

## Amazing European Cities

You only live once, so get ready for this exciting tour. There's a lot of beauty, history, culture and awesome sights on this Europe tour! Highlights include Paris, Amsterdam, Brussel, Luxemburg, and Cologne. Enjoy a scenic drive through the green fields of the Netherlands, see the world-famous gallery in Paris, enjoy a boat trip on the canals in Amsterdam, discover the incredible Grand Place in Brussel!

### Day 1:

Upon arrival you will be picked up at the airport and transferred to your hotel. After a short rest your guide will take you for a walk in the centre of Amsterdam. This tour takes you past some of the main city-center points of interest in the Nieuwe Zijde (New Side). It sidesteps into the Oude Zijde (Old Side), the oldest part of town, the first part of which, around the university, is a place of tranquil canals, and then weaves through the Red Light District. You might be surprised to discover that this sex-for-sale zone occupies a handsome area of 16th-century canals and gabled houses and that "ordinary" people still live here and go on with the daily business of life - as you'll observe if you take your eyes for a moment off the barely-clad women behind the red-lit windows.

We also enjoy the wonderful attraction of Amsterdam – a boat on the world-famous canals.

After the tour an excellent dinner in the heart of Amsterdam



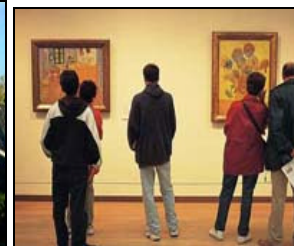
### Day 2:

In the morning we visit Zaanse Schans. This is a delightful old hamlet on the banks of the river Zaan with characteristic green wooden houses, charming stylized gardens, small hump-backed bridges, tradesmen's workshops, historic windmills and engaging little shops. This enchanting hamlet gives an excellent impression of how a typical Zaanse village must have looked like in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

From here we go back by bus to Amsterdam. Lunchboxes are served during the transfer. In the afternoon we're going to visit the Van Gogh museum, home of the biggest collection of art, made by this famous Dutch painter between 1882 and 1890. Dinner in the heart of Amsterdam.



Zaanse Schans



Van Gogh museum

**Day 3:**

After breakfast we're going to Brussels along the picturesque landscape: green fields, grazing cows, tens of beautiful rivers and charming villages and small towns. We eat lunch upon arrival to Brussels and then start our fascinating afternoon in this beautiful city. The tour starts with a short walk to the famous GRAND'PLACE where you learn about the history of the remarkable city hall and quaint guild houses. Then it continues to the beautiful St. Michael's cathedral, the Congress column and the Heysel district with the world-famous Atomium. We can't miss at the sight of the Chinese Pavilion and the Japanese Tower. Passing the Royal Residence our bus returns into the city center so that we can see the Sablon district with countless antique dealer shops.

After a tea/coffee we continue to see the magnificent Palace of Justice and the fashionable Louise Square. Passing the stately Royal Square, the Royal Palace and the Houses of Parliament we arrive in the Cinquantenaire district and the Triumph Arch. The splendid Art Nouveau houses are the highlights of this part of Brussels.

Here, we are also at the very heart of the European Union: we drive in front of the imposing EU buildings housing the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers. After this impressive tour we're heading further south to Paris. Dinner en-route.



Grand Place



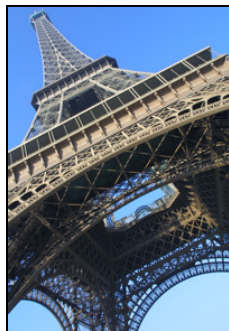
Atomium

**Day 4:**

We get up a little later today as we got late to Paris the night before. After breakfast we get a guided tour of Paris and its beautiful sights. Of course we cannot miss Notre Dame Cathedral, Centre Pompidou, Sacre-Coeur, Montmartre or Arc de Triomphe. Lunch is served in the heart of Paris.

The afternoon is absolutely unforgettable – we're going up the Eiffel Tower to enjoy one of the most beautiful sights in Europe. This is one of the world's most recognizable monuments (and the best-known monument in all of Europe), and it is breathtaking to behold. We're going to take the lift for a view of the city. This attraction alone drew 6.2 million visitors in 2002, according to Paris Office of Tourism statistics.

An incredible day.



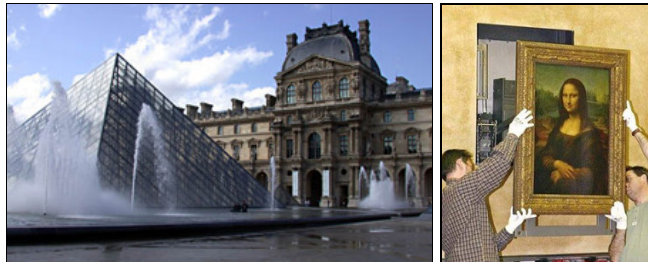
Eiffel Tower



Arch of Triumph

**Day 5:**

After breakfast we're heading straight to Louvre. Arguably the world's most famous art museum, the Louvre's most popular piece is Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa." It was established in 1793, and is one of the oldest museums in Europe. Its collections spans from the birth of great civilizations up to the 19th century. A whopping 5.7 million tourists visited the museum in 2002. Lunch is served in the heart of Paris. Afterwards you get free time to check out the fantastic shops on Les Champs-Elysees. In the late afternoon we drive to Luxemburg. Dinner en-route. Overnight in Luxemburg.



Louvre

**Day 6:**

We wake up to see a completely different view from the busy Paris. Luxemburg has a wealth of verdant landscapes crisscrossed by rivers and dotted with the sort of rural hamlets that most people associate with fairy tales. Our day begins with visiting the most beautiful building around. The magnificent Château de Bourscheid is a 1000-year-old castle superbly situated on a rocky bluff overlooking farmland and the Sûre River. It's one of the most beautiful castles in the Grand Duchy and, indeed, affords the best views. Lunch back in town. Shortly afterwards, a tour of the city, during which we'll come across the most relevant attractions of cosmopolitan Luxembourg, such as the fortress works, the cultural facilities or else the most momentous monuments.



Delicious dinner followed by overnight in Luxemburg.

### Day 7

The day starts with a 3-hour transfer to the city of Cologne in Germany.

Upon arrival we visit the world-famous Cologne Cathedral. The cathedral always forms the starting point for the circular tour through medieval Cologne. Before we go further, we stop for a well deserved lunch. Afterwards we continue our tour of the beautiful city and later in the afternoon board on a boat on Rhine to get an impression of Cologne from the water.

Before dinner you have some time to yourself to look around the local shops. Dinner and overnight in Cologne.



Boat cruise on Rhine



Cologne cathedral

### Day 8:

After breakfast we go by bus to Amsterdam airport. Here we still have some time for shopping – and this is great at Schiphol!

#### Included:

- 7 overnights in hotel\*\*\*\*
- Breakfasts, lunches, dinners
- Non-stop professional Chinese guide
- All transfers in luxurious coach (A/C, toilet, DVD, minibar)
- Tour of Amsterdam, Paris, Brussels, Luxemburg, Cologne
- Boat trip on Amsterdam canals
- Mill / wooden shoes / cheese – Zaanse Schans
- Tour of Van Gogh Museum
- Admission Eiffel Tower
- Tour of Louvre
- Tour of Château de Bourscheid
- Boat trip on Rhine river in Cologne

#### Excluded:

- travel insurance
- drinks with meals
- tips
- personal expenses