ITALY, SICILY & MALTA

Italian Intermezzo	8 Days
Sicily In Depth with Malta	8 Days
Country Roads of Puglia & the Neap	olitan Riviera 9 Days
Country Roads of Umbria & Tuscany	9 Days
Country Roads of Northern Italy	10 Days
Best of Italy	11 Days
Grand Italy & Sicily UNFORGETTABLE TRA Vincent Cerchio Travel Specialist	17 Days
Easy Pace Italy (513) 341-5882	10 Days
Treasures of Italy	11 Days
Italian Elegance travelnow@cerchio.com Cincinnat	apid Run Rd. i, Ohio 45238
Italian Escapade	13 Days
Country Roads of Southern Italy & S	icily 14 Days
Country Roads of Italy	16 Days

INSPIRING #INSIGHTMOMENTS

INSPIRING #INSIGHTMOMENTS

Captured by our guests and Travel Directors on trips to Italy, Sicily & Malta



@avindiezel vatican city, italy



@MARGHERITA TRULLI HOUSES. ALBEROBELLO, ITALY



@avindiezel La Pietà, ST, Peter'S BASILICA, VATICAN CITY



@avindiezel **Spanish Steps, Rome, Italy**



@ainsightanna Capri, Italy



@avindiezel **castel saint angelo**, ROME, ITALY



☐ @RACH.MCCULLOCH **VENICE GONDOLA**, ITALY



@avindiezel **Portofino, italy**



@avindiezel **The Forum, Rome, ITALY**



©@CAROLINAPHOTOGIRL RUINS OF POMPEII,



@avindiezel **duomo di firenze**, **FLORENCE, ITALY**



@avindiezel canals of venice. ITALY



@avindiezel **Florence**, **ITALY**



@asharon insta St. Mark's square, **VENICE, ITALY**



@avindiezel via del fori imperiali, ROME, ITALY

ITALY, SICILY & MALTA

As you soak up Italy's striking scenery, succulent cuisine and wines, rich history and priceless art. you'll soon see why it's Europe's most revisited country. With charming culture at every turn, Italy never ceases to surprise and delight.



"When I was a kid, my history teacher told me about Michelangelo's masterpiece. I never thought I'd be able to see it some day, so I cannot help but capture this masterpiece!"

- @vindiezel

ITALY, SICILY & MALTA

Italian Intermezzo	→ <u>108</u>
Sicily In Depth with Malta	→ <u>110</u>
Country Roads of Puglia & the Neapolitan Riviera	→ <u>112</u>
Country Roads of Umbria & Tuscany	→ <u>113</u>
Country Roads of Northern Italy	→ <u>114</u>
Best of Italy	→ <u>116</u>
Grand Italy & Sicily	→ <u>119</u>
Easy Pace Italy	→ <u>122</u>
Treasures of Italy	→ <u>124</u>
Italian Elegance	→ <u>126</u>
Italian Escapade	→ <u>128</u>
Country Roads of Southern Italy & Sicily	→ <u>130</u>
Country Roads of Italy	→ 132

FROM \$2,225 PP TRIP START DATES

2021

APR | 18, 25

MAY | 02, 09, 16,

23 30

JUN | 06, 13, 20, 27

JUL 04, 11, 18, 25

AUG 01, 08, 15,

22, 29

SEP | 05, 12, 19, 26 **OCT** 03, 10, 17,

NOV | 14 **DEC** 21, 28

MAR | 13, 20, 27

APR | 03, 10, 17, 24

MAY | 01, 08, 15, 22.29

JUN | 05, 12, 19, 26

JUL 03, 10, 17, 24, 31

AUG | 07, 14, 21, 28 SEP | 04, 11, 18, 25

OCT | 02, 09

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, ⇒ click here

Winter Departures have an alternative itinerary. ⇒ click here for full details.

® REGIONAL JOURNEY ACTIVITY LEVEL: DYNAMIC

8 DAYS

2 COUNTRIES 10 MFALS 10 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.6^{/5}

GUEST REVIEW ★★★★★

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate works of art using rare traditional practices, and support the master glassblowers in preserving their art.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums. Witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Florence: Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Vatican City: Experience an exclusive Celebration Dinner at the Vatican's Cortile del Giardino Quadrato, with views of the cupola of St. Peters.

Welcome Dinner at L'antica Riva in Como. Taste wine in Florence.

ITALIAN INTERMEZZO

"I love to teach my quest the Italian phrase, 'che bello,' which means 'how beautiful!' It really sums Italy up, as everywhere you look there is beauty: in the landscape, architecture, art and fashion."

- Sara, Travel Director







DAY 1 | ELEGANT COMO

Welcome to Italy. After being greeted by your Travel Director at Milan's Malpensa Airport, your transfer departs at 09:30 or 12:30.

Join your Travel Director at 17:30 and head to L'antica Riva, an elegant restaurant on the shores of Lake Como, known for serving delicious fresh produce. Your Welcome Dinner provides the opportunity to mingle and get to know your fellow travelers over a pleasant evening. (DW)

Palace Hotel, Como. Historic ●●●● 🦃

DAY 2 VENICE, THE QUEEN OF THE ADRIATIC

Relaxed Start. Journey through the beautiful Italian lake district, past Lakes Iseo and Garda to the floating city of Venice, Queen of the Adriatic. Your hotel offers authentic Venetian charm, as it reflects the history and culture of the surrounding area. (B)

Hotel Indigo Venice - Sant'Elena. Boutique | ●●●● | 零

DAY 3 VENICE AND THE MAGIC OF LA **SERENISSIMA**

Wake up ready to embrace this romantic city. While here, visit a traditional arts center on Murano Island, where you can see how their beautiful handcrafted glass is made by expert glassblowers. What better way to see Venice than from a private boat, cruising past palazzos and churches to St. Mark's Square? See the gilded basilica, the Doge's Palace and Lord Byron's Bridge of Sighs. No visit to Venice would be complete without a gondola serenade through the myriad of beautiful canals. Relax and enjoy the local traditional songs, as you drift along in romantic awe.

Spend the afternoon as you wish. As night falls, why

not savor the magic of St. Mark's square with its

DAY 4 TRANQUIL TUSCANY, PISA AND **FLORENCE**

orchestras and al-fresco cafes? (B)

Journey to Pisa and see the Leaning Tower in the Square of Miracles, the 11th century cathedral and baptistery.

Explore Florence with Insight Choice. Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour and enjoy all the treats and trinkets on show.

With your Local Expert, admire the marble-clad Cathedral and Baptistery and wander Piazza della Signoria, an open-air gallery filled with Renaissance

An expert sommelier introduces you to a selection of the finest wines of Tuscany. Enjoy a tasting, followed by dinner. (B) (DW)

Hotel Londra, Florence. Contemporary | ●●●● | 零

DAY 5 | FREE TIME IN RENAISSANCE FLORENCE

Relaxed Start. Learn some secrets of traditional Florentine leatherwork, when you visit a local workshop to admire their intricate work. The rest of the day is free for you to fully immerse yourself in the Tuscan capital. Perhaps shop for luxury goods around Santa Croce or relax and soak up the atmosphere in one of the many street cafés? Be sure not to miss the magnificent museums and galleries that house some of the most famous works of art in the world. In the evening, there is an opportunity to sample the true flavors of the region with a sumptuous optional Tuscan dinner, served with local wine, (B)

DAY 6 CHIANTI COUNTRY TO ORVIETO AND ON TO ROME

Journey to Umbrian Orvieto, a hilltop village overlooking a vineyard-covered plain. Explore the town with your Travel Director and visit Piazza del Duomo to admire the cathedral, before continuing towards the Eternal City of Rome. In the evening, why not throw your coin into the Trevi Fountain to ensure your return to the city? (B)

Bettoja Hotel Massimo D'Azeglio, Rome. Heritage | ●●●● | 零

DAY 7 ROME SIGHTSEEING AND DINNER IN THE VATICAN

In the morning, enjoy the very best of the city's highlights, including visiting the magnificent St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. Cross the Tiber river to enjoy ancient Rome. See the incredible Circus Maximus and the legendary Colosseum, site of memorable battles and legacy to the courage of gladiators. In the afternoon, gain exclusive fast-tracked VIP entry into the Vatican Museums with a Local Expert. Admire the Papal art collection and observe the stunning Museo Gregoriano Profano, which documents various moments and themes in classical art, from Ancient Greece through to the late Imperial Roman age. You'll then enter the Sistine Chapel where you'll marvel at Michelangelo's masterpiece on its ceiling.

Dine in the Vatican's elegant Cortile del Giardino Quadrato, should weather permit, where you will enjoy incredible views of the cupola of St. Peter's during your private VIP Celebration Dinner. (B) (DW)

DAY 8 | ARRIVEDERCI ROMA

Bid farewell to the glories of Italy. Departure transfers arrive at Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport at 07:00 and 09:30. (B)



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT | Explore hilltop Orvieto, in the heart of Umbria. (Photo by @ billyboy22, Day 6, Orvieto)



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT | Travel by gondola, serenaded through the canals of Venice. (Photo by @skinnylynny, Day 3, Venice)

TRIP CODE: E971/W971

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers. click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, → click here



1 Central Hotels + Nights (1) Scenic Hotels + Nights ● Place Visited ● Optional Place Visited

FROM \$2,425 PP TRIP START DATES

2021

APR | 16, 23, 30

MAY | 07, 14, 21, 28

MAY | 06, 13, 20, 27

JUN | 04, 11, 18, 25

JUN | 03, 10, 17, 24

JUL | 02, 09, 16, 23, 30

JUL | 01, 08, 15, 22, 29

AUG | 06, 13, 20, 27

SEP | 03, 10, 17, 24

OCT | 01, 08, 15,

OCT | 07, 14, 21, 28

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, → <u>click here</u>

Choose to extend your stay in Malta for 4 or 6 nights with **Easy Pace Malta**.

⇒ click here for full details.

© REGIONAL JOURNEY
ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

8 DAYS

22, 29

1 COUNTRY
12 MEALS
9 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.5^{/5}
GUEST REVIEW *****

INSIGHT CHOICE

Palermo: Choose between visiting the spectacular Arab-Norman Monreale Cathedral or alternatively, join your Local Expert for a walk through the colorful Capo Street Market.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Trapani: At a local farm, meet the owner and sample the olive oil his family produces. Afterward, enjoy a light lunch paired with Sicilian wines

Welcome Dinner in Catania • Dine-Around options in Palermo • Farm-to-Table dinner in Taormina Riviera.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Visit Paradise Quarry and Old City of Ortygia in Syracuse • Valley of the Temples in Agrigento • Palermo Cathedral • Monreale Cathedral • Greek Ampitheatre in Taormina Riviera.

City tours of Syracuse, Agrigento, Palermo, and Taormina, all with Local Experts.

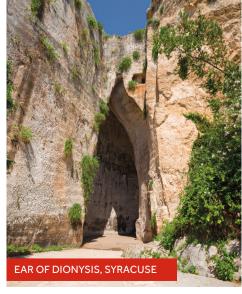
SICILY IN DEPTH WITH MALTA OPTION

"Everyone enjoys visiting the owner of the farm in Trapani, who is a very charming Sicilian gentleman. We are welcomed into his beautiful gardens and invited to taste his wines and extra virgin olive oil."

- Elena, Travel Director







ITALY, SICILY & MALTA

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | WELCOME TO SICILY

On arrival at Catania airport, transfers leave for your hotel at 10:00, 12:30 and 15:30.

Relax and settle in before meeting your Travel Director at 17:30, for a Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant (D)W)

Mercure Catania Excelsior.

Traditional ●●●● ◎ ※

DAY 2 | ANCIENT SYRACUSE

Your Local Expert takes you to Syracuse's Paradise Quarry with its Ear of Dionysius, an ear-shaped grotto with an unusual echo. Continue to the superb Greek theater, one of the largest of the ancient world.

There is time to explore the Old City, a maze of narrow streets lined with palaces. Continue around the southeastern corner of Sicily to Ragusa. (B)

Mediterraneo Palace, Ragusa.

Contemporary ●●●●● ��

DAY 3 | EXPLORE THE VALLEY OF THE TEMPLES AND ON TO PALERMO

Journey along the southern coast of the island to explore the Valley of the Temples with a Local Expert. See the massive Temple of Concordia and the clifftop Temple of Juno overlooking the sea. Your travels continue to the Sicilian capital of Palermo. (B) (DW)

DAY 4 | PALERMO & THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE NORMANS

Explore Palermo with Insight Choice. Visit the spectacular Arab-Norman Cathedral of Monreale or join your Local Expert for a walk through the colorful Capo Market.

For your dining pleasure, you are offered a selection of local restaurants on your Dine-Around Evening, each with their own ambience and cuisine. (B) (DW)

Hotel Palazzo Sitano, Palermo.

Traditional •••• •

DAY 5 EXPLORING ERICE

Venture to the charming hilltop walled town of Erice to walk the labyrinth of quiet alleyways and enjoy sea views from the gardens next to the Castle of Venus.

At a farm near Trapani, sample some of the island's freshest olive oil and savor a tasting of Sicilian wine, followed by a light lunch of delicious local produce. Back in Palermo the evening is at your leisure.

(B) (I W)

DAY 6 CEFALU AND THE TAORMINA RIVIERA

Travel to the quaint fishing town of Cefalu. See the imposing cathedral, stroll to the stone fountain and seek out the Gothic arch of the Porta Marina for a picture-perfect view of the harbor. (B)

RG Naxos Hotel, Taormina. $Traditional \mid \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \mid \Rightarrow$

DAY 7 TAORMINA AND THE DAWN COAST OF EUROPE

Relaxed Start. Early risers may experience why D.H. Lawrence christened this 'The Dawn Coast of Europe.'

Perhaps take an Optional Experience to Mount Etna?

Visit the old town, clinging to the side of Mount Tauro with sea and mountain views. With your Local Expert, visit the Greek theater and absorb the view. Stroll to Palazzo Corvaja and along the Corso Umberto to the Piazza IX Aprile.

At a local restaurant, rejoice with your newfound friends over your Celebration Dinner of delicious, freshly prepared Farm-to-Table cuisine, accompanied with exquisite Italian wines. (B) (DW)

DAY 8 DEPART CATANIA OR CONTINUE TO MALTA

Transfers arrive Catania airport at 06:30 and 08:30. Guest continuing to Malta are transferred to the airport for their included flight. (B)

WITH MALTA OPTION

DAY 8 WELCOME TO MALTA

Transfer to your hotel.

Join your Travel Director at 18:00 for a Highlight Dinner with wine. (DW)

Waterfront Hotel, Sliema.

*Traditional | ●●●● |

**\text{\$\sigma\$}

DAY 9 | SOUTHERN DELIGHTS

Relaxed Start. Venture south to Valletta with a Local Expert to visit the Upper Barrakka Gardens and visit St. John's Cathedral, designed in a baroque fashion.

Continue on to visit the pretty fishing village of Marsaxlokk and wander along its waterfront. Look out at the Mediterannean Ocean and feel completely relaxed as you watch colorful luzzu, traditional Maltese fishing boats, waft in the crystal blue water.

For lunch, dine at Capo Mulini and feast on delicious seafood that has been freshly plucked from the ocean. (B) (LW)

DAY 10 | FREE TIME IN SLIEMA

Relaxed Start. Today is free for you to laze on the rooftop terrace or stroll along the promenade. (B)

DAY 11 DEPART MALTA OR SLIEMA FREE DAY

Relaxed Start. Guests ending their journey today will have airport transfers timed to meet their flights. For those extending their stay, the day is at leisure. (B)

DAY 12 | MDINA THE SILENT CITY

Head to Mdina with a Local Expert in the late afternoon to explore this golden city. Known as the Silent City for its shady streets and peaceful atmosphere.

Enjoy a Celebration Dinner at a wonderful local restaurant where you'll toast to your trip with your fellow travelers. (B) (DW)

DAY 13 | DEPART MALTA

Bid farewell to this exotic island as you travel to Malta airport for your onward journey. (B)

TRIP CODE: E934/E8346

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

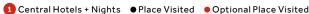
This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers.

click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, → click here







FROM \$2,795 PP

2021 **MAR** | 27 MARI 26 **APR** | 09, 23 **APR** | 10, 24 MAY | 08, 22 **MAY** | 07, 21 JUN | 05, 19 JUN | 04, 18 JUL | 03, 17, 31 JUL | 02, 16, 30 **AUG** | 14, 28 **AUG |** 13, 27 **SEP** | 11, 25 **SEP** | 10, 24 **OCT** | 09 **OCT** | 08

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, \Rightarrow click here

∧ COUNTRY ROADS
ACTIVITY LEVEL: DYNAMIC

9 DAYS

1 COUNTRY 12 MEALS

11 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.4^{/5}

INSIGHT CHOICE

Capri: Choose between a visit to Cesare Augustus Gardens or alternatively, taste limoncello, Capri's traditional lemon liqueur.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Dine-at-Home lunch in Alberobello • Celebration Dinner in Rome.

Taste Apulian wine in Alberobello.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by hydrofoil to the Isle of Capri • Ride in an open-top taxi on Capri.

City tours of Alberobello, Matera, Isle of Capri and Pompeii, all with Local Experts.

HOTELS

DAY 1 | Kolbe Hotel Rome.

Historic • • • •

DAY 2 - 4 Grand Hotel La Chiusa di Chietri, Alberobello.

Traditional • • • •

DAY 5 - 7 | Hotel Isabella, Sorrento.

Traditional • • • •

DAY 8 | Kolbe Hotel Rome.

Historic • • • • •

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, → click here

COUNTRY ROADS OF PUGLIA & THE NEAPOLITAN RIVIERA

"Journey from the impressive Bay of Naples to the fairytale land of Alberobello. A relaxing trip with plently of time to explore further at your own lesuire."

- Elena, Travel Director





Arrival transfers depart Rome's Fiumicino airport at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30.

Journey across the Apennine Mountains to the Puglia region. With your Local Expert, discover Alberobello and view distinctive limestone Trulli houses with their conical roofs. Meet nonna and her family at your Dine-at-Home experience and indulge in a freshly prepared southern Italian meal.

In Matera, your Local Expert guides you through the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sassi, a labyrinth of ancient cave dwellings.

Take in the stunning views of the Bay of Naples, as you arrive to Sorrento.

Explore Capri with Insight Choice. Choose between walking with your Local Expert through Augustus Cesare Gardens and admire the views over Faraglioni Rocks or alternatively, taste limoncello, Capri's traditional lemon liqueur. Travel along the dramatic Amalfi Coast to the colorful beach town of Positano.

Walk among the eerily preserved buildings of ill-fated Pompeii on your way back to Rome.

On your final day, departure transfers arrive at Rome's Fiumicino airport at 07:00 and 09:30.

Key: $widtharpoons M UNESCO Heritage Site <math>oldsymbol{1}$ Central Hotels + Nights

1 Scenic Hotels + Nights • Place Visited • Optional Place Visited

TRIP CODE: E821

COUNTRY ROADS OF UMBRIA & TUSCANY

"Guests love to meet Marta, who is part of the third generation of weavers in Perugia. She shows her passion and the tradition of the family."

- Beatrice, Travel Director



Arrival transfers departs Rome's Fiumicino airport at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30. Enjoy fast-tracked entry to the Vatican Museums to admire the Sistine Chapel.

In Orvieto, indulge in a fresh pasta lunch accompanied with local wine.

Join your Local Expert to navigate the labyrinth of narrow alleyways in Perugia. Visit a traditional frame hand weaving workshop and meet Marta, a fourth generation weaver who's keeping the craft alive.

Journey to Assisi and visit the imposing basilica.

Travel along Lake Trasimeno and stop in the walled town of Cortona. Explore Siena with Insight Choice. Choose between a visit to the medieval cathedral or alternatively, sample panforte, a traditional Tuscan dessert.

See the medieval towers and side streets of San Gimignano.

In Renaissance Florence, marvel at the Duomo and Piazza Signoria. Round up your travels as you return to the Eternal City.

On your final day, departure transfers arrive at Rome's Fiumicino airport at 07:00 and 09:30.

GIMIGNANO (Days 5, 6 & 7) Lucca 3 Chianti Assisi Cortona PERUGIA (Days 2, 3 & 4) Spello Umbria ITALY Orvieto THE VATICAN CITY (Day 1, 8 & 9) Frascati



TRIP CODE: E822

1 Scenic Hotels + Nights ● Place Visited ● Optional Place Visited

For the full itinerary, departure dates, prices and offers, please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to visit our website, call 888 680 1241 or contact your travel agent.

FROM \$2,675 PP

2021 2022

APR | 04, 18 APR | 03, 17

MAY | 02, 16, 30 MAY | 01, 15, 29

JUN | 13, 27 JUN | 12, 26

JUL | 11, 25 JUL | 10, 24

AUG | 08, 22 AUG | 07, 21

SEP | 05, 19 SEP | 04, 18

OCT | 03, 17 OCT | 02, 16

For full dates, prices and experiences, and to choose your group size, pclick here

9 DAYS

1 COUNTRY 13 MEALS 12 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo 4.7/5

GUEST REVIEW ***

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Perugia: Meet Marta, a recipient of a TreadRight Foundation grant and one of the last weavers of Perugia.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums, and see the Bramante Staircase and the Sistine Chapel.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Siena: Choose between visiting the medieval Siena Cathedral with your Local Expert or alternatively, sample panforte, a traditional Tuscan dessert

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Highlight Lunch in Orvieto • Dine-Around options in Perugia • Farm-to-Table Celebration Dinner in Tuscany.

Taste olive oil at Mount Subasio • Gelato in San Gimignano.

HOTELS

DAY 1 | Kolbe Hotel Rome.

Historic • • • •

DAY 2 - 4 | Sangallo Palace Hotel, Perugia. Traditional • • • •

DAY 5 - 7 | Villasanpaolo, San Gimignano. Historic • • • • •

DAY 8 | Bettoja Hotel Massimo D'Azeglio,

Rome. Heritage • • • •

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, ⇒ <u>click here</u>

FROM \$3,150 PP

2021

APR | 23

APR | 22

MAY | 07, 21

JUN | 04, 18

JUN | 03, 17

JUL | 02, 16, 30

JUL | 01, 15, 29

AUG | 13, 27

SEP | 10, 24

OCT | 08

OCT | 07

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, \Rightarrow <u>click here</u>

∧ COUNTRY ROADS
ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

10 DAYS

1 COUNTRY
13 MEALS
10 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.4^{/5}
GUEST REVIEW *****

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate works of art using rare traditional practices, and support the master glassblowers in preserving their art.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Verona: Choose between a walking tour through grand piazzas, to see the statue of Dante and the Gothic tombs of the Scala family or alternatively, embark on a Shakespeare-themed walk to recount famous moments from Romeo and Juliet's story.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Lake Maggiore: Meet Stefano, the last true fisherman on Lake Maggiore, for a exhilarating walking tour of Isola Pescatore, before sitting down to a Farm-to-Table Celebration Dinner complemented by local wine.

Welcome Dinner in Milan • Dine-Around options in Como • Farm-to-Table Celebration Dinner in Bayeno.

Taste Prosecco in Veneto.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by gondola, serenaded through the canals of Venice.

City tours of Milan and Verona, both with Local Experts.

See stone castles of Trento • alpine town of Bolzano • mountains surrounding Cortina • St. Mark's Square and Doge's Palace in Venice • Sirmione's Saligers' Castle • lakeside Como • Baveno's cobbled streets and square.

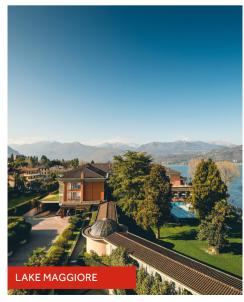
COUNTRY ROADS OF NORTHERN ITALY

"We all live to explore. I became a Travel Director because it gives me an opportunity to help our guests to pursue their passions and dreams of travel."

- Margaret, Travel Director







DAY 1 | WELCOME TO ITALY

After a warm welcome at Milan's Malpensa Airport, transfers depart for your hotel at 09:30 and 12:30. Meet your Travel Director at 15:30 and join a Local Expert to see the impressive facade of the cathedral and the world famous La Scala Theater.

Mingle and get to know your fellow travelers during your Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant. (DW)

Crowne Plaza Hotel Milan City. Contemporary | ●●●● | 零

DAY 2 FAIR VERONA AND TRENTO

Cross the fertile plains of Lombardy to fair Verona, the home of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers Romeo and Juliet, with its maze of elegant squares and well-preserved Roman Arena, which is still used for opera performances.

Explore Verona with Insight Choice. Choose between a walking tour through grand piazzas, to see the statue of Dante and the Gothic tombs of the Scala family or alternatively, embark on a Shakespeare themed walk to recount famous moments from Romeo and Juliet's story, and see Juliet's Balcony.

Continue on to Trento, regarded as one of Italy's most appealing cities to live in. (B)

NH Trento.

DAY 3 CLIMB UP TO CORTINA D'AMPEZZO

Relaxed Start. Follow the Adige River north into the magnificent mountains and the distinctive limestone peaks of the Dolomites. Arrive at the town of Bolzano, where Italy and Austria culturally collide and you are at leisure to explore the the arcaded streets and squares. Continue along the zig-zagging scenic route to Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy's most exclusive ski resort and a beautiful alpine haven during summer. (B) (DW)

Faloria Mountain Spa Resort, Cortina d'Ampezzo. Contemporary | ●●●● | 零

DAY 4 THE DOLOMITES AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. Enjoy a day at your leisure in this fashionable playground of the rich and famous, surrounded by towering cathedrals of rock. Take in the fresh mountain air as you stroll the pedestrianized Corso Italia, lined with designer stores and backed by the impressive green and white bell tower of the parish church. Why not

ascend to the summit of one of the nearby peaks by cable car for magnificent panoramic views of the Dolomites? (B)

DAY 5 | THROUGH PROSECCO COUNTRY TO VENICE

Travel down through more majestic Dolomite scenery to one of the world's most breathtaking wine regions. Protected by the Alps to the north. and caressed by the warm breezes from the Adriatic, the vineyards around Conegliano Veneto produce Italy's most prized sparkling wine.

Stop at Carmina where meticulous viticulture and manual harvesting produce distinguished proseccos. See how production differs from its more famous French counterpart, Champagne. Be tempted with a taste of the crisp and aromatic flavors and learn how to make the perfect Bellini. Continue on to the unique and remarkable island city of Venice, Queen of the Adriatic and check into your hotel. (B)

Eurostars Residenza Cannaregio, Venice. Historic ●●●● 🦃

DAY 6 THE MAGIC OF LA SERENISSIMA

Wake up ready to embrace this romantic city. While here, visit a traditional arts center on Murano Island, where you can see how their beautiful handcrafted glass is made by expert glassblowers. What better way to see Venice than from a private boat, cruising past palazzos and churches to St. Mark's Square? See the gilded basilica, the Doge's Palace and Lord Byron's Bridge of Sighs. No visit to Venice would be complete without a gondola serenade through the myriad of beautiful canals. Relax and enjoy the local traditional songs, as you drift along in romantic awe.

Spend the afternoon as you wish. As night falls, why not savor the magic of St. Mark's Square with its orchestras and al-fresco cafes? (B)

DAY 7 | SIRMIONE AND COMO

Relaxed Start. Bid farewell to this enchanting city and continue past the university town of Padua to the peaceful shores of Lake Garda, the largest of Italy's lakes.

Near the tip of a narrow peninsula, jutting out into the lake, visit the charming resort of Sirmione, clustered around the 13th century Scaligero's Castle.

Follow the southern fringes of the Alps to reach

the spectacular Italian Lake District and your hotel on the shores of Lake Como, where you will enjoy views on the lake from your room.

Later, you have a choice of cuisine and ambience from a hand-picked selection of local restaurants for your Dine-Around Evening. (B) (DW)

Hotel Barchetta Excelsior, Como. Traditional ●●●● 🦃

DAY 8 COMO AT LEISURE AND LAKE MAGGIORE

Relaxed Start. Enjoy a relaxed morning in Como. the playground of Europe's wealthiest people. Nestled in the foothills of the Alps, the lake plays host to the most glamorous social sets and is a great place to people watch.

Head on to Lake Maggiore's Baveno, noted for its narrow cobbled streets and charming 16th century square. (B)

Hotel Simplon/Hotel Dino, Baveno, Italian Lakes. Traditional ●●●● 🦃

DAY 9 ITALIAN LAKES AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. Relish a full day to relax and enjoy this popular resort and beautiful lake. Napoleon came here to plan his Italian Campaign, and Mussolini and Chamberlain met here before World War II to sign the Treaty of Stresa. Perhaps take a cruise out to the lovely Borromean Islands? Isola Bella is where Carlo Borromeo built his charming Palace.

Savor delicious Farm-to-Table cuisine during your Celebration Dinner, accompanied with Italian wine and toast to your travels with your newfound friends. (B) (DW)

DAY 10 | DEPART MILAN

Your journey draws to a close in the morning and transfers arrive at Milan's Malpensa Airport at 07:30 and 10:30. (B)



OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE | Wonder at the breathtaking beauty of the Dolomites. (Photo by @insightanna, Day 4, Cortina d'Ampezzo)

TRIP CODE: E823

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers. click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, → click here



Central Hotels + Nights 1 Scenic Hotels + Nights ● Place Visited

FROM \$3,150 PP TRIP START DATES

APR | 22, 29

APR | 30

MAY | 01.06.08.13. 15, 20, 22, 27, 29

MAY | 07, 14, 21, 28

JUN | 03, 05, 10, 12,

JUN | 04, 11, 18, 25 JUL | 02, 16, 30

17, 19, 24, 26 JUL | 01, 03, 08, 15,

AUG | 13, 27

17, 22, 29, 31

SEP | 03, 10, 17, 24

AUG 05, 12, 14, 19, **OCT** 01, 08 26, 28

SEP | 02, 04, 09, 11,

16, 18, 23, 25, 30

OCT | 02, 07, 09, 14,

21, 28

NOV 11, 25

DEC | 02, 19, 28

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, ⇒ click here

® REGIONAL JOURNEY ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

11 DAYS

2 COUNTRIES 16 MEALS 14 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.7^{/5}

GUEST REVIEW ***

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate works of art using rare traditional practices, and support the master glassblowers in preserving their art.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums and admire the famous Bramante Staircase. Witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Florence: Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Tuscany: Indulge in a picnic of seasonal produce on the grounds of Villa Machiavelli.

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Celebration Dinner in Rome

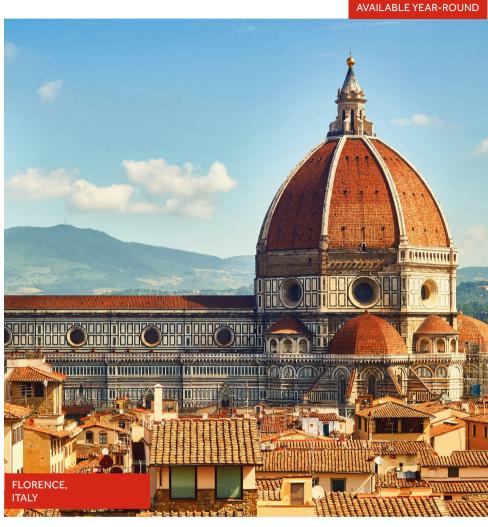
TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by hydrofoil to the Isle of Capri • Ride in an open-top taxi in Capri • Ride a gondola in Venice. Visit Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi.

BEST OF ITALY

"Italy is the world's biggest wine producer, with the largest number of native wine grape varieties. Experience delicious cuisine as we travel throughout the peninsula and enjoy a variety of Italian wines."

- Chris, Travel Director







DAY 1 | WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Welcome to Rome, a glorious city filled with classic antiquities, medieval buildings, Renaissance palaces and Baroque churches. Transfers depart from Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your hotel at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30.

Relax and settle in before joining your Travel Director at 17:30, and get to know your fellow travelers over a delicious Welcome Dinner with wine at a local restaurant. (DW)

Hotel Romanico Palace, Rome.

Traditional ●●●● | ②

DAY 2 VIP VATICAN AND ROME WITH A LOCAL

The day is devoted to the Eternal City. Join a Local Expert for an in-depth visit to the Vatican Museums, full of priceless art treasures collected by the Popes. Insight has arranged special VIP entry to avoid the lines and gain behind-the-scenes access to the Bramante Staircase, a marvel of Renaissance architecture, normally off-limits to visitors. Visit the Sistine Chapel, where the Popes are elected, to admire Michelangelo's famous ceiling. Continue to St. Peter's Basilica, to wonder at another of his works, the emotive 'Pietà,' and stand beneath the dome completed after his death.

Cross the Tiber river to enjoy ancient Rome. See the incredible Circus Maximus. Come up close and personal with the beautifully preserved Arch of Constantine, walking on the ancient sidewalk. Discover the history, the construction and the legends of the iconic Colosseum as you stroll around the exterior of this amazing structure. Later, perhaps continue your exploration of Rome to see the Pantheon, toss a coin in Trevi Fountain and enjoy free time around Piazza Navona? (B)

DAY 3 TUSCAN HILLS & MEDIEVAL FLORENCE

Travel through Tuscany to the house of the Italian Renaissance diplomat and writer, Niccolo Machiavelli.

Indulge in a private picnic of seasonal produce on the grounds of the estate.

Drive to the Chianti Hills and the city of Florence. On arrival, you will be privy to the secrets of traditional Florentine leatherwork when you visit a local workshop, and see a gold demonstration. (B) (I W) (DW)

Hotel Athenaeum Florence/Hotel Londra.

Traditional ●●●●● 🌣

DAY 4 | FLORENCE, BIRTHPLACE OF THE RENAISSANCE

Explore Florence with Insight Choice. Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour and enjoy all the treats and tripkets on show.

Walk on to the multi-colored marble cathedral, bell tower and baptistery, where Ghiberti's Gates of Paradise have been recreated in all their glory. Visit Piazza della Signoria, still the political heart of Florence and an open-air gallery of Renaissance masterpieces. Spend time gazing at statues such as Neptune as well as Hercules and Cacus, along the front of the Palazzo Vecchio. (B)



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT | See the iconic Colosseum with a Local Expert. (Photo by @vindiezel, Day 2, Rome)



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT | Toss a coin into the Trevi fountain. (Photo by @Samuel_wayne93, Day 2, Rome)



INSIGHT EXPERIENCE | Visit St. Peter's Basilica as part of an exhilarating guided exploration of the Vatican. (Photo by @insightanna, Day 2, Vatican City)

TRIP CODE: E922/W922

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers.

click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, ⇒ click here



① Central Hotels + Nights ② Scenic Hotels + Nights ● Place Visited ● Optional Place Visited

DAY 5 | PISA TO VENICE, THE QUEEN OF THE ADRIATIC

Journey to the coastal town of Pisa and see the famous Leaning Tower in the Square of Miracles, as well as the baptistery and colonnaded bell tower behind the cathedral. Relax and enjoy the scenery as you cross the spectacular Apennine Mountains, through the Emilia-Romagna region - one of Europe's most intensely farmed fertile plains. Continue through the marshes of the Venetian Lagoon before crossing the causeway into the floating city of Venice. As evening falls, daytrippers desert the city to return to the mainland. Appreciate the peace and tranquility of Venice from your centrally located hotel.

This evening, indulge in a delicious dinner at a local restaurant. (B) (DW)

Bellini Venezia, Venice.

Traditional ●●●● | 零

DAY 6 VENICE AND THE MAGIC OF LA SERENISSIMA

Relaxed Start. In the morning, a visit to an arts center lets you admire the age-old skill of glassblowing by skilled artisans.

In the afternoon, your private boat takes you past historic churches and 13th century palaces to St. Mark's Square. The first sight is the pink marble of the Doge's Palace, connected to the prisons by the Bridge of Sighs. It was from here that Casanova made his daring escape. Turn the corner, and the gilded regalia of St. Mark's Basilica comes into view. Afterwards, board a traditional gondola for a serenade along the romantic canals. (B)

DAY 7 | ASSISI

Journey to the peaceful town of Assisi, dotted with medieval churches, colorful frescoes and shady courtyards.

In the valley, see the Church of St. Mary of the Angels, much venerated as the place of St. Francis' death, then continue up Mount Subasio to the upper town.

With your Local Expert, step inside the huge Basilica of St. Francis, built in the 13th century, where the frescoes by Giotto heralded a new era in Italian art. Enjoy the tranquility of the historic old town during free time.

Arrive at your hotel, located in the heart of the medieval Old Town. Head to the hotel's terrace for spectacular views over Umbria before dinner.
(B) (DW)

Hotel Giotto Assisi.

Historic ●●●●●

DAY 8 | SORRENTO ON THE COAST

Travel south, passing Cassino, the scene of a fierce battle during World War II. Follow the spectacular clifftop road to the picturesque resort of Sorrento, overlooking the Bay of Naples to Mount Vesuvius. After checking in to your hotel, spend the rest of the day at your leisure. (B)

Hotel Isabella, Sorrento. $Traditional \mid \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \mid \$

DAY 9 CAPRI, THE ISLE OF DREAMS

Cross the Bay of Naples to reach the beautiful Isle of Capri, a rock rising sheer from the Mediterranean! For 2,000 years, Capri has beckoned visitors from Tiberius Caesar to Gracie Fields. Arriving at the Marina Grande by boat, ascend to Capri town by one of the island's iconic open-top taxis. A Local Expert joins you for an exploration of the narrow alleyways. Browse in exclusive boutiques and wonder at the views over the Tyrrhenian Sea. Descend to the port by funicular railway and return to Sorrento, where you are at leisure for the rest of the day the day. Perhaps head to Positano for an exploration of the colorful Amalfi Coast? (B)

DAY 10 POMPEII, FROZEN IN TIME AND ON TO ROME

Continue to Pompeii, the opulent Roman town which was preserved by layers of ash from the disastrous eruption of Mount Vesuvius in A.D. 79. A walk with your Local Expert through the cobbled with your Local Expert through the cobbled life of ancient Roman civilization. Visit the Forum and peer into shops and patrician villas, decorated with colorful wall paintings.

Then continue north as you travel to your hotel in Rome.

In the evening, enjoy an elegant four-course Celebration Dinner with local wine at a Roman restaurant. As you dine, enjoy a private performance of popular songs and arias from some of Italy's best-loved operas. (B) (DW)

Bettoja Hotel Massimo D'Azeglio /Kolbe Hotel, Rome.

Contemporary ●●●● 🦃

DAY 11 | ARRIVEDERCI ROMA

Bid farewell to the glories of Italy. Departure transfers arrive at Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport at 07:00 and 09:30. (B)



insight experience | Enjoy VIP fast-track entrance to the Vatican Museums. (Photo by @insightanna, Day 2, Vatican City)



[Visit the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David. (Photo by @kolange06, Day 4, Florence)



OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE | Cruise to the glamorous Isle of Capri.

(Photo by @insightanna, Day 9, Capri)



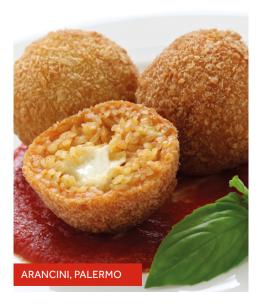
TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT Visit the ill-fated town town of Pompeii with a Local Expert. (Photo by @Carolinaphotogirl, Day 10, Pompeii)

GRAND ITALY & SICILY

"In Alberobello, guests love our Dine-at-Home experience and meeting the Italian family, three generations living under the same roof. Nonna demonstrates how to shape the orecchiette pasta and her young grandsons serve the food."

- Liz, Travel Director







FROM \$5,495 PP

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, → <u>click here</u>

© REGIONAL JOURNEY
ACTIVITY LEVEL: **DYNAMIC**

17 DAYS
2 COUNTRIES
24 MEALS
25 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.7^{/5}
GUEST REVIEW *****

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Alberobello: Dine at Trattoria Terra Madre, where owner Alessandra and his nonna have built a restaurant that focuses on sustainability and creating jobs for locals. Everything is grown organically and harvested on site, and excess produce is donated to their community.

Visit a glassblowing workshop in Venice.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums and admire the famous Bramante Staircase. Witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Florence: Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Bistecca alla Fiorentina Dinner with Wine in Florence • Celebration Dinner in Palermo.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel from Portofino to Santa Margherita on a cruise • Ride a gondola in Venice • Cruise to the Isle of Capri and ride in an open-top taxi. Visit Norman Palace and Palatine Chapel in Palermo • Greek Amphitheater in Taormina.

City tours of Rome, Pisa, Cinque Terre, Florence, Pompeii, Isle of Capri, Matera, Alberobello, Taormina and Palermo, all with Local Experts.



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT | See the mighty Colosseum.

(Photo by @Insightsharon, Day 2, Rome)



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT | Visit some of the picturesque fishing villages.

(Photo by @Insightanna, Day 4, Cinque Terre)



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT Explore this ancient Roman city with your Local Expert. (Photo by @Saniesideuhp, Day 6, Pompeii)



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT | Cruise to the glamorous Isle of Capri.
(Photo by @pollonlaura, Day 11, Capri)

DAY 1 WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Welcome to Rome, a glorious city filled with classic antiquities, medieval buildings, Renaissance palaces and Baroque churches. Transfers depart from Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your hotel at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30.

Relax and settle in before joining your Travel Director at 17:30. Get to know your fellow travelers over a delicious Welcome Dinner with wine at a local restaurant. (DW)

Hotel Romanico Palace, Rome.

Traditional ●●●● | ②

DAY 2 VIP VATICAN AND ROME WITH A LOCAL

In the morning, you will be joined by a Local Expert to guide you through the art collection of the Vatican Museums, culminating beneath Michelangelo's famous ceiling in the Sistine Chapel. Your VIP visit includes fast-tracked entry and a behind-the-scenes look at the Bramante Staircase and St. Peter's Basilica.

Cross the Tiber river to enjoy ancient Rome. See the incredible Circus Maximus and the legendary Colosseum. (B)

Hotel Romanico Palace, Rome.

Traditional ●●●● ◎ ◎

DAY 3 | PISA AND SANTA MARGHERITA LIGURE

Enjoy a delightful drive through rolling countryside dotted with cypress trees, passing vineyards and olive groves to Pisa.

With a Local Expert, view the incredible Leaning Tower in the Square of Miracles from which Galileo is said to have conducted experiments on velocity and gravity. See the splendid cathedral and baptistery, decorated with mosaics and designs in solid marble.

Your journey continues to the pretty seaside resort of Santa Margherita Ligure. (B) (DW)

Best Western Regina Elena, Santa Margherita Liqure.

Traditional ●●●● 零

DAY 4 THE CHARMS OF THE CINQUE TERRE

Head for the famous Cinque Terre, which translates to Five Lands, located on a gorgeously wild yet hospitable part of the coastline and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

With a Local Expert, approach one of the fishing villages by boat and spend some time exploring the medieval quarter or the popular sandy beach before continuing to the village of Portofino to admire the colorful houses.

Should weather permit, return with a cruise along the rugged Ligurian coast to your hotel in the resort of Santa Margherita. (B)

Best Western Regina Elena, Santa Margherita Ligure.

Traditional ●●●● 🦃

DAY 5 | LAKE MAGGIORE

Relaxed Start. Head north to the beautiful Lake Maggiore in the Italian Lakes District and the town of Baveno, noted for its narrow cobbled streets and charming 16th century square. On arrival, settle into your hotel and take in the magical scenery. In the afternoon, why not join an optional cruise to Isola Bella to explore the palace and admire the stunning and immaculate Italian style gardens. (B)

Hotel Simplon/Hotel Dino, Baveno, Italian Lakes.

DAY 6 ONTO VENICE

Relaxed Start. Your travels continue through the Soave vineyards, passing Padua and on to the canals of Venice. (B) (DW)

DAY 7 VENICE AND THE MAGIC OF LA SERENISSIMA

Relaxed Start. In the morning, a visit to an arts center on Murano Island will allow you to admire the age-old skill of glassblowing by skilled artisans. In the afternoon, your private boat takes you past historic churches and 13th century palaces to St. Mark's Square. The first sight is the pink marble of the Doge's Palace, connected to the prisons by the Bridge of Sighs. It was from here that Casanova made his daring escape. Turn the corner, and the gilded regalia of St. Mark's Basilica comes into view. Afterwards, board a traditional gondola for a serenade along the romantic canals.

Bellini Venezia, Venice. Traditional | ● ● ● ● | 令

DAY 8 | A SCENIC JOURNEY TO FLORENCE

Bid farewell to Venice and begin your journey to Renaissance Florence.

Explore Florence with Insight Choice. Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour.

Walk to the cathedral and see Giotto's bell tower and the Gates of Paradise on the baptistery. Wander through the open-air gallery of Piazza della Signoria, gazing at statues such as Neptune, Hercules and Cacus, along the front of the Palazzo Vecchio. Your exploration will finish in front of the basilica where Michelangelo lies buried in Piazza Santa Croce, famous for its quality goods.

Enjoy a traditional Bistecca alla Fiorentina steak dinner paired with delicious local wine, a specialty not to be missed. (B) (DW)

Hilton Garden Inn Florence Novoli.

Traditional ●●●●●

DAY 9 | FLORENCE, BIRTHPLACE OF THE RENAISSANCE

Relaxed Start. Start the day with a traditional Florentine leather-work demonstration and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Perhaps join an Optional Experience to explore the hilltop town of San Gimignano? (B)

Hilton Garden Inn Florence Novoli.

Traditional ●●●●● 🛜

DAY 10 | ILL-FATED POMPEII AND ON TO SORRENTO

Journey south through the volcanic hills of Frascati to Pompeii.

Walk with a Local Expert through the preserved cobbled streets for a glimpse into the daily life of civilization during the Roman Empire.

Follow the clifftop road to the resort town of Sorrento. (B)

Hotel Isabella, Sorrento.

Traditional ●●●●● ◎ ◎

DAY 11 CAPRI. THE ISLE OF DREAMS

With your Local Expert, cruise to the Isle of Capri and ascend to Capri town by one of the island's iconic open-top taxis to explore the narrow alleyways. Descend to the port by funicular railway and return to Sorrento. (B)

Hotel Isabella, Sorrento. Traditional $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

DAY 12 SASSI DI MATERA AND ALBEROBELLO

After breakfast, discover two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. First, visit Matera for an in-depth guided exploration of the extraordinary Sassi, ancient troglodyte dwellings and churches dug out of the rock. These are the most extensive example of their kind in the Mediterranean and were inhabited by about 20,000 people up until 1950. Matera was also used as the setting for the film 'The Passion of the Christ'.

Continue to Alberobello, the second UNESCO World Heritage Site and your home for the next two nights. (B) (DW)

Grand Hotel La Chiusa di Chietri, Alberobello. *Traditional* | ●●●● | 零

DAY 13 THE TRULLI OF ALBEROBELLO

Relaxed Start. With a Local Expert, admire the Trulli of Alberobello, circular structures with conical roofs, built from limestone and stacked without mortar

Meet Alessandro, the founder of Trattoria Terra Madre, who shares his philosophy of using organic, seasonal produce, grown himself. See Nonna making orecchiette pasta, then savor a four-course Farm-to-Table Highlight Dinner. (B) (DW)

Grand Hotel La Chiusa di Chietri, Alberobello. *Traditional* | ●●●● | 零

DAY 14 SICILY AND THE TAORMINA RIVIERA

Follow the shores of the Gulf of Taranto to the mountainous Calabria region.

Travel along the Purple Coast and board your ferry bound for Sicily, continue to the Taormina Riviera.

(B) (DW)

RG Naxos Hotel, Taormina. $Traditional \mid \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \mid \Rightarrow$

DAY 15 TAORMINA AND THE DAWN COAST OF EUROPE

Relaxed Start. Join a Local Expert for a visit to the Greek theater, graced with the most spectacular of backdrops. Stroll onto the tiny courtyard of the Palazzo Corvaja, Taormina's grandest building.

The remainder of the day is yours to enjoy at your own pace. Perhaps join an optional experience to Mt. Etna? (B)

DAY 16 PALERMO, CAPITAL OF SICILY

Head to the Sicilian capital of Palermo. On arrival, your Local Expert will show you the highlights of the capital such as Pretoria Square and the 16th century fountain. Palermo Cathedral has been altered over the years and a venture inside will help you to appreciate the composite architectural styles. Next, head to the amazing Palatine Chapel in the Palace of the Normans.

With the outside completely covered in glittering 12th century mosaics, it provides an insight to what's within.

Join your traveling companions and Travel Director at a local restaurant for an unforgettable Celebration Dinner of delicious local cuisine and wine. (B) (DW)

Hotel Palazzo Sitano, Palermo.

*Traditional | ●●●● | ②

DAY 17 DEPART PALERMO

Your journey draws to an end. Departure transfers arrive at Palermo Falcone–Borsellino Airport at 06:00 and 08:00. (B)

TRIP CODE: E921

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers.

⇒ click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, ⇒ click here



ITALY, SICILY & MALTA

FROM \$2,675 PP TRIP START DATES

2021

APR | 18, 25

MAY | 02, 09, 16, 23,

JUN | 06, 13, 20, 27

JUL 04, 11, 18, 25

AUG 01, 08, 15, 22,

SEP | 05, 12, 19, 26

OCT 03, 10, 31

NOV | 14, 28 **DEC** 23, 27

JAN | 16 MAR | 06, 20, 27

APR | 03, 10, 17, 24

MAY | 01, 08, 15, 22, 29 JUN | 05, 12, 19, 26

JUL 03, 10, 17, 24, 31 **AUG** | 07, 14, 21, 28

SEP | 04, 11, 18, 25

OCT | 02, 09

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, ⇒ click here

2022 Oberammergau Passion Play: book today and secure your place. ⇒ click here

EASY PACE ACTIVITY LEVEL: LEISURELY

10 DAYS 2 COUNTRIES

14 MEALS 8 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.6^{/5} GUEST REVIEW ★★★★

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate works of art using rare traditional practices, and support the master glassblowers in preserving their art.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums and admire the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Florence: Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour in Florence.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • VIP Dinner at the Vatican • Lunch in Orvieto • Dinner with Wine at il Poggio • Celebration Dinner in Venice.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by gondola, serenaded through the canals of Venice.

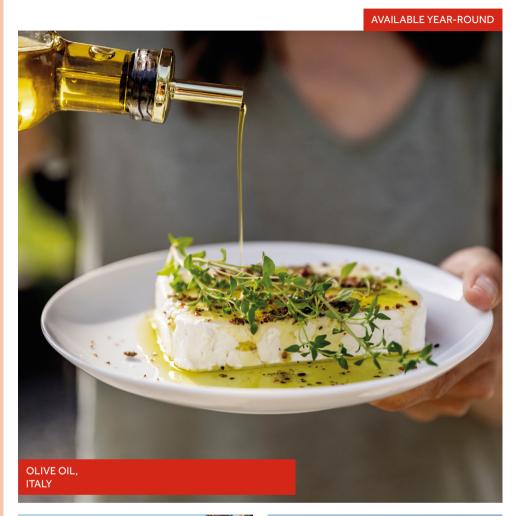
Visit Pisa

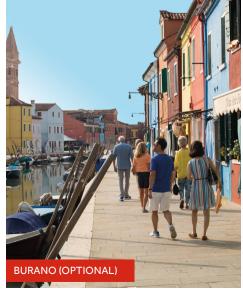
City tours of Florence and Rome, both with Local Experts.

EASY PACE ITALY

"Guests are always charmed by Roberto, our Local Expert in Pisa. He is a fantastic storyteller and linguist. He blends history and fun facts in a rapid fire delivery that mesmerises everyone."

- Bradford, Travel Director







ITALY, SICILY & MALTA

DAY 1 | WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Transfers to your hotel depart Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30

At 17:30, join your Travel Director for a uniquely Roman Welcome Dinner. Get to know your traveling companions over a relaxed evening of dinner and wine. (DW)

Veneto Palace Hotel, Rome.

Traditional ●●●● ◎ ◎

DAY 2 | ROME SIGHTSEEING AND DINNER IN THE VATICAN

Enjoy the very best of the city's highlights including visiting St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican with your Local Expert.

With some free time, why not head to the Colosseum?

In the afternoon, enjoy special fast-tracked VIP entry into the Vatican Museums with a Local Expert. Admire the Papal art collection, before entering the Sistine Chapel to marvel at Michelangelo's masterpiece.

Dine in the Vatican's Cortile del Giardino Quadrato and enjoy incredible views of the cupola of St. Peter's during a private VIP Highlight Dinner.
(B) (DW)

DAY 3 ROME AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. Spend another day enjoying Rome at your own pace. Perhaps take an Optional Experience to the ill-fated town of Pompeii, stroll to the boutiques of the Via del Corso and Via Nazionale or visit the elegant designer stores near the Spanish Steps? As night falls, why not sip a glass of prosecco at a sidewalk cafe in the Piazza Navona and enjoy life's pageantry pass by? (B)

DAY 4 ORVIETO AND ON TO FLORENCE

Relaxed Start. Stop in the hilltop village of Orvieto, one of the most striking and memorable villages in Umbria.

Savor flavors of the region and learn about the Italian food culture, over a delicious lunch with wine. (B) (LW)

Hotel Athenaeum Florence.

Traditional ●●●● | 奈

DAY 5 | FLORENCE, BIRTHPLACE OF THE RENAISSANCE

Relaxed Start. Explore Florence with Insight Choice. Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour and enjoy all the treats and trinkets on show.

Walk on to the multi-colored marble cathedral, bell tower and baptistery to see Ghiberti's Gates of Paradise. Visit Piazza della Signoria, an open-air gallery of Renaissance masterpieces. In Piazza Santa Croce, famous for the quality of its luxury goods of gold and leather, see the basilica before using your free time to shop or continue exploring on your own. (B)

DAY 6 PISA AND THE TUSCAN COUNTRYSIDE

Relaxed Start. After a leisurely morning in Florence, explore the nearby town of Pisa with a Local Expert and see the baptistery, the colonnaded bell tower lurching behind the cathedral and the Leaning Tower.

Visit the il Poggio organic farm for a guided walk and learn about the production of olive oil and wine. After taking in beautiful views of the rolling Tuscan hills, enjoy tasting the farm's freshly produced wines and olive oil, in addition to an authentic Italian meal prepared with locally sourced ingredients. (B)

DAY 7 VENICE, QUEEN OF THE ADRIATIC

Passing the city of Bologna, take the autostrada east to Venice, 'Queen of the Adriatic'. Your luxurious hotel gazes out over the Giudecca Canal and a romantically unforgettable city skyline. (B)

Hilton Molino Stucky Venice.

Historic ●●●●● 🛜

DAY 8 VENICE AND THE MAGIC OF 'LA SERENISSIMA'

Relaxed Start. Wake up ready to embrace the most sensuous of cities. Admire the art of glassblowing on a visit to a traditional arts center. Board your private launch and enjoy your introduction to this unique city. Disembark and

stroll to the Bridge of Sighs. Turn the corner to stand in awe at the marble arcades of Piazza San Marco. St. Mark's Basilica, with its dazzling domes, occupies the corner next to the clock tower. Beside it stands the pink and white marbled Doge's Palace. There will be plenty of time to explore the museums, galleries and churches or browse through the shops on the Rialto Bridge. (B)

Hilton Molino Stucky Venice.

Historic ●●●●●

DAY 9 VENICE AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. Who could refuse another day to take in the unique atmosphere of this wonderful city? Lose yourself in the back lanes and campi, where tourists seldom tread and the Venetians go about their daily lives. Maybe visit some of the 90 churches housing masterpieces of Venetian art or explore the modern artworks in the Guggenheim? Perhaps relax at a canal-side cafe sipping local wine or sampling delicious lagoon-fresh fish? Later, board a traditional gondola for a serenade through the romantic canals.

This evening, stroll past the entrance doors of the famous Opera House to La Fenice restaurant for a magical Celebration Dinner. Indulge in traditional Venetian dishes that are enriched with inspiration from seasonal produce. (B) (DW)

DAY 10 | ARRIVEDERCI VENICE

Alas, you must bid farewell to this enchanting city. Your departure transfer arrives at Venice Marco Polo Airport at 08:00 and 09:30. (B)



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT | See the Duomo in Florence. (Photo by @vindiezel, Day 5, Florence)

TRIP CODE: E803/W803

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers.

click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, ⇒ click here



1 Central Hotels + Nights ● Place Visited ● Optional Place Visited

FROM \$4,450 PP TRIP START DATES

2021

MAR | 29

APR | 12, 19, 26

MAY | 03, 10, 17, 24, 31

JUN | 07, 14, 21, 28

ZO22

MAR | 28

APR | 11, 18, 25

MAY | 02, 09, 16, 23, 30

JUN | 06, 13, 20, 27

JUL 05, 12, 19, 26 **JUL** 04, 11, 18, 25 **AUG** 02, 09, 16, 23, 30 **AUG** 01, 08, 15, 22, 29

SEP | 06, 13, 20, 27 **SEP** | 05, 12, 19, 26 **OCT** | 04, 11, 18 **OCT** | 03, 10, 17

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, → <u>click here</u>

© REGIONAL JOURNEY
ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

11 DAYS 2 COUNTRIES 15 MEALS

17 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.7^{/5}
GUEST REVIEW *****

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate works of art using rare traditional practices, and support the master glassblowers in preserving their art.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums and admire the famous Bramante Staircase. Witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Florence: Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Dine-Around options in Lake Maggiore • Celebration Dinner on Burano in Venice.

Taste wine with a master vintner near Lake Iseo.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by hydrofoil to the Isle of Capri • Ride in an open-top taxi in Capri • travel through the Cinque Terre by boat and train • Cruise to Santa Margherita from Portofino • Ride a gondola in Venice.

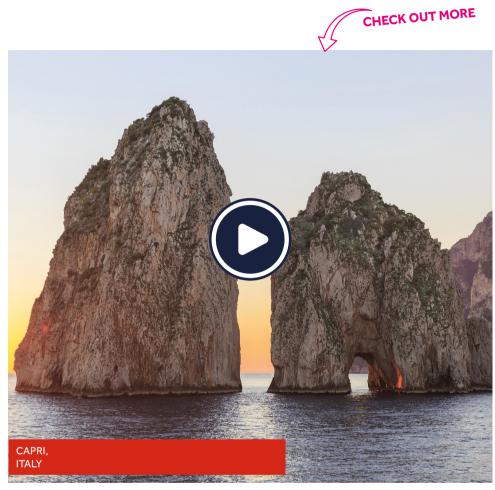
Visit Caesar Augustus Gardens in Capri.

City tours of Rome, Pompeii, Isle of Capri, Florence and Cinque Terre, all with Local Experts.

TREASURES OF ITALY

"One of the best aspects of this trip is the stay in Capri. To fully appreciate the beauty of the blue island, I think you need to spend the night and the early morning there."

- Margherita, Travel Director







TALY, SICILY & MALTA

DAY 1 WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Welcome to Rome, a glorious city filled with classic antiquities, medieval buildings, Renaissance palaces and Baroque churches. Transfers depart from Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your hotel at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30.

Relax and settle in before joining your Travel Director at 17:30, and get to know your fellow travelers over a delicious Welcome Dinner with wine at a local restaurant. (DW)

Hotel Romanico Palace, Rome.

Traditional ●●●● ◎ ◎

DAY 2 VIP VATICAN AND ROME WITH A LOCAL

The day is devoted to the Eternal City. Join a Local Expert for an in-depth visit to the Vatican Museums. With Insight's special VIP entry, avoid the lines and gain behind-the-scenes access to the Bramante Staircase, a marvel of Renaissance architecture, normally off-linits to visitors. Visit the Sistine Chapel, where the Popes are elected, to admire Michelangelo's famous ceiling. Continue to St. Peter's Basilica, to wonder at another of his works and stand beneath the dome completed after his death.

Cross the Tiber river to enjoy ancient Rome. See the incredible Circus Maximus and the legendary Colosseum, site of memorable battles and legacy to the courage of gladiators. (B)

DAY 3 ANCIENT POMPEII AND THE ISLE OF CAPRI

Journey to the ill-fated town of Pompeii. Walk with a Local Expert through cobbled streets to learn about Roman life in the first century before enjoying a refreshing lemon granita.

Continue to the Bay of Naples and board your hydrofoil to the Isle of Capri.

In brilliant sunshine, enjoy a scenic drive by opentop taxi past orange and lemon groves to your hotel. (B)

Gatto Bianco Hotel & Spa, Capri. $Traditional \mid \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \mid \stackrel{<}{>}$

DAY 4 | THE ISLE OF DREAMS

Visit Capri town with its whitewashed houses, winding alleyways and small cafes. A Local Expert escorts you to the lush Caesar Augustus Gardens for views of the Faraglioni rocks.

The afternoon is yours to explore as you wish, or perhaps join an Optional Experience to Positano? As twilight descends and the day-trippers have returned to their mainland hotels, the island is yours to gather with locals in the piazzetta or relax with a glass of wine. (B)

DAY 5 THE AUTOSTRADA DEL SOLE TO FLORENCE

Descend to the port by private open-top taxis and take the hydrofoil across the bay to Naples. Follow the Autostrada del Sole and continue through Umbria and idyllic Tuscan landscapes to Florence. (B) (DW)

Hotel Londra, Florence.

Contemporary | ●●●● | 零

DAY 6 | FLORENCE, BIRTHPLACE OF THE RENAISSANCE

Explore Florence with Insight Choice. Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour and enjoy all the treats and trinkets on show.

Continue to the multi-colored marble cathedral to admire Giotto's bell tower and Gates of Paradise. Visit Piazza della Signoria and explore the area around Santa Croce Basilica. After a demonstration of leatherwork, there's free time to shop or explore Florence on your own.

In the evening, why not sample the fine Florentine cuisine of tasty starters and typical Tuscan dishes accompanied by Chianti wine? (B)

DAY 7 CINQUE TERRE AND PORTOFINO TO SANTA MARGHERITA

The famous Italian Riviera and Cinque Terre are a highlight of your journey.

With a Local Expert, approach one of the fishing villages by boat and spend some time exploring the medieval quarter or the popular sandy beach before continuing to the village of Portofino, to admire the colorful houses.

(B) (DW)

Best Western Regina Elena, Santa Margherita Liqure.

Traditional •••• •

DAY 8 | LAKE MAGGIORE

Journey to the beautiful Italian Lake District, where alpine scenery combines with lush subtropical vegetation. Enjoy time at leisure or perhaps cruise to the Borromean Islands?

Choose from a hand-picked selection of local restaurants for your Dine-Around Evening. (B) (DW)

Hotel Simplon/Hotel Dino, Baveno, Italian Lakes.

Traditional ●●●●● ● ●

DAY 9 TO VENICE WITH WINE ALONG THE WAY

Follow the southern fringes of the European Alps to the vineyards by the shores of Lake Iseo. Here, winemaking traditions run deep. Taste the delicious vintages produced with a master vintner at a family-owned estate.

Continue to the unique city of Venice — a complete step back in time to the 16th century. (B)

Hilton Molino Stucky Venice.

Historic ●●●●● 零

DAY 10 VENICE AND THE MAGIC OF LA SERENISSIMA

Visit a traditional arts center on Murano Island to delight in the skillful art of glassblowing.
Visit St. Mark's Square to admire St. Mark's Basilica, the Doge's Palace and the adjoining Bridge of Sighs.

Take your seat on a gondola and be serenaded through the myriad of beautiful canals, passing water-lapped doorways and Rococo palaces. The rest of the afternoon is yours to discover Venice at leisure.

Cruise the Venetian lagoon to Burano and sit down to a sumptuous Celebration Dinner with wine, sampling the local specialties. (B) (DW)

DAY 11 | ARRIVEDERCI VENICE

Alas, you must bid farewell to this enchanting city. Your departure transfer arrives at Venice Marco Polo Airport at 08:00 and 09:30. (B)

TRIP CODE: E980

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers.

click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, ⇒ click here



FROM \$4,295 PP TRIP START DATES

2021 2022

APR 23, 30 **APR** 22, 29

MAY | 07, 14, 21, 28 MAY | 06, 13, 20, 27

JUN | 04, 11, 18, 25 **JUN** | 03, 10, 17, 24

JUL 02, 16, 30 **JUL** 01, 15, 29

AUG | 13, 27 **AUG** | 12, 19, 26 **SEP** | 03, 10, 17, 24 **SEP** | 02, 09, 16, 23, 30

OCT | 01

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, \Rightarrow <u>click here</u>

2022 Oberammergau Passion Play: Book today and secure your place. → <u>click here</u>

∧ COUNTRY ROADS
ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

12 DAYS

2 COUNTRIES
18 MEALS
18 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.7^{/5}
GUEST REVIEW *****

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate works of art using rare traditional practices, and support the master glassblowers in preserving their art.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums, witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Florence: Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Farm-to-Table dining in Cinque Terre • Celebration Dinner in Venice.

Taste wines in Tuscany • Anise bread in Lucca • Gelato in San Gimignano.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by cruise from Santa Margherita to Portofino • travel from the Cinque Terre by train • Ride a gondola in Venice.

City tours of Rome, Florence, Siena and Cinque Terre, all with Local Experts.
Visit Siena Cathedral.

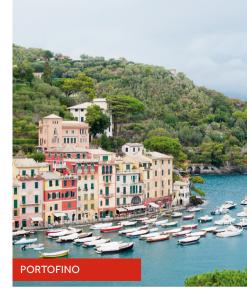
ITALIAN ELEGANCE

"A memorable moment from this trip is in San Gimignano. Guests always love to meet the charismatic Sergio Dondoli, a master of making gelato."

- Lorena, Travel Director







DAY 1 WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Welcome to Rome, a glorious city filled with classic antiquities, medieval buildings, Renaissance palaces and Baroque churches. Transfers depart from Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your hotel at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30.

Relax and settle in before joining your Travel Director at 17:30, and get to know your fellow travelers over a delicious Welcome Dinner with wine at a local restaurant. (DW)

Veneto Palace Hotel, Rome. Traditional •••• •

DAY 2 ROME WITH VATICAN DINNER

Enjoy the best of the city's highlights with a visit to St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican and see the Colosseum and Circus Maximus.

In the afternoon, gain exclusive fast-tracked VIP entry into the Vatican Museums with a Local Expert. Admire the Papal art collection and observe the stunning Museo Gregoriano Profano before entering the Sistine Chapel.

Dine in the Vatican's Cortile del Giardino Quadrato and enjoy incredible views of the cupola of St. Peter's during a private VIP Highlight Dinner.

DAY 3 | RENAISSANCE FLORENCE

Explore Florence with Insight Choice. Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour.

See the cathedral, campanile and baptistery, adorned with the Gates of Paradise. Wander the open-air gallery of Piazza della Signoria before enjoying time at leisure.

Continue to your elegant Tuscan villa near the walled town of Monteriggioni. Rest in the shade of the lush, verdant gardens, swim in the pool, or participate in a variety of leisure activities. (B)

Borgo San Luigi, Monteriggioni. Traditional ●●●●● 零

DAY 4 SIENA AND THE FLAVORS OF SAN GIMIGNANO

In the morning, travel to medieval Siena with your Local Expert and visit the beautiful, striped cathedral.

Continue to hilltop San Gimignano, famous for its medieval towers.

Ascend serpentine alleyways to the artisan gelato parlour of world champion gelato maestro, Sergio Dondoli, for a taste of his finest frozen treats.

Stop at a local winery to sample some of the robust red wines of Tuscany. (B) (DW)

DAY 5 THE CHIANTI HILLS TO PISA, LUCCA AND SANTA MARGHERITA

Drive through the Chianti hills and head to Lucca. Taste the lavish loaves of buccellato, Lucca's sweet raisin anise bread.

Continue to Pisa to see the incredible Leaning Tower and the splendid cathedral and bapistery. Enjoy leisure time to explore. Relax as you journey along the coast to the resort of Santa Margherita Liqure. (B) (DW)

Best Western Regina Elena, Santa Margherita

Traditional ●●●● • •

DAY 6 | THE CINQUE TERRE

Head for the port of La Spezia for a highlight of your travels, the Cinque Terre, one of Italy's most beautiful landscapes. With a Local Expert, appreciate the views as you approach one of the picturesque fishing villages by boat.

For Lunch, enjoy a delicious Sea-to-Table dining experience

There is time to explore the old medieval quarter beach before returning to your hotel. With the afternoon at leisure, perhaps make the most of the hotel's private beach? (B) (LW)

DAY 7 PORTOFINO AND LAKE MAGGIORE

Relaxed Start. Cruise along the rugged Ligurian coast to the elegant seaside village of Portofino (should weather permit).

Travel north to the beautiful Italian Lake District, where Alpine scenery combines with lush vegetation. (B)

Hotel Simplon/Hotel Dino, Baveno, Italian Lakes.

Traditional ●●●● ● ●

DAY 8 CORTINA D'AMPEZZO

Continue through the Dolomites, to the mountain resort of Cortina d'Ampezzo. (B) (DW)

Faloria Mountain Spa Resort, Cortina d'Ampezzo.

Contemporary | ●●●● | 零

DAY 9 EXPERIENCE THE DOLOMITES

Relaxed Start. The whole day is free for you to explore the colorful peaks and sheer valleys of the Dolomites. There are a number of walking tracks to explore, or perhaps take a thrilling Optional Experience cable car ride to the summit of one of the peaks for breathtaking 360-degree views? (B)

DAY 10 VENICE, QUEEN OF THE ADRIATIC

Relaxed Start. Descend through the mountains to the romantic city of Venice.

A private launch glides you past canals lined with ornate palaces to St Mark's Square. See the basilica, the Doge's Palace and Bridge of Sighs, before checking into your intimate and luxurious

With the afternoon at leisure, why not cruise the Venetian lagoon to the island of Burano for a meal of local specialties and wine? (B)

Splendid Venice - Starhotels Collezion. Boutique | ●●●● | 零

DAY 11 VENICE AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. Visit an arts center to watch one of the few remaining craftsmen blow Venetian glass. Then there is free time to enjoy the magical atmosphere of this incredible city at your own pace.

Later, on your romantic gondola serenade, glide along the atmospheric canals while musicians set the mood with traditional songs.

This evening, stroll past the entrance doors of the famous Opera House to La Fenice restaurant for a magical Celebration Dinner. Indulge in traditional Venetian dishes that are enriched with inspiration from seasonal produce. (B) (DW)

DAY 12 | ARRIVEDERCI VENICE

Alas, you must bid farewell to this enchanting city. Your departure transfer arrives at Venice Marco Polo Airport at 08:00 and 09:30. (B)

TRIP CODE: E923

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers. click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, → click here



FROM \$4,175 PP TRIP START DATES

2021 2022

APR | 06, 13, 20, 27 **APR** | 05, 12, 19, 26

MAY | 04, 11, 18, 25 **MAY** | 03, 10, 17,

JUN | 01, 08, 15, 22, 29 24, 31

JUL | 06, 13, 20, 27 AUG | 03, 10, 17.

JUN | 07, 14, 21, 28 JUL | 05, 12, 19, 26

24, 31 **AUG** 02, 09, 16,

SEP 07. 14. 21. 28 23, 30

OCT | 05, 12 **SEP** | 06, 13, 20, 27 **OCT** | 04, 11

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, \Rightarrow <u>click here</u>

© REGIONAL JOURNEY
ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

13 DAYS

2 COUNTRIES
19 MEALS
18 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{ee} 4.8^{/5}

GUEST REVIEW ★★★★

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate works of art using rare traditional practices, and support the master glassblowers in preserving their art.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums and admire the famous Bramante Staircase. Witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Florence: Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an art historian to see Michelangelo's David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Bistecca alla Fiorentina Dinner with wine in Florence

• Dine-Around options in Lake Maggiore • Celebration Dinner in Rome.

Taste wine near Lake Iseo.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by gondola, serenaded through the canals of Venice • Hydrofoil to the Isle of Capri

• Ride in an open-top taxi on Capri.

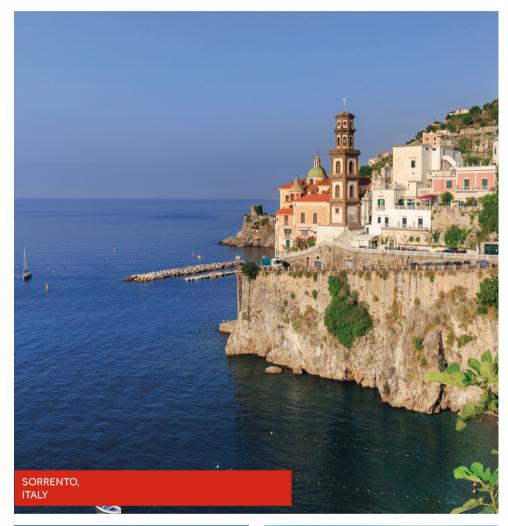
Visit Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi.

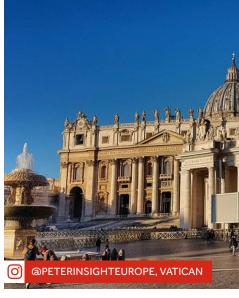
City tours of Rome, Florence, Assisi, Isle of Capri and Pompeii, all with Local Experts.

ITALIAN ESCAPADE

"Guests enjoy meeting our Local Expert in Florence, who shows you the secret carvings on the statue of David by Michelangelo."

- Lorena, Travel Director







DAY 1 WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Welcome to Rome, a glorious city filled with classic antiquities, medieval buildings, Renaissance palaces and Baroque churches. Transfers depart from Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your hotel at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30.

Relax and settle in before joining your Travel Director at 17:30, and get to know your fellow travelers over a delicious Welcome Dinner with wine at a local restaurant. (DW)

Hotel Romanico Palace, Rome. Traditional •••• •

DAY 2 VIP VATICAN AND ROME WITH A LOCAL

A Local Expert leads you through the priceless art collection of the Vatican Museums, culminating beneath Michelangelo's famous ceiling in the Sistine Chapel. Your VIP visit includes fast-tracked entry to the museums and a behind-the-scenes look at the Bramante Staircase. Later, continue to St. Peter's Basilica.

Cross the Tiber river to enjoy ancient Rome. See the incredible Circus Maximus and the legendary Colosseum (B)

DAY 3 | SIENA AND MEDIEVAL FLORENCE

In medieval Siena, stroll through the winding stone-paved streets to the vast Piazza del Campo. See the Fountain of Joy and walk up to the hilltop cathedral, striped with marble.

Continue through the cypress-clad hills and vineyards of Tuscany to Florence.

Enjoy a traditional Bistecca alla Fiorentina steak dinner paired with delicious local wine, a specialty not to be missed. (B) (DW)

Michelangelo Florence. Traditional •••• •

DAY 4 FLORENCE, BIRTHPLACE OF THE RENAISSANCE

Explore Florence with Insight Choice. Choose between a visit to the Accademia Museum with an

art historian to see Michelangelo's monumental statue, David or alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a guided shopping tour and enjoy all the treats and trinkets on show.

bell tower and baptistery to see Ghiberti's Gates of Paradise. Visit Piazza della Signoria, an open-air gallery of Renaissance masterpieces. In Piazza Santa Croce, famous for the quality of its luxury goods of gold and leather, see the basilica before using your free time to shop, or continue exploring on your own. (B)

DAY 5 | PISA AND THE ITALIAN LAKES

Stop in Pisa, to see the incredible Leaning Tower. as well as the splendid cathedral and baptistery, decorated with mosaics and designs in solid marble (B)

Hotel Simplon/Hotel Dino, Baveno, Italian Lakes.

Traditional •••• •

DAY 6 THE ITALIAN LAKE DISTRICT

Relaxed Start. The day is set aside for you to relax and enjoy all the fantastic sights of this beautiful lakeland area

For your Dine-Around Evening, choose from a selection of hand-picked restaurants for your dining pleasure. (B) (DW)

DAY 7 TO VENICE WITH WINE ALONG THE WAY

Relaxed Start. Follow the southern fringes of the European Alps to the vineyards by the shores of Lake Iseo. Here, winemaking traditions run deep.

Taste the delicious vintages produced with a master vintner at a family-owned estate.

Continue to the unique city of Venice — a complete step back in time to the 16th century. Arrive at your hotel by boat, in true Venetian style.

Hotel Carlton on the Grand Canal, Venice. Traditional | ●●●● | 零

DAY 8 THE MAGIC OF LA SERENISSIMA Visit a traditional arts center on Giudecca Island glass is made by expert glassblowers. Walk on to the multi-colored marble cathedral the basilica, Doge's Palace and Bridge of Sighs.

Spend the rest of the day as you wish. (B) DAY 9 | HILLTOP ASSISI

romantic awe.

Journey to the stone-built, hilltop town of Assisi, home of St. Francis.

During a gondola serenade, relax and enjoy

the local traditional songs, as you drift along in

See the Church of St. Mary of the Angels, before continuing up Mount Subasio with a Local Expert to visit the Basilica of St. Francis. (B) (DW)

Hotel Giotto Assisi. Historic ●●●● 🦃

DAY 10 | SORRENTO ON THE COAST

Journey along the clifftop road to the picturesque resort of Sorrento, perched upon the southern cliffs of the Bay of Naples and looking out to Mount Vesuvius.

With the evening at leisure, why not try some of the local specialties during a regional dining experience? (B)

Hotel Isabella, Sorrento. Traditional ●●●● ● 零

DAY 11 CAPRI, THE ISLE OF DREAMS

Cruise to Capri and on arrival step into one of the island's iconic open-top taxis for a drive up the steep, winding roads while a symphony of cicadas sing away in the pines.

Your Local Expert leads you through the narrow alleyways of Capri town, before you descend to the port by funicular and return to Sorrento for some relaxation time. (B) (DW)

DAY 12 ON TO ILL-FATED POMPEII AND ROME

At the ancient Roman city of Pompeii, your Local Expert walks you through cobbled streets. Witness the colorful frescoes that were hidden for centuries.

Travel past the brooding hilltop monastery of Monte Cassino on your return to Rome.

In the heart of the Eternal City, you are treated to a quintessential Italian experience – fine food, wine, music and a private performance of enchanting operetta for your Celebration Dinner. (B) (DW)

Hotel Mediterraneo, Rome. Traditional ●●●● ● 零

DAY 13 | ARRIVEDERCI ROMA

Bid farewell to the glories of Italy. Departure transfers arrive at Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport at 07:00 and 09:30. (B)

TRIP CODE: F937

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers. click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, → click here



ITALY, SICILY & MALTA

FROM \$4,125 PP

2021 2022

APR | 17, 24 **APR** | 16, 23, 30 **MAY** | 01, 08, 15, **MAY** | 07, 14, 21, 28

22, 29 **JUN** | 11, 25 **JUN** | 12, 26

JUL | 10, 24 JUL | 09, 23 AUG | 06, 20

AUG | 07, 21 **SEP** | 03, 10, 17, 24

SEP | 04, 11, 18, 25 OCT | 01, 08

OCT | 02, 09

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, \Rightarrow <u>click here</u>

∧ COUNTRY ROADS
ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

14 DAYS

2 COUNTRIES 20 MEALS 16 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

feefo^{e9} 4.6^{/5}

GUEST REVIEW ★★★★

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Alberobello: Dine at Trattoria Terra Madre, where owner Alessandra and his nonna have built a restaurant that focuses on sustainability and creating jobs for locals. Everything is grown organically and harvested on site, and excess produce is donated to their community.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums and admire the famous Bramante Staircase. Witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Capri: Choose between a visit to Cesare Augustus Gardens or alternatively, taste limoncello, Capri's traditional lemon liqueur.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Dine-Around options in Taormina Riviera • Celebration Dinner in Palermo.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by hydrofoil to the Isle of Capri • Ride an open-top taxi on Capri • Ride a ferry across the Strait of Messina.

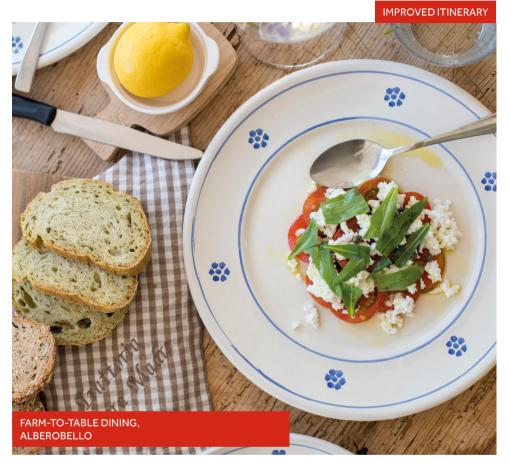
Visit the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento
• Greek Ampitheatre of Taormina • Palermo
Cathedral and Palatine Chapel in Palermo.

City tours of Rome, Pompeii, Isle of Capri, Matera, Alberobello, Taormina, Agrigento and Palermo, all with Local Experts.

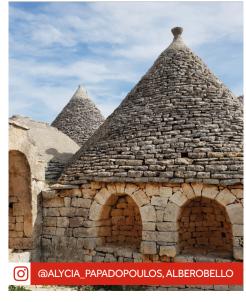
COUNTRY ROADS OF SOUTHERN ITALY & SICILY

"This trip is the perfect combination of must-see places and discovery of striking, hidden gems that most people have never visited, but that hold the real magic of what genuine southern Italy is like."

- Margherita, Travel Director







DAY 1 WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Welcome to Rome, a glorious city filled with classic antiquities, medieval buildings, Renaissance palaces and Baroque churches. Transfers depart from Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your hotel at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30.

Relax and settle in before joining your Travel Director at 17:30, and get to know your fellow travelers over a delicious Welcome Dinner with wine at a local restaurant. (DW)

Welcome Piram Hotel, Rome.

Traditional ●●●● ● ◎

DAY 2 ROME WITH THE LOCALS

Rome is about art, antiquity, piazzas and pizza, and our included walking exploration with a Local Expert has it in abundance. Toss a coin into the spectacular Trevi Fountain, see the Pantheon, the best-preserved monument from the Roman period, and enjoy free time to do as the Romans do. Perhaps join a tour to discover an unknown quarter of Rome. Trastevere? (B)

DAY 3 VIP VATICAN, ST. PETERS BASILICA AND ON TO SORRENTO

Meet your Local Expert for a guided visit through the Vatican Museums, culminating beneath Michelangelo's famous ceiling in the Sistine Chapel. Your VIP visit includes fast-tracked entry and a behind-the-scenes look at the Bramante Staircase. Continue your visit to St. Peter's Basilica and later, depart for Sorrento. (B)

Hotel Isabella, Sorrento.

Traditional | ●●●● | 零

DAY 4 CAPRI, THE ISLE OF DREAMS

Cruise by hydrofoil through the impossibly blue sea to the sun-drenched island of Capri.
On arrival, enjoy an escorted ride in an open-top taxi to Capri Town and meet your Local Expert for an orientation walk through narrow alleyways.
Explore Capri with Insight Choice. Choose between walking with your Local Expert through Augustus

Cesare Gardens and admire the views over Faraglioni Rocks or alternatively, enjoy a tasting of limoncello, Capri's traditional liquor.

Descend to the port by funicular, before returning to Sorrento where you are at leisure for the rest of the day. (B)

DAY 5 POMPEII AND ALBEROBELLO

With your Local Expert, explore the streets of Pompeii, buried in A.D. 79 by the historic eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

Venture on to Alberobello. (B) (DW)

DAY 6 THE TRULLI OF ALBEROBELLO

Relaxed Start. With a Local Expert, admire the Trulli of Alberobello, circular structures with conical roofs, built from limestone and stacked without mortar.

Meet Alessandro, the founder of Trattoria Terra Madre, who shares his philosophy of using organic, seasonal produce, grown himself. See nonna making orecchiette pasta, then savor a four-course Farm-to-Table Highlight Dinner. (B) (DW)

DAY 7 | ALBEROBELLO AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. The day is free for you to enjoy this fascinating town. Perhaps visit Ostuni with its whitewashed buildings and narrow cobbled streets? (R)

DAY 8 JOURNEY SOUTH TO MATERA

Relaxed Start. Visit Matera with a Local Expert for an in-depth exploration of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sassi — a labyrinth of cave dwellings, churches, staircases and arches, hewn out of the solid rock.

This evening, indulge in a delicious meal at a local restaurant. (B) (DW)

MH Matera Hotel.

Traditional | ●●●● | 奈

血 ROME & THE VATICAN CITY Frascati AL BEROBELLO 台 金 MATERA 1 SORRENTO ITALY Calabria Purple Coast ₩ PALERMO (Davs 12, 13 & 14) TAORMINA RIVIERA (Days 9, 10 & 11) SICILY 俞 Syracuse

DAY 9 TO SICILY AND THE TAORMINA RIVIERA

Travel to the very toe of Italy and board your ferry bound for Sicily, across the Strait of Messina.

Join a Local Expert for a visit to the Greek Theater of Taormina, graced with the most spectacular of backdrops.

Take your pick of specially selected restaurants for your Dine-Around Evening. (B) (DW)

RG Naxos Hotel, Taormina. $Traditional \mid \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \mid \Rightarrow$

DAY 10 FREE TIME ON THE TAORMINA RIVIERA

Relaxed Start. The day is at leisure to relax at your resort's private beach. Don't miss the chance of an optional drive through the vineyards to Mount Etna. (B)

DAY 11 A NEW DAWN IN SICILY

Relaxed Start. Early risers may experience what D.H. Lawrence christened the 'dawn coast of Europe.' The day is free to explore Taormina at your leisure, or to embark on an Optional Experience to Syracuse.

In the evening, venture to a local restaurant for a tasty meal accompanied by wine. (B) (DW)

DAY 12 AGRIGENTO, THE VALLEY OF THE TEMPLES AND ON TO PALERMO

Drive to Agrigento, and with a Local Expert, walk along the fortified ridge of the Valley of the Temples. See the massive Temple of Concord and clifftop Temple of Juno, overlooking the sea. In the afternoon, continue to the Sicilian capital of Palermo. (B)

NH Palermo.

Traditional ●●●● ● ◎

DAY 13 PALERMO AND THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE NORMANS

Join a historian to see the highlights of part of the old city. Venture inside Palermo Cathedral and see the amazing Palatine Chapel in the Palace of the Normans.

The afternoon is free to explore on your own.

In the evening, join your fellow travelers at a local restaurant for a Celebration Dinner of delicious local cuisine and wine. (B) (DW)

DAY 14 | DEPART PALERMO

Your journey draws to an end. Departure transfers arrive at Palermo Falcone—Borsellino Airport at 06:00 and 08:00. (B)

TRIP CODE: E725

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travelers.

click here for the latest details.

To get your free quote on a specific departure date, ⇒ click here

FROM \$4,975 PP TRIP START DATES

2021 2022

APR | 16, 23, 30 **APR** | 15, 22, 29

MAY | 07, 14, 21, 28 **MAY** | 06, 13, 20, 27

 JUN | 11
 JUN | 10

 JUL | 02, 30
 JUL | 01, 29

 AUG | 20, 27
 AUG | 19, 26

SEP 03, 10, 17, 24 **SEP** 02, 09, 16, 23, 30

OCT | 01, 08 OCT | 07

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, \Rightarrow click here

∧ COUNTRY ROADS
ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

16 DAYS

2 COUNTRIES
20 MEALS
28 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

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GUEST REVIEW *****

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Perugia: Meet Marta, recipient of a TreadRight Foundation grant. Learn how Marta and her weavers are preserving the ancient craft of loom-weaving at their artisanal workshop and offering employment opportunities for local women.

Visit a glassblowing workshop in Venice.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCES

Vatican City: Gain VIP access into the Vatican Museums and admire the famous Bramante Staircase. Witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Siena: Choose between visiting the medieval Siena Cathedral with your Local Expert or alternatively, sample panforte, a traditional Tuscan dessert.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Highlight Dinner in Orvieto • Celebration Dinner on Burano island in Venice.

Taste Chianti wine Radda • Gelato in San Gimignano • Buccellato in Lucca • Balsamic vinegar in Modena • Parmigiano Reggiano in Parma.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Travel by hydrofoil to the Isle of Capri•ride in an open-top taxi on Capri•on a train and boat to explore Cinque Terre•in a gondola, serenaded through the canals of Venice.

Visit Papal Gardens and Castel Gandolfo • Positano • Basilica of Saint Francis in Assisi • San Gimignano.

COUNTRY ROADS OF ITALY

"I love to teach my guests an Italian expression, 'Il sole bacia i belli,' which means 'the sun kisses the beautiful ones,' and also can be read that the sunshine renders us all beautiful."

- Anna, Travel Director



