



# Great Escape



25 days - 11 countries

England-France-Belgium-Holland-Germany-Switzerland-Liechtenstein-Austria-Italy-Vatican City-Greece

\$3959 land only

### This land package includes:

- 22 nights at select tourist class hotel with private bath, per person/double occupancy
- 1 night ship from Italy to Greece (4 per cabin)
- Daily continental breakfast [B]
- 11 three-course specialty dinners [D] as indicated in the itinerary
- Private tour director for the entire tour
- ROMA Pass (full access to public transport system, reduced admission for more museum, music events, theatre, etc.)
- All scheduled sightseeing
- Guided tours in London, Paris, Rome, Florence, Pompeii & Athens
  - Paris Seine River Cruise
  - Amsterdam Canal Cruise
  - Rhine River Cruise
  - Admission to Colosseum & Forum in Rome as part of ROMA pass plus one museum of choice; Pompeii Excavations & Acropolis in Athens
- Intra-European transportation by air-conditioned motorcoach
- Airport/hotel transfers, if airfare is purchased through AESU
- All service charges and local taxes

*The perfect escape from everyday life. Capture all the flavor of European cities and countryside, then bask in the golden Grecian sun. From Paris "City of Lights" to Fitness & Fun stay at AESU's exclusive ALPINE CENTER. Spectacular sights and sounds abound.*



2010 Land Prices  
\$3,959 per person/double occupancy

Aifare & Taxes not included

### Bonus Highlights

Welcome Orientation \* English Channel Crossing \* French Bistro Dinner \* Paris by Night \* Seine River Boat Cruise \* Brussels Grand' Place \* Dutch Ricetable Dinner \* Amsterdam Canal Boat Ride \* Edam Cheese Farm \* Bicycling in Windmill Country \* Cologne Gothic Cathedral \* Rhine River Cruise \* Traditional German Dinner \* Heidelberg Castle \* Hansel & Gretel's Black Forest \* Roaring Rhine Falls \* Munich Glockenspiel \* Salzburg Mozart Sights \* AESU's ALPINE CENTER \* Murano Glass-blowing Workshop \* Florentine Leather Workshop \* Lavish Roman Banquet \* ROMA Pass \* Rome's Trevi Fountain & Ancient Illuminated Ruins \* Vatican City \* Pompeii Volcano Excavations \* Overnight Ship to Greece \* Farewell Toga Party \* Athens Acropolis and Famous Plaka District ...AND MUCH MORE!



For more information, please contact:

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## Great Escape- Day-By-Day Itinerary

### DAY 1 TRAVEL TO LONDON

The Great Escape begins with an overnight flight to "Merry Old England." [In-flight Meals]

### DAY 2 LONDON

Free afternoon, followed by our welcome orientation, London Pub Crawl and dinner. [In-flight Meals, D]

### DAY 3 LONDON

Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, and Piccadilly Circus: these familiar names become familiar places on our morning tour. Afternoon at leisure, take in the city's monuments or embark on a Harrod's shopping spree. Why not attend a West End theater show tonight? [B]

### DAY 4 LONDON

Enjoy a day at leisure in London. Explore the British Museum, the National Gallery or the London Dungeons. After dusk, you may want to take in some Shakespeare at the Globe Theater. [B]

### DAY 5 LONDON \* ENGLISH CHANNEL \* PARIS

Travel to southeast England today and board our ship to the continent. Motor through northern France and arrive in Paris, "City of Lights." We'll dine together at our French Bistro Dinner, then enjoy our romantic Seine River Cruise. [B,D]

### DAY 6 & 7 PARIS \* *Optional Cabaret Show*

Morning tour of Paris, see the hunchback "Quasimodo's" Notre Dame Cathedral, Place de la Concorde, where the guillotine once stood, and the Eiffel Tower's steel lacework. Free time in the afternoon – visit Mona Lisa at the Louvre Museum, or shop the chic boutiques of Paris. Optional Cabaret Show tonight. Enjoy the next day at leisure, browsing at left bank bookstalls or sampling sinful pastries. [B,B]

### DAY 8 PARIS \* BRUSSELS \* AMSTERDAM

Motor to Belgium and Brussels, and see the Grand' Place, a perfect medieval square and the statue of naughty Mennekin-Pis. Continue to Amsterdam and enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure. [B]

### DAY 9 DUTCH COUNTRYSIDE

Go biking through 13th-century Dutch fishing villages along the IJssel Lake beaches today, watch wooden shoes being carved and sample Edam cheese at a cheese farm. Free time this afternoon in Amsterdam to tour the Van Gogh or Rijksmuseum, or visit Anne Frank's house. This evening we invite you on a boat cruise on the canals of Amsterdam followed by our Dutch-Indonesian "Rice Table" dinner. [B,D]

### DAY 10 COLOGNE \* RHINE RIVER CRUISE \* HEIDELBERG

Cross the German border into Cologne, famous for the world's largest Gothic cathedral. Embark on a cruise along the fabled Rhine River, passing ancient castles, and the legendary Lorelei Rock.

