

Celebration · ESCAPES ·

— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

7 -14 Day Italian VIP Exclusive Delights Rome – Tuscany – Florence - Castelnuovo Berardenga - Venice



**CUSTOM ITINERARY – YOUR DATES – FLEXIBLE INCLUSIONS –
7-14 Day ITINERARY**

Arrival Day 1: Rome – US – Rome

Arrival into Fiumicino airport - Private Minivan transfer from Rome airport to Rome Hotel .

Upon arrival at Fiumicino Airport, you will be met by your private Liaison who will meet you at customs and assist you through the process. Once you are through customs and immigration, you will be escorted through the airport to the Arrival Hall, where you will meet your private English-speaking driver. He will assist you with your luggage and you can relax and enjoy a leisurely transfer from the Airport to the Hotel.

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

Upon arrival at the hotel, you will be welcomed with a private VIP check-in experience.

The St. Regis Hotel with breakfast, service and taxes included for 2 nights.

Built in 1894 as the first deluxe hotel in Rome, the St. Regis Grand, Rome is within walking distance of the Spanish Steps, the Trevi Fountain and Via Veneto. Upon reopening in mid-December 1999, after an extensive restoration and renovation, the St. Regis Grand, Rome reclaimed its status as the finest hotel in Rome and one of the best in the world.



Enjoy a unique dining experience at our restaurant Vivendo, the number one restaurant in Rome nominated by Zagat, and the Gold Key award winner for design and décor. Our private wine cellar, Di Vino, selected to be "depositaire de l' enotheque Dom Perignon" invites you to private dining with regional and international menus enhanced by a wide selection of wines to complement each course. An English-style butler is available, on dedicated floors, to attend to guests' requests 24-hours a day.

- Hotel's Restaurants (Vivendo) is not open on Sundays and Mondays. It opens from 7,30 pm + Di Vino wine cellar + The Grand bar
- The hotel also has Junior Suites, 5 Ambassador Suites, a Bottega Veneta Suite, a Designer Suite and a The Royal Suite.
- On request Butler Service
- Groups: Check-in from 3 pm/Check-out within 10,30 am– Individuals: 2 pm -12 noon

Time at Leisure to Explore Rome on your own..

The first settlements in the Region can be traced back to the Early Etruscan Civilization in Northern Lazio. Rome grew to rule a vast empire and, as the empire began to divide, the region became the center of the Christian World. Artists and Architects flocked to work for the popes and their families, notably in the Renaissance and Baroque periods, when some magnificent works were created. There legacy of this uninterrupted history can be seen all over the city and the surrounding area.

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —



Dinner reservation at Antica Trattoria Tritone— payment for dinner direct to the restaurant.

We love this restaurant for so many reasons. The welcome that you receive matches the friendly, relaxed atmosphere and service that you will experience during your meal. The Trattoria itself is extremely attractive with the roof vaults and historical pieces found during a recent restaurant open have been cleaned and are completely for the viewing and enjoyment of guests.

These very important ‘findings’ are now very much protected by the Italian Historical Arts Society. Moving onto what you can enjoy here, the Wine List is Varied and full of the most Important and Prestigious Italian Wines as well as the good lesser known wines – the waiters can give you some wonderful advice.

The portions served here are plentiful without being overwhelming and for those interested in Italian Cuisine you can enjoy watching your meal being prepared as the kitchen is in full view of the seating area of the Trattoria.

Dishes offered here at the Trattoria Tritone are principally traditional Roman Dishes. Whether you choose to eat inside enjoying a part of history or outside enjoying this small ‘green area full of flowers’ in the heart of the historical centre, the restaurant is located just a short distance from the Trevi

Fountain and Spanish steps, we are quite sure you will enjoy the food and service and atmosphere at the Trattoria Tritone just as much as we do...

The atmosphere is casual. Reservation required.

After dinner you are at leisure to continue self exploration or return to your hotel and relax.

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Day 2: Rome – US – Rome

Breakfast in the Hotel

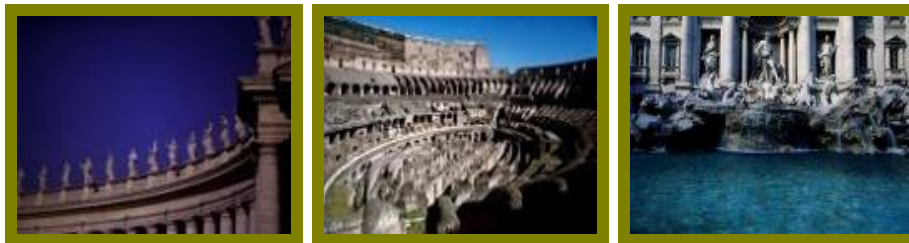
After breakfast meet your English-speaking driver and professional local guide in the lobby of your hotel for your full day tour of Rome.

Enjoy this morning a very special introduction to the amazing highlights of Imperial Rome.

A great way to see and enjoy the highlights of Imperial Rome. On this tour we will visit the valley of the Roman Forum. We will see the inside of the Senate and the inside of the Basilica of Constantine.

From the outside we will see the other ruins (temples, basilicas, Reggia, etc.). We will walk the Via Sacra to the Arch of Tito and enjoy the Colosseum both externally and from the inside.

We then head to the Basilica of St. Peter in Chains to see the Holy Chains of St. Peter and the Moses carved by Michelangelo!!! Not to mention the Vittoriano (otherwise known as the Wedding Cake). The tour ends with a panoramic drive past Circus Maximus, Aventino Hill and the Palatino Hill. (tour duration: 3 hours)



Break for lunch at leisure- your guide will have great suggestions for your lunch. Lunch is on your own (typically you would invite your driver & guide to join you for lunch) Payment direct to the restaurant.

After lunch you will continue the day with a very special introduction to the Vatican City and its amazing history, highlights and hidden gems with our local expert guide....

Our Vatican experience will take us on the most amazing journey through the Vatican

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

Museums, our entrances into which have been prearranged, and into the most beautiful and famous chapels in the world, the Sistine Chapel.

As we stroll through these amazing buildings we will not only learn about the beginning, the construction, the way of life of the locals here and the amazing power that this tiny state holds but also about the effect it has on and the relationship with neighbouring Italy.

From the Sistine Chapel, along with our local expert guide we will continue our 'voyage through the Vatican' by entering the ever majestic Basilica of St. Peters and discovering the secrets of one of the world's most beautiful Basilica's before heading out into the Piazza to discover one of the Vatican city's most magical places.... (tour duration: 4 Hours) – Taxis to/from Vatican not included

NOTE: entrances to Vatican are ON REQUEST and can be confirmed only one month prior to tour.



After the tour you will be returned to your hotel where you will be at leisure.

Dinner at leisure in one of Rome's Restaurants – see Celebration Escapes' Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas...

Day 3: Rome – Rome – Tuscany - Florence

Breakfast in the Hotel

After breakfast check out of your hotel. Meet your English-speaking driver in the lobby of your hotel for your transfer to Florence.

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

Private Transfer with Expert Driver/Guide from Rome to Florence stopping en route to enjoy two of Tuscany's most typically Tuscan and beautiful towns.

As you transfer from Rome to Florence enjoy a wonderful introduction to the Regions of Lazio and Tuscany not to mention their people and culture from your Expert Driver/Guide.

Heading North through Tuscany enjoy a two hours stop in Siena and a One hour stop in San Gimignano which gives you the perfect opportunity to take in the two of the most famous towns of Tuscany.



Upon arrival at the hotel, you will be welcomed with a VIP check-in experience. The Lungarno Suites Hotel with breakfast, service and taxes included for 4 nights. (**NOTE:** Many other hotel options are available – discuss the options with your Celebration Escapes travel consultant in your Creative Planning Session.)

The Lungarno suites are a wonderful option for those seeking comfort, a great location in Florence and the possibility to self cater too. These suites are great for family groups and couples travelling together.

A space has been created for you along the river. At the Ponte Vecchio, in the heart of Florence. With the service of a Hotel in the style of a Suite. With the ongoing care that Lungarno Hotels reserve for you. Discover the pleasure of living the city from within. The Services at the Lungarno suites include:-

Living Room: Concierge - 24-hours Reception - Daily maid service - Continental breakfast served in the apartment.

Bedroom: Internet TV - SAT TV - DVD and CD - High speed data link – Voicemail - Mini-bar - Air conditioning

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —



Kitchen Area: Everything you need for the kitchen and the table – Microwave - Espresso coffee Machine - Electric kettle – Dishwasher – Refrigerator - Condiments and spices for cooking - A rich array of breakfast products - Complimentary welcome tray: for a taste of Italian cooking!

Bathroom: Guest amenities' fragrance created by Lorenzo Villoresi "Verde Mediterraneo"

Available upon request is a kit for washing delicate articles by hand (basin, special detergent and bathtub drying rack).

You will be at leisure until Dinner.

Dinner reservation at the Olio & Convivium restaurant– payment for dinner direct to the restaurant.

