

Urban Adventures unlock the hidden secrets in and around some of our favourite cities. They range from 2 hour to 1 day adventures and uncover back streets, hidden gems and fascinating sights. While these adventures may be short, they're big on real life experiences. Step into the lives of the locals, find out what makes the city tick and get acquainted with the local food, culture and traditions, all in the company of an expert local guide. See more than just the usual sights on an Urban Adventure.

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urbanadventures.com Thailand

Bangkok Bike

Trip Code

tour THB **1330** 

**Departs daily Bangkok** 

Bike through backstreets, along waterways and into Bangkok's historic heart. Start near Khao San Road and wind your way through the back streets of suburban Bangkok and along the riverside. Visit a community well known for their addictive mixture of betel nut, lime and a mulberry leaf. Then head to Wat Arun and explore temples, mosques and churches. From Wat Arun, head back across the Chao Praya River to Pranakorn via the Memorial Bridge. Then, pay a visit to another temple called Wat Suthat, home to the largest sitting Buddha in Thailand. The final stop is opposite Wat Shuthat to see the giant swing Sao Ching Cha which represents the movement of the God Shiva.

Tuk Tuk Experience

Trip Code **TUB** 

5-6 hour the **1180** 

Departs daily Bangkok

Jump on a tuk tuk for a rambling adventure through Bangkok. Start at the Phra Sumeru Fortress located on Phra Arthit Road. Travel past Thammasart University to the Amulet Market, where various religious amulets, charms and traditional medicines are available. The next stop is Wat Pho. The temple is the centre of the Buddhist religion in Thailand. Continue on to the heart of Bangkok's little India where all kinds of fabrics, cloths, ornaments and accessories are sold. The next stop is Woeng Nakorn Kasem in the Khlong Thom quarter, better known as Theives' Market. Our next stop is the Golden Mount. Explore the complex and climb the steps for amazing views.

Temple & River of Kings

Trip Code

THB 1350

Departs daily Bangkok

Discover Bangkok's glittering heart on this grand journey along its web of canals. From the fluid veins of the city, to the spiritual heart of the nation, embark on this voyage of discovery. Glide down the Chao Phraya River on a longtail boat past a vibrant array of daily life. Visit Bangkok's oldest Buddhist temple and massage to Thai massage, Wat Pho and admire its enormous reclining Buddha. Continue to the magnificent Grand Palace, home of the tiny, but beautiful, Emerald Buddha. Despite no longer being the official residence of the king, the palace is still the spiritual centre of the nation and used for various ceremonies during the year.

Chinatown & Night Markets

Trip Code

THB 1000

Departs Tues to Sun Bangkok – dinner

Experience exotic Asia on this visit to the markets of Bangkok's Chinatown. Savour Yaowaphanit Road's delicious cuisines and explore the vibrant night markets. Clothing from the Saphan Han Market is sure to tempt, while the exotic fruits and flowers of Pak Khlong are a photographer's dream. Don't forget to stop for a coffee and snack at a 100 year-old coffee shop, an opportunity to relax and soak up the atmosphere. In the evening when the streets fill with food stalls, stop for a meal of charcoal grilled seafood with your English speaking guide. There is plenty of time on this half-day adventure to shop, explore and take a peak into the daily life of this busy area.

Maeping River Experience

Trip Code
TUX

1200 THB 1200

Departs daily

Start the day by offering alms to monk at Wat Chai Monkol, board a longtail boat to explore Ping River to experience another side of Chiang Mai life, observe life on the river bank. Enjoy "Khao Soy" a northern Thai cuisine. Finish by exploring the vibrant flower market of Chiang Mai.

**Chiang Mai History** 

Trip Code
TUY

our THB 999

Departs daily

Learn about Chiang Mai's history and the Lanna or Northern Thai culture at the Chiang Mai Culture Center. Visit Chedi Luang Temple and see the famous mural painting at Wat Pra Singh. Stop at a coffee shop to recharge the battries before finish at Warorot Market and get a taste of local food

Chiang Mai Mind & Soul

Trip Code **TUZ** 

hour tour THB 999

Departs daily

Rise early morning for a typical northern Thai breakfast. Join locals to offer food to monks in a tradition that has been at the heart of Thai life for centuries. Gain insight into Bhuddhism and Dharma at Wat U-Mong. Finish by 'making merit' or to the Sangkha or religious monks at Wat Suan Dok.



Mai Chau Short Trek

Trip Code

10-11 hour tour US \$48

Departs daily Hanoi - lunch

Our journey takes us from the hectic pace of life in the Vietnamese capital, Hanoi to the clean air of the mountains surrounding Mai Chau valley. Stop at a vantage point to take in the view of Mai Chau home to a variety of minority groups with their own unique culture and languages. Head to village of Pom Coong and join local friends for a traditional lunch. This is a great opportunity to chat with our hosts and gain a real insight into local life in the area. After lunch, enjoy a 3 hour trek through and see the villages of the White Thai minority group. The trek is not overly strenuous and there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy the scenery, take some photos or just relax.

