



ESSENTIAL ITALY

ROME | FLORENCE | VENICE

8 DAYS
from
\$2,659

CADS, PP, DBL, OCC.

Discover iconic Italy on this 8-day bestselling journey beginning in Rome's epic metropolis, with its famous fountains, sculptures and living history. Appreciate the true meaning of *La Dolce Vita* in Florence, the capital of Tuscany, home to spectacular art, architecture and cuisine. Conclude your tour in Venice, the romantic *City of Water*; wander its narrow streets and pass over bridges that crisscross its waterways.

TOUR OVERVIEW

- ▶ Total of 7 nights accommodation; 4-Star hotels
 - 2 nights in Rome
 - 3 nights in Florence
 - 2 nights in Venice
- ▶ High-Speed train ticket (Comfort Class): Rome – Florence – Venice
- ▶ Private transfers; Small-group* tours as per itinerary
- ▶ Continental breakfast daily; other meals as indicated
- ▶ Hotel taxes and service charges**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Small-group* tour of the Colosseum & Ancient Rome
- Small-group* tours of Florence & Venice
- Small-group* tour of Siena, San Gimignano with dinner in Chianti

OPTIONAL ADD-ON TOURS

- Delicious food walking tour in Trastevere, Rome
- Cooking class in Florence
- Romantic gondola ride in Venice
- Painted houses of Burano and blown glass of Murano

International airfare not included.
Minimum 2 passengers travelling.

*Small-groups consist of up to 25 passengers.

Price as indicated valid August 6, 2020, subject to availability at time of booking. For alternative dates, inquire for pricing. Itineraries are fully customizable. Not valid during Venice Carnival, festivals, trade shows, bank holidays and other special events. Blackout periods may apply.

**European city/tourist taxes collected locally unless otherwise indicated.

For full terms and conditions, refer to page 43.

TOUR CODE: EU1320

Day 1

ROME Arrival in **Rome**, the famed city of the Roman Empire and the Seven Hills. Welcome and transfer from airport to hotel. *Hotel Dei Mellini, Superior Room* ★★★★★

Day 2

B

ROME Enjoy breakfast at your hotel. This morning on your small-group tour, discover the treasures of ancient Rome including special access to the famous **Colosseum**. With your expert guide, visit the major sites of **Ancient Rome** and learn about its mythical origins. Admire the splendid **Arch of Constantine**, climb **Palatine Hill** where brothers Remus and Romulus battled over who would found the first empire, and where Romulus founded the city that would become Rome. Stomp triumphantly as soldiers once did on the legendary **Via Sacra**. In the evening, we suggest you *do as the Romans do*: stop at a local *café* for a quick shot of espresso; explore the city's many *piazas* and dine at a *trattoria* with authentic Italian cuisine and impressive house wines. *Hotel Dei Mellini*

Day 3

B

ROME – FLORENCE After breakfast, transfer to the train station to board your train to **Florence**, the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. Take some time to wander the oldest streets in the city including the **Arno River** and the famous **Ponte Vecchio**. Be sure to experience an authentic Florentine gelato, considered by many to be the best in the world. *Hotel Cellai, Classic Room* ★★★★★

Day 4

B

FLORENCE Breakfast at your hotel. At an enjoyable relaxed pace, walk in the footsteps of the Medici dynasty that ruled Florence in the 14th and 15th-centuries. Admire **Piazza della Signoria**, dominated by the striking **Palazzo Vecchio**, Florence's Cathedral, the **Duomo**, with the adjacent **Tower of Giotto**, and the **Baptistry** with its famous, magnificent gold paneled **Gates of Paradise**. Continue on to **Orsanmichele** and the **Santa Trinità Church**. After walking briefly along the river, you will arrive at the **Ponte Vecchio**, the world's most celebrated bridge. Once across the bridge you are in the **Oltrarno** neighbourhood, renowned for its picturesque atmosphere, artisan workshops and antique shops. Enjoy a relaxing and delicious break during the tour, tasting the best typical products. *Hotel Cellai*

Day 5

B/D

SIENA, SAN GIMIGNANO & CHIANTI Breakfast at your hotel. Enjoy your morning at leisure to explore Florence. After lunch on your own, drive to **Siena**, a small Medieval city with surprises at every corner. Explore the quiet back streets and learn everything about its 17 districts and the ritual and rivalry of its annual Palio horse race. Your journey continues to **San Gimignano** to discover the maze of cobbled streets, small squares and local artisan shops. After some free time to explore, see a marvelous sunset over the Tuscan hills followed by dinner with wine tasting in the cellar of a villa in the **Chianti countryside**. Return to Florence for overnight. *Hotel Cellai*

Day 6

B

FLORENCE – VENICE After breakfast, transfer back to the train station to board your train for **Venice**, the incredibly romantic floating city. Transfer to your hotel. Venice is the world's only pedestrian city and quite easy to navigate by foot. Take some time to explore the small streets and admire the superb architecture and incredible urban landscape of man-made islands connected by bridges. *Hotel Palazzo Giovanelli, Superior Garden Room* ★★★★★

Day 7

B

VENICE After breakfast, join your small-group tour of Venice. Begin in **St. Mark's Square** with Skip-the-Line access, to the magical Basilica, dating back to the 9th-century, including a stop at the first floor terrace. Visit **Doge's Palace**, the heart of the Republic of Venice, including exploring the massive armoury. End with the limestone **Bridge of Sighs** whose history is not as romantic as local legends depict. Optional tours include a romantic gondola ride (not included). *Hotel Palazzo Giovanelli*

Day 8

B

VENICE – HOME Enjoy breakfast at your hotel, then check out and transfer to the airport for your flight home.