

Europe Insider Snapshot

Your Guide to Four Destinations Worth Discovering

France	Ireland	Scotland	Greece
Vibe: Timeless elegance, world-class art, culinary mastery	Vibe: Warm hospitality, literary heritage, dramatic coastal landscapes	Vibe: Rugged beauty, whisky culture, medieval history	Vibe: Ancient mythology, island paradise, Mediterranean warmth
Must-Experience: Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, Musée d'Orsay, Versailles, Monet's Garden (Giverny), French Riviera, Loire Valley châteaux	Must-Experience: Cliffs of Moher, Dublin's Temple Bar, Ring of Kerry, Giant's Causeway, Blarney Stone, Guinness Storehouse	Must-Experience: Edinburgh Castle, Isle of Skye, Loch Ness, Highlands, Royal Mile, whisky distilleries	Must-Experience: Athens Acropolis, Santorini sunsets, Mykonos beaches, Delphi ruins, island hopping
Flavor Profile: Croissants, coq au vin, escargot, macaron, wine & cheese culture, Michelin-starred dining	Flavor Profile: Irish stew, soda bread, fresh seafood, whiskey tastings, hearty pub fare	Flavor Profile: Haggis, smoked salmon, shortbread, Scotch whisky, hearty soups	Flavor Profile: Moussaka, souvlaki, fresh feta, Greek salads, ouzo, local seafood
Best Window: April–June and September–October (mild weather, fewer crowds)	Best Window: May–September (longest days, warmest weather)	Best Window: May–September (Edinburgh Festival in August is iconic)	Best Window: May–June and September–October (warm without extreme heat; fewer crowds than July–August)
Weather: 40–78°F; Paris can be rainy in spring, warm summers (especially in South France – 88°F)	Weather: 45–65°F; rain year-round, pack layers	Weather: 40–65°F; unpredictable rain, always pack waterproofs	Weather: 60–85°F; hot, dry summers; mild, occasionally rainy winters
Insider Tip: Parisians value politeness – always greet with "Bonjour" before asking questions; Parisian meals are part of a cultural ritual and may last 1–2+ hours	Insider Tip: Tipping isn't expected in pubs; round up for table service	Insider Tip: Scots appreciate genuine interest in their culture – ask about local history	Insider Tip: Cash is still king in many smaller establishments; ATMs are widely available
Time Zone: CET (UTC+1); 7 hours ahead of Chicago	Time Zone: GMT (UTC+0); 6 hours ahead of Chicago	Time Zone: GMT (UTC+0); 6 hours ahead of Chicago	Time Zone: EET (UTC+2); 8 hours ahead of Chicago
Flight Time: ~9 hours nonstop	Flight Time: ~7.5 hours nonstop	Flight Time: ~8 hours (typically via connection)	Flight Time: ~10 hours (typically via connection)
Currency: Euro (EUR) ~€0.95 = \$1 USD	Currency: Euro (EUR) ~€0.95 = \$1 USD	Currency: British Pound (GBP) ~£0.80 = \$1 USD	Currency: Euro (EUR) ~€0.95 = \$1 USD

Next Steps?

Ready to Go Deeper...Let's Talk

This snapshot gives you the flavor of each destination, literally and figuratively. But choosing the right European country for your travel style, budget, and dreams? That's where the real magic happens. If this snapshot helped you see the possibilities, imagine what we'll uncover when we plan your perfect European escape together. Each country has stories the guidebooks don't tell, and I know them all.

Julie Morse, Europe Travel Advisor, JM Destinations, LLC | Email: julie@jmdestinationsllc.com | Phone: 309-737-0597