



VITA ITALIAN TOURS

Specialise in personally guided small group tours to Italy



Florence

GRAND TOUR OF ITALY

13 DAYS | 12 NIGHTS | 6 MAY - 18 MAY 2024

UP TO
14
TRAVELLERS

Spring is a wonderful time of the year to visit Italy. Your experience begins in Rome with a comprehensive guided visit of this remarkable capital city of the world. Then, we travel south to Sorrento with its beautiful views of the Bay of Naples. There will be a half day guided visit to Pompeii. Our stay in Sorrento is not complete without exploring the spectacular Amalfi Coast with stops in Positano and Amalfi.

Then it is off to Florence which includes tours to Siena and San Gimignano. One of the highlights will be a day in the Chianti area with wine tasting, cellar tour and a special degustation lunch at a famous historical winery in Greve. Two full days will be spent in Florence where you will marvel at the works of Giotto, Michelangelo and Botticelli. You will also have plenty of time to wander through the famous markets of Florence.

Then our last stop is Venice to experience the sights of this truly unique city.

A Vita Italian Tour is a personally guided tour, which allows you to relax and enjoy your holiday in Italy. Mario, Viny and Gianni your expert tour leaders, will escort you throughout your stay and they will ensure you have a wonderful experience.

"Each day we have been led by an enthusiastic, animated and learned guides who gave us a balanced history of Italy as they know and love it!"
M & R Macdermid (VIC).

HIGHLIGHTS

FLORENCE

ROME

SIENA

SORRENTO

VENICE





Amalfi Coast



Rome



Vatican

“We loved the expert and knowledgeable information about the history of each place and the art we saw. The food and wine was a highlight, showcasing each Region’s flavours.” B & K Mulvogue (VIC).

DAY 1 ROME (D) Your tour leaders will meet you at the hotel in the centre of Rome at 4.00pm, where there will be introductions and a small talk on the tour. We will then guide you on a leisurely afternoon stroll through some of the famous piazze of Rome. The guided walking tour will include Piazza della Repubblica, Fontana di Trevi, Piazza della Rotonda and finally Piazza Navona. The walk will end with an early dinner in a traditional restaurant.

DAY 2 ROME/VATICAN (BD) Today we spend the whole day at the Vatican. A tour of St Peter’s Basilica is followed by a special conducted tour of the Vatican Museums including the Sistine Chapel. There will be time allowed for those who wish to further explore the magnificence of the Basilica and its treasures. The afternoon is free to pursue your own interests. Dinner will be in a traditional Roman restaurant in Trastevere.

DAY 3 ROME (BD) After breakfast we continue to enjoy and experience more of the fascinating sites of Rome. We start with a visit to the most iconic building from ancient Rome, the Colosseum followed by a walking tour through the Roman Forum, the centre of all ancient Roman life. The group then proceeds to the Monument to Vittorio Emanuele, Campidoglio and the Mayoral Offices. The afternoon is free to pursue your own interests. At night we say good-bye to Rome with a dinner in a traditional Roman restaurant.

DAY 4 ROME/POMPEII/SORRENTO (BD) After breakfast we leave Rome and drive south along the Autostrada del Sol making our way to Pompeii which was destroyed and preserved by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79AD. A local guide will lead the group through the ruins of this truly magnificent city.

We then proceed to the hotel in Sorrento which will provide you with some of the most memorable sights of the Bay of Naples and the imposing Mt Vesuvius. Dinner in a traditional restaurant in the heart of Sorrento.

DAY 5 SORRENTO/POSITANO/AMALFI COAST (BL)

Today will be spent taking in the sights of the Amalfi Coast with its breathtaking views. We first travel by local ferry to enjoy views of the coastline by sea finishing with a stop in Amalfi, once a powerful maritime republic famous for ship building and manufacturing paper. We then continue by land on a local bus to beautiful Positano where there will be some free time to leisurely explore this panoramic and charming town along the Amalfi Coast. We then proceed back to Sorrento by local bus. Free evening.

DAY 6 SORRENTO (B) Today is a free day for you to relax and enjoy the facilities of the hotel and its beautiful pool or to wander into the historical part of Sorrento. Sorrento has great shops with gifts, souvenirs, ceramics and fine liqueurs. You could also visit Capri and the Blue Grotto or the islands of Procida, Ischia or the nearby city of Naples, only a short trip away by ferry.

