

STEP BY STEP

EUROPE TRIP PLANNER

CREATED BY HAPPY TO WANDER

INTRODUCTION

HELLO!

**IF YOU'RE READING THIS, I
ASSUME YOU'RE A LUCKY
HUMAN WHO IS PLANNING A
TRIP TO EUROPE!**

IF NOT, I HOPE YOU LIKE
PRETENDING :)

THE FOLLOWING WORKBOOK
WAS CRAFTED WITH LOVE BY
ME, CHRISTINA, AKA THE
STRANGE LAPTOP GOBLIN
BEHIND
HAPPYTOWANDER.COM.

IN THE NEXT FEW PAGES,
YOU'LL FIND EVERYTHING YOU
NEED TO HELP YOU PLAN A
EUROPE TRIP, STEP BY STEP.

FROM HELPFUL RESOURCES
AND EXPLANATIONS TO
WORKSHEETS AND TEMPLATES
TO HELP YOU NAIL EVERY STEP
OF THE TRIP PLANNING
PROCESS, I HOPE YOU FIND
THIS WORKBOOK USEFUL.

READY? LET'S GO PLAN YOUR
THE TRIP OF YOUR DREAMS!

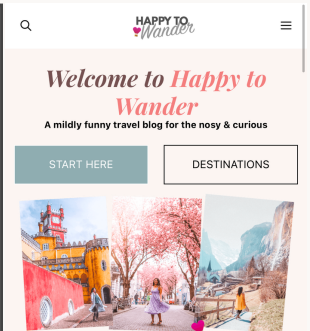


ALL MY BEST RESOURCES

MY WEBSITE

[HAPPYTOWANDER.COM](https://happytowander.com)

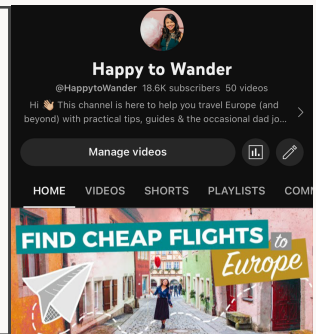
THIS IS WHERE YOU'LL FIND LENGTHY WRITTEN GUIDES ABOUT PLACES I'VE BEEN TO! THINK LISTS OF THINGS TO DO, ITINERARY IDEAS, AND RANDOM MUSINGS/FUN FACTS. IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR IN-DEPTH INFO, THIS IS THE PLACE!



MY YOUTUBE CHANNEL

[YOUTUBE.COM/HAPPYTOWANDER](https://youtube.com/happytowander)

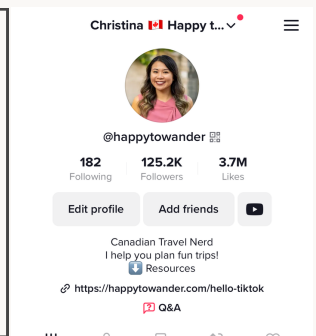
IF VIDEOS ARE MORE YOUR THING, CHECK OUT MY YOUTUBE CHANNEL, WHERE I HAVE VIDEO VERSIONS OF MY TOP BLOG POSTS, PLUS AN (HONESTLY DISPROPORTIONATE) AMOUNT OF CHRISTMAS CONTENT.



MY TIKTOK

[TIKTOK.COM/@HAPPYTOWANDER](https://tiktok.com/@happytowander)

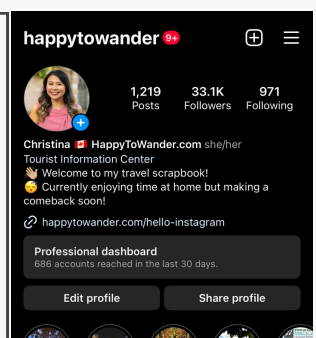
TIKTOK IS WHERE I'M MOST CANDID. IF YOU WANT TO SEE RAW CLIPS FROM MY TRAVELS (AND PEEKS OF MY RANDOM SENSE OF HUMOUR), THEN THIS IS THE ACCOUNT YOU NEED TO FOLLOW!



