

# Normandy, London & Paris

For any questions or concerns about your upcoming tour not addressed here, please call 1-800-826-2266

## WEATHER & DESTINATION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

**Time Zone:** London is 5 hours ahead of the US Eastern Time Zone and 6 hours ahead of the US Central Time Zone. Normandy & Paris are 6 hours ahead of the US Eastern Time Zone and 7 hours ahead of the US Central Time Zone

**Weather:** Average High/Low

	April	June	Sept	Oct
London	55°F/43°F	65°F/53°F	68°F/52°F	59°F/48°F
Normandy	59°F/44°F	70°F/54°F	69°F/54°F	62°F/50°F
Paris	62°F/45°F	74°F/56°F	70°F/52°F	65°F/48°F

**Packing:** Bags with wheels are not suitable as a carry-on bag in Europe where motorcoaches have very limited space. The European Union does not allow these bags in the passenger section of the motorcoach. *Packing Note:* Washcloths are not standard in European hotels. Feel free to bring them with you. If you use them regularly, packing a washcloth or bringing a packet of facial cleanser wipes is a good idea.

**Accommodations:** Although there are chain hotels in the UK & Europe, standardized hotel rooms that we enjoy in the US & Canada are the exception rather than the rule. Due to the fact that hotels are often located in older buildings, small and irregularly sized rooms in buildings that are bit maze-like are normal. Rooms with twin beds very close together, queen beds made by connecting two twin beds, hand-held shower heads, and elevators the size of broom closets are all quite normal in the UK and Europe, even in luxury hotels.

**Currency:** The unit of currency in the United Kingdom is the British Pound and in France is the Euro. Currency exchange rates fluctuate on a daily basis. A helpful website for referencing current rates is [www.oanda.com](http://www.oanda.com). Mastercard & Visa credit cards & debit cards are the most widely accepted cards in Europe. Discover is not accepted overseas. ATMs give the best exchange rate when securing cash in Europe. When asked if you want to pay in US Dollars when using cards or in the local currency, always pay in the local currency.

**Electrical Current:** The electric current in the United Kingdom and France is 220 volts, 50 cycles. Electric outlets and plugs differ from those in North America. An adapter is required to plug your device into an electrical socket. However, a voltage converter is only required if your device is not compatible with 220 volts. Check the voltage of any device that you are thinking of bringing. If the tag on your device lists 110-220 volts, then you will not need a converter. Adapters and converters are available at luggage, department, and electronics stores.

**Gratuities:** Gratuities for all included features of your tour, such as city guides, included meals, and in the cost of your tour. You will be responsible for the gratuities for your British Blue Badge guide, driver, and the Holiday Vacations Tour Director. The gratuity for your British Blue Badge Guide is £10 per person, per day for the Tour Director. Tips should be offered individually directly to each person at service. If you have questions, please ask your Tour Director.

**Public Facilities:** Outside of your hotel room some of the restrooms will have pay toilets or attendant door. You may wish to have local coins available for these situations. All tap water is safe to drink. Tap faucets may be the opposite of North America and hot water can be extremely hot.

