

# ESSENTIAL EUROPE

GRADUATION TOUR 2021



MAY 14 - U.S. DEPARTURE DATE | MAY 15 - LONDON LAND TOUR START DATE

MAY 31 - ROME RETURN | JUNE 5 - ATHENS RETURN

BASE LAND PACKAGE FROM: \$4,175 | 5-DAY GREECE EXTENSION \$795



# START YOUR ADVENTURE.

Graduation is approaching!

Celebrate this milestone and significant achievement with the Ohio University Alumni Association's trip for graduating seniors, Essential Europe. It offers the chance to visit some of the Europe's must-see destinations with peers before settling down into a new job or graduate school.

Don't be left out - join other Ohio grads and tour Europe together! Visit London, Paris, Rome, Athens, and destinations in between. Experience amazing theater, see great works of art, walk through millennia-old landmarks, swim in the Mediterranean, and bask in the Grecian sun. It's all here in this 18-day, 8-country trip, with an optional 5-day extension to Greece.

Designed for new graduates of Ohio University, this extensive program represents great value.

It offers:

- The opportunity for fun, hassle-free travel with other graduates
- Insights into other people, places and cultures - a source of personal enrichment
- Experiences to broaden one's worldview and provide an advantage in today's global job market
- A vacation to remember and a reward for all of that hard work

Education is a lifelong process, and travel is a fantastic way to augment one's knowledge. The details about this fantastic European tour are included in this brochure. After reviewing the information, we hope you'll agree -- this exciting adventure is the perfect way to celebrate!

Cordially,

Your Ohio University Alumni Travel Team



## TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend travel insurance. (Some schools or alumni associations may offer travel insurance to you at a reduced rate.) If not, AESU also offers group travel insurance. Ask our reservations agent for details or click on this link:  
<https://www.tripassure.com/main/?welcome=AESU3922MD>

# ESSENTIAL EUROPE

18 DAYS | PLUS AN OPTIONAL 5-DAY EXTENSION TO SOUTHERN ITALY & GREECE



## COUNTRIES VISITED:

England - France - Belgium - Holland - Germany - Austria - Italy - Vatican City - plus Greece

## ABOUT THE TRIP:

Reward yourself for all your hard work with the ultimate escape. The Essential Europe grad trip offers 23 days of exploration, adventure, and insight into many of Europe's most popular and stunning countries. This tour provides something for everyone, from mingling with locals on the London pub crawl, and seeking adventure parasailing in the Greek isles to photographing the majesty of Il Duomo in Florence and dancing like Julie Andrews in the Austrian hills. The beauty of this journey is the balance of fun excursions, time at leisure and fascinating looks into history, architecture and breath-taking European landscapes. Unleash your inner adventurer, enjoy this well-rounded experience and make memories and new friends to last a lifetime.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED:

16 nights in superior tourist class hotels or better, 2-share rooms with private bath/shower \* All intra-Europe transportation by air-conditioned motor coach as per itinerary \* Eurostar train from London to Paris \* Airport transfers included with purchased AESU group airfare \* 16 continental breakfasts \* 7 three-course specialty dinners \* London welcome orientation and pub crawl \* 1-day group tube pass in London \* Guided tours in London, Paris, Florence and Rome, all led by local historians \* Seine River cruise in Paris \* Paris museum pass (includes access to over 70 museums and monuments in Paris including The Louvre, Musée Picasso and more) \* Travel cards with unlimited access to public transportation system in Paris, Amsterdam and Rome \* Biking in the Dutch countryside \* Amsterdam travel card with unlimited access to local transportation \* Visit to wooden shoe maker and Edam cheese farm \* Amsterdam canal cruise Rhine River cruise \* Medieval Rothenburg \* Heidelberg Castle \* Visit to salt mines \* Fragonard French perfume museum\* Murano glass blowing workshop and demonstration \* Roma pass \* Visit St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City

### The 5-day Southern Italy & Greece extension includes:

5 nights in superior tourist class hotels or better, 2-share rooms with private bath/shower - including overnight on ship from Italy to Greece (4-share cabins) \* 5 continental breakfasts \* 4 three-course specialty dinners \* Guided tours in Pompeii and Athens, led by local historians \* Visit and tour of the Pompeii archeological excavations \* Bike rental on the Isle of Poros \* Greek Island stay \* Toga party \* Admission to Acropolis



# ESSENTIAL EUROPE

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 - FLIGHT TO ENGLAND

Embark on your overnight flight to London.