Olio & Convivium" is located in the historical "Palazzo Capponi" in the heart of Florence, on the left side of the Arno river; an old city quarter also known as Oltrarno, literally meaning beyond the Arno.

This sophisticated location is dedicated to the oil and wine tasting experience and to high level gastronomy.

Day 4: Florence – Florence

Breakfast in the Hotel

After breakfast, meet your English-speaking professional local guide for a walking tour of the city.

Celebration

· ESCAPES ·

— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

Enjoy this morning a very special walking tour of Florence taking in the highlights of this amazing city with your local expert guide: The guide's flexibility allows for adaptation to your areas of interest.

While those who have visited Florence before may have special requests, we suggest the following for a first visit to this city:

- **Piazza della Signoria**, one of the most beautiful squares in the world, with its open-air display of masterpieces of Renaissance and Baroque sculpture. The backdrop is the medieval Palazzo Vecchio, the city's seat of government for over 700 years. Together with your guide, explore the fascinating history of Florence, as the heroes from the Old Testament or Greek mythology, depicted here in marble and bronze, served as political messages for the ruler of the moment.

- **Piazza del Duomo**, the Cathedral square, where from the outside we can admire the graceful Gothic bell-tower and the Romanesque baptistery with its beautiful gilded bronze doors. The most famous of the doors are the "Gates of Paradise" by Lorenzo Ghiberti, with their stories from the Old Testament, a masterpiece of the early Renaissance. The Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore is crowned with its imposing dome, an amazing challenge of engineering to be solved only by the genius of Brunelleschi. We discuss how the difficulties were to be overcome in the most imaginative of ways.



- **The Ponte Vecchio**, or "old bridge" and its tantalizing jewelry shops. Beautiful hand-made gold jewelry is a "centuries-long" tradition in this city, dating back to the pre-Roman era of the Etruscans. This medieval bridge is the oldest spanning the Arno River, offering lovely views of the city and the hills beyond.

- **The Academy of Fine Arts**, founded in 1563, was the first school established in Europe specifically to teach the techniques of drawing, painting and sculpture. The art collection displayed here was formed in 1784 with the aim of providing material for students to study and copy. The most famous work on display is Michelangelo's David (1504), a colossal nude of the biblical hero who killed the giant Goliath. Other

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· ESCAPES ·

— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

masterpieces here include the Quattro Prigioni sculpted between 1521 and 1523 and intended to adorn the tomb of Pope Julius II.

•**We also strongly recommend a visit to the Franciscan church of Santa Croce and its neighborhood.** This is the perfect setting for further discussion of the artistic and political history of this great city. The church serves as a pantheon to Italian genius with monuments to such as Michelangelo, Machiavelli and Galileo. There are also fine examples of the work of artists such as Giotto, Donatello and Brunelleschi.

The Franciscans' Leather School still operates in the rooms of the old convent behind the church: here classes are conducted and fine leather articles are produced and sold. It is possible to observe the master craftsmen and their students at work.

You will also discover lesser-known corners of the city, quiet back streets of the neighbourhood, craftsmen's workshops and curiosities of life in Florence, both present-day and medieval. Here is located one of the city's most fascinating of workshops where it is possible to watch the masters creating beautiful pieces in semi-precious inlaid stone with the same tools and techniques of the past.

The city is so seeped in history, the quality of its artists and craftsmen is so superlative, there are so many delights to discover, you will be left, wanting always more!(tour duration 4 hours)

Time at leisure for independent exploring...

This afternoon, enjoy a visit with your Private English Speaking Guide the beautiful Uffizi gallery with prearranged entrances...

The Uffizi, Italy's great art gallery, was built in 1560 – 80 to house offices for Duke Cosimo I. The architect Vasari used iron as reinforcement, which enabled his successor Buontalenti to create an almost continuous wall of glass on the upper story.

This was used as a gallery for Francesco I to display the Medici art treasures. The collection was divided up in the 19th century: ancient objects went to the archaeological museum and sculpture to the Bargello, leaving the Uffizi with a matchless collection of paintings.

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —



Dinner reservation at the Osteria di Giovanni restaurant – payment for dinner direct to the restaurant.

This charming family-run restaurant dates back to 1951 when it started as a tiny wine shop offering a small selection of typical Tuscan delicacies. It is now located in the original stables of Palazzo Rucellai, creating an informal, vibrant yet elegant restaurant.

It is only 10 minutes from Piazza della Signoria and from Ponte Vecchio, and has the famous shopping of via Tornabuoni and via della Vigna Nuova just round the corner. It is a popular meeting place with good food and wine, and warm and relaxed atmosphere. The menu includes favourites such as a Veal Ossobuco, fresh fish of the day, and homemade ravioli and tortelli. Casual but Elegant Atmosphere. After dinner you are at leisure to continue exploration on your own or to return to the hotel and relax.

