



FROM LONDON TO ROME

 Educational
Tours

 Discover the Global Classroom

14 or 16 DAYS

From London to Rome

England • France • Italy



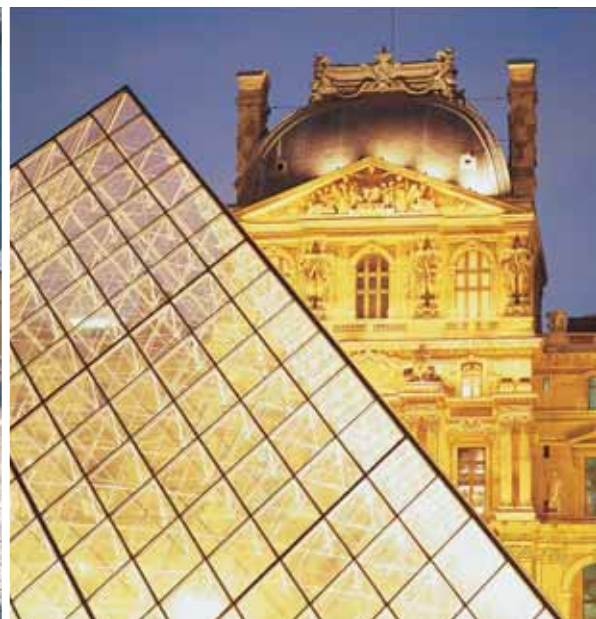
Number of overnight stays in parentheses. This tour may also be reversed.

Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
 - 11 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (13 with extension); plus 1 night couchette accommodations
 - Complete European breakfast and dinner daily (lunch instead of dinner on Day 10)
 - Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
 - 5 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: London • Stonehenge and Bath • Paris Vatican City • Rome
 - 2 sightseeing tours led by your tour director: Canterbury • Chartres and the Loire Valley
 - 3 EF walking tours: London • Paris • Rome
 - 11 visits to special attractions: Tower of London • Stonehenge • Roman baths Canterbury Cathedral • Notre Dame Cathedral Musée d'Orsay • Chartres Cathedral • Chenonceau Sistine Chapel • St. Peter's Basilica • Colosseum
 - Whisper headsets for tours of Rome and Vatican City
- OPTIONAL:** Oxford and Stratford • Versailles • Florence
- WITH EXTENSION:** All of the above PLUS:
- 2 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: Pompeii • Capri
 - 2 visits to special attractions: Roman ruins at Pompeii • Capri island cruise
 - Whisper headsets for tour of Pompeii



The Papal Swiss Guard has protected the Vatican for 500 years. I.M. Pei's pyramid, meanwhile, has stood at the entrance of the Louvre only since 1989.



Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to Great Britain • Spend the night flying across the Atlantic.

Day 2 London

Arrival in London • Touch down in London, Europe's largest city. After clearing customs, you are greeted by your EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

EF walking tour of London • Stroll through the heart of London on our EF walking tour, which begins along the banks of the River Thames. These shadowy waters gave the city its name, which derives from Llyn-Dyn, Celtic for "city of the lake." Walk along the Strand and see the spot considered to be London's geographic center; all measurements of distances to London end here. Enter Trafalgar Square and pause at Nelson's Column, built to commemorate his 1805 victory in the Battle of Trafalgar. Continue on to Leicester Square, where duelists once fought to the death. Then saunter through London's tiny Chinatown. Your walk ends at chic Covent Garden, where you'll enjoy watching street performers (or "buskers") amuse the lively crowds. (The exact walking route may vary, depending on your hotel location and the day's other activities.)

Day 3 London

Guided sightseeing of London • A local guide leads you on a panoramic tour of London. Begin in Grosvenor Square, which is sometimes called "Little America" because it's the site of the U.S. embassy and the house where Eisenhower once lived. Continue to Hyde Park Corner, located at the southeast corner of Hyde Park, one of London's largest parks. At bustling Piccadilly Circus, the intersection of five busy streets, check out the

bright lights and big-city displays, before heading to Trafalgar Square. Pass Speaker's Corner, where anyone with something to say is invited to speak his or her mind. Snap a photo of the Houses of Parliament and continue along London's South Bank for views of the famous London Bridge.

Visit to the Tower of London • The history of London comes to life at this complex of 20 towers surrounding Tower Green. The oldest tower, known as the White Tower, was completed in 1097, when it was the tallest building in London. The Tower buildings have had many uses over the years; perhaps the most infamous was as a jail for political prisoners, not to mention two of Henry VIII's wives. The most famous exhibits at the Tower are the British Crown Jewels. Aside from a short interruption during WWII, these splendid baubles have been locked behind the Tower's walls for centuries. Later on, travel by boat down the Thames and back to the center of London.

