

## Itinerary

### CST Italy May 5 – 15, 2024

#### DAY 1) SUN MAY 5, 2024 DEPART WASHINGTON DULLES INTL. AIRPORT

WE WILL DEPART WASHINGTON DULLES INTL. AIRPORT. FLIGHT DETAILS & SCHEDULE WILL BE ANNOUNCED. TBA

#### DAY 2) MON MAY 6, 2024 - MILAN

Arrival to Milan and transfer to your hotel for a relaxed afternoon and evening at your leisure. You may want to make a quick visit to Milan's Fashion district before turning in? Dinner at the hotel, Overnight Milan; **(D) Hotel NYX MILAN BY LEONARDO or similar**

*YX Hotel Milan is the brand new lifestyle hotel in Milan's hot city center. Beware; this is not your average Milan vacation! Expect the unexpected and step inside... Experience the vibrant city of Milan, Italy, from a whole different level! There's no need for lame sightseeing tours. Get to know all the city's secrets with our local tour guides – the City Lovers. Whether you are an art lover or novice, the #ArtatNYX will inflame your curiosity with local street style.*

*Music is life and our hearts have beats! Ace tunes are played all day and all night and will make you want to move. The urban hotel is located right next to Milano Centrale train station. From here, all popular places are easily reachable, like La Scala opera house, Sforzesco Castle, Quadrilatero della Moda, Quartiere Isola and much more. You're asking yourself what makes a stay at NYX Hotel Milan so special. Well, that's an easy one for us! We've got impressive artworks from local street artists and wicked sounds played by live DJ's in the lobby. Locals and tourists are coming together to grab a drink at the bar. The "clash" restaurant will serve you with outstanding international dishes as well as healthy food full of taste. Discover Milan like you've never seen it before! Be different and book your extraordinary vacation at NYX Hotel Milan!*

#### DAY 3) TUE MAY 7, 2024 - MILAN

We begin our tour of Milan with a local guide to explore Milan, fashion capital of the world. We visit Milan's flagship monument, Duomo Cathedral, its museum, and rooftop terrace. Stop at the magnificent La Scala Theater and Sforza castle. Continue our tour to Galleria Vittorio Emanuele, the Opera House and the sforzesco castle. Visit in the afternoon the famous "Last Supper" Painting by Leonardo da Vinci. Continue with the spectacular Vittorio Emanuel II gallery and its high end shops and the boutiques of the most famous fashion houses in Via Montenapoleone, della Spiga, Sant'Andrea and Manzoni. Enjoy the show, and perhaps some of you will take the famous "Aperitivo" in one of the bars. Dinner in Milan, Overnight Milan **(BD) Hotel NYX MILAN BY LEONARDO or similar**

#### DAY 4) WED MAY 8, 2024 - MILAN TO VENICE

After breakfast at hotel, we will leave Milan and drive to Lake Garda, the biggest lake in the North of Italy. Here we will stop in Sirmione, a lovely medieval town on the shore of the Lake. After lunch we drive to VERONA, home town of Romeo and Juliet. Walking tour including a stop to view from the outside, the famous Arena (amphitheater) and the Balcony of Juliet. We continue to Venice hotel for dinner and overnight. Boat transportation to the hotel from mainland. **(BD) Hotel FOUR POINT BY SHERATON VENICE MESTRE or similar**

*Four Points by Sheraton Venice Mestre, strategically located in the commercial area of Mestre, has been totally renovated in 2017 and features Italian design furniture. Ideal for bleisure travellers, the Hotel has 160 rooms and 8 suites distributed on 8 floors and furnished with the signature Four Comfort Bed, as well as Point Restaurant & Bar, a Banqueting Hall for events up to 200 people with 2 meeting rooms. In 2020, the brand new Wellness Point has been unveiled on the 9th floor, with a Wellness area and a Fitness area. In summer season, Point Garden is the right outdoor living space to enjoy uncomplicated moments.*

#### Day 5) Thu May 9, 2024 - Venice

After breakfast we start our walking tour of Venice. Venice is magical with its pink palazzi, green canals, the blue Adriatic Sea, and yellow signs pointing to the center. Venice is eternally beautiful and culturally vigorous. We will have a half day walking tour of Venice, including a visit to the Doge's Palace with its splendid rooms decorated by 16<sup>th</sup> century artists such as Titian, Tintoretto and Veronese, St. Mark's Basilica and Square, the Bridge of Sighs. The afternoon is at leisure to walk the many bridges. **(BD) Hotel FOUR POINT BY SHERATON VENICE MESTRE or similar**

