



VITA ITALIAN TOURS

CINQUE TERRE & PORTOFINO

Departure:

1 June - 5 June 2022

(5 Days/4 Nights)

The Cinque Terre has always captivated the traveller with its extraordinary beauty and rugged coastline. The five villages which make up Cinque Terre: Monterosso al Mare, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Riomaggiore are all steeped with fascinating history and vibrant culture. They have been home to generations of simple fishermen and farmers who carefully built terraces on the steep mountainsides overlooking the sea to produce a stunningly beautiful garden landscape.

We will explore all the five towns including the beautiful Portovenere, Portofino as well as a special visit to Pisa and its iconic leaning tower.

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 Florence (D) Your tour leaders will meet you at the hotel in the centre of Florence at 7.00pm. There will be introductions and a small talk on the tour. The group will then enjoy dinner in a traditional restaurant.

Day 2 Florence/Portofino/Monterosso al Mare (BD) After breakfast we journey north west from Florence and Tuscany heading towards the Ligurian Riviera. Before reaching Monterosso and the Cinque Terre, we take in views of the rugged Ligurian coastline and make a stop at the picturesque seaside town of Portofino. There will be some time for travellers to explore the shops and sights of this small but beautiful harbour and have a coffee or a bite to eat at one of the many water side restaurants or bars. Finally, our day ends in the spectacular town of Monterosso al Mare, the northernmost of the five villages of the Cinque Terre, which will be our stay for the next 3 nights. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 3 Cinque Terre (BD) Today we explore the entire coast of the Cinque Terre by catching the local train from Monterosso to the first of the five towns Riomaggiore. From there we will walk leisurely along the famous *Sentiero dell' Amore* (Lover's Walk) to the village of Manarola where there will be time for you to stop and grab some lunch or coffee. We will also visit the quaint villages of Corniglia and Vernazza before returning to Monterosso for dinner.

Day 4 Monterosso/Portovenere (BD) After breakfast we will catch a ferry from Monterosso to the beautiful seaside town of Portovenere and its tranquil waters of the Golfo dei Poeti. Upon our return in the afternoon the group will have the opportunity to independently explore further any of the towns along the coast. Otherwise, there will be free time to wander through the many local specialty boutiques in Monterosso before our final dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 5 Monterosso/Pisa/Florence (B) We leave the Cinque Terre for Florence. On the way we make a special stop to one of Italy's most famous landmarks: The Leaning Tower of Pisa which is one of several architecturally important structures in the Piazza dei Miracoli. The Leaning Tower is the campanile, or bell tower, of the Cathedral. It is famous for its noticeable lean which has recently had a lot of work done to stop it from falling to the ground. We make our way back to Florence and should arrive in the city by mid-afternoon. The tour ends in Florence.

Items included in the Tour

- All land travel in air-conditioned mini buses.
- All train/ferry travel in Cinque Terre.
- Accommodation for 4 nights in 3 & 4 Star hotels in Florence/Monterosso al Mare.
- 4 breakfasts.
- 4 dinners (Meals include dinners in traditional local restaurants 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 to all towns mentioned in the itinerary.
- Services of the tour leaders 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 \$2,790** 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 \$650**. **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: it is the start of summer. It can get warm during the day however the evenings are mild. 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.

For further information

Visit the web site vitaitaliantours.com.au

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