Day 4 London

Guided excursion to Stonehenge and Bath • Journey through rural English landscapes to Stonehenge. This 4,000-year-old ring of stones is believed to have been an ancient worship and burial site. Legend holds it was built by Merlin. Then view the Georgian architecture and Roman baths of Bath, where Jane Austen vacationed and set some of her novels. This spa was a favorite vacation spot of early Romans and 18th-century English aristocracy alike.

Day 5 London

Optional excursion to Oxford and Stratford • Visit two of England's most acclaimed towns as you journey into the English countryside. First, travel through the Chiltern Hills to ivy-draped



Learn before you go
www.ef-tours.com/pbs

Oxford, a mecca of learning for more than 800 years. Stroll down High Street, lined with the architectural treasures of the university's medieval colleges. Poets, prime ministers and presidents have all been educated in these ancient stone buildings. Next, it's on to Stratford-upon-Avon, famous not only as the place where Shakespeare was born, married and buried, but also for its Elizabethan (16th-century) buildings. You will visit Shakespeare's birthplace and see the old-fashioned English gardens and orchard of Anne Hathaway's Cottage (Hathaway was Shakespeare's wife).

Free time in London • Alternatively, enjoy free time in London. You might wish to visit the original Hard Rock Cafe or Madame Tussauds wax museum, take a cruise down the Thames and browse through the countless stores along Oxford Street. Attend a Shakespearean drama at a replica of the Globe Theatre and visit the fascinating, hands-on exhibits of London's Natural History Museum.

Day 6 London • Paris

Visit to Canterbury • Journey through the Garden of England (the hop fields of Kent) to Canterbury, the destination city of Chaucer's pilgrims in the legendary *Canterbury Tales*. Make a brief visit to the town's magnificent cathedral (the seat of the Church of England) and see where four of the king's knights murdered Archbishop Thomas à Becket in 1170 as part of a long-running debate over the powers of church and state.

English Channel crossing • Transfer to Dover, where you'll board a ferry to cross the English Channel. Look back at the famous White Cliffs of Dover as you leave the English shore—they inspired the cliff scene in Shakespeare's *King Lear*. Four hundred years later, Churchill utilized a vast network of secret tunnels hidden within the rock to hide Allied troops during WWII.

Arrival in Paris • Continue on to Paris, cosmopolitan City of Light.

Day 7 Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris • Discover the city on the Seine, beginning with the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée. Take a drive down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde. Pass the Conciergerie, where prisoners of the Revolution spent their final days, and see Les Invalides, Louis XIV's grand retirement home for wounded soldiers. You'll also see the École Militaire, where Napoleon graduated to lieutenant and was told he'd go far if circumstances allowed. Next, make a photo stop at the Eiffel Tower to marvel at the 6,000-ton centerpiece for the 1889 World's Fair. You'll hear the story of how this impressive—but once highly controversial—symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909. Pass the Opéra Garnier, where the famous Phantom of the Opera haunted his dear Christine, and marvel at Église de la Madeleine, designed as a temple of glory for Napoleon's army. Continue past the geometric gardens of the Tuileries as you make your way to the Place Vendôme, a vast square surrounded by elegant 17th-century façades.

Optional excursion to Versailles • Join an optional excursion to Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Here, the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. Stroll through the elegantly landscaped gardens, designed by André Le Nôtre, tour the State Apartments of the King himself, walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors, and admire the ornate decor of the State Apartments of the Queen. (Please note: Because of the extreme

popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace. Please also note that Versailles is closed on Mondays.)

Day 8 Paris

Visit to the Musée d'Orsay • Part of this museum's draw is the building itself, not just the artwork that adorns its walls. Built for the 1900 Universal Exposition, the Gare d'Orsay functioned as a train station until 1939 and was converted into a museum in 1986. The high, arching ceiling and enormous wall clocks hint at the days when trains zipped in and out of the spacious structure. The museum is noted for its collection of Impressionist paintings—a walk through the upper gallery will reveal works by Monet, Renoir, Degas, Sisley, Pissarro and countless others.

Walking tour of Paris • Meander through the Latin Quarter, an area dominated by the Sorbonne, Paris' most famous university, founded in 1253. As you stroll, look for the Panthéon, created by Louis XV because of a promise he made to build a church dedicated to Sainte-Geneviève if he survived a severe illness. You'll also explore Boulevard St. Michel and spend some time browsing the stacks at the famous Shakespeare and Company bookstore, which published James Joyce's *Ulysses* in 1922. As you make your way along the Seine, you'll also have the chance to browse the literary materials sold at *les bouquinistes*, the bookstalls that sell old books, maps, art prints and postcards. It's the perfect place to pick up some authentic souvenirs!

Visit to Notre Dame Cathedral • Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose windows and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

Seine river cruise • This evening, take a narrated river cruise along the Seine. As your boat glides from one graceful bridge to the next, sit back and gaze at the illuminated landmarks of Paris as they pan into view.

