



**SMCPSRA PRESENTS  
TREASURES OF ITALY  
ROME TO MILAN**

**17 DAYS / 16 NIGHTS ~ OCTOBER 2 – 18, 2020**

*Air departs US on October 2nd in order to arrive in Rome on October 3rd.*

**Day 1 | Depart the US**

Depart the US to Italy on your overnight flight

**Day 2 | Arrive in Rome (D)**

Upon arrival at Rome Fiumicino airport, be met by our local tour manager, board the coach and transfer to the city centre. Enjoy a panoramic tour of Rome: as your tour guide provides commentary about Rome's long history and iconic landmarks, you'll enjoy views of Capitoline Hill, Palatine Hill, Castel Sant'Angelo, St Peter's Basilica and the Tiber River. Stop at Colosseum and Roman Forum for a photo stop/ self-tour time (entrance NOT included). Include Circus Maximus photo stop, if possible. Free time for lunch (depending on arrival flight time). Then, transfer to your centrally located hotel and have some time to relax before a welcome dinner at a local restaurant 'dinner with tenors'. Overnight Rome.

**Day 3 | Rome (B,D)**

Breakfast in hotel. In the morning, enjoy a guided walking tour of Baroque Rome. Take a stroll through the streets and alleys of the city centre to visit the most famous squares, fountains and palaces of the baroque art. From the Spanish Steps to the spectacular Trevi Fountain, on to the amazing architecture of the Pantheon, and the lively atmosphere of Piazza Navona, with the Fountain of the Four Rivers by Bernini. Free afternoon. At the end of the tour, return to the hotel by private coach and enjoy dinner at local restaurant. Enjoy a Rome by night tour tonight. Overnight Rome.

**Day 4 | Rome (B,D)**

In the morning, you'll be visiting the Vatican with Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel, the official residence of the Pope, in the Vatican City. Its fame rests on its architecture, which evokes Solomon's Temple of the Old Testament, its decoration, frescoed throughout by the greatest Renaissance artists, including Michelangelo whose ceiling is legendary. Free afternoon. Enjoy dinner at local restaurant. Overnight Rome.

**Day 5 | Rome-Naples-Pompeii-Sorrento (B,D)**

Breakfast in hotel. This morning board the coach and depart for Naples. Fast stop for photo at Vesuvius (FROM NAPLES). Visit the main sites like Plebiscita Square and the beautiful view of the bay. Lunch stop maybe with a Neapolitan pizza (your expense). Go to Pompeii in the afternoon and have 2-hour guided tour of its World Heritage-listed ruins that were covered in volcanic ash from the eruption of Mt Vesuvius in 79 AD. As you explore with your guide, learn about the discovery of the ruins in the 18th century and hear stories about life in the village during the days of Ancient Rome. At the end of the tour, drive to the hotel.

Tarantella dance show or Sorrento Musical in Teatro Tasso. Overnight in Sorrento.

**Day 6 | Sorrento and Amalfi Coast (B,D)**

Bus tour to drive/see the Amalfi Coast. Scenic drive of the Amalfi Coast and visit Positano village. Include a culinary experience in afternoon and dinner from Sorrento to a local farm like Limoneto Storico 1894. Led by a local guide, travel to a pizzeria, cheese factory, and family-run farm for tastings of their top products, including homemade bread, lemonade,

and extra virgin olive oil. Learn the secrets behind Italian family recipes and try your hand at pizza making, Neapolitan style. Top it all off with coffee, dessert, and a limoncello digestivo before returning to overnight in Sorrento.

#### **Day 7 | Sorrento – Assisi – Siena (B,D)**

Breakfast in hotel. This morning checkout of your Sorrento hotel, board the coach and depart for Tuscany. Travel to Assisi for your guided tour. Photo stop of Tiber River along the way. Overnight Siena. Dinner at the hotel.

#### **Day 8 | Siena – San Gimignano – Montecatini Terme (B,D)**

Breakfast in hotel.

Begin with a private tour of the Siena Cathedral, admiring the unique marble stripes of its interior.

Your tour will continue to the Piazza del Campo, the famed site of the Palio di Siena, the horse races held twice a year. Afterward, soak up some free time to continue exploring independently or to purchase lunch. Reunite with your driver and travel to the walled medieval city of San Gimignano. Resting on the top of a hill, explore the area's impressive Romanesque and Gothic architecture, frescoes, towers and more. Continue on to Montecatini Terme and check in your hotel. Dinner and overnight Montecatini Terme.

#### **Day 9 | Montecatini Terme Cinque Terre – Montecatini Terme (B,D)**

After breakfast in hotel, depart for a guided full day excursion to the Cinque Terre, a UNESCO-listed wonder and an enchanting region made up of five charming villages. Delight in the spectacular surrounding scenery as you follow the curve of the coastline and climb aboard a boat or train for the rest of your journey, depending on the weather and sea condition stop first at Riomaggiore, an enclave replete with pastel colored houses that appear to tumble into the sea, and then travel onward to Manarola, the oldest village on the stunning landscape. Next, admire sweeping vistas of the Mediterranean Sea from the elevated perch of Corniglia; revitalize with a delicious Italian lunch in one of Vernazza's sophisticated open-air restaurants (own expense); and then conclude with a rejuvenating stint on one of Monterosso's beaches, famed for their silken sands and warm water. Return to Montecatini Terme for dinner. Overnight in Montecatini Terme.

