



# THE TRAVEL CLUB

## Pre-Departure Itinerary

### London, Paris & Amsterdam

Sunday, October 17 – Wednesday, October 27, 2010

Let the great capital cities of Europe envelop you in their charms as you enjoy The Travel Club's fall getaway to **London, Paris and Amsterdam**. You'll start your 11-day trip in merry old England, where you'll have time to explore London Town and all its timeless landmarks- **Big Ben, Parliament, Hyde Park** and **St James's Palace**- and enjoy optional side-trips to **Windsor Castle**, mysterious **Stonehenge** or to the top of the massive **London Eye** ferris wheel. The high speed **Eurostar train** then whisks you to Paris for two days of touring the **Eiffel Tower**, the **Champs-Elysees**, the **Louvre** and cafes in **Montmartre** frequented by Hemingway and Gertrude Stein, or optional excursions like a nighttime cruise on the Seine River or a jaunt to Monet's picturesque hometown of **Giverny**. From there, your vacation ends with three days in **Amsterdam**, where you can explore the city at your leisure, taking in art at the **Van Gogh Museum** or opt for an evening cruise on a canal boat. Don't miss this chance to sample the best these legendary cities have to offer.

#### Includes

- Round-trip regularly scheduled flights from Boston to London and Amsterdam to Boston
- High speed Eurostar train from London to Paris
- High speed Thalys train from Paris to Amsterdam
- Nine nights' three -star accommodations
- Twelve meals: nine breakfasts, three dinners with wine or beer
- Round-trip, airport/hotel transfers
- Sightseeing and touring
- Services of a bilingual Tour director

#### Rates

**\$2,849** per person double occupancy  
**\$3,504** single reservations  
Add \$178 taxes, fees, charges and surcharges.  
Passport required. Per person deposit is \$500

#### Features

Guided tours of London, Paris and Amsterdam,  
OPTIONALS: London: London Eye and Dinner, Windsor Castle half-day excursion, Stonehenge and Bath full-day excursion, Paris: Giverny half-day excursion, Evening Seine cruise and dinner, Amsterdam: Canal cruise and dinner, Delft and The Hague full-day excursion

## DAILY ITINERARY

### Day 1 – Overnight flight to London

Begin your vacation aboard an overnight flight to London.

### Day 2 – London

Arrive in regal London this morning. After clearing customs and collecting your bags, look for the the Sky Shuttle Transfer desk. They will be providing your transfer to your hotel. After check-in, you'll have the afternoon free to explore London at your leisure, including its wonderful array of relaxing parks and gardens. A welcome dinner is included this evening. (D)

### Day 3 – London

London's landmarks are timeless, and you'll see them all on this morning's guided sightseeing tour. View the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, Hyde Park and St. James's Palace. This afternoon, opt for a visit to Windsor Castle, originally built by William the Conqueror in the 11th century. Later, soar 450 feet above the River Thames on an optional evening ride on the London Eye to view the bright lights of London. The excursion also includes dinner after the ride. (B)

### Optional Tour: London Eye and Dinner - \$115

Experience one of Britain's newest attractions, the London Eye Ferris wheel! The world's highest observation wheel, the London Eye lifts its passengers 450 feet above the River Thames. In clear weather, you can see for 25 miles! After your ride, continue on to a nearby restaurant for an included dinner.

**Optional Tour: Windsor Castle - \$85**

Travel to Windsor for a guided visit to the world's largest inhabited castle. Founded by William the Conqueror in 1070, Windsor has been the preferred royal retreat for the past 900 years and is still in use by the Royal Family.

**Please note: Windsor Castle is occasionally closed when in use by the Royal Family; a visit to Hampton Court will be substituted when necessary.**

**Day 4 – London**

With a free day in London, soak in history at the celebrated British Museum, or take an afternoon walk in Covent Garden, showcased in *My Fair Lady*. Or venture into the British countryside on an optional excursion to Stonehenge and Bath. The latter was the beautiful 19th-century retreat of England's elite and retains its colorful Georgian architecture today. (B)

**Optional Tour: Stonehenge & Bath - \$115**

Visit Stonehenge, perhaps England's most mysterious landmark. The origin and purpose of this ring of stones, which dates from the Neolithic period (about 4,000 years ago), is unknown, though most believe it to have been a temple and observatory. Next stop is Bath, where your Tour Director shows you the town's major sights.