Today we have a Gondola Ride (45 minutes) with music and a presentation of how Murano's famous Glass is made. Later we will return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### Day 6) Fri May 10, 2024 - VENICE/PISA/FLORENCE

Today, after breakfast, we will depart for Pisa seeing some of the most picturesque scenery. We will stop in Pisa to see the "Leaning Tower" one of the world's best known sights. The best reason to come to Florence is to immerse yourself in a truly astounding collection of Renaissance art and architecture. Florentines are fiercely proud of their cultural heritage and are protective of the assets that define their city. Dinner and overnight in Florence. **(BD) Hotel Hilton Florence Metropole or similar**

*We're in Florence's west district, four kilometers from Florence Airport and six kilometers from Firenze Santa Maria Novella rail station. The city center is 15 minutes away, home to Uffizi Gallery, Ponte Vecchio, and Piazza del Duomo. Enjoy our relaxation area with mega whirlpool and Swedish waterfall. City view rooms and all-day dining complete your stay. Enjoy Tuscan dishes, such as the Florentine T-bone steak, in Luci della Città restaurant. Our hotel also features a lounge bar with marble pillars, wooden flooring, and Italian wines, and a breakfast room with a buffet each morning. Sink into a sofa or chaise longue in the Hilton Florence Metropole hotel's contemporary Lounge Bar, with marble pillars and wooden flooring. Sip a Tuscan Tequila cocktail or try a sweet Italian wine in this Florence bar. Watch TV on our 2 plasma TVs or snack on a club sandwich. For lunches or romantic meals, dine at the Hilton Florence Metropole hotel's elegant Luci Della Città. With floor-to-ceiling windows, leather seats and wooden floors, this Florence restaurant serves Tuscan dishes such as Florentine T-bone steak and a wide range of international wines.*

Champion Services Travel  
PO Box 44140, Fort Washington, MD. 20749  
301. 686-0970 / [cchamp154@comcast.net](mailto:cchamp154@comcast.net) [all4champion.com](http://all4champion.com)

#### DAY 7) SAT MAY 11, 2024 - FLORENCE

Breakfast at hotel, followed by a walking tour of Florence including a visit to the Academia to see Michelangelo's original David Statue, Giotto's Bell Tower; the Baptistery with its "Gates of Paradise" doors, Signoria Square and Santa Croce Church. This afternoon is free to pursue personal interests and have lunch on your own. You might want to visit the leather market in town or a jewelry shop near Ponte Vecchio where you can assist a demonstration on how silver bracelets are made by the famous Florentine artisans. *Tonight Dinner is at leisure so that you can choose your own place to dine.*  
*Overnight Florence, (B) [Hotel Hilton Florence Metropole or similar](#)*

#### DAY 8) SUN MAY 12, 2024 - FLORENCE/TUSCANY/ROME

Today you will driver across Tuscany towards Rome. Our first stop is the medieval town of San Gimignano. Set on a hilltop is an enchanting village with narrow streets. We stop in Cortona, the place where the Tuscan Sun was set, and here we visit a Ceramic Shop where you can learn how the famous ceramics are made and painted.

Today you will be hosted by a Tuscan family for lunch. Visit their Farm and learn how their wine is made by visiting their cellar. You will sample bread with homemade olive oil and special Tuscan specialties. We continue on to Rome.

Welcome to the Eternal City! Upon arrival we drive to our hotel for overnight. **(BL)** [Britannia Hotel / Hotel La Griffe Roma or similar \(TBD\)](#)

*The building that houses the Britannia Hotel is spread over four floors, the last of which is surrounded by a glorious terrace. The environment corresponds to the simplicity of the architectural lexicon with comfortable interiors. It is a scene of diligent and cordial hospitality with 33 accomodation. We have multi-lingual staff. Built in the mid-19th century by Prince Don Filippo Orsini, the Britannia Hotel is housed in an elegant building near Via Nazionale, Rome. The property is located in the Repubblica district near the Roman Forum of the emperor Trajan. The city centre can be reached in 5 minutes on foot, while the Roma Termini railway station is 700 meters away. The hotel offers exclusive promotions and also free Wi-Fi. The hotel offers guests several common areas where they can unwind including a living room, an Irish style lounge bar, a silent cabin for telephone calls and a spacious breakfast room.*

