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

England • France • Belgium • Holland • Germany • Austria • Italy • Vatican City • Greece

May 20 - June 7, 2016
This departure is full

2nd departure
May 23 - June 10, 2016
extended tour ends June 15

GRADUATE THEN CELEBRATE
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 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, Lunch, Dinner

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, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 PARIS
During our 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, Lunch, 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, Lunch

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 unsupplied 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-blown-glass 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 “gelato” 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 pasta party 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 and Dinner daily
Optional activity: Aquatic Adventure

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-boatting or tubing. We invite everyone to our Toga Party on the last night.
Meals: Breakfast and Dinner daily

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 evening 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
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 fifteenth 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, 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 Aggie’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, explore London town on your own with your 24-hour hop-on hop-off bus ticket. Please call AESU Alumni World Travel for great low airfares from most U.S. cities. Cost per person per night:
- Shared double or twin room: $250 - Single travelers: $355
- Airport/departure taxes are additional and 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 speciality 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)
- **Austrian Alps**
  - Whitewater Rafting
  - Chianti Excursion
  - Tuscan Feast

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

For more information, please contact:
The Association of Former Students
Traveling Aggies
905 George Bush Dr.
College Station, TX 77840
979-845-7514, 800-633-7514; fax: 979-845-9263
E-mail: TravelingAggies@AggieNetwork.com
AggieNetwork.com
RESERVE YOUR EXCITING ESSENTIAL EUROPE TRIP TODAY!
Texas A&M - May 23 - June 10, 2016
Athens return June 15
2nd departure

BASE LAND PRICE
$3,888 plus airfare*
ADD $785 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 $1013. Taxes of approx. $655 not included.

Pre-tour package in London:
☒ I want to book the one-night pre-tour package for $250 (includes one 24-hour hop-on hop-off bus ticket) -- I am sharing a room with ________________________
☒ I am a single traveler and will pay $355 for the pre-tour package

Air arrangements:
☒ Please make round-trip flight reservations for me. I am departing from _______________. (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.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All cancellations must be received by AESU Alumni World Travel in writing. All cancellations for any reason whatsoever shall be subject to a $300 per person cancellation fee. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. In addition to $300, cancellation between 60-30 days prior to departure will result forfeiture of 25% of tour cost; between 30-15 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.

ARRIVALS are hereby restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once arrival is booked and paid for AESU Alumni World Travel reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airline portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airline 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.

TOUR AIR TRANSFERS & ENGAGEMENT: All participants using AESU Alumni World Travel Flights on regular group departure days and flights reserve air travel transfers and must meet group at the first hotel at 1:00 pm. on program start date. FLIGHT DELAYS -- ALL AIRPORTS: In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your air travel transfers, you must make your own arrangements to reach 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 out the itinerary with the airline to which you are connected to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is responsible for any refund or portions of refunds requested 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 strictly based 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, motorcoach, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, theft, 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 passengers, 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 traveling the tour, 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 at their sole discretion. In the event of cancellation by AESU, all payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airline 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 airlines, 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 aircraft. The passenger ticket in use by said airline, 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 refunds or allowances 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.alumni/atravel.com - Association Disclaimer: The Association acts as the tour operator. The Association is not responsible for changes of flights, fare changes, disburse 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 an agent for the participants with respect to travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, disburse of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts of or defaults of any person or entity engaged in conveying passengers or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. The Association shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, quarantines, acts of God, governmental intervention or other causes beyond its control. The Association shall 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 behavior 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 the tour must accept 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 making of this travel brochure, all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

I have read and agreed to all terms and conditions: X ________________________________
Your signature here