VITA ITALIAN TOURS

A TASTE OF THE ADRIATIC

Departure:
23 May - 27 May 2021
(5 days/4 nights)

The tour provides an excellent opportunity to experience the life in Italy's best kept secret tourist destination: Le Marche Region, nestled between the Apennines and the Adriatic Sea. This tour leads you to fascinating hill towns vibrant with daily life surrounded by beautiful countryside. You will leisurely wander through cobbled streets and magnificent town *piazze*. The relaxed itinerary will allow time to enjoy the life on the Adriatic.

There will be 4 nights in the City of Pesaro in Le Marche Region. From this base, guided day trips are organised to historical towns such as San Marino, San Leo, Gradara and Urbino. One of the highlights of this tour will be a day in the Medieval town of Urbino for a visit to the magnificent Ducal Palace housing the National Gallery of Le Marche and a lunch to sample local produce and wine.

You will have the possibility to experience the excellent hospitality of this beautiful Region which rivals its neighbours with its abundance of traditional local food and wine. You will enjoy leisurely lunches and special dinners in traditional restaurants and *trattorie*.

This tour gives you the opportunity to enjoy the spring season when the entire Region is alive with music, markets and life.

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 Pesaro (D) Your guides will meet at 5.00 PM in the hotel foyer for a guided walking tour through the historical centre of Pesaro. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 2 Pesaro/San Marino/San Leo (BL) Today after breakfast at the hotel, we travel just over the Le Marche border to the tiny Republic of San Marino. San Marino claims to be the oldest state and constitutional republic in the world and is also worth a visit for its history, pageantry and its magnificent hilltop setting, which offers excellent views of the surrounding countryside. After a walking tour of the historical centre there will be some free time to explore the small streets of this enchanting city state as San Marino is jam packed with heavily discounted duty-free shops.

We then travel to San Leo with its ancient fortress perched on sheer cliffs. We will have a rest in the beautiful town square where we will have lunch and taste the delicious *formaggio di fossa*: a cheese walled up in rock caves to mature for months. Free evening.

Day 3 Pesaro/Gradara (BLD) Today there will be a guided walking tour of the City of Pesaro including the Rossini House and Theatre, the Civic Museums and Piazza del Popolo with its historical Ducal Palace. Lunch will be at one of the oldest restaurants in Pesaro. The afternoon is free for you to relax along the beach or further explore this beautiful seaside city. Towards the evening there is a visit to Gradara: a medieval village dominated by its magnificent castle overlooking the Adriatic Sea. We will tour the impressive castle and the well preserved old town. Gradara was made famous by the legendary love affair between Paolo Malatesta and Francesca da Rimini as immortalised in the 5th Canto of Dante's inferno. Dinner at Gradara for *piadina* and local wine.

Day 4 Pesaro/Urbino (BL) Today after breakfast we explore the land once ruled by the medieval lords of Montefeltro. We visit Urbino one of Italy's fascinating towns of the Renaissance. It is also the birthplace of Raphael. There will be a conducted tour of the magnificent Ducal Palace which houses the Galleria Nazionale delle Marche with its precious paintings by Piero della Francesca, Tiziano, Paolo Uccello and of course Raphael. Lunch will be at a local *osteria* specialising in local produce. Free evening in Pesaro.

Day 5 Pesaro (B) The tour ends after breakfast.

Items included in the Tour

- All land travel in air-conditioned mini buses.
- Accommodation for 4 nights in 4 Star hotels in Pesaro.
- 4 breakfasts.
- 2 dinners.
- 3 lunches (Meals include special lunches and dinners in traditional local restaurants and *trattorie* as detailed in the itinerary).
- Regional wines and mineral water served with meals.
- Admission to all galleries, museums and historical sites included in the itinerary.
- Personally, guided tours of all the towns mentioned in the itinerary.
- The services of the tour leader throughout the tour.

Items not included

- Airfares.
- Travel Insurance (it is compulsory for every traveller to have taken out a travel insurance policy in order to partake on a Vita Italian Tours). If you require, we can assist in organising a policy for you.
- Admission fees to places other than those specifically itemised in the itinerary.
- Meals on tour except when specifically mentioned in the itinerary.
- Drinks outside normal mealtimes or additional wine and other drinks in restaurants such as Tea & Coffee.
- Personal transport costs, phone calls and other personal needs.
- Accommodation Tax.

Cost

The cost of the tour, land content only, is **AUD $2,638** per person in twin share accommodation. **A deposit of AUD $500** is required to reserve a place on the tour which is non-refundable unless the tour is cancelled. The full balance is due 90 days before departure. **Single supplements** are available at an additional cost of **AUD $320**. **The tour** is costed on a minimum of 6 and maximum of 14 people travelling on tour.

We recommend that you carefully read the terms & conditions applying to a Vita Italian Tour. Please refer to the Booking Page of our website vitaitaliantours.com.au/bookings/

Additional information

The weather in June is warm and humid, but the nights are mild. We recommend light, comfortable clothing with your favourite walking shoes. We do not place age limitations on the tour and welcome anyone with a moderate level of physical fitness. It is important to note that the countryside is undulating and hilly. Many hill-towns have their historical centres closed to traffic and therefore lots of walking is required. Be expected to spend a few hours a day at a time on your feet with breaks for sightseeing, coffee and a taste of the local produce.

The program appears to be full; however, it is mixed with long restful lunches and leisure time for your enjoyment and comfort.

If you need to, you can always take time off from the organised program.

For further information

Visit the web site **vitaitaliantours.com.au**

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