



Western Europe



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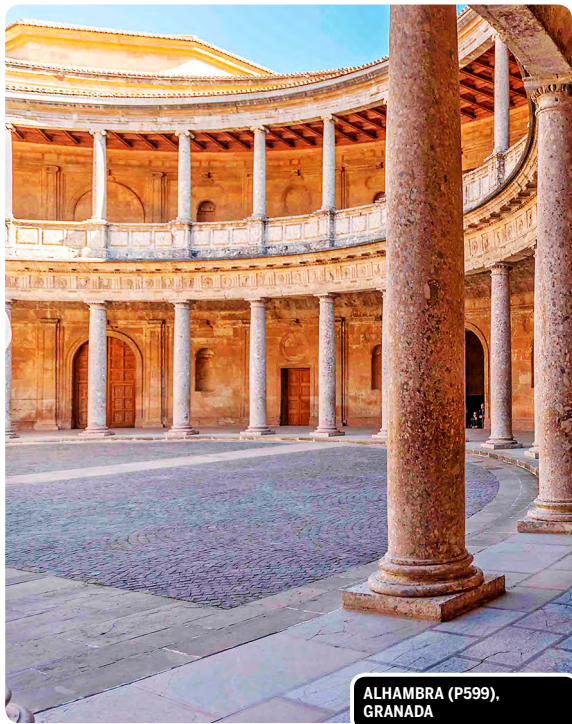
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Itineraries



6
WEEKS

Ultimate Europe

Have limited time but want to see a bit of everything? Hit the highlights on this trip.

Start in **Dublin**, soaking up its vibrant pubs and rich literary history. From Ireland, fly to **London** for great theatre. Then catch the Eurostar train through the English Channel tunnel to beautiful **Paris**.

Travel north to **Brussels** for famed beer and chocolate, then further north to free-spirited **Amsterdam**, making time to cruise its canals. Go east, stopping for a cruise on the Rhine, and explore the legendary nightlife in **Berlin**. Next, visit **Vienna** for architectural and classical-music riches. Zip west to **Zürich** and the Swiss Alps for awe-inspiring ski slopes and vistas.

Head to canal-laced **Venice**, art-filled **Florence** and historic **Rome**. Train it to **Bari**, take a ferry to Patras, and head east to **Athens**, then explore island beaches, starting with the stunning **Santorini**. Connect by air or by ferry and train to the French Riviera (aka the Côte d'Azur) to check out quintessential Mediterranean destinations such as **Nice**. Continue to **Barcelona**, then the Moorish towns of southern Spain like **Granada**. End your trip in the hilly quarters of **Lisbon**, toasting your grand journey with Portugal's port wine.



6

WEEKS Mediterranean Europe

Beautiful weather and breathtaking scenery are the draws of this comprehensive tour that takes in famous towns and cities from antiquity to the present.

Start in southern Spain in orange-blossom-scented **Seville** and soak up the architecture, sunshine and party atmosphere. Make your way up the eastern coast past the Moorish town of **Málaga** and on to **Granada** and **Córdoba**. Then it's back to the coast at **Valencia**, home of Spain's famous rice-dish paella, for a ferry-hop to the parties and beaches of the **Balearic Islands**.

Back on the mainland, **Barcelona** brims with the architecture of Gaudí. From here, head into France's fabled Provence region, where in **Marseille** you can see the fortress that was inspiration for the novel *The Count of Monte Cristo*. Then leave the sea for Provence's lush hills and lavender-scented towns around the rampart-hooped city of **Avignon**, and on to the **French Riviera** and its playground for the rich and famous, **St-Tropez**. The charming seaside city **Nice** is a perfect jumping-off point for other nearby coastal hot spots such as glamorous **Cannes**.

Cruise by ferry to Corsica and experience the traditional lifestyle of quiet fishing villages. Hit the bustling old port of **Bastia**, Napoléon Bonaparte's home town **Ajaccio**, then the glittering harbour of Bonifacio on a ferry south to Sardinia and on to **Sicily** to visit its colossal temples and famous volcano, Mt Etna.

Catch a ferry to **Naples**, on the Italian mainland, and take a trip to **Pompeii**. Move east to Brindisi for a ferry to Greece that passes rocky coasts seen by mariners for millennia. Head to **Athens** to wonder at the Greek capital's ancient treasures before boarding a plane or ferry to magical islands such as **Crete** and **Mykonos**. Return to Italy, taking time to wander amid the ruins and piazzas of **Rome**. Continue north through Tuscany, stopping at **Pisa** to see its famous 'leaning tower'. Finish up along the Ligurian coast, travelling via the brightly coloured coastal villages making up the **Cinque Terre**, strung between plunging cliffs and vine-covered hills, to the port city of **Genoa**.

