

Cosmopolitan Europe

15 Day Tour from London to London

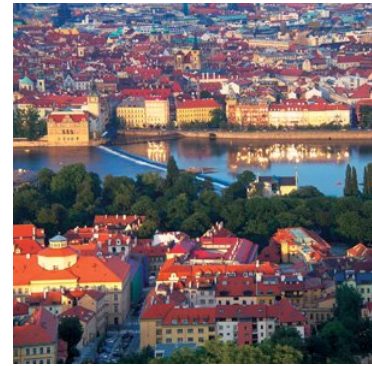
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Vacation overview

This comprehensive vacation begins in London, crosses the English Channel by ferry, and arrives in Brussels by motorcoach. Continue to Germany for a leisurely Rhine River cruise. Through Bavaria, visit Nuremberg on the way to the Czech capital of Prague. Travel into enchanting Bohemia and Moravia before reaching “waltzing” Vienna with its State Opera, Hofburg Palace, and St. Stephen’s Cathedral. Cross Austria and the Styrian Alps to Venice, where a canal boat ride takes you to St. Mark’s Square. Here, encounter the Bridge of Sighs, Doges’ Palace, and the Basilica. Travel south to the “Eternal City” of Rome and to Renaissance Florence for highlights like Santa Croce, Signoria Square, and the beautiful Duomo. Stop in subtropical Lugano and spend two nights in scenic Lake Lucerne. Next, enjoy two nights in Paris, the “City of Light,” with guided sightseeing and free time to make your own discoveries before a Channel ferry returns you to London.





Itinerary

Day 1 London, England–Brussels, Belgium

Leave London in the early morning and head through the lush English countryside to the Channel port, where you board your FERRY for the Continent. Here, your Tour Director and luxury coach meet you and you're off to Brussels. (B)

Day 2 Brussels–Rhine Cruise, Germany–Würzburg

Drive south this morning to the shores of the mighty Rhine. Your included RHINE CRUISE is today's highlight with some legendary sights such as the Lorelei rock. An easy and relatively short drive southeast to Würzburg, a baroque city famed for its cathedral, bridges, palace, and gardens. (B,D)

Day 3 Würzburg–Nuremberg–Prague, Czech Republic

Travel eastwards today, making a first stop in Nuremberg, an ancient city still showing its medieval walls with rampart walks and an 11th-century castle. It is also famous for its 1945 trials of the Nazi leaders and war criminals. Continue by way of the world's beer capital, Pilsen, to Prague, capital of the Czech Republic, for an overnight. (B)

Day 4 Prague–Vienna, Austria

The wealth of gothic and baroque architecture perhaps inspired Dvorak and Smetana, both Prague composers. The included guided sightseeing features landmarks such as the Jewish Quarter, Charles Bridge, and the Old Town Square with the ASTRONOMICAL CLOCK. This afternoon, motor from Bohemia into Moravia and continue southwest for a few more miles before crossing into Austria for two nights in its splendid capital, Vienna. This evening, enjoy a special dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

Day 5 Vienna

There's so much to see on your included sightseeing tour: the State Opera, Parliament, and the Town Hall. Stop for a stroll in Heroes' Square to view the Hofburg and take an inside visit of ST. STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL. In the afternoon, an optional trip to the Palace of Schönbrunn. This evening, enjoy an optional Viennese concert. (B)

Day 6 Vienna–Velden–Venice Area, Italy

Breathtaking scenery as you travel across Austria to Velden and beautiful Lake Wörth for a short visit. Next, into Italy by way of Tarvisio, then through the flat and fertile plains of Venetia to the Venice area for two overnights. (B)

Day 7 Venice Area

The included orientation starts with a BOAT RIDE and is followed by some time to soak up the atmosphere of this unique city and a chance to watch Venetian GLASSBLOWERS. Don't miss out on the optional gondola trip. (B,D)

Day 8 Venice Area–Assisi–Rome

Today, travel south across the Po plain into the very heart of the Apennines, dotted with towns and villages perched on the mountain sides. Stop in Assisi, where St. Francis was born in 1182. Visit the world-famous basilica with its beautiful frescoes by Giotto. Reach Rome in time to join the optional Rome by Night excursion. (B)

