



ITALY

GRAND TRAIN TOUR OF ITALY 3-STAR (TOUR CODE: 13234)

STARTS AND ENDS

Rome to
Venice

TRAVEL PERIODS

15 Mar 24 - 28 Oct 24

EXPERIENCE

Cultural
Rail

TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

Embark on an independent Grand Train Tour of Italy, journeying from Rome to Venice while traversing the picturesque Tuscany countryside, The Cinque Terre, and the scenic Lake Como.

Highlights

- Experience the wonders of Imperial **Rome** through a guided group tour, which encompasses iconic attractions such as the **Forum and the breathtaking Colosseum**.
- Uncover **Pompeii** and its the exceptionally preserved remnants of an ancient Roman city
- Experience the charm of **Monteriggioni**, **Siena's** historic treasures, the medieval splendor of **San Gimignano**, and the flavors of **Chianti** on this captivating Italian tour.
- Discover the **wonders of Cinque Terre** with 2-day Cinque Terre Train Card, allowing you to access and explore these charming coastal villages with ease!
- Explore **Lake Como** at your own pace with a day ticket for a **hop-on/hop-off public boat**, allowing you to freely discover the lake's attractions!
- Explore **Milan**, the Artistic Capital of Fashion!
- Enjoy a **30-minute gondola ride in Venice** with informative commentary

Embark on an independent grand train tour of Italy, beginning with Rome's iconic attractions such as the Forum and the breathtaking Colosseum. Board a high-speed train to Naples and start your regular tour to visit Pompeii and its ruins. Traverse the picturesque Tuscany countryside, immerse yourself in the charm of Monteriggioni, explore Siena's historic treasures, marvel at the medieval splendor of San Gimignano, and savor the flavors of Chianti.

Experience the wonders of Cinque Terre with a 2-day Cinque Terre Train Card for easy access to its coastal villages, and freely explore Lake Como with a day ticket for a hop-on/hop-off public boat. Conclude your journey by reaching Venice, where you can enjoy a 30-minute gondola ride with commentary.



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

INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights in Rome at Kennedy Hotel - 3* or similar
- 2 nights in Florence at Corona D'Italia Hotel - 3* or similar
- 2 nights in La Spezia at Hotel Corallo - 3* or similar
- 2 nights in Milan at Hotel Flora - 3* or similar
- 2 nights in Venice at Hotel Carlton Capri - 3* or similar
- 48hrs Cinque Terre Train Card
- 2nd class high speed train ticket from Roma Termini to Firenze Santa Maria Novella station
- Regional train ticket from Firenze Santa Maria Novella station to La Spezia Centrale – 2nd class without seat reservation
- Round-trip regional train tickets from Milano Centrale to Como Centrale – 1st class without seat reservation
- Round-trip high-speed train tickets from Roma Termini to Napoli Centrale - 2nd class
- 2nd class high speed train ticket from Milano Centrale station to Venezia St. Lucia
- Intercity train ticket from La Spezia Centrale to Milan Centrale – 1st class
- Arrival private transfer from Rome Fiumicino Airport to Hotel in Rome city centre (transfer in only)
- Daily Breakfast
- 1 Wine Tasting in Chianti Area
- Colosseum & Roman Forum Group tour (3hrs) – includes: local guide/entrance ticket – Monolingual english or spanish /p/up at the hotel not included
- Full Day Tour to Naples and Pompeii from Naples railway station (Multilingual)
- Full Day Tour to Siena, San Gimignano and Chianti Area (Multilingual)
- 30-minute Multilingual Shared Gondola ride with audio-commentary to be downloaded on your smart phone
- 1 day-free circulation ticket for public boat on Lake Como departing from Como, allowing unlimited trips between Como and Bellagio with intermediate stops.

ITINERARY

Day

1

Rome

Welcome to Rome! Meet our driver at Rome Fiumicino Airport and take a private transfer to your hotel.

The remainder of the day is at your disposal for self-guided city exploration of the Eternal City. Alternatively, you have the option to select from our range of additional tours (extra cost), including a **Guided Tour of the Vatican Museums &**

Sistine Chapel.

