



May 29 - June 16, 2015  
*extended tour ends June 21*



# GRADUATE THEN CELEBRATE



*Essential*  
EUROPE

**Graduation Trip • 19 days / 8 countries**  
plus optional 5-day extension to Greece

ENGLAND - FRANCE - BELGIUM - HOLLAND - GERMANY - AUSTRIA - ITALY - VATICAN CITY - GREECE



**The Association**  
OF FORMER STUDENTS®  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

*Traveling Aggies*

## DAY 1 TRAVEL TO LONDON

The Essential Europe begins with an overnight flight to “Merry Old England.”

*Meals: In-flight*

## DAY 2 LONDON

Enjoy a free afternoon to relax and unwind. In the evening we'll have our welcome orientation followed by a fun London pub crawl.

*Meals: In-flight*

## DAY 3 LONDON

Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, and Piccadilly Circus: these familiar names become familiar places on our morning tour. Afternoon at leisure, see in the city's monuments, embark on a Harrods' shopping spree, or explore the British Museum, the National Gallery and the London Dungeons. After dusk, you may want to take-in some Shakespeare at the Globe theater by the Thames River or attend a West End theater show.

*Meals: Breakfast*

## DAY 4 LONDON \* ENGLISH CHANNEL \* PARIS

Travel to southeast England today and board our ship to the continent. Motor through northern France and arrive in Paris, “City of Lights.” We'll dine together at our French bistro dinner, and then enjoy a romantic Seine River cruise.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

## DAY 5 PARIS

Morning tour of Paris, see the hunchback “Quasimodo's” Notre Dame Cathedral, Place de la Concorde, where the guillotine once stood, and the Eiffel Tower's steel lacework. Free time in the afternoon – visit Left Bank bookstalls, or shop the chic boutiques of Paris. Consider joining our optional can-can Cabaret Show tonight.

*Meals: Breakfast*

*Optional activity: Cabaret Show*

## DAY 6 PARIS

Free day in Paris: included Paris 2-day Museum Pass allows access to over 70 museums and monuments in and around Paris including the world famous Louvre, housing the Mona Lisa, Musée d'Orsay, Musée National Picasso, and the Château de Versailles. Have your portrait done by Place du Tertre artists or sample sinful French pastries. Your free evening may find you watching the world go by from a sidewalk café on the Champs Elysées.

*Meals: Breakfast*

## DAY 7 PARIS \* BRUSSELS \* AMSTERDAM

Motor to Belgium and Brussels, and see the Grand' Place, a perfect medieval square, and the statue of naughty Mennekin-Pis. Continue to Amsterdam and enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure.

*Meals: Breakfast*

## DAY 8 DUTCH COUNTRYSIDE

Go biking through 13th-century Dutch fishing villages along the IJssel Lake beaches today, watch wooden shoes being carved and sample Edam cheese at a cheese farm. Free time this afternoon in Amsterdam to tour the Van Gogh or Rijksmuseum, or visit Anne Frank's house. This evening we invite you on a boat cruise on the canals of Amsterdam followed by our Dutch-Indonesian “Rice Table” dinner.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

## DAY 9 COLOGNE \* RHINE RIVER CRUISE \* HEIDELBERG

Cross the German border into Cologne, famous for the world's largest Gothic cathedral. Embark on a cruise along the fabled Rhine River, passing steeply sloped vineyards, ancient castles, and the legendary Lorelei Rock. Continue to Heidelberg, the “City of the Student Prince” and climb to the ruins of the Castle of the Palatine Elector for a bird's-eye view of the city and the Neckar River.

*Meals: Breakfast*

## DAY 10 HEIDELBERG \* ROTHENBURG \* MUNICH

Germany's Romantic Road takes us to Rothenburg ob der Tauber. This medieval city is celebrated not only for its well-preserved Gothic and Baroque buildings and walls, but also for its unspoiled picturesque setting. Enjoy lunch at a local Gasthaus before continuing our journey to the fun-filled Oktoberfest city of Munich. Free evening to check out the oompah-pah bands at the famous Hofbräuhaus.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

## DAY 11 MUNICH

Enjoy a full day at your leisure. Consider visiting the BMW museum, seeing the Glockenspiel Chimes at the market square, the 1972 Olympic Village or shopping for Bavarian beer steins and lederhosen on Maximilianstrasse. Consider an optional excursion to the Dachau concentration camp this afternoon. We'll dine on authentic Bavarian fare tonight.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

