



A Week in Eastern Europe: Prague, Kraków & Budapest

9 days | 11 days with Budapest extension

Eastern Europe was at the center of many of the 20th century's most significant political movements. Travel to Prague, Kraków, Budapest, the rural High Tatra mountains, and the Tokaj wine region to understand how the area's complex past has shaped each destination's culture. As you venture from city to countryside, learn about the local traditions from the resilient people who call this region home.



Your tour package includes

- 7 nights in handpicked hotels
- 7 breakfasts
- 1 lunch
- 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 wine tasting
- 3 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

Included highlights

- Prague Castle
- Wawel Cathedral
- Slovakian cheesemaking demonstration
- Kežmarok
- Tokaj wine tasting
- Hungarian State Opera House
- Matthias Church

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across mostly flat terrain with some cobblestone streets, hills, and stairs.

Group size

15–38

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Overnight flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Prague today.

Prague → 2 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Prague

Included meals: dinner

Welcome to the Czech Republic! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Prague

Included meals: breakfast

Discover why Prague is known as the "City of One Hundred Spires" on a guided tour.

- Visit Prague Castle, from which Charles IV governed the Holy Roman Empire
- Admire the soaring Gothic vaults of St. Vitus Cathedral
- Walk down to the Malá Strana district to sip a coffee at a local cafe
- Cross the elegant Charles Bridge for breathtaking views of the city
- Stroll through Old Town Square to view the 15th-century Astronomical Clock

Enjoy free time in Prague or add an excursion.

+ Evening in Prague: River Cruise & Dinner

Kraków → 2 nights

Day 4: Transfer to Kraków

Included meals: breakfast

Travel to Kraków, Poland and spend a free evening in the city or add an excursion.

+ Polish Cooking Demonstration & Dinner

Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Kraków

Included meals: breakfast

Meet your local guide for a tour of Kraków, Poland's former royal capital.

- Pass Oskar Schindler's Enamel Factory and visit the old Jewish ghetto
- Discover Wawel Hill, perched high above the Vistula River
- Visit Wawel Cathedral to see where Polish kings were crowned

- Stroll past beautiful Sukiennice Cloth Hall and the Jagiellonian University, arriving in Główny Square

Enjoy free time in Kraków or add an excursion.

+ Auschwitz

High Tatras Region → 1 night

Day 6: High Tatras Region via Ždiar, cheesemaking demonstration & Kežmarok

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, dinner

Travel to the High Tatras region to soak in the mountain views and experience the culture of the Slovakian countryside.

- Stop in the tiny village of Ždiar to view the painted wooden houses the area is known for
- Visit a Slovakian farm to meet a cheesemaker at their workshop and see how they make ornate egg-shaped cheese blocks
- Enjoy a tasting of Salash cheese paired with a glass of wine
- Visit Kežmarok and enter the town's UNESCO-listed wooden articular church to learn about its fascinating history

Continue on to your hotel in the High Tatras region and sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Please note: The order of today's activities is subject to change.

Budapest → 2 nights

Day 7: Budapest via Tokaj wine region

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, wine tasting

Pass through the rolling hills of the Slovakian countryside and cross into Hungary to visit the Tokaj wine region.

- Discover the history of Europe's first appellation, or controlled wine region
- Learn about the regulations winemakers must follow in order to create a true Tokaj wine and how these rules inspired the designation of other appellations including Champagne, Chianti, and Burgundy
- Tour the vineyard and wine cellar to hear about the characteristics of the wine

- Sample four types of Tokaj wine, including the famous sweet dessert varietal
- Sit down to enjoy a lunch of Hungarian specialties at the winery

After, continue on to Budapest.

Day 8: Sightseeing tour of Budapest

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Discover the major landmarks of the city that straddles east and west.

- Trace this nation's stormy history at Heroes' Square
- View the Gothic Hungarian Parliament Building located on the banks of the Danube
- Step inside the recently restored Hungarian State Opera House for a guided tour of the incredible new-Renaissance style masterpiece
- Cross the Danube and ascend Castle Hill and take in the breathtaking views from Fisherman's Bastion
- Visit the medieval Matthias Church, once the site of Hapsburg coronations

Celebrate your trip at a farewell dinner this evening.

