

EUROPEAN ESCAPEDE 2010

GUIDED VACATION

22 Days London/Paris

ITINERARY

DAY 1 DEPART USA*

Board your overnight transatlantic flight.

DAY 2 ARRIVE IN LONDON, ENGLAND

After checking in, there is time to relax. You may want to start exploring this vibrant city on your own.

DAY 3 LONDON SIGHTSEEING AND AT LEISURE

See many of the major sights of the British capital on your morning sightseeing tour. This afternoon is at leisure. (B)

DAY 4 LONDON / BRUGES, BELGIUM / AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

Meet your Tour Director and travel to Dover for the ferry to Calais. Then coach to Bruges, a well preserved medieval town. After a break here, head for Amsterdam where you will enjoy a canal cruise followed by a Welcome Drink. (B)

DAY 5 AMSTERDAM AND VOLENDAM EXCURSION

Your first stop this morning is at a diamond cutting factory. View the sparkling gems, then drive out to Volendam to learn about cheese-making and clogs. Your Tour Director will also share a hidden treasure. Later, return to Amsterdam for a free evening. (B)

DAY 6 AMSTERDAM / COLOGNE, GERMANY / FRANKFURT

This morning, travel to Cologne to see the towering gothic cathedral. Continue to Boppard and embark on a scenic Rhine cruise. Then coach to your hotel. (B,D)

DAY 7 FRANKFURT / HEIDELBERG / RHINE FALLS / LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND

Stop in Heidelberg to see the red-walled castle before driving through the Black Forest to the Rhine Falls. After a stop here, continue to lakeside Lucerne. (B,D)

DAY 8 LUCERNE / INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA / OBERAMMERGAU, GERMANY

Stop in Vaduz, capital of Liechtenstein. Next is Innsbruck, set on the Inn River and beautifully bordered by the Alps. Then on to the charming Bavarian town of Oberammergau.(B,D)

DAY 9 OBERAMMERGAU

Enjoy a free morning in Oberammergau. After lunch, take your seat for the haunting Passion Play. The performance starts at 2:30 p.m., running until 5:00 p.m., breaks for dinner, then resumes at 8:00 p.m., ending about 10:30 p.m. (B,L,D)

DAY 10 OBERAMMERGAU / SALZBURG, AUSTRIA / VIENNA

Drive to Austria and the city of Salzburg. On a walking tour, see Mozart's birthplace and the cathedral square. Then on to Vienna, the "City of Music." Your evening is free to perhaps find a corner in a typical

"heurige" - a wine tavern. (B)

DAY 11 VIENNA SIGHTSEEING AND AT LEISURE

A guided tour features the State Opera House, the Parliament and a walking tour of the oldest part of the city. Afterward your day is at leisure. You might want to visit a museum or simply relax over coffee and Viennese pastry. (B)

DAY 12 VIENNA / VENICE, ITALY

Journey today past forested mountains to the Austrian Lake District and the border with Italy. The Carnian Alps give way to the plains of Northern Italy as you continue to the magical city of Venice. (B,D)

DAY 13 VENICE SIGHTSEEING AND AT LEISURE

Savor the sights of this Byzantine city on a canal cruise to St. Mark's Square. Then visit a traditional glassblowing factory. Your afternoon is at leisure. Perhaps take an optional trip to the island of Burano or spend your time in the shops. (B,D)

DAY 14 VENICE / ROME

Head south over the Veneto Plain and the Apennine Hills to the "Eternal City," Rome. Your evening is free to sample the excellent food, sip fine wine or join in the sizzling nightlife. (B)

DAY 15 ROME SIGHTSEEING AND AT LEISURE

A guided morning tour includes a visit to St. Peter's Basilica and views of the Forum and the mighty Colosseum. Then there is time at leisure to browse in the shops or people watch in a little café. (B)

DAY 16 ROME / FLORENCE

Drive north to Tuscany and beautiful Florence, where a guided tour includes the cathedral, baptistry and a hidden treasure. You might want to shop before continuing to the hotel. (B,D)

DAY 17 FLORENCE / PISA / MONACO / NICE, FRANCE

On your first stop today, see Pisa's amazing Leaning Tower. Then follow the coastline to the Principality of Monaco. After a break here, drive to Nice. (B,D)

DAY 18 ST. PAUL DE VENCE AND FRAGONARD PERFUMERY EXCURSION

Visit artistic St. Paul de Vence set on a hilltop in Provence. Next, stop at the Fragonard Perfumery and learn about the history of perfume. Then there is free time to relax and explore Nice. (B)

DAY 19 NICE / AVIGNON / LYON

Travel to papal Avignon and admire the famous "broken" bridge. Next is Lyon, founded by the Romans in the 1st century. An orientation drive shows you the Place Bellecour and Fourviere Hill. (B,D)

DAY 20 LYON / BEAUNE / PARIS

Follow the Rhone Valley en route to Beaune. Continue on through wine-producing Burgundy to glittering Paris. Your evening is free to begin enjoying all this exciting capital city has to offer. (B)

DAY 21 PARIS SIGHTSEEING AND AT LEISURE

This morning, a guided tour features the Champs Elysees, Arc de Triomphe and an ascent to the second

level of the Eiffel Tower. Your afternoon is free for some last minute shopping and a chance to sample delicious French pastries. This evening enjoy a Farewell Dinner. (B,D)

DAY 22 DEPART PARIS

After breakfast, bid farewell to Paris as your vacation comes to an end. (B)