Continue to Heidelberg, the "City of the Student Prince" and climb to the ruins of the Castle of the Palatine Elector for a bird's-eye view of the city and the Neckar River; later we'll dine on traditional German fare. [B,D]

### DAY 11 BLACK FOREST \* RHINE FALLS \* SWISS ALPS

Journey south into the mysterious Black Forest. Stop deep in the forest, with free time to watch cuckoo clocks being made, enjoy lunch or try some delicious Black Forest Cake. The Rhine Falls, Europe's largest waterfalls, come into view as we cross the Swiss border. Our route through Zurich brings us to William Tell Country and the world-famous resort areas surrounding Lucerne. [B]

### DAY 12 LUCERNE AREA \* *Optional Swiss Folklore Party & Dinner*

Roam the picturesque old town of Lucerne this morning and catch up on your Swiss watch and chocolate shopping. In the afternoon consider taking an excursion up on one of the highest mountains in central Switzerland to enjoy panoramic Alpine views. Consider joining our optional Swiss Folklore party dinner tonight. [B]

### DAY 13 LUCERNE \* LIECHTENSTEIN \* MUNICH

Drive to the tiny Principality of Liechtenstein, then on to the fun-filled Oktoberfest city of Munich. After our authentic Bavarian dinner check out the oom-pah-pah bands at the famous Hofbräuhaus. [B,D]

### DAY 14 MUNICH \* ALPINE CENTER

This morning, we continue to Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace. Explore the narrow streets lined with colorful wrought iron signs and shops before we continue our journey to Europe's largest alpine sports region. Be our pampered guest for two nights of fitness and fun while nestled in the snow-capped Austrian mountains at our Alpine Center. [B,D]

### DAY 15 ALPINE CENTER \* *Optional Horseback Riding and Whitewater Rafting*

All day today is at our leisure; go for a hike in the Alps, take a ride on horseback through alpine meadows or join the fun and excitement of whitewater rafting. [B]

### DAY 16 AUSTRIAN LAKE DISTRICT \* VENICE, ITALY

The picturesque landscape of the Austrian Lake District brings us to sunny Italy's Venice - "Sinking City in the Sea." Walk to St. Mark's Square, stop at a Murano glass-blowing workshop and watch famous Venetian glass being made. Consider a romantic gondola ride this evening gliding through the intricate maze of canals beneath arched bridges passing 12th and 18th-century marble palaces. [B]

### DAY 17 VENICE \* FLORENCE

Through the fertile Po Valley we approach Florence, Golden City of the Renaissance and birthplace of Michelangelo. Florence Art Tour

including the Gates of Paradise, the marble Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral and Giotto's bell tower. Visit the Florentine leather workshop before free time for shopping and museums. Dinner will be at an authentic Florentine trattoria. [B,D]

### DAY 18 FLORENCE \* ROME

Travel past Chianti vineyards along the Highway of the Sun to the Eternal City of Rome. After check-in we have time to relax or explore baroque Rome: Stop to toss three coins in Trevi Fountain, see the Pantheon and sample the famous 'gelati' ice cream at Piazza Navona. [B]

### DAY 19 ROME \* VATICAN CITY

Today's city tour takes us to the Colosseum, where gladiators were thrown to the lions, and the historical ruins of Caesar's Forum. Then on to Vatican City – the world's smallest state. Visit St. Peter's Basilica housing Michelangelo's magnificent "Pieta." Our dinner tonight is a mouth-watering Roman Banquet complete with Italian specialties. [B,D]

### DAY 20 ROME \* POMPEII \* OVERNIGHT SHIP TO GREECE

Motor through sunny olive groves lining the way south to Pompeii, the city buried in 79 A.D. by 20 feet of ashes and lava after Mt. Vesuvius' volcanic eruption. Afterwards we cross the Italian 'boot' and board our overnight ship to Greece. [B]

### DAY 21, 22, 23 GREEK ISLAND CENTER \* *Optional Kaiki Sailing Trip*

Cruising through aquamarine waters, our ship docks at Patras. Motor along the Corinthian Sea across the Peloponnese to Galatas and the island of Poros. Relax with three days of living like a Greek god - swim, sunbathe, or take part in optional activities such as waterskiing, wakeboarding, parasailing, banana-boating or tubing. We invite everyone to our Farewell Toga Party on the last night. [B,D], [B,D], [B,D]

### DAY 24 ATHENS

In the morning we board our ferry to Athens. See the 2,400-year-old Parthenon, the Temple of Olympian Zeus and Constitution Square. A free afternoon may find us wondering the paths of Plato, Socrates and Sophocles or trying our bargaining skills at the markets of Monastiraki. Enjoy a leisure evening in Athens or follow the sounds of traditional bouzouki music and join our optional Taverna Dinner in the Plaka District - Athen's oldest neighborhood at the foot of the Acropolis. [B]

### DAY 25 TRAVEL HOME

Reluctantly we say farewell to Europe and new-found friends. Jet back home with thoughts of planning the next European Adventure! [B, In-flight Meals]