

**UConn**  
ALUMNI

# CLASSIC EUROPE

2025 GRADUATION TOUR



US DEPARTURE DATE: **MAY 20, 2025**

LAND TOUR START DATE: **MAY 21, 2025**

ROME RETURN DATE: **MAY 31, 2025**

ATHENS RETURN DATE: **JUNE 5, 2025**

**LAND PACKAGE FROM: \$4,285**

Visit our website [www.aesu.com/uconn-gradtrip](http://www.aesu.com/uconn-gradtrip) for more details and to book.

# START YOUR ADVENTURE

Dear Seniors,

## **Congratulations on your upcoming graduation!**

As you embark on a new journey, the UConn Foundation Office of Alumni Relations invites you to participate in our annual celebratory graduation tour, Classic Europe, especially designed for you and your friends.

The 12-day, 5-country trip, with an optional 5-day extension to Southern Italy & Greece, includes all of Europe's 'must-see' sites, such as Big Ben, the Eiffel Tower, and the Parthenon. Past travelers have commented "This trip was amazing – I saw the most beautiful sites," and "Thank you for a great summer. Not only was this a vacation, it was a wake-up call for me to see the world!"

On the Classic Europe tour, you will visit exciting destinations, learn more about our world, relax and unwind, and celebrate your accomplishments at UConn.

We are proud to welcome you to our growing family of more than 280,000 alumni worldwide. As you make the transition from student to alum, remember that the UConn Foundation Office of Alumni Relations is here to help you stay connected.

In UConn Spirit,

*Marinda Reynolds*

Marinda Reynolds  
Senior Associate Vice President for Stakeholder Engagement  
UConn Office of Alumni Relations  
2384 Alumni Drive, Unit 3053  
Storrs, CT 06269  
1.888.822.5861

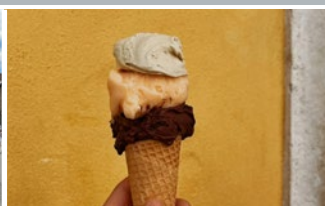
Travel insurance is compulsory. Some schools or alumni associations may offer travel insurance to you at a reduced rate. If not, AESU also offers group travel insurance. Ask our reservations agent for details or visit this link: <https://www.generalitravelinsurance.com/get-a-quote.html?partner=AESU3922>

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

”

FORMER GRAD TRIP TRAVELER



# CLASSIC EUROPE

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

## COUNTRIES VISITED



ENGLAND

FRANCE

ITALY

VATICAN CITY

GREECE

## PROGRAM ACCOMMODATIONS

This trip has been carefully designed to feature these fantastic inclusions and highlights:



For a glossary of these experiences, visit:  
[www.aesu.com/aspects-awt](http://www.aesu.com/aspects-awt)



## ACTIVITY LEVEL: RELAXED

For more details, please visit:  
<https://www.aesu.com/activity-levels-awt/>

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

### 12-Day Land Package Transportation and Lodging

- 10 nights in superior tourist class hotels or better, 2-share rooms with private bath/shower
- Intra-Europe transportation by air-conditioned motor coach as per itinerary
- Eurostar train from London to Paris
- High speed TGV train from Paris to Southern France

### Meals

- 14 meals: 10 continental breakfasts, 4 three-course specialty dinners

### Activities & Admissions

- London welcome orientation and pub crawl
- 1-day group tube pass in London
- Guided tours in London, Paris, and Rome, all led by local experts
- Seine River cruise in Paris
- Paris travel card with unlimited access to public transportation system
- The beaches of the French Riviera
- Tuscan experience
- Chianti wine tasting
- Roma Pass (Book early to secure your spot. Spaces may not be available on short notice.)
- See St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City

### 5-Day Optional Extension Transportation and Lodging

- 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)
- All intra-Europe transportation by air-conditioned motor coach and overnight ship as per itinerary

### Meals

- 8 meals: 5 continental breakfasts, 3 three-course specialty dinners

### Activities & Admissions

- Guided tours in Pompeii and Athens, led by local experts
- Admission to Pompeii archeological site
- Bike rental on the Isle of Poros
- Greek Island stay
- Toga party
- Admission to Acropolis

### Optional Excursions

(not included in land package price):

- Paris, France: Fragonard French Perfume Museum visit, French cabaret show
- French Riviera: Excursion to Monte Carlo & Cannes (not during Grand Prix)
- Poros, Greece - Watersports (17-day tour only)





# CLASSIC EUROPE ITINERARY

## About the Trip!

Celebrate your recent graduation with the ultimate European getaway. The Classic Europe grad trip spans 17 unforgettable days, filled with adventure, culture, and exploration in some of Europe's most sought-after destinations.

From mingling with locals during a London pub crawl to embarking on thrilling adventures in the Greek isles, capturing the grandeur of the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, and delving into history at the Roman Forum and the 2000-year-old Parthenon in Athens, this journey is the perfect blend of excitement, leisure, and cultural immersion.

Rediscover your inner adventurer, create memories, and forge lifelong friendships on this epic European journey.