MY INSTAGRAM

[INSTAGRAM.COM/HAPPYTOWANDER](https://instagram.com/happytowander)

FOR MY SLIGHTLY MORE AESTHETIC SIDE (AND FOR STORIES FROM MY TRAVELS), THEN IG IS WHERE YOU NEED TO FIND ME. THIS IS ALSO THE INBOX I MONITOR MOST, SO DM ME ON THERE IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS!



8 STEP

TRIP PLANNING PROCESS

STEP ONE

UNDERSTAND THE
SCHENGEN AREA

STEP FIVE

BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS

STEP TWO

CHOOSE HOW MUCH TIME
TO SPEND IN EUROPE

STEP SIX

BOOK YOUR
ACCOMMODATION

STEP THREE

CHOOSE WHERE/WHEN TO
GO TO EUROPE

STEP SEVEN

FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO
IN EACH DESTINATION

STEP FOUR

FIGURE OUT YOUR VISAS
AND DOCUMENTS

STEP EIGHT

DECIDE WHAT TO PACK



STEP ONE

UNDERSTAND THE SCHENGEN AREA

A lot of people assume that in Europe, it's all border-free travel, but that's not actually the case, and the whole 'travel without borders' thing only applies to a certain group of countries in Europe known as **the Schengen Area**.

Granted, this is a huge group covering 29 countries, but it's still worth noting that some countries like the UK, Ireland, Albania, and many countries in this Balkan region are not included.

Practically speaking, that just means that if you stay within this Schengen Zone, you won't need to clear passport control every time you cross a border. If however you enter a non-Schengen country like the UK or Ireland, then you will need to go through passport control.

HERE ARE THE SCHENGEN ZONE COUNTRIES

The reason it's important to know the distinction between Schengen & Non Schengen is it can impact what visas you might have to apply for, or put a limit on how long your trip can be.

Generally speaking, those who may enter this zone visa-free can only stay 90 days out of 180 days, and visas are often granted for only 90 days out of 180 days as well.



DO I NEED A SCHENGEN VISA?

Consult [this list](#) to see if you will need to apply for a visa to enter the Schengen Area.

☐

YES

☐

NO

SCHENGEN COUNTRIES TO VISIT

For the countries you plan to visit, write down a rough estimate of how many days to spend there, ensuring your total doesn't exceed 90. You may wish to save this worksheet for later, after you've completed the other sections to figure out which countries you're visiting.

AUSTRIA	.....	LATVIA	.....
BELGIUM	.....	LIECHTENSTEIN	.....
BULGARIA	.....	LITHUANIA	.....
CROATIA	.....	LUXEMBOURG	.....
CZECHIA	.....	MALTA	.....
DENMARK	.....	THE NETHERLANDS	.....
ESTONIA	.....	NORWAY	.....
FINLAND	.....	POLAND	.....
FRANCE	.....	PORTUGAL	.....
GERMANY	.....	ROMANIA	.....
GREECE	.....	SLOVAKIA	.....
HUNGARY	.....	SLOVENIA	.....
ICELAND	.....	SPAIN	.....
ITALY	.....	SWEDEN	.....
		SWITZERLAND	.....



NON-SCHENGEN COUNTRIES TO VISIT

PRO TIP: Including a mix of countries in and out of the Schengen Area can help you stay in Europe longer than 90 days at a time without overstaying your allowance!

Use the space below to estimate the number of days you might spend in non-Schengen countries, so you have a better idea of how many days total you can potentially spend in Europe.

Remember that each country has its own rules for how long you can stay, so ensure your estimated days are within what's allowed for your passport.

ALBANIA	.....
ARMENIA	.....
AZERBAIJAN	.....
BELARUS	.....
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	.....
IRELAND	.....
MOLDOVA	.....
MONTENEGRO	.....
NORTH MACEDONIA	.....
SERBIA	.....
UKRAINE	.....
UNITED KINGDOM	.....



STEP TWO

**CHOOSE HOW
MUCH TIME TO
SPEND IN EUROPE**



CAN'T DECIDE HOW LONG TO GO FOR?

Use the space below to do
the math and see how many
days you'll have left for your
Europe trip!

