

Package: steves (via r-universe)

July 2, 2026

Title Rick Steves' Europe Episodes for Teaching Data Analysis

Version 0.1.1

Description Tidy snapshot of every episode of the public-television travel series 'Rick Steves' Europe' (2000-2025), enriched with IMDB ratings, geocoded destinations, ISO country codes, episode thumbnails, and descriptive summaries. Designed as a companion dataset for introductory data analysis and visualization in the spirit of the 'moderndive' textbook: every row is an episode, every column is a candidate for a plot or a join. Compiled from public sources for teaching purposes; not an official or verified 'Rick Steves' Europe' dataset, and shared with the permission of the Rick Steves' Europe team.

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Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

Depends R (>= 4.1)

Suggests dplyr, forcats, ggplot2, knitr, leaflet, maps, rmarkdown, tibble

URL <https://moderndive.github.io/steves/>,
<https://github.com/moderndive/steves>

BugReports <https://github.com/moderndive/steves/issues>

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

VignetteBuilder knitr

Repository <https://moderndive.r-universe.dev>

Date/Publication 2026-07-02 15:26:05 UTC

RemoteUrl <https://github.com/moderndive/steves>

RemoteRef HEAD

RemoteSha 40523edc15eb6f2963a3711dd2537ef0340b05f8

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Description

One row per episode of the public-television travel series *Rick Steves' Europe* (2000-2025), 159 episodes across 13 seasons. Editorial fields (`title`, `synopsis`, `theme_tags`, `region`, `primary_destination`, `episode_type`, `is_retired`) are curated; the rest are derived from public sources and joined back on (`season`, `episode_in_season`) or on the IMDB title id.

This dataset was compiled from public sources for teaching purposes and is not an official or verified Rick Steves' Europe dataset. It is shared with the permission of the Rick Steves' Europe team.

Usage

episodes

Format

A tibble with 159 rows and 38 columns:

overall_episode Integer. Series-wide episode number, 1–159.

season Integer. Season, 1–13.

episode_in_season Integer. Episode within season.

season_episode_code Character. "S01E01" style code.

title Character. Episode title (Rick Steves' canonical wording).

synopsis Character. One-line editorial summary.

theme_tags Character. Semicolon-separated themes, e.g. "Food & Cuisine; History & Heritage".

episode_type Character. "Standard" or a special category.

is_retired Character. "Yes" if the video has been pulled from ricksteves.com, "No" otherwise.

primary_country Character. Main country featured.

all_countries Character. Semicolon-separated list of countries when the episode covers more than one.

region Character. Show-specific region label, e.g. "Iberia", "British Isles", "Mediterranean".

primary_destination Character. Main destination string used for geocoding.

iso2 Character. ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 country code, or "ZZ" for multi-country compilation episodes.

flag Character. Country flag emoji derived from iso2; the globe emoji for multi-country rows.

- lat, long** Numeric. WGS84 decimal degrees of the destination. For multi-country rows, the un-weighted centroid of capital cities listed in `all_countries`. NA when no single coordinate is meaningful (e.g. travel-skills compilations).
- geo_match** Character. How the coordinate was resolved: "full" = exact destination, "simple" = first place name, "country" = country fallback, "centroid" = capital centroid.
- original_air_date** Date. Original PBS air date.
- air_year, air_month, air_weekday** Year (integer), abbreviated month, abbreviated weekday derived from `original_air_date`.
- days_since_premiere** Integer. Days since the series premiered on 2000-09-03.
- gap_since_prev_episode_d** Integer. Days since the previous episode aired, in chronological order.
- imdb_tconst** Character. IMDB title id, e.g. "tt1453776".
- imdb_url** Character. Direct link to the episode on IMDB.
- imdb_rating** Numeric. Raw IMDB user rating (1–10), NA for episodes with no votes recorded.
- imdb_votes** Integer. Number of user votes on IMDB.
- imdb_rating_shrunk** Numeric. Bayesian-shrunk rating that pulls low-vote ratings toward the show mean (~7.75); always populated. Recommended for sorting/ranking when vote counts are uneven.
- imdb_low_votes** Logical. TRUE when `imdb_votes` < 10; flag for UIs to show a "few votes" caveat.
- image_url** Character. Episode hero image (mostly YouTube thumbnails extracted from `ricksteves.com` og: image). NA for retired episodes whose pages were removed.
- image_source** Character. Provenance of `image_url`: "ricksteves.com", "tvmaze", or "wayback".
- best_summary** Character. Richest available description (`ricksteves.com` og: description > TV-maze summary > synopsis). Always populated.
- summary_source** Character. Provenance of `best_summary`.
- best_runtime** Integer. Runtime in minutes (canonical PBS slot, usually 26).
- watch_url** Character. Streaming URL on `ricksteves.com`, where available.
- tvmaze_url, tvmaze_id** TVmaze episode page and numeric id; useful as a secondary deep link or to call the TVmaze API.

Source

Source: Rick Steves' Europe (compiled dataset). Compiled from public sources for teaching purposes; not an official or verified Rick Steves' Europe dataset.

- Editorial fields curated from <https://www.ricksteves.com/>
- IMDB ratings from <https://datasets.imdbws.com/> (non-commercial use).
- Geocoding via OpenStreetMap Nominatim through the `tidygeocoder` package.
- Episode metadata from <https://api.tvmaze.com/shows/9872> and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rick_Steves%27_Europe.

Examples

```
library(steves)
head(episodes)

if (requireNamespace("dplyr", quietly = TRUE)) {
  dplyr::count(episodes, primary_country, sort = TRUE)
}
```

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