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TAILOR MADE RAIL

## Tyrolean Explorer

From £1,299 per person // 12 days



Enjoy a rail journey into the beautiful and fascinating region of Tyrol, straddling Austria, Germany and Italy, on this relaxing holiday. You'll have stops in Tyrolean capital Innsbruck, the pretty towns of Merano and Bressanone as well as East Tyrolean capital Lienz before heading home via Munich.

### The Essentials

- Travel to Tyrolean capital Innsbruck with a night in pretty Baden-Baden en route
- Discover the German-speaking Italian region of Süd Tyrol with stops in Merano and Bressanone
- Head over the Austrian border to Lienz, historic capital of East Tyrol
- Return to the UK with a stop in Munich to break your journey

### What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations
- 11 nights' handpicked hotel accommodation with breakfast
- Comprehensive directions to your hotels
- Clearly-presented wallets for your rail tickets, hotel vouchers and other documentation
- All credit card surcharges and complimentary delivery of your travel documents

### Tailor make your holiday

- Decide when you would like to travel
- Adapt the route to suit your plans
- Upgrade hotels and rail journeys
- Add extra nights, destinations and/or tours

## - Suggested Itinerary -



### Day 1 - London To Baden-baden

Set off from London St Pancras on a late morning Eurostar across to the Belgian capital, Brussels. Here, you board a German InterCity Express (ICE) train into Germany, where you then connect down to Baden-Baden. You can opt for the high-speed line to get you there more quickly, or you can take the scenic Rhine Gorge route south of Cologne for a more leisurely journey. On arrival in the famous spa town of Baden-Baden, you will be checking into in the Hotel Quellenhof Sophia (or similar) for an overnight stay.



### Day 2 - Baden-baden To Innsbruck

Depart Baden-Baden this morning on a regional train through the beautiful scenery of the Black Forest. The train trundles along at a leisurely pace, twisting and turning alongside rivers and lakes, and the vast forested areas of southwest Germany, before arriving in the town of Singen close to the Swiss border. You then connect straight down to Zurich, one of Switzerland's largest transport hubs, for the direct Austrian RailJet service across the Arlberg Pass to Innsbruck. After some increasingly mountainous scenery in eastern Switzerland and a brief foray into the tiny principality of Liechtenstein, you reach your destination as you cross into the Austrian Tyrol. Once you arrive at the region's capital, Innsbruck, check in at the Hotel Innsbruck (or similar) for a 3-night stay.



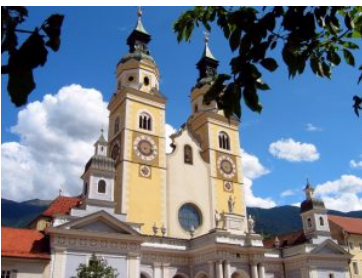
### Days 3 & 4 - Innsbruck

Dubbed "the largest mountain resort in the Alps", Tyrolean capital Innsbruck has a plethora of outdoor pursuits in the summer, such as hiking, mountain biking, paragliding and fishing. For the less adventurous, there are narrow lanes, cobbled open squares and beautiful ice-cream to seduce you into spending a whole day in the Old Town. For stunning views and hill walking, we recommend a cable car from the city centre to the Nordkette mountain chain. At the top station of the cable car, there's a café and viewing platform as well as clearly marked walking trails.



### Days 5 & 6 - Merano

South Tyrol (Südtirol in German, Alto Adige in Italian), is a fascinating linguistic juxtaposition of German and Italian. The area is an autonomous region of Italy where German and Italian are joint-official languages, although in much of the region German is the predominant local tongue. Your journey begins by climbing up the spectacular Brenner Pass route through some charming villages on the Austrian side, before changing trains at Brenner itself for your continued journey through the Dolomites to the town of Merano (Meran in German) for a 2-night stay at the Flora Hotel & Suites (or similar). Merano has a pleasant mild climate and is also a well-known spa resort. The surrounding mountains are ideal for hiking in the summer and in the winter there are plenty of ski areas and cross-country routes. The city itself has a beautiful castle called Trauttmansdorff located just outside the centre and well-worth a visit during your stay here.



### Days 7 & 8 - Bressanone

Taking a regional service east through the beautiful South Tyrolean landscape, your direct train arrives in the town of Bressanone (or Brixen as it is known in German). Here, you make your way to the Hotel Garni Traube (or similar) for a 2-night stay. With its unique cathedral square, the large-scale medieval historic centre and its wonderful arcades, Bressanone is a lesser-known delight right in the northern extremities of Italy. An array of bars, restaurants and cafés await your delectation, and the cathedral dedicated to Santa Maria Assunta, dating back to the 10th century, is an unmissable highlight.



### Days 9 & 10 - Lienz

On departing Bressanone you make your way east following the watercourse of the Rienza River, through the pretty town of Brunico and onwards to the Austrian border. As well as crossing between Italy and Austria, this also marks the frontier between South Tyrol and East Tyrol (known in German as Osttirol). On arrival in the region's capital Lienz, you make your way to the Hotel Sonne (or similar) for your 2-night stay. Lienz is situated at the confluence of the rivers Drava and Isel in the Eastern Alps, Lienz enjoys a sunny climate and easy-going way of life. Regular concerts take place in its main square during the summer months, and a main highlight is Bruck Castle. Built by the Counts of Görz, the castle has loomed large over the city for over 750 years.



### **Day 11 - Lienz To Munich**

After a brief journey on regional train east to the station of Spittal Millstättersee, you then connect with a comfortable InterCity service running north up to Munich, finally departing the Tyrol region and entering Bavaria close to Salzburg. You then stay overnight at the Eurostars Book Hotel (or similar) and have time to explore the best of Munich's evening entertainment.



### **Day 12 - Munich To London**

This morning you board a German ICE train north to Frankfurt, where you connect across the platform to another high-speed service through to Brussels. In Brussels you have ample time to make your connection to Eurostar, which will in turn have you back into London in around 2 hours.

## **Pricing**

From £1,299 per person

These prices are based on two people sharing a twin or double room. Single supplements will apply for sole occupancy. It is based on Standard Class rail travel and includes seat reservations as necessary. It is based on the best fares on the trains. If you travel during a peak period, particularly at short notice, then supplements may apply