Day 9 Rome

The “Eternal City”—a city steeped in history, vibrantly alive and exciting, and absolutely unique! Included sightseeing with a Local Guide starts in ST. PETER'S SQUARE, followed by a visit to the ROMAN FORUM and the mighty COLOSSEUM. (B)

Day 10 Rome–Florence

This morning, join the optional excursion to the Vatican Museums before driving northward through the Tuscan countryside to reach Florence in the late afternoon. On the included walking tour with a Local Guide, discover most of the city highlights: Piazza Santa Croce; beautiful Piazza Signoria; Palazzo Vecchio; Loggia dei Lanzi; and, to top it all, Piazza del Duomo and its cathedral with the Giotto Campanile, and the magnificent East Door of the Baptistry, known as the “Gate of Paradise.” (B,D)

Day 11 Florence–Lugano, Switzerland–Lucerne Area

Across the Lombardy plains this morning to Italian Switzerland’s subtropical resort of Lugano. Here you take a break to stroll along the lakeside promenade before climbing towards the St. Gotthard Tunnel. Emerge on the German-speaking side of Switzerland and then descend into the gentle landscape around the Lucerne area. (B)

Day 12 Lucerne

One of Switzerland’s finest cities, Lucerne is nestled amid its snowcapped Alps, surrounded by its lake, and embellished by the clear mountain waters of the Reuss River. Your visit takes in the impressive city walls, CHAPEL BRIDGE, ornate patrician houses lining cobblestone streets, and the LION MONUMENT—a masterful stone sculpture in honor of the heroic Swiss Guard of Louis XVI. A grand selection of optional activities completes the day: a cable-car ride to the 10,000-foot summit of Mount Titlis; a cruise on the fjord-like lake; and, of course, there is time to shop for that very Swiss watch. (B)

Day 13 Lucerne Area–Paris, France

Enjoy vistas of green pastures and attractive chalets with rustic timbering and luxuriant flowers. Then, into France, on the highway past some of its most famous vineyards, to Paris. Arrive in time to enjoy the optional cabaret show. (B)

Day 14 Paris

Paris holds a special place in the imagination. It’s a city of many facets and famed for its culture, beauty, sophistication, and sparkle. By sitting with a glass of wine in a bistro or sidewalk café, you can absorb the essence of the city and the individualism of its people. The center has wide boulevards and impressive buildings. Included sightseeing with a local expert shows off many of the best-known Parisian sights: La Sorbonne, Arc de Triomphe, Opéra, Madeleine, the Eiffel Tower, the Pyramid near the Louvre, the Invalides, and Champs Elysées. Optional excursions are also available to the Palace and Gardens of Versailles and, to celebrate the success of your tour, a French farewell dinner might be just the ticket. (B)

Day 15 Paris–London, England

Relax and let the countryside whiz by on the road north to the coast, where you board your Channel ferry. Through Kent, return to London for an evening arrival, where your holiday ends. (B)

Vacation Highlights

Individual headsets

Inside visits and special features:

Shown in UPPERCASE in the tour description including admission charges where applicable.

Sightseeing:

Rhine cruise; visits to Nuremberg, Velden, Venice, Assisi, Lugano, Lucerne

Scenic Highlights:

Rhineland, Burgundy Wine Country, Lake Wörth and Carinthia, Swiss Alps

Guides:

Local Guides for city sightseeing in Prague, Vienna, Rome, Florence, Paris. Professional Tour Director while touring

NOTES:

- March 26 Departure – Easter in Rome
- December 15 Departure – Christmas lunch in Rome

Hotels

BRUSSELS Park Inn (ST)

WÜRZBURG Novotel (F)

PRAGUE Clarion Congress (F) or Barcelo (F)

VIENNA Star Inn Schönbrunn (ST) or Bellevue (F)

VENICE AREA Poppi (ST) at Mira or Holiday Inn (ST) at Marghera

ROME Buenos Aires (ST) or Villa Maria Regina (F)

FLORENCE Italiana Hotels Florence (ST) or Meridiana (ST)

LUCERNE area Luzernerhof (ST) or Ibis Kriens (ST)

PARIS Novotel La Defense (F) or Mercure Porte de Versailles Expo (F) or Ibis Styles Fontenay (ST)

Meals

Buffet breakfasts; 4 dinners, including a dinner at a local restaurant in Vienna

Optional Excursions

The following list of optional excursions are **examples only** for this vacation. These optional excursions might or might not be available. Whether it's a special dinner, a local show or a special behind-the-scenes glimpse into an historical site, optional excursions are a wonderful way to enrich your vacation even further. Plus, they give you flexibility. We include the must-see sites and experiences, and we also understand that people take interest in different activities and may want to craft a more personal vacation by hand-picking optional excursions that appeal to them.