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Mark Elliott

Belgium (Ardennes; Northeast), The Netherlands (Southeastern; Utrecht) Mark Elliott had already lived and worked on five continents when, in the pre-Internet dark ages, he started writing travel guides. He has since authored (or co-authored) around 60 books including dozens for Lonely Planet. He also acts as a travel consultant, occasional tour leader, video presenter, speaker, interviewer and blues harmonicist.



Duncan Garwood

Italy, Portugal (The Beiras) From facing fast bowlers in Barbados to sidestepping hungry pigs in Goa, Duncan's travels have thrown up many unique experiences. These days he largely dedicates himself to the Mediterranean and Italy, his adopted homeland where he's been living since 1997. He's worked on more than 30 Lonely Planet titles, including guidebooks to Rome, Sardinia, Sicily, Spain and Portugal, and has contributed to books on food and epic drives. He's also written

on Italy for newspapers, websites and magazines.



Korina Miller

Greece Korina grew up on Vancouver Island and has been exploring the globe independently since she was 16, visiting or living in 36 countries and picking up a degree in Communications and Canadian Studies, an MA in Migration Studies and a diploma in Visual Arts en route. As a writer and editor, Korina has worked on nearly 60 titles for Lonely Planet and has also worked with lonelyplanet.com, BBC, *The Independent*, *The Guardian*, BBC5 and CBC, as well as many inde-

pendent magazines, covering travel, art and culture. She has currently set up camp back in Victoria, soaking up the mountain views and the pounding surf.



Nicola Williams

France (Atlantic Coast, Paris), The Netherlands (Central and Northeastern Netherlands) Border-hopping is a way of life for British writer, runner, foodie, art aficionado and mum-of-three Nicola Williams, who has lived in a French village on the southern side of Lake Geneva for more than a decade. Nicola has authored more than 50 guidebooks on Paris, Provence, Rome, Tuscany, France, Italy and Switzerland for Lonely Planet and covers France as a destination expert for the

Telegraph. She also writes for the *Independent*, *Guardian*, lonelyplanet.com, *Lonely Planet Magazine*, *French Magazine*, *Cool Camping France* and others. Catch her on the road on Twitter and Instagram at @tripalong.



Neil Wilson

Britain (Scotland) Neil was born in Scotland and has lived there most of his life. Based in Perthshire, he has been a full-time writer since 1988, working on more than 80 guidebooks for various publishers, including the Lonely Planet guides to Scotland, England, Ireland and Prague. An outdoors enthusiast since childhood, Neil is an active hill-walker, mountain-biker, sailor, snowboarder, fly-fisher and rock-climber, and has climbed and tramped in four continents, including ascents

of Jebel Toubkal in Morocco, Mount Kinabalu in Borneo, the Old Man of Hoy in Scotland's Orkney Islands and the Northwest Face of Half Dome in California's Yosemite Valley.



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

OUR WRITERS



Catherine Le Nevez

Plan and Survival Guide chapters, Britain (The Midlands), France (Paris; Lille & the Somme), Germany (Frankfurt & Southern Rhineland), Luxembourg, The Netherlands (Amsterdam), Portugal (The Algarve) Catherine's wanderlust kicked in when she road-tripped across Europe from her Parisian base aged four, and she's been hitting the road at every opportunity since, travelling to some 60 countries and completing her Doctorate of Creative Arts in Writing, Masters in Professional Writing,

and postgrad qualifications in Editing and Publishing along the way. Over the past decade-and-a-half she's written scores of Lonely Planet guides and articles covering Paris, France, Europe and far beyond. Her work has also appeared in numerous online and print publications.



Kerry Christiani

Austria, France (Alsace & Lorraine; Champagne), Germany (Stuttgart & the Black Forest), Portugal (Porto), Switzerland Kerry is an award-winning travel writer, photographer and Lonely Planet author, specialising in Central and Southern Europe. Based in Wales, she has authored/co-authored more than a dozen Lonely Planet titles. An adventure addict, she loves mountains, cold places and true wilderness. She features her latest work at <https://its-a-small-world.com> and tweets @kerrychristiani.



Gregor Clark

France (Burgundy; Nice), Monaco, Portugal (the Douro & Trás-os-Montes; the Minho) Gregor Clark is a US-based writer whose love of foreign languages and curiosity about what's around the next bend have taken him to dozens of countries on five continents. Chronic wanderlust has also led him to visit all 50 states and most Canadian provinces on countless road trips through his native North America. Since 2000, Gregor has regularly contributed to Lonely Planet guides,

with a focus on Europe and the Americas. Titles include *Italy, France, Brazil, Costa Rica, Argentina, Portugal, Switzerland, Mexico, South America on a Shoestring, Montreal & Quebec City, France's Best Trips, New England's Best Trips*, cycling guides to Italy and California and coffee-table pictorials such as *Food Trails, The USA Book* and *The Lonely Planet Guide to the Middle of Nowhere*.

OVER MORE
PAGE WRITERS

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