Amsterdam & Paris

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS- GROUP TRAVEL SUGGESTED ITINERARY-CAN BE CUSTOMIZED

This vacation itinerary allows your group to experience two distinctly different European capital cities and their respective charms. The Netherlands welcomes visitors with picturesque canals, colorful flower markets and a laidback atmosphere. Its history centers on the merchants and fishermen who leveraged the city's location and waterways. Often referred to as "The City of Light," Paris is an energetic, cosmopolitan capital city that somehow maintains a provincial ambience in some of its loveliest neighborhoods. It is the city of fashion, Napoleon's tomb and 3rd century Roman baths. In Paris one can discover the Moulin Rouge, neighborhood cafes once frequented by some of the world's best writers, incredible art collections - and food markets playing host to daily shoppers and local vendors selling everything from oysters to Camembert cheese.



DAY I ~ ARRIVE AMSTERDAM

Arrive in Amsterdam, the capital of the Netherlands.

After exiting customs, meet your local assistant in the terminal's arrivals hall. Your group will then travel by private bus to the hotel. Even though your group will arrive before the hotel's check-in time, feel free to store your luggage with the reception staff. There will be free time until this evening to begin exploring Amsterdam. Consider visiting one of its excellent museums like the Rijksmuseum or the Van Gogh Museum. Tonight join your fellow group members for a welcome dinner of Dutch specialties in the hotel's restaurant.



DAY 2 ~ AMSTERDAM

After breakfast in the hotel, your group will meet a local guide in the lobby for an

exciting tour of this scenic city.

Approximately 800 years ago, the Amstel River was dammed, giving the town its name. Where medieval fishing boats once docked, your group will see 17th century houses, street performers and some of the city's most luxurious stores. Here in Dam

Square lies the historic heart of Amsterdam. See the Royal Palace, which was originally constructed as the Town Hall. Pass the Mint Tower, with its clock and bells that still seem to echo Amsterdam's Golden Age. Also of particular interest is the 16th-century Weeping Tower, which according to legend derived its name from the sailors' wives who used to bid their husbands an emotional farewell from here.

You'll then pass the Floating Flower Market on Singel Canal, which is a stunning mass of flowers strung along the canal on permanently-moored barges. After free time for lunch, proceed to the Anne Frank House, where eight people from three separate families lived together in near total silence for more than 2 years during World War II. It was here that Anne wrote her famous diary as a way to deal with the boredom and her youthful jumble of thoughts, which had as much to do with personal relationships as with the war and the Nazi terror raging outside her hiding place. The tour will finish in the city center, and the rest of the day is free to shop, to wander alongside Amsterdam's canals and to sample more of this country's cuisine.



INCLUSIONS

- 4 nights in Amsterdam
- 3 nights in Paris
- Breakfast daily
- Lunch and dinner per itinerary
- Ground transport via air conditioned luxury coach
- English speaking assistant and guides
- Admission tickets as outlined in itinerary

HIGHLIGHTS

- Guided city tour of
 Amsterdam
- Tour Keukenhof Gardens' 79 acres of tulips, daffodils and hyacinths in Lisse
- Guided tour of the remarkable Anne Frank House
- Guided city tours of the Louvre Museum and the Palace of Versailles
- Walking tour in Paris' historic Latin Quarter
- Seine River sightseeing cruise
- Admission inside the Eiffel Tower or the Montparnasse Tower







DAY 3 ~ AMSTERDAM

After breakfast in the hotel your group will depart on a full-day excursion of

windmills and tulips. The first stop today will be in Zaanse Schans, a neighborhood in the town of Zaandam, to admire its collection of historic windmills and its traditional craft shops. Afterwards, travel south to the lovely city Haarlem, where you will have free time for lunch. The continue traveling south to the city of Lisse to tour the legendary Keukenhof Gardens where vast numbers of tulips, daffodils and hyacinths create dazzling patches of color. Blooms here - at their peak- have a short but glorious season. The park is said to be the greatest flower show on earth, and it's Holland's annual spring gift to the world. The tour will finish up in the afternoon at the hotel in Amsterdam. Enjoy an evening at leisure.