Mekong Discovery

Trip Code
VUA

7-8 hour tour US\$36

Departs daily Ho Chi Minh City - lunch

Escape the city for the Mekong Delta. Board a private boat for a cruise on the Mekong River to visit local villages and learn about the lifestyles, customs and cultures of the people who call the Delta home. Visit an island with lush tropical gardens to sample tropical fruit and witness a traditional music performance. Continue to another island in the Mekong Delta we learn more about another cottage industry, coconut candy. Enjoy lunch at a Diem Phuong restaurant where our local guide will provide you with some advice on the finer points of local cuisine and assist you with ordering some of these delicacies. Return to Ho Chi Minh City in the afternoon.

Cu Chi Experience

Trip Code

5-6 hour tour US\$27

Departs daily Ho Chi Minh City

This network of over 200 km of tunnels became legendary when they played a vital part in the American War, allowing the Viet Cong to control a large rural area close to Ho Chi Minh City. Our local guide will take us on a fascinating trip around the Cu Chi Tunnels where we learn more about the conditions the people lived in, the hardships they faced and the amazing ingenuity employed to maintain life in the tunnels. Walk past huge bomb craters, discover hidden entrances right beneath your feet, sample some of the simple cuisine that local fighters would have survived on and have an opportunity to venture into the tunnels and explore the complex.

Cyclos & Markets

Trip Code
VUG

lour US \$16

Departs daily Ho Chi Minh City

Jump on board a cyclo for an adventure winding through the sights, sounds and smells of this historic metropolis. Three-wheeled cyclos allow you to take in the sights, sounds and smells of Ho Chi Minh City without the barrier of a car window or the sound of an engine. In the company of an English speaking guide, pedal past Tao Dan Park, War Remnants Museum and the Reunification Palace, site of South Vietnamese surrender in 1975. Leaving the cyclos behind walk to the ornate Notre Dame Cathedral and step back into colonial times. Back on the cyclos again, the final stop for the day is the Ben Thanh market where we can practice our bargaining skills.

Angkor Adventure

Trip Code **KUV** 

3-9 nour US

\$70

**Departs daily Siem Reap** 

Spend a day exploring the temples of Angkor. Begin with Angkor Wat, easily the best-preserved of them. Next is Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Khmer Empire and home to the Bayon Temple. Then enjoy a Khmer-style lunch or explore a nearby village. Finish at Ta Prohm, which is being reclaimed by the jungle.

### **Phnom Penh Discovery**

Trip Code

our US\$5

**Departs daily Phnom Penh** 

Explore Phnom Penh by cyclo. Have your fortune told at Wat Phnom, explore the Central Market and learn about Cambodian, French and Vietnamese relationships. Eat lunch at a not-for-profit organisation then shop at the Russian Market. Walk along to see the Tonle Bassac, Tonle Sap and Mekong Rivers meet.

# **Mekong Sunset**

Trip Code

4-5 hour US **\$40** 

**Departs daily Phnom Penh** 

Explore Phnom Penh from the water. See Khmer buildings such as the Royal Palace meet French colonial buildings. Explore Buddhist temples on Mekong Island and visit carvers, potters and weavers at work. Try Khmer snacks and watch sunset over the Tonle Basac, Tonle Sap and Mekong Rivers.



# **India & Nepal**

Home Cooked Delhi

HUA

Departs Monday, Tuesday, Friday Delhi - dinner

Food in India is far more than just fuel for the body – it is culture, tradition, celebration and religion all rolled into one. Join an Indian family in their own home over an evening meal for an experience not to be missed. Travel by cycle rickshaw and metro, to the home of your host. As dinner is being prepared your guide will teach you about the every day lives of Indians: the traditions of home life, the importance of family in Indian culture, arranged marriages - and of course, the food! Then it is time to feast. While eating your host and guide will be more than happy to provide information on the dishes, their ingredients and how best to eat them. Finish with a steaming cup of fragrant marsala chai.

Sunrise Delhi

HUC

us**\$21.50** 

This is a trip for early birds. Rise early and join an English speaking guide to experience the awakening bustle of Delhi. From the Metro station walk to the local markets where you can stop and chat to the vendors as you wander past stalls overflowing with colourful flowers and goods. Here is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a cup of chai to wake up. Continue on to the Hanuman Temple where your local guide will teach you about the morning puja (prayers) and the temple's history. Following the temple visit there is time for a delicious Indian breakfast. At the end of the trip you are free for personal exploration or your guide can arrange a taxi back to your hotel.

Gandhi's Delhi

HUB

**Departs Monday to Saturday Delhi** 

Learn more about the life and times of the great Indian legend, Mahatma Gandhi in the company of an English speaking guide. Gandhi was born in 1869 in Porbander, western India. Assassinated in 1948, he left an enduring philosophical legacy that still resonates with millions of people worldwide. Join Delhiites on public transport to visit the city's many historical monuments associated with Gandhi. Hear stories of his courageous life and learn about his message of non-violence and peace and spend time exploring the National Gandhi museum to see an amazing array of photos, mementos and recorded speeches from his time. Your Gandhi experience finishes here.