*Hotel Britannia is centred in the heart of Ancient and is within walking distance of all the major attractions including: The Imperial Forum, The Colosseum, The Pantheon, The Spanish Steps and many more. All the rooms come with refined design and have a bathroom with shower and/ or bathtub plus a hairdryer and telephone. There is Wi-Fi internet connection, an LCD satellite TV, a mini bar, an electronic safe, air conditioning, central heating plus a kettle with a selection of teas. The beds come with wooden slats and comfortable mattresses. We have the best rates guaranteed and are centrally located in Rome.*

#### DAY 9) MON MAY 13, 2024 - ROME

This morning experience a very special privately-guided tour of the priceless collection of art and treasures found in the Sistine Chapel and Vatican Museum. You will be amazed by the beautiful wall frescoes created by Michelangelo, Perugino, and Botticelli. The unique ceiling of the Sistine Chapel is surely one of Michelangelo's greatest achievements. Continue to St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the Christian world, built over the tomb of St. Peter. Then proceed to the Piazza Venezia, and the Roman Forum, with a stop at the Colosseum - a testament to the greatness of Rome's past. Continue your full tour day with visits to the Arch of Constantine, Circus Maximus, Castel Saint Angelo. Then back to our hotel to get ready to dine out at a popular Roman restaurant. *Here you will have a presentation on how to make Pizza and sample the most famous dish in the world.* **(BD)** [Britannia Hotel / Hotel La Griffe Roma or similar TBD](#)

#### DAY 10) TUE MAY 14, 2024 - ROME

Take advantage of a "Full Day" at leisure with many interesting things to see and do on your own. You may wish to visit some of the famous churches, or you may want to visit some of the museums, or take the underground to the many sights such as the Spanish Steps, the Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona... or simply relax in Rome's atmosphere at your own pace.

Tonight our farewell dinner will be at Casanov, a restaurant where an Opera Singer will be entertaining you with pieces from the most romantic and famous Italian songs. **(BD)** [Britannia Hotel / Hotel La Griffe Roma or similar \(TBD\)](#)

#### DAY 11) WED MAY 15, 2024 - ROME/USA

Today we say farewell and take with us wonderful memories from our Italian journey. We are transferred to the airport for our morning flight to the USA. *Flight schedule TBA* **(B)**

**(B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner)**

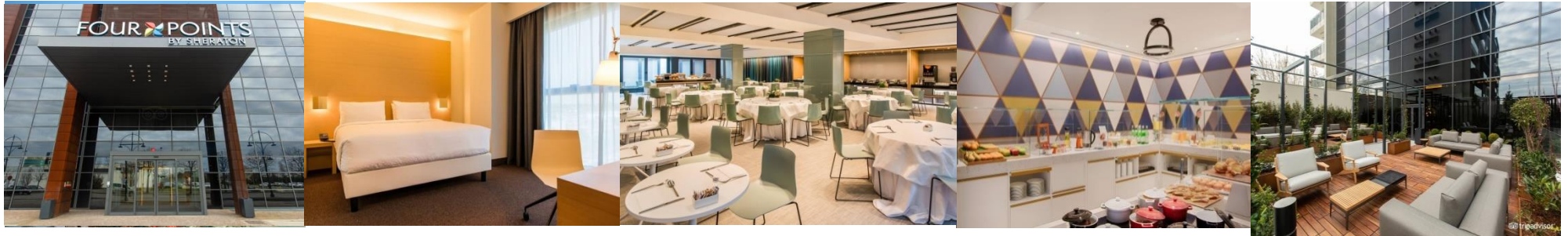


## Hotels Italy

### MILAN - Hotel NYX Milano by Leonardo or similar



### VENICE - Hotel Four Point by Sheraton Venice Mestre or similar



### FLORENCE - Hotel Hilton Florence or similar



### ROME Britannia Hotel or similar



*Hotels are subject to change*



## Italian Foods



*(B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner)*