- **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, meet fellow travelers and your tour director at our welcome orientation followed by a fun London pub crawl.  
**Meals:** In-flight  
**Inclusions:** Transfer from airport to hotel included with purchased AESU group airfare | Welcome orientation | Welcome cocktail | Pub crawl
- **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.  
**Meals:** Breakfast  
**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
- **DAY 4 LONDON - PARIS**  
Travel through the "Chunnel" below the English Channel to Paris. Our local expert 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.  
**Meals:** Breakfast | Dinner  
**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 and more, See Paris-by-night illuminations, French bistro dinner, Seine River cruise

**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 with the stunning Hall of Mirrors, the world-famous Louvre, housing the Mona Lisa, Musée d'Orsay, or the Musée National Picasso. Your Paris travel card will provide unlimited public transportation throughout the city (zones 1-3.) This evening you may opt to see a can-can cabaret show at the world-famous Moulin Rouge.

**Meals:** Breakfast

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

**Optional activity:** Optional visit to French perfumery and museum | French cabaret show

**DAY 6**     **PARIS – FRENCH RIVIERA**

This morning, the TGV high-speed train takes us from Paris to Nice, queen resort of the Côte d'Azur. Enjoy your free afternoon on picturesque beaches along the Mediterranean coastline, stroll along promenades lined with chic boutiques, or unwind at a sidewalk café. The thriving local art scene and buzzing nightlife is yours to discover after tonight's brasserie dinner.

**Meals:** Breakfast | Dinner

**Inclusions:** High-speed train to Nice | See Promenade d'Anglais, Place Macena and more | French brasserie dinner

**DAY 7**     **FRENCH RIVIERA**

Enjoy a free day on the dazzling French Riviera. Relax on the beach, paddle in the azure sea, or sip on a smooth cocktail beneath swaying palms. Consider exploring Nice to visit the magnificent Palais Lascaris, the Cathédrale de Sainte Réparate and harbors filled with opulent yachts. Or you may opt to join our excursion to Monaco, where Prince Rainier married Hollywood actress Grace Kelly, and glitzy Cannes, known for its famous International Film Festival.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Inclusions:** See the French Riviera beaches & promenades

**Optional activity:** Excursion to Monte Carlo & Cannes (not offered during Grand Prix)

**DAY 8**     **FRENCH RIVIERA – PISA – TUSCANY**

Our journey takes us along the scenic Côte d'Azur's sun-splashed beaches. We cross the border into Italy and arrive in Pisa with its stunning Piazza dei Miracoli. Take time to admire the Baptistery, the Cathedral, and take selfies in front of the famous Leaning Tower. Now, immerse yourself in the magic of Tuscany. Travel along rolling hills of olive groves and vineyards crowned by castles and ancient abbeys. Renaissance culture is around every corner with hilltop towns unchanged from the Middle Ages. During free time this evening, relax at the hotel or explore the town with your travel companions.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Inclusions:** Private motor coach from the French Riviera to Tuscany | See the scenic Côte D'Azur | Visit to Pisa with its Leaning Tower

**DAY 9**     **TUSCANY**

Savor a day at leisure in the heart of Tuscany, where rolling vineyard-covered hills and picturesque countryside await your exploration. Spend your time meandering through the charming village and basking in the tranquil beauty of this iconic Italian region. Later, join us for a Chianti wine tasting and then savor regional dishes featuring produce and wines direct from the local farms. This region is also known for its fabulous farm-to-table agritourism.

**Meals:** Breakfast | Dinner

**Inclusions:** Chianti wine tasting | Tuscan experience | Tuscan dinner

## DAY 10 TUSCANY – 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 expert. 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, tell stories of its history as seat of the Catholic Church.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Inclusions:** Tour of Rome and Vatican City guided by a local expert | Personal audio headset | See the Colosseum, Circus Maximus, Pantheon, Vatican City with St. Peter's Basilica and more | Roma Pass with access to Caesar's Roman Forum and Palatine Hill | Unlimited access to local transportation

**Important information:** Most museums and sights, such as the Colosseum require advance reservations when using the pass. Book early to secure your spot. Spaces may not be available on short notice. The best day for museum visits is day 11 of your itinerary, the free day in Rome and Vatican City.

## DAY 11 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-dreaming 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!

**Meals:** Breakfast | Dinner

**Inclusions:** See Piazza Navona, the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and more | Unlimited access to local transportation | Pizza Party in Trastevere

## DAY 12 TRAVEL HOME – OR CONTINUE 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 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.

**Meals:** Breakfast

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

## DAY 13 ISLE OF POROS

After cruising through the enchanting aquamarine waters, our ship arrives in Patras. From there, we'll embark on a breathtaking journey along the stunning Corinthian Sea, ultimately arriving at Galatas and the charming island of Poros. Get ready to embrace three days of pure Greek god or goddess living. Start the adventure with a welcoming drink, then dive into exploring this idyllic island paradise. Tonight, prepare for a Greek culinary extravaganza at a charming local restaurant. Afterward, you might just find yourself dancing the night away, Zorba-style, at a lively local tavern.