Culture Vulture Delhi

HUD

Departs Monday to Saturday Delhi - lunch

Travel on the metro to the old part of Delhi with an English speaking guide. There's a chance to kick start the day with a cup of steaming chai before diving into the sights, sounds and smells of chaotic Old Delhi. Learn about India's struggle for independence, visit Hindu temples and discover the clamour and colour of daily Indian life. Explore the labyrinthine backstreets where everything is on offer from wedding paraphernalia to fireworks and cow dung on a string. Then visit the striking Jama Masjid, to the bustle of Chandni Chowk. Grab some street snacks and discover this fascinating old-world walled city within a modern metropolis.

Kathmandu by bike

**NPUA** 

Departs daily Kathmandu

Ride a mountain bike and explore a different side of Kathmandu and its surrounds. Visit the impressive Chobar Gorge, learn the legend behind Kathmandu Valley and ride through the narrow alleyways of the ancient town of Kirtipur. Join locals at an eatery and try Newar delicacies before pedalling back to Kathmandu.

Kathmandu living

**NPUB** 

Experience a day in the life of a Kathmandu local. Join devotees at the oldest Buddhist Stupa in Nepal, Swoyambhunath. Explore the maze of backstreets leading to Durbar Square. Shop for fresh produce then head to a local home to see a traditional-style meal come together. Feast on the end results with your host.

Spiritual Nepal

Trip Code **NPUC** 

**Departs daily Pokhara** 

Begin your spiritual journey at the Pashupatinath, one the world's holiest Hindu temples. Mingle with sadhus the travel to Bodhnath to learn about Buddhism. Light a butter lamp and offer prayers to Lord Buddha. Eat lunch at a rooftop restaurant then meet an astrologer to find out what your future holds.



Cycle Soweto

**ZAUA** 

Departs daily

Cycle through Soweto and see its many different faces. Learn about the Soweto uprisings and the resistance against Apartheid, all in the company of an expert local guide. Learn how the community has changed and developed to what it is today. Travel to the heart of Jo'burg to see the views from the Carlton Centre. Then travel to Soweto by bus, stopping to see many of the city's sights including the moving Apartheid museum. Once in Soweto, pause for lunch before exploring on two wheels. Learn some local language, visit a former migrant workers' hostel, see Meadowlands and cycle past landmarks of the 1976 student uprisings. Finish the tour at a local shebeen.

Jozi by foot

ZAUB

Departs Tuesday to Saturday

Welcome to Johannesburg, the "Hub" of Africa. Home to the Rainbow Nation, it is in this fast paced city that South Africa's radical and political formation is most evident. Take a walk through the city and explore it from its roots to the present. Start the adventure at the Carlton Centre and explore the inner city on streets lined with a combination of historic and modern buildings. Visit the vibrant Newtown Precinct and see a diverse range of historical and cultural sites. Explore Museum Africa for an honest look at some of the problems South Africa has faced. Then, move on to the Market Theatre. Finish at the SAB World of Beer for a look at brewing history and a glass of beer.

Sights and Tastes of Nairobi

**KEUA** 

hour

Departs daily

Explore the city centre of Nairobi by foot and see the city from the grassroots level. Along the way try some local transport and have lunch at a popular local restaurant. The adventure begins with a walk through the Uhuru Park, a splash of green in the heart of Nairobi. Continue past the parliament buildings. See the mausoleum of the first president of Kenya, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta and the August 7th memorial park which was built to commemorate the 7th August bombing of the US Embassy. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant. Here there is an opportunity to sample typical Kenyan cuisine and mingle with the locals. Take public transport back to the Kivi Milimani.

Nairobi Park & Giraffe Centre

**KEUB** 

9-10

This full day tour is an excellent way to begin or end your East Africa safari, Drive to the Nairobi National Park, a unique wildlife haven located within sight of the city's skyline. Here, herbivores graze and predators such as lions, cheetahs and leopards prey. Keep an eye out for them as well as the 300 bird species that call the park home. Join locals at a restaurant for a typical lunch. Stomachs full, drive on to the Karen Blixen Museum, and step back into colonial days. Continue on to the Giraffe Centre, where there is an opportunity to interact closely with the endangered Rothschild giraffe. After a day filled with close animal encounters, return to the city.

Hidden Istanbul

**RUB** 

**Departs daily except Sundays** 

Explore Istanbul's must-see sights and discover its hidden gems. Start at Aya Sofya then walk the famous hippodrome, to the Blue Mosque, a peaceful building resplendent with 6 minarets. Along the Divanyolu your guide will point out places to get the best coffee, pastries and show you the main points of interest along the way. Explore the Grand Bazaar and stop by the book bazaar where the first printed book in Turkey was sold in 1729. Visit the Istanbul University, the beautifully symmetrical Mosque of Süleyman the Magnificent and the Egyptian Spice Market. The adventure ends at the busy Eminou port, close to Galata Bridge, the perfect spot to continue your Istanbul explorations.

#### Home cooked Istanbul

Trip Code RUA

Try Turkish life with a family meal and an evening mingling with locals at some of their favourite haunts. Wander through the streets of historical Sultanahmet en route to meet a local family. Sharing a meal with them is a great privilege and an opportunity to get real insight into local life. After chatting to them and feasting on delicious food take a stroll through the backstreets and get a sense of the communal-style of life in Istanbul. Head to a popular local hangout to enjoy fabulous views of the Marmara Sea and look on as locals play football and backgammon. Afterwards there's a chance to try two of Turkey's favourite pastimes - tea drinking and Narglie (waterpipe) smoking.



