

Italy by Train



8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS – Lazio, Tuscany and Veneto

1 DAY: ROME

Transfer from airport to the hotel, free time at leisure. Overnight at hotel.

2 DAY: ROME

After breakfast, departure to the excursion “in the Heart of Rome” to visit St. Peter’s Basilica (visit inside), Navona Square, Pantheon, Trevi Fountain. The tour will start from Piazza San Bernardo, adorned by Moses Fountain, heading to Piazza della Repubblica, previously known as “dell’Esedra” as its central area also called Esedra of the Diocletian Bath is hidden now by the Fountain of Naiadi. Reaching the Square of St. Peter we’ll admire and visit inside the imposing building. Then we’ll start our walk through the centre: the gorgeous Piazza Navona built on the ruins of the Domitian’s Circus adorned by the famous Fountain of the Four Rivers, masterpiece of Gian Lorenzo Bernini realized in 1651, the Pantheon, a building in Rome which was originally built as a temple to the seven deities of the seven planets in the state religion of Ancient Rome. Then the guided tour will lead you to the worldwide famous Trevi Fountain. Afternoon,

free time for your personal visit. For your funny evening: dinner in Trastevere and Rome by night, relaxing panoramic tour of the city by motor coach to discover the magic charm of the most famous monuments illuminated at night. Dine on traditional Italian cuisine in a typical local restaurant. A glass of wine to cheers! Overnight at the hotel.

3 DAY: ROME – VATICAN CITY

After breakfast, departure to visit the Vatican city. Guided excursion to visit Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel and St. Peter’s Basilica without queue. Upon arrival your guide will lead you into the museums where you’ll visit one of the most important art collection of the world. Admire the beautiful spiral stairway the gallery of tapestries and geographical maps, before arriving at the famous Sistine Chapel and the unforgettable Basilica! Afternoon, free time at leisure. Overnight at hotel.

4 DAY: ROME – FLORENCE

After breakfast, private transfer from hotel to Termini railway station. Train to Florence (2nd class ticket, high speed). Arrival in Florence

at 12 am. Transfer from Santa Maria Novella railway station to hotel. In the afternoon Florence guided city tour. Crossing the beautiful and green hills of Florence we reach the picturesque Etruscan-Roman village of Fiesole that towers above Florence and the Arno Valley. Heading back to the city by bus, we will ride through the famous Lungarno (way along the Arno River) we will reach the Basilica di Santa Croce. Our walking tour will continue to Piazza Signoria, heart of the city social life. Here we will admire the architecture of Palazzo Vecchio and the famous statues of Loggia de’ Lanzi. Our guide will finish the tour inside the Uffizi Gallery, where we will admire without queuing the impressive and magnificent paintings of Leonardo, Giotto, Michelangelo, Botticelli and Raffaello. Overnight at hotel.

5 DAY: FLORENCE – SIENA – SAN GIMIGNANO – MONTEGGIONI – CHIANTI – FLORENCE

After breakfast, departure for an unforgettable excursion to the food and wine lands: Siena, San Gimignano, Monteriggioni and Chianti. Driving south from Florence and crossing the beautiful

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[Tiziano Terzani, Italian writer, from the book "Un indovino mi disse"]



Chianti hills we arrive in San Gimignano, a picturesque, fascinating Medieval jewel (declared a World heritage Site by UNESCO), famous for its white wine, the world renowned Vernaccia, and its skyscrapers! The visit is free for independent sightseeing; you will have time to wind your way through the narrow streets and admire the relaxing rolling landscape. We have a surprise for you: your free time here is enhanced by a delicious and absolutely homemade icecream! This savoury experience will take place in one of the most famous and award winning icecream parlours of San Gimignano. Our day continues to Siena, the Medieval town with the suggestive Piazza del Campo, famous for the Palio horse race and its splendid examples of Gothic civic architecture. Here stands the magnificent Palazzo Pubblico with its Torre del Mangia. Then we will continue in the direction of the Duomo, one of the most beautiful Gothic Cathedrals in Italy: you will visit its precious interiors of black and white marble stripes. After leaving Siena we then drive to Monteriggioni, the Medieval hilltop gem with its still intact walls and suggestive square, where you can drink in the history and relive the atmosphere of olden times. After we

move into the Chianti area with its picture-postcard landscapes. You have the chance to taste the best Chianti red wine in a rustic wine estate along with home-made snacks, with tour of the wine cellars and sampling of wines, oil and balsamic vinegar. Return to Florence in late afternoon, free time at leisure. Overnight at hotel.

6 DAY: FLORENCE - VENICE

After breakfast, private transfer from Hotel to Santa Maria Novella Station. Train to Venice (2nd class ticket, high speed) arrival in Venice at 12,30. Private transfer to the hotel: included private water taxi, meet & greet with the assistant or meet & greet and assistance and portorage service to the hotel (depending on the booked hotel). In the afternoon excursion to discover the Murano island, to watch the antique art of making glasses. Then proceeds to the characteristic Island of Burano renowned for lace making and Torcello with its old Cathedral and its atmosphere of remote Venetian past. Return to St Mark's Square. Overnight at hotel.

7 DAY: VENICE

After breakfast, walking tour of Venice and Doge's Palace. Have a walk outdoors (no entries) through the most characteristic and important places for the history of Venice. A qualified and experienced guide will escort you through the millennium of life of the Serenissima Republic, recalling the past full of charm of this unique city. At the end of the walking tour, visit of the Doge's Palace. The Palazzo Ducale represented for centuries the seat of the Venetian political power. In his splendid rooms, plastered and immersed in hundreds of masterpieces of painting, the Duke and his Council controlled the fate of a thousand-year history republic

8 DAY: VENICE

After breakfast, private transfer from hotel to Venice airport. Arrivederci!

