

Venice Carnival 2025 by Rail

From £1,199 per person // 6 days



Visit the unforgettable city of Venice during Carnival time, when the city shakes off its winter slumber and comes alive in a whirlwind of masked balls, pageants, music and food.

The Essentials

- London to Zurich by rail in a day
- Beautiful journey through the Alps via the Gotthard route
- Experience one of the world's most famous carnivals against the backdrop of unforgettable Venice
- A night in Montreux on Lake Geneva to break the journey home

Tailor make your holiday

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

What's included

- Standard Class rail travel with seat reservations
- 5 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

**Venice Carnival 2025:
22 February – 4 March**

- Suggested Itinerary -



Day 1 - London To Zurich

Catch a Eurostar in the morning and connect onto the high-speed TGV Lyria service which will take you through France and into Switzerland. Check in for an overnight stay at the Hotel Adler (or similar) in Zurich. The city of Zurich has a very pretty centre, straddling the River Limmat as it flows into Lake Zurich. Enjoy an evening wandering around through the historic area of Lindenhof with its great choice of bars and restaurants.



Day 2 - Zurich To Venice

After breakfast this morning, it's time to head back to the station for your onward journey into the Alps. You can choose whether to catch some mountain scenery and then plunge into the 35-mile long Gotthard Tunnel, emerging in Italian-speaking Italy or take the longer journey through the Gotthard Pass high in the Alps before descending into Italy (let us know which route you would prefer). Either way, you'll pass through Verona before crossing the Venetian Lagoon by way of the stunning Ponte della Libertà. Exit the station to the magnificent Grand Canal and make your way to the Hotel Bisanzio (or similar) for a 3-night stay.



Days 3 & 4 - Venice Carnival

The Venice Carnival is believed to have started at the end of the 12th century, as a celebration of victory in battle. It evolved into a yearly festival involving two whole months of revelling. Nowadays, there are just over two weeks to enjoy the festivities. St Mark's Square is at the heart of things, where you are likely to spot the best costumes. Get involved yourself by buying a carnival mask. If you want to attend a ball or other paid event, you can get tickets on the Venice Carnival website.



Day 5 - Venice To Montreux

After breakfast in Venice, make your way back to the station on the Grand Canal for the train service to Montreux via Milan and the Simplon route through the Alps. When you arrive, make your way to the Grand Hotel Suisse Majestic (or similar) where you will stay overnight. You should arrive in time for an evening meal in this lovely lakeside town, famous for its annual jazz festival and photogenic Château de Chillon (pictured).



Day 6 - Montreux To London

After a leisurely start this morning, it's time to leave Montreux and head along the shores of Lake Geneva, with the UNESCO World Heritage listed Lavaux Vineyards to your right. Change at Geneva and catch a high-speed TGV to Paris. In Paris, cross over from the Gare de Lyon to the Gare du Nord, where you catch a Eurostar back to London.

Pricing

From £1,199 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, especially weekends in Venice during Carnival season.