

Europe

The Europe or "Old Continent", by opposition to the "New World" (America) is a continent that contains an exceptional density of population, with more than 350 000 million inhabitants on an area relatively small compared to the rest of the world.

The Climates vary of Mediterranean to polar, passing by the continental or the temperate.

The main tourist regions in Europe are located in Western Europe with the France (Paris, Lyon, Cote d'Azur, Bretagne, Region Of Bordeaux, , Aquitaine, Ile-de-France, Normandy, Corse, Alps and Pyrenees.), (Espagne Madrid Barcelone, , Séville, Costa Brava, Basque Country, Cordoue...), the Italie (Rome, Venise Florence, , , Naples, Pise,Sicile, Sardaigne..), the Belgique (Bruges Bruxelles, , , Anvers, Gand,...), (AllemagneBavière, Berlin, , Munich...), the Royaume-Uni (Londres,...) and the ,Ecossethe Pays-Bas(Amsterdam,...).

The North of Europe, sometimes less tourism nevertheless has many strengths: fjords of Norvège, city of Tallin, Saint-Pétersbourg, island Lofoten, Copenhague,...the party more done Mediterranean each year the full of tourists: Athènes, the Grèce and the Cyclades, ...the Croatie, the ridge... Europe more central is however not in rest with Vienne and Prague.

The different cultural regions of Europe

Europe is composed of a diverse set of countries that can be classified in major cultural regions such as the Balkans for example (Albanie, Bosnia and Herzegovina , BulgarieCroatia, Kosovo, Macédoine, Moldavie, Montenegro, Roumanie, Serbie), all of these countries share a common history and a culture to the different times and close.

- **The Baltic States** (Estonie, Latvia, Lithuania), three States that possess wonderful landscapes and old medieval cities, all three former member country of the USSR. (Estonia has also linguistic and cultural ties with Finland).
- **The Scandinavia** (Danemark, Faroe Islands, Norway, Finland, Islande, Sweden), the spectacular scenery of mountains, lakes, glaciers, geysers, cascades and volcanoes. These countries are culturally very close even if Finland has a language of its own.

- **The Benelux** (Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands), which have in common their languages relatives, their landscapes dishes and green, a rich past and beautiful historic cities.
- **The Iberian peninsula** (Andorre, Gibraltar, Portugal, Spain).
- **The United Kingdom and the Irlande** (Guernesey, Ireland, Isle of Man, Jersey, United Kingdom).
- **The Caucasus** (Arménie, Azerbaijan, Georgia), a chain of mountains located between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, considered as part of the natural border between Europe and the .Asie
- **The Central Europe** (Autriche, Czech Republic, Germany, Hongrie, Liechtenstein, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland), the region where the Germanic culture meeting Slavic culture.
- **The south-eastern Europe** (Greece, Turquie, Cyprus) and the south-west (Spain, Portugal).
- **France**, the destination with the most tourism to the world, geographically the one of the most diverse countries of Europe.
- **Italy** (Italy, Malte, San Marino, Vatican), Rome, Florence, Venice and Pisa are on the routes of many travellers, but these are only some of the destinations of the Italy, a country which includes the largest number of sites classified by UNESCO in the world.
- **The Russie, the Ukraine and the Belarus**, these countries have in common a language, a culture and a long history marked by revolutions and of empires memorable.

To see, to do in Europe

To advise a route to a non-European to across the continent: what to choose? The opportunities are too large for out of the "essential"... There is the sun and the Mediterranean beaches of Spain, the fjords of Norway, the incredible historical heritage of Italy, the large cosmopolitan cities such as Berlin or London, the plains to the east, the summits of the Alps, the history tangled up in the Balkans, the heat of the Greece or the haze of Scotland... Impossible to do the tour but one thing is sure, there is something for all tastes!

Circuits and routes to Europe

It is in Europe that travel the most tourists each year, you will not miss to develop the routes of visit, weekends, of circuits discoveries and holiday stays (nature, sports or lazing on the beach for you to choose from).

Large capitals and major cities of Western Europe attract many travellers. For a weekend or longer leave you attempt by: Paris, London, Berlin, Rome, Amsterdam,

Madrid, Lisbonne, Stockholm, , , DublinBrussels, Genève, Copenhagen, Barcelona, Athens, Florence, Vienna, Munich, Helsinki, Porto, Glasgow, Édimbourg, Bruges... .

The is of Europe is on the also mode let you attempt by the République tchèque (Prague...), Hungary (Budapest, Lake Balaton...), Croatia (Dubrovnik, the islands...), Latvia, Slovenia and why not Russia (St. Petersburg, Moscou...)!

The great classics have always the same success: discover the Toscane, the , Sicily, the , Andalousiethe castles of the Loire, the Péloponnèse, the Cyclades, Venice, the Irish countryside, the Scottish Lochs, the fjords of Scandinavia... .

To take advantage of the sea, you can choose between the Mediterranean coasts (Spain, Balearic Islands, France, Italy, Croatia and Greece) and the Atlantic coast (France, Spain, Portugal...).

For the lovers of nature, you can go into the trek or stay in of discovery in Iceland in the mountains in the center of Europe (Alps in particular), in the Pyrenees, in Corsica, in the north of Scandinavia, in the mountains of Montenegro... .

Practical Info

Travel through Europe: borders and transport

Thanks to the Treaty of the free movement of persons in the European Union, browse the continent has become particularly easy, especially if it is confined to the member countries. As well, a simple identity card allows you to travel from France to Italy, Spain, Denmark, Greece, or even to Cyprus.

Of course, all the countries of the European continent are not necessarily included in the EU: Again, cross the borders for a European proves to be a formality generally simplified. In the Balkans, for example, a country like Croatia, tourist destination of the first order, does not demand that a simple identity card for the French nationals wishing to stay there.

The terms and conditions of carriage vary greatly from one country to another in Europe, and that is a whole other of the multiple facets to discover on the continent...

There are different forms of transportation to move across Europe: **the aircraft**, of course, is the fastest way to get from one point to another ; the emergence and the development of low-cost has helped to make the flights always more accessible.

The train serves in a manner more or less effective the various European countries: the German network has thus nothing to see with the Bosnian network for example. Of course, travel by train always has a particular charm, even when optimal conditions are not met. **For the followers of the rail**, the Interrail pass Allows you

to move from a rail network to another without problem: a formula that can be interesting according to the terms of his trip.

Otherwise, one takes the road by car or by bus: Certainly, the routes are then long enough, but those are two means of transport which allow out of major axes. If the car offers a great freedom of movement, the cost of gasoline and tolls if they are not shared to several quickly becomes very expensive.

The bus In contrast, proves to be everywhere in Europe an economical means of transportation to default to always be very fast or punctual.

Tips for Travellers

In the countries of the European Union, only a valid identity card is sufficient to move across the borders! For most of the countries outside the EU in central position on the continent, the formalities are simplified (absence of visa).

In addition to sporadic tensions remaining in some regions (ex: Kosovo), you can travel through Europe the quiet spirit.

For a long trip intra-European train, remember to inform you on the modalities of the Pass The Interrail, which allows you to move from a rail network to another with a single and same ticket.

Other cards may be beneficial to the European scale: the international student card or the International Map of youth hostels (FUAJ).

The enthusiasts of fluvial tourism or boats will find easily a croisière en Méditerranée or in the Fjords of Norway!

Identity card

Population: from 737 million inhabitants

Languages: to many national languages are added quantity of dialects and regional languages... linguists to give heart joy!

Currency: all the countries of the EU are not to the euro; a lot of national currency are still in circulation in Europe.

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