



# London, Paris & Amsterdam

# 11 days | 14 days with Berlin extension

Delve deep into three cultural capitals, discovering the landmarks and local lifestyles that make each city so unique. Throw back a few pints in a local pub after wandering the Thames. Seek out the Mona Lisa before savoring a crêpe where the "Lost Generation" once sat to write. Pass rows of tulips and vibrant houseboats on your way to a Dutch cafe. With plenty of time in each locale, you're free to create your own experience.



#### Your tour package includes

9 nights in handpicked hotels
9 breakfasts
3 dinners with beer or wine
3 sightseeing tours
Expert Tour Director & local guides
Private deluxe motor coach & high-speed train
2 train rides

### Included highlights

Trafalgar Square Buckingham Palace Big Ben Eurostar train ride Arc de Triomphe Eiffel Tower photo stop Amsterdam canal cruise Van Gogh Museum

#### Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 1.5 hours 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** $\rightarrow$ 1 night

#### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to London today.

# $\textbf{London} \rightarrow 3 \text{ nights}$

#### Day 2: Arrival in London

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to England! Meet 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: Free day in London

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

+ Stonehenge & Oxford

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

#### Day 5: Eurostar train ride to Paris

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

Please note: Travelers should be prepared for an early morning train departure. Porterage is not included for the train transfers. Travelers must be comfortable lifting and carrying all luggage over steps, onto platforms, and into luggage storage

#### 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.

Enjoy a free afternoon in Paris or add an excursion.

Please note: On some departures, the Versailles Palace & Gardens excursion may be offered on day 7.

+ Versailles Palace & Gardens

#### Day 7: Free day in Paris

Included meals: breakfast Spend a free day in Paris or add excursions. Please note: On some departures, the Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny excursion may be offered on day 6.

+ Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny

+ Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

# Amsterdam $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

#### Day 8: Train ride to Amsterdam

Included meals: breakfast

Take a high-speed train to Amsterdam. When you arrive in the Netherlands, enjoy free time for the rest of the day to explore the area on your own.

*Please note: Travelers should be prepared for an early morning train departure.* 

#### Day 9: Sightseeing tour of Amsterdam

Included meals: breakfast

Take to the water on today's sightseeing tour as your local guide introduces you to Amsterdam's unique character.

• Cruise by icons like the Dutch National Opera house and the Skinny Bridge.

- Reflect on the city's history as you pass by a former Jewish neighborhood.
- See the dancing houses, the narrowest houses in Amsterdam, and "flower bikes" decorated by a local known as the Flower Bike Man.
- Disembark near the Rijksmuseum, and stroll to the iconic Van Gogh Museum for a tour with an audio guide.

Spend a free afternoon in the city or add an excursion.

Please note: The Keukenhof Garden optional excursion will only be offered from late March through mid-May. The Food of Amsterdam optional excursion will replace Keukenhof Garden when it is out of season.

- + Food of Amsterdam Walking Tour
- + Keukenhof Gardens

#### Day 10: Free day in Amsterdam

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner Spend a free day in Amsterdam or add an excursion.

Celebrate your trip with your group at a farewell dinner this evening.

+ A Day in Charming Delft

# **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 explore Berlin, Germany.

# + Berlin extension

Inviting markets, cobbled streets, trendy restaurants—find all this and more in the German capital. Fly to this reinvigorated cultural center, which buzzes with life, and you'll spot all the city's highlights during a guided sightseeing tour.

# $\textbf{Berlin} \to 3 \text{ nights}$

Day 11: Flight to Berlin Included meals: breakfast Fly to Berlin and enjoy a free evening in Germany's capital city.

### Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Berlin

Included meals: breakfast Enjoy a guided sightseeing tour of Berlin, reunited Germany's political and cultural capital city.

- Discover the Brandenburg Gate, the symbol of a reunited Berlin.
- See the Holocaust Memorial and the Berlin Wall's East Side Gallery.
- Journey down Unter den Linden, the city's most elegant boulevard, passing the Reichstag and Museum Island.

Enjoy a free afternoon in Berlin or add an excursion.