*Optional activity: Dachau Excursion*

## DAY 12 MUNICH \* BERCHTESGADEN SALT MINES \* SALZBURG \* ALPINE CENTER

This morning, we continue to Berchtesgaden. Dressed in miner's clothing, enjoy a ride on a funicular and down slides through the salt mine. Our next stop is Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace and site where the classic movie, “Sound of Music”

was filmed. Explore the narrow streets lined with colorful wrought iron signs and shops before we continue our journey to Europe's largest alpine sports region. Be our pampered guest for two nights of fitness and fun while nestled in the snow-capped Austrian mountains at our Alpine Center.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

## DAY 13 ALPINE CENTER

All day today is at our leisure; go for a hike in the Alps and join the fun and excitement of whitewater rafting. A hearty Austrian dinner awaits after all that activity.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

*Optional activity: Whitewater Rafting*

## DAY 14 AUSTRIAN LAKE DISTRICT \* VENICE, ITALY

The picturesque landscape of the Austrian Lake District brings us to sunny Italy's Venice—“Sinking City in the Sea.” Walk to St. Mark's Square, stop at a Murano glass-blowing workshop and watch famous Venetian glass being made. Consider a romantic gondola ride this evening gliding through the intricate maze of canals beneath arched bridges passing 12th and 18th-century marble palaces.

*Meals: Breakfast*

## DAY 15 VENICE \* FLORENCE

Through the fertile Po Valley we approach Florence, Golden City of the Renaissance and birthplace of Michelangelo. Our Florence art tour includes the Gates of Paradise, the marble Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral and Giotto's bell tower, then there's free time for shopping and museums. Get ready for an optional dinner of pure Italian delights at “Il Latini” tonight.

*Meals: Breakfast*

*Optional activity: Tuscan Feast*

## DAY 16 FLORENCE

A free day to explore the Uffizi Gallery and see the collections of Giotto, Botticelli, Raphael and da Vinci. The Galleria dell'Accademia houses several sculptures by Michelangelo including his famous David. Enjoy our dinner of traditional Florentine fare.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

*Optional activity: Chianti Excursion*

## DAY 17 FLORENCE \* ROME

Travel past Chianti vineyards along the Highway of the Sun to the Eternal City of Rome. After check in we have time to relax or explore baroque Rome: Stop to toss three coins in Trevi Fountain, see the Pantheon and sample the famous “gelati” ice cream at Piazza Navona.

*Meals: Breakfast*

## DAY 18 ROME \* VATICAN CITY

This morning we explore Capitol Hill with the most spectacular view of Caesar's Roman Forum, center of political and social activity, with ancient ruins dating from the 8th century BC. Also see Nero's Circus Maximus where chariot races were held. A trip across the Tiber River takes us to Vatican City - the world's smallest state. Visit St. Peter's Basilica housing Michelangelo's magnificent “Pieta.” During afternoon free time you may want to use your Roma Pass to visit the Colosseum, where gladiators fought to the death. Our dinner tonight is a mouth-watering Roman banquet complete with Italian specialties.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

## DAY 19 ROME \* TRAVEL HOME – or continue on to POMPEII \* OVERNIGHT SHIP TO GREECE

For some of us the celebratory tour 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: motor through sunny olive groves lining the way south to Pompeii, the city buried in 79 A.D. by 20 feet of ash and lava after Mt. Vesuvius' volcanic eruption. Afterwards we cross the Italian “boot” and board our overnight ship to Greece.

*Meals: Breakfast*

## DAY 20, 21, 22 GREEK ISLAND CENTER

After cruising through aquamarine waters, our ship docks at Patras. Motor along the Corinthian Sea coastline, across the Peloponnese peninsula to Galatas and the island of Poros. Relax with three days of living like a Greek god - swim, sunbathe, or take part in optional activities such as waterskiing, wakeboarding, parasailing, banana-boating or tubing. We invite everyone to our Toga Party on the last night.

*Meals: Breakfast and Dinner daily*

*Optional activity: Aquatic Adventure*

## DAY 23 ATHENS

In the morning we board our ferry to Athens. See the 2,400-year-old Parthenon, the Temple of Olympian Zeus and Constitution Square. A free afternoon may find us wandering the paths of Plato, Socrates and Sophocles or trying our bargaining skills at the markets of Monastiraki. This evening follow the sounds of traditional bouzouki music and join our farewell taverna dinner in the Plaka District – Athens' oldest neighborhood at the foot of the Acropolis.

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

## DAY 24 TRAVEL HOME

Reluctantly we say farewell to Europe and new-found friends. Jet back home with thoughts of planning the next European Adventure!

*Meals: Breakfast, In-flight*

*Traveling Aggies*

Howdy, Aggie Parent!

Have you thought about a graduation gift for your son or daughter? The Association of Former Students is pleased to announce our fourteenth annual celebratory summer tour: *Essential Europe*. This nineteen-day, eight-country trip, with an optional five-day extension to Greece, would make a wonderful gift that continues your Aggie's education.

It offers the chance for your son or daughter to visit Europe's must-see destinations before settling down into a new job or graduate school. This trip is a comprehensive tour of Europe designed for new graduates of Texas A&M and select peer institutions.

As you will see from the enclosed flyer, the *Essential Europe* is a great value tour.

It offers:

- Opportunity for fun, hassle-free travel with other graduates.
- Insights into other people, places and cultures that will be a source of personal enrichment.
- Experiences that will broaden your student's worldview and provide an advantage in today's global job market.
- A vacation to remember and a reward for hard work!

Your son or daughter's education will not stop when he or she graduates from Texas A&M. Education is a lifelong process and travel offers unparalleled opportunities for hands-on learning.

We hope that your Aggie will be able to join us this summer as we visit exciting destinations, learn more about our world, and relax and unwind on a great holiday.

We look forward to welcoming every student to The Association of Former Students.

Congratulations and gig 'em!

*Jennifer Bohac*  
Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.  
Director of Travel Programs



For more information, please contact:  
The Association of Former Students  
Traveling Aggies  
505 George Bush Dr.  
College Station, TX 77840  
979-845-7514, 800-633-7514; fax: 979-845-9263  
E-mail: [TravelingAggies@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:TravelingAggies@AggieNetwork.com)  
[AggieNetwork.com](http://AggieNetwork.com)

**Base Land Package:**

**19 days - 8 countries**

**\$3,725\***

**ADD \$725 for optional 5-day extension**

*\*Special Alumni Land price per person. Airfare priced separately for greater flexibility. Please call AESU Alumni World Travel for great low airfares from most U.S. cities. Airport/departure taxes are additional and subject to change. Single Supplement \$975/\$325*

**London pre-tour package available:**

*Arrive early, transfer to your hotel via hotel shuttle, relax and explore London town on your own with your 24-hour hop-on hop-off bus ticket.*

*Cost per person per night:*

*Shared double or twin room: \$225 - Single travelers: \$325*

*Availability is very limited and rates are subject to change.*

**YOUR 19-DAY BASE LAND PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- ❖ 17 nights in superior tourist class hotels or better with private bath/shower, double occupancy
- ❖ Daily continental breakfast
- ❖ Seven three-course specialty dinners
- ❖ One lunch
- ❖ Guided tours led by a local historian in
  - London
  - Paris
  - Florence
  - Rome
- ❖ Seine River cruise
- ❖ Rhine River cruise
- ❖ Amsterdam Canal cruise
- ❖ Two-day Paris Museum Pass
- ❖ ROMA-PASS (full access to public transport system, reduced admission to museums, music events, theater, etc.)
- ❖ Admission to
  - Berchtesgaden Salt Mines
  - Colosseum & Forum (as part of ROMA pass)

**YOUR 5-DAY SOUTHERN ITALY & GREECE EXTENSION INCLUDES:**

- ❖ Five nights in superior tourist class hotels or better with private bath/shower, double occupancy
  - incl. overnight ship from Italy to Greece in 4-share cabin
- ❖ Daily continental breakfast
- ❖ Four three-course specialty dinners
- ❖ Guided tours led by a local historian in
  - Pompeii
  - Athens
- ❖ Admission to
  - Pompeii
  - Acropolis

**PLUS:**

- ❖ Private tour director for the duration of the land tour
- ❖ All scheduled sightseeing
- ❖ Intra-European transportation by air-conditioned motor coach as per itinerary
- ❖ All service charges and local taxes
- ❖ Luggage tag and travel guides

The following OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS are available at an additional charge and can be booked with your tour director overseas:

**Paris**

Cabaret Show

**Austrian Alps**

Whitewater Rafting

**Florence**

Chianti Excursion

Tuscan Feast

**Poros (24-day tour only)**

Aquatic Adventure

*Request your 2015 options brochure for details.*

**For specific tour-related questions, please contact:**

AESU Alumni World Travel  
3922 Hickory Avenue \* Baltimore, MD 21211  
PH: 800-638-7640 or 410-366-5494  
Fax: 410-366-6999  
E-mail: [alumni@aesu.com](mailto:alumni@aesu.com)



**RESERVE YOUR EXCITING ESSENTIAL EUROPE TRIP TODAY!**

Mail to: The Association of Former Students  
 Traveling Aggies  
 505 George Bush Dr.  
 College Station, TX 77840  
 phone: 979-845-7514 or 800-633-7514  
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 e-mail: TravelingAggies@AggieNetwork.com  
 website: AggieNetwork.com

**Texas A&M - May 29 - June 16, 2015**  
**Athens return June 21**

**BASE LAND PRICE**  
**\$3,725 plus airfare\***  
**ADD \$725 for optional 5-day extension**  
 \*Special Alumni Land price per person. Airfare priced separately for greater flexibility. Please call AESU Alumni World Travel for great low airfares from most U.S. cities. Approximate round-trip airfare from Houston, TX: \$781. Taxes of approx. \$683 not included.