**Meals:** Breakfast | Welcome cocktail | Dinner

**Inclusions:** Relaxing pool and beach time | Enjoy iconic Greek sunsets | Traditional Greek dinner at a local taverna

- DAY 14 DAY 14 – ISLE OF POROS**  
 Today is all about having fun on your own terms. Dive into the sparkling waters for a refreshing swim, soak up the glorious sunshine, or get your adrenaline pumping with optional watersports like waterskiing, wakeboarding, parasailing, banana-boating, or tubing.  
**Meals:** Breakfast  
**Inclusions:** Explore the white-washed village center of Poros | Beach and pool  
**Optional activity:** Watersports
- DAY 15 ISLE OF POROS**  
 During free time today, get ready for some fantastic shopping in the old town center or, more adventurous souls may embark on a thrilling journey to the 6th-century BC ruins of Poseidon’s Temple perched atop the island’s highest peak. We’ll have bicycles at our disposal, opening up new avenues to discover the island’s treasures. And as the sun sets, get ready to join the fun at our epic toga party.  
**Meals:** Breakfast | Dinner  
**Inclusions:** Bike rental on the Isle of Poros | Beach and pool | Toga party | Greek island farewell dinner
- DAY 16 ISLE OF POROS - ATHENS**  
 This morning, we hop on a ferry to Athens. Once we arrive, we’ll be in for a treat with visits to the awe-inspiring 2,400-year-old Parthenon, the Temple of Olympian Zeus, and Constitution Square. During free time this afternoon, you might find yourself wandering in the footsteps of legends like Plato, Socrates, and Sophocles, or honing your bargaining skills at the vibrant markets of Monastiraki. And as the sun sets, follow the irresistible sounds of traditional bouzouki music and join us for a spectacular farewell taverna dinner in the Plaka District – Athens’ oldest neighborhood, right at the foot of the iconic Acropolis. It’s bound to be an unforgettable night of fun and feasting.  
**Meals:** Breakfast | Dinner  
**Inclusions:** Tour of Athens guided by a local expert | Acropolis admission | Greek tavern farewell dinner | Greek music and dancing
- DAY 17 TRAVEL HOME**  
 With a heavy heart, it’s time to bid adieu to Europe and our amazing new friends. As we jet back home, we let the excitement of planning our next alumni adventure fill our thoughts! The world is our playground, and there are countless adventures waiting for us to explore.  
**Meals:** Breakfast | In-flight  
**Inclusions:** Transfer from hotel to airport included with purchased AESU group airfare

## TOUR DIRECTORS

Your land package tour includes the services of a professional tour director, who knows this is a trip of a lifetime for you. They are young professionals; multi-lingual and carefully selected graduates from major universities. They are eager to show you the world through the eyes of an adventurer, sharing with you their vast 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. We are very proud of our tour directors, therefore it is customary to include gratuity.

Show the tour director and driver your appreciation with a tip. We suggest \$6-7 per person/per day for your tour director and \$4 per person/per day for your driver.

## HOTELS

We stay in superior tourist-class hotels or better, all with private bathrooms in 2-share rooms. Our hotels have been specially selected for their European atmosphere, friendly hospitality, and cleanliness. They are centrally located or within a short walk of public transportation, taking you to the landmarks of your choice in the city you are visiting.

All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. You can book a single-room by paying an additional single supplement of \$1,345 for the 12-day land package or \$1,840 for the 17-day land package. Please note that single cabins are not available on the overnight ship.

If you are a solo traveler and don’t want to pay the single supplement, AESU will attempt to arrange a share with a same-gender traveler. If we are unable to arrange a share, the single supplement will be added to your invoice.

By booking your trip with AESU, you are agreeing to all the terms and conditions as outlined on our website:  
<https://www.aesu.com/terms-conditions-awt/> | For details on our payment plan, please visit: <https://www.aesu.com/payment-plan-awt/>

# UConn Foundation Disclaimer

The UConn Foundation, Inc. (“Foundation”) is not the travel program tour operator.

The Foundation does not own or operate any entity which provides goods or service for this travel program. Providers of transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and any other goods or services for this program are independent contractors not under the control of the Foundation.

The Foundation is not liable for any wrongful, negligent, willful, arbitrary or other acts or omissions of any independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives or of any other third party.

The Foundation is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay or damage to person or property whatsoever arising from or related to the travel program or the provision of any goods or services thereunder whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God, acts of government, acts of war, riot, civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, strikes or other labor activities, flood, cyclone, hurricane, fire, earthquake or other natural occurrence, weather event or disaster, animals, food poisoning, illness, disease, mechanical or other failure of aircraft, vessels or other means of transportation, failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely, termination or cancellation of services by suppliers for any reason, missed carrier connections, overbooking or downgrading of services or accommodations, substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, without or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby.

The Foundation shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice. The right is further reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure. Operator’s standard client refund policies will apply.

The Foundation shall have no liability in the event of cancellation of the Tour. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person’s health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants.

No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour. By paying the deposit or participating in this travel program applicants and participants accept in full all the terms and conditions set forth herein.