Carioca Experience

Trip Code BRUB

us**\$33** 

Departs daily

Explore Copacabana's most interesting side and learn more about the Carioca lifestyle. Journey into the past with a visit to Copacabana Fort and learn how fisherman labor is blended into Copacabana's urban lifestyle. Visit the Garota de Ipanema Park (Girl from Ipanema) to finally reach Arpoador Beach. Kick back and relax with a typical Carioca coconut water drink. Rub shoulders with the locals atop Arpoador Rock and join them in one of their favourite pastimes, watching the sunset over Ipanema Beach. Explore the Praca General Osorio and its vibrant markets, restaurants and atmospheric bars. Be sure to try a cold "Chopp", the local draft beer or the national drink Caipirinha.

Santa Teresa Discovery

Trip Code

BRUA

hour tour US\$35

Janarte daily

Meet your expert local guide at the magnificent Copacabana Palace Hotel. Visit Carioca Square, once the main source of drinking water in Rio, transported in by the Aqueducts of Lapa. Climb on Rio's last remaining tram for the journey up to Santa Teresa. Explore the cobblestone streets of Santa Teresa on foot and discover beautiful architecture, art galleries, restaurants and local costumes. One of Rio's oldest neighbourhoods, Santa Teresa, situated high on a hill overlooking Rio, enchants locals and visitors alike with it's cobbled streets and eclectic architectural styles. Stop by the Carmelitas' Convent and clamber down the picturesque "Selaron's Staircase".

LA Getaway

Trip Code SULA

8-9 hour US\$89

**Departs daily Los Angeles** 

Step into a world of glitz and glamour in Hollywood. Visit Mann's Chinese Theater, stroll along the Walk of Fame and see the Kodak Theater complete with the Hollywood sign backdrop. For a change of pace head to the Farmer Market, for an extraordinary array of artisans, music, and of course, tantalising food stalls. No LA experience is complete without shopping. Explore racks of clothes worn by stars of movie and television at a unique second hand shop and go window shopping at exclusive Rodeo Drive. Cruise Beverly Hills to view the homes of the rich and famous. Finish with a walk and cycle along the Venice canals and quirky and colourful Venice Beach.

Slice of New York

Trip Code
SUNY

8-9 hour tour

us**\$99** 

Departs daily New York - lunch

Join a local guide to get a slice of the best of New York. Begin your explorations under the zodiac constellation of Grand Central Terminal's ceiling. Then join eclectic New Yorkers to ride the subway to Battery Park. Catch the Staten Island Ferry to revel in majestic views of the city skyline and the Statue of Liberty while cruising New York Harbor. Return to Manhattan island where you will explore Financial District on foot. Stop to reflect on recent history at Ground Zero then savor a slice of NY life with lunch at a local pizza shop. Ride the bustling subway to Times Square and top off the day with fantastic views from the 70th floor of Rockefeller Center.

Bridge and the Beach

Trip Code SUSA

4-5 hour tour Us**\$35** 

Departs daily San Francisco

Enjoy a guided walk from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Cliff House restaurant. Walk along rugged cliffs and beaches known only by local hikers, surfers and fishermen. See some of San Francisco's finest homes, soak in its history, and discover sea life. Finish with a spectacular sunset over the Pacific.

Stars and Bars

Trip Code **SULB** 

tour US\$59

Departs daily Los Angeles

Tour famous and infamous LA bars, some of which have appeared in movies or television. Learn about film lore and fact while savouring your favorite cocktail. It's not only a chance to explore LA's past, it's a great opportunity to mix with the locals, or even have a star sighting.

San Francisco Kaleidoscope

Trip Code SUSF

our US \$99

Departs daily San Francisco – lunch

Explore the diverse and colourful cultures of San Francisco's neighbourhoods. Visit the city's oldest building, stop by Chinatown for a dim sum lunch and make a literary stop at the Beat generation bookstore. Finish with a cruise through the harbour, past Alcatraz and under the Golden Gate Bridge.



urbanadventures.com Canada

#### Kensington Market & Chinatown CAUG

p Code

2 hour CND \$35

Departs Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat

Explore Chinatown and Kensington Market, the most colourful and multi-cultural neighbourhoods in Toronto. Sample both local and international delicacies as you wander streets lined with unique vendors and specialty shops. Learn how the area has evolved from a working-class Jewish market into a working-class bohemian market and now has one of Canada's largest Chinese communities. Several waves of immigrant settlement over the past 100 years have splashed colours, sounds, and flavours from the four corners of the earth throughout Kensington Markets. Hang around the markets after the tour has finished to pick up some one-of-a-kind souvenirs and gifts.

er CAUH

Beer Makes History Better

tour CND\$34

Departs Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat

This tour combines an historic look through the streets of old Toronto, with an introduction to Canadian beer. From the early 1800s, the citizens of this city have used beer for refreshment and merrymaking. Learn what role beer played though the decades in helping Torontonians cope with cholera, fire, war, depression, rebellion, muddy streets, and general Victorian stuffiness. Visit a few unique and historical pubs, cover the early history of Toronto, sample some locally made brews and get a new perspective on the city. Stop along the way at the historic St Lawrence Market. The final stop is at the Distillery District – an old industrial park and whiskey factory converted into a hub of art, culture and cafes.

