



ITALY

LA BELLA VITA - VENICE & MANTUA (TOUR CODE: 11839)

STARTS AND ENDS

in Venice

TRAVEL PERIODS

30 Mar 25 - 26 Oct 25

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
- Visit **Mantua's** 14th century Ducal Palace and Gardens

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

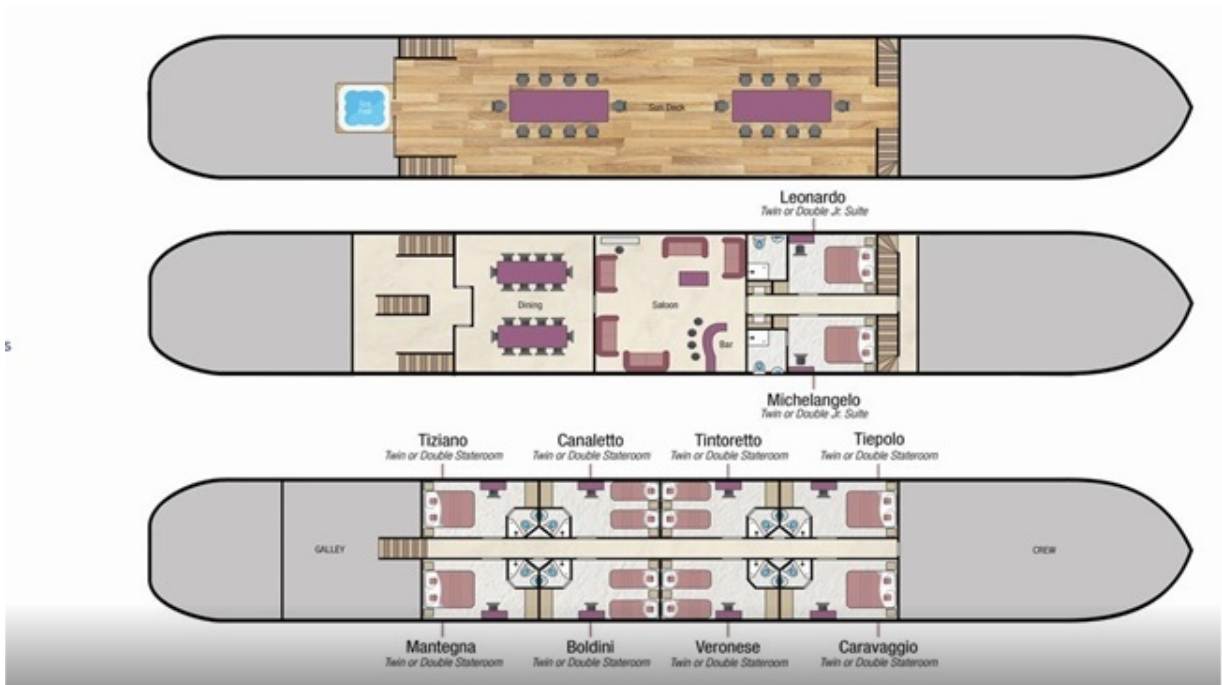
- 6 nights onboard the Hotel Barge La Bella Vita in a Stateroom
- Crew of 6-10 (Captain, tour guide, chef and hostesses)
- Transfers by an air-conditioned minivan
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily prepared by your chef
- Captains farewell dinner on your last night
- Selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic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

ITINERARY

Deck Hotel Barge La Bella Vita

First Class | 20 Passengers | 6-10 Crew

- First Class | 20 Passengers | 6-10 Crew
- 148 Feet long
- 2 Twin/Double Junior Suites (130sq ft. incl. en suite)
- 8 Twin/Double Staterooms (105sq ft. incl. en suite)
- Air-Conditioned
- Centrally Heated
- Piano



Day **1** Mestre (Venice)

Guests are met at the **Best Western Hotel Bologna in Mestre**** and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to La Bella Vita for a prosecco welcome, followed by a late afternoon cruise 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, 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 **3** San Pietro in Volta Taglio di Po

After breakfast, cruise to Chioggia, city of Goldoni's plays. Here you will **visit the 18th 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 17thC Villa Ca'Zen, a private stately home by the river where Lord Byron courted the Countess Guiccioli 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



Day **2**

Venice San Pietro in Volta

Embark on a **guided visit to the Doge's Palace**. Also known as the Palazzo Ducale, it's a masterpiece of Gothic architecture, once the political and judicial heart of the Venetian Republic. Today, it stands as a museum showcasing ornate chambers, grand staircases, and priceless works of art.

After lunch, enjoy free time for perhaps a guided walking tour to the quiet Castello District and the Naval History Museum – housing vessels of historical importance including ceremonial barges and warships, or head to Murano Island, known as 'The Island of Glass' to visit the famed glass factory.

In the 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 18th century Istrian Sea wall before 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



CASTELLO DISTRICT

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 Vallazza

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**

Vallazza 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



DUCAL PALACE

Day **7** Mantua Venice

After breakfast, guests are transferred by private chauffeured minibus to the Best Western Hotel Bologna in Mestre**.

Breakfast

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Italian

LOCAL CURRENCY

EURO

Departure Dates and Pricing:

2025 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	€4,790	€5,350
Junior Suite	€5,890	€6,550
Single Supplement	€1,900	€2,100
Charter (Whole Barge)		
Charter 10 passengers	€76,000	€85,000
Charter 12 passengers	€78,700	€88,200
Charter 14 passengers	€81,400	€91,400
Charter 16 passengers	€84,100	€94,600
Charter 18 passengers	€86,800	€97,800
Charter 20 passengers	€89,500	€101,000
Departure Dates (Sunday)	Rates	Cruise Region
Mar 30; Apr 6, 13, 20	Value	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley

Apr 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25; Jun 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Jul 6, 13	Regular	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
20-Jul-27	Value	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Aug 31; Sep 7, 14, 21, 28; Oct 5, 12	Regular	Italy - Venice & the Po Valley
Oct 19 & 26	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.

Pick-up Point

- Cabin bookings - Best Western Hotel Bologna in Mestre

Drop-off Point

- Cabin bookings - Best Western Hotel Bologna in Mestre

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