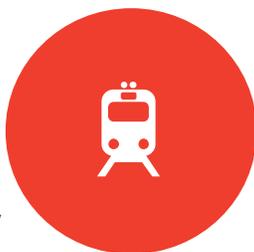




PARIS + VENICE OPERA RAIL TOUR

YOUR TICKET TO THESE CLASSIC CITIES' GRANDEST MUSICAL TRADITIONS, FEBRUARY 2017

Let the songwriters have Paris in springtime and Venice when it's too darned hot—the smart traveller knows to visit these iconic cities in the off-season. The formula is simple: mild winter temperatures minus summer crowds, plus high-speed trains equal a thrilling, affordable and easy winter holiday. The extra credit? The cities' arts scenes, dormant during summer, are in full swing, making a visit to the opera houses in both destinations attainable. The opera houses themselves are significant even when silent. Paris's Bastille Opera House opened in 1989, part



of the celebrations surrounding the 200th anniversary of the taking of the Bastille. In Venice, the Fenice Opera House (the site of premieres of works by Rossini, Donizetti, and Verdi) was fastidiously rebuilt after a fire destroyed it ten years ago. Happily, opera fans, these storied theaters will not be silent this season. Favorite works by Mozart and Rossini are on the 2016/2017 winter programmes for both Paris' Bastille Opera (*The Magic Flute*) and Venice's historic Fenice Opera House (*The Barber of Seville*), so *Veni, Verdi, Vici!*

Turn over to read itinerary →

ITINERARY

DAY 1	THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2, 9 OR 16 Depart London St. Pancras at 14:22 for 17:47 arrival in Paris (Gare du Nord). Check in to Hotel Wallace Tour Eiffel for 2-night stay, with breakfast.
DAY 2	FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3, 10 OR 17 Spend the day taking in the sights of Paris; before the 19:30 curtain time for <i>"The Magic Flute"</i> at the Bastille Opera.
DAY 3	SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4, 11 OR 18 Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, then depart Paris Gare de Lyon 10:41 by TGV (high-speed train), arriving at Torino Porta Susa at 16:41, connecting with the 17:10 train to Venezia Santa Lucia, arriving 21.40. Check into your choice of hotels for a 2-night stay, with breakfast, the Hotel Hesperia or to the Hotel Continental (supplement for Hotel Continental: £60 sharing twin room).
DAY 4	SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5, 12 OR 19 Explore the charming squares, bridges, streets, and canals of Venice before taking your seat for the performance of <i>"The Barber of Seville"</i> at the historic Fenice Opera House.
DAY 5	MONDAY FEBRUARY 6, 13 OR 20 Enjoy almost another full day wandering Venice before boarding the 19:20 overnight "Thello" couchette & sleeping car train service for Paris.
DAY 6	TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7, 14 OR 21 Arrive at Gare de Lyon 09:30 Friday. Metro tickets are supplied for the quick journey to Paris Nord to connect with the 11:13 Eurostar train to London St. Pancras, arriving 12:39.

PRICES + DEPARTURES

Winter 2016/2017

Based on two people, sharing twin rooms with private shower/bath and w.c., in tourist-class hotels as specified (or similar), within short walking distance of railway stations; with Standard Class rail travel; seat reservations (where required); and 6-berth couchette accommodations on overnight trains between Venice/Paris: from £799.

Supplemental charges for optional upgrades:

- For T4 (4-berth couchette) accommodation on the overnight rail journeys, £15.
- For 1st Class rail travel throughout, including "Double" sleeper compartments on the overnight train journey, £190.
- For single room accommodation in the hotels, £85 (£130 if choosing Hotel Continental, Venice).

The "from" prices quoted are based upon seat availability on the trains and in the opera houses, and assume booking a few weeks prior to departure - but we will confirm the best prices available at the time of booking. All prices are based on RoE of €1.25 = £1; subject to availability, and will be confirmed at the time of booking, as will exact train timings.

HOTELS The hotels chosen for this tour (Venice: Hesperia or Continental; Paris: Hotel Wallace Tour Eiffel) have been chosen for their quality, for their category, and for their convenience to the railway stations. In the event that any of the selected hotels is not available, alternative hotels with as similar as possible characteristics and location will be offered. Maps of both cities will be included in your travel kit.

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Discount fares are available to/from London St. Pancras International from most major UK rail stations, in conjunction with this tour - prices on request.

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