Flight Home

Day 9: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

+ Budapest extension

What's not to love about seeing stunning Art Nouveau architecture, or sipping really (really) good coffee inside historic coffee houses pretty enough to be palaces? Extend your adventure in the Pearl of the Danube to savor moments like this with your Tour Director's expert guidance.

Budapest → 2 nights

Day 9: Free day in Budapest

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Budapest or add and excursion.

+ Budapest: A Walk Behind the Iron Curtain

Day 10: Free day in Budapest

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a free day in Budapest or add an excursion.

Raise a glass and toast to your trip with a farewell drink this evening.

+ Budapest Cooking Class & Lunch

Day 11: 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/WEE | 1-800-754-5066

Day 3: Evening in Prague: River Cruise & Dinner

\$135CAD/\$145CAD* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

As the longest river in the Czech Republic, the Vltava traces a line from the Bohemian Forest up through Prague to the great River Elbe. Tonight, take to its serene waters aboard a cruise ship and marvel at The City of a Hundred Spires from its decks. You'll sail past Castle Hill and Prague's famous bridges, dining on authentic Czech dishes as you go. After having your fill of food and live music, dock once more and draw your evening to a close.

Day 4: Polish Cooking Demonstration & Dinner

\$149CAD (3.5 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Pierogies are synonymous with Polish culture, and on this excursion, you'll learn the history of the country's signature food—and how to make it. Reminiscent of dumplings or ravioli, pierogies are traditionally stuffed with potato, cheese, cabbage, or sauerkraut, but can also be filled with cherries, apples, or strawberries and served for dessert. See how to cut, stuff, and fold the dough and practice by making both savory and sweet pierogies. Then, sample homemade cherry liqueur as you enjoy your dinner. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

Day 5: Auschwitz

\$89CAD (6 hours, departs in the afternoon)

This excursion takes you to some of the most chilling sites in Europe: the concentration camps at Auschwitz and Birkenau. More than 4 million people were systematically exterminated in these camps by the Third Reich during World War II. Liberated by the Red Army in 1945, Auschwitz has been turned into a poignant memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. Take a guided tour which includes views of chambers and prisoner buildings. Afterward, drive to nearby Birkenau, the second portion of the larger Auschwitz concentration camp complex. Embark on a guided tour before returning to Kraków. Please note: Full passport information is required to purchase tickets to Auschwitz. Travelers who have not confirmed passport information may do so by logging in to My Account or contacting Customer Experience. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

Extension excursion options

Day 9: Budapest: A Walk Behind the Iron Curtain

\$135CAD/\$145CAD* (4 hours, departs in the morning)

Discover the turbulent, tragic, and heroic history of the Communist period in Budapest on today's excursion. Your guided sightseeing tour passes the Parliament building, which was the starting place of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and still shows signs of damage

from the Soviet invasion. Visit Liberty Square, home to the U.S. Embassy, a statue of Ronald Reagan, and the only remaining monument to Communist troops. From St. Stephen's Basilica, take the historic Metro Line 1 up the iconic Andrásy Avenue. Stop for an included coffee and piece of cake amidst the Neo-Renaissance splendor of a historic cafe. End the day at the House of Terror, where you will take a guided tour through this chilling museum and view the moving monument to the victims of Communism and Fascism in Hungary.

Day 10: Budapest Cooking Class & Lunch

\$219CAD/\$229CAD* (4 hours, departs in the morning)

Characterized by soul-warming soups, generous helpings of meat, and plenty of paprika, Hungarian cuisine is so much more than goulash. On this optional outing, you'll try your hand at preparing traditional and modern dishes, with guidance from professional chefs, at a local cooking school. Hear about the nation's culinary history, then learn how to make plates like chicken paprikash (well-seasoned, slow-cooked poultry served with egg noodles), fasirt (breaded, fried pork patties), and almás rétes (the local take on apple strudel) during a private lesson. Then, sit down for lunch and enjoy your creations, accompanied by beer or wine. Can't wait to cook them again? You'll receive a recipe booklet at the end of class!

*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