

# TRAVEL+ LEISURE

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## The Best Places to Travel in Europe in March



**It's the shoulder season — and festival season — in Europe this month.**

ALEX SCHECHTER FEBRUARY 27, 2018

It's shoulder season in Europe, and the kids are off from school — what more inspiration do you need to catch a flight overseas? If you're planning a last-minute getaway, the possibilities for a springtime vacation are many.

Is Dublin's famous St Patrick's Day Parade calling to you? Or perhaps you'd rather spend [spring break](#) lounging on a balmy Mediterranean island. Maybe you'll spend a week trekking through a [remote forest](#) in central Sweden, or admiring one of the most famous flower blooms on Earth.

Whether you're seeking adventure or a low-key retreat, March is the perfect time to experience some of Europe's loveliest sights: minus the blistering summer heat and roving crowds.

**Related:** [The Best Places to Travel in the United States in March](#)

To help you find the absolute best places to travel in Europe this month, we looked at popular (and sometimes underrated) annual events, noteworthy hotel and restaurant openings, sought out exceptional weather, and considered destinations on our list of the [50 Best Places to Travel in 2018](#).

What we found were hidden Slovenian lake towns where travelers can explore a beautifully preserved medieval castle and new, scenic train routes connecting northern Italy and Germany.

March is also the beginning of festival season in Europe, so there are a dizzying number of opportunities to make merry with locals, be it at a [citrus-inspired carnival](#) in southern France, or a street parade with [life-size puppets](#) in Spain.

Ready to book a European holiday? These are the best places to visit this month.

## **Dublin, Ireland**

The streets of Dublin burst to life this month for [the celebration of St. Patrick's Day](#). Travelers weaving their way through the capital in March will have plenty to capture their attention, whether it's a [guided podcast walking tour of Dublin Port](#), or the famous two-mile-long [St. Patrick's Festival Parade](#). The celebrations span the entire weekend, so plan on escaping the crowds at [The K Club](#), a 5-star country manor located 30 minutes outside Dublin. With a vintage 1936 Jaguar house car, curated whiskey tastings, and horseback trails on 550 acres, the hotel complements Dublin's wild side by offering a cozier, more refined trip to the Irish countryside.



Courtesy of K Club