

EXPEDITIONS



SIGNATURE: ITALY'S VENICE, FLORENCE, TUSCANY & ROME

9 days, Venice to Rome

Trip code EIVRNS

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group, Venice
- Your Foodie Moment: Mercato Centrale Visit and Lunch, Florence
- Local Life: Florence Food Tour, Florence
- Your Foodie Moment: Truffle Hunting and Farm to Table Lunch, Tuscany
- Signature Moment: Private Introduction to Castello di Gargonza, Gargonza
- Your Foodie Moment: Tuscan Cooking Class, Gargonza
- Your Foodie Moment: Wine Tasting and Dinner at the Castle, Gargonza
- Signature Moment: Private Visit to Chiesa di San Lorenzo in Miranda, Rome
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Evening Orientation Walk Around Giudecca Island, Venice
- Guided Walking Tour of Venice
- The Human Safety Net, Venice
- After Hours Visit St
- Mark's Basilica, Venice
- Join an Art Historian for a Tour of Galleria Uffizi, Florence
- Florence Walking Tour
- Walking Tour of Gargonza and Tuscan Woods
- Walking Tour of Rome
- Vatican Museum Visit
- Guided Visit of Colosseum, Rome
- Engaging Discussions with the National Geographic Expedition Expert Throughout
- Porterage at hotels and when getting on and off of vehicles
- Tips are included for all activities, meals and porterage, except for your Expedition Leader
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing February 5th, 2026 and onwards

ITINERARY



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

VENICE

Welcome to the Floating City. Your expedition begins in Venice, where your arrival by boat offers a cinematic first look at the marble palaces rising from the lagoon. After settling into your hotel, meet your National Geographic Expedition Leader and National Geographic Expedition Expert for a presentation and to meet your fellow travellers. Gather for a welcome dinner before an orientation walk to the Chiesa del Santissimo Redentore. From this Renaissance vantage point, watch the light fade over the iconic silhouettes of San Marco and the Doge's Palace, feeling the pulse of Venetian life.



Meals included

Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Hilton Molino Stucky (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Arrival Transfer

Venice Marco Polo Airport – Venice

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel to start your adventure.

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your Expedition Leader and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Evening Orientation Walk Around Giudecca Island

Venice

1h30m-1h30m

Starting from the industrial-chic Molino Stucky, you'll trace the island's transition from a manufacturing powerhouse to a peaceful, Palladian sanctuary. By the time you reach the Chiesa del Santissimo Redentore, (A Renaissance masterpiece designed by Andrea Palladio in the 16th century) you are rewarded with panoramic views of Piazza San Marco and the Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute.

Day 2

VENICE

Navigate the shimmering waterways by vaporetto to begin a guided walking tour through Venice's historic heart. Cross the Rialto Bridge and wander toward the grand expanse of Piazza San Marco. Along the way, visit a community social enterprise dedicated to empowering vulnerable locals; enjoy a coffee while learning about their vital mission. After a free afternoon to explore the glassmaking heritage of Murano or the city's hidden calli, gather for dinner overlooking the moonlit canals. The night culminates with special evening access inside St. Mark's Basilica, where the golden mosaics glow across the night sky.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Hilton Molino Stucky (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Water Taxi Venice

Jump in and cross the water to the next stop.

Guided Walking Tour of Venice Venice 2h

Discover iconic Venetian landmarks on a guided walking tour. Revel in the labyrinth like alleyways, charming bridges, and bustling squares, while gondolas glide through serene canals. Enjoy the unique ambiance of this historic city where every corner tells a story.

The Human Safety Net Venice 30m-1h

The mission of The Human Safety Net is to unlock the potential of people living in vulnerable circumstances so that they can transform the lives of their families and communities. Visit this unique space located in the Procuratie Vecchie building. Once home to the offices and residences of the Procurators of San Marco, the site is now open to the public for the first time in 500 years.

After Hours Visit St. Mark's Basilica Venice 1h-1h

An after-hours visit to St. Mark's Basilica in Venice is one of the most profound "behind-the-scenes" experiences in Europe. Once the massive bronze doors are locked to the public and the midday crowds have vanished, the atmosphere shifts from a busy tourist site to a silent, golden sanctuary.

