



## ITALY

# ITALIAN JEWELS

 (TOUR CODE: 12368)

### STARTS AND ENDS

in Rome

### TRAVEL PERIODS

01 Jul 23 - 03 Mar 24

### EXPERIENCE

Escorted  
Cultural

### TRAVEL STYLE

Escorted Group Tour

Embark on a journey through Italy, from Tuscany to Rome, and be captivated by the remarkable beauty of these Italian jewels.

## Highlights

- **Guaranteed Departures**
- English only Tour, with English-speaking Tour Director.
- **"Skip the Line" access** of the Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Square and of Pompeii Site
- **Guided visits** in Rome, Florence, Pompeii & Venice
- Stop in **Montepulciano**, a medieval town rich in history and art and enjoy some local tuscan lunch in a typical restaurant!
- Specialty dining & tasting experiences.

Embark on an unforgettable journey through Italy, starting with a traditional Tuscan lunch in the enchanting town of Montepulciano. Explore the captivating cities of Assisi, Siena, Bologna, and Padua, each offering unique historical and cultural treasures. Immerse yourself in the stunning landscapes of the Tuscany wine region, indulging in wine tastings and experiencing the art of winemaking firsthand. Guided tours in Florence and Venice will unveil the artistic and architectural wonders of these iconic cities, while a Spritz experience will introduce you to the vibrant aperitivo culture.

Discover Rome's captivating allure by night through a sightseeing tour, and marvel at the grandeur of the Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Square with an exclusive "Skip the Line" access. Venture to Pompeii, where you'll explore the ancient ruins and savor an authentic Neapolitan pizza for lunch. Finally, delve into the treasures of southern Italy, uncovering its rich history, breathtaking landscapes, and culinary delights. This comprehensive itinerary promises an extraordinary adventure through the diverse and captivating regions of Italy.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

## INCLUSIONS

- 9-night accommodation in 4-star hotels
- Transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- Daily breakfast
- Lunches and Dinners as per itinerary
- Get a taste of Italy by enjoying a lunch in piazza Santa Croce, in the heart of Florence in day 3
- Experience traditional Tuscan lunch in Montepulciano in day 6
- Eat an authentic Neapolitan pizza for lunch in Pompeii (drink included) in day 8

## ITINERARY

Day **1**

### Rome

Benvenuti a Roma! After you arrive at the airport, make your way to your hotel and then enjoy your first day in the city at your leisure.

At 07:45 pm pick up at the hotel and reach **Via del Teatro Marcello**. A local expert guide will lead you to discover the wonders of the **Eternal City**, charming by day - absolutely romantic at sunset. You will cross the characteristic area of the **Jewish Ghetto**, one of Rome's most beautiful neighborhoods, full of history and Roman atmosphere. As you know, one of Rome's typical landmarks is its beautiful fountains, and one of the prettiest is the **Turtle Fountain (Fontana delle Tartarughe)** in Piazza Mattei. The **Jewish Ghetto** of Rome is the second most ancient after the one in Venice, and it can be considered the heart and soul of Roman cuisine!

Then you will walk into Piazza Della Rotonda and enjoy the lit view of the **Pantheon**, the former temple of Marcus Agrippa later converted into a church: this is the only ancient Roman temple that remained untouched through the centuries and it's stunning at night when the crowds are away.

Close your eyes and throw a coin over your right shoulder straight into the **Trevi Fountain** as your next stop: it said that those who do so, are granted to come back to Rome someday. Your walk continues towards **Piazza di Spagna**, one of the city's most popular squares, known for its setting at the bottom of the Spanish Steps. Walk up these famous steps to enjoy a lovely view from the top! After this intense and gratifying walk, there is only one thing missing to end this experience: relax enjoying a creamy and tasty Gelato! The tour ends in the Spanish Steps area. Enjoy the rest of the night on your own.

Overnight stay in **Rome** at Hotel San Martin or similar.





Day **2**

## Rome Assisi Siena Florence

Departing at 7:15 am from your hotel by a deluxe coach, you will arrive in **Assisi**, ready to explore, at your leisure, this tiny town surrounded by walls built in the Middle Ages. Take your time to visit the basilica of **St. Francis**, where you will see masterpieces by Giotto and Cimabue and then have free time for lunch (not included).

Board on the bus to reach **Siena**, a Unesco World Heritage Site, world-known for the Palio, the historical horse race around the shell-shaped town square: **Piazza del Campo**. Next, you will continue to **Florence**, where you will check in at your hotel before enjoying dinner and a well-earned night of rest.

Dinner at the hotel is included.

Overnight stay in **Florence** at Hotel Raffaello or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **3**

## Florence

After breakfast, you will spend the day venturing around beautiful **Florence**, the Cradle of Renaissance, where, with the help of Michelangelo, Italian art reached its pinnacle. Based on Etruscan Roman origins, the city flourished in the Middle Ages as a free **Comune** and further refined during the Renaissance.

You will be fascinated by the uncountable monuments, churches, and buildings at **Santa Maria del Fiore**, more commonly referred to as the **Duomo**. On your visit, you will be amazed by its magnificent dome built by Filippo Brunelleschi. Cross a small piazza to see the **Campanile** tower (partly designed by Giotto) and the Baptistery, with its bronze doors where Michelangelo imagined the **Gates of Paradise**.