DAY 4 ~ AMSTERDAM

This morning is free to relax, sleep in, shop or sightsee. Lunch is on your

own. This afternoon's guided tour will consist of a fun boat tour of Amsterdam. This is undoubtedly the best way to appreciate this city of canals. Afterwards, your group will undergo the Heineken Experience, a self-guided tour at its former brewery. Learn all about one of the Netherlands' best exports. Afterwards your group will go straight to a local restaurant for a farewell-to-The-Netherlands dinner. After dinner group members can walk back to the hotel or stay in the center.



DAY 5 ~ PARIS

After breakfast and checkout, transfer by private bus to the station. Travel first

class by train to Paris, France's fashionable, dynamic – and very historic capital city.

Upon arrival a local guide will meet your group on the platform and will lead it on a panoramic city tour of Paris' best attractions by private bus en route to the hotel. See the Arc de Triomphe, the Champs-Elysées, Notre Dame, the Hôtel Invalides, the Louvre and the River Seine. During the tour your group will also ascend either the Eiffel Tower or the Montparnasse Tower (admission included) to appreciate the spectacular view of Paris in all her glory. The tour will finish at the hotel. After check-in and time to freshen up, walk to a nearby local restaurant for a Parisian group dinner.



DAY 6 ~ PARIS

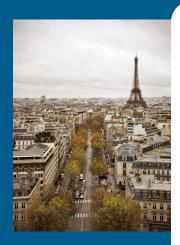
After breakfast in the hotel, meet a local guide in the lobby for a guided tour of

the world renowned Louvre Museum, the most visited museum in the world. See Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa, the Nike of Samothrace and Jacques-Louis David's The Coronation of Napoleon as well as works by Titian, Raphael, Rembrandt, Caravaggio and many more. After the museum visit, your group will be dropped off in the Latin Quarter. After time for lunch on own, enjoy a 90-minute walking tour of the historic heart of Paris. Here in the 5th arrondissement, this Parisian neighborhood was happening during the Roman times on through the Middle Ages right up to the present. See the Boulevard St-Michel, the Sorbonne, the Caveau de la Huchette jazz club, the very narrow Rue du Chat-qui-Pêche and the Church of St-Étienne-du-Mont. Once the walking tour has finished, your group will be dropped back at the hotel. The evening is free to enjoy Paris.



DAY 7 ~ PARIS

After breakfast in the hotel, your group will travel to the Palace of Versailles for a



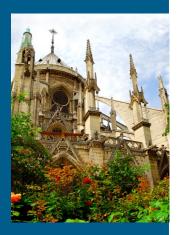
Why Should You
Encourage Your
Travel Agent to
Book Your Group
Through Us?

Ease of Use

Experience

Flexibility

Peace of Mind



half-day excursion. Constructed primarily in the 17th century, this magnificent royal palace was home to Marie Antoinette and Louis XIV (the Sun King). Your group will tour the chateau including the Grands Appartements, the Chapel and the Hall of Mirrors. Afterwards, there will be time to explore the palace's superb gardens before returning to Paris. The afternoon is free. All group members should be back in the hotel by the early evening for a sightseeing cruise on the River Seine. After embarking at the base of the Eiffel Tower, see the Cathedral of Notre Dame, Ile de la Cite and the river's beautiful bridges. Once the cruise has finished, proceed (by private bus) to a local restaurant for a farewell dinner.



DAY 8 ~ PARIS

After breakfast and checkout, your group will travel to the airport for its return flight

to the US.

WHY TRAVEL WITH US?

Whether it is taking a family trip to Paris, an educational group to Barcelona, or a church group to Rome we can build an affordable, European trip tailored to your interests. From single city itineraries to multiple cities and countries, your travel agent will work with us to create custom tours for groups of 10 to 500 people.

We Make It Easy - We provide a quick turnaround on custom quotes. Multi-city and multi-country itineraries are our specialty. In addition, we can help organize signup deadlines, travel documents and payments.

Experience - Europe Express has managed over 6,000 custom group trips since 1990. We provide expert guides and high quality travel products.

Flexibility - We work with your travel agent to create a tailor-made trip to accommodate your interests, booking whatever combination of travel services fit your plans and budget, including airfare, hotels, rail, transfers, sightseeing and more.

Peace of Mind - Dedicated local ground support means that there is always someone available to help you. Relax knowing that your trip is backed by our commitment to offer world-class quality of service.

Contact your travel agent today for a customized itinerary and group quote!



For information and reservations, please see your professional travel agent