



# New Year's Eve in London with Paris & Rome

#### 11 days | 14 days with Madrid extension

Whether you're raising a glass in a local pub or taking in the spectacular fireworks display over the Thames, New Year's Eve in London is an event not to be missed. Join revelers in the English capital to ring in the new year before setting off to explore Paris and Rome. On this sweeping tour, iconic landmarks like Big Ben, the Eiffel Tower, and the Colosseum are just the beginning of what you'll see.



#### Your tour package includes

9 nights in handpicked hotels

9 breakfasts

4 dinners with beer or wine, including a celebratory New Year's Eve dinner with Champagne toast

3 guided sightseeing tours

Expert Tour Director & local guides

Private deluxe motor coach

1 train ride

1 on-tour flight

#### Included highlights

New Year's Eve in London Big Ben Buckingham Palace Eurostar train ride Place de la Concorde Eiffel Tower photo stop the Colosseum the Roman Forum

#### Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for about 1 hour daily across mostly flat terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with few hills or stairs.

#### Group size

15-38

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#### Overnight Flight → 1 night

#### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to London today.

#### **London** $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

#### Day 2: Arrival in London

Included meals: dinner

Welcome to England! Gather with your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

#### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of London

Included meals: breakfast

Take a guided tour of the regal landmarks of the English capital with a local expert leading the way.

- Pass the grand Trafalgar Square and Baroquestyle St. Paul's Cathedral, perched atop Ludgate Hill
- See Westminster Abbey, the setting for royal coronations and weddings
- View icons like Big Ben, the London Eye, and the Tower of London
- Stop by Buckingham Palace, where you may catch the Changing of the Guard Enjoy a free afternoon in London or add an excursion.
- + Windsor Castle

## Day 4: Tower of London, Thames River cruise & New Year's Eve celebration

Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Join a Blue Badge Guide for a tour of the famous
Tower of London followed by a cruise on the
Thames River.

- Enter the Tower of London, a UNESCO World Heritage site famous for its dark history of treason, imprisonment, and beheadings
- Explore the nooks and crannies of this royal castle, seeing ancient coin collections, suits of armor, and the glittering Crown Jewels as you go
- Step aboard a riverboat for a cruise down the Thames and take in views of the London skyline, Tower Bridge, Southbank, and more from the water

This evening, ring in the new year with your fellow travelers with a celebratory dinner and Champagne toast.

#### **Paris** $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

#### Day 5: Train ride to Paris

Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Board the famed, high-speed Eurostar train and travel beneath the English Channel as you journey to Gare du Nord station in Paris.
Later, sit down to an included dinner with your group.

#### Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Paris

Included meals: breakfast

A guided tour introduces you to the architecture, scenery, and history of the City of Light's many neighborhoods, called *arrondissements*.

- Drive down the sycamore-lined Champs-Élysées to view the Arc de Triomphe
- Pass Pont Neuf and the legendary Notre-Dame Cathedral, located on an island in the Seine River
- See the Eiffel Tower, the Palais Garnier opera house, and Place de la Concorde, the city's grandest square
- Marvel at the iconic architecture of the Louvre and Hôtel des Invalides

#### Day 7: Seine River cruise

Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Spend a free day in Paris or add an excursion.
Later, take in the nighttime allure of the city.

- Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant
- Board a boat after dinner to coast along the Seine and watch as the illuminated monuments of the city glitter alongside the riverbanks
- + Versailles Palace & Gardens

## **Rome** $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

#### Day 8: Flight to Rome

Included meals: breakfast

Transfer to the airport for a morning flight to Rome, then take the rest of the day to explore the Eternal City.

#### Day 9: Sightseeing tour of Vatican City

Included meals: breakfast

Today's guided tour takes you inside the world's smallest state, Vatican City.

 Visit the Vatican Museums, which are over 500 years old and hold many of the world's most important Classical- and Renaissance-era sculptures

- Step inside the Sistine Chapel, where you'll gaze up at what is perhaps Michelangelo's greatest masterpiece
- Pay a visit to the enormous St. Peter's Basilica, epicenter of the Roman Catholic faith Please note: Backpacks are not allowed in the Vatican and a dress code of no shorts or sleeveless shirts is enforced.

  Enjoy a free evening in Rome or add an excursion.
- + Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

#### Day 10: Sightseeing tour of Rome

Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Follow in the footsteps of the ancient Romans on a tour of the Eternal City.

- Soak up over 2,000 years of history in Imperial Rome, viewing the Arch of Constantine and the Arch of Titus
- Enter the Colosseum, the largest amphitheater of the Roman Empire
- Stop at the ruins of the Forum, once the setting of parades, elections, and trials
- Pass Palatine Hill, see where ancient Romans raced chariots at Circus Maximus, and view the Baths of Caracalla

Enjoy a free afternoon in Rome or add an excursion. (Please note: Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs excursion may be offered on day 9, depending on the day of the week. Please call for more information.)

Tonight, celebrate your trip with your group at a farewell dinner.

+ Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs

#### **Flight Home**

#### Day 11: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home, or extend your stay to visit Madrid.

#### + Madrid extension

Madrid celebrates around the clock. After spending much of the 20th century sequestered at the center of a totalitarian regime, Madrid has burst back onto the world stage with an energy

reminiscent of its 16th-century golden age, when painters and playwrights swarmed to Spain's royal court. A vibrant crossroads for Iberia and the world's Hispanic cultures, the Spanish capital has an infectious appetite for art, music, food, and fun.

