

Trip Tips For Traveling in Europe
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1. The best time to surf the Internet for best prices is on Tuesday after 3 PM.
2. Recommended travel sites: www.orbitz.com and www.travelocity.com
3. Best price for booking: 3 months in advance, then two, etc
4. Try to surf after midnight when the connections are faster.
5. Avoid booking around Christmas, Easter, the end of the school year, and during August.
6. Insurance costs 8-10% of the ticket price. After booking, the cost increases to 10-12%.
7. Print the ticket after confirmation.
8. When changing planes at the same airport, allow a minimum of 1 hour.
9. When booking a flight, fill in the box for Senior and flight +/- 3 days, etc.
10. The cheapest flights are always on Wednesdays.
11. Baggage tags should include where you are staying in Europe and on the return flight, your address in the United States.
12. Use color tape around your luggage to identify it and for security.
13. Do not lock the checking luggage.
14. Make two to three copies of the first two pages of your passport and your tickets. Have them with you in your carry-on as well as in the checked luggage. Do the same with your medical information and prescriptions.
15. In your carry-on bag include: prescriptions, toiletries, a shirt, underwear, socks, an e-book reader, flashlight, an unlocked mobile phone with a SIM card, etc.
16. Two or three days before departure, activate your ATM card and American Express Card which is the most accepted card in Europe.
17. When you arrive in Europe, take only legal taxis-avoid gypsies. Use public transportation.
18. On your first day, withdraw a large amount of euros and a minimum on the last days because the commissions are different.
19. On the first or second day in a city, take the "City Tour" by double decker bus, hop in, hop out, to acclimate yourself to the new environment.
20. Eat only at rural restaurants and choose from the "Daily Menu" that includes fresh, local cuisine that is served immediately. Avoid fast food restaurants such as McDonalds, Burger King, and KFC.
21. Some airport restaurants have machines that accept payments in dollars, rubles, etc and give you the change in euros only.
22. When buses stop, they tilt towards the waiting line of passengers to allow easier walk-in.
23. Big food chains have large screens at their entrances for ordering and paying for food.
24. Standard Meal Times are: Breakfast: 7-10 AM; Lunch: 1-3 PM; Dinner: 9 PM-12 AM
25. You may enter the museums for free on one Monday or Tuesday each month.
26. There are no free coffee refills.
27. The maximum tip should be between 5-8% of the total bill.
28. Food portions are half the size of the ones in America.
29. ALL items are more expensive in Europe than they are in the United States.