Day 3

VENICE/FLORENCE

Board a high-speed train and journey into the heart of Tuscany to reach the magical city of Florence. Head directly to the vibrant Mercato Centrale to enjoy a lunch of local specialties amidst the bustle of artisan food stalls. In the afternoon, join an art historian for a private tour of the Galleria degli Uffizi. Stand before the world's finest collection of Renaissance paintings, including Botticelli's "The Birth of Venus," as your expert brings the genius of the masters to life. The evening is yours to wander the cobblestone streets where the Renaissance began.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



ACCOMMODATION

Lungarno Collection Hotel (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Train Venice - Florence 2h30m 255km

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

ACTIVITY

A visit to the Mercato Centrale is a sensory bridge between historic Florence and modern culinary innovation. The orientation walk guides you through the traditional ground-floor stalls where locals shop for seasonal produce, followed by a curated lunch in the vibrant upper-floor food hall. It is an experience of "controlled chaos" that offers the most efficient and delicious way to understand the Tuscan palate in a single afternoon.

Join an Art Historian for a Tour of Galleria Uffizi Florence 2h-2h

A tour of the Uffizi with an Art Historian is a masterclass in the Italian Renaissance. By filtering the museum's thousands of works into a coherent story of perspective, humanism, and patronage, this specialist ensures you don't just see the "greatest hits," but understand why these specific paintings changed the course of Western history. It is the difference between looking at a painting and truly seeing the mind of the artist.

Day 4

FLORENCE

Spend the morning uncovering the architectural wonders of the "Cradle of the Renaissance" alongside a local guide. Walk past the historic Piazza della Signoria and the medieval stone spans of the Ponte Vecchio. After free time for a leisurely lunch, cross the river to Oltrarno, Florence's bohemian heart. Join a sunset food and wine tour through this neighborhood of centuries-old workshops and family-run delis. Savour handmade pasta and artisanal gelato in easygoing piazzas, experiencing one of the city's most genuine culinary destinations as the locals gather for an aperitivo.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Lungarno Collection Hotel (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Florence Walking Tour Florence 3h

A locally guided Florence walking tour is a masterclass in urban evolution and human achievement. By pairing exclusive architectural marvels with the local storytelling, it transforms the "museum city" of Florence into a living laboratory of Renaissance innovation and modern conservation.

ACTIVITY

Uncover the treasures of Florence, savoured by locals for generations, on this 3-hour walking tour through Oltrarno. Experience the unique flavours and foods that make the cuisine of this region so distinct from the rest of Italy. Famous for being the birthplace of the Renaissance and home to Michelangelo's famous statue of David, Florence is a city rich with culture, history and of course, some of the tastiest Tuscan food in the region. Wander the streets and soak up the bohemian vibe as you stop to sample wine and salami.

Travel into the rolling vineyards of Tuscany to the farm of Cucina Giuseppina. Join a master truffle-hunter to forage for truffles in the damp earth before indulging in a sumptuous four-course farm-to-table lunch featuring your finds. Continue to the 13th-century Castello di Gargonza, a fortified village owned by the noble Guicciardini family. Enjoy a private meeting with a family member in the historic tower to hear firsthand accounts of their 11th-century lineage. Explore the "hidden" Gargonza, including private gardens where the scent of rosemary and ancient stone fills the air.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

Azienda Castello di Gargonza (or similar) **Hotel**

Perched on a wooded hilltop between Siena and Arezzo, Castello di Gargonza is a rare opportunity to stay within an authentic 13th-century fortified village in the heart of Tuscany. Originally established as a defensive stronghold of the Republic of Siena, the walled hamlet once sheltered soldiers, farmers, and noble families during the turbulent medieval struggles between Siena and Florence.

Encircled by intact stone walls and watchtowers, the castle village retains its original layout of cobbled lanes, small piazzas, and rustic dwellings. Carefully restored in the late 20th century, Gargonza was transformed into an albergo diffuso – a “scattered hotel” – preserving the integrity of the medieval structures while introducing modern comforts discreetly within centuries-old stone buildings.

Throughout its history, the castle has hosted nobles, statesmen, scholars, and cultural figures, and in modern times has attracted writers, artists, academics, and international travelers drawn to its seclusion and authenticity. Its atmosphere feels less like a conventional hotel and more like inhabiting a living piece of Tuscany’s past.

Guest accommodations are spread throughout the restored village houses, featuring exposed beams, terracotta floors, and panoramic views across olive groves and rolling countryside. The castle’s restaurant serves regional Tuscan cuisine rooted in local tradition, while the surrounding forests and hills offer walking paths and quiet moments of reflection.

