

The beginning of tourism

WHEN?	CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES	WHO?	WHAT?	MOTIVATIONS
Early period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exchange of currency use of Greek construction of roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> privileged Egyptians, Persians and Greeks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> journeys within one's own countries or to colonies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> leisure, relaxation and sports experience, education religion
Roman period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> development of infrastructures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> soldiers wealthy travellers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> holiday travel business travel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relaxation government reasons
Mediaeval period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> inns along the main routes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> merchants, soldiers, students, pilgrims 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> infrequent and dangerous travels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> religious reasons personal business experience
16 th -18 th centuries		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> young nobles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grand Tour (France and Italy) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> education social reasons leisure

There are records that prove the existence of recreational and educational travel in **Egypt**, when the growth of cities along the Nile encouraged travel on its waters and travellers moved for pleasure and to attend festivals. In ancient **Greece** the introduction of the currency exchange and of the Greek language along the Mediterranean coasts allowed privileged travellers to go looking for entertainment and relaxation. Greeks travelled to participate in religious festivals and sporting events.

It was the **Persians** that introduced the concept of safety during the tourist experience and who started to build roads to allow their army to move inside their empire.

Travelling for holidays became more common under the **Roman Empire's** domination thanks to the creation and

development of a proper net of infrastructure. The new road system that was built to allow soldiers to easily move through the huge Empire also permitted the transfer of a large part of the middle class, who decided they would rather spend their summers away from Rome, taking trips to the countryside and the coast. When the Roman Empire collapsed, the transportation system degenerated and for centuries travelling became too dangerous and complicated: tourism went through its dark era.

It was only in the **mediaeval period** that travelling became more common again, though the high numbers of robbers still made travelling unsafe. Pilgrims, merchants and students wanted to visit holy places, to learn about other countries and make new experiences and, to provide for their shelter and food, the first inns were created.

A precursor of modern tourism was the Grand Tour, taken by young aristocrats between the **16th and 18th centuries**. The classic Grand Tour could last between one and three years and had European countries such as France and Italy as its main destinations. The Grand Tour meant visiting classical antiquities, works of art and natural curiosities as well as mixing with the upper society of the destination countries. Though the original goal was to broaden their education and behaviour and improve their social skills, over time leisure and entertainment became more and more important.





1 Say if these sentences are true or false. Correct the false ones.

1. Large parts of the population from the ancient Egypt travelled the world.
2. Tourism became common under the Romans.
3. The roads built by the Romans were the main reason for tourism development.
4. Travelling in the Middle Ages was safe.
5. Pilgrimages were an important form of tourism in the Middle Ages.
6. To acquire an education has never been a motivation for travelling.
7. The classic Grand Tour had to last at least seven years.

T	F
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2 Listen to this short text listing the seven wonders of the ancient world and complete the table with the missing details.

Name	Site	Date of construction	Features
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			



3 Read this text on the Grand Tour. Divide the text in paragraphs and match each heading to its correct paragraph. Then, find questions for the given answers.

<p>Young English elites of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries were often sent to spend one to three years travelling around Europe to broaden their cultural horizons and learn other languages, art, and architecture. This was a life experience known as the Grand Tour. The main destinations of the Grand Tour were primarily the cities that were the major centres of culture at the time: many Italian ones like Rome, Venice, Florence and Naples were among the most popular destinations, even though Paris was definitely the one that could not be missed. Other popular destinations could be Spain and Portugal, Germany, Eastern Europe and Russia,</p>	<p>even though these other countries couldn't boast the same attractions and historical appeal of France and Italy. The original goal of the Grand Tour was educational, but quite often culture was forgotten in favour of more frivolous activities, such as extensive drinking and gambling. Upon their return to England, the young travellers were finally ready to taking on the responsibilities of being a member of the upper class. This social initiation process became obsolete and out of fashion in the early nineteenth century, when the new railroads system changed the rhythm of tourism and its destinations thus marking the end of the Grand Tour.</p>
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- a. Minor destinations b. End of a fashion c. Other activities d. Main attractions e. Purpose of the Grand Tour

1. To broaden their culture and learn other languages and art.
2. Cities that were the major centres of culture at the time.
3. France and Italy.
4. Educational.
5. Drinking and gambling.
6. They were expected to take on the responsibilities of being a member of the upper class.