Overnight stay in Rome at **Hotel Kennedy** or similar.



Day **2**

Rome

After breakfast at the hotel, discover **Imperial Rome** on a group tour including the **Forum and the Magnificent Colosseum**.

The remainder of the day is at your leisure to discover the city. Optionally, you have the opportunity to participate in a private tour (extra cost) of Rome Walking Tour which will allow you to explore the historic center and its iconic landmarks, as well as some of Rome's lesser-known and unique attractions.

Overnight stay in Rome at **Hotel Kennedy** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **3**

Rome Naples Pompeii Rome

After breakfast at the hotel, you will board the high-speed train to Naples; the journey takes about 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Upon arrival at Naples station, you will begin a full day excursion to visit **Pompeii and Naples**. You will be accompanied by a local guide as you explore the renowned **archaeological site of Pompeii** (entrance fees included). Pompeii, an ancient Roman city, was devastated by the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD. Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to experience the undeniable allure of the city of Naples.

In the evening, return to Rome by train.

Overnight stay in Rome at **Hotel Kennedy** or similar.

Breakfast



Day **4**

Rome Florence

After breakfast at the hotel, you will reach Rome Termini station to board the high-speed train to Florence; the journey takes about 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Upon your arrival at the hotel, you'll have some free time to explore the city independently, often referred to as the **'Birthplace of the Renaissance.'**

Alternatively, you can choose to join a guided walking tour (extra cost) that covers iconic landmarks in the city, such as **Piazza della Repubblica**, **Piazza della Signoria**, and the **Ponte Vecchio**, known for its charming goldsmith shops. Another option is to visit the **Accademia Gallery**, home to Michelangelo's original and famous statue of David.

Overnight stay in Florence at **Hotel Corona D' Italia** or similar.

Breakfast



PONTE VECCHIO

Day **5**

Florence Siena San Gimignano Monteriggioni Chianti Florence

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a full-day excursion to the Chianti region.

The journey includes stops in **Monteriggioni**, celebrated for its remarkably preserved medieval fortifications. The tour proceeds to **Siena**, where you'll explore the enchanting *Piazza del Campo*, *Piazza Duomo*, *the Cathedral*, *Palazzo Pubblico*, and *the iconic Torre del Mangia*.

Following Siena, the tour takes you to the fortified town of **San Gimignano**, renowned for its world-famous Vernaccia white wine and its medieval skyscrapers, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your adventure continues with a visit to the **Chianti** area, culminating in a **delightful Chianti red wine tasting**.

Return to Florence in the evening.

Overnight stay in Florence at **Hotel Corona D' Italia** or similar.

Please note that the tour does not include a pick up from your hotel.

Breakfast



CHIANTI VINEYARDS

Florence La Spezia

After breakfast at the hotel, we board the regional train to La Spezia. The journey takes about 2 hours and 30 minutes.

La Spezia is the starting city to explore the famous Cinque Terre, the stretch of coast with 5 fishing villages perched over the sea: Monterosso al Mare, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Riomaggiore. **The two-day Cinque Terre Train Card** is included, which allows access to the National Park area and the use of regional trains that connect the villages and of local buses.

Overnight stay in La Spezia at **Hotel Corallo** or similar.

Breakfast



La Spezia

After your breakfast at the hotel, free day to continue the visit of the **Cinque Terre**.

You can participate from our Optional Tours (extra cost) a Food Tour to taste the typical season specialties of the territory.

Overnight stay in La Spezia at **Hotel Corallo** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 8

La Spezia Milan

After breakfast at the hotel, we board the intercity train to Milan. The journey takes about 3 hours and 20 minutes. After arriving at the hotel, free time for all to visit the city on one's own.

You can also choose to add additional experiences on Private Milan Walking Tour (extra cost), we suggest to discover the most famous symbols of Milan, such as the **Duomo**, the **Castello Sforzesco**, the **Basilica of Sant'Ambrogio** and the **Navigli**, the famous canals, the very hub of the **Milanese** nightlife.