Guests choose Castello di Gargonza for its extraordinary sense of immersion – the rare chance to sleep within medieval walls, wander ancient passageways at dusk, and experience Tuscany

beyond the well-trodden routes. Remote yet accessible, historic yet comfortable, the castle offers a stay defined by atmosphere, landscape, and the enduring romance of rural Italy.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle **Florence - Certaldo** 1h15m-1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

A visit to Cucina Giuseppina is a raw, authentic journey from the roots of the Tuscan forest to the table. Led by a Master Hunter and his dog, you'll spend the morning unearthing the elusive Marzuolo truffle before retiring to a private hunting cottage. There, you'll enjoy a multi-course, farm-to-table lunch where your fresh finds are shaved generously over handmade pasta, all paired with the farm's own Chianti.

Private Vehicle **Certaldo - Gargonza** 1h45m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

The current owner, Neri Guicciardini, is deeply involved in the daily life of the castle. As part of your stay, enjoy a private meeting with him or a member of his family. Typically held in the main villa or the historic tower, this gathering offers a warm, personal conversation over coffee or an aperitivo. You'll hear firsthand accounts of how his father, Roberto, rescued the village from abandonment in the 1970s. Furthermore, you will learn about the family's noble lineage, which dates back to the 11th century, and the castle's connection to Dante Alighieri, who stayed here during his exile in 1304.

Awaken to the serene beauty of the Tuscan countryside. Begin your day with a guided walk through the old-growth forests surrounding the castle, learning about the local flora and fauna from those who call this estate home. Later, join your hosts for a hands-on cooking demonstration to master the art of preparing local delicacies before sharing the meal together for lunch. After a restful afternoon soaking in the baronial splendour of the estate, enjoy a curated wine and cheese pairing. Gather for a final Tuscan dinner as the sun sets over the vineyards, painting the hills in shades of gold and violet.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



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TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Walking Tour of Gargonza and Tuscan Woods Gargonza 1h

A walking tour of Gargonza offers a rare lens into cultural preservation, often led by the Count himself. Explore the fortified walls of a 13th-century castle before retreating into the silent beauty of the Tuscan woods. It is a story of a ghost town brought back to life, celebrating Dante's legacy, Renaissance architecture, and the enduring bond between a noble family and their land.

ACTIVITY

A cooking class at Chateau Gargonza is a hands-on masterclass in "Cucina Povera" made elegant. It is an intimate journey where you transform humble ingredients—flour, eggs, and herbs—into a multi-course Tuscan feast. By the time you sit down to lunch with a glass of estate wine, you aren't just eating a meal; you are consuming the heritage of a village that has been feeding travelers since the time of Dante.

ACTIVITY

A wine tasting and dinner at Gargonza is a sensory time-capsule. It begins with a sophisticated analysis of high-altitude Sangiovese in a medieval cellar and concludes with a farm-to-table feast that celebrates the seasonal bounty of the Tuscan woods. It is an evening defined by "quiet luxury"—where the quality of the ingredients and the depth of the history do all the talking.

Day 7

TUSCANY/ROME

Continue to Rome a city where ancient ruins and baroque piazzas exist side by side, still humming with the energy of nearly three millennia of continuous life. A walking tour moves through the layers: the coin-scattered waters of the Trevi Fountain, the perfectly preserved dome of the Pantheon, and the narrow streets of Trastevere where locals gather as they have for centuries. After free time for lunch, the Vatican draws you in – vast, overwhelming, and unmistakable. Stand beneath Michelangelo's ceiling in the Sistine Chapel as the light filters down from high windows, the painted figures above feeling close enough to touch. The evening is yours to explore Rome's illuminated piazzas at your own pace.



Meals included

Breakfast



ACCOMMODATION

NH Collection Fori Imperiali (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Minibus Gargonza - Rome 2h30m

It's bigger than a van, smaller than a bus, and just the right size for adventure.

Walking Tour of Rome Rome 2h

This walking tour is a choreographed journey through Rome's high-points. Starting with the Trevi Fountain, the ancient engineering of the Pantheon, and the Baroque drama of Piazza Navona, you experience the city's transition from a superpower of the ancient world to a curated masterpiece of the modern one.

Vatican Museum Visit Vatican City 3h-4h

The Vatican Museums near St Peter's Basilica contain priceless works of art from ancient to modern times. There are many different museums to choose from, but two of the most well known are the Sistine Chapel and the Raphael rooms.