Meals: In-flight

### DAY 2 - LAND TOUR START DAY: LONDON

Enjoy a free afternoon to relax and unwind. In the evening, we'll have our welcome orientation followed by a fun London pub crawl.

*Inclusions: Transfer from airport to hotel included with purchased AESU group airfare; Welcome orientation; Pub crawl*

Meals: In-flight

### DAY 3 - LONDON

Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, and Westminster Abbey: These familiar names become familiar places on our morning tour of London. During an afternoon at leisure, browse the many food, craft and clothing stalls at popular Camden Market, walk in the footsteps of Harry Potter at Leadenhall Market aka Diagon Alley, or take a ride on the London Eye for a birds-eye view of the city and the opportunity to take great photographs. After dusk, consider taking in some Shakespeare at the Globe Theater by the Thames River or attending a West End show.

*Inclusions: 1-day group tube pass; Tour of London guided by a local historian; Personal audio headset; See Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Tower Bridge and more*

Meals: Breakfast

### DAY 4 - LONDON - PARIS

Travel through the "Chunnel" below the English Channel to Paris. Our local historian shows us the Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral and Place de la Concorde, where the guillotine once stood. Tonight, dine on French specialties at our bistro dinner. Afterward, we take a romantic cruise down the river Seine.

*Inclusions: English Channel Eurostar train; Tour of Paris guided by a local historian; See the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, Place de la Concorde, Arc de Triomphe; Paris-by-night illuminations and more; French bistro dinner; Seine River cruise*

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### DAY 5 - PARIS

Enjoy a free day in Paris today. Join your tour director this morning on an optional visit to a French perfumery and museum. Afterwards consider visiting the Palace of Versailles, Louis XIV's residence. The included museum pass gives you access to the Hall of Mirrors and the King's Grand Chambers. Marvel at the sheer size of the palace, one of the most beautiful castles in the world with an astonishing 700 rooms. Later check out another one of the 70 museums and monuments included in your pass in and around Paris, such as the world famous Louvre, housing the Mona Lisa, Musée d'Orsay and Musée National Picasso. Your Paris travel card will provide unlimited public transportation throughout the city. This evening you may opt to see a can-can cabaret show at the world-famous Moulin Rouge.

*Inclusions: 24-hour Paris travel card with unlimited access to public transportation system; Paris museum pass*

Meals: Breakfast

*Optional activity: Optional visit to French perfumery & museum; French cabaret show*



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### DAY 6 - PARIS - BRUSSELS - AMSTERDAM

Motor to Belgium and stop in Brussels to see the Grand Place, a perfect medieval square, and the statue of naughty Manneken Pis. Continue to Amsterdam and enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure. Take advantage of your included 2-day Amsterdam travel card with unlimited access to local transportation.

*Inclusions: See Brussels' Grand Place, Manneken Pis and more; Amsterdam travel card*

*Meals: Breakfast*

### DAY 7 - AMSTERDAM

Today, we'll go biking through 13th-century Dutch fishing villages along the IJssel Lake beaches, watch wooden shoes being carved and sample Edam cheese at a cheese farm. Free time this afternoon in Amsterdam will allow time to tour the Van Gogh or Rijksmuseum, or visit Anne Frank's house. This evening we invite you to a scrumptious Dutch-Indonesian rice table dinner, a specialty in Holland as Indonesia was once a Dutch colony. Afterwards we admire the Netherlands' capital gliding through some of the 165 romantic canals aboard a glass-topped canal boat.

*Inclusions: Bike riding in the Dutch countryside; Visit to wooden shoe maker and Edam cheese farm; Dutch-Indonesian rice table dinner; Amsterdam canal cruise*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### DAY 8 - AMSTERDAM - COLOGNE - 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 steeply sloped vineyards, 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.

*Inclusions: See the Cologne Cathedral; Rhine River cruise; See Heidelberg Castle*

*Meals: Breakfast*

### DAY 9 - HEIDELBERG - ROTHENBURG - MUNICH

Germany's Romantic Road takes us to Rothenburg ob der Tauber. This medieval city is celebrated not only for its well-preserved gothic and baroque buildings and walls, but also for its unspoiled picturesque setting. Enjoy lunch at a local Gasthaus before continuing our journey to the fun-filled Oktoberfest city of Munich. Tonight you'll have a free evening to check out the oompah-pah bands at the famous Hofbräuhaus.