Day 5: Florence – Florence

Breakfast in the Hotel

After breakfast, meet your English-speaking professional local guide for a walking tour of the West Bank.

Enjoy a wonderful stroll through the Left Bank Side of Florence with your Local Expert Guide taking in this amazing area as well as the Pitti Palace and Boboli Gardens...

Our walk takes us over the Ponte Vecchio to the south side of the Arno River, through the streets of a lesser-known part of Florence where tradition survives. The workshops,

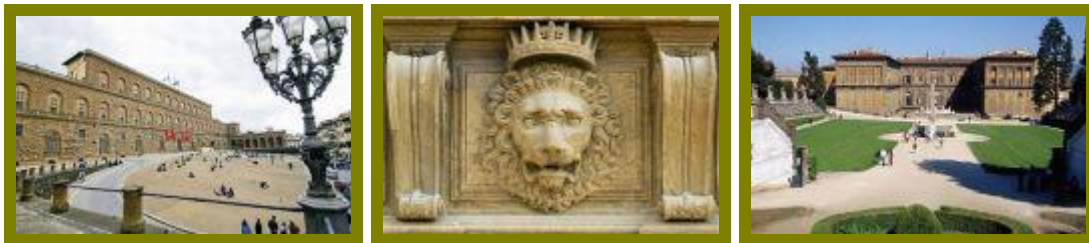
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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

small boutiques and little squares, make this one of the most delightful quarters of the city. Here, some restoration clinics are working on the elaborate frames for the very paintings we shall be seeing.

The Palazzo Pitti, with its extensive gardens behind, is an impressive complex, housing an immense collection of art in several different museums. The palace was originally built in the 15th century for the wealthy banker Luca Pitti. The Pitti were determined to out rival the Medici: the windows were to be larger than the doors of the Medici.

Ironically, when the building costs bankrupted Luca Pitti's heirs, the Medici purchased the property and began a lengthy project to enlarge and embellish the palace. In 1550, it became the main residence of the Grand-dukes, successively, of the Austrian rulers, of Napoleon's sister, Elisa and later, of the first King of Italy during that brief period when Florence was capital of the newly formed Kingdom.



The apartments, with their rich decoration, reflect the taste of the various periods. For the Medici, it was an impressive stage for a family that had quickly risen from mere merchants to Grand-dukes, with an aspiration to become the Kings of Tuscany. The Medici's residence, with its opulent interiors, superlative collections of masterpieces and gardens full of marvels, will be inspiration for the French kings at Versailles and

Fontainbleau.

Our visit to the Palatine Gallery takes us through lavish settings with masterpieces of Renaissance painters: such as Raphael, Titian, Rubens. There are beautiful furnishings and delightful views out over the gardens directly behind the palace.

(Tour duration-4 hours)

Lunch is on your own today. see Celebration Escapes' Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas.

After lunch, you are at leisure for the remainder of the day for independent exploring or relaxing and enjoying your hotel.

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

Dinner at leisure in one of Florence's Restaurants – see Celebration Escapes' Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas.

Day 6: Florence – Florence

Early Breakfast in the Hotel if you desire to eat as soon as you awaken (a good day for room service)

5:00 AM approximately depending on the time of year: After breakfast, meet your English-speaking driver & professional local guide for a VIP Tuscany of the Skies Events.

Enjoy Tuscany from the Skies – a very special sunrise experience awaits you..

Enjoy a very special Tuscany experience which begins at sunrise with an early morning departure from your hotel.

On arrival at the site, your experience begins assisting the pilot in the balloons' preparation then its onwards and upwards as we head up into the Tuscan Skies to enjoy a very special unique and enchanting experience.

The flight, whose duration is approximately 50 minutes, will take us through the heart of the Chianti Region allowing us to enjoy the famous rolling hills of Chianti, the vineyards, olive groves, farm houses and characteristic hillside towns.

Our Balloon will land in Chianti where, accompanied by our pilot, we will enjoy a pleasant Chianti Picnic Breakfast before returning with our driver to the hotel.

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —



Departure time from the chosen field at 6:00 am sharp in Summer
Duration of flight approx 50 minutes

Afternoon is at leisure for independent exploring or relaxing in your hotel.

Dinner at leisure in one of Florence's Restaurants – see Celebration Escapes' Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas.

Day 7: Florence – Florence - Tuscany

Breakfst in the hotel.