+ World War II Walking Tour

# Day 13: Free day in Berlin

Included meals: breakfast Enjoy a free day in Berlin or add an excursion. This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members. + Potsdam

# **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/LPN | 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 4: Stonehenge & Oxford

\$190CAD (9.5 hours, departs in the morning) Pay a visit to Oxford, home to one of the most prestigious universities in the world. You'll admire the charming city's spire-studded architecture and learn more about its academic legacy during a visit to New College at Oxford University. Founded in the 14th century, this college is one of the oldest institutions in the city, and you'll discover its extensive history during your visit. Then, enjoy free time for lunch before continuing on to Stonehenge, perhaps England's most mysterious landmark. The origin and purpose of this ring of stones, which dates back an estimated 5,000 years, is unknown, though most believe it was a temple and observatory. Take some time to explore the intriguing stone formations and visit the newly opened exhibition and visitor center before heading back to London. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

#### Day 6: 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 7: Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny

\$149CAD/\$159CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the morning)

The village of Giverny was home to Claude Monet from 1883 until his death in 1926. On a visit to Monet's home and gardens, discover the subtle palette of colors that inspired his Water Lilies series and gave rise to a new way of seeing. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from April through October.

#### Day 7: Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (5 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Take in the nighttime allure of the City of Light on a special evening excursion. The event begins with dinner at a local restaurant. After you dine, board a boat cruise along the Seine. As you coast along the river and under Paris' bridges, you'll behold the illuminated monuments of the city glittering alongside the riverbanks. Please note: The dress code may vary depending on the restaurant for your dinner. Your Tour Director will advise you on what to wear, but shorts and sneakers are likely to be considered inappropriate attire.

#### Day 9: Food of Amsterdam Walking Tour

\$129CAD/\$139CAD\* (2.5 hours, departure time varies)

Get a taste of sweet and savory Dutch dishes on a culinary walking tour through Amsterdam. Meet your local guide at Beursplein Square, which is located in front of the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, and walk through the old city center, an area once known as the Red Light District. Make your way to your first stop, a chocolate and spice shop set along Amsterdam's oldest canal. There, you'll taste award-winning chocolate and an iconic Dutch sweet, the stroopwafel, as you learn about Amsterdam's role in the 17th-century spice trade. Continue on to a cheese shop to sample several varieties made by a local family. Next, follow the bustling Zeedijk (or sea dike, in Dutch) through the heart of Chinatown and visit a family of fishmongers who have been in business since 1938. There, taste raw herring and kibbeling, or battered, fried fish. Wrap up your tour with a visit to an award-winning microbrewery, where you'll enjoy beer and a selection of Dutch snacks. Spend some free time in the city before heading back to your hotel. Please note: This excursion is only offered from mid-May through December.

#### Day 9: Keukenhof Gardens

\$149CAD/\$159CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the afternoon)

With millions of flowers growing on 70 acres of gardens, Keukenhof has been a showplace for the Dutch floral industry for more than half a century. On this excursion, you may be able to view more than six million flowers in bloom, including daffodils, croci and hyacinths, as well as thousands of tulip varieties. Please note: Peak tulip season varies with the weather. This optional excursion is seasonal and runs only from late March through May. Travelers should be prepared for a fair amount of walking.

#### Day 10: A Day in Charming Delft

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (8 hours, departs in the morning) Pay a visit to the world-famous flower market at Aalsmeer for a close-up look at one of Holland's bestknown national exports: its brilliantly hued tulips. Continue to Delft, a charming town of canals, cobbled alleyways and medieval architecture. Visit the Old and New Churches on a guided tour, and then enjoy free time to grab lunch and explore the town, perhaps visiting the former home of the famous painter, Vermeer. Please note: A visit to the Hague will replace the flower market on days when the market is closed.

#### **Extension excursion options**

#### Day 12: World War II Walking Tour

109CAD/ 119CAD\* (5 hours, departs in the afternoon, lunch included)

Take a walk through history on this insider's tour of Berlin during World War II, detailing the rise and fall of Hitler and the Third Reich. You'll start in the Wilhelmstrasse area and see the building that once housed the headquarters of Hermann Goering's Luftwaffe. You'll also view the former headquarters of the infamous SS and Gestapo, the massive Reich Chancellery, and the Propaganda Ministry. Finally, stand directly above Hitler's Führerbunker as your guide details the last days of World War II in Europe. Lunch is included.

#### Day 13: Potsdam

\$165CAD/\$175CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the morning) Travel to Potsdam, the residence of Prussian Kings and German Kaisers until 1918. Once the royal playground of Prussian King Frederick the Great, Potsdam was also the location where American, British, and Soviet leaders drew up plans for the postwar administration of Germany at the Potsdam Conference in 1945. A local guide will escort you through Cecilienhof Palace, built by Emperor Wilhelm II of Germany in the early 1900s and the site of the Potsdam Conference's iconic photograph of Truman, Churchill, and Stalin. After exploring the palace and gardens, your guide will introduce you to the historic center of Potsdam.

\*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 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