*Inclusions: Drive along Germany's Romantic Road; See Medieval Rothenburg; Gasthaus lunch; See the Oktoberfest city of Munich*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

### DAY 10 - MUNICH

This morning we visit Dachau Memorial site, established in 1965, twenty years after it was liberated by American forces. During afternoon free time, consider visiting the BMW museum, seeing the Glockenspiel Chimes at the Marienplatz, visiting the 1972 Olympic Village or shopping for Bavarian beer steins and lederhosen on Maximilianstrasse.





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Tonight, we'll dine on authentic Bavarian fare.

*Inclusions: Visit Dachau Memorial Site; See Munich's Glockenspiel chimes, Marienplatz and more; Traditional Bavarian dinner*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### DAY 11 - MUNICH - SALZBURG - AUSTRIAN ALPS

On our journey to Austria, we stop at a salt mine and enjoy a ride down slides, dressed in miner's clothing. Afterwards we continue to the city of Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace and site where the classic movie, "The Sound of Music" was filmed. 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.

*Inclusions: Visit to salt mines; See Europe's largest Alpine sports region; See Mozart's city of Salzburg; Hearty Austrian dinner*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### DAY 12 - AUSTRIAN ALPS

All day today is at our leisure; go for a hike in the Alps or join the fun and excitement of whitewater rafting. A hearty Austrian dinner awaits after all of today's activity.

*Inclusions: Hiking in the Austrian Alps; Alpine dinner*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

*Optional activity: Whitewater rafting*

### DAY 13 - AUSTRIAN ALPS - VENICE

The picturesque landscape of the Austrian Lake District makes way for sunny Italy's Venice—"The Sinking City in the Sea." Our private boat takes us to Murano Island, Venice's glassmaking center since the 13th-century, where we visit a workshop and watch famous Venetian glass being made. Back in Venice, we walk along the narrow maze of back streets and bridges that take us to St. Mark's Square with the Campanile, Doge's Palace and flocks of friendly pigeons. Consider a romantic gondola ride this evening gliding through the intricate maze of canals beneath arched bridges and passing by 12th and 18th-century marble palaces.

*Inclusions: See Venice's Doge Palace, St. Mark's Square and more; Private boat to Murano Island; Glass blowing workshop and demonstration*

*Meals: Breakfast*

*Optional activity: Gondola ride*

### DAY 14 - VENICE - FLORENCE

Through the fertile Po Valley we approach Florence, Golden City of the Renaissance and birthplace of Michelangelo. Our Florence art tour includes the Gates of Paradise, the marble Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral, and Giotto's bell tower. Afterwards enjoy free time for shopping and museums. Tonight, enjoy our dinner of traditional Florentine fare.

*Inclusions: See the Duomo, Ponte Vecchio, Giotto's Bell Tower and more; Tour of Florence guided by a local historian; Personal audio headset; Traditional Florentine dinner*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*



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### DAY 15 - FLORENCE

A free day to explore the Uffizi Gallery and see the collections of Giotto, Botticelli, Raphael and da Vinci. The Galleria dell'Accademia houses several sculptures by Michelangelo including his famous David (advance reservation required.) Opt to join us for time under the Tuscan sun starting with a picturesque drive through the vineyards of one of the best known wine growing areas, Chianti. Our excursion includes a tour of the winery and a tasting of a selection of local wines.

*Inclusions: Florence city sights*

*Meals: Breakfast*

*Optional activity: Chianti excursion*

### DAY 16 - FLORENCE - ROME - VATICAN CITY

This morning we continue our travels south to the capital of Italy. Get ready to soak up Rome's dolce vita lifestyle as we explore the city's picturesque streets and piazzas with our local historian. Ancient icons such as the Colosseum or Caesar's Roman Forum remind us of the city's golden age as the capital of the world. Vatican City with St. Peter's Basilica towering over the square, and colossal cathedrals throughout the city, tells stories of its history as seat of the Catholic Church. Use your included Roma pass to visit the Colosseum (reservations required) and take advantage of the included unlimited use of public transportation.

