

ESSENTIAL EUROPE

Tour Overview

 Start Point London	 End Point London	 Meals 11 Breakfasts 6 Dinners	 Transport Air-conditioned coach	 Tour Type Fully-guided tour
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Itinerary

Day 1: London - Paris

 Dinner  B&B HOTEL Paris Nord 18ème (or similar)

The journey begins! Cross the English Channel and arrive in Paris, where a driving tour past the Eiffel Tower, Louvre, Arc de Triomphe and the grand boulevards set the scene perfectly. Tonight, sit down for an included French dinner at a local restaurant and let it sink in that you're in the City of Lights.

Included:

- Embark on a driving tour of Paris

Day 2: Paris: Free Day

 Breakfast  B&B HOTEL Paris Nord 18ème (or similar)

Paris is yours today. Explore at your own pace or join the Paris+ optional for a macaron tasting, a visit to a perfume museum, and a Seine cruise. This evening, opt to wander through the winding streets of Montmartre, followed by an included hilltop dinner. For a grand finale, choose to end the night at a quintessential Parisian cabaret show.

Optionals:

- Paris+
- Parisian Cabaret with drinks
- An Evening in Montmartre

Day 3: Paris - Burgundy - Swiss Alps

 Breakfast, Dinner  Alpenrose Hotel and Gardens (or similar)

Swap the buzz of Paris for the charm of small-town France. Stop in beautiful Beaune, a postcard-perfect Burgundy town known for its wine and history. Stroll cobbled streets, visit the striking Hospices de Beaune or sample the region's world-class vintages. Then watch the landscape transform as you cross into Switzerland and the Alps rise around you. Dinner is included tonight.

Included:

- Visit Beaune in Burgundy
- Enjoy a scenic Swiss Mountain Drive

Day 4: **Swiss Alps: Free Day**

 Breakfast  Alpenrose Hotel and Gardens (or similar)

Today, head to Jungfraujoch or year-round snow, glaciers and views that stretch endlessly across the peaks. It's our most popular optional for good reason. Prefer to stay lower? Wander the local town, breathe in that crisp Alpine air and indulge in Swiss chocolate. This evening, opt for the Alpine Dinner Experience to end the day in true Swiss style.

Optionals:

- Jungfraujoch: Journey to the Top of Europe
- Alpine Dinner Experience

Day 5: **Swiss Alps - Pisa - Tuscany**

 Breakfast  Antica Tabaccaia Resort (or similar)

Leave the Alps behind and head south to one of the world's most recognisable landmarks, the Leaning Tower of Pisa! Capture the iconic shot before continuing into Tuscany. Rolling hills, cypress trees and the elegant spa town of Montecatini Terme await. This evening, opt for the Evening in Montecatini to ride the funicular and enjoy a traditional Tuscan dinner.

Included:

- See the Leaning Tower of Pisa

Optionals:

- An Evening in Montecatini

Day 6: **Tuscany - Florence - Rome**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Excel Roma Montemario (or similar)

Arrive in Florence and enjoy a guided walk past Ponte Vecchio, the Duomo and Piazza della Signoria. After, soak up more of the Renaissance atmosphere during free time. For a true taste of the region, join the optional Taste of Tuscany lunch before heading south to Rome, where an included dinner and the Eternal City's extraordinary energy awaits.

Included:

- Discover Florence; the 'Jewel of the Renaissance'

Optionals:

- Taste of Tuscany

Day 7: **Rome: Free Day**

 Breakfast  Excel Roma Montemario (or similar)

Rome rewards those who wander, and today, it's all yours. Opt for the Colosseum and Roman Forum guided tour for an up-close look at ancient Rome (booking in advance recommended). Follow it up with the Conquer the Capital optional for an included lunch, gelato tasting and a tour of Rome's greatest landmarks, from the Pantheon to the Trevi Fountain.

Optionals:

- Colosseum & Roman Forum Guided Tour
 - Rome Conquer the Capital
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Day 8: **Rome - Venice**

 Breakfast  Hotel Venezia (or similar)

Travel to the enchanting city of Venice, famous for its canals, gondolas and landmarks like St. Mark's Square and the Rialto Bridge. The best way to experience this extraordinary floating city is by joining the optional Evening in Venice, featuring water taxi rides, a gondola excursion, a glass blowing demonstration and an included Venetian dinner.

Included:

- Explore Venice

Optionals:

- An Evening in Venice

Day 9: **Venice - Innsbruck - Munich**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Mercure Munich Neuperlach Sued (or similar)

Today, cross into Austria for a lunch stop in Innsbruck. Stroll Maria-Theresien-Strasse, visit the famous Golden Roof Museum, and soak up the mountain scenery before continuing to Munich. In the heart of Bavaria, enjoy an orientation walk through the vibrant city centre, followed by a traditional German dinner in a historic local restaurant. Prost!

Included:

- Visit the captivating Austrian city of Innsbruck
- Embark on Munich orientation tour
- Enjoy dinner in a historic Bavarian restaurant

Day 10: **Munich - Rhine Valley**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Mercure Hotel Frankfurt Eschborn Helfmann Park. (or similar)

After a scenic drive from Munich, the Rhine Valley rewards with castle-studded cliffs, ancient vineyards and one of Germany's most spectacular landscapes. Board a Rhine River cruise through this UNESCO-listed stretch of the Rhine and drift past gothic fortresses before ending in Boppard for a wine tasting with a local merchant. This evening, enjoy an included dinner at the hotel.

Included:

- Cruise along the Rhine River
- Indulge in a Rhine Valley wine tasting

Day 11: **Rhine Valley - Amsterdam**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Hampton by Hilton Amsterdam Schiphol (or similar)

From Germany into the Netherlands, the tour makes its way through the Dutch countryside, stopping for a cheese tasting, a clog-making demonstration and a photo stop at the iconic Riekmolen Windmill. Arrive in Amsterdam and discover the city from the water on a relaxing canal cruise before free time and an included dinner at a local restaurant.

Included:

- Enjoy a cheese and clogs demonstration
- Cruise along the Amsterdam canals

Day 12: **End of tour in London**

 Breakfast

One last stop before home. The medieval Belgian city of Ghent is well worth the detour, with cobblestone streets, grand guild houses and plenty of Belgian chocolate and waffles to enjoy. Sample moules et frites, raise a farewell glass with the group, then cross the English Channel and return to London. It's time to say your final goodbyes.

✉ info@travelchasers.com

☎ +44 808 168 6799

📍 10 Merryweather Place, London, SE10 8BN

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www.travelchasers.com