#### Gastown & Chinatown

Trip Code

CAUB

hour tour CND \$25

Departs daily

Meet your guide by Starbucks, inside the Waterfront Station. Walk to the historic Gastown district, Vancouver's birthplace. This is where urban hip meets old town. Enjoy cobbled streets, heritage buildings and indigenous galleries. Explore sights like Blood Alley, a beautiful street with an infamous legend, and the famous Steam Clock. Walk along the Carrall Street pedestrian zone to Chinatown for a look at Vancouver's Chinese-Canadian culture. Explore the lively market, herbal medicine shops and historical alleys. Marvel at the Asian architecture, the Han Dynasty Bell and the Millennium Gate. Take a break at the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden. Finish the adventure at the Stadium Skytrain Station.

Granville Island & Downtown Core CAUA

2.5 hour CND \$32

Departs dai

Take a water taxi across False Creek to Granville Island. Visit craft studios, art galleries, unique shops and even houseboats. Stop by Granville Island Brewing Company and the Public Market to see amazing food, flowers and artisans. Stop by historic Yaletown, one of Vancouver's hottest waterfront neighbourhoods. Check out the Roundhouse building, once the westernmost terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Experience the heart of downtown with a walk along Robson Street, Vancouver's shopping district. Stroll through colourful Granville Street where Vancouver's night-life seekers flock after sunset. Cheap food, specialty shops, theatres and pubs create an avenue of neon.

#### Vancouver Encompassed

Trip Code

tour CND \$45

Departs daily

Start the adventure by travelling to Granville Island to see its sights. Explore stalls at the Public Market, wander through downtown, admire the Vancouver Art Gallery building, go window-shopping in exclusive Yaletown, and explore Vancouver's birthplace, Gastown. Finish in Chinatown filled with markets and delicious food.

### Vancouver by Bike

Trip Code

nour CND\$75

Departs daily

Pass by Vancouver's best beaches and local hot spots on this easy ride around the city. Start by riding along the Stanley Park sea wall. Head to trendy Yaletown and board a boat to explore the hidden gems of Granville Island including the 2010 Olympic village. Ride on to see vibrant Chinatown, historic Gastown and Canada Place.

### North Shore Nature Experience

Trip Code

CAUE

nour CND\$80

Departs daily

Discover nature on Vancouver's doorstep. Go on a rainforest walk and visit a salmon hatchery. Take up the challenge to climb the 2,830 steps up Grouse Mountain, or bypass the climb by using the Skyride. At the top enjoy the activities on offer. In summer, head off on nature walks and in winter try skating or skiing.



# **Europe**

West End to Westminster

**UKUA** 

£22.50 hour

Departs daily

UKUB

Start in the heart of the West End. Head to Regent Street and enter Mayfair. Wander Jermyn Street full of famous men's tailors. Pass nightclubs for the rich and famous, walk through stunning Victorian shopping arcades and enter the legendary Fortnum & Mason food emporium. See the Royal Academy, the Ritz Hotel and Lady Diana's favourite restaurant, before jumping in a black cab to Buckingham Palace for a chance to see the Changing of the Guards. Stroll to St James Park for great views of the London Eye, head through Horse Guards Parade, pass the Cenotaph and Downing Street. Walk to Westminster Abbey, see the Houses of Parliament, and finish at the Jewel Tower.

Trafalgar Square to Piccadilly

£22.50

Start in the heart of London at Trafalgar Square. Hear the history of Nelson's Column and the controversial 4th Plinth. Squeeze past the English National Opera using a street only 15 inches wide! Visit the Actor's Church where Charlie Chaplin is remembered. Stroll the Covent Garden piazza and maybe enjoy a coffee at the Royal Opera House. Admire the Bridge of Aspiration and discover Neal's Yard. Laugh out loud at the Cartoon Museum, hear historic stories at the British Museum and pass Denmark Street where both Jimi Hendrix and The Beatles recorded. Stroll through Old Compton Street in Soho to hear tales of this lively district. Then enter Chinatown before finishing under the lights of Piccadilly Circus.

London in a Day

**UKUC** 

Departs daily

**UKUD** 

Start at the Criterion Restaurant and head to Regent Street. Wander along Jermyn Street and see where the Queen buys her cheese. Walk through stunning arcades and emerge by Hatchards, the oldest book shop in London. Visit the legendary Fortnum & Mason food emporium, where deliveries are made by horse and carriage! Perhaps see the Changing of the Guards, before strolling through St James Park. See Downing Street, Westminster and the Houses of Parliament. From Trafalgar Square head to the English National Opera, stroll through Covent Garden and admire the Bridge of Aspiration. Enter the British Museum and soak up the colour of Chinatown before finishing at Piccadilly Circus.

St Pauls and the City

Start by exploring the history of Trafalgar Square. Board an old double decker bus: with only two routes remaining in London and a conductor on board, this will be a nostalgic ride. Wander the streets that Dicken's wrote about and emerge to see Sir Christopher Wren's masterpiece, St. Paul's Cathedral. Go to the Crypt's café for a traditional afternoon cream tea. Then head off past the London Stock Exchange, Mansion House and onto the Bank of England. See the Lloyd's building and the place where the Great Fire of London started. Descend from London Bridge and walk along the Thames. Enjoy views of Tower Bridge and the Tower of London. Finish with a waterside drink at a Dicken's Inn.