*Inclusions: Tour of Rome and Vatican City guided by a local historian; Personal audio headset; See Caesar's Forum, Circus Maximus, Pantheon and more; Visit St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City; Roma Pass entrance to Colosseum and Forum; Special access and discounts with 48-hour Roma pass; Unlimited access to local transportation with Roma pass*

*Meals: Breakfast*

### DAY 17 - ROME - VATICAN CITY

A free day in Rome may find you exploring Piazza Navona, climbing the famous Spanish Steps and tossing a coin into the Trevi Fountain to ensure your return to Rome. Try numerous flavors of the fabulous gelato ice cream or find yourself window-shopping on Via dei Condotti, one of Rome's fashionable shopping streets. This evening, we cross the Tiber River to Trastevere, one of Rome's oldest neighborhoods, for our fun Italian Pizza Party. Toppings range from a simple drizzle of olive oil, rosemary and salt, to mushrooms, prosciutto ham and artichokes. Buon appetito!

*Inclusions: See Piazza Navona, the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and more; Special access and discounts with 48-hour Roma pass; Unlimited access to local transportation with Roma pass; Pizza party in Trastevere*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### DAY 18 - ROME - TRAVEL HOME – or continue on to POMPEII - OVERNIGHT SHIP TO GREECE

For some of us the celebratory tour of Europe ends in Rome this morning. Bid farewell to friends and "arrivederci" to Italy before jetting back home with memories to last a lifetime. For the rest of us - sunny olive groves line the way south to Pompeii. Under the shadow of Vesuvius, the volcano that buried this ancient city in 79 A.D., explore the excavated wonders including homes, markets and temples that





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remain intact, and streets that still bear the marks of chariot wheels from 2,000 years ago. Afterwards, we cross the Italian “boot” and board our overnight ship to Greece.

*Inclusions: Transfer from hotel to airport included with purchased AESU group airfare; Tour of the Pompeii excavations guided by a local historian; Personal audio headset; Scenic overnight ship from Italy to Greece*  
Meals: Breakfast

### DAY 19 - ISLE OF POROS

After 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 and unwind with three days of living like a Greek god or goddess. Enjoy a welcome drink at the pool bar before exploring this idyllic island.

*Inclusions: Relaxing pool and beach time; Enjoy iconic Greek sunsets; Traditional Greek dinner*  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### DAY 20 - ISLE OF POROS

Today is free to enjoy at your leisure. Go for a swim, bask in the golden sun, or take part in optional watersports such as waterskiing, wakeboarding, parasailing, banana-boating or tubing. Dancing like Zorba at a local tavern is always a must-do evening activity.

*Inclusions: Explore the white-washed village center of Poros; Traditional Greek dinner; Beach and pool*  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner  
*Optional activity: Water sports*

### DAY 21 - ISLE OF POROS

Poros old town center has great shopping or the more adventurous can venture to the 6th-century BC ruins of Poseidon’s Temple on the island’s highest peak. Bicycles will be provided today, which offer an opportunity to further explore the island. Tonight, we invite everyone to our fun toga party.

*Inclusions: Bike rental on the Isle of Poros; Beach and pool; Greek BBQ dinner; Greek toga party*  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### DAY 22 - ISLE OF POROS - ATHENS

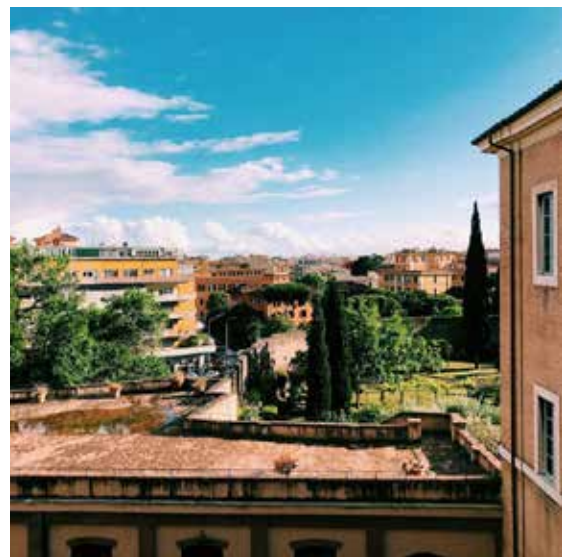
In the morning we board our ferry to Athens. See the 2,400-year-old Parthenon, the Temple of Olympian Zeus and Constitution Square. A free afternoon may find us wandering the paths of Plato, Socrates and Sophocles or trying our bargaining skills at the markets of Monastiraki. This evening follow the sounds of traditional bouzouki music and join our farewell taverna dinner in the Plaka District – Athens’ oldest neighborhood at the foot of the Acropolis.

