



Alpine Escape: Germany, Austria and Italy 2026

When was the last time you filled your lungs with crisp mountain air, indulged in a glass of locally-produced wine (or two) and ambled through knots of colourful streets? Well, now's your chance to write your next travel tale. Get ready to be inspired by the towering Dolomites whose jagged peaks graze the sky like giant hands reaching up from the earth. Uncover the romance of Verona with its infamous balcony that tells a story of love and loss. And pause at Lake Constance, whose water glistens like millions of turquoise gemstones. This enchanting trio of countries is waiting for you.





About your tour notes

These tour notes contain everything you need to know before your tour departs – from where to meet your fellow guests and local guide to what essentials to pack for your journey. We recommend you print this document out and bring it with you on your tour. Give a copy to loved ones at home so they can follow your adventure, too.

Important: please refresh this document as close to your departure as possible to ensure you're equipped with the latest information available.

Munich @ 18:00

Munich

Santa Lucia Station for Hotel NH Venezia

Santa Lucia @ 13:00

Venice



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Tour highlights

- ✓ Wander the colourful, picturesque streets of Innsbruck, nestled in the Austrian Alps
- ✓ Cruise the tranquil waters of Lake Constance, visiting UNESCO site Unteruhldingen along the way
- ✓ Stay in the magnificent Cortina d'Ampezzo, proudly known as the Queen of the Dolomites
- ✓ Explore the quaint streets of Verona during a guided tour

More inclusions

- ✓ 9 breakfasts, 3 dinners
- ✓ 9 nights in thoughtfully selected accommodation
- ✓ Luxury minicoach

Currencies you'll use

- Germany - EUR
- Austria - EUR
- Italy - EUR



Included meals

Breakfast (B) is included daily.

Some of your lunches and dinners are also included, either in hotels or local restaurants. These are indicated by (L) and (D) in the itinerary.

Please note that drinks will not always be included.

We will do our best to accommodate any specific dietary requirements you may have. Please ensure to make these clear to us before your tour begins so we can communicate them to our hotels, restaurants and suppliers.

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Your itinerary

Day 1 | Munich (Germany)

We'll begin our adventure in the glorious city of Munich. After meeting our expert local Tour Leader and like-minded individuals at the hotel, we'll settle in for a delectable three-course dinner.

Included today



Accommodation

Hotel Drei Löwen (or similar)



Meals

+ Dinner

Day 2 | Munich – Friedrichshafen – Meersburg – Lake Constance

This morning, our journey takes us to Friedrichshafen, a coastal city known for its importance in aviation history. Here, we'll visit the Zeppelin Museum – the birthplace of Zeppelin, a large German airship used during WWI. Then, we'll continue to the medieval city of Meersburg where we can relish some free time before a walking tour. Our local guide will lead us through quaint streets filled with colourful homes whilst sharing tales of its historic past. Our tour concludes at the magnificent Meersburg Castle, the oldest inhabited castle in Germany, where we'll delight in breathtaking views over the town. Later, we'll traverse to Lake Constance, our picturesque home for the next two nights.

Included today



Accommodation

Hotel Constantia (or similar)



Meals

+ Breakfast



Day 3 | Lake Constance

After breakfast, the glittering waters of Lake Constance await. We'll embark on a boat tour of this resplendent area, making leisurely stops along the way. First: Mainau Island, also known as The Flower Island, with its lush blossoms, floral bouquets and fluttering butterflies. Here, we'll explore a park filled with 150-year-old trees as well as the Baroque-style castle and church. Next, we'll make our way to UNESCO World Heritage Site, Unteruhldingen. Lake dwellings from the Stone and Bronze Ages are dotted along the shore, lending us insight into the lives of those who inhabited this area between 4,000 and 850 BC. The evening is yours to enjoy a local dinner at your own pace.

Included today



Accommodation

Hotel Constantia (or similar)



Meals

+ Breakfast

Day 4 | Lake Constance – Liechtenstein – Innsbruck (Austria)

Our day begins with a short but sweet scenic stop at Lindau where we'll take in breathtaking views of the colourful city. Then, we'll continue to Liechtenstein, the fourth smallest country in all of Europe! Here, we'll take a city train tour of the tiny capital: Vaduz. Venture through the idyllic old town and past rolling vineyards, stopping off at the historic Red House to soak up panoramic views of 12th century Vaduz Castle. The afternoon is then yours to explore at leisure – amble through Vaduz's charming streets and have lunch before we travel to our next destination!

Included today



Accommodation

Hotel Grauer Bär (or similar)



Meals

+ Breakfast

Day 5 | Innsbruck

Welcome to Innsbruck, the capital of the Alps. Our morning begins with a walking tour with a local guide. During our stroll, we'll spot the impressive Triumphal Arch, illustrious Imperial Palace and brilliant Golden Roof whilst learning about the rise and fall of the Habsburg dynasty. After our minds are satiated with newfound knowledge, we'll take the cable car to a scenic lookout. Our awe-inspiring view: Nordkette mountains, the Jewel of the Alps. Back on lower ground, the afternoon is yours to discover Innsbruck at your own pace.

Included today



Accommodation

Hotel Grauer Bär (or similar)



Meals

+ Breakfast

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Day 6 | Innsbruck – Bruneck (Italy) – Cortina d’Ampezzo

We’ll head south towards Italy today, making a stop at Bruneck: an amalgamation of classic architecture within a vibrant atmosphere. Unearth its secrets at your leisure, taking in the colourful buildings, picturesque churches and local lifestyle. After finding delectable dishes to taste at lunchtime, we’ll make our way to Cortina d’Ampezzo, Italy’s most exclusive ski resort. This chapter of our journey begins with a visit to the Observatory of Helmut Ullrich which will open our eyes to the galaxy above us during a guided sun observation. Tonight, we’ll share our favourite moments of the adventure so far over our included group dinner.

Included today



Accommodation

Hotel Medil (or similar)



Meals

+ Breakfast

+ Dinner

Day 7 | Cortina d’Ampezzo – Marmolada – Cortina d’Ampezzo

The Queen of the Dolomites awaits. We’ll take a series of cable cars to the top of Marmolada where we’ll enjoy sweeping 360-degree views of ice-capped mountains, deep valleys and never-ending skies. Then, we’ll swap nature for history with a visit to the Museum of the Great War in Serauta, before returning to Cortina d’Ampezzo where the rest of the day is yours to unwind in this splendid setting.

Included today



Accommodation

Hotel Medil (or similar)



Meals

+ Breakfast

Day 8 | Cortina d’Ampezzo – Trento – Verona

Wave farewell to Cortina d’Ampezzo. The small town of Trento awaits. Here, we’ll embark on a walking tour with a local guide, discovering an array of churches, palaces and museums bathed in architectural beauty. Then, we’ll venture to Verona, our home for the next two nights.

Included today



Accommodation

Best Western Plus Hotel Expo
(or similar)



Meals

+ Breakfast



Day 9 | Verona

Today we'll embrace fair Verona, the city famed for its setting to the unrequited love story between Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. After exploring its quaint streets, visiting the well-known balcony and Verona Arena on a guided tour, we'll savour a tasting of notable wines alongside local cheeses and meats. Tonight, our farewell dinner awaits where we can clink glasses to an unforgettable journey.

Included today



Accommodation

Best Western Plus Hotel Expo
(or similar)



Meals

+ Breakfast
+ Dinner

Day 10 | Verona – Venice

All good things must come to an end, including our mesmerising escape through three beautiful countries. After breakfast, we'll travel to Venice – a city filled with glamour, gondolas and gelato – where we'll say our goodbyes.

Included today



Meals

+ Breakfast



Travel advice

Finances

Changing money

Cash: Foreign money can be changed at banks, airports, some railway and tube stations, and at major hotels (though at a less favourable rate).

Credit cards: Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted. American Express is only accepted in some larger establishments.

Cash machines: ATMS are widely available.

Tipping

Tipping is entirely at your discretion. If you feel you have received exceptional service, it is recommended that you tip £1-2/€ per day for Drivers and £4- 5/€ per day for Tour Leaders.

Insurance

Before travelling with Back-Roads Touring, it is compulsory for all guests to take out comprehensive travel insurance. Please ensure your insurance covers medical expenses (including repatriation), cancellation cover, loss or damage to baggage and personal effects, money and personal liability.

We recommend you carry your insurance details with you at all times. You may be asked to provide details of your medical insurance or a payment guarantee in some countries before medical assistance can be provided.

For more information, please see our [FAQ page](#).

