



SONIA JONES
T R A V E L



Heading to Europe soon?

A European summer is top of the list for many SJT travellers, especially this year. The sun is shining, piazzas are buzzing, and the Mediterranean is sparkling. Long daylight hours means more time to fit plenty of activities into your day. However, June and July are also a very (very!) busy time of year. However, with a little planning and preparation you can avoid some peak season pain points and make the most of your European summer holiday.

Our top tips for your European trip!



The SJT team have put together our top tips to help you navigate

this upcoming summer season...

Allow plenty of time to get through check in and security at airports. We recommend arriving at a major airport such as London, Paris or Rome three hours before an international departure, and two hours for an internal European or domestic flight. Check in online where possible prior, although this isn't always doable for Australian passport holders travelling on certain regional carriers.

Taking the Eurostar between London and Paris? Don't miss your train! Make sure you arrive at St Pancras or Gare du Nord 90 minutes before your departure! The actual gate closes 30 minutes prior.

Make sure you book! It's a super busy time and many museums and exhibits offer timed tickets or prebooked tickets only. Book your tickets online well in advance and avoid the disappointment of missing out and save precious holiday time by avoiding lengthy lines. This applies to museums with free entry as well - many offer timed tickets now.



Pack wisely: Check the weather forecast for the destinations you'll be visiting and pack accordingly. Light, breathable clothing is ideal for the warm European summers. Don't forget essentials like sunscreen, a hat, comfortable shoes for walking, and a travel adapter for your electronic devices.

Be prepared for crowds: Summer is peak tourist season in Europe, so expect larger crowds at popular attractions. Purchasing entrance tickets in advance, booking a tour with a local guide or get out early to explore. Places like the Trevi Fountain in Rome make a great spot for an early morning stroll!

Explore beyond major cities: While cities like Paris, Rome, and Barcelona are fantastic, don't limit yourself to only visiting popular tourist destinations. Europe is filled with charming towns, picturesque countryside, and beautiful coastal areas. Consider venturing off the beaten path to discover hidden gems.



Stay safe and be mindful of scams: While Europe is generally a safe destination, it's always important to stay vigilant and be aware of your surroundings. Take care of your personal items including wallets, phones and handbags, especially in major cities and crowded places. Pop your backpack on your front and keep your phone tucked away when you're not using it.

Be flexible. Things don't always go to plan: "*C'est la vie!*" especially in the face of minor setbacks. Remember that you're in Europe on holiday! Go with the flow and be patient.

Embrace the local culture: Europe is a diverse continent with unique cultures and traditions. Take the time to learn about the local customs, try the regional cuisine, and interact with the locals. This will enhance your travel experience and create lasting memories.

Have a wonderful journey to Europe!

Get in Touch!

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Book an online appointment!

Yours in Travel
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