>

Tailor Made

Terms & Conditions

See our website for our detailed Terms and Conditions.