Overnight stay in Milan at **Hotel Flora** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 9

Milan Como Lake Como Milan

Start your day with breakfast at the hotel, then board the regional train for a 40-minute journey to reach the charming town of Como. Once you arrive, explore the city of Como and its renowned lake at your own pace. Your package includes a day

ticket for the **hop-on/hop-off public boat**, allowing you to freely explore the lake's various attractions.

You can choose the best stops to get off for a walk according to the departures of the boats and the time of the train back to Milan. Make the most of your free time in Como to acquaint yourself with the town and shop in the numerous local boutiques. As the day winds down, return to Milan in the evening.

Overnight stay in Milan at **Hotel Flora** or similar.

Breakfast



Day 10 Milan Venice

After breakfast at the hotel, we board the high-speed train to Venice. The journey takes about 2 hours and 30 minutes. Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel.

In the afternoon there will be a **30-minute gondola ride** with commentary via app on your mobile phone. We recommend you to try the traditional Venetian aperitif the "cichetti" (small snacks) in one of the many "Bacari" (taverns) scattered along the "calli" (that is what the Venetian streets are called).

Overnight stay in Venice at **Hotel Carlton Capri** or similar.

Breakfast



VENICE GONDOLA RIDE

Day **11** Venice

Begin your day with breakfast, today is yours to explore the city on your own.

Alternatively, you can take a **guided walking tour** (extra cost) through the most famous places in the city *Piazza San Marco with the Basilica and the Clock Tower, the Rialto Bridge, Campo Santa Maria Formosa*, and others less known; or a skip-the-line guided tour of the Doge's Palace, with the Doge's luxurious apartments and the famous *Bridge of Sighs* or you **can go on a boat trip to the islands of the Venice lagoon: Murano**, known all over the world for its famous glass craftsmanship; **Burano**, famous not only for its lace, but also for the picturesque fishermen's houses all painted in bright colours; and **Torcello**, the first settlement centre in the lagoon (extra cost).

Overnight stay in Venice at **Hotel Carlton Capri** or similar.

Breakfast



RIALTO BRIDGE

Day **12** Venice

After breakfast, check-out of your hotel and end of the tour.

Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Day 2: Rome Regular Walking Tour

Rome Walking Tour which will allow you to explore the historic center and its iconic landmarks, as well as some of Rome's lesser-known and unique attractions.

Meeting point: Provided at the time of booking

Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

Day 4: Small group (25pax) Florence Walk and Talk

Our tour explores the historic and architectural evolution factors from the Roman foundation through medieval centuries and its Renaissance glorious period up to modern time Florence. Learn about the Medici: masters of Florence. The Medici family rose to become famous and revered throughout the Western world in the 14th and 15th Century. The Medici came to power at a time of great social and economic inequality. They were great disrupters. Their banking practices led to the creation of a middle class, making them unimaginably wealthy.

The Medici in turn used their vast power and resources to challenge traditional thinking, ushering in a new era of revolutionary art and science such as the world had never seen: the Renaissance. It's a powerful story that resonates even now. Our professional guide will take you to some of the most important spots where the greatest minds and artists have stood and been inspired. During this walk, you will see Piazza della Signoria with the town hall Palazzo Vecchio, the Duomo, the Baptistery with its 'Gates of Paradise', Giotto's independent bell tower, Brunelleschi's Dome, Santa Trinita and Orsanmichele Church, Pontevecchio Bridge and the secret Vasari Corridor, as well as famous shopping streets and the Oltrarno – the fourth and last district, the manual crafts neighbourhood. Also, stop for a surprise "tasting", a nice and delicious break during your pleasant walk.

It includes:

- Walking tour (2 and 1/2 half hours)
- Licensed English speaking guide
- A surprise tasting

Meeting point: Provided at the time of booking

2 h and 30 minutes

From 01 March 2024 to 31 October 2024

Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

Day 6: Small group (8pax) Guided Tour of the Accademia Gallery

During your vacation in Florence don't miss out on meeting one of the most famous and eclectic artists in the world: Michelangelo. Your personal guide will reveal the secrets of the ACCADEMIA GALLERY and the creation of Michelangelo's world renowned masterpieces, such as the original version of David, I Prigioni and San Matteo. This is a must and will be a discovery for anyone interested in Michelangelo. It really is a once-in-a-lifetime experience to stand in front of David. At the end of the guided tour you will have the possibility to stay in the museum for as long as you like.

