The Top 8 Accessible Tourist Destinations in Europe (and 4 of the Most Difficult)

By John Sage, President of Accessible Travel Solutions











General Criteria

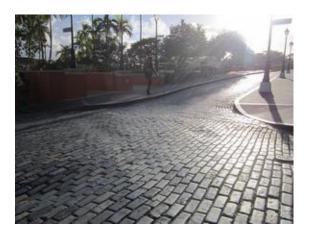
Included	Excluded
Current accessibility	Most progress made
Popular destinations	Rarely visited destinations
From international tourists' perspective	From residents' perspective
My accessibility inspectionsInternet search trafficTens of thousands of requestClient feedback	TripAdvisor advice"My friend told me"Favoritism

Ranking is helpful for disabled travelers who have limited time, money, or energy (which is pretty much everyone)



Accessibility Criteria

- Cobblestone abundance
- Cobblestone smoothness
- Flatness (lack of hills)
- Proximity of sights to each other
- Accessible public transportation
- English spoken
- Overall accessibility
- Quality of sights
- Quantity of sights











#8 Interlaken

Best Accessibility Features

- Spectacular scenery
- No cobblestones
- Accessible trains and gondolas

Biggest Challenge

Figuring out routes and timing

Interlaken	Sage Accessibility Rating
Cobblestone abundance	5
Cobblestone smoothness	4
Flatness (lack of hills)	4
Proximity of sights to each other	1
Accessible Public Transportation	4
English spoken	4
Overall Accessibility	4
Quality of sights/town	5
Quantity of sights	3



#7 Amsterdam

Best Accessibility Features

- Flat city center
- Good building access features
- Unique city

Biggest Challenge

Cobblestones and public transportation

Amsterdam	Sage Accessibility Rating
Cobblestone smoothness	3
Cobblestone abundance	3
Flatness (lack of hills)	5
Proximity of sights to each other	3
Accessible Public Transportation	3
English spoken	4
Overall Accessibility	4
Quality of sights/town	4
Quantity of sights	3

View Rating Explanation



#6 Venice

Best Accessibility Features

- Flat and few cobblestones
- Accessible vaporetto and water taxis

Biggest Challenge

- Figuring out the routes to avoid bridges
- Finding accessible toilets

Venice	Sage Accessibility Rating
Cobblestone smoothness	4
Cobblestone abundance	4
Flatness (lack of hills)	5
Proximity of sights to each other	3
Accessible Public Transportation	4
English spoken	4
Overall Accessibility	3
Quality of sights/town	5
Quantity of sights	3

View Rating Explanation



#5 Tuscany

Best Accessibility Features

- Walkable/rollable Florence
- Can drive between towns
- Can visit a big city, small cities, and the countryside in the same trip

Biggest Challenge

Cobblestones and hills in small towns

Florence	Sage Accessibility Rating
Cobblestone smoothness	3
Cobblestone abundance	2
Flatness (lack of hills)	4
Proximity of sights to each other	4
Accessible Public Transportation	2
English spoken	3
Overall Accessibility	3
Quality of sights/town	5
Quantity of sights	3

View Rating Explanation



#4 Salzburg

Best Accessibility Features

- Small old town
- Excellent day trip options

Biggest Challenge

- Mild cobblestones in old town
- Few accessible hotels in old town

Salz burg	Sage Accessibility Rating
Cobblestone abundance	4
Cobblestone smoothness	4
Flatness (lack of hills)	4
Proximity of sights to each other	1
Accessible Public Transportation	2
English spoken	4
Overall Accessibility	4
Quality of sights/town	5
Quantity of sights	3

ViewRating Explanation



#3 Berlin

Best Accessibility Features

- Flat and few cobblestones
- Good building access features
- Excellent accessible public transport

Biggest Challenge

• Sites are spread out



#2 Barcelona

Best Accessibility Features

- Flat and few cobblestones
- Good building access features
- Walkable/rollable city center

Biggest Challenge

Long distance to reach some sites

Barcelona	Sage Accessibility Rating
Cobblestone smoothness	4
Cobblestone abundance	5
Flatness (lack of hills)	4
Proximity of sights to each other	3
Accessible Public Transportation	5
English spoken	4
Overall Accessibility	5
Quality of sights/town	4
Quantity of sights	3

View Rating Explanation



#1 London

Best Accessibility Features

- Excellent building access features
- Excellent accessible buses
- Accessible black cabs
- Flat and few cobblestones

Biggest Challenge

Scheduling

London	Sage Accessibility Rating
Cobblestone smoothness	5
Cobblestone abundance	5
Flatness (lack of hills)	.5
Proximity of sights to each other	2
Accessible Public Transportation	5
English spoken	5
Overall Accessibility	5
Quality of sights/town	5
Quantity of sights	5

View Rating Explanation



4 of the Most Difficult Destinations

Istanbul – Hills, cobblestones, and crowded trams

Athens – Hills and cobblestones

Cinque Terre – Hills and stairs

Edinburgh – Hills