**Passenger's Legal Name (as it appears on passport):**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 First name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Middle name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing address: (WHERE ALL INVOICES AND FINAL DOCUMENTS ARE SENT)**

Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gender:  male  female

Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (If passport information is not available at time of booking, please submit information before tour departure.)  
 Emergency contact/Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport/Place of Issue: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency contact/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Land arrangements:**

I want to book the 19-day land package (leaving tour in Rome) for \$3,725  I will pay the single supplement of \$975 for the 19-day tour  
 I want to book the 19-day land package for \$3,725 PLUS the 5-day OPTION for \$725  I will pay the single supplement of \$1,300 for the 24-day tour  
 I will room with \_\_\_\_\_ (If traveling as a single and not paying single supplement, AESU will arrange same-gender shared accommodation.)

**Pre-tour package in London:**

I want to book the one-night pre-tour package for \$225 (includes one 24-hour hop-on hop-off bus ticket) -- I am sharing a room with \_\_\_\_\_  
 I am a single traveler and will pay \$325 for the pre-tour package

**Air arrangements:**

Please make round-trip flight reservations for me. I am departing from (city) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Discount airfares available from most US cities. Call AESU/Alumni World Travel at 800.638.7640 for details. Airport/departure taxes are additional and subject to change.)  
 I will arrange my own flights to and from overseas.

I am paying by check. Charge my deposit to:  Mastercard  Visa  American Express  
 Enclosed is my deposit of US \$500 to secure my reservation. Card #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Enclosed is my full payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per person. Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Digit (4 Digit AMEX)  
 (Make checks payable to AESU Alumni World Travel.) Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reservations to be paid in full 90 days prior to departure. Reservations received after this date Cardholder name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 are subject to availability and must be accompanied by payment in full. A late booking fee of \$50 Payment of deposit indicates that I have read and agree to all terms and conditions.  
 per person will apply if booking/payment is received less than 90 days prior to departure.  
 All prices reflect a cash discount. Payment of balance with credit card will result  
 in a 4% processing fee. Airfare priced separately for greater flexibility.  
 Please call AESU/Alumni World Travel 800-638-7640 for great airfares from most US cities.

**Terms and Conditions**

EXCLUSIONS: These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own.); airport and government taxes; tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested \$4-5 per day for tour director, \$2-3 per day for driver); beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise; laundry; personal insurance; room service; telephone charges; all items of a personal nature; portage; airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates; private transportation; and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All cancellations must be received by AESU Alumni World Travel in writing. All cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$300 per person cancellation fee. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. In addition to \$300, cancellation between 60-31 days of departure will result forfeiture of 25% of tour cost; between 30-16 days 40%. Cancellation within 16 days of departure or a "no-show" at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip.

AIRFARES are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once reservation is booked and paid for AESU Alumni World Travel reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes also subject to penalties. Medical health and accident insurance is compulsory.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS & BAGGAGE: All participants using AESU Alumni World Travel flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. London Gatwick arrivals please call AESU (800.638.7640) for details on transfer. Inter-airport transfers (i.e. between London Gatwick-Heathrow) are at passenger's expense. Land-Only participants (providing own flight to Europe) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 1:00 p.m. on program start date. FLIGHT DELAYS -- ALL AIRPORTS: In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.) AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. All programs start in Europe ONE DAY LATER THAN the USA departure dates listed. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract. RESPONSIBILITY: The responsibility of AESU Alumni World Travel and the Sponsoring Association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/ herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond AESU Alumni World Travel's control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. Trip cancellation insurance should be purchased by the individual traveler in the event cancellation of the tour is compelled by circumstances beyond our control. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, AESU Alumni World Travel's liability shall be limited to a FULL REFUND of all payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. Baggage and personal injury are at owner's risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. AESU Alumni World Travel reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed, even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our web site at [www.alumnimworldtravel.com](http://www.alumnimworldtravel.com). Association's Disclaimer: The Association is not the Tour Operator. The Association is not responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or car rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our control. The Association acts only as agent for the participants with respect to travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in conveying participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, The Association shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, governmental intervention or other causes beyond its control. The Association shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality. The right is further reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure; in which case the entire payment may be refunded without further obligation on its part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person's health, actions or general department impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour. Applicants for participation on this tour accept in full all of the conditions set forth above. No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

I have read and agreed to all terms and conditions: \_\_\_\_\_ Your signature here