Availability is subject to sufficient participation, weather conditions, seasonal suitability, days of operation, group interests, and general feasibility for your vacation. The approximate value listed gives you a good, general idea of what you can expect to pay but may vary once you are on your vacation. Some information provided might be in a foreign currency; you can use our online [currency converter](#) for exchange rate information.

CITY: Brussels



Evening City Sightseeing A guided evening sightseeing tour lasting approx. 3 hrs. first by coach to see the Congress Column and tomb of unknown soldier, the Parliament, Royal Park and theatre, Arch of Cinquantenaire, the EU buildings, the Academy Palace, the Royal Palace and Royal Square, St. Michael's Cathedral and Palace of Justice. Then on foot to see statue of "Mannekin Pis" where a stop will be made at a typical Brussels tavernne for an included drink of either Belgian beer or soft drink. Finally the beautiful Grand Place with its town hall and guild houses. At the end of the sightseeing tour you will have free time before returning back to the hotel by coach. coach.coach.

Approximate value: €28 EUR per person

CITY: Prague



Czech Dinner & Music If you would like to experience a typical Slavic evening then join this excursion to be taken to a well-known restaurant where one can get both food, drink and at the same time enjoy dancing and singing show in a lovely atmosphere. The 3 course dinner lets you sample typical local dishes and an added plus is unlimited drinks (wine or beer or soft drinks), a glass of sparkling wine and also coffee or tea. During the evening there is folk music from all over the country with songs and dances from Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia plus some gypsy music and dancing. Guests also have the opportunity to see some of the typical folk instruments such as the hammer-dulcimer, fujara and type of bagpipe. Towards the end of the evening there will be some international music - with the chance to dance if one wants to and to round off the evening one can listen to some soothing classical music.

Approximate value: €48 EUR per person

CITY: Vienna



Schonbrunn Palace & Gardens A guided tour lasting approx. Three and a half hours with first a visit of the actual Schonbrunn Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburgs, where one can see approximately 35 of well over 1000 rooms of the Palace with all of them containing their original furniture. Afterwards a visit of the beautiful gardens will leave an unforgettable impression. Free time to explore the gardens on ones own.

Approximate value: €42 EUR per person



Typical Viennese Evening An unforgettable evening in one of Vienna's most beautiful palaces. The Vienna Residence Orchestra gives concerts daily in large and small instrumentations, with famous opera singers, ballet dancers and musical delicacies that are geared to the relevant motto of the season. During the interval you will be offered a glass of sparkling wine or orange juice. The concert starts around 8:15pm and ends at approx. 9:45pm.

Approximate value: €48 EUR per person

CITY: Venice



Discover The Venetian Lagoon Discover the Venetian lagoon on an afternoon excursion lasting approximately 3 hours. After sailing past the island of St. Giorgio, the public gardens, Sant'Elena, the Lido and Murano the boat takes you to the famous island of Burano. This is the most picturesque of Venetian islands of the lagoon and the pretty fishing village has its streets and canals lined by pastel coloured houses. It is also famous for its lace-making industry.

There will be time to look around Burano on your own before returning back to St. Mark's Square by boat.

Approximate value: €35 EUR per person



Gondola Serenade One of the highlights of a trip to Europe and something not to be missed during your visit to Venice is a gondola serenade. The gondola ride either takes place in the morning or the afternoon and lasts approximately 30 minutes when during this time you can relax whilst cruising not only on the Grand Canal but also down many small canals to see Venice from the water. During the gondola ride a local musician will serenade you with the traditional

romantic music of Italy.

Approximate value: €40 EUR per person



Venetian Night Out & Dinner As the title suggests, this is a real Venetian night out. Embark on a motorboat for a cruise along the impressive Giudecca Canal with the tour director pointing out the most important palaces, all built by the Venetian gentry between the 12th and 13th centuries. Upon disembarkation an evening stroll through some of the romantic narrow streets of this fascinating city to eventually reach one of the specially chosen local restaurants for your Venetian dinner. After a welcoming aperitif of the house you can sit down and enjoy a typical dinner with a choice of starters and main course followed by a delicious dessert. Included also is red or white wine plus mineral water and tea or coffee. After dinner you will be given some free time in St. Mark's Square, said to have been called the "drawing room of Europe" by Napoleon and which is one of the few great urban spaces in Europe where human voices prevail over the sounds of motorized traffic. A motorboat will then take you part of the way back to your hotel.

