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TAILOR MADE RAIL

## Grand Tour of Europe

From \$4,549 per person // 22 days



Have you ever wanted to cover Europe's must-visit destinations in one, unforgettable holiday? Visit Amsterdam, Paris, Barcelona, Nice, Rome, Venice, Lucerne, Berlin, Prague and Budapest in one essential European itinerary.

### The Essentials

- See many of Europe's main highlights in this 10-centre itinerary
- Travel by train from city centre to city centre
- Watch the contrasting scenery from your train window
- Experience a huge variety of culture, language and cuisine as you criss-cross the continent

### What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations
- 21 nights' handpicked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- City maps and comprehensive directions to your hotels
- Clearly-presented wallets for your rail tickets, hotel vouchers and other documentation
- All credit card surcharges and complimentary delivery of your travel documents

### Tailor make your holiday

- Add extra nights & destinations
- Choose alternative hotels
- Upgrade your journey to First Class
- Let us suggest the most scenic routes

## - Suggested Itinerary -



### Days 1 & 2 - Amsterdam

Canals, bikes and beautiful museums are just some of the attractions that lie in wait at your first stop, the Dutch capital of Amsterdam. Take time to visit the Anne Frank House, the Rijksmuseum and the impressive Van Gogh Museum, and maybe hire a bike to fit right in with the locals. Your hotel in Amsterdam is the Hotel JL No. 76 (or similar), where you will have a 2-night stay.



### Days 3 & 4 - Paris

Leave the Netherlands on a high-speed Thalys train bound for Paris. You will call at the diamond capital, Antwerp and Brussels, the home of the European Commission. Speed through northern France at speeds approaching 300 kph before pulling into Paris in the early evening. Check in at the Mercure Montmartre Sacré-Coeur (or similar) for 2 nights. The City of Light, the City of Love, Paris is rightly one of the most visited cities anywhere in the world. Stroll along the River Seine, take a trip up the Eiffel Tower or sip coffee on the Champs-Élysées in view of the Arc de Triomphe for a true Parisian experience.



### Days 5 & 6 Barcelona

Travel from the French to the Catalan capital in just 6 hours 25 minutes. Watch the countryside change from arable land around Paris to the pine trees and olive groves of Provence, before heading through the Perthus Tunnel into Spanish Catalonia and through to mighty Barcelona. Host of the 1992 Olympic Games, Barcelona is a bustling port, cultural centre and vibrant city, whose museums, churches and architectural wonders like the Sagrada Família, are just some of the sights not to be missed. Your hotel for the next 2 nights is the Gran Torre Catalunya (or similar).



### Days 7 & 8 Nice

Heading back into France this morning, your TGV train deposits you in the town of Valence, where you change onto another high-speed French train that travels along the Mediterranean coastline, past the glamorous city of Cannes, into Nice. Here, you'll spend 2 nights at the Hotel Ellington (or similar). The capital of the Cote d'Azur, Nice has a glorious sandy beach on the Baie des Anges, serenaded by the famous, palm-tree-lined Promenade des Anglais. One particular highlight is Vieux Nice, the pretty old town area.



### Days 9 & 10 Venice

The journey from Nice to Milan is beautiful, heading along the Ligurian Coast, before continuing inland to Milan. Here, change platforms and catch a train on to Venice in time for an evening meal. Your hotel for the next 2 nights is the Hotel Bisanzio (or similar). Uniquely situated on islands in a lagoon, Venice is a city like no other. Everything travels by boat or on foot here, with dreamy canals, hidden gems and stunning open squares just waiting to be explored. Don't miss the fascinating Doge's Palace or the Peggy Guggenheim Museum.



### Days 11 & 12 - Rome

Heading back to Santa Lucia station today, board an excellent Italo train from Venice to Rome's Ostiense station, close to the Colosseum, by mid-afternoon. Check in for a 2 night stay at the Empire Palace Hotel (or similar). The Eternal City, Rome has a plethora of some of the world's top attractions. Choose from Roman history at the Colosseum or Forum Magnum, through to Ecclesiastical history at the Vatican City and St Peters Square, or the beautiful classical attractions of the Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps and the Borghese Gardens.



### Day 13 - Rome To Lucerne

Board a high-speed Frecciarossa (Red Arrow) train this morning to whisk you up the spine of Italy to Milan. From here, you'll continue onwards from there by Swiss train up through the Gotthard Pass high in the Alps (pictured), one of Europe's most scenic rail journeys. On arrival in Lucerne, it's just a short walk to the Hotel Waldstätterhof (or similar), where you have a 2-night stay.



### Day 14 - Lucerne

Right at the heart of Switzerland and situated on a spectacular lake, Lucerne is a feast for the eyes and the taste buds, as you sample the local specialities of fondue and raclette. Take time for a boat cruise on the lake, or photograph the famous covered bridge, the Kapellbrücke (pictured). You might also like to go and see the 'Lion of Lucerne', a famous monument hewn into a cliff face which honours the Swiss Guards who were massacred during the French Revolution.



### Day 15 & 16 - Berlin

A sleek German ICE train awaits today, to escort you out of Switzerland and through the bulk of Germany, delivering you seamlessly into the German capital in time for dinner. Stay 3 nights in the Park Plaza Wall Street (or similar). Celebrating more than 25 years since the Fall of the Berlin Wall, this cosmopolitan city is one of Europe's true highlights. Museums, parks, wide boulevards and bohemian inner suburbs all contribute to a city destination which has it all, and which you won't want to leave.



### Days 18 & 19 - Prague

Today's journey takes you across the former East Germany through Dresden, the "Florence of the Elbe". Some beautiful riverside scenery is there to be enjoyed once you cross through "Saxon Switzerland" and into the Czech Republic near Usti nad Labem. Check in for 2 nights at the Hotel Botanique (or similar). The Old Town, historic hilltop castle and Charles Bridge are the main highlights of the Czech Capital, not forgetting the famous Wenceslas Square and Astronomical Clock.



### Days 20 & 21 - Budapest

Make your way on a direct service from Prague, through the wooded hills of Moravia and eventually into Hungary in the afternoon. Arrive into Budapest in the early evening and check into the Adina Apartment Hotel (or similar) for a 2-night stay. With its iconic parliament building on the banks of the Danube, this iconic European capital is one of Europe's most revered. Take in Heroes' Square, the boutiques of Andrássy utca and the panoramic views from the Gellert Hill.



### Day 22 - Depart Budapest

Your tour ends today in the Hungarian capital, where you can transfer to the airport for your onward journey. Alternatively we can extend your European tour. Why not visit imperial Vienna or head down to the Croatian coast? The choices are endless! Call us for more inspiration.

## Pricing

From \$4,549 per person

Low season (November to March) from \$4,549 pp

High season (April to October) from \$5,299pp

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. It is based on the best fares on the trains. If you travel during a peak period, particularly at short notice, then supplements may apply.