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and meet your private English-speaking driver in the lobby for your transfer from Florence hotel to Castelnuovo Berardenga – the Driver will await you in the Hotel Lobby

Upon arrival at your hotel, you will be welcomed with a VIP check-in experience. Your luggage will be managed and delivered to your accommodation. The hotel, Castel Monastero Hotel, where you have reserved rooms with breakfast, service and taxes included for 2 nights.

In the well-known Valley del l'Ombrone, just 23 KM from Siena, rises the Castel Monasterio, set in an intact ancient medieval village, dating back to the 11th century. It is known as one of the finest monasteries of Ombrone. Long stretches of vineyards of Chianti, chestnut forests and hills covered with wheat are the framework for this witness of Tuscan nobility.

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· ESCAPES ·

— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

The property is set on four acres of greenery, from any corner it offers a view of vineyards, and olive groves. It has been restored respecting the tradition and the origins of this ancient country house, even though it has been enriched with elements of modern design.



Restaurants

In collaboration with Gordon Ramsey, winner of 10 Michelin stars, under the direction of Alexander Delfanti, skilful chef, the “Gourmet” restaurant in the village square will be happy to amaze guests of Castel Monastero with the best of traditional Tuscan cuisine.

It is know for the genuineness of its excellent dishes. Anyone wishing to deepen the knowledge of Tuscan wine traditions, will go to the “Cellar”, where under the guidance of expert sommeliers, will enjoy the best regional wines and the vintages of Chianti produced in the estate, accompanying them with the tasting of typical specialities of the area.

During the day, guests can visit the bar in the square where they can have the possibility to sip herbal teas made with Tuscan herbs, prepared according to old recipes.

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· ESCAPES ·

— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —



Wellness Center

The flagship of Castel Monastero is undoubtedly the spectacular Spa, which is situated between two beautiful country houses, representatives of the typical architecture of Tuscan countryside.

The center covers an area of 1000M2, where guests can discover treatments designed especially for them by the master of Urban Retreats, the largest and most famous SPA in Europe, which has its headquarters in the famous SPA at Harrods in London.

Doctors and specialists will be able to recommend treatments and diets that best suit the needs of each guest. Every day, a discovery, Every day a different itinerary passing through unspoiled scenery!

Time to relax at your beautiful Hotel on your own.

Dinner at leisure on your own tonight in one of Castel Berardenga's Restaurants
– the Concierge will have great suggestions for your dinner.

Day 8: Tuscany – Tuscan Countryside

Breakfast in the Hotel

After breakfast, meet your English-speaking driver & professional local guide for a Driving & Bicycle tour in Tuscany.

Enjoy a very special day enjoying one of Tuscany's most beautiful regions by bike with a special stop to enjoy some of the finest Tuscan Wines.

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

The tour departs at 9:00am from the hotel and the first part of the journey is by minivan, which will take us to Pienza; one of Tuscany's most picturesque towns, as well as one of the most important "Cheese Towns".

Following a brief visit to the town, it is time to get on our bikes and head towards Montalcino.

During the journey we will cross the incredible town of Lucignano d'Asso, to get to Torrenieri, where you will make a short stop for a coffee break.

After the break, you will follow the "white roads" (the quaint local expression for gravel) for 10km full of incredible beauty where it seems every curve offers a view which is even more stunning than the one before.

It's then onto the Azienda, Agricola Paradiso, where we will enjoy a late lunch including many Tuscan specialities, as well as the opportunity to taste three of our favorite Tuscany wines. Of course, at least one of these wines will be the world renowned "Brunello di Montalcino".

Now it is time to return to the minivan and let the driver take us on a relaxing drive gentle ride back to our hotel.



Duration of tour: 8 hours

Tour includes:

- Round trip transportation from your hotel
- Mountain bike (currently updated models with quality fabrication and technology)
- Ultralight indestructible helmets
- Water bottles throughout your journey
- A light lunch and wine tastings
- A local, English-speaking nature excursion guide (1 guide per 8 person).
- A minivan at disposal throughout the journey

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- All basic insurance as required by law, including additional bicycle insurance.

Dinner at leisure in one of Arezzo's Restaurants – the Concierge will have great suggestions for your dinner

After dinner, you are at leisure for the remainder of the day for independent exploring or relaxing and enjoying your hotel.

Day 9: Tuscany – Tuscany – Bologna - Venice

Breakfast in the Hotel

After breakfast, check out of your hotel. Meet your English-speaking driver in the lobby of your hotel for your transfer to Venice.