Borough to Bankside

**UKUE** 

Departs daily

Starting in the historic city, we cross the Thames for amazing views and darker history. Walking the old backstreets and river paths, we unravel the history of London, visiting old pubs, operating theatres, markets and playhouses. We pass the "wobbly bridge" before ending in the gigantic Turbine Hall of the Tate Modern.

#### East London Uncovered

**UKUF** 

Home to Banksy, and other famous UK artists, the East End has remodeled itself at the cutting edge of "Cool Britannia". Stroll along tranquil Regent's Canal, and then try some traditional pie and mash. Visit the galleries and cafes in Hoxton Square, before browsing the Spitalfield's and Brick Lane markets.

#### **London Markets**

**UKUG** 

Departs daily

Start at the famous Covent Garden and explore the guieter back streets before browsing the piazza full of street artists and live opera. Head across town to the best of the daily markets and see a real London market at work. Finish by the water at Camden Lock. Explore the stalls, then enjoy a pint and maybe some live music.



# Europe

Roman Dolce Vita

ITUE

hour

Departs Mon. Wed. Fri & Sun

Start your Roman adventure at the Spanish Steps. Walk along boutique-filled Via Condotti, toss a coin into the Trevi Fountain and wander through beautiful Piazza Colonna. Marvel at the fake dome in the Church of Sant'Ignazio, visit the astonishing Pantheon, and stride through Piazza Navona being sure to stop to admire Bernini's Four Rivers fountain. Along the way, take time to sample some of the city's finest gelato and best espresso. Finish at the 'talking statue' of Pasquino, so called because written notes have been left on it by Romans since the Renaissance period. And with an excellent enoteca nearby, why not stay on for a glass of wine? This truly is 'la dolce vita' - the good life!

**ITUF** 

Roman Empire Now and Then

Departs Tues, Thurs & Sat

Begin at Piazza Farnese. Walk to Campo de' Fiori, Rome's only square without a church. In the square's food market there is plenty of time to mingle with the locals as they bargain with vendors for delicious products. Then leave crowds behind and head to Piazza Mattei's Turtle Fountain. Continue on to the Jewish ghetto. Learn how the war affected this area and pass by the synagogue. Enjoy views from Capitoline Hill, and see a square designed by Michelangelo. Venture on to Piazza Venezia, home to a huge monument to King Vittorio Emanuele II, then admire views of Rome's archaeological sites while walking along Via dei Fori Imperiali. Finish up in front of Rome's spectacular Colosseum.

### Florence Evening Introduction

**ITUA** 

Departs Wednesdays

Begin the walk in the late afternoon, when the city tends to be a bit calmer. In the company of an expert local guide bisect the historical centre and become familiar with the layout of the city and its landmarks. During the walk, the guide will talk about everything from art to architecture, food to festivals and everything in between. We may spend as much time talking about fashion, coffee, or wine as we do about the Medici or Michelangelo; or you may find yourself with a grad student writing a dissertation on Florentine history who shows you some outof-the-way place of tremendous historical importance that most visitors simply bypass on their way to the big-name monuments.

**Fresco Tutorial** 

**ITUB** 

To understand the art of fresco painting is to understand the genius of Renaissance masters like Michelangelo, Raphael and Masaccio. This interactive workshop provides both an informative lesson in the history of fresco and a hands-on experience with the materials and techniques of its creation. The setting is the private studio of an accomplished artist, and begins with an overview of fresco. Be guided through the steps of preparing a surface, drawing and transferring a drawing, and finally applying the paint. Our docent's method of combining historical knowledge with artistic practice provides for a unique educational and entertaining experience for travellers of all ages.

#### The Artisians of the Oltrarno

**ITUC** 

hour

Departs daily

One of the cornerstones of Florentine culture and identity is the tradition of creating handcrafted, artisanal goods. This tradition has been embedded in the city's visual and economic history since the Middle Ages and has been handed down from one generation to the next. During the course of this walk visit workshops in the Oltrarno district where a large percentage of the city's artisanal shops are located including leatherworkers, silversmiths, shoe manufacturers and hat makers. Have the rare opportunity to peek behind the scenes and watch the artisans at work, using centuriesold tools of the trade. Learn about the importance of maintaining these precious trades in the face of mass-produced industry.

### The Medici Family

ITUD

The Medici family's influence on the art, politics, economics and social structure of Florence is still felt today. From the imposing family palaces they erected to the masterpieces of painting and sculpture they financed, the imprint of their prestige and wealth remains unrivalled. This tour traces the rise of the family in the late Middle Ages, though their heyday during the Renaissance, up to their rule of Tuscany as dukes during the 17th century. Visit three major sights that are entwined with the history of the family: the cloister of San Marco, Palazzo Medici and Michelangelo's Medici Chapels. Learn about the accomplishments of the Medici, the Renaissance in Florence and its impact on Western culture.



urbanadventures.com Europe

Going Dutch

**NLUA** 

**Departs daily excluding Mondays** 

Get a taste of the Amsterdam's heritage and lifestyle on a guided walking tour. Begin at Central Station and wander through the Jordaan neighbourhood, once a blue-collar area and now full of bars, restaurants and galleries. Visit a house boat and gain an insight into life on the canals before heading to the flower market. Step back in time at Begijnhof, a former convent with a peaceful courtyard, chapels and 15th century buildings. Admire portraits at the City Guard Gallery, then see the giant wooden statue of Goliath at the Amsterdam Historical Museum. Wander through historic Dam Square, before heading to the infamous red light district. Finish at the eclectic Waterlooplein flea market.

