



Gradara

CORNERS OF LE MARCHE

5 DAYS | 4 NIGHTS | APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2024

UP TO
14
TRAVELLERS

The Corners of Le Marche 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.

In this tour we will visit fascinating hill towns vibrant with daily life surrounded by beautiful rolling hills. You will have the opportunity to leisurely wander through cobbled streets and magnificent town piazze. The relaxed itinerary will allow time to enjoy the life on the Adriatic.

The tour begins in the city of Pesaro, situated on the Adriatic Coast: a charming town nestled against a backdrop of hills dotted with ancient hill towns and castles.

HIGHLIGHTS

GRADARA

ADRIATIC COAST

MEDIEVAL CASTLES

SAN MARINO

URBINO



Urbino





Novilara



“You took us to places we would never have visited or known about. Really enjoyed tasting the local foods and wine.” J & B Hetherington (VIC).

DAY 1 PESARO (D) Your guide will meet the group at the hotel at 4:00pm. Introductions and a small talk on the tour will precede an afternoon walk devoted to exploring Pesaro and its treasures, which include the ancient centre with its Ducal Palace, Piazza Del Popolo, the house of Gioachino Rossini, Pesaro’s famous composer and favourite son. We will also visit the now world-famous music school, founded by Rossini: The Rossini Conservatoire which hosts artists and musicians from all over the world. A visit to several important churches housing some fabulous artworks is included. Dinner will be at one of the oldest trattorie in the centre of the city which serves traditional Marchigiana cuisine.

DAY 2 PESARO/NOVILARA/GRADARA (BLD) Today, after breakfast the group will explore the surrounding hills of Pesaro which are dotted with medieval hamlets and Renaissance towns. We drive through the San Bartolo National Park perched high above the Adriatic stopping at Novilara, a medieval hill town with magnificent views of the countryside. Lunch is organised in a traditional trattoria famous for its local produce. In the afternoon we visit Gradara: a medieval town dominated by its magnificent castle which overlooks the Adriatic Sea. The group will have a tour of the castle and the impressive walled town. Gradara was made famous by Italy’s famous poet, Dante from his works including “Inferno”, a literature piece dating from the 14th Century relaying the tragic love affair which occurred in this castle. Dinner in Gradara with the local specialty Piadina accompanied by a famous local wine.

DAY 3 PESARO/URBINO/URBANIA (BL) Today we explore the land once ruled by the medieval lords of Montefeltro. We visit Urbino, which after Florence, was one of the most important centres of the Italian Renaissance and also the birthplace of Raphael. There will be a 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 Raphael.

We then make our way to the historical city of Urbania which is famous for its Majolica ceramics and visit a number of local artisans’ workshops. Lunch will be at an award winning osteria which serves regional specialties the osteria is famous for and its special local wines. We then make our way back to Pesaro for a free evening.

DAY 4 PESARO/SAN MARINO/SAN LEO (BL) After Breakfast, we travel just over the Le Marche border for a day visit to the tiny Republic of San Marino which claims to be the oldest state and constitutional republic in the world. It is worth a visit for its history, pageantry and its magnificent hilltop setting, which offers excellent views of the surrounding countryside and the sea.

San Marino is jam packed with duty free shops and well worth shopping for leather goods, jewellery, watches and many other goods. In the afternoon, we will visit the nearby hill town of San Leo with its medieval castle perched above sheer cliffs. We will rest in the town square for lunch and taste the delicious formaggio di fossa: a cheese walled up in rock caves to mature for months. Free evening.

DAY 5 PESARO (B) The tour officially ends after breakfast at the hotel.

TOUR DEPARTURES

8 April 2024	17 June 2024
22 April 2024	1 July 2024
6 May 2024	15 July 2024
18 May 2024	2 September 2024
03 June 2024	16 September 2024



Urbino



Gradara

"Touring Le Marche with the Vitellone family was most enjoyable. Their personal touch and intimate knowledge of the region provided an unforgettable experience." D & D Pearce (ACT).

PRICE: \$2,976

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The cost of the tour, land content only, is **AUD \$2,976 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 \$420**. 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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

INCLUSIONS:

- All land travel in air-conditioned mini buses.
- Accommodation for 4 nights in 4 Star hotel 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.

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 Tour/s). If you require, we can offer some assistance in organising a policy for you.
- Admission fees 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 or Coffee.
- Personal transport costs, phone calls and other personal needs.
- Accommodation Tax.

Physical expectations: We do not place age limitations on the tour and welcome anyone with a moderate level of physical fitness. Please keep in mind that it is mountainous country, so you can expect it to be very hilly and in some parts the gradients can be quite steep. It is not a hiking tour; however, some walking is required. You should expect to stroll leisurely for up to two hours with many 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.