CLASSIC EUROPE GRAD TRIP

England - France - Italy - Vatican City - Greece

US Departure Date: **May 21, 2027** | Land Tour Start Date: **May 22, 2027**
Rome Return Date: **June 1, 2027** | Athens Return Date: **June 6, 2027**

12+ Days from **$4496**



START YOUR ADVENTURE

Dear Student:

Congratulations on your approaching graduation!

Have you thought about how you will celebrate this milestone? The University of Michigan Alumni Association is pleased to announce a very special travel opportunity: The Classic Europe Grad Trip. Both fun and fascinating, this trip is a wonderful reward for your years of hard work.

The University of Michigan Alumni Association, in conjunction with AESU, a Trip operator specializing in travel for 22-35 year olds, invite you on a comprehensive Trip of Europe open exclusively to graduating seniors of the University of Michigan and select peer institutions.

The 12-day, 4-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!"

Education does not stop at graduation; rather, it is a lifelong process and travel provides unparalleled opportunities for hands-on learning. On the Classic Europe Grad Trip, you will be able to visit exciting destinations, learn more about our world, relax and unwind on a great holiday, and renew ties to the University of Michigan while celebrating with fellow graduates.

We look forward to you exploring the world with us and welcoming you to our family of alumni!

Sincerely,

Rachele Neu

RACHELE NEU B.S. '08, M.A. '12
Senior Travel Program Manager
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The Classic Europe Grad Trip is a benefit to current members of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan. To join the Alumni Association, please visit **https://alumni.umich.edu/membership/**

We strongly recommend that you protect yourself from anything that may occur on your trip by purchasing travel insurance through our partnership with Trawick.:
https://alumni.trawickinternational.com/school/welcome/677/

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Celebrate your graduation with 17 days of European adventure! Explore London's pubs, bask on Greek beaches, and marvel at icons like Paris's Notre Dame and Athens' Parthenon. From thrilling moments to cultural immersion, this trip offers unforgettable experiences, new friendships, and memories to last a lifetime. Europe awaits — are you ready?

12-DAY TRIP TO ENGLAND, FRANCE, ITALY & VATICAN CITY

Transportation and Lodging
- 10 nights in 3 or 4-star 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 metro card providing access to public transportation system
- The beaches of the French Riviera
- Tuscan experience
- Chianti wine tasting
- Admission to the Colosseum and Caesar's Roman Forum
- Rome travel card providing unlimited access to public transportation system
- See St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City

Sights
See London's Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, Piccadilly Circus, Tower Bridge; Paris' Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame Cathedral; Rome's Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, Leaning Tower of Pisa and much more...

5-DAY OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO GREECE

Transportation and Lodging
- 5 nights in 3 or 4-star 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

Sights
Mt. Vesuvius, Pompeii excavations, Athens' Acropolis, Parthenon and much more...

Also Included
A private tour director for the entire duration of the land tour. All service charges and local taxes are covered. Airfare is an additional cost.

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)

EXPERIENCES

This trip has been carefully designed for young travelers and features fantastic inclusions and highlights. For a glossary of these key aspects, visit: www.aesu.com/experiences



ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

This tour requires standing and walking for some extended periods of time during city or nature tours, museum visits, and/or outdoor activities. This tour is appropriate for travelers who are physically fit, lead active lives, and are comfortable participating in moderate activities.



HOTELS

Hotels are centrally located and many offer great extra amenities such as pools, gyms or roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If a single room is desired, a supplement of $1445 for the 12-day land package or $2040 for the 17-day applies. 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.

TOUR DIRECTORS

Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel. Show your tour director and driver your appreciation with a tip. We suggest $8-10 per person/per day for your tour director and $4-5 per person/per day for your driver. To learn more visit www.aesu.com/tour-directors

By booking your trip with AESU, you are agreeing to all the terms and conditions as outlined on our website: www.aesu.com/terms-conditions/

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, meet fellow travelers and your Trip 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 Trip 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, Trip 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, Trip 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 metro card will provide access to 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: Paris metro card

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 Cộte 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 the seat of the Catholic Church.

Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions: Trip 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 | Admission to the Colosseum and Caesar's Roman Forum | Rome travel card providing unlimited access to local transportation



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 | Travel card providing unlimited access to local transportation | Viva Italia pizza party

DAY 12: TRAVEL HOME –
OR CONTINUE TO POMPEII & OVERNIGHT SHIP TO GREECE

For some of us the celebratory Trip 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: Trip 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: 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: Trip 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 MAP