Approximate value: €70 EUR per person

CITY: Rome



Castelli Romani with Dinner The excursion will leave from the hotel around 3:30 to drive south-east out of Rome to the Alban Hills. Castel Gandolfo is a small town occupying a height overlooking Lake Albano and was voted one of the most beautiful towns in Italy. It is best known as the summer residence of the Pope. A short stop will be made here before proceeding via Marino and Grottaferrata to the nearby town of Frascati. Frascati is renowned for its white wine and is also an important historical and artistic centre. The restaurant we take you to for dinner is near to the characteristic market square and has a particularly charming rustic atmosphere with history in each of its stones. The quality and originality of the Roman kitchen allows you to sample local dishes with unlimited local white wine and mineral water plus coffee. During the evening you will be entertained by an accordion player.

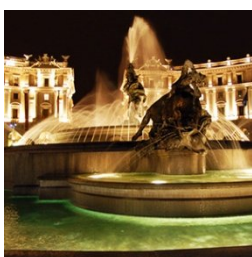
Approximate value: €50 EUR per person



The Catacombs With a local guide discover the imperial and early Christian Rome by exploring the Eternal city's underground burial chambers with its long winding catacombs and crypts. Two examples of these Catacombs are the "Catacombe of San Callisto" which is one of the biggest with a network of galleries about 17 kms long and 20 meters deep. It contains the crypt of nine popes, early Christian frescoes and paintings. The other Catacomb is "Catacombe of San Domitilla" which has the oldest catacomb and is visited by passing

through a 4th century church. One of the highlights of this catacomb is a second century fresco of the Last Supper. Note that the various catacombs have different closing periods so it is not possible to guarantee which will be visited during the excursion. Also included on this excursion is a visit to The Papal Basilica "St. Paul Outside the Walls" . At the beginning of the 4th century the Emperor Constantine ordered the excavation of the place where Christians venerated the memory of Saint Paul the Apostle and above his grave, located outside the Aurelian Walls surrounding Rome, Constantine built a Basilica which was consecrated by Pope Sylvester in 324. Every year in the Basilica on the feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul i.e. on 25th January, the week of prayer for Christian Unity opens.

Approximate value: €35 EUR per person



Treasures of Rome by Night & Dinner An early evening tour will show you other aspects of Rome, perhaps not seen on the included sightseeing tour. Either before or after dinner you will have an orientation drive to probably include Castel Sant' Angelo, Palace of Justice, Mausoleum of Augustus, Aurelian walls, Villa Borghese, Via Veneto, Piazza Barberini and Via Nazionale. Dinner will be taken at one of the local restaurants and you can sample a delicious 3 course menu with dessert including local wine and mineral water plus coffee or tea. During the evening there will be music to add to the romantic Roman atmosphere.

Approximate value: €58 EUR per person



Vatican Museum & Sistine Chapel On this fascinating excursion with a local guide you can stroll through the Vatican Museum and marvel at Michaelangelo's famous creation in the Sistine Chapel. The Vatican Museum houses over 2000 rooms and 9 miles of the most extensive collections of art in the world. The Museums are brilliantly decorated and brim over with treasures and history and the local guide will share with you the stories and secrets contained within the Museum's walls. In the Sistine Chapel you can marvel at Michaelangelo's masterpiece, which is perhaps the greatest example of art anywhere and certainly the largest contiguous body by one painter. There are also some lesser masterpieces in the Sistine Chapel which are also worth seeing.

Approximate value: €58 EUR per person

CITY: Lucerne



Dinner & Swiss Folklore Contrary to belief, not all Swiss can yodel or blow the alp horn, but those you will see are real experts. At the Stadtkeller Restaurant, located in the old town of Lucerne, they will entertain you with merry melodies on the accordion and traditional dances whilst you enjoy a delicious meal and sample the Swiss Cheese Fondue.

