

CULTURES AND TRADITIONS

I visited 12 countries in my tour of Europe, find them and imagine the most direct route from the first to the last and draw it on the map from capital to capital. Attention ! you travel by train and bus and can only fly twice!

Kalimera !

This country is one of the cradles of European civilisation. Composed of mountains and islands that attract many tourists, this country has a long history. Olympia is the city that hosted the Olympic Games for the first time in 766 BC. The Olympic Games were held in Athens in 2004. Mount Olympus is the highest mountain in the country, with an altitude of 2,917 meters. It was considered a sacred mountain among the ancients, Olympus being the domain of the gods of mythology.

Zdrave !

This Balkan country has a population of 7.5 million on a territory of 110,911 km². Every year, the "Festival of the Rose" brings together, the first week of June, thousands of people in Kazanlak and its surroundings. On the program: coronation ceremony of the Queen of the Rose, rituals of yesteryear, rose picking and distillation of essence, carnival, popular festivities and lots of music and dancing. Sofia is its capital.

Guten Tag !

This country close to Switzerland celebrated Mozart's 250th birthday in 2006. Mozart was a child prodigy. He composed his first concerto at the age of five, a symphony at the age of seven and a whole opera at the age of twelve. His work is very important. The presentation of the opera The Magic Flute took place in 1791. Mozart wrote during its short life 625 scores. He died at age 35. Vienna has remained an important cultural center. The city has many concert halls. You can attend an opera there every evening. Skiing is the country's most popular sport.

Dobrý den !

This country was born in 1993 from the separation with its neighbor, Slovakia. Today in Prague, in the Old Town Square, stands the square tower of the Town Hall with its magnificent astronomical clock. An astronomical clock is a clock on which one can read the relative positions of the Sun, the Moon, the constellations of the Zodiac and sometimes the most important planets. Comenius "the teacher of the nations" after whom the first European program for schools is named was born in this country.

Guten Tag !

This country on the North Sea is made up of 16 federated states (Länder) and is the most populous in the European Union. It is one of the founding countries. After the Second World War, it was divided into two entities: the Federal Republic to the west and the Democratic Republic to the east. It reunited in 1990. Its capital is Berlin. Its industry is the first in Europe. The country has always had an intense cultural life that the invention of the printing press by a German craftsman, Johannes Gutenberg in 1450, partly helped to develop.

Labdien !

Located between the two other Baltic countries (Lithuania and Estonia), it is one of the countries in Europe where ecotourism is the most developed. Ecotourism is a way of doing tourism with the aim of enjoying nature, animal species and landscapes while respecting them. Baltic amber is one of these riches. It is a resin secreted by conifers. This amber is still nicknamed "the tears of seabirds". Men have always been fascinated by amber, to which they attributed magical powers very early on.

Pääivää !

It is the northernmost country in Europe. As a result, the winters are cold and the summers short and relatively cool. The average temperature in July is around 16°C while the average temperature in February is

-9°C. In the far north, beyond the Arctic Circle, the sun stays below the horizon for 51 days: it's polar night! In summer, the sun does not set for 73 days: these are the sleepless nights. The beauty of Nordic landscapes has inspired many artists, including composer Jean Sibelius, and architect designer Alvar Aalto who represents nature through his creations.

Goddag !

This small country is mainly made up of islands spread between the North Sea and the Baltic (406 islands exactly). With 1.7 million inhabitants out of the country's 5.5 million, Copenhagen is therefore the heart, this magnificent city is in perpetual evolution. In Copenhagen, at the edge of the water, is the statue of the Little Mermaid, an emblematic monument of the city. Inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale, it depicts a mermaid who is fell in love with a prince but must wait three hundred years before becoming human and to be able to marry her. A bridge makes it possible to reach nearby Sweden.

Hello !

The second largest island in the British Isles and the second largest island in Europe, this country is located to the west of Great Britain. The island is divided in two: the northern part is part of the United Kingdom and the southern part is a republic whose capital is Dublin. The official symbol of the country is the Celtic harp (which appears on the euro coins), but the shamrock is often used, especially by the rugby team. It is the cradle of many legends. You can come across the Leprechauns who are little elves.

Goedendag !

A quarter of the territory of this country is below sea level! The lands were reclaimed from the sea with the polders (artificial expanses of land created by the drainage of the sea and the drying up of coastal areas). We understand why Amsterdam is entirely built on stilts. Amsterdam has 1,281 bridges. As the country is very flat, there are many cycle paths (15,000 km). Thus, there are twice as many bicycles as cars. Bike rides are very popular, it is an opportunity to discover the rich landscapes of mills still in operation and the fields of tulips growing on the land. sandy. Van Gogh was inspired by these fields of flowers in his paintings. Two hundred and six of his works are on display at the Van Gogh Museum.

Goedendag ! Bonjour ! Guten Tag !

This country has three official languages: French in Wallonia, Dutch in Flanders and German in the German-speaking Community. Brussels is the capital of the kingdom and one of the three Euro-capitals with Strasbourg and Luxembourg. It hosts many European institutions. She made herself known by the Grand-Place, the Manneken-Pis and the Atomium (giant atom) now completely renovated. This is the land of comics and fries!

Bom Dia !

Open to the Atlantic Ocean, this country was home to the great navigators in the 15th century. They explored the seas to discover new lands and brought back many spices hitherto unknown: coriander, pepper, ginger, saffron, paprika. Tourists who enjoy this country feast on the national dish, salt cod and listen to fado, a traditional song.

Here is the map of Europe with the starting and ending point of my journey and, to help you, the flags of the countries visited. The dots correspond to the capitals of the countries. .