OF VACATION DAYS AVAILABLE

**# OF VACATION DAYS NEEDED FOR
HOLIDAYS E.G. XMAS**

-

**# OF VACATION DAYS NEEDED FOR
OTHER OCCASIONS / TRIPS**

-

**# OF VACATION DAYS TO RETAIN
AS A BUFFER (IF NEEDED)**

-

**TOTAL DAYS LEFT TO
SPEND IN EUROPE**

=



STEP THREE

CHOOSE WHEN/WHERE TO GO IN EUROPE

POTENTIAL PLACES TO GO

HOP ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND/OR THE INTERWEBS TO SEE PLACES YOU'D MAYBE LIKE TO GO. WRITE DOWN YOUR SHORTLIST OF PLACES, THEN PUT A **CHECKMARK** IN THE CIRCLE NEXT TO PLACES YOU *REALLY* WANT TO VISIT.

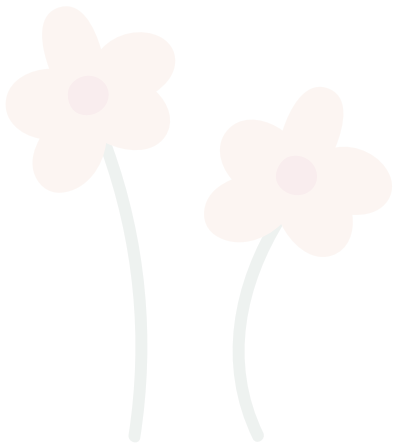
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EUROPE BUCKET LIST

BY SEASON

USE THE BOXES BELOW TO WRITE DOWN DIFFERENT DESTINATIONS YOU'D LOVE TO EXPERIENCE IN EACH SEASON.

SPRING



SUMMER



AUTUMN













WINTER



FINAL LIST OF DESTINATIONS

RE-READ YOUR WISHLIST, CROSS-REFERENCE IT WITH THE SEASON YOU'LL BE VISITING, ETC. AND WRITE DOWN YOUR FINAL LIST OF DESTINATIONS BELOW! WHEEEEEEE.



STEP FOUR

FIGURE OUT YOUR VISAS/DOCUMENTS

VISAS / DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

FILL IN THE CHECKLIST SPACES BELOW WITH THINGS THAT MUST BE DONE IN TERMS OF VISAS/ENTRY DOCUMENTS FOR YOUR TRIP. TO DISCOVER WHAT YOU NEED, GOOGLE 'ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR [INSERT NATIONALITY] TO [INSERT DESTINATION]'. CONSULT OFFICIAL SOURCES ONLY.

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STEP FIVE

BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS

CHEAP FLIGHTS CHECKLIST

I'VE WRITTEN IN DEPTH ABOUT THE DIFFERENT WAYS YOU CAN FIND CHEAP FLIGHTS TO EUROPE, SO READ MY FULL GUIDE [HERE](#).

BELOW YOU'LL FIND A CHECKLIST YOU CAN FOLLOW TO FIND FLIGHT DEALS TO YOUR DESTINATION. FOLLOW THEM STEP BY STEP TO FIND AND BOOK THE BEST FLIGHT POSSIBLE FOR YOUR TRIP! USE THE EMPTY SPACE ON THE SECOND PAGE FOR NOTES.

DONE?	THING TO DO	NOTES
<input type="checkbox"/>	DOWNLOADED HONEY TO GET INSTANT DISCOUNTS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	REGISTERED FOR A FREE RAKUTEN ACCOUNT FOR CASH BONUS / CASHBACK	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TURNUED ON INCOGNITO MODE FOR FLIGHT BROWSING	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHECKED AIRFAREWATCHDOG FOR DEALS FROM NEARBY AIRPORTS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	USED GOOGLE FLIGHTS TO CHECK DEPARTURES FROM ALL YOUR NEARBY AIRPORTS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	USED GOOGLE FLIGHTS EVERYWHERE MAP TO BROWSE CHEAPEST FLIGHTS FROM YOUR DEPARTURE POINT	
<input type="checkbox"/>	LOOKED ON SECRET FLYING FOR DEALS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHECKED YOUR LOCAL AIRPORT WEBSITE TO FIND BUDGET AIRLINES THAT FLY THERE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHECKED IF THOSE BUDGET AIRLINES HAVE ANY CURRENT DEALS	

