

# 8-Day Enchanting Italy



From \$1749 Land Only

# DAY 1, Sunday - Depart for Italy

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# DAY 2, Monday - Arrive in Venice

Arrive in Venice and transfer to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure in this magical city built over a hundred small islands and connected by 400 bridges. Your tour will begin with an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager at approximately 6 PM (exact time will be advised on tour arrival day), followed by a light dinner. We recommend you to select flights that arrive no later than 4 PM

Overnight: Venice Meals: Dinner

# DAY 3, Tuesday - Murano & Tour of Venice

The discovery of Venice begins on the island of Murano, known for its artistic and colorful glassware. Visit a local factory to witness the art of glassblowing. Afterward, continue to the main Venice Island and take a walking tour with your local guide through the maze of narrow alleyways and bridges before reaching St. Mark's Square. Upon reaching the square, stop to view its most prominent monuments, the pink marble Doge's Palace, Bridge of Sighs, and golden Basilica of San Marco. The Doge's Palace was the official residence of the Venetian ruler. The Bridge of Sighs offers one of the most notable scenes of this Romantic city. Marvel at the golden Basilica of San Marco, that is one of the city's most recognizable landmarks. It was built over several centuries in a fusion of Byzantine, Roman and Venetian architecture. The rest of the day is yours to explore Venice at leisure, or to participate in this afternoon's *optional* Gondola Ride, offering a different perspective of this unique city built on water

Optional: Gondola Ride (PM)

Overnight: Venice Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 4, Wednesday - Tuscany & Pisa en route to Florence

Depart Venice and travel through the stunning golden landscape of Tuscany, dotted with olive and fig trees. Visit a local Tuscan farm in the countryside for a wine tasting paired with delectable local specialties. On to Pisa to view the famous Piazza dei Miracoli with its Baptistery, the Duomo, the Monumental Cemetery, and its famous Leaning Tower, among the most instantly recognizable structures on earth. The four monuments on the extraordinary Piazza create a unique architectural blend of Romanesque and Gothic styles. Then, travel to the lively Renaissance city of Florence, with its priceless art and architecture for overnight

Overnight: Florence Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 5, Thursday - Tour of Florence

Today, take a guided walking tour through the heart of Florence. View the magnificent Duomo, with its Brunelleschi-designed dome, the renowned "Gates of Paradise" of the Baptistery by Ghiberti and Giotto's Bell Tower. You will be enchanted as you walk through the open-air art museum of Signoria Square, with its Palazzo Vecchio, first residence of the Medici family that today houses the seat of the city government. Continue to Ponte Vecchio, also known as the "Old Bridge." Accademia Gallery tickets are included for an independent visit of one of Italy's most famous museums of Art, allowing you to explore on your own. Florence is indeed the center of the world's finest art and architecture. Spend the afternoon at leisure in this spectacular Renaissance city. This evening, travel through the Tuscan hills, where dinner with wine and entertainment awaits

**Overnight:** Florence **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 6, Friday - Medieval Assisi City Tour en route to Rome

This morning, depart Florence and travel to the small medieval town of Assisi perched high on a hill in the Umbria region with its rugged, winding streets and sacred shrines. Participate in a walking tour of Assisi, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its significant art and architecture and best known as the birthplace of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of Italy. Its main attraction is the 13th century Basilica di San Francesco, one of the artistic highlights of medieval Europe which contains the sacred relics of St. Francis and Giotto's amazing frescoes. Afterward, continue to Rome, the astonishing city built on seven hills

Overnight: Rome Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 7, Saturday - Full Day in Rome

Spend the morning on your own, perhaps choose to visit one of the numerous sites of the Eternal city. Spend the afternoon at leisure or join the *optional* walking tour of the Eternal City's grand piazzas that includes the Spanish Steps, the legendary Trevi Fountain, view of the Pantheon, and the Baroque Piazza Navona. Tonight, explore on your own and choose one of the numerous restaurants offering delicious local cuisine

Optional: Piazzas of Rome (PM)

Overnight: Rome Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 8, Sunday - Depart Italy

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight.

**Meals:** Breakfast

\*\*\* Prices are per person based on twin occupancy. Land tour prices apply from the gateway airport or city specified in the Package Highlights.

Prices will vary from alternative gateway airports or cities and may be higher. The total price will be clearly displayed prior to any deposit being required. additional baggage charges may apply. \*\*\*



# **Escorted Package Includes**

- Flights Any USA Airport -Venice, Rome-Your Destination
   6 nights First Class accommodations
  - o 2 nights Venice
  - o 2 nights Florence
  - o 2 nights Rome
- Italian city hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel porterage
- All transfers included only with airfare purchase on package arrival & departure dates†
- 8 meals: 6 breakfasts, 2 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Services of local guides
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- · Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring

# **Special Features**

- Walking tour of Venice including St. Mark's Square with its extraordinary treasures and architectural wonders
- Stop at a local farm in the Tuscan countryside for wine tasting and local specialties.
- See Pisa's Piazza dei Miracoli with its famous Leaning Tower
- Explore the Renaissance city of Florence with a guided walking tour
- Visit the 13th century Basilica di San Francesco in Assisi

†Transfers are available for purchase for land-only or on alternative flight dates

## Is This Trip Right for You?

**Pace:** Expect 3-4 hours of walking every touring day, as well as considerable time standing. Due to specific drop off and pick up points, additional walking to and from sights may be necessary.

**Terrain:** On this tour, you may need to walk on uneven and challenging terrain, navigate steep steps or slopes, and encounter cobblestone streets.

Things to Consider: This tour is not recommended for people who have difficulty walking.

**Travel Style:** This is a Classic program.