#### **Day 10 | Montecatini – Pisa – Lucca – Montecatini (B,D)**

After breakfast in hotel, depart for a morning trip to Pisa passing through Lucca. Return to your hotel. Visit a farmhouse in the Tuscan countryside for a cooking lesson with a local chef. Prepare a traditional meal and eat what you've prepared. See the wine barrels, if they have some. Overnight in Montecatini Terme.

#### **Day 11 | Montecatini – Florence (B,D)**

Breakfast in hotel. This morning depart for a full day tour of Florence. Meet your local guide and walk first to the neighborhood of San Lorenzo, a popular spot with visitors and locals alike for its open-air market, which sells a wide array of leather goods, clothing and more. As you go, your guide will discuss the rule of the Medici family and their significant impact on the city's politics and art during the Renaissance. Head past the Medici Chapels, designed by Michelangelo and Matteo Nigetti, and check out the Basilica of San Lorenzo, where members of the Medici family are buried. Next, wander over to one of Florence's most iconic landmarks, the Duomo, where Brunelleschi's Dome famously sits. Visit the Baptistery and Giotto's Bell Tower (from outside) while learning the history of the architecture. Continue through the bustling square of Piazza della Signoria, home to the Palazzo Vecchio, outdoor cafes and a collection of famous sculptures, including Giambologna's Rape of the Sabine Women. Visit Il Porcellino, the bronze piglet statue that offers luck to those who rub his nose. In the afternoon, visit of Accademia Gallery (David). Overnight Florence.

#### **Day 12 | Florence (B,D)**

Optional self-guided tour of Uffizi Gallery and/or Leonardo Da Vinci Museum. Free time in Florence. Dinner and overnight in Florence.

#### **Day 13 | Florence – Verona – Venice (B,D)**

Breakfast in hotel. This morning depart to Venice. Photo stop in Verona. Continue on to Venice Tronchetto pier and then board your water taxis to the pier near the hotel. Free time at leisure in the afternoon: have a gondola ride! Check into your hotel for overnight and enjoy a dinner in Venice.

#### **Day 14 | Venice (B,D)**

After breakfast in hotel, go meet your local guide for a guided walking tour of Venice. As you explore by foot, your guide will show off Venice's highlights while regaling you with little-known facts and history about the city.

Admire Doge's Palace, from where the doges of Venice once ruled: you will see masterpieces of famous artists, such as Titian, Veronese and Tintoretto, as well as richly decorated rooms, sumptuous sculptures and decorative elements. You will also cross the famous Bridge of Sighs and visit the terrible dungeons where the famous Giacomo Casanova was imprisoned. Then head inside St Mark's Basilica (Basilica di San Marco) to see Italian Byzantine architecture at its finest. Dripping with gold and ornate mosaics, the cathedral came to symbolize the wealth and power of 11th-century Venice. Head back outside and stop for photos by St Mark's Campanile -the cathedral's iconic, red bell tower- and learn about the three interconnecting buildings next to it that are known collectively as the Procuratie. Afternoon: Boarding on boat for an excursion to Murano. Lunch on the island at the local restaurant (own expenses). Have a glass blowing exhibition. Dinner in Venice and overnight in hotel.

**Day 15 | Venice – Lake Garda – Milano (B,D)**

After breakfast in hotel. Board the water taxis and transfer to Tronchetto. Boarding your coach transfer and depart to Milan. Let's stop at one of the most popular sights on Lake Garda- the Peninsula of Sirmione. Crossing the drawbridge, we enter a peaceful world of hot springs, the Medieval castles and phenomenal views of the Dolomites. Arriving in Milan and have a panoramic tour with guide: see the Duomo, La Scala, the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele (entrances not included). Dinner and overnight in Milan.

**Day 16 | Milan – Lake Como – Lake Maggiore – Milan (B,D)**

After breakfast in hotel. Take a trip to Lake Como. Continue to Lake Maggiore and short cruise on the lake. Dinner and overnight in Milan.

**Day 17 | Departure (B)**

After breakfast in your hotel, coach transfer from your hotel to Milan airport for your return home.

ALL FOR ONLY **\$6,990** PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

OR

**\$8,403** PER PERSON SINGLE OCCUPANCY

Price is per person and includes roundtrip airfare.

*\*Price based on a minimum of 20 paying passengers*

**PASSPORT REQUIRED**

**DEPOSIT POLICY:** An initial deposit of \$1450 per person double occupancy or \$2900 per person single occupancy is required in order to secure reservations. **\$100 of the deposit is nonrefundable. Once the minimum of 20 paying passengers is met and your group trip is reserved, the full deposit amount becomes nonrefundable, unless you are utilizing the trip insurance for cancellations due to covered reasons. Final payment is due July 3, 2020.**

**FOR RESERVATIONS OR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**

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