



# VITA ITALIAN TOURS

Specialise in personally guided small group tours to Italy



## OPERA & FOOD - ROSSINI FESTIVAL

6 DAYS | 5 NIGHTS | 9 AUGUST - 14 AUGUST 2024

UP TO  
14  
TRAVELLERS

The Opera & Food tour concentrates on the celebrated Rossini Opera Festival in the city of Pesaro, situated on the Adriatic Coast in the beautiful Le Marche Region. Pesaro is a city proud of its talented and famous son Rossini, born in 1792. The city is a centre of musical appreciation with performances at the annual Rossini Opera Festival in August.

The City of Pesaro is rich in culture and historical landmarks. It is dynamic and an absolute treasure in the heart of Le Marche with many pedestrian areas and a beautiful historic Rossini Opera Theatre. The traveller will attend two amazing opera performances, stay in an historic family-owned hotel and will be delighted with the sumptuous food and renowned wines they will enjoy in the authentic traditional restaurants.

The tour group will visit the famous Renaissance town of Urbino with its Ducal Palace housing the Galleria Nazionale delle Marche, only second in importance after the Uffizzi Gallery in Florence. There will also be guided visits to Urbania, Gradara, Novilara, San Marino and San Leo. This tour gives you the opportunity to enjoy the summer season when the entire Region is alive with music, markets and life.

*"Amazing, without your knowledge and expertise it would not have been so memorable, enjoyable or easy."*  
A & J Downs (NSW).

### HIGHLIGHTS

ROSSINI FESTIVAL

PESARO

GRADARA

SAN MARINO

LOCAL CUISINE







*“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 tour leader/s will meet you at the hotel in the centre of Pesaro at 4:00pm. Introductions and a small talk on the tour will precede with an aperitivo in the Piazza del Popolo. Dinner in a traditional restaurant.

**DAY 2 PESARO (BL)** Our first day in Pesaro begins with a guided walking tour of the historical centre of the city. We visit the house and museum of Gioachino Rossini as well as the now world-famous music school he founded, the Rossini Conservatoire, which hosts artists and musicians from all over the world. We explore the ancient centre of Pesaro with its Ducal Palace and Piazza del Popolo.

A special lunch is organised in one of the oldest trattorie in the city which serves traditional Marchigiana cuisine. Free afternoon to rest up or further explore the city. In the evening, the group will attend the first opera performance at Teatro Rossini.

**DAY 3 PESARO/URBINO/URBANIA (BL)** Today we begin to explore the land once ruled by the medieval lords of Montefeltro: Urbino, which after Florence, was one of the most important centres of the Italian Renaissance and also the birthplace of Raphael. We will tour 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 travel to the historical city of Urbania where the group will have lunch in an award winning Osteria which serves exquisite locally produced specialties together with local wines.

Urbania is renowned for its Majolica ceramics which are made in the same tradition of long ago. We visit several local artisans in their workshops. Free evening.

**DAY 4 PESARO/GRADARA/NOVILARA (BL)** After breakfast, the group will visit a very impressive medieval town Gradara: a magnificent walled castle set on a hill with spectacular views of the Adriatic and surrounding hills. Gradara was made famous by the world-renowned Italian poet Dante, who immortalised in literature the special love affair which happened inside the castle walls. We then make our way to another medieval hill-town, Novilara. The group will enjoy a specialty lunch at a traditional family trattoria which is famous for its local home-made specialty.

After a pleasant afternoon stroll of the township, we head back to Pesaro where we will attend our second opera performance.

**DAY 5 PESARO/SAN MARINO/SAN LEO (BL)** Today we travel just over the Le Marche border for a visit to the tiny Republic of San Marino. This city is set on a magnificent hilltop, offering spectacular views of the surrounding rolling hills as far as the Adriatic Sea. San Marino lays claim to being the oldest state and constitutional republic in the world. It continues to display its historical pageantry with its unique and traditional festivals. These draw people from all over the world. It also boasts duty free shopping in all its stores and people flock to buy leather goods, jewellery, clothing and many other items.

In the afternoon, we visit San Leo, a small hamlet set on sheer cliffs with its medieval castle set on the very top of the town and visit a number of special iconic buildings. We stop for lunch in a local trattoria in the beautiful town square which serves traditional local produce. We will taste their delicious formaggio di fossa: a cheese walled up in rock caves to mature for months. Free evening.

**DAY 6 PESARO (B)** The tour officially ends after breakfast at the hotel.





*"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: \$3,890

DEPARTURE: 9 AUGUST - 14 AUGUST 2024

The cost of the tour, land content only, is **AUD \$3,890 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 \$970**. 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](http://vitaitaliantours.com.au/terms-conditions)

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

##### INCLUSIONS:

- All land travel in air-conditioned mini buses.
- Accommodation for 6 days/5 nights in 4 Star hotel in Pesaro.
- 5 breakfasts.
- 1 dinner.
- 4 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.