*Inclusions: Tour of Athens guided by a local historian; Acropolis admission; Greek tavern farewell dinner; Greek music and dancing*  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### DAY 23 - TRAVEL HOME

Reluctantly we say farewell to Europe and new-found friends. Jet back home with thoughts of planning your next alumni adventure!

*Inclusions: Transfer from hotel to airport included with purchase of AESU group airfare*  
Meals: Breakfast, In-flight





# PROGRAM ACCOMMODATIONS

## HOTELS

Our hotels are superior tourist-class or better, with private bathrooms. They are centrally located or have easy access to public transportation. Many have great extra amenities such as pools, gyms and roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If a single room is desired, a supplement of \$985 for the 18-day or \$1,310 for the 23-day tour applies. (no single cabins on overnight ship.) If traveling solo and not wanting to pay the single supplement, AESU will arrange a share with a same-gender traveler.



## ACTIVITY LEVEL 3: ACTIVE

This trip features some long touring days, some full-day excursions and a full and active itinerary with a faster pace and longer distances. It offers more active options and activities with higher intensity. Excursions require standing and walking for extended periods of time over more difficult terrain (e.g. cobblestones, city hills, stairs without handrails, limited or no access to elevators, muddy/slippery walking/hiking trails), and walking to city centers where coaches are prohibited. This itinerary includes hiking and biking, use of local transportation and overnight ship travel (23-day tour only). Some early morning departures and later evening returns are scheduled. This tour offers active optional excursions (such as moderate hiking and aquatic activities).

Appropriate for travelers who are physically fit, lead active lives and are comfortable participating in long days of activities and are able to handle their own luggage.

Travel to and from the tour is not factored into our activity level ratings. You should take into account your stamina when traveling long distances and/or with multiple flight changes. Also, you must be able to handle your luggage independently throughout the itinerary.

## TOUR DIRECTORS

Your tour includes the services of a professional tour director throughout the land package. We are very proud of our tour directors. They are young professionals; multi-lingual and carefully selected graduates from major European universities. They are eager to show the world through the eyes of an adventurer. Our tour directors know this is a trip of a lifetime and will share their knowledge as well as interesting little-known facts. Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel.



**“ NOT ONLY WAS THIS AN AMAZING TRIP, IT WAS A WAKE UP CALL TO SEE THE WORLD. ”**

- past traveler

# BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

**EXCLUSIONS:** These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own.); airport and government taxes; tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested \$5 per day for tour director, \$2-3 per day for driver); beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise; laundry; personal insurance; room service; telephone charges; all items of a personal nature; airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates; private transportation; and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** All cancellations must be received by AESU in writing. All cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$300 per person cancellation fee. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. In addition to \$300, cancellation between 60-31 days of departure will result in forfeiture of 35% of tour cost; between 30-16 days 50%. Cancellation within 15 days of departure or a “no-show” at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip.

AIRFARES are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once reservation is booked and paid for AESU reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes are also subject to penalties. Medical health and accident insurance is compulsory. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO CANCELLATION POLICIES LISTED ABOVE DEPENDING ON TRIP DESTINATION.

**AIRPORT TRANSFERS & BAGGAGE:** All participants using AESU flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. Land-Only participants (providing own flight overseas) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 3:00 p.m. on program start date. FLIGHT DELAYS - ALL AIRPORTS: In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.) AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. If you purchase your own airfare, book your overnight flight from the USA one day earlier than the tour start date listed on our website. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Check your airline’s website for any additional luggage restrictions. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The responsibility of AESU as a tour operator, their agents, and any sponsoring association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, epidemic health risk, any force majeure event, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/ herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond AESU’s control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. Trip cancellation insurance should be purchased by the individual traveler in the event cancellation of the tour is compelled by circumstances beyond our control. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, AESU liability shall be limited to a FULL REFUND of all payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. Baggage and personal injury are at owner’s risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. AESU reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed, even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our web site at [www.aesu.com](http://www.aesu.com).