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# BEST OF ITALY 13 DAYS, 11 CITIES

Experience all the mesmerising highlights of Italy, including the delectable flavours that have inspired its passionate locals to coin the phrase: "First we eat, then we do everything else..."



## HIGHLIGHTS SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

- VIP ADMISSION to the Vatican Museums
- CITY TOUR in Rome, Pompeii, Capri, Assisi and Florence
- ORIENTATION of Venice and Milan
- VISIT St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel and the Colosseum in Rome, the excavations at Pompeii, the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, Lake Como, the Florence American Cemetery and Memorial, and San Gimignano
  BACK TO CALENDAR

- VIEW the Abbey in Monte Cassino, Juliet's Balcony in Verona, St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, the Cathedral and La Scala Opera House in Milan, the Leaning Tower of Pisa the Duomo in Florence
- SEE the ancient sites of Rome
- SCENIC CRUISE to the Isle of Capri and by private launch to St. Mark's Square in Venice

### DINING

- 12 breakfasts
- 7 dinners (including Be My Guest) with local wine

### TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS

- Audio Headsets for flexible sightseeing
- Daily breakfast and an average of 50% of evening meals
- Luxury air-conditioned coach with WiFi in most countries or alternative transportation (such as rail journeys)
- Cherry-picked hotels, all tried and trusted
- Optional Experiences and free time
- All porterage and restaurant gratuities
- Must-see sightseeing and surprise extras
- An expert Travel Director and professional Driver
- All hotel tips, charges and local taxes
- Hand-picked Trip Highlights
- VIP entry to many sights

### AIRPORT TRANSFERS

• Specific transfer information can be found on the airport transfers page

### 1. ARRIVE ROME (2 NIGHTS)

Ciao Roma! Explore this imperial city of emperors and senators, gods and goddesses, before joining your companions and Travel Director later for a Welcome Reception. Our introduction to the Eternal City is an evening orientation drive to view some of the sights which await tomorrow.

MEAL(S)	HOTEL

Welcome Reception Grand Tiberio

### 2. ROME SIGHTSEEING AND FREE TIME

The Vatican City takes centre stage today as we join a Local Specialist for an included sightseeing tour in the Vatican Museums. 'Dive Into Culture' and admire the Bramante staircase, created for Pope Julius II in the early 16th century, and Michelangelo's magnificent frescoed ceiling in the Sistine Chapel. See the marble masterpiece of the Pietà, housed in St. Peter's Basilica before crossing the Tiber into Ancient Rome. Visit the famous Colosseum and see the Circus Maximus, ance the site of celebrated chariot races. This afternoon,

enjoy free time to explore Rome. Indulge in an espresso in the Piazza Navona or clamber up the Spanish Steps.

MEAL(S)

Breakfast

### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

#### Piazzas and Fountains of Rome

Starting with a lovely drive and continuing on foot, you'll discover hidden backstreets, piazzas and fountains of the 'Eternal City' with a Local Specialist. Along the way, you'll marvel at the timeless Pantheon, the best-preserved Roman temple in the world. Many additional highlights are revealed on this relaxed tour that also offers free time in a gorgeous Baroque square with street artists, trattorias and gelaterias!

Adult Price: €33.00

#### Delights of Rome with Dinner

Spend an evening getting to know Rome. We'll take you via coach where you'll have the chance to see some of the city's much-loved sights. Afterwards, you'll enjoy a delicious light dinner of Italian specialities, alongside local music and drinks.

Adult Price: €50.00

### 3. ROME – POMPEII – SORRENTO (2 NIGHTS)

We journey south to the well-preserved ruins of Pompeii. Here we join a Local Specialist who will share details of the devastation caused by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius as we wander through the ancient paved roads of a city that was frozen in time. Later, we arrive at our hotel in the clifftop village of Sorrento where we'll dine tonight.

MEAL(S)

Breakfast HOTEL Dinner Johanna Park

### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

#### Amalfi Coast and Positano

Come with us for a drive along the famous Amalfi Coast. You'll have a chance to visit the exclusive artists' paradise of Positano, which is magnificently positioned on the Mediterranean coast.

Adult Price: €44.00

### 4. ISLE OF CAPRI EXCURSION

We cross the Bay of Naples today by ferry to the glamorous Isle of Capri to visit some of its landmark sights. Wander past the chic boutiques and pavement cafés in Capri Town in the company of a Local Specialist before taking your time to soak up the sophistication of this lovely island. Later, we return to the mainland.

MEAL(S)

Breakfast

### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

#### Neapolitan Dinner and Dance

Join us for an evening of Neapolitan specialities at one of our favourite family-run restaurants. While you're wined and dined, enjoy a cultural experience performed by local artists who'll take centre stage and demonstrate the famous Tarantella dance.

Adult Price: €61.00

#### Discover The Isle Of Capri

Experience Capri's spectacular cliffs, famous turquoise waters and white grotto the best way - by boat with a first-class view of this unique coastline. After the cruise, we ascend to Capri town, where we'll enjoy a thirst-quenching lemon Granita, a specialty of the island. If the weather doesn't allow, we'll take you on a mini bus tour of the island to Anacapri, and a visit to Villa San Michele.

