

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

## VENICE SIMPLON-ORIENT-EXPRESS: ENGLAND, FRANCE & ITALY

### PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of three (3) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into England (United Kingdom), France or Italy.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](https://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

### COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

The United Kingdom, France and Italy currently have no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) or the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for up-to-date information.

### CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Major credit cards are widely accepted (the most popular are Visa and MasterCard, with American Express accepted at high-end shops) and ATM outlets are widespread. You may find it difficult to exchange US\$100 bills in banks and currency exchanges in smaller towns. Unattended self-service payment kiosks such as those in parking garages, train stations or gas stations only accept a Chip and PIN card or cash.

### PACKING LIST

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Cotton and other light fabrics are comfortable choices for summertime. Spring and autumn temperatures dictate medium-weight clothing selections. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

Cathedrals, churches, and other religious sites require conservative dress. Arms and shoulders should be covered.

#### Clothing

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels
- Lightweight raincoat and umbrella

- Sweater or fleece jacket
- Sleepwear
- Socks
- Brimmed hat or visor for sun protection
- Personal garments
- Swimwear/cover-up

Other Recommended Items

- Face masks and hand sanitizer
- Sunglasses
- Simple first-aid kit
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Charging cables for electronics
- Sun block and lip balm
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Smartphone
- Global travel adapter

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars):

	Tailor Made Journeys
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	Not applicable
Local Guides	\$25 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added

LIFE ON BOARD: VENICE SIMPLON-ORIENT-EXPRESS

An icon of Art Deco design, the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express recaptures the golden age of rail travel with storied routes connecting some of Europe’s most inspiring destinations.

WELCOME TO YOUR CABIN

The Venice Simplon-Orient-Express offers a choice of three cabin categories, all nestled within its original 1920s sleeping cars.

**Historic Cabins** measure 30 square feet and feature plush banquette seating that is converted into upper and lower berth beds by the train’s staff as you dine.

**Historic Cabin Amenities:**

All Historic Cabins have their own safe, washbasin cabinet, hot and cold water, towels, soap and a 220/110-volt European outlet. Robes are available at turndown for use on board, along with complimentary slippers. A lavatory is situated at the end of each carriage. There are no shower or bath facilities, except in the Suites and Grand Suites. Heating and air-conditioning are centralized and can be individually controlled from your cabin.

**Suites** measure 71 square feet and feature spacious marble ensuite bathrooms with showers. Daytime seating converts to two twin beds or one double bed.

**Suite Amenities:**

Each Suite features plush fabrics and furnishings that harken back to the golden age of Art Deco design, as well as a spacious marble en suite bathroom with a shower, washbasin and toilet. Daytime seating converts to two twin beds or one double bed. Other amenities include 24-hour steward service, a safe, towels, soap, a 220/110-volt European outlet, and adjustable climate control, as well as complimentary slippers and kimonos.

**Grand Suites** measure 115 square feet and elevate your guest experience with plush double beds and private in-cabin dining.

**Grand Suite Amenities:**

All six Grand Suites feature a private en suite with shower and toilet, hot and cold water, towels, a full-length mirror, hairdryer and complimentary amenities, including bathrobes and slippers. Each suite features a safe box, individually controlled air conditioning and heating, and a 220/110-volt European outlet. The double bed can be configured into twin (two single) beds. In the living area, the sofa can be transformed into a smaller bed suitable for a child.

**Grand Suite guests also enjoy:**

- Caviar upon arrival.
- Free-flowing Champagne in-suite throughout the journey.
- 24-hour butler service.
- Private in-suite dining for lunch or dinner, if preferred.
- Guaranteed table for two in your preferred restaurant car at your chosen sitting time.
- All table d'hôte and a la carte menus (excluding caviar options).
- Champagne Celebration Breakfast served in-suite.

**DRESS CODE**

During the day, smart clothing is the norm for all passengers. Dinner dress code is black tie. Diners often wear a suit/tuxedo or stylish cocktail/evening dresses and separates. Jeans/denim, shorts, T-shirts and sneakers are prohibited. Out of respect for other guests, inappropriately dressed passengers will be asked to take their drinks and meals to their cabin.

**LUGGAGE**

Due to space constraints, the luggage allowance per passenger on board is:

- One cabin-size piece of hand luggage.
- One suit carrier or overnight bag, which will be placed in your cabin.
- One suitcase weighing no more than 50 lbs. (23 kg), which will be checked in for storage.

Checked luggage will only be accessible at your final destination. Passports, tickets, jewelry, money, cameras, fragile items and any medications should be packed in your hand luggage rather than your checked luggage. If you're travelling to or from London, you will need to carry your hand luggage on and off the cross-Channel transport as porters are not available.

There are no laundry or pressing services on board.

**CURRENCY**

All pricing on board the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express is in euros. It is recommended that travellers carry a small amount of euros on board for incidental purchases. However, most major currencies, as well as major credit cards, are accepted.

#### WHEELCHAIR ACCESS & MOBILITY

Passengers with slight walking difficulties are advised to have assistance from an able-bodied passenger. We regret that the layout of the train is not ADA compatible or suitable for wheelchair users.

#### SMOKING

In accordance with European regulations, Venice Simplon-Orient-Express operates a no-smoking policy on board the train, including electronic cigarettes.

#### LANGUAGE

On board Venice Simplon-Orient-Express staff members speak English.

#### GETTING ONLINE

There is no Wi-Fi service on board Venice Simplon-Orient-Express. Passengers should restrict use of their mobile phones to the privacy of their cabins.

#### DINE, RELAX AND CELEBRATE IN STYLE

Dining aboard the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express is a true occasion, inspiring guests to don their black-tie best as the Executive Chef serves a seasonal menu of fine regional cuisines. The train's dining cars are converted to elegant day cars between meals. Here, enchanted by the passing scenery, guests converse over cocktails in the same high style enjoyed by the likes of Grace Kelly and Lawrence of Arabia.

- Continental breakfast and afternoon tea are served in-cabin.
- Lunch and dinner are served table d'hôte in the dining cars.
- Twenty-four-hour cabin service is provided for light snacks and refreshments.
- Coffee, tea and bottled water are included.
- Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages are available at an additional cost.
- Most special dietary requirements can be accommodated with advance notice.
- Table d'hôte meals may entail shared seatings.

#### GRATUITIES

These are not included in your fare and are at your discretion. Suggested gratuities are \$10–\$15 per person, per day. Gratuities accepted on board the train are shared among the staff.