Approximate value: €60 EUR per person



Engelberg Only Spend a few hours in this panoramic village very famous winter sport center of Central Switzerland at the foot of Mount Titlis. In Engelberg which is also a charming village you can take a walk or you can shop in the bazaars and enjoy traditional Swiss cuisine in a typical restaurant

Approximate value: €35 EUR per person



Mount Titlis Drive to Alpine Engelberg - very famous sport center of Central Switzerland - to take the Titlis-Rotair, the world's first revolving cable car, up to 10,000 feet where eternal snow resists even the summer sun. A panoramic view all the way up with 360 degree vistas of glaciers and icefalls. On top of Mount Titlis there is a Restaurant with a nice terrace and a solarium from which you can also enjoy an enchanting view.

Approximate value: €78 EUR per person



Scenic Lake Cruise An hour's guided cruise on the most beautiful lake in Switzerland gives you an introduction to this lovely city from a completely different aspect. With its many bays, it offers superb panoramas of the surrounding landscape. The cruise is operated on a comfortable private covered boat and a commentary will be given by one of the crew staff who will explain the history of all the enchanting villages and you will learn some interesting stories of the

Swiss History.

Approximate value: €25 EUR per person



The Titlis Ice Flyer An extension to the Mount Titlis excursion, the Ice Flyer is a chair lift, specially equipped to protect from wind, snow and rain. The 2,460 foot journey lasts six minutes and you can enjoy an absolutely unique and unforgettable ride.

Approximate value: €8 EUR per person

CITY: Paris



Cabaret Show A trip to Paris is not complete without a visit to one of the famous Parisian Cabaret to enjoy an enchanting night. Whilst you see a colourful costume and decor show of music and dances, you will be served a glass of champagne to fully enjoy your evening. This excursion is not operated as a private charter which means you may join others on the same tour which may require picking up and dropping off at several hotels.

Approximate value: €75 EUR per person



Farewell Dinner & Orientation Tonight you will have the opportunity to taste some delicious specialities of the French cuisine. In a Parisian restaurant with a fascinating atmosphere you will enjoy a four-course dinner with an aperitif and wine. Some music will enliven the evening. An orientation drive of Paris will also be part of this special night

Approximate value: €60 EUR per person



Versailles-Sun King's Palace Historic Versailles is the beautiful, restored palace of Louis XIV, the Sun King. After the guided tour of the palace where you will have the opportunity to admire the magnificent internal decorations, furniture and huge shining chandeliers, you can stroll in the magnificent terraced gardens with their fountains and statues. The Palace of Versailles is open every day except Mondays.

Approximate value: €60 EUR per person

Travel Terms & Conditions

The purchase of any travel services offered by Cosmos, constitutes a contractual arrangement between you and Cosmos, and represents your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions. Please ensure that you read carefully and understand the Terms & Conditions prior to booking. These Terms & Conditions cover Deposit & Final Payment information, Air-Inclusive Deposits & Final Payment, Revisions & Revision Fees, Air Arrangements, Participation, Travelers Who Need Special Assistance, Young Travelers, Smoking, Price Policy, Visas and Passports, Hotels & Accommodations, Baggage Allowance, Travel Documents, Not Included in the Land Price, Refunds, Service Inquires After the Vacation, Holidays, Safety, Photos & Pictures, Optional Excursions, and Responsibility.

[View full Terms & Conditions](#)

Important Notes

- Vacation departures, itineraries and prices are subject to change.
- A non-refundable, non-transferable deposit of \$250 per person per vacation is required for Cosmos to reserve space for you. View [Terms & Conditions](#) for limited exceptions.
- Charges not included in the land vacation price: airfare to and from the start of your vacation; airline baggage fees including checked and/or excess baggage fees; Federal inspection fees for the Federal U.S. Customs and Immigrations; agricultural tax; other per person taxes imposed by government entities; applicable cruise taxes, fees, fares and port charges; passports; visas and vaccinations; transfers; tips to your Tour or Cruise Director, Local Host, driver, Local Guides, and/or ships' crew; gratuities on ferries, trains, and cruise ships; laundry; telephone; minibar; alcohol, beverages, and food outside of the contracted menu as presented at a hotel or restaurant (these extra items will be billed to you before leaving the hotel, ship, or restaurant); additional excursions and activities not listed as 'included' in the itinerary; portorage at airports or train stations; Travel Protection premiums; and all other items of a personal nature.