Adult Price: €42.00

#### Sorrento Farmhouse Dinner

A scenic drive takes you through the Sorrentino countryside to an 18th century Olive Oil mill. You'll enjoy a guided visit of the gardens, mill and wine cellar, followed by a simple meal of traditional pizza and wine. And there'll also be the chance to see how mozzarella and pizza are made.

Adult Price: €49.00

### 5. SORRENTO – ASSISI

View the Benedictine Abbey, which featured as the site of the Battle of Monte Cassino in 1944, before heading north to the slopes of Mount Subasio, we arrive in the mystical town of Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis, under whose protection this medieval city is said to remain. We join our Local Specialist on a walking tour to the Basilica of St. Francis, which we will have an opportunity to visit before some free time to explore this fascinating hilltop town. We'll stay at one of Trafalgar's 'Stays With Stories' - a fully renovated old Franciscan convent.

MEAL(S) Breakfast Dinner Cenacolo

### 6. ASSISI – VERONA – VENICE (2 NIGHTS)

We journey through the glorious countryside of the Emilia Romagna region. This area is also renowned for its gastronomy and is credited with being the birthplace of tortellini, mortadella and parmigiano cheese. Travel to Verona, the home of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers, to admire the Roman arena and Juliet's Balcony. Arrive later in Venice, the Queen of the Adriatic, where we enjoy dinner at the hotel.

MEAL(S)

Breakfast	HOTEL	
Dinner	Principe/Amadeus	

#### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

#### Gondolas and the Grand Canal

Join us for a scenic cruise by private water taxi along Venice's Grand Canal. You'll admire the magnificent palazzi, as well as catching a glimpse of the Rialto Bridge and St. Mark's Square. Later on, you'll glide

gracefully on a gondola along Venice's dreamy, narrow waterways.

Adult Price: €70.00

### 7. VENICE ORIENTATION AND FREE TIME

Cruise your way through Venice by private launch to soak up the sights and sounds of what was once one of the world's greatest ports. 'Dive Into Culture' on Giudecca Island, where talented tradesmen share their centuries-old glassmaking traditions. Continue past the Bridge of Sighs and Doge's Palace to St. Mark's Square to view the impressive square and Basilica. Consider an Optional Experience to see the colourful fishermen's houses on the Island of Burano or search for a cosy bacaro and indulge in some tasty Venetian treats.

MEAL(S)

Breakfast

### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

#### Venice's Secrets and St. Mark's Basilica

Explore the hidden maze of streets which make up this unique city as your Local Specialist gives you a fascinating insight into Venice's past and present. You'll visit the majestic Basilica of St Mark, where you'll have a chance to view some of the prized trophies looted by the Venetians in their rise to power.

Adult Price: €36.00

#### Lagoon Cruise to Burano with Food and Drinks

Join us as we discover the Venetian Lagoon by private boat. You will enjoy a delicious meal with a selection of drinks on the fishermen's island of Burano, famous for its multi-coloured houses - a real photographer's paradise.

Adult Price: €72.00

### 8. VENICE – MILAN – ITALIAN LAKES (2 NIGHTS)

Today we cross the lush green plains of Lombardy to sophisticated Milan, Italy's capital of design and fashion. An orientation tour takes us past the intricate Gothic Duomo, La Scala Opera House and the famous Galleria. Later arrive on Lake Maggiore where we enjoy dinner tonight.

MEAL(\$) Breakfast Dinner Barchetta Excelsior

#### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

#### Treasures Of Milan

You will have the opportunity to visit some of the highlights of Milan, including the famous La Scala Opera House, which is still the World's most famous for performing artists and public alike. Afterwards, you'll visit another of the city's highlights with our Local Specialist who will bring to life Milan's eventful history.

Adult Price: €45.00

#### BACK TO CALENDAR

### 9. LAKE COMO FREE TIME

The glistening blue waters of Lake Como welcome us today. Explore charming Como old town, indulge in the delicious gelato of the area, take the funicular for spectacular views of the lake or perhaps consider a cruise on the lake.

MEAL(S)

Breakfast

### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

#### Discover The Borromean Islands

We've organised a private launch to take you to the beautiful Isola Bella, one of the lake's Borromean islands. The island's palazzo and exquisite gardens once hosted the nobility of Europe. (This optional is only operated between mid March and the end of October)

Adult Price: €43.00

#### Discover Lake Como

Enjoy views of elegant villas and gardens as you cruise with your Local Specialist along Lake Como, one of the most beautiful spots in the Italian Lake District.

Adult Price: €41.00

### 10. ITALIAN LAKES - PISA - FLORENCE (2 NIGHTS)

Tuscany lures us across the forested Apennine Mountains, past the marble quarries of Carrara to the famous city of Pisa and its Square of Miracles where we will enjoy an opportunity to view the Leaning Tower. Our next stop is Florence, the Cradle of the Renaissance.

MEAL(S) HOTEL

Breakfast Grand Mediterraneo

### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

#### Dinner, Wine And Music In The Tuscan Hills

Join us for a scenic drive through the beautiful Tuscan countryside. We will enjoy a meal at a charming restaurant where a selection of regional favourites is served, accompanied by a selection of local wines and live music. A truly unforgettable experience, with an atmosphere that is the essence of all things Tuscan.