Day 9 Paris

Tour director-led sightseeing of the Loire Valley • Journey through the French countryside to the magnificent Loire Valley, Playground of the Kings. Our first stop is Chartres, home to Europe's grandest Gothic (13th-century) cathe-

Rome's Colosseum has drawn sellout crowds since Titus opened the amphitheater in A.D. 80.



dral and the world's finest stained-glass windows. Then visit the spectacular Château de Chenonceau on the banks of the River Cher, an architecturally breathtaking estate with a romantic history. Finally, stop at Chambord, the largest of all the Loire Valley châteaux. Here many of Molière's plays were performed for the first time.

Day 10 Paris • Night Train

Free time in Paris • Enjoy free time for your own explorations of Paris. You might wish to visit the Louvre, the Picasso Museum and the futuristic exhibits of the Pompidou Centre. Other possibilities are a visit to the Sacré-Coeur, where you can watch artists at work in the streets of Montmartre below, or a stroll through the Latin Quarter. Or simply observe the timeless Parisian tradition of people-watching over a café au lait at a sidewalk café.

Night train to Rome • Tonight, enjoy couchette accommodations aboard your overnight train bound for Rome.

Day 11 Rome

Arrival in Rome • Arrive in *bella Roma*, the Eternal City. Here, Charlemagne was crowned by the pope in A.D. 800.

Guided sightseeing of Rome • Get to know Imperial Rome on a panoramic tour. Then spend time exploring the mighty Colosseum, Rome's largest amphitheater. Its elaborate construction spanned two emperors—building began between A.D. 70 and 72 under Vespasian and was completed in A.D. 80 under Titus. Originally built to accommodate nearly 50,000 spectators, the Colosseum played host to some of the most incredible spectacles of the day, including gladiatorial combat, mock sea battles, animal hunts, executions and even dramatic performances based on classical mythology. Later, pass by the Forum Romanum, once the heart of the Roman Empire.

Walking tour of Rome • As part of your walking tour of Rome, stop at the Trevi Fountain and make sure to toss in a coin to ensure your return to Rome. Then view the Pantheon, one of the best-preserved ancient buildings in the city, commissioned by the Emperor Hadrian around A.D. 120. This temple to “all the gods” features the second-widest dome in Rome. Then, during free time, continue to the Piazza Navona before meeting at the Spanish Steps prior to dinner.

Day 12 Rome

Optional excursion to Florence • Join an optional excursion to Florence, birthplace of the Italian language, the Renaissance and opera. The city is a treasure-trove of art, architecture and history, unparalleled anywhere in the world. Pass the classical statues of the Piazza della Signoria, where Michelangelo's *David* originally stood and now the site of an impressive replica. From behind the Uffizi Palace, you will see the Ponte Vecchio, one of the city's only bridges to survive WWII and now one of its most photographed sites. The bridge provided the Medici easy access from the Pitti Palace to the Uffizi. You also will visit the Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral, better known as the Duomo, or dome, that dominates Florence's skyline. The dome was sculptor and architect Brunelleschi's finest work, and the nearby campanile (bell tower) was designed by the painter Giotto. Look for the famous bronzed doors—Ghiberti's legendary *Gates of Paradise*—at the Baptistery opposite the Duomo.

Free time in Rome • Alternatively, you'll have free time to make your own discoveries of Rome. You might wish to focus on museums, cathedrals or finding the perfect gelato.

Day 13 Rome

Visit to Vatican City • Today, you will explore Vatican City, the world's smallest country. Begin at the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries filled with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backward from a scaffold. Next, tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's *Pietà*, the only sculpture he ever signed.

Free time in Rome • Ask your tour director for fun suggestions!

Day 14 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

EXTENSION

Day 14 Rome • Sorrento

Guided sightseeing of Pompeii • Alternatively, extend your stay two days. Learn how wealthy Romans lived 2,000 years ago on an excursion to Pompeii, one of the richest archaeological sites in the world. When neighboring Mount Vesuvius erupted in A.D. 79, volcanic ash completely buried the Roman resort. Now it is fully excavated, and you can see the ruins of villas, ancient temples and Stabian Baths.

Arrival in Sorrento • Experience the unparalleled beauty of Italy's favorite resort, overlooking the Bay of Naples.

Day 15 Sorrento • Rome

Guided sightseeing of Capri • Cross the Bay of Naples to the captivating Isle of Capri. Travel by funicular to the town of Capri and board a cruise to see the most spectacular views of Capri's coast. You'll see the Arco Naturale, a majestic stone arch on the eastern cliffs, and the famous Faraglioni, three enormous, pale-ochre limestone colossi that loom out of the sea. When weather conditions do not permit a cruise, groups will visit Villa San Michele in the town of Anacapri instead.

Transfer to Rome • Return to Rome, where you'll spend the night.

Day 16 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.