CHEAP FLIGHTS CHECKLIST

DONE?	THING TO DO	NOTES
<input type="checkbox"/>	TRIED BROWSING AIRLINE SITES FOR DEALS IN THE LOCAL LANGUAGE/CURRENCY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHECKED ANY OTHER LOCAL/DEAL SITES YOU KNOW	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TURNED ON PRICE ALERTS FOR FLIGHTS THAT INTEREST YOU (IF NOT URGENT)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	BOOKED FLIGHT THROUGH <u>RAKUTEN</u> FOR CASHBACK (WHERE APPLICABLE)	

ADDITIONAL NOTES



STEP SIX

BOOK YOUR ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION SHORTLIST FOR

USE THE SPACE BELOW TO WRITE DOWN THE NAMES OF ACCOMMODATION THAT STOOD OUT IN YOUR SEARCH, ALONG WITH THEIR PROS/CONS. RE-USE THIS PAGE AS NEEDED FOR EACH STOP OF YOUR TRIP.

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STEP SEVEN

FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO IN EACH PLACE

WHERE TO FIND FUN ACTIVITIES

Below is a checklist to follow for you to find fun activities. Feel free to use the next page to shortlist activities, or simply star them on your Google Maps!

- ☐ Google 'Things to Do in ____' to find the most popular must-dos
- ☐ Look on Atlas Obscura for more unique & offbeat things to do
- ☐ Search 'Things to Do in ____' on social media (esp. TikTok & Pinterest)
- ☐ Search 'Must eats in ____' on social media (esp. TikTok & Pinterest)
- ☐ Look on local blogs/websites to find fun events & pop-ups
- ☐ Use Google Translate to search things to do in the local language



Use the space below to note down any especially helpful websites that you want to remember for future planning! Like HappyToWander.com?!
Hmm, who said that?

ITINERARY PLANNING SHEET

USE THE SPACE BELOW TO NOTE DOWN ACTIVITY IDEAS BASED ON YOUR RESEARCH! NO NEED TO FINALIZE ANYTHING RIGHT NOW - JUST JOT DOWN THINGS YOU'D LIKE TO SEE AND DO. RE-USE THIS PAGE AS NEEDED FOR EACH DESTINATION.

Destination:

Paid Attractions:

Free Attractions:

Experiences / Tours:

Restaurants / Food Spots:

Cafés / Bars:

Shops / Boutiques:

Extra Notes:

FINAL ITINERARY

ALRIGHT - TIME TO MAKE SOME DECISIONS! USE THESE PAGES TO PLAN OUT YOUR DAY BY DAY ITINERARY FOR YOUR TRIP. REUSE THE PAGES AS NEEDED.

DAY _	DAY _
DAY _	DAY _

FINAL ITINERARY

ALRIGHT - TIME TO MAKE SOME DECISIONS! USE THESE PAGES TO PLAN OUT YOUR DAY BY DAY ITINERARY FOR YOUR TRIP. REUSE THE PAGES AS NEEDED.

DAY _	DAY _
DAY _	DAY _



STEP EIGHT

DECIDE WHAT TO PACK

PACKING RESOURCES

Alright - as your trip draws ever nearer, there's still the issue of deciding what to pack and bring with you.

Feel free to browse some of my top resources below by clicking on the underlined titles, including printable packing lists, or simply use the template at the end of the workbook to write down your own personal packing list.



**30+ ESSENTIAL
SUITCASE
PACKING TIPS**



**SUMMER IN
EUROPE
PACKING LIST**



**WINTER IN
EUROPE
PACKING LIST**



**BEST PACKING
CUBES FOR
TRAVEL**



**BEST TOILETRY
BAGS**



**BEST TOILETRY
BOTTLES**

TRAVEL PACKING LIST

clothing

toiletries

tech

documents

misc.

