



Absolute Italy Itinerary | May 6-16, 2019

May 6 – Naples Airport to Sorrento - Welcome Dinner

Upon arriving at the Naples airport, you will be met by one of our English-speaking drivers and privately transported to **Sorrento** where you will be staying at **Grand Hotel Riviera** perched high up on the cliffs, giving you spectacular views of the Bay of Naples and the Island of Capri. In the evening, you will meet your tour escort and fellow travelers at a fabulous welcome dinner at the hotel. (meals included: dinner)

May 7 – The Amalfi Coast

After breakfast at the hotel, you will spend the day exploring the towns of the **Amalfi Coast**, driving along the often-dizzying heights of the coastal road in the safe hands of one of our private drivers. Stops will include the town of Amalfi with its beautiful cathedral, Ravello and the stunning gardens of Villa Cimbrone, Villa Rufolo and Positano where you will have free time to enjoy the views and shopping before returning to the hotel for dinner. (meals included: breakfast and dinner)

May 8 – Island of Capri

After breakfast at the hotel, you will meet our English-speaking skipper, who will be taking you on a cruise around the Island of **Capri**. You will have the opportunity to go swimming, visit some of the caves (including the Blue Grotto) and to go ashore where you can enjoy lunch at your leisure. In the late afternoon, you will return to Sorrento where you will have some time to relax before dinner at the hotel. (meals included: breakfast and dinner)

May 9 – Pompeii and Rome by Night

After breakfast and checkout at the hotel, you will depart Sorrento for **Rome**, stopping in **Pompeii** for a private tour to marvel at this ancient ruined city. After the tour, you will enjoy lunch and a wine-tasting in the city of Pompeii, before continuing to Naples where you will catch the high-speed train to Rome. After arriving in Rome, our driver will transport you to **Hotel Barberini** where you will have time to rest or stroll the area near the hotel. You will enjoy dinner at Otello-Concordia Restaurant, one of the best Roman *trattorias*, near the Spanish Steps. After dinner, you will enjoy a tour of Rome by Night! Evening is the perfect time to see some of the city's most popular monuments and their twinkling lights. (meals included: breakfast, lunch and dinner)

May 10 – Rome and The Vatican

After breakfast at the hotel, you will be transported to **Vatican City** for a private guided tour of the **Vatican** that includes the Sistine Chapel and the Basilica of St. Peter's. After lunch with the group, you will have time on your own to rest or explore the wonders of Rome. (meals included: breakfast and lunch)

May 11 –Ancient Rome: The Colosseum & Roman Forum

After breakfast at the hotel, you will continue your journey into the ancient Roman Empire, with visits to **The Colosseum and Roman Forum**. Your private guide will help you unravel this ancient mix of structures and explain the story of their survival. Upon conclusion of the tour, you will have time on your own to explore, shop and seek out any Italian culinary delights that you desire. (meals included: breakfast)

May 12 –Wine Tasting in Tuscany

After breakfast and checkout at the hotel, you will depart Rome and be transported north to beautiful **Tuscany** and picturesque Orcia Valley, home to some of Italy's finest wines. At the Col D'Orcia Winery, you will enjoy a guided tour of this exclusive winery with a light lunch. In the afternoon, you will visit some of Tuscany's famous hill towns, including Pienza and Montepulciano. Your destination of the day will be Florence and the Hotel Plaza Lucchesi followed by dinner in the historical city center. (meals included: breakfast, lunch and dinner)

May 13 – Tour of Florence

After breakfast at the hotel, an expert local guide will show you the highlights of **Florence** and explain the history of the powerful Medici family who ruled much of Tuscany during the Renaissance. Your tour will include the Accademia Gallery which is home to the statue of David. After the tour, you will have time on your own to explore the city of Florence. (meals included: breakfast)

May 14 – Venice

After breakfast and checkout at the hotel, you will be transported to the Florence rail station to board a high-speed train to **Venice** and check-in at our hotel. In the afternoon, you will tour Venice's spectacular lagoon departing from St. Mark's Square. This tour includes the islands of Burano, Toricello and Murano, famous for their magnificent colors, lace-making and glass blowing. Enjoy dinner with the group in Venice. (meals included: breakfast, lunch and dinner)

May 15 –Secrets of Venice

After breakfast at the hotel, you will meet your guide to explore the secrets of **Venice**. Your privately guided walking tour of Venice Island will include the Doge's Palace and many other highlights of the city. Your afternoon will include a gondola ride followed by time on your own before a magnificent farewell dinner in the floating city. (meals included: breakfast and dinner)

May 16 – After breakfast at the hotel, you will be transported to the Venice Airport for your return flight home.

Call 1-866-779-2565 to make your reservations.

(ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE)