

Presents

A 7-Day Private Tour to Italy including Rome, Florence and Venice

Booking Reference: 11788



## Your Itinerary in Detail

#### Day 1: Private Arrival Transfer Rome Fiumicino Airport

Upon arrival at Rome Fiumicino airport and exiting the baggage claim area, you will be met by your driver holding a sign with your name on it and escorted to a luxury vehicle, then transferred into the city. The rest of the day is free to relax and settle in.

**Rome** is the capital city of Italy. It is also the capital of the Lazio region, the centre of the Metropolitan City of Rome, and a special comune named Comune di Roma Capitale. The best way to see Rome's sights is mainly on foot so why not visit Centro Storico, Rome's historic centre. Don't miss the Pantheon, a magnificently preserved ancient Roman temple, with a circular hole in the huge domed roof open to the heavens. A couple of streets away is the splendid Piazza Navona, Rome's elegant showcase square. A short amble further and you're at the foaming, massive Trevi Fountain, and the baroque Spanish Steps, a grand stairway that's perfect for taking a perch and watching the world go by. Close by, the Piazza del Popolo is an impressive oval-shaped square complete with an Egyptian obelisk, home to some wonderful Caravaggio masterpieces in the Santa Maria del Popolo church.

## 3 nights at Rome Cavalieri, A Waldorf Astoria Resort in a Double Deluxe Room inclusive of breakfast

#### Day 2: Private Half Day Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Square

Take the tour of the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel with no queue at all! Upon arrival, your guide will lead you into the museum. The Vatican Museums are one of the richest and most beloved art collection in the world: they display around 20.000 pieces of art. With such a huge amount of artwork, it's easy to feel lost. That's why a professional guide can make a difference. Meet yours: they will let you access the Museums through our exclusive official partners' entrance, skipping the incredibly long lines at the door and saving you lots of



precious time. You will be able to admire some of the most impressive Renaissance art pieces: the unique Gallery of Tapestries, the lavish Gallery of Maps, the stunning Raphael's Rooms and the world-famous Sistine Chapel. The tour couldn't be complete without St. Peter's Square the open space which lies before the basilica, redesigned by Gian Lorenzo Bernini and being itself an architectural masterpiece of the Baroque age. You'll admire St. Peter's Basilica (outside) that isn't only the largest church in the world, but that contains several pieces of fine art: think the canopy designed by Gian Lorenzo Bernini or the Pietà by Michelangelo.

#### Day 3: Private Tour of the Colosseum, Roman Forum and Palatine Hill

This morning we include a private guided tour of the Colosseum with an English-speaking guide. You will take a complete tour of ancient Rome's major sights and skip the queues for the archaeological area. Gain your special access to the Colosseum and, once inside, breathe the bloody past of the amphitheatre and its atmosphere led by passionate and expert guides.

**The Colosseum** is a must-see for every traveller who visits Rome. The majestic amphitheater used to be the heart of imperial Rome's entertainment: this huge travertine and tuff structure could hold between 50,000 and 80,000 spectators, all hungering for pretty gory shows such as hunting games or gladiatorial fights. A professionally guided tour is the perfect way to fully enjoy a walk inside the Colosseum and learn more about the building and what happened back in 80 AD, when the venue hosted one hundred days of inaugural games free for the citizens to



enjoy. Your guide will provide you with priority skip-the-line access tickets and the tour includes a guided walk in the Roman Forum, the cultural and political center of Ancient Rome, as well as a stroll around the Palatine Hill, the area where the city of Rome was legendary founded by Romulus and where the emperors used to live for centuries. Round trip transfers are included and at the end of the tour you will be transferred to a local cookery school for an included private cookery class with a local chef. You will be transferred back to your hotel in the early evening.



A Private Cooking Class in Rome is perfect if you have always wanted to learn how to cook Italian food! With this engaging experience, you will get a full private cooking class in Rome with luxury round trip transfers. Learn how to make pasta by hand, and, best of all, you get to eat your homemade feast afterward!

#### Day 4: Rome to Florence with Walking Tour

This morning you will be met by your driver and escorted to a luxury vehicle for a private transfer to the rail station. We include first class rail seats for your journey by train from Roma Termini to Firenze Rail Station. On arrival, you will be met by an English-speaking driver in front of the Pharmacy inside the train station and privately transferred to your hotel. This afternoon, we include a half day private guided tour of the city centre including entrance to The Uffizi Gallery and the Accademia Gallery. The evening is free. **Florence**. Florence's museums, palaces, and churches house some of the greatest artistic treasures in the world. The most popular and important sites in Florence include the Cathedral, the Baptistery, the Uffizi, the Bargello, and the Accademia. The churches of Santa Maria Novella and Santa Croce are veritable art galleries, and the library of San Lorenzo is a magnificent exhibition of Michelangelo's architectural genius. Wander some of the oldest streets in the city until you reach the Arno River, cross the Ponte Vecchio, and experience the "newest" area of Florence, the Oltrarno. Be sure to set aside time to see the vast and varied art collection housed in the Pitti Palace. When you grow weary of museums and monuments, head outdoors. Spend a day at the Boboli Gardens or climb the hill to the church of San Miniato al Monte to experience an enchanting view of Florence.

# A Private Half Day Walking Tour of Florence with English Speaking Guide including the Accademia

This half day private walking tour of Florence with an expert English-speaking guide is a perfect introduction to the masterpieces of this city: Michelangelo's David, Brunelleschi's Dome and Piazza Signoria. Meet with your private guide at your hotel and begin your tour of the historical centre of Florence. During the tour, you will see the Cathedral, the Baptistery and Piazza della Signoria, the political heart of Florence since the 1300's, when Florence was the most powerful city in Europe. The visit will continue to Ponte Vecchio, the oldest bridge of Florence,



then you will cross the Arno River and arrive at the Pitti Palace, one of the best examples of Renaissance palaces. Entrance is included to The Uffizi Gallery and the tour will end with a visit to the Academy Gallery where Michelangelo's David is housed, along with many other works of art.

The Accademia Gallery occupies some rooms from the XIV century, which belonged to the old



hospital of San Mateo as well as to the old monastery of San Nicolás de Cafaggio. Subsequently the Grand Duke Leopold of Lorraine founded the Academy of Fine Arts with a collection for the students. At the end of the 18th century these rooms were completely restructured to house the famous museum dedicated to Michelangelo. This is a must stop for anyone visiting Florence since it houses the "David" of Michelangelo sculpted between 1501-1504 to be an outside decoration of the Cathedral of Florence, it became instead a symbol of the Florentine State

commitment to freedom and independence, as well as a symbol of the Medici's defeat in 1494. It still personifies energy, vigor and courage, symbolizing the whole mankind fight for survival. His anatomy, later reproduced by Michelangelo's contemporaries, was carefully depicted, thanks to the in-depth studies carried out by the great artist.

The Uffizi Gallery entirely occupies the first and second floors of the large building constructed between 1560 and 1580 and designed by Giorgio Vasari. It is famous worldwide for its outstanding collections of ancient sculptures and paintings (from the Middle Ages to the Modern period). The collections of paintings from the 14th-century and Renaissance period include some absolute masterpieces: Giotto, Simone Martini, Piero della Francesca, Beato Angelico, Filippo Lippi, Botticelli, Mantegna, Correggio, Leonardo, Raffaello, Michelangelo and Caravaggio, in addition to many precious works by European painters (mainly German, Dutch and Flemish). Moreover, the Gallery boasts an invaluable collection of ancient statues and busts from the Medici family, which adorns the corridors and consists of ancient Roman copies of lost Greek sculptures.

#### 2 nights at Hotel Bernini Palace in a Double Superior Room inclusive of breakfast Day 5: Private Half Day Tour to Chianti with Wine Tasting



After a free morning in Florence to relax, this afternoon you will meet your driver/guide in the hotel lobby and depart on a half-day private tour of the Chianti Wine Country. With your driver / guide, you will head south of Florence to the Chianti area where the famous Chianti Classico wines are produced. Driving on the Via Chiantigiana you will see the most beautiful countryside of the region, with rolling hills, vineyards, olive groves, villas and medieval castles. You will have a chance to stop at one wine estate and also visit the small

Tuscany town of Castellina in Chianti. You will arrive back in Florence in the early evening.

#### Day 6: Florence to Venice with Gondola Ride

Check out and meet your driver in the lobby of your hotel where you will be privately transferred to Florence Rail Station. We include first class train tickets from Florence to Venice with reserved seating. Upon arrival at Venice Rail Station, meet your representative at the platform holding a sign with your name on it. Board a private motorlaunch from Venice train station to hotel or nearest mooring point. (Porter service is provided at the train station).

**Venice**, the capital of northern Italy's Veneto region, is built on more than 100 small islands in a lagoon in the Adriatic Sea. It has no roads, just canals – including the Grand Canal thoroughfare – lined with Renaissance and Gothic palaces. The central square, Piazza San Marco, contains St. Mark's Basilica, which is tiled with Byzantine mosaics, and the Campanile bell tower offering views of the city's red roofs.

This evening we include a private **Gondola ride**. Our assistant will meet you at your hotel and take you to the nearest embarking point for a 30-minute gondola tour. Venice gondola rides are without doubt the number one must-do experience in Venice. Gliding through serene waters, while serenaded by your gondolier, against the stunning backdrop of Baroque buildings is an experience you won't soon forget.



#### 2 nights at Hotel Llondra Palace in a Double Deluxe Room inclusive of breakfast

#### Day 7: Private 2 Hour Venice City Tour including St Mark's Basilica and Doge's Palace



This morning, you will enjoy an enchanting panoramic tour over the history of St. Mark's Square and its main monuments. Visit St. Mark's Basilica, with the richness of its marbles and mosaics. The Doge's Palace, a fourteenth century building from where the ancient Venetian Republic exerted the control over the city. Passing through the famous Bridge of Sighs reach the Prisons Palace. Proper attire is required while visiting the Basilica. For security reasons bags, back-packs, etc. cannot be taken into the

Basilica. Inclusions: private licensed guide, entrance ticket at the Doge's Palace and Basilica. Duration of the tour will be 2 hours.

#### Private Half Day Murano and Burano Tour

After some time for an optional lunch, you will board a private boat to escape from the crowd of Venice and explore the most famous Venetian islands. Murano, world known for its glass blowing art. The tiny and picturesque island of Burano gives an idea of what Venice used to be, besides being famous for the hand-made laces. Tour includes private motorboat and a private guide. Duration: 4 hours. Return to your hotel in the late afternoon.



#### Day 8: Private Deluxe Departure Transfer to Venice Airport

On departure day, meet a local representative in the hotel lobby at the scheduled time to get on board the private motor-launch to Venice airport. Once you arrive, a private vehicle will pick you up from the landing stage to the departure terminal while porters carry the luggage to the check-in area.

### WHERE YOU ARE STAYING HOTEL SELECTIONS



ROME CAVALIERI, A WALDORF ASTORIA **RESORT – ROME** 

Rome Cavalieri, A Waldorf Astoria Resort, will exceed your expectations time and just six minutes from Via Tornabuoni, the again. Michelin-star dining, a luxury Spa most &15 acres of private park make it a one-ofa-kind luxury city resort.



#### HOTEL BERNINI PALACE - FLORENCE

Situated in a 15th century building in the With a commanding view of Rome, the heart of the city, behind Piazza della Signoria and the Uffizi Gallery. It is also famous shopping street, and approximately one hour away by car, it is possible to reach outlets for major Italian labels such as Prada and Gucci.



#### HOTEL LLONDRA PALACE - VENICE

With its 100 windows overlooking the San Marco basin, the Londra Palace has been the chosen meeting place of artists, intellectuals, travellers and tourists for over 140 years; those who enjoy authentic locations which don't just conform with current fashions.

# What's Included?

Please see below for complete list of included services

Accommodation is included for 7 nights at the following hotels including breakfast. (\*\*city taxes of between 2-7 Euro per person per day will be charged locally upon check out of each hotel)

Date	Nts	City	Hotel	Accommodation
Day 1	3	Rome	Rome Cavalieri, Waldorf Astoria	Deluxe Room
Day 4	2	Florence	Hotel Bernini Palace	Superior Room
Day 6	2	Venice	Hotel Llondra Palace	Deluxe Room

#### Transport

Date	City	Service	
Day 1	Rome	Transfer Rome Fiumicino Airport	Private Service
Day 4		Transfer to the Rome Rail Station	Private Service
Day 4	Rome	Train from Rome to Florence	First Class
Day 4	Florence	Arrival Transfer Florence Rail Station	Private Service
Day 6	Florence	Transfer to Florence Rail Station	Private Service
Day 6	Florence	First Class Train Florence to Venice	Public Transport
Day 6	Venice	Transfer Venice Rail Station to Hotel	Private Service
Day 8	Venice	Departure Transfer to Venice Airport	Private Service

#### Services

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Date	Service	
Day 2	Half Day Vatican Museums	Private Service
Day 3	Colosseum, Roman Forum and Palatine Hill	Private Service
Day 3	Cookery Class in Rome	Private Service
Day 4	Half Day Walking Tour of Florence	Private Service
Day 4	Accademia Gallery	Entrance Fee
Day 4	Uffizi Gallery	Entrance Fee
Day 5	Half Day Tour to Chianti with Wine Tasting	Private Service
Day 6	30-minute Gondola Ride	Private Service
Day 7	2 Hour Venice City Tour including St Mark's Basilica	Private Service
•	and Doge's Palace	
Day 7	Half Day Murano and Burano Tour	Private Service

All communications costs, hotels taxes and fees are also included and the services of our professional travel experts on the ground are available to you 24/7 days a week throughout your trip

#### WHATS NOT INCLUDED:

Flights from the USA or Europe, tips to your driver/guide and guides and anything not mentioned above

**<u>BOOKING</u>**: The proposal is subject to availability. To book we require a 30% deposit which is nonrefundable as required to pre-book all services. We accept payments by credit card or by bank transfer. The balance of your trip would be due by 60 days prior to travel. We suggest taking out travel insurance with your local broker or online provider.