**Day 5 – Paris**

Transfer to St. Pancras train station, where you'll board the high-speed Eurostar train bound for Paris. After hotel check-in, you'll have the afternoon to sample Parisian markets, shops and cafés before tonight's included group dinner. (B, D)

**Day 6 – Paris**

Delight in all the charms of Paris this morning, as an expert local guide leads a sightseeing tour, giving you a panoramic view of the City of Light. You'll see the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, the Opera House, Les Invalides, and travel past the chic shops and boutiques of the Champs-Élysées. You'll also pass the spectacular cathedral of Notre Dame, whose massive interior can hold over 6,000 worshippers. This afternoon, continue discovering Paris on your own. You might visit its two most famous museums, the Louvre and the Musée d'Orsay. The latter is housed in a former railway station built in 1900, and today contains an extensive collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist work. Or join an optional excursion to Giverny (seasonal), home of artist Claude Monet, with its exquisite gardens. (B)

**Optional Tour: Giverny - \$85**

The Norman town of Giverny was home to Claude Monet from 1883 until his death in 1926. Absorb the intricate palette of colors that the "Father of Impressionism" so magically depicted in paintings such as the Water Lilies series as you stroll through Giverny's home and gardens.

**Please note:** This excursion is seasonal. A van Gogh and Auvers Sur Oise excursion may be offered in its place.

**Day 7 – Paris**

With a free day to immerse yourself in the Parisian *joie de vivre*, you might wish to frequent the same Montmartre streets and cafés as Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein and the rest of the "Lost Generation" of the 1920s. Also in Montmartre, climb the hill to the beautiful, stark white Sacré-Coeur, where part of the movie *Amélie* was filmed. Tonight's optional Evening in Paris features dinner at a local restaurant followed by a cruise on the Seine. (B)

**Optional Tour: Evening in Paris - \$99**

*The event begins with dinner at a favorite local restaurant. After you dine, board a boat cruise along the Seine, an unforgettable experience. Coast along the water and under the many famous bridges of the Seine and take in the gloriously illuminated monuments of Paris—including Notre Dame and the Eiffel Tower—an enchanting sight*

**Day 8 – Amsterdam**

Enjoy a ride on the Thalys high-speed train to Amsterdam. After check-in at your hotel, your tour director leads an afternoon tour of Amsterdam. View the magnificent houseboats and homes that dot the canal banks, along with the usual parade of bicyclists. Then, visit the Anne Frank House, where the young writer and her family hid from the Nazis for two years. You'll enter the annex where Anne lived and wrote. (B, D)

**Day 9 – Amsterdam**

Wander along the canals of Amsterdam with a free day to explore the Dutch capital on your own. The city is wonderfully small scale, ensuring you'll never venture too far off course. Your tour director will help you choose from a variety of possible activities this morning. This evening, experience a unique side of Amsterdam and join our optional canal cruise with dinner. (B)

**Optional Tour: Amsterdam Canal Cruise & Dinner - \$115**

*On this evening cruise, you'll experience charming Amsterdam by canal boat, passing through its more than 100 canals with views of its famous attractions.*

**Day 10 – Amsterdam**

During a second free day in Amsterdam, choose to sample van Gogh at the city's famous museum in his name, then compare his work with those of modern artists at the Stedelijk Museum. Or opt to visit The Hague, seat of the Dutch Parliament, and the town of Delft, famous for its blue pottery. The excursion also includes visits to a flower market, a porcelain factory and a Dutch art museum. (B)

**Optional Tour Delft & The Hague-\$99**

Your first stop on this excursion is a visit to a flower market for a close-up look at one of Holland's best-known national exports: its brilliantly hued tulips. Continue to Delft, a charming village of canals, cobbled alleyways and medieval architecture. Your final destination is The Hague, seat of the Dutch Parliament and home to Queen Beatrix.

**Day 11 – Amsterdam**

After hotel check-out, a representative escorts you to Amsterdam's airport for your flight home. (B)

**Proof of Citizenship** is required for all trips outside the United States. U.S. citizens require a valid Passport for travel with at least 6 months' validity. Passports are the responsibility of each traveler.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured. We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is not your final itinerary. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2–3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.