#### Madrid → 3 nights

#### Day 11: Flight to Madrid

Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Fly to Madrid this morning, then spend the rest
of the day exploring the city on your own.
Later, join a local at their home in Madrid to
enjoy traditional dishes and dine like a true
Spaniard. During this dinner, you'll receive an
authentic understanding of your host's day-today life while learning about Spanish culture and
traditions from a new perspective.

#### Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Madrid

Included meals: breakfast

Get acquainted with Spain's cosmopolitan capital city with the help of a local guide.

- View the Royal Palace, Spain's largest royal residence
- Pass by the Temple of Debod, a reassembled temple from ancient Egypt
- View the city's many squares, including Plaza de España, Plaza Mayor, and the bustling Puerta del Sol
- Explore the Prado, a world-class art museum that began as the private collection of the Spanish monarchy and is home to the works of Goya, Velásquez, and more Enjoy a free evening in Madrid or add an excursion.
- + Traditional Spanish Evening

#### Day 13: Free day in Madrid

Included meals: breakfast
Spend a full free day in Madrid or add an excursion.

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ Toledo

### **Flight Home**

#### Day 14: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

## Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: **goaheadtours.ca/KL6 | 1-800-754-5066** 

#### **Day 3: Windsor Castle**

\$175CAD (5 hours, departs in the afternoon) Led by a Blue Badge Guide, you'll travel to Windsor for a guided tour of the world's largest and longestinhabited castle. Founded by William the Conqueror in 1070, Windsor has been the British Royal Family's preferred retreat for the past 900 years. Step inside the State Apartments and St. George's Chapel, where knighting ceremonies of the Most Noble Order of the Garter take place. View the exhibit of royal treasures within the castle. You'll then have time to stroll through the town of Windsor and have a look at Eton College, a prestigious prep school attended by Princes William and Harry. Please note: When the Windsor Castle excursion falls on a Wednesday, entrance will be replaced by an excursion to Hampton Court. For any departures where the Windsor Castle excursion falls on a Tuesday, the excursion will be moved to another day on tour or cancelled. Additionally, St. George's Chapel is closed to the public on Sundays. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

#### Day 7: Versailles Palace & Gardens

\$199CAD (5 hours, departure time varies) The reign of Louis XIV, known as the "Sun King," set new standards for decadence among the crowned heads of Europe. It took 50 years and 35,000 workers to turn Versailles, once a small hunting lodge, into the most magnificent château in all of France and the envy of royalty worldwide. On this excursion, you'll see the palace in all its glory as you tour the State Apartments and the glittering Hall of Mirrors. Then, stroll through the lavish gardens to admire their fine statuary, splendid fountains, and colorful flowerbeds. Please note: Versailles Palace is closed on Mondays. The optional excursion may be moved to a different day on tour to accommodate schedules. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 45 days prior to departure.

#### Day 9: Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

In this hands-on cooking class led by an experienced Italian chef, you'll learn to make pasta—perhaps pillowy ravioli or castellane, a ridged shell pasta that's rolled into a long, oval shape—using traditional techniques you can keep on practicing when you get back home. Then, sit down for dinner and enjoy the dishes you've prepared, along with wine.

## Day 10: Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs

\$125CAD/\$135CAD\* (4 hours, departure time varies)
Descend into Rome's ancient catacombs, where early
Christians buried saints and popes alongside
commoners. A local guide will lead you through the
burial chambers before your visit to St. Paul's Basilica,
one of the four most important basilicas of Rome.

Originally founded by Constantine the Great, the Basilica also houses the tomb of St. Paul.

Please note: Shorts and sleeveless shirts are not permitted within the Basilica. Also, this excursion involves extensive walking and may be challenging for claustrophobic travelers.

#### **Extension excursion options**

#### **Day 12: Traditional Spanish Evening**

\$165CAD/\$175CAD\* (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Start the evening with a stroll through Plaza Mayor. Your Tour Director will tell you about the history of the square, where you'll see locals and travelers alike. On your way to dinner, walk through the illuminated streets of Madrid, taking in the local neighborhood ambiance in the evening light. Then, enjoy conversation, camaraderie, and live music at one of the oldest restaurants in the city. Between traditional Castilian courses, you'll be entertained by tuno music, an artistic tradition with its roots in Spain's universities.

#### Day 13: Toledo

\$145CAD/\$155CAD\* (8 hours, departure time varies) Today, discover Toledo, the clifftop city often referred to as La Ciudad Imperial ("The Imperial City"). Upon arrival, you'll have some free time to explore. Later in the afternoon, you'll kick off a guided tour at Toledo Cathedral: a massive Gothic structure housing a treasure trove of stained glass windows and golden artifacts. Gaze upon its sacristy, containing masterpieces by the likes of Van Dyck, El Greco, Rubens, and Titian. After exploring the labyrinth of medieval alleyways in the heart of the city, you'll visit the Church of Santo Tomé—a former mosque, dating to the 12th century, graced by one of El Greco's finest works, "The Burial of the Count of Orgaz." End your day with a stop at Santa María la Blanca, a museum that ranks as one of the oldest synagogues in Europe. Please note: This tour involves some walking over uneven terrain. Also, depending on the day of the week, the sites you visit may change.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.ca/terms