

THE TRAVEL CLUB

London, Paris & Amsterdam

11 DAYS: Sunday, September 29-Wednesday, October 9, 2019, 2019
\$4,029 per person double occupancy; \$5,029 for single reservations

Find out what lies behind Big Ben, the Eiffel Tower, and those charming windmills. 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 guided sightseeing tours, Expert Tour Director & local guides, Private deluxe motor coach & high-speed train

Included highlights

- Trafalgar Square, Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, Eurostar train ride, Eiffel Tower photo stop,
- Arc de Triomphe, Dam Square, Van Gogh Museum,

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you’ll walk for about 1.5 hours daily across mostly flat terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with few hills or stairs.



Overnight Flight

Day 1: Travel day **Board your overnight flight to London today.**

London

Day 2: Arrival in London **Included meals: Dinner**

Welcome to London! 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 Baroque-style 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 or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion **Windsor Castle** **\$105/pp**

Led by a Blue Badge Guide, you'll travel to Windsor for a guided tour of the world's largest and longest-inhabited 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 the Knights of the Garter ceremony takes place. View the exhibit of royal treasures on display 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: Windsor Castle is occasionally closed when in use by the Royal Family; a visit to Henry VIII's Hampton Court will be substituted when necessary. Additionally, St. George's Chapel is closed to the public on Sundays. Must book 20 days before departure.

Day 4: Free day in London **Included meals: Breakfast**

Spend a full free day in London or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion **Stonehenge & Oxford** **\$139/pp**

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. Must book 20 days before departure.

Paris

Day 5: Paris via the Eurostar train **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.

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 or add an excursion. *(It may be offered on day 7, depending on the day of the week.)*

Optional Excursion

Versailles Palace & Gardens

\$125/pp

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 will 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. Must book 45 days before departure.

Day 7: Free day in Paris

Included meals: Breakfast

Spend a full free day in Paris or add excursions. *(Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny may be offered on day 6, depending on the day of the week.)*

Optional Excursions

Dinner in Paris & Seine River Cruise **\$115/pp**

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. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$125).

Monet & the Landscapes of Giverny **\$85/pp**

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. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$95).

Amsterdam

Day 8: Travel to Amsterdam

Included meals: Breakfast

Take a high-speed train to Amsterdam. When you arrive, enjoy a free afternoon or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion

Canal Cruise & Dinner

\$115/pp

Cruise along the canals of Amsterdam on a houseboat, enjoying the view of row houses lit up for the night. Your cruise will take you through the center of the city as you enjoy dinner by lantern light. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$125).

Day 9: Sightseeing tour of Amsterdam**Included meals: Breakfast**

Today's panoramic sightseeing tour introduces you to Amsterdam's iconic canals and unique character. • Stroll by the canals and bridges, taking in the houseboats that dot the banks • View Dam Square, home of many landmarks including the neoclassical Royal Palace, the 15th-century New Church, and the National Monument • Pass the Anne Frank House, where the young diarist and her family hid during World War II • Enter the Van Gogh Museum to admire the largest collection of Vincent Van Gogh's masterpieces, including the famous *Sunflowers* Enjoy a free afternoon in Amsterdam or add an excursion.

Day 10: Free day in Amsterdam**Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

Spend a full free day in Amsterdam or add an excursion. Say goodbye to your group at a farewell dinner this evening.

Optional Excursion**A Day in Charming Delft \$105/pp**

Pay a visit to the world-famous flower market at Aalsmeer for a close-up look at one of Holland's best-known 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. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$115).

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.