Adult Price: €65.00

#### Tuscan Dinner at Villa Machiavelli

A scenic drive into the Chianti hills, past vineyards, brings us to a delightful hamlet. Our destination is the ancient stone house of Machiavelli, where the great political theorist wrote his immortal work, 'The Prince'. After a welcome drink and visit of the villa and its wine-cellars, we'll enjoy the best of Tuscan cuisine accompanied by great music and drinks, including of course, Chianti from the Villa's own vines. This is the essence of all great things Tuscan, past and present, condensed into one memorable evening!

Adult Price: €65.00

### BACK TO CALENDAR

### **11. FLORENCE SIGHTSEEING**

Delve into the extravagant legacy of the Medici family, whose legacy of art and architecture are explored in the company of a Local Specialist. The elegant Duomo dominates the skyline as we visit Piazza della Signoria with its exquisite statues and palazzi. Enjoy spectacular panoramic views of Florence and 674-year-old Ponte Vecchio from Piazzale Michelangelo. Then we learn about the quality and workmanship of two of this city's historic industries at demonstrations of Florentine leathercraft and 18-carat gold. Later, 'Connect With Locals' over a Be My Guest dinner at a castle set within a celebrated wine and olive oil estate.

MEAL(S)

Breakfast Be My Guest

#### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

#### Michelangelo's 'David' & Accademia

Enjoy an insight into the world of Michelangelo and his masterpiece, David. We visit the Academy of Fine Arts and its Michelangelo collection, where you'll learn all about the life and works of this immortal Renaissance genius through the expert commentary of our Local Specialist. This optional involves reservations and entrance prepayments. If you decide to cancel this optional, a 50% cancellation fee will be incurred.

Adult Price: €47.00

### 12. FLORENCE - SAN GIMIGNANO - ROME

This morning we stop at the Florence American Cemetery. Continuing south, we visit the charming Tuscan hill-town of San Gimignano, within whose city walls, one finds extraordinary examples of medieval architecture and history. Venture to the centre of town to view its Piazza del Duomo, surrounded by thousand-year-old towers and stroll along the town's 13th-century city walls. This evening in Rome we enjoy a Farewell Dinner spent in the company of newfound friends and our Travel Director.

#### MEAL(S)

Breakfast HOTEL Farewell Dinner Crowne Plaza St Peter's

### 13. DEPART ROME

Our discovery of the best of Italy has sadly come to an end. Transfers are available to Rome Fiumicino Airport. Conditions apply.

MEAL(S)

Breakfast

# AVAILABLE DEPARTURES

DEPARTS	RETURNS	TWIN LAND ONLY	SINGLE LAND ONLY
27 Oct 2019	8 Nov 2019	2950 USD	3550 USD
3 Nov 2019	15 Nov 2019	2895 USD	3495 USD
10 Nov 2019	22 Nov 2019	2795 USD	3395 USD
17 Nov 2019	29 Nov 2019	2795 USD	2975 USD
24 Nov 2019	6 Dec 2019	2795 USD	3395 USD
1 Dec 2019	13 Dec 2019	2795 USD	3395 USD
8 Dec 2019	20 Dec 2019	2795 USD	2915 USD
15 Dec 2019	27 Dec 2019	2825 USD	3425 USD
19 Dec 2019	31 Dec 2019	2825 USD	3425 USD
22 Dec 2019	3 Jan 2020	3150 USD	3750 USD
26 Dec 2019	7 Jan 2020	3150 USD	3850 USD
2 Jan 2020	14 Jan 2020	2750 USD	3350 USD
5 Jan 2020	17 Jan 2020	2750 USD	3350 USD
12 Jan 2020	24 Jan 2020	2675 USD	3275 USD
19 Jan 2020	31 Jan 2020	2425 USD	3025 USD
26 Jan 2020	7 Feb 2020	2695 USD	3295 USD
2 Feb 2020	14 Feb 2020	2695 USD	2815 USD
9 Feb 2020	21 Feb 2020	2695 USD	3295 USD
16 Feb 2020	28 Feb 2020	2695 USD	3295 USD
23 Feb 2020	6 Mar 2020	2695 USD	3295 USD
1 Mar 2020	13 Mar 2020	2695 USD	3295 USD
8 Mar 2020	20 Mar 2020	2695 USD	3295 USD
15 Mar 2020	27 Mar 2020	2795 USD	3395 USD
22 Mar 2020	3 Apr 2020	2895 USD	3495 USD
27 Mar 2020	8 Apr 2020	2995 USD	3695 USD
29 Mar 2020	10 Apr 2020	3050 USD	3750 USD
31 Mar 2020	12 Apr 2020	3150 USD	3850 USD
	В	ACK TO CALENDAR	

1 Apr 2020	13 Apr 2020	3195 USD	3895 USD
3 Apr 2020	15 Apr 2020	3195 USD	3895 USD
5 Apr 2020	17 Apr 2020	3195 USD	3895 USD

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