ENTICING NORTHERN ITALY, TUSCANY AND ROME

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Level 2
DESTINATION: Enticing Northern Italy, Tuscany & Rome
DURATION: 11 days, 10 nights

FLIGHT INFORMATION:
Economy flights departing from [LHR] to arrive into Milan Malpensa airport [MXP], on Day 1 and return from [FCO] Rome Airport on Day 11.

PICKUP LOCATION:
Milan Malpensa airport [MXP]
OVERVIEW


Discover the very best of Italy from Milan to Lake Garda to Verona to Venice to Florence to Pisa and Rome!
A fantastic tour offering all that is the very best of Italy. On our journey from Milan to Rome we will visit the classic cities of
Verona, Venice, Bologna, Florence, Pisa and Lucca. See spectacular Lake Garda, experience the magnificent scenery of Tuscany,
walk in the footsteps of Roman emperors, sample traditional food and wine, enjoy iconic buildings such as the Colosseum, St
Mark’s and the Leaning Tower of Pisa and visit some of the world’s most famous museums that Italy has to offer. These are just
some of the highlights that are awaiting you on this memorable journey through Italy.

If that’s not enough then we also have our Sicilian Adventure that starts where this one finishes - why not join us?

ITINERARY SUMMARY

DAY 1 - Benvenuti in Italia!
DAY 2 - Milan - Lake Garda - Verona
DAY 3 - Verona to Venice
DAY 4 - Venetian Highlights
DAY 5 - Bologna and Tuscany
DAY 6 - Discovering Florence
DAY 7 - Pisa and Lucca
DAY 8 - Chianti Vineyards and Rome
DAY 9 - Ancient Rome
DAY 10 - The Vatican City
DAY 11 - Arrivederci Roma
FULL ITINERARY

DAY 1 - BENVENUTI IN ITALIA!
Welcome to Milan! Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel. This evening we will join our fellow travellers and enjoy a welcome drink and tour presentation, followed by dinner together in a nearby restaurant.

Included meals: Dinner
Accommodation: NYX Hotel, Milan

DAY 2 - MILAN - LAKE GARDA - VERONA
We will depart after breakfast for a panoramic guided coach tour of Milan before heading east for Verona. Sights will include La Scala, Milan's world renowned opera house, Sforzesco Castle and the Cathedral amongst others. En-route we will stop at one of the picturesque towns at the southern end of spectacular Lake Garda, Desenzano or Sirmione, where there will be free time to explore and take lunch at leisure. We will then continue to Verona for an overnight stay. Dinner together in local restaurant/trattoria.

Included meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Accommodation: Best Western Hotel Firenze, Verona

DAY 3 - VERONA TO VENICE
This morning we will have some free time to explore Verona at our own pace. It is a very easy city to walk around with plenty of shops, bars and cafes, as well as some world renowned attractions such at the Arena (well worth a visit) and the famous Juliet's Balcony. After we have had time for a spot of lunch, we will head towards Venice where we will spend the next two nights. Tonight enjoy dinner together in a local restaurant/trattoria.

We will be transferred from the coach to our hotel by private boat shuttle (same on the return).

Included meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Maison Venezia Una Esperienze, Venice

DAY 4 - VENETIAN HIGHLIGHTS
After breakfast, we will enjoy a guided walking tour of the main sights of Venice, including the Doge's Palace and St. Mark's Basilica. The rest of the day and evening will be free to explore Venice with your 24 hour ACTV Tourist Venice Travelcard (unlimited travel including the water-buses) Perhaps take a boat tour to the islands of Murano and Burano where the famous glassware is produced or treat yourself to a tour of the canals on a gondola!

Included meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: Hotel Maison Venezia Una Esperienze, Venice

DAY 5 - BOLOGNA AND TUSCANY
This morning we will continue our tour south towards Florence and Tuscany, stopping en-route at the city of Bologna, Italy's culinary capital and, yes, the home of Bolognese Sauce! We'll have lunch before continuing on our journey. We will be staying in the spa town of Montecatini Terme for 3 nights which will give us plenty of time to experience what this stunning region has to offer. Montecatini Terme is a delight in itself and a beautiful spa town located 38 miles from Florence. If time allows during our stay, it is worth taking the funicular to the summit of Montecatini Alto village, home to the Torre dell'Orologio, a medieval clock tower, plus the Romanesque church of Santa Maria a Ripa and sweeping views.

Dinner will be together in the hotel this evening.

Included meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Boston or Hotel Leonardo Da Vinci, Montecatini Terme

DAY 6 - DISCOVERING FLORENCE
We will depart after breakfast with a short walk to the nearby railway station and board a local train for the short journey to Florence. On
arrival we will be met by our local guide and taken on a walking tour of this historical city. We will see a host of famous sites such as the Galleria dell’Accademia (statue of David), Uffizi Gallery, Brunelleschi’s Dome, Giotto’s Bell Tower, St. John’s Baptistery, Ponte Vecchio amongst others. After all this exercise, it’s time to relax, maybe partake of a traditional gelato (ice cream)? The rest of the afternoon will be at leisure, before returning to our hotel by train.

