

ITALY IS CALLING



See Michaelangelo's statue of David in Florence

ITINERARY

DAY 1: MARCH 30, 2019

YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS

Board your overnight flight (not included).

DAY 2: MARCH 31, 2019

LIVELY MILAN

Welcome to Italy. After being greeted by your Travel Director at Milan's Malpensa Airport, your transfer departs at 09:30 or 12:30. In the evening, you are invited to a warm Welcome Reception with the opportunity to mingle and get to know each other over a pleasant evening of dinner and wine.

Hotel: TBA

Dinner with Wine

DAY 3: APRIL 1, 2019

VERONA AND ON TO VENICE, THE QUEEN OF THE ADRIATIC

Travel to elegant Verona, legendary home of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers Romeo and Juliet. Walk with your Travel Director, passing the well-preserved Roman Arena and stand beneath the balcony where the Capulet family is said to have lived. Venice can be Europe's most romantic city in the evening, offering dramatic landscapes with buildings that dazzle as the sun sets and the lights go on. Sit back and take it all in as private water taxis whisk you to the centre of it all, Piazza San Marco, where we have seats reserved outside a famous Venetian cafe, in front of a live orchestra and in view of those illuminated St Mark's sights. Our private water taxis will also take us

the length of the Grand Canal, under the Rialto Bridge and back to our hotel, having seen Venice at its most magical.

Hotel: Boscolo Hotel Bellini, Venice (or similar)

Buffet Breakfast

DAY 4: APRIL 2, 2019 - RELAXED START

VENICE AND THE MAGIC OF LA SERENISSIMA

Even for the experienced traveler, there can be no better joy than waking up in Venice. Transfer to Giudecca Island to witness the art of glassblowing. Appreciate the splendor as you cruise by Palladio's San Giorgio Maggiore to St. Mark's Square to see St. Mark's Basilica, the Doge's Palace and the Bridge of Sighs. On your romantic gondola serenade, glide along the atmospheric canals whilst musicians set the mood with traditional songs.

Buffet Breakfast

DAY 5: APRIL 3, 2019

TRANQUIL TUSCANY, PISA AND FLORENCE

Journey to Pisa and see the Leaning Tower in the Square of Miracles, the 11th century cathedral and baptistery. Venture to Florence and meet your Local Expert for a walk through the historic center and a visit to the Accademia Museum. Admire the marble-clad cathedral and baptistery and wander Piazza della Signoria, an open-air gallery filled with Renaissance sculptures. Later, an expert sommelier introduces

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >



Enjoy a gondola serenade in Venice

you to a selection of the finest wines of Tuscany. Enjoy a tasting, followed by dinner.

Hotel: Athenaeum Personal Hotel, Florence (or similar)
 Buffet Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

DAY 6: APRIL 4, 2019 - RELAXED START
RENAISSANCE FLORENCE

Florence is known for its quality leather goods and you will be privy to the secrets of traditional Florentine leather-work when you visit a local workshop. Next, visit San Gimignano, considered a medieval Manhattan, due to its towers which dominate the skyline. Soak up the unique atmosphere of this ancient gem which has remained intact since the 14th century and today is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. In the evening, we'll travel into the hills near Florence to the northernmost part of the Chianti, where a local chef will introduce you to the dishes that make Tuscan cuisine famous throughout the world. This wonderful cooking demonstration, with superb food and wine, will provide warm and genuine Tuscan hospitality.

Buffet Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

DAY 7: APRIL 5, 2019
CHIANTI COUNTRY TO ASSISI AND ON TO ROME

Journey through the vineyards of the Chianti region passing Lake Trasimeno, and continue up the foothills of the Apennine Mountains to reach delightful Assisi, a stone-built town spilling over the steep hillside. With a Local Expert, visit the tomb of St. Francis and see the beautiful frescoes by Giotto in the great basilica. Journey along the valley of the River Tiber towards the Eternal City of Rome.

Hotel: Veneto Palace Hotel, Rome (or similar)
 Buffet Breakfast

DAY 8: APRIL 6, 2019

THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Your Intermezzo reaches its crescendo during a visit to the Vatican. While others wait in line, you will be fast-tracked through the VIP entrance into the Vatican Museums, treasure house of the Catholic faith. With an expert historian, admire the vast collections of ancient and Renaissance art gathered by Popes over the ages. Then, enter the sublime Sistine Chapel to gaze up and admire Michelangelo's famous painted ceiling. Next door, in St. Peter's Basilica, see one of Michelangelo's early works, the Pietà and the splendid dome completed after his death. In the evening, immerse yourself in the quintessential Italian experience. Over a sumptuous dinner of Roman cuisine, fill your glass with wine, and enjoy an evening of spine-tingling operetta.

Buffet Breakfast, Dinner with Wine

DAY 9: APRIL 7, 2019

ARRIVEDERCI ROMA

Bid farewell to the glories of Italy. Departure transfers arrive at Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport at 07:00 and 09:30.

Buffet Breakfast

ITALIAN INTERMEZZO

9 DAYS: 30 MARCH - 7 APRIL, 2019

LAND ONLY

\$2,439* per person, twin share

* Price includes all taxes, fees and gratuities for Travel Director and Driver.