



# London, Paris & Rome

# 11 days | 14 days with Madrid extension

Perhaps no cities have influenced the world more over the last 2,000 years than London, Paris, and Rome. On this guided tour, iconic sights like Big Ben, the Eiffel Tower, and the Colosseum are just the beginning of what you'll see. Take it all in as you embark on this sweeping trip through England, France, and Italy.



#### 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

1 train ride

1 on-tour flight

# Included highlights

Trafalgar Square
Buckingham Palace
Eurostar train ride
Eiffel Tower photo stop
Place de la Concorde
Colosseum
Roman Forum

# Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 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: welcome dinner
Welcome to England! Meet your 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, weddings, and funerals
- 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 excursions.

- + Thames River Cruise & Pub Dinner
- + Tower of London

## **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. Then,
sit down for an included dinner.

# 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 in view of the Arc de Triomphe
- Pass Pont Neuf and 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

Enjoy a free day to discover Paris at your leisure or add an excursion.

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

+ Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

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

#### Day 8: Flight to Rome

Included meals: breakfast

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

## Day 9: Free day in Rome

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Rome or add excursions. (Please note: On some departures, the Iconic Sights: Vatican City excursion may take place on day 10 and the Rome sightseeing tour and the Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs excursion may take place on day 9.)

- + Iconic Sights: Vatican City
- + Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

### Day 10: Sightseeing tour of Rome

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner
Follow in the footsteps of the ancient Romans on
a guided 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 by Palatine Hill to see Circus Maximus, the stadium where ancient Romans raced chariots, and the Baths of Caracalla

Enjoy free time in Rome or add an excursion. (Please note: On some departures, the Rome sightseeing tour and the Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs excursion may take place on day 9 and the Iconic Sights: Vatican City excursion may take place on day 10.)
This evening, join your group for a farewell dinner. As you dine, you'll be treated to a multicourse traditional Italian meal with a live musical entertainment.

Please note: The opera performance is seasonal and runs from March through November. Dinner will take place at a local restaurant from December through February.

+ 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, Spain.

# + Madrid extension

Keep the adventure going and add another European capital to your trip. Fly to Madrid to see how the city buzzes with energy on local guide-led visits to Puerta del Sol and the Prado.

# Madrid → 3 nights

#### Day 11: Flight to Madrid

Included meals: breakfast

Fly to Madrid, Spain this morning. Then, spend free time exploring the city at your leisure or add an excursion.

+ Madrid Home-Hosted Dinner

## 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 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 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.com/LPR | 1-800-597-0350** 

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

\$125 (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: Thames River Cruise & Pub Dinner

\$125 (5 hours, departs in the afternoon, dinner included)

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. As you travel from Tower Pier to Westminster Pier, you'll snap photos of Shakespeare's Globe, the National Theatre, and Jubilee Gardens before disembarking and taking a tour through the Covent Garden area of the West End. Then, sit down for a three-course dinner including beer or wine at a local pub. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

## Day 4: Tower of London

\$109 (3 hours, departs in the morning)
Enter the Tower of London, a UNESCO World Heritage
Site famous for its dark history of treason,
imprisonment, and beheadings. With a local Blue Badge
Guide leading the way, you'll explore the nooks and
crannies of this royal castle, seeing ancient coin
collections, suits of armor, and the glittering Crown
Jewels as you go. Explore exhibitions about the Royal
Mint and old armaments before watching a live
historical reenactment and visiting the White Tower.
This excursion requires advance reservation and must
be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

#### Day 6: Versailles Palace & Gardens

\$139 (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: Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise

\$129/\$139\* (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: Iconic Sights: Vatican City

\$125 (3.5 hours, departure time varies) This guided tour takes you inside Vatican City—a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most sacred places in Christendom. This independent citystate within Rome serves as the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church and is home to the Pope. Upon arrival, turn on your pre-distributed headset and dive into the Vatican's rich history with your local guide. First, visit the Vatican Museums, which are more than 500 years old and house many of the world's most important Classical- and Renaissance-era sculptures. Next, step inside the Sistine Chapel, whose frescoed ceiling is arguably Michelangelo's greatest masterpiece. Finally, pay a visit to the enormous St. Peter's Basilica, the epicenter of the Roman Catholic faith. The artists who have contributed to its glory are some of the best Italy has ever known: Bramante, Peruzzi, Raphael, and Michelangelo. Masterpieces await at every turn, from Bernini's magnificent bronze canopy to Michelangelo's

Please note: Should this excursion fall on a Sunday, it'll be moved to another day of the tour. Backpacks aren't allowed in the Vatican, and shorts and sleeveless shirts are strictly prohibited. Due to closures of certain entrances and pathways, wait times may extend to several hours during busy travel months. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 70 days prior to departure.

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

\$119/\$129\* (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

\$89/\$99\* (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 11: Madrid Home-Hosted Dinner**

\$89 (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included) 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-to-day life while learning about Spanish culture and traditions from a new perspective. Please note: Your Tour Director will not attend this excursion. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

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

\$119/\$129\* (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

\$105/\$115\* (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,

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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.

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