Private Transfer from Castel Monastero hotel to Venice stopping for lunch at leisure in Bologna – Enjoy one of the most leisurely, picturesque transfers through Northern Tuscany and into Emilia Romagna stopping in one of Italy's most important gastronomic cities for lunch at leisure before continuing north through the Veneto Region to the unique coastal city of Venice. (stopping time for lunch – 2 hours)



Private Water Taxi Transfer from Venice Parking Place to Venice Hotel with English Speaking Assistant

Upon arrival at your hotel, The Gritti Palace Hotel, you will be welcomed with a VIP check-in experience. Your luggage will be managed and delivered to your accommodation. You have reserved Double Deluxe Rooms with breakfast, service and taxes included for 4 nights. (NOTE: Many Other hotels are available)

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· ESCAPES ·

— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

The Hotel Gritti Palace was built in 1525 and originally served as the magnificent residence of Andrea Gritti, the Doge of Venice. The stunning 5 star luxury hotel, of quite undisputed charm, is situated in a prime location on Venice's legendary Grand Canal, and has for centuries been the chosen Venetian residence of illustrious personages of international fame.

The Gritti Palace has a total of 91 sumptuous guest bedrooms and suites, ornately furnished with exquisite pieces of hand painted wooden mobilia, period antique dressing tables and mirrors, Murano glass chandeliers and romantic canopied beds. The rich interiors are decorated with plush velvets, gold brocade, sweeping drapes and embellished with original centuries-old artworks. The luxurious bathrooms feature the finest Italian marble. From the tall windows of their rooms, guests enjoy incomparable views of the Grand Canal and Santa Maria del Giglio. All rooms are equipped with the latest in modern technology including high speed internet access and in-room entertainment facilities.

Guests dine at the Club del Doge restaurant which spills out on to the terrace in the warmer summer months offering superb views of the canal and the city. The finest Venetian cuisine is prepared using only the freshest, locally sourced ingredients selected from the bustling markets which fill many of the squares of the city.

A private round-trip boat service is available to Venice Lido, where to enjoy private beach facilities, swimming pools, tennis, and golf.



Time at leisure to enjoy Venice on your own

Rising from the waters of the Venetian lagoons like a mirage, Venice, the city of canals is unlike any other. A romantic maze of alleys, waterways, silent squares, beautiful

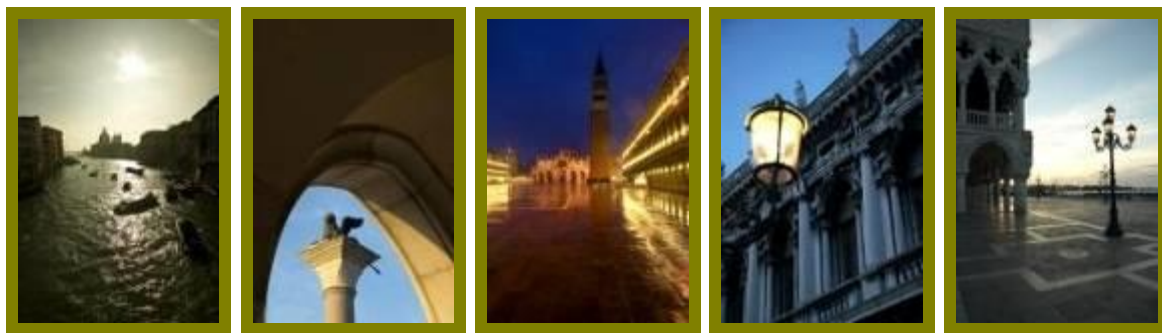
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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

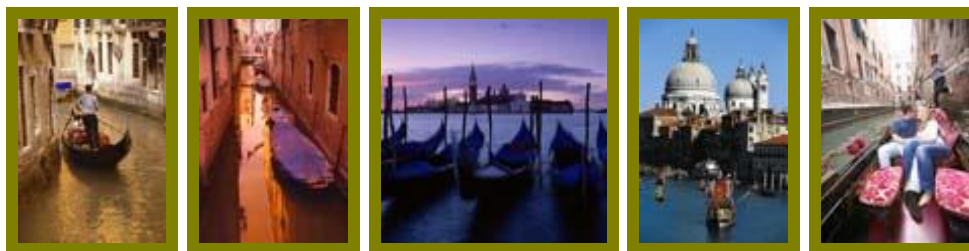
majestic palaces, Venice rarely fails to engage the imagination. Whether you are seeking to follow in the footsteps of Vivaldi, Titian or Marco Polo or enjoy a private art collection, learn all about the gondolas and masks, climb the Campanile for brilliant birds' eye views or simply explore and enjoy the beautiful shops which line the streets and canals of Venice, there really is something for everyone here.



