

7 WORLD'S BEST CITIES TO VISIT

Rome

#1 in World's Best Places to Visit

WHY GO TO ROME

Rome, the city of seven hills, enjoyed a mythic beginning. Romulus and Remus — twin brothers who were nursed by a she-wolf and fathered by a war god — reportedly founded the Eternal City. And although historians are a little skeptical about this epic entry into the world, most travelers are absolutely certain that there is something magical about Rome. Whether it's the mystery of nearby Vatican City or the ghosts of the [Colosseum](#), an afternoon caffè on [Piazza Navona](#) or a piled-high plate of pasta at a trattoria, Roma is sure to enchant.

Sydney

#2 in World's Best Places to Visit

WHY GO TO SYDNEY

Sydney is both a laid-back beachside town and a thriving metropolis that boasts some of the Southern Hemisphere's best surf, landmarks and activities. Whether you're looking to watch a show at the iconic [Opera House](#), take to the waves at [Bondi Beach](#) or explore trendy areas like [The Rocks](#) and [Darling Harbour](#), Sydney features something for everyone. Even Sydneysiders have an ideal mix of both worlds: Fashion-forward attire and British-style sarcasm combine with a "no worries" attitude and relaxed coastal vibe. It's no wonder this vibrant city down under is a natural choice for first-time Aussie visitors.

Porto

#3 in World's Best Places to Visit

WHY GO TO PORTO

Porto has long been a hot destination for wine lovers — it's the go-to place to find the best of that sweet, tasty port wine. But this city by the sea has more to offer than *vinho*. Porto (or Oporto, as it's sometimes called) is an attractive European mini-metropolis on Portugal's northwestern coast where travelers can get their fill of culture and the outdoors. Travelers can visit the city's wealth of museums, admire its varied architecture and, of course, hit the [beach](#).

London

#4 in World's Best Places to Visit

WHY GO TO LONDON

The English writer Samuel Johnson famously said, "You find no man, at all intellectual, who is willing to leave London. No, Sir, when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford." More than two centuries have passed since Johnson's era, but his words still ring true. Life in London is nothing short of invigorating, and travelers find that one visit isn't enough to experience everything this two-millennia-old city has to offer.

Paris

#5 in World's Best Places to Visit

WHY GO TO PARIS

The City of Light draws millions of visitors every year with its unforgettable ambiance. Of course, the divine cuisine and vast art collections deserve some of the credit as well. The gentle River Seine rambles through the city, flanked by stately museums, centuries-old churches, and blocks of Rococo- and Neoclassic-design architecture, further enhanced by cascading trees and glowing streetlamps. Peppering the Seine's cobbled walks and graceful bridges are impossibly chic Parisians, probably on their way to the market, cafe or cinema.

New York City

#6 in World's Best Places to Visit

WHY GO TO NEW YORK CITY

Cool, cosmopolitan, crowded, constantly evolving ... the Big Apple blends big city splendor with small-town charm. Amid Gotham's iconic landmarks and towering skyscrapers, you'll experience a vibrant culture permeating each of the city's distinctive neighborhoods and boroughs. Follow trendsetters to the East Village and Brooklyn to check out indie boutiques, iconic bakeries and trendy coffee shops. Afterward, peruse the racks of the sleek shops lining [Fifth Avenue](#), admire the cutting-edge art collections at the [MoMa](#) and the [Met](#), catch a memorable show on [Broadway](#) or sit down for a meal at the latest "it" restaurant.

Florence

#7 in World's Best Places to Visit

WHY GO TO FLORENCE

This little city, tucked amid the Tuscan hills, casts a long shadow through history. The wellspring of the Renaissance, *Firenze* (or Florence) sheltered the powerful Medici family and inspired artists like Michelangelo (David) and Brunelleschi (the [Duomo](#)). If it weren't for the fashionable Italians and chic shops lining Via Tornabuoni, you might think you had traveled back in time to the 14th century. But Renaissance art is not the only reason to come: You also visit Florence for its gorgeous sunsets, its Italian cooking and its unbeatable romantic charm.
