

Package ‘steves’

June 30, 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>

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

VignetteBuilder knitr

NeedsCompilation no

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Repository CRAN

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Contents

episodes 2

episodes *Rick Steves' Europe episodes*

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.

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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 > TVmaze 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)
}
```

Index

* **datasets**
 episodes, [2](#)

episodes, [2](#)