This Afternoon meet your private English-speaking driver & Professional local guide in the lobby of your hotel for a leisurely late afternoon canal tour by Gondola.

Enjoy Exploring the Minor Canals of the St. Marks District of Venice in the true Venetian Way by Gondola...

Enjoy exploring some of the most beautiful corners of the St. Marks District in true Venetian style – by Gondola. This gentle cruise will introduce you to some of Venice's most beautiful minor canals.



Dinner reservation at the Trattoria della Madonna– payment for dinner direct to the restaurant.

This very traditional trattoria is fabulously located very close to the Rialto Bridge. Quietly tucked away in the Calle Della Madonna a warm good old fashioned Venetian welcome awaits you on arrival. This is the perfect place to eat local specialities, fresh fish dishes

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

and to mix with the local Venetians as you enjoy some good genuine food. As this trattoria is a firm favourite with many Venetians a reservation, should you choose to dine here, whether lunch or dinner is always necessary.

While here at the Trattoria La Madonna you may not always find the menu translated in English what you will find is some very friendly, warm waiting staff willing to do their very best to assist you with your order and assure you of the best possible dining experience. The atmosphere is elegant but no strict dress code required.

Day 10: Venice – Venice

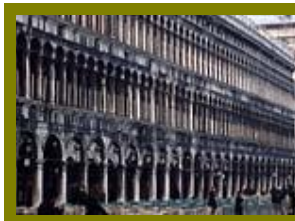
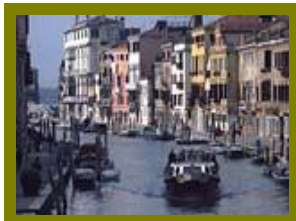
Breakfast in the Hotel

After breakfast, meet your English-speaking driver and professional local guide in the lobby of your hotel for your transfer to Venice.

Enjoy the perfect introduction to Venice, one of Europe's most unique cities. Meeting our guide in the hotel lobby enjoy a stroll to the very heart of Venice, the St. Marks Area of Venice. During the short walk to St. Marks Square we will not only experience the atmosphere of Venice and wonders of this unique city but we will start to understand the city, what it offers, how the people live here and how they cope with 30,000 visitors per day.

On arrival in St. Marks Square we will enjoy both the Square including the Basilica and Doges Palace as well as the area surrounding the square.

Following the tour enjoy a wonderful introduction to other parts of Venice by your guide who will also give you some great shopping and lunch suggestions and ideas for enjoying Venice to the full for the remainder of your time here. (Tour Duration with Guide: 3,5 hours).



Celebration · ESCAPES ·

— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

Break for lunch at leisure – your guide will have great suggestions for your lunch

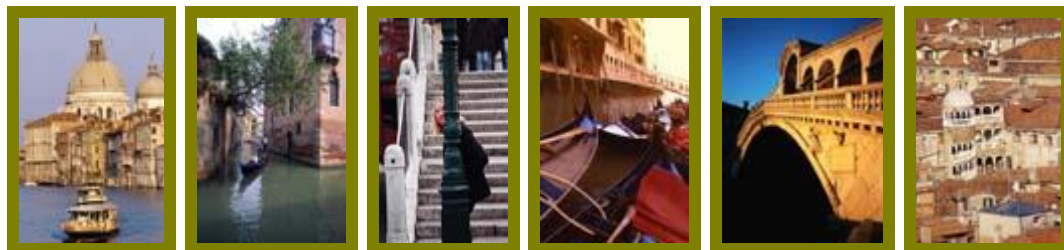
This afternoon, we will head out into the Venetian Lagoon to enjoy the Principle Islands of Murano, Burano and Torcello with our very own local expert guide and water taxi.

From the hotels private landing stage we will head with our guide and private water taxi out to the three principle islands of Venice – Murano, Burano and Torcello.

During our transfer to these islands we will enjoy a wonderful introduction to Venice from our guide.

We will enjoy and explore all three of the islands, meeting here the local people and learning much about their way of life, their industries (primarily glass and lace), the effect the islands have on 'mainland Venice' and we will also have the possibility to visit some of the factories and places where the lace and glass are produced to learn more about these age old techniques.

Following the tour of the islands return with your guide and water taxi back to your hotel where tour began, or to St. Marks Square where your guide has some wonderful shopping and eating advice. (Tour duration: 4 hours)



Dinner at leisure in one of Venice's Restaurants – see Celebration Escapes' Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas...

