



## ITALY

# LA BELLA VITA - VENETIAN LAGOON & CANAL BIANCO CRUISE

(TOUR CODE: 11839)

### STARTS AND ENDS

in Venice

### TRAVEL PERIODS

26 Mar 23 - 22 Oct 24

### EXPERIENCE

Food & Wine  
Cultural

### TRAVEL STYLE

Cruise

A cruise on the Venetian Lagoon, River Po and Canal Bianco between Venice and the lakeside city of Mantua is a truly magical experience.

## Highlights

- Dinner ashore at the 17thC stately home Villa Ca'Zen
- Tour of Chioggia with its Roman, Etruscan and Byzantine history
- Tour of historic Venice, The Naval Museum and the Pavilion of Gondolas
- Private visit to the wine cellars of Villa Widmann-Borletti

The itinerary includes fascinating guided tours of Ferrara, Mantua and Chioggia which give a real insight into the many cultures – Renaissance, Roman, Etruscan, Byzantine – that have influenced this region of Italy for centuries. There is the opportunity to enjoy diverse landscapes and nature en-route, from colorful lagoon islands to wild beach dunes and pine woods full of birdlife.

La Bella Vita is a stylish 20 passenger vessel with a typically modern Italian interior, reflected in the use of vibrant colours throughout to create an atmosphere of casual relaxation. There is an inviting bar area in which to enjoy a glass of Prosecco and a spacious dining room with louvre doors that open to give a perfect view as you are served delicious Italian specialities and wines.

She has two upper deck junior suites and eight lower deck staterooms, all air-conditioned and with en-suite facilities, while above there is a huge sun deck with a large canopy and comfortable loungers to relax on and watch the world drift by.

# INCLUSIONS

- 6 nights onboard the Hotel Barge La Bella Vita in a Stateroom
- Crew of 6-10 (Captain, tour guide, chef and hostesses)
- Transfers by an air-conditioned minivan
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily prepared by your chef
- Captains farewell dinner on your last night
- Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Excursions as per itinerary
- Use of barge facilities

# ITINERARY

Day **1**

## Venice

You are met in Mestre or Piazzale Roma in Venice and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to La Bella Vita for a **Prosecco welcome**. An afternoon cruise takes you along the Giudecca Canal past some of Venice's most famous monuments: the Chiesa del Redentore, the impressive Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute and the Punta della Dogana to our mooring outside the Naval Museum. Then time for a stroll to St Mark's Square and a **guided tour of the Doge's Palace** before dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard Hotel Barge **La Bella Vita** in a Stateroom.

*Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.*

Dinner



Day **2**

## Venice San Pietro in Volta

First stop is a **guided walking tour to Castello District**, perhaps discovering some hidden parts of the city of Venice: the gardens of the Biennale Exhibition of Modern Arts, Palladio's Church of San Pietro in Castello and the Venetian Ships Pavilion, an annex of the Naval History Museum Venice, housing vessels of historical importance including ceremonial barges and warships. Late afternoon cruise to Pellestrina which separates the Venetian Lagoon from the Adriatic Sea, along

the Canal of the Orphans passing lagoon islands with their ancient monasteries, painted fishing boats and tiny churches. Time perhaps for a walk or cycle ride along the 18<sup>th</sup> century Istrian sea wall. Dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Bella Vita** in a Stateroom.

*Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



### Day 3

## San Pietro in Volta Taglio di Po

After breakfast, cruise to Chioggia, city of Goldoni's plays. Here you will **visit the 18<sup>th</sup> century Church of San Domenico** set on its own island, to see Carpaccio's St Paul, his last recorded painting and other works of art by Tintoretto and Bassano. You will also admire the **Piazzetta Vigo and visit the colourful fish market**. There will also be the opportunity to enjoy a short tour of Chioggia's pretty canals in a traditional locally-built boat, before re-joining La Bella Vita. Passing through a nature reserve with flamingos and occasional heron, snipe and other wildfowl, travel upriver to Taglio di Po for dinner ashore hosted by the owners at the beautiful 17<sup>th</sup>C Villa Ca'Zen, a private stately home by the river where Lord Byron courted the Countess Giuccioli and wrote some of his best poetry.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Bella Vita** in a Stateroom.

*Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



LA BELLA VITA CRUISING TO CHIOGGIA

Day **4**

## Taglio di Po Zelo

This morning you will join the Bianco canal and cruise to Adria, an ancient Etruscan town where we **visit the Archaeological Museum**. After lunch on board, drive to the Bagnoli Estate to **tour the Renaissance gardens and wine cellars** of the 17thC Villa Widmann Borletti to **enjoy a private tasting** of their renowned estate-grown vintages. This winery has been supplying Venetian society for centuries. Afterwards, rejoin La Bella Vita moored at Zelo. Dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Bella Vita** in a Stateroom.

*Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



VILLA WIDMANN BORLETTI

Day **5**

## Zelo Governolo

You will start with a morning **excursion with a guided tour of the Renaissance city of Ferrara**, including the Schifanoia Palace, renowned for its fabulous 15thC frescoes. You will also admire the exterior of the **Estense Castle** and its moat and

visit the magnificent cathedral with its facade of sculpted images described as an illustrated Bible. Return to the hotel barge moored in Trevenzuolo for an afternoon canal cruise past villages and farmsteads to Governolo and dinner on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Bella Vita** in a Stateroom.

*Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **6**

## Governolo Mantua

Your final cruise has a dramatic approach to **Mantua**, home of the poet Virgil, artists Mantegna and Donatello and a captivating lakeside setting. Mantua displays extraordinary neo-classical and baroque architecture, portrayed in the 14thC Ducal Palace housing some 15 gardens and courtyards, a museum, basilica and theatre. The intricate frescoes, Gallery of Mirrors and exquisite Rivers Room and 12,000 paintings and sculptures all create a Grand Finale to our Italian Renaissance adventure. **Captain's Farewell Dinner** on board.

Overnight stay onboard **Hotel Barge La Bella Vita** in a Stateroom.

*Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included.*

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **7**

## Mantua Venice

After breakfast, you are transferred by private chauffeured minibus to Mestre or Piazzale Roma in Venice.

Breakfast

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Italian

### LOCAL CURRENCY

EURO

Departure Dates and Pricing:

## 2023 Cruise Rates

Rates are for 6 nights either: per person based on double occupancy per cabin or on a whole barge charter basis. Prices below are in Euros.

Accommodation	Value	Regular
Stateroom	€3,890	€4,390
Junior Suite	€4,750	€5,290
Single Supplement	€1,500	€1,700
Charter (Whole Barge)		
Charter 10 passengers	€61,500	€68,500
Charter 12 passengers	€63,700	€71,100
Charter 14 passengers	€65,900	€73,700
Charter 16 passengers	€68,100	€76,300
Charter 18 passengers	€70,300	€78,900
Charter 20 passengers	€72,500	€81,500
Departure Dates (Sunday)	Rates	Cruise Region
Mar 26; Apr 2, 9, 16, 23	Value	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Apr 30; May 7, 14, 21, 28; Jun 4, 11, 18, 25; Jul 2, 9	Regular	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Jul 16, 23, 30; Aug 6, 13, 20	Value	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Aug 27; Sep 3, 10, 17, 24; Oct 1	Regular	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Oct 8, 15, 22	Value	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley

## 2024 Cruise Rates

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Charter 14 passengers	€65,900	€73,700
Charter 16 passengers	€68,100	€76,300
Charter 18 passengers	€70,300	€78,900
Charter 20 passengers	€72,500	€81,500
Departure Dates (Sunday)	Rates	Cruise Region
Mar 31; Apr 7, 14	Value	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Apr 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26; Jun 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Jul 7, 14	Regular	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Jul 21, 28; Aug 4, 11, 18	Value	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Aug 25; Sep 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Regular	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Oct 6, 13, 20	Value	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley

- This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change. On alternate weeks, the cruise will be in the reverse direction. Some cruises may be on the River Po, depending on the water level.
- This barge is available for charter bookings and theme cruises. Contact us for more details.

### Booking / Payment Process

- On our website the Barge Cruise prices are show in Euros
- All payments will be made to us in Australian Dollars

- The current exchange rate will be used at the time of deposit and balance
- Our invoice will make this clear and our team is here to assist you

### **Supplier Booking Conditions Apply**

Due to the boutique nature and limited capacity of this travel experience, under our Bookings Conditions this package classifies as “Booking Type 2 – Travel Experience where we act as agent only”. Your contract for the delivery of travel arrangements will be with the principal supplier and will be subject to their Booking Conditions. We will advise you prior to confirming your booking the full details and Booking Conditions of the principal supplier. Our responsibility to you where we sell travel arrangements as agent for the supplier is specified in the ‘Responsibility’ section of our Booking Conditions.

Blackout dates may apply during festive season.

### **Excluded**

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package