It includes:

- Professional guide
- Accademia Gallery ticket and reservation

Tours starts at 11.15am

Meeting point: Provided at the time of booking

Blackout dates: April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 1.

1h 30 minutes

Operates on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

From 01 April 2024 to 31 October 2024

Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

Day 7: La Spezia Food Tour

La Spezia Food tour (small group)

Meeting point: Provided at the time of booking

Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

Day 8: Milan Regular Walking Tour

Enjoy a city tour of Milan. Take a look at the **medieval Sforza Castle**: a grand medieval Castle and fortress, the Sforzesco was once residence for the ruling family of Milan and now houses several of the city's museums and art collections. Visit the splendid **Duomo**, one of the world's largest, most striking Gothic cathedrals in the World. Walk inside **Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II** shopping gallery, a 19th-century glass-vaulted shopping arcade. Brimming with fashionable shops and cafes, it is often called the 'salotto di Milano' or 'Milan's drawing room' for its importance over the years as a common meeting point for the people of Milan. Your entrance ticket provides 24 hour admission to the theatre so you can return the next day.

It includes:

- Walking tour (1 hour)
- Professional Tour guide.
- Admission to La Scala
- Transfers by air-conditioned coach

Meeting starting point: At 09:15 p.m. at Largo Cairoli - corner Foro Buonaparte 10, Milano

Important Notes: We kindly request visitors to dress appropriately when entering the Duomo Cathedral. As a sign of respect, we kindly ask that clothing does not include low-cut designs, and shoulders should be covered as well.

3 hours and 30 minutes

Operates on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday

Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

Day 11: Venice Regular Walking Tour

This is a walk to admire the most characteristic and important places for the **history of Venice** from the exterior. A qualified and experienced guide will escort you through the millennium of life of the Serenissima Republic, recalling the city's past full of charm - an essential tour for the understanding of Venice. The route includes **Piazza San Marco** - origins, history and description of the main monuments; **Basilica San Marco**, **Palazzo**

Ducale (Doge's Palace), Bell Tower, Clock Tower and Procuratie.

Continue to **Santa Maria Formosa** - history and anecdotes related to this wonderful and characteristic square. Campo San Giovanni e Paolo - the "Pantheon" of Venice, the Great School of Charity, the Captains of fortune. Marco Polo's House and Malibran Theater - anecdotes and distant and recent history intersect in this beautiful corner of Venice. Return to San Marco through the Mercerie, vital connection between Rialto and San Marco, and the main shopping street.

It includes:

- Shared guided walking tour with commentary by a qualified and experienced guide
- Audio receiver devices are included in case of groups over 10 people

Meeting starting point: at 09.00am Calle Larga de l'Ascension, in front of the Post Office.

Important Notes: The tour cannot operate during periods of exceptionally high tide. It may not be suitable for guests with wheelchairs or impaired mobility.

1 hour and 30 minutes

Operates on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

Day 11: Regular Excursion to the islands of Murano, Burano and Torcello

Enjoy a regular excursion to the islands of **Murano, Burano and Torcello**. This panoramic city tour will lead you to the discovery of the Venetian Lagoon and of its origins through a suggestive boat excursion that will stop in the three most important islands of the city: Murano, Burano and Torcello. On board, an expert hostess will tell you the story of each island, revealing their peculiarities and traditions. In Murano, you will visit an historical glassblowing factory, where you will be shown how they still work the typical glass that made Venice famous all over the world. In Burano, the island known for its colorful houses, you will admire the famous hand-made laces. Last stop is Torcello, where you will witness the vestiges of the first settlements of the inhabitants of Venice.

It includes:

- Transportation by motor-boats
- Visit of a glass laboratory in Murano
- Multilingual Assistant

Meeting starting point: at 10.30am (or 11.30am) Calle Larga de l'Ascension, in front of the Post Office.

Important Notes: the tour may not be suitable for guests with wheelchairs or impaired mobility.

Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Italian

LOCAL CURRENCY

EURO

- 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 3-star accommodation.

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