Back at the hotel, dinner will be together in the hotel.

**Included meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel Boston or Hotel Leonardo Da Vinci, Montecatini Terme

**DAY 7 - PISA AND LUCCA**

Following breakfast we will board our coach for a full day tour to Pisa and Lucca. First stop will be Lucca for a walking tour of this highly attractive entirely-walled Renaissance town. Walking through the historical centre along the cobblestone streets we will see the Casa di Puccini, where the great opera composer was born which is now a house museum. There will be time for lunch before we board the coach again and head off to Pisa. We will meet our guide for a tour of the Campo dei Miracoli (Miracles Square) comprising Duomo, Baptistry and the famous Leaning Tower. There will be some free time and plenty of photo opportunities before we return to Montecatini Terme. Dinner will be together at our hotel.

**Included meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel Boston or Hotel Leonardo Da Vinci, Montecatini Terme

**DAY 8 - CHIANTI VINEYARDS AND ROME**

As we leave Florence behind we will drive through the picturesque Tuscan countryside and the Chianti region where we will stop at a classic Chianti vineyard for a presentation and wine tasting including local snacks/light lunch. After re-boarding our coach we will continue south to the Eternal City that is Rome for the next 3 nights. Dinner will be together this evening in a local restaurant/trattoria.

**Included meals:** Breakfast, Light Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel Mecenate Palace, Rome

**DAY 9 - ANCIENT ROME**

This morning we will have a guided city sightseeing tour by coach where we will discover Ancient Rome including visits to the Colosseum and Roman Forum (including skip-the-queue tickets and headsets). The rest of the day and evening will be free to explore this amazing city, making our own way back to the hotel.

**Included meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Mecenate Palace, Rome

**DAY 10 - THE VATICAN CITY**

Another highlight will be the guided visit we are making today to the Vatican and it’s museums including St. Peter’s Basilica and the Sistine Chapel (including skip-the-queue tickets and headsets).

Like yesterday, the afternoon will be at leisure for more sightseeing or last minute shopping, making our own way back to the hotel.

This evening we will enjoy a Farewell Dinner together in a local restaurant/trattoria.

**Included meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel Mecenate Palace, Rome

**DAY 11 - ARRIVEDERCI ROMA**

Sadly our Italian Experience has come to an end and its time to depart. Transfers to the airport will be arranged accordingly.
However, if you want to continue your Italian Experience, why not extend your holiday and come to Sicily with us!

**Included meals:** Breakfast
WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Arrival Milan Malpensa Airport transfer to hotel/Return departure transfer hotel/Rome Fiumicino Airport
- Accommodation as detailed in the itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers/touring and excursions in air-conditioned deluxe motor vehicles.
- All entrances/guides (English speaking) and visits as indicated in the programme.
- Porterage at all hotels including luggage assistance for the Venice boat transfers (1 piece per person)
- Tourist taxes
- Services of a Big Journey Company Tour Director throughout

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Please arrange your flights to arrive at Milan–Malpensa Airport [MXP], on Day 1 and return from [FCO] Rome Airport on Day 11.
- Additional food and beverage unless otherwise included in the programme
- Personal expenses
- Personal Travel & Medical Insurance
- Optional excursions/entrances
- Gratuities and tips. Our local travel service providers are paid well and fairly for their work. However, it is usual for groups to tip guides and drivers and it would be reasonable for each group member to factor in a contribution of around €10 per day.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Please let The Big Journey Company know prior to travelling if you have any medical needs or take any medication that we need to be made aware of to ensure that you have a safe and pleasant tour.
- Check in is after 2pm and check out is before 11am unless otherwise specified in the itinerary.
- Cancellation 90 – 0 days prior to departure cancellation fee is 100%. It is your responsibility to ensure the correct travel insurance in place to protect you against the need to cancel your holiday. Deposits are non-refundable and final payments are due 14 weeks prior to departure.
- Further terms and conditions apply and will be provided upon request or at the time of booking. The Big Journey Company reserves the right to withdraw any offer prior to accepting a reservation request. This does not affect your statutory rights. This offer is subject to availability and space is limited.
**BOOK YOUR JOURNEY**

Choose from the list of dates below

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<td>MAY 23, 2020. PLATINUM &amp; GOLD MEMBERS: ENTICING NORTHERN ITALY ESCORTED JOURNEY. APPLY 4,285 POINTS PER PERSON AT $0.30 PER POINT LEAVING A CASH REMAINDER OF $2,999 PER PERSON.</td>
<td>23 MAY - 02 JUN 2020</td>
<td>FROM $2,999 PER PERSON.</td>
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Call to Book

1.855.624.4386

Monday to Thursday 09:00am - 8:00pm. Friday 09:00am - 05:30pm. (London time)