DAY 7 SORRENTO/FLORENCE (BD) After breakfast we make our way to Florence, the Renaissance jewel and city of the Medici. We should reach Florence by early afternoon and after check-in we will take a leisurely walk featuring the San Lorenzo Markets and Piazza del Duomo. The Piazza is famous for its beautiful Cathedral with the Giotto Campanile and magnificent East Door of the Baptistry known as the ‘Gates of Paradise’. Dinner in a traditional restaurant.

DAY 8 FLORENCE/SAN GIMIGNANO/SIENA (BD)

We travel south from Florence through some of the most picturesque areas of the Tuscan countryside to visit the medieval hill town of San Gimignano. Housed within its historical 13th Century walls this beautiful town is renowned for its famous medieval towers, artisan boutiques and exquisite local white wine. We then continue on to one of the jewels of Tuscany, Siena. In Siena there will be a walking tour of the historical centre to admire the Piazza del Campo, one of the most beautiful squares in Europe and learn about the famous horse race 'Il Palio'. There will also be some free time to taste some of the local delicacies and visit some of the many specialty boutiques. Dinner in Florence in a local restaurant.

DAY 9 FLORENCE (B) Our third day in Florence starts with a visit to the nearby Academy Gallery which houses one of the great masterpieces of the world, Michelangelo's David. Then our walking tour continues to San Lorenzo's Market where we will have lunch and a short rest. In the afternoon, we visit the beautiful Piazza della Signoria and the Palazzo Vecchio where there will be a comprehensive guided visit of the famous Uffizi Gallery. In the afternoon you are free to wander through the famous markets shopping for leather and gold goods, explore other historical sites such as Ponte Vecchio, or you may wish to visit the church of Santa Croce renowned for its frescoes and the tombs of some of Italy's famous artists.

DAY 10 FLORENCE/CHIANTI REGION/GREVE (BL)

Today we take a picturesque drive through the Chianti region, quintessential Tuscany.

You will experience the atmosphere of this part of Italy which is full of small villages and hundreds of vineyards and olive groves dotting the countryside. We will stop for morning tea in the beautiful town square of Greve in Chianti followed by a special wine tour and lunch at one of the oldest wineries in the area.

DAY 11 FLORENCE/VENICE/DOLO (BD) After breakfast, we say goodbye to Florence and travel to Dolo (Venice). After check-in at our beautiful villa on one of the canals that leads to the lagoon of Venice, we travel to Venice for our first visit. We take a vaporetto ride along the Grand Canal to Piazza San Marco. We will explore and enjoy some of the best sights of the City including the Basilica, the Bridge of Sighs, Ducal Palace and the Rialto Bridge. We then walk back to our bus through the small streets of Venice. Dinner in the restaurant of the Villa which serves traditional Venetian cuisine.

DAY 12 VENICE/MURANO (BD) Our second day in Venice starts with a ride along the Grand Canal to the island of Murano, where Venice's world famous glass is made. We visit a master glassblower at work and see amazing works displayed in a world renowned glass factory. Then we return to San Marco Square and the afternoon is free for you to shop or to further explore this magical city on water. Dinner at the Villa.

DAY 13 VENICE (B) The tour officially ends after breakfast at the hotel.

PRICE: \$6,760

DEPARTURE: 6 MAY - 18 MAY 2024

The cost of the tour, land content only, is **AUD \$6,760 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 \$1,190.00**. The tour is costed on a minimum of 6 people travelling on the tour with a maximum number of 14 people.

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/terms-conditions

San Gimignano





Venice



Florence

“For a first time traveller and one travelling on their own, I would heartily recommend your tours. The choice of destinations and comprehensive knowledge, are exactly what I was seeking.” M O’Halloran (WA).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

INCLUSIONS:

- All land travel in air-conditioned mini vans.
- Accommodation for 12 nights 3 & 4-Star hotels in Rome/ Sorrento/Florence & villa stay in Venice.
- Vaporetto pass in Venice.
- 12 Breakfasts.
- 8 Dinners.
- 2 Lunches (Meals include special lunches and dinners in traditional local restaurants and osterie as detailed in the itinerary).
- Regional wines and mineral water served with meals.
- Admission to all galleries, museums, wineries and historical sites included in the itinerary.
- Personally guided tours to all towns mentioned in the itinerary.
- Services of the tour leaders throughout the tour.

EXCLUSIONS:

- 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.

The weather: It is the end of spring. It can get warm during the day however the evenings are cool. For the August departure the weather is similar: generally warm days with mild nights. We recommend light, comfortable clothing, a light jacket 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.