In the heart of the city, you will see **Piazza della Signoria**, **Palazzo della Signoria** (also known as Palazzo Vecchio), and the **Basilica of Santa Croce**. Lunch in a typical Tuscan restaurant in Piazza Santa Croce. Spend the afternoon strolling the cobblestone streets of Florence on your own or take a short trip to Pisa (optional), one of the four main historical Marine Republics of Italy. There, you will tour the Piazza dei Miracoli with the Duomo, Pisa's symbol "the Leaning Tower" and the Baptistery.

Overnight stay in **Florence** at Hotel Raffaello or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch



#### Day 4 Florence Bologna Padua Mestre

After breakfast in Florence, depart to **Bologna**. You will discover the elegant city center with its **porticos**, shopping streets and so on. From **Piazza Malpighi**, you will walk to Piazza del Nettuno and Piazza Maggiore (Neptune square and Major square) in the heart of the city, then **King Renzo's Palace**; Palazzo Podestà and the basilica of San Petronio, one of the biggest in the world. Don't miss a tasty meal at your leisure with it's real gourmet's heaven at Bologna.

In the afternoon, continue toward Padova, with **Sant'Antonio Basilica**, one of the most visited churches by pilgrims of the catholic world. Later in the afternoon, we arrive in **Mestre**.

Dinner at the hotel in Mestre is included.

Overnight stay in **Mestre** at Hotel Delfino or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner





Day **5** Mestre Venice Mestre

After breakfast, enjoy your transfer to **Piazza San Marco** and visit the most iconic places of the Floating City: the **Palazzo dei Dogi**, a symbol of Venice's glorious past, and the legendary **Bridge of Sighs**. After this walking tour, let us offer you a spritz or a prosecco to crown your visit to Venice highlights with the company of your tour leader. Spend the afternoon roaming along Venice's canals at your leisure.

Overnight stay in **Mestre** at Hotel Delfino or similar.

Breakfast



Day **6** Mestre Tuscany Wine Region (Montepulciano) Rome

After breakfast, a departure from Piazzale Roma heading to **Tuscany**, world-known for its landscapes, churches and castles, and delicious wines. You will proceed to **Val di Chiana** with a stop in **Montepulciano**, a medieval town rich in history and art. Known for its "Nobile" wine, on purchase in local wine houses, Montepulciano also hosts an annual Jazz and Wine

Festival every July. Lunch in a typical restaurant is included! After lunch, a quick stop to spend some free time.

In the evening, you will arrive in Rome to check in to your hotel.

Overnight stay in **Rome** at Hotel San Martin or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch



Day **7**

## Rome

Between 7:45 - 8:00 am, after breakfast, a departure from the hotel for the included tour of the **Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Square with our exclusive "Skip the Line" access!**

No stress to reach the area: upon arrival, your guide will lead you to the museums where you'll visit one of the most important art collections in the world. Walk along the beautiful **Galleries of Tapestries and Geographical Maps** before admiring Raphael's Rooms and, then, the amazing **Sistine Chapel**. After this incredible masterpiece, the tour ends in **St. Peter's Square** where you can admire the astonishing masterpiece of **St. Peter's Basilica**: the biggest church in the world!

Enjoy the rest of the day exploring the city at your own leisure.

Overnight stay in **Rome** at Hotel San Martin or similar.

Breakfast





Day **8**

## Rome Naples Pompeii Sorrento

After breakfast, pick up at your hotel approximately 7:00 am. Depart by coach heading south, crossing the regions of Lazio and Campania.

Arrive in **Naples** and have a short panoramic tour. Climb up to **Vomero hill** to enjoy beautiful views over the Gulf of Naples with the Vesuvius, Capri, Ischia, and Procida and the city below and take some nice pictures. Descending towards the port of Mergellina, you will leave the city and travel south toward Mount Vesuvius, and once you reach the town of Pompeii, you will have lunch with Neapolitan pizza!

After lunch, you will enter one of the most important archaeological sites in the world: a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the **ruins of Pompeii**, with Skip the Line entrance and a guided tour. Visit the haunting ruins of Pompeii, traveling back in time to the tragic days in 79 AD when the silent Mount Vesuvius suddenly erupted, covering the prosperous Roman city in deadly volcanic ashes and poisonous gases, leaving this city crystallized until our days. You'll learn how people lived at that time, visiting houses and bars of the time, admiring frescoes and mosaics to imagine how prosperous was the city before the dreadful day.

After the visit, you will drive along the Sorrentine Coast, arriving in Sorrento for dinner (dress code: jacket for men)

Overnight stay in **Sorrento** at Hotel Michelangelo or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **9**

## Sorrento Rome

After breakfast, get ready for an exciting excursion to the island of Capri\*\*\*: one of the most exclusive summer destinations of the Mediterranean! Depending on weather and sea conditions, you will admire the dreamy Blue Grotto on a small rowboat. Lunch is included and then return to Sorrento.

In the afternoon around 4pm return to Rome in the evening for your last overnight.

Overnight stay in **Rome** at Hotel San Martin or similar.

\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE **Capri tour with lunch** is not included from November to March 2024.

Breakfast, Lunch



Day **10**

## Rome

Enjoy last breakfast at the hotel. End of our services



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Italian

### LOCAL CURRENCY

EURO

- No age limit, maximum group size up to 40 people.
- All passengers must be able to independently board and alight the coach.
- We work with a selection of hotels in each location. All bookings are subject to availability, which means our team will confirm your specific hotels upon confirmation and payment of deposit. The package price is based on 4-star accommodation.
- For organizational reasons, the itinerary may be reversed or modified without notice. In this case, our supplier ensures similar visits and excursions in accordance with the spirit of the tour program.
- 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