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact our friendly Customer Service team [here](#).

Passports and visas

Please ensure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your tour. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain



countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your tour's departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling.

Please note: Some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure as requirements do change periodically.

We advise you to either carry a photocopy of your passport (and visa, if applicable) with you while abroad, or to ensure that you leave a copy with relatives back at home. This will enable the local embassy or high commission to arrange a replacement if the original should be lost or stolen. If you do take copies with you on your tour, please ensure that you keep these separate from your original documents.

Medication and mobility

Whilst on your tour, we want you to have the smoothest journey possible which requires x mobility conditions:

- You must be fit enough to get on and off the vehicle on a regular basis, and to walk around towns and villages or to attractions.
- You must be able to walk up and down stairs and use a shower over the bath.

Please note that, unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate mobility scooter or wheelchair users as we frequently stay in traditional-style hotels and the majority do not have lifts or ground-floor rooms.

If you take medicine for certain conditions, such as diabetes or heart problems, please carry it with you at all times.

Please declare any medical conditions you may have in advance of your tour. If you are in any doubt as to whether our tours are suitable for you, please contact our friendly Customer Service team [here](#).



Mental health and wellbeing

Culture shock, homesickness and periods of feeling down happen regardless of age. Be rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Tour Leader and Driver will do their utmost to make you smile.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- Call loved ones. Hearing a familiar voice whilst in an unfamiliar destination can help ground you and remind you you're not alone.
- Eat well. Nobody feels their best when they're hungry. There are plenty of nutritious culinary delights to be savoured along the road!
- Integrate with your fellow guests. The more you socialise with the group, the less likely you'll feel homesick.

Transport

We travel in premium mini-coaches equipped with comfortable seats, air conditioning and large windows for enjoying the view.

With far more flexibility than a standard-size coach, we're able to take the scenic route – winding through beautiful countryside to the heart of tiny villages and coastal towns.

Will I have regular access to Wi-Fi?

Most accommodation we stay in will offer free Wi-Fi as well as many restaurants and cafes you may visit. If you would like more regular internet access without large roaming fees, you can purchase a Back-Roads Touring eSIM [here](#).



What to Pack

Based on our experience, the following items are essential.

Please note, this is a general packing list for Back-Roads Touring tours. What you pack will depend on the countries you're visiting as well as the time of year you plan to travel.

Clothing

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ✓ Sun hat | ✓ Long-sleeved tops | ✓ Light jacket |
| ✓ Sunglasses | ✓ Short-sleeved tops | ✓ Waterproof jacket |
| ✓ Sleepwear | ✓ Shorts/skirts | ✓ Trousers |
| ✓ Warm jacket | ✓ Socks | ✓ Swimwear |
| ✓ Underwear | ✓ Smart casual evening wear | ✓ Walking/comfortable shoes |

Other essentials

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------|
| ✓ Multi-use adapter plug | ✓ Toiletries | ✓ Camera |
| ✓ Batteries | ✓ Sunscreen | ✓ Towel |
| ✓ Umbrella | ✓ Reusable water bottle | ✓ Insect repellent |
| ✓ Any personal medication | ✓ Basic medical kit (paracetamol, aspirin, plasters etc) | |

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How much luggage can I bring

As we travel in mini-coaches, luggage space is limited. Here's what you can take with you on tour:



1 x suitcase



1 x small carry-on bag
(backpack or handbag)

If you have more luggage, please make arrangements to store it prior to joining the tour. **We are unable to carry extra luggage on the mini-coach.**

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FAQs

Which type of hotels will we stay in?

Our thoughtfully selected accommodation is full of charm and historic details – expect elegant country inns, grand town centre hotels and even the odd castle! For this reason, rooms vary in size, and most hotels don't have lifts – meaning you'll likely need to access your room via stairs. Porterage will be included wherever possible.

Although air conditioning is mostly unavailable in historic buildings, fans will be provided during hot spells. Most hotels have bathtubs with overhead showers (rather than walk-in showers), so you'll be able to enjoy a soak at the end of the day.

How long are the driving journeys on this tour?

The longest drive days will be approximately four hours on our luxury minicoach. During these periods of travelling, your group will make regular stops at various sites, so you can stretch your legs and take in the picturesque surrounds.

That's everything!

We can't wait to welcome you on tour.

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