



# LONDON TO LUCERNE



Tours for  
Girl Scouts®

→ Discover the Global Classroom



World Association  
of Girl Guides  
and Girl Scouts

11 OR 15 DAYS

# London to Lucerne

England • France • Switzerland



Number of overnight stays in parentheses. This tour may also be reversed.



At the end of your visit to Pax Lodge, you will earn the Pax Lodge Pin, which is only presented to those who have visited this WAGGGS World Centre.

## Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 9 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (13 with extension)
- European breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time EF Tour Director
- 3 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides (6 with extension): London • Windsor • Paris • (Florence • Rome • Vatican City)
- 1 sightseeing tour led by your tour director: Lucerne
- 2 walking tours: London • Paris
- 4 visits to special attractions (11 with extension): Windsor Castle • London Eye and Thames River Cruise • Louvre • Notre Dame Cathedral (Duomo) • Leather-making demonstration • Create-a-fresco workshop • Colosseum • Roman Forum • Sistine Chapel • St. Peter's Basilica)
- 2 visits to WAGGGS Centres: Pax Lodge • Our Chalet
- Eurostar high-speed train

### OPTIONAL:

- Versailles • Mount Pilatus

### Day 1 Flight

**Overnight flight to Great Britain** • Spend the night flying across the Atlantic.

### Day 2 London

**Arrival in London** • Touch down in London, Europe's largest city! After clearing customs, you are greeted by your EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

**Walking tour of London** • Begin your walking tour in busy Piccadilly Circus. It is said that if a person stayed here long enough, they would run into everyone they know. Continue to Oxford Street, London's most famous shopping area. With more than 300 stores, you're sure to take home a few souvenirs. End your walking tour with a leisurely stroll through Hyde Park.

### Day 3 London

**Guided sightseeing of London** • A local guide leads you on a panoramic tour of London. Begin in Grosvenor Square, which is sometimes called "Little America" because it's the site of the U.S. embassy and the house where Eisenhower once lived. Continue to Hyde Park Corner, located at the southeast corner of Hyde Park, one of London's largest parks. At bustling Piccadilly Circus, the intersection of five busy streets, check out the bright lights and big-city displays, before heading to Trafalgar Square. Pass Speaker's Corner, where anyone with something to say is invited to speak his or her mind. Snap a photo of the Houses of Parliament and continue along London's South Bank for views of the famous London Bridge. Stroll across the Millennium Bridge for an

orientation of St. Paul's Cathedral, the magnificent 17th-century Baroque church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Finally, witness a London tradition—the Changing of the Guard (subject to scheduling).

**Guided excursion to Windsor** • Journey to Windsor for a guided tour of the Royal Family's retreat. Built by William the Conqueror in 1070, the castle has undergone many changes over the last 800 years, as each new monarch added a tower here or a wing there. Legend holds that the castle's Round Tower was built on the site where King Arthur sat with his Knights of the Round Table. Priceless objects are found in the State Apartments, ranging from paintings by Rubens and Holbein to Henry VIII's sword and suit of armor. Also visit Queen Mary's Dolls' House and St. George's Chapel, final resting place of many monarchs including Henry VIII and Charles I. (Please note that St. George's Chapel is closed on Sunday mornings for church services.) On the rare occasion that Windsor Castle is closed, you'll instead visit Henry VIII's extravagant retreat at Hampton Court.

### Day 4 London

**Visit to Pax Lodge** • Today, visit Pax Lodge, the newest of the four World Centers of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), set in the leafy North London area of Hampstead. Here, you will take a tour of the center and learn about the history of Pax Lodge and WAGGGS. You will receive the Pax Lodge pin during a pinning ceremony, learn the Pax Lodge song and learn more about international Guiding and Scouting. You will also be able to experience a traditional British cream tea.

**London Eye and Thames River cruise** • Join this exciting excursion to see London's sights from different angles. Soar into the sky aboard the enormous 32-capsule observation wheel, the London Eye, which offers spectacular 360-degree views of the city as far as 25 miles in each direction. The wheel was originally built to mark the millennium celebration and took six years to complete. You will also enjoy the new 4D Experience, a three-dimensional film that follows a little girl's London Eye journey, complete with in-theater special effects, including wind, snow and mist. Afterward, board a cruise down the Thames River and see London's landmarks from yet another vantage point.