Cycle Amsterdam

**NLUB** 

Jump on a bicycle and join a guided cycling tour of Amsterdam. Set off towards the city's red light district before heading to the Waag, a remnant of the 15th century city walls. Surrounding the Waag nowadays is the Central Market, home to coffee shops, restaurants and even an organic food market. Cycle on to the ultra-modern NEMO science centre, designed to look like a ship moored on top of a car tunnel. Ride to the public library and enjoy great city views from its terrace. Continue along the waterfront and see the Music Hall and Borneo Island. Finally sample the local drop at a brewery housed within one of the oldest Dutch windmills, before cycling back to Central Station.

**Budapest Discovery** 

Trip Code HUUA

Departs daily

Get acquainted with both the Pest and Buda sides of the Danube River on this tour through the stunning Hungarian capital. Explore iconic sights on the Pest side including Heroes Square, Andrássy Avenue, and the Opera House. Stop in at the Central Market Hall and perhaps try lángos, a delicious Hungarian-style flat bread topped with sour cream, cheese and garlic. Then, cross the Chain Bridge to the Buda side of the river. Follow in the footsteps of Hungarian kings and wander the cobbled streets of the Castle District. Learn about the history of Matthias Church and Fishermen's Bastion and admire the view of the city and its bridges. Finish the adventure back on the banks of the Danube.

**Budapest Sights and Spas** 

HUUB

The Buda hills hide many sources of spring water. Discover several of them, along with some great sights of Budapest, with a local guide. Start by walking to the renowned Gellert Baths. Learn about the history and traditions of Hungarian spa culture. Visit a church carved into a hillside, walk the Bridge of Liberty, and see Buda Castle and the Chain Bridge. Ride the continent's oldest underground and board a tram to take in some of the city's iconic sights. Disembark at City Park and marvel at the many styles of Hungarian architecture on display at Vajdahunyad Castle. Finish by joining locals playing chess in the steaming waters of the beautiful Széchenyi Thermal Bath.



Europe

Hidden Barcelona

**ESUA** 

Departs daily

Discover Barcelona's iconic sights and hidden treasures on a leisurely walk around this seaside city. Start in the heart of the Gothic Quarter with a stroll along ancient streets steeped in Roman history. Wander on to the impressive Santa Maria del Mar, considered by many to be Barcelona's most beautiful church. Explore vibrant produce markets and taste local delicacies at gourmet shops. Stop by a tapas bar at lunchtime to join locals for some optional sweet cava and snacks. Head to the guieter streets of La Ribera and admire the magnificent Palau de la Musica Catalana. Walk along the tree-lined Les Rambles before finishing next to Barcelona's stunning opera house, Gran Teatre de Liceu.

**ESUB** 

Barcelona Bike and Tapas

Departs daily

Explore this vibrant Mediterranean city from two wheels. Blessed with myriad cycling lanes, a bike ride around Barcelona is the perfect way to see its many sites. Start at Olympic Port, constructed for the 1992 Olympic games, and cycle along the picturesque waterfront. Pass Frank Gehry's famous fish sculpture before continuing on to the tranquil grounds of Park Ciutadela. Ride through Barcelona's historic heart, past its most exclusive addresses, and into side streets drenched in old-world charm. Along the way be sure to keep an eye out for the exhuberant work of Antoni Gaudi. Take time to sample some delicious tapas before finsihing at Port Vell, Barcelona's oldest port.

Tajine Cookery Class

Trip Code **XUTRAK** 

hour

Departs daily

Join a cooking class in a riad located in the medina. Learn the Arabic words for the recipe's ingredients. Visit the soug and mix with the locals as you shop for fresh produce; meat and vegetables, herbs and spices form the basis of Moroccan cuisine. This is a perfect opportunity to try out new language skills. Spices are used extensively and have been imported here for thousands of years. Look out for homegrown ingredients like saffron from Tiliouine, mint and olives from Meknes and citrus fruit from Fez. During your cookery class, be taught how to make dishes that are central to Moroccan cuisine. Sayour the delights of your morning cookery class over lunch, while enjoying the riad setting.

Marrakech City Discovery

**XUDRAK** 

Stroll through Marrakech's 'New Town' and see the Theatre Royal and the Jnane El Harti Park. Then head to the medina to explore life as it has been for hundreds of years. Sayour some almond sweets at a local coffee house, then walk through sougs learning about the different industries that make the Old City so unique. Visit the city gates, palaces, tombs, museums and the famous minaret of the Koutoubia Mosque. From carpets to spices your guide will also show you the best places to pick up a memento or three. Finish the day with a mint tea at a rooftop cafe overlooking Djemma el-Fna and watch the snake charmers, musicians and market stalls ready themselves for business that night.