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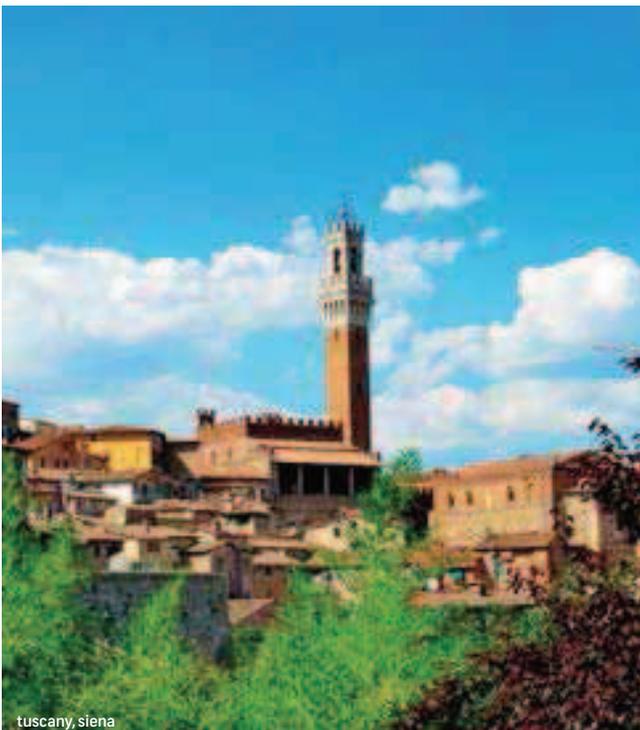
florence, ponte vecchio

HIGHLIGHTS DAY BY DAY

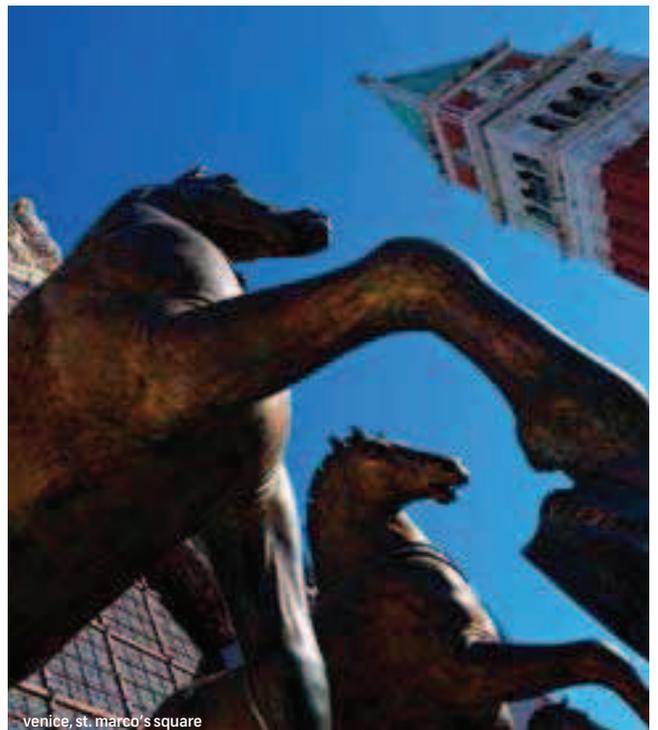
DAY	Accommodation
1° - 3°	Hotel Ariston, 4 stars in Rome or similar
4° - 5°	B4 Astoria Firenze, 4 stars in Florence
6° - 7°	Hotel Amadeus, 4 stars in Venice
1° - 7°	Accommodation in standard room in bed & breakfast
DAY	Services/Excursions/Experiences/Meals
1° ROME	Private transfer from Rome airport to the Hotel
2° ROME	Guided excursion with transportation "In the heart of Rome" (transport, entrance with no line in Saint Peter, professional guided tour, headsets to better hear the guide); Rome by night excursion (transport, local tour guide - walking tour in trastevere and a short walk in Trevi Area, dinner)
3° ROME	Vatican museum, Sistine Chapel & St.Peter's Basilica excursion (Entrance tickets with no line, professional guide, headsets to better hear the guide, transport from hotel to Vatican area)
4° ROME - FLORENCE	Private transfer from Hotel in Rome to train station, Train ticket from Rome to Florence (2nd class ticket, high speed); private transfer from Santa Maria Novella Station to Hotel in Florence; Florence city Tour (professional guide, visit to Fiesole by fully-fitted luxury GTcoach, Uffizi Gallery ticket and reservation, walking tour)
5° SIENA, SAN GIMIGNANO, MONTERIGGIONI AND CHIANTI	Full day excursion including journey by fully-fitted luxury GT Coach, expert multilingual escort, free tour of San Gimignano and Monteriggioni, tasting of homemade ice cream in a renowned ice cream Parlour in San Gimignano, guided tour of Siena with professional guide, Siena Cathedral tickets. Visit of a rustic wine estate with tour of the wine cellars and sampling of wines, oil and balsamic vinegar, snack based on delicious regional products.
6° FLORENCE - VENICE	Private transfer from hotel in Florence to Santa Maria Novella train station; train ticket from Florence to Venice (2nd class ticket, high speed); private transfer from Venice Ple Roma to hotel including private water taxi, meet & greet with the assistant or meet & greet and assistance and portage service to the hotel (depending on the booked hotel), Excursion "Murano, Burano and Torcello".
7° VENICE	Excursion "Walking Tour of Venice and Doge's Palace (guided walking tour of Venice and skip the line entrance ticket to Doge's Palace).
8° VENICE	Transfer from hotel to Venice airport

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[Tiziano Terzani, Italian writer, from the book "Un indovino mi disse"]

rome, st. peter's basilica



tuscany, siena



venice, st. marco's square