#### Day 5 London • Paris

**Transfer via the Eurostar from London to Paris** • In London, board the high-speed Eurostar, an 18-car train that runs through the tunnel connecting Britain with continental Europe. Completed in May 1994, the Channel Tunnel provides travelers with easy access to and from the continent. Enjoy state-of-the-art technology as you glide under the English Channel to France.

**Walking tour of Paris** • Meander through the Latin Quarter, an area dominated by the Sorbonne, Paris' most famous university, founded in 1253. As you stroll, look for the Panthéon, created by Louis XV because of a promise he made to build a church dedicated to Sainte-Geneviève if he survived a severe illness. You'll also explore Boulevard St. Michel and spend some time browsing the stacks at the famous Shakespeare and Company bookstore, which published James Joyce's *Ulysses* in 1922.

As you make your way along the Seine, you'll also have the chance to browse the literary materials sold at *les bouquinistes*, the bookstalls that sell old books, maps, art prints and postcards. It's the perfect place to pick up some authentic souvenirs!

**Visit to Notre Dame Cathedral** • Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose windows and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

#### Day 6 Paris

**Guided sightseeing of Paris** • Discover the city on the Seine: from the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée, to the Île de la Cité, birthplace of Paris. Take a drive down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde. Pass the Conciergerie, where prisoners of the Revolution spent their final days, and see Les Invalides, Louis XIV's grand retirement home for wounded soldiers. You'll also see the École Militaire, where Napoleon graduated to lieutenant and was told he'd go far if circumstances allowed. Next, make a photo stop at the Eiffel Tower to marvel at the 6,000-ton centerpiece for the 1889 World's

Fair. You'll hear the story of how this impressive—but once highly controversial—symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909.

**Optional excursion to Versailles** • Join an optional half-day excursion to Versailles, the elaborate palace of Louis XIV. Here, the Sun King held court in the most lavish style imaginable. At one point, 1,000 nobles were attended by 4,000 servants inside the palace, while 15,000 soldiers and servants inhabited the annexes. Stroll through the elegantly landscaped gardens designed by André Le Nôtre, tour the State Apartments of the King himself, walk through the historic Hall of Mirrors, admire the ornate decor of the State Apartments of the Queen, and enjoy free time for lunch. (Please note: Because of the extreme popularity of Versailles, guided visits of the interior cannot be guaranteed during peak seasons. In this case, your group will hear a presentation from your guide before entering the palace. Versailles is closed on Mondays. Participants must enroll in this excursion no later than 50 days prior to departure.)

#### Day 7 Paris

**Visit to the Louvre** • Built to defend the city in the 13th century, the Louvre today safeguards one of the world's greatest art collections. Enter the museum through world-renowned architect I.M. Pei's glass pyramid, constructed in 1989. Inside, discover priceless antiquities from Asia, Greece and Rome. You'll also see precious objects from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, as well as iconic European paintings such as the *Mona Lisa*.

#### Day 8 Paris • Our Chalet

**Transfer to Our Chalet** • Transfer from Paris to Adelboden to Our Chalet. On your way, enjoy breathtaking views as you travel high into the Swiss Alps.

#### Day 9 Our Chalet

**Visit to Our Chalet** • Spend a very memorable day at Our Chalet, the oldest of WAGGGS' World Centers. Founded in 1932, Our Chalet's activities focus on hiking and mountain climbing in the summer and skiing in the winter. Find out about the center's long history. Tour the legendary main chalet and stroll around its expansive grounds. Learn the words to the Our Chalet song and take part in a special pinning ceremony!

#### Day 10 Lucerne Region

**Transfer to the Lucerne region** • Transfer via private motorcoach to the Lucerne region,

Founded in 1932 by an American Girl Scout leader, Our Chalet continues more than 75 years of traditions in the Swiss Alps.



where you'll check in to your hotel.

#### **Tour director-led sightseeing of Lucerne •**

The majestic Alps provide a stunning backdrop to your tour of Lucerne, where composer Richard Wagner wrote several of his major works. You'll view the captivating Löwendenkmal (Lion Monument), a sandstone statue commemorating the Swiss Guards slain in the 1792 Paris storming of the Tuileries. According to Mark Twain, it is "the saddest and most compassionate piece of rock on earth." Stroll down narrow, winding streets and across the Kapellbrücke, a covered bridge whose history dates back to medieval days—the murals lining its walls are nearly identical to those painted in the 14th century. Be on the lookout for the colorful, hand-painted façades along the cobbled streets of the Old Town.

**Optional excursion to Mount Pilatus •** This exciting half-day optional adventure takes you to the top of Mount Pilatus, the majestic mountain backdrop of Lucerne. In the summer season, travel to the foot of the mountain by boat across Lake Lucerne. Then ride the famous Pilatus cog railway—the steepest in the world—to the top. After 45 spectacular minutes and 6,387 feet, you'll reach the summit and be rewarded with a splendid panorama of Lucerne, its lake and the glorious snow-capped Alps. On a clear day, you can see for more than 200 miles! (Please note: Mount Pilatus can be cold, even in summer; warm clothes and appropriate shoes are recommended. Summer season: May 15–September 30. Winter season: October 1–May 14.)

**Swiss Folklore Event (seasonal) •** Join us for our special Swiss Folklore Event. Enjoy cheese fondue, the country's most popular dish. Dip your long forks into the *caquelon*, and be treated to lively Alpine entertainment—including authentic flag swinging, alpenhorn playing, and yodeling. (Please note that this optional is only available from March through September.)

#### **Day 11 Home**

**Return home •** Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

#### **EXTENSION**

##### **Day 11 Florence**

**Transfer to the Florence •** Travel through the Italian countryside to Florence, birthplace of the Italian Renaissance.

##### **Day 12 Florence**

**Guided sightseeing of Florence •** Fall under the spell of the powerful Medici family on your guided tour. Pass the classical statues of the Piazza della Signoria, where Michelangelo's *David* originally stood and now the site of an impressive replica. From behind the Uffizi Palace, you will see the Ponte Vecchio, one of the city's only bridges to survive WWII and now one of its most photographed sites. The bridge provided the Medici easy access from the Pitti Palace to the Uffizi. Continue past the Chiesa di Santa Croce, final resting place of Michelangelo, Machiavelli and Galileo. Next, you will visit the Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral, better known as the Duomo, or dome, that dominates Florence's skyline. The dome was sculptor and architect Brunelleschi's finest work, and the nearby campanile (bell tower) was designed by the painter Giotto. Look for the famous bronzed doors—Ghiberti's legendary *Gates of Paradise*—at the Baptistery opposite the Duomo. Later, watch artisans at work at a local leather-making demonstration. In the evening, take part in an art workshop where you will create your own fresco.

##### **Day 13 Rome**

**Transfer to Rome •** Travel to *bella Roma*, the Eternal City. Here, Charlemagne was crowned by the pope in A.D. 800.

**Guided sightseeing of Rome •** Get to know Imperial Rome on a panoramic tour. Then spend time exploring the mighty Colosseum, Rome's largest amphitheater. Its elaborate construction spanned two emperors—building began between A.D. 70 and 72 under Vespasian and was completed in A.D. 80 under Titus. Originally built to accommodate nearly 50,000 spectators, the Colosseum played host to some of the most incredible spectacles of the day, including gladiatorial combat, mock sea

battles, animal hunts, executions and even dramatic performances based on classical mythology. Later, pass by the Forum Romanum, once the heart of the Roman Empire.

##### **Day 14 Rome**

**Guided sightseeing of Vatican City •** Today, you will explore Vatican City, the world's smallest country. Begin at the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries filled with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backward from a scaffold. Next, tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's *Pietà*, the only sculpture he ever signed.

**Walking tour of Rome •** As part of your walking tour of Rome, stop at the Trevi Fountain and be sure to toss in a coin to ensure your return to Rome. Then view the Pantheon, one of the best-preserved ancient buildings in the city, commissioned by the Emperor Hadrian around A.D. 120. This temple to "all the gods" features the second-widest dome in Rome. Then, during free time, continue to the Piazza Navona before meeting at the Spanish Steps prior to dinner.

##### **Day 15 Home**

**Return home •** Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

**For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.**

## **Discover the Global Classroom**



**Tours for Girl Scouts®**

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