Medina, Palaces and Tombs

**XUDDRAK** 

hour

Explore the medina and its labyrinth of narrow streets and famous sougs. Visit Maison Tiskiwin to see a fascinating private collection of crafts and decorative arts from southern Morocco and the Sahara. Then visit the Palais De Bahia, a haven of shady courtyards and blue mosaic walls built for Bou Ahmed. The palace also includes beautiful quarters for his four wives and 24 concubines. Pass through the Jewish Quarter or Mellah and notice the Jewish heritage and particular style of architecture in this district. Visit the Palais El Badi constructed during the reign of Sultan Ahmed El Mansour in 1578 and the Saddian Tombs another monument of that same era. Finish back at Djemma el-Fna.

Hamam & Market Encounter

**XUHRAK** 

Start your tour at Djemma el-Fna where at night you will find a hundreds of food stalls, acrobats, snake charmers and gnaoua musicians entertaining the crowds. Visit the many sougs and medinas of Marrakech and explore the different industries. Mingle with locals selling fresh vegetables, herbs and spices and see the quarters of the carpenters, wood turners and dyers. Afterwards, join the locals at a hamam. Hamams are Morocco's public bathhouses and an experience not to be missed on any visit to Morocco. After a few hours of steam rooms and massages all the Moroccan dust is gone and you'll emerge a new person! Finish at a local tea house with a relaxing cup of mint tea.



urbanadventures.com Australia

Brisbane Heritage

Trip Code

hour AU\$44

Departs daily

Let Brisbane's history come alive as you walk its boardwalks, through its parks and along its arcades. Take the Heritage Trail past colonial buildings, each with its own story to tell of times past. See Parliament House, Queens Park and the Treasury building. Stroll along the mangrove boardwalk to discover unique ecosystems. Stop for a refreshing tea at Old Government House, spend time looking through the building and museum, and take a virtual tour of the house as it was in 1900. Wander through Brisbane Arcade, a beautifully crafted shopping mall from the 1930s. Head to King George Square and see the iconic City Hall with its famous clock tower. Finish the tour at Victoria Bridge.

**Brisbane Contrasts** 

Trip Code
AUUB

tour AU\$59

eparts daily

Discover the many contrasts of this charming city on a half-day tour. Soak up the local arts scene at Brisbane's Cultural Centre, an area that includes the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Queensland Art Gallery, Queensland Museum, and the State Library. Take a stroll along the Rainforest Walk, and then continue on to historic Wickham Terrace, home to the original medical practices of the colony. Stop at the Old Windmill, the oldest surviving convict structure in Brisbane. Take in panoramic views from the top of Mt Coot-tha and learn about local Aboriginal art and history. Cap off this Brisbane experience with a cold drink at the heritage-listed Regatta Hotel.

**Sydney Heads Adventure** 

Trip Code PAUC

4.5 hour tour AU\$7

Departs daily Sydney

Travel by ferry to the beautiful Watson's Bay and discover why this harbour is so special. Walk along the breathtaking Gap, explore the South Head and see how Sydneysiders enjoy their harbour lifestyle. Finish off with refreshments at the popular Watson's Bay hotel before catching a return ferry to town.

Sydney Explorer Bike Tour

Trip Code PAUG

our AU\$82

Departs daily Sydne

Explore the best of Sydney on 2 wheels. Coast alongside the sparkling harbour, cycle over the Harbour Bridge, See how the other half live on the North shore, explore the Botanical Gardens and get an up close look at Sydney's icons and hidden gems. Finish with refreshments at one of the Rock's best-known pubs.

Rocks, Bridge & Bay Bike

Trip Code PAUH

hour Au\$79

**Departs daily Sydney** 

Enjoy a gently paced bike ride around some of Sydney's most iconic sites. Explore the historic Rocks precinct, ride past the homes of the rich and famous in the North Shore region, cycle over the Harbour Bridge and pedal up to the Observatory. Be rewarded with a drink at one of Sydney's iconic Rocks pubs.

**Sydney Harbour Secrets** 

Trip Code PAUE

hour AU\$79

**Departs daily Sydney** 

After a cross-harbour ferry trip, enjoy a scenic bush walk around Sydney Harbour's North Shore and experience the city skyline as you never have before. Continue your walk to one of Sydney's hidden gems, Balmoral Beach, and soak up the atmosphere of this idyllic harbour beach retreat.

Sydney Harbour Walk

PAUD

2.5 hour tour AU\$41

**Departs daily Sydney** 

Enjoy an informative and relaxing 2 ½ hour walk around one of the world's greatest cities. Join an expert local guide who will share the secrets of this city with you, as they show you around the Harbour Bridge, Botanic Gardens and bustling waterfront. Go beyond the guide books and experience the real Sydney.

The Rocks Pub Tour

PAUP

hour AU\$46

**Departs daily Sydney** 

Explore one of Sydney's most interesting and vivacious precincts. Try the local brew and visit some of the city's most atmospheric pubs as you explore winding lanes and cobblestone alleys. Once the home of sailors, whalers and questionable figures, the Rocks is now one of the city's last remaining historical centres.