Day 8

ROME

Step into the ruins of the Roman Forum for a private visit inside the Chiesa di San Lorenzo in Miranda. Meet a local archaeologist who will bring the historic ruins to life with stories of the ancient Temple of Antoninus and Faustina. Continue to the imposing Colosseum to walk in the footsteps of gladiators before an afternoon at leisure. In the evening, gather with your fellow travellers to toast your Italian sojourn at a festive farewell dinner, celebrating the memories of the Renaissance masters and ancient empires witnessed together.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



ACCOMMODATION

NH Collection Fori Imperiali (or similar) Hotel



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY

Guided by an archaeologist, you move from the imperial grandeur of a deified Empress to the scientific heritage of a 600-year-old medical guild. It is an experience of "exclusive vantage points"—standing atop a 2,000-year-old podium to look out over the Forum, while surrounded by the quiet, scholarly atmosphere of one of Rome's oldest professional guilds.

Guided Visit of Colosseum Rome 1h15m

A guided visit to the Colosseum today serves as a profound lesson in archaeological storytelling, bringing the ancient stones to life. By navigating the newly restored Travertine Piazza, the Imperial Passage, and the Underground Hypogeum, the experience moves beyond a simple photo-op to reveal the complex logistics of ancient Roman control. It remains the world's most powerful symbol of how architecture was used to entertain—and pacify—a superpower.

Day 9

ROME

After a final Italian breakfast, take a moment to reflect on the masterpieces and noble traditions encountered from the lagoon to the Seven Hills. Your expedition to Italy concludes today with a transfer to the airport. Carry with you the enduring spirit of the Renaissance and the timeless beauty of ancient Rome.



Meals included

Breakfast



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Departure Transfer

Rome - Leonardo da Vinci-Fiumicino Airport

1h

You will be met at your hotel and transferred to the airport at the end of your adventure.

What's included

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What are the main highlights of this trip?

Meet a member of the noble Guicciardini family for a private talk at their 13th-century castle, Join an archaeologist for a private visit inside a temple-turned-church in the Roman Forum, Experience the bohemian heart of Oltrarno Florence's "Left Bank" through a sunset tour of artisan food and wine.

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Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Is there an itinerary Disclaimer?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

COLOSSEUM NOTE:

If your booking for this trip is confirmed with less than 45 days prior to departure, we will do our best to secure a ticket for the guided Colosseum experience. However, please note that due to high demand for tickets, we are not able to guarantee this inclusion if your booking is confirmed within this time period.

What is the group leader like?

All National Geographic Signature group trips are accompanied by one of our National Geographic Expedition Leaders throughout. The aim of the Expedition Leaders is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

How large will the group be?

Max. 22, Avg. 16

What meals are included in this trip?

8 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 6 dinners

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private Vehicle, Train, Walking, Water Taxi

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotel (8 nights)

What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Signature Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. Included arrival transfers are provided from the nearest airport to your starting location. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER

G Adventures Berlin office: +441858378000

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 800 394 5416

Calls from UK: 0800 041 8146

Calls from Germany: 0800 181 9454

Calls from Australia: 1 800 204 905

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 424 389

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What instructions should I follow at the finishing point?

You will be met at your hotel and transferred to the airport at the end of your adventure.

What should be on my packing list?

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

Smart Dress:

- Smart outfit (For evenings out)

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

For other nationalities, travelling in Europe has been simplified with the introduction of the Schengen visa. As a visitor to the Schengen area (Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland) you will enjoy the many advantages of this unified visa system. Generally speaking with a Schengen visa, you may enter one Schengen country and travel freely throughout the Schengen region during the validity of your visa. There are limited border controls at Schengen borders, if any at all.

Please note that the UK and Ireland are NOT part of the Schengen agreement.

A Schengen visa is applied for at the Embassy or Consulate of the Schengen country in which you will be spending the most nights on your trip to the Schengen space. If you are only visiting one country on your trip then you apply for your visa at the Consulate of this Schengen country.

As of 2025, various European countries are introducing ETIAS travel authorisation as an entry requirement for visa-exempt nationals.

We highly recommend you checking in advance how your nationality and country/s you are visiting may be affected.

Further details can be found [here](#)

Last updated: January 27th 2025

How much spending money do I need for my trip?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances. Visa cards are the most widely accepted cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work. Check with your bank. You should be aware when purchasing products or services on a credit card, that a fee usually applies. Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of Euros and cards is best. Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

Should I be tipping on my trip?

On our National Geographic Signature tours, tipping is included for all included activities and meals, and portage. Tipping is not included for the Expedition Leader. Should you want some basic guidelines on tipping for the activities you do on your own, please see below. At the end of each trip if you felt your National Geographic Signature Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline would be \$10-\$15 per person per day.

In addition, please note that tipping is not required or expected for the Expedition Expert.

What activities are optional on this trip?

- No optional activities

What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.