CONSERVANCY TRAVEL

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS and HOLIDAY DELIGHTS
LUGGAGE AND PACKING GUIDELINES

LUGGAGE LIMITS

- Please limit your baggage to one suitcase and one carry-on / day bag.
- Please verify baggage weight and size limitations with your airline. If you intend to make purchases during your journey, be sure to leave space and weight in your luggage or bring a folding bag.

Wherever possible, porter service is included in the trip fee. However, porters are not always available.
Ensure your suitcase has wheels, and that you can manage all your baggage yourself.

SPECIAL NOTES FOR OUR JOURNEY

Day 4: PARIS - STRASBOURG

Your large suitcase will be picked up THE NIGHT PRIOR from the hotel, and transported to Strasbourg by private service. It will be brought to the hotel and will be waiting for you when you arrive in the evening. You'll keep your hand baggage with you throughout the day. It can be left on the motorcoach during the visits and lunch in Paris. You will carry it with you on the train, and need to be able to manage it on the 15 to 20-minute walk from the Strasbourg train station, to the hotel. There is no porterage inside the hotel. The hotel has an elevator.

Day 9: RETURN TO PARIS-CDG AIRPORT HOTEL

Your large suitcase will be picked up early this morning, and transported from the barge to the Oceania hotel by private service. You'll keep your hand-baggage with you throughout the day. It can be left on the motorcoach during the visits. You will carry it with you on the train, and need to be able to manage it on the 15 to 20-minute walk from the CDG train station, to the motorcoach meeting point. There is no porterage inside the hotel. The hotel has an elevator.

Locks

For flights that originate in, or fly through the U.S., only TSA-approved locks are permitted for air travel.
Avoid bringing unnecessary jewelry or other irreplaceable items with you on your trip.
If you bring an extra bag for purchases, remember to bring an extra lock.

PLEASE NOTE:

We **highly recommend** that you plan to pack any Christmas Market purchases in your checked baggage for the return flight home.

The Paris (CDG) Airport security personnel are notoriously **aggressive** about handling traveler possessions through security machines. They will intentionally open, break or destroy items, including fragile items or packaged food.
Plan ahead by bringing bubble wrap, zip-top bags, a shoe box etc, to securely wrap and pack anything that you purchase in France. Purchase food items vacuum packed for travel, where available.

ALSO: Liquids in carry-on baggage are limited to 100ml (3 oz) containers and must be contained in a single, **clear quart-size zip top bag**. Even though in the USA, there are reusable plastic TSA-approved bags, these are **not accepted by French Airport security personnel**. You will be required to empty your liquid items into a quart-size bag, zip it closed, and discard anything that does not fit.

CLOTHING CHOICES

Dress on this trip is functional and casual. No formal or dressy clothing is necessary.
- Make sure your clothes are comfortable for outdoor walking and sightseeing.
- Pack versatile mix & match layers.
- Choose neutral tones that are easily interchangeable, and accent with brightly colored accessories.
- You may wish to consider that Europeans do not typically wear sports-type active-wear such as leggings, sweatpants etc. for daily street-wear, only specifically for sports activities.
- Comfortable walking shoes suitable for the weather in your season of travel are the most important item to bring.

Weather: Cold, but typically not extreme cold, ranging 37°F to 46°F. It rarely snows in Paris, but **humidity** and dark, short days can make temperatures feel colder. Rain is common, so waterproof outerwear is essential. It will be colder, and potentially snowier in **Alsace** than in Paris. You will be spending extended time outdoors, at Christmas Markets.
- A medium to heavy winter coat is essential.
- Layered clothing: Sweaters, thermal mid-layer, and long-sleeve shirts.
- Waterproof boots or sturdy shoes suitable for walking on cobblestones
- Gloves, hat, and scarf

Laundry

Our hotels have laundry service, but it is expensive. It is easiest to plan to handwash your own undergarments daily.

Water Bottle

France is working to eliminate single use plastic bottles by providing public water dispensers to refill your own bottle. A carrying-strap or a day-pack with an outside bottle pocket will make using it easier. The hotel in Strasbourg and the canal barge have water dispensers for you to refill your bottle, at no cost.

PACKING LIST

Footwear

3 pairs total – two that are waterproof and lined or worn with wool socks, rubber-soled for walking on cobblestone streets in rain or snow; 1 pair for indoors / aboard barge

- ❑ Keen Waterproof Sneakers and Waterproof lined walking boots
- ❑ KURU Shoes and Boots
- ❑ Casual shoes for indoors
- ❑ Support Insoles

Outerwear

Use compression bags to pack bulky items. Lighter layers that can be combined are more comfortable and efficient than one very heavy layer, as you will be moving between inside and outdoor spaces.

32HEAT is an inexpensive source for winter clothing

- ❑ Waterproof Rain Jacket with hood
- ❑ Packable Rain pants
- ❑ Packable Down Jacket
- ❑ Down Vest
- ❑ Winter Parka
- ❑ Rain hat
- ❑ Wool hat
- ❑ Earmuffs
- ❑ Gloves, fingerless gloves
- ❑ Wool or fleece neck scarf or gaiter

Mid-Layer

- ❑ Fleece pullover/sweater
- ❑ Cardigan

Socks

- ❑ 3 x Compression knee-high socks – *helpful for air travel, standing and walking*
- ❑ Smartwool midweight boot/ knee high socks
- ❑ 5 x everyday wool socks

Base Layer

- ❑ Pajamas x 1
- ❑ Underwear x 3
- ❑ 2 x Thermal undershirt
- ❑ 1 x Thermal turtleneck undershirt
- ❑ 2 x Thermal long johns

Clothing

- ❑ 3-4 long-sleeved shirts
- ❑ 3 trousers/pants
- ❑ Optional: 1 waterproof lined pants
- ❑ Optional: 1 Jeans (dark color, no rips)
- ❑ Optional: Fleece Leggings + Long Skirt

Essential Items

Daily essentials: toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, hairbrush or comb, shaving items, deodorant, etc.

Spare eyeglasses/contact lenses

Some European hotels do not provide a washcloth, so you may wish to bring your own.

Miscellaneous Useful Items

- ❑ Reusable Shopping Bag - all stores in Europe charge for bags
- ❑ Folding Travel hangers
- ❑ Sunglasses with UV protection
- ❑ Travel alarm clock, or watch with alarm
- ❑ Pocket-size tissues
- ❑ Anti-bacterial hand sanitizer
- ❑ Mobile phone security strap and metal tether tab
- ❑ Data hacking blocker for phone or laptop
- ❑ Money pouch or belt

NOTE: Scott-E Travel vest – *these have many inside pockets and eliminates the need for money belt, small purse, fanny-pack, and keeps valuables and passport secure.*

Medicines & First Aid Gear

- ❑ Your own prescription medicines, packed in carry-on
- ❑ Travel first aid kit: Band-Aids, headache and pain relief, laxatives and anti-diarrhea tablets, upset stomach or motion-sickness remedy, cold remedy, moleskin foot pads, antibiotic cream, cortisone-based topical cream, allergy medication.

Optional Gear

- ❑ Travel journal/note pad and pens
- ❑ Reading materials
- ❑ portable battery charger