Day 11: Venice – Venice

Breakfast in the Hotel

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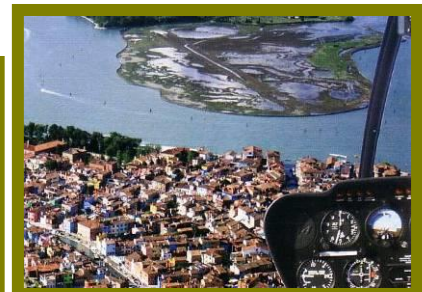
After breakfast, meet your English-speaking driver in the lobby of your hotel for your transfer to Venice Airport, where you will meet your English-speaking Pilot for VIP Helicopter Tour above Venice and outer island of Murano.

Be transported to some of the most breathtaking views across Venice and her Islands with the Best Window Seats in Town. From a maze of intricate winding canals, and mysterious alleyways, we head out to Venice Lido and the Nicelli Airport just 15 minutes from the centre of Venice and from where we will introduce you to an entirely new vista on the structure of the phenomenal lagoon.

An experience that will leave you feeling on top of the world; literally! Rise above this unique city to 1000 feet, with the best window seats guaranteed from your private helicopter. Trace the coast of the Lido until you are hovering just short of Piazza San Marco with an exceptional view across the Grand Canal and the Giudecca, before circling the Island of Murano to discover that Venice's intriguing structure continues way beyond the confines of the mainland.

Find out how this floating treasures trove protected itself in by gone times, from your Pilot, who will point out the tiny circular defence islands dotted around Venice. An extended trip will also pass by Nuramo Island with its jewel colored houses, before heading back to enjoy a drink on the Airport terrace back into the lively bustle of Venetian life.

All flights are timed from the moment of actual take off to ensure that every minute of your trip will be spectacular.



After your flight, you will be at leisure to enjoy Lunch and an afternoon of leisure to enjoy Venice on your own. See Celebration Escapes' Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas...

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Dinner at leisure in one of Venice's Restaurants – See Celebration Escapes' Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas...

Day 12: Venice – Venice

Breakfast in the Hotel

After breakfast, meet your English-speaking professional local guide in the lobby of your hotel for your very off-the-beaten-track VIP Walking tour – **The Venice We Know**

As Venetians. Your guide is so proud to call this area home.

Enjoy a very pleasant stroll through the back streets of Venice with your local expert guide to take in not only the wonders of this famous city but understand the real Venice, the Venetians, their way of life, culture... See their residential areas, the parks, the schools, the silent squares, forgotten churches with some of the cities most beautiful artwork.

The areas are completely off the beaten track where the elderly artisans are still working their trade, the children play happily in the street and the locals are meeting in the parks on the benches to discuss life in general.

This tour will give you a real insight into the Venetians Venice. After the tour today you will have learned so much about Venice; the REAL city. You will also have a real feel for life as a Venetian. (tour duration : 3,5 hours)



Lunch and the remainder of the afternoon are at leisure for free exploring and shopping on your own.

Dinner at leisure in one of Venice's Restaurants – see Celebration Escapes' Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas...

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Day 13: Venice – Venice

Breakfast in the Hotel

After breakfast, check out of your hotel. Meet your private English-speaking driver in the lobby of your hotel for your transfer to the airport to meet your departing international flight to the US and onward to home.

Buon Viaggio!

End of Services.

Ready to plan your journey? Contact us today ! 678-500-9548

Schedule Your Creative Planning Session Now!

Optional Recommended Excursions: To add to the itinerary for a longer stay or to replace items in the itinerary with another option.

Private Art Visits in Florence

- A private art tour is a unique experience you will never forget. With an entire gallery at your disposal, a private guide will help you appreciate the most important treasures before you. Enjoy the opportunity to arrange exclusive private tours of the Vasarian Corridor, the Accademia Gallery and the Uffizi Gallery.
- Along the Arno River above the Ponte Vecchio, between the Palazzo Vecchio and Palazzo Pitti sits the Vasarian Corridor, a passageway commissioned from Giorgio Vasari by Cosimo I to celebrate his son's marriage. Over 700 paintings of the 17th and 18th centuries, as well as an impressive collection of self-portraits from master painters, grace this unique Florentine gallery that features magnificent views of the city.

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- Enjoy an incredible private tour of the Accademia dell'Arte gallery, renowned for its collection of sculptures by Michelangelo, including "The Prisoners," "St. Mathew" and, most importantly, the original statue of "David." Transferred from the Piazza della Signoria in 1873 to a specially designed tribune, marvel at this masterpiece in utter privacy.
- Visit the magnificent Uffizi gallery in a special and exclusive private tour. You and your guide will be alone in the gallery to discover the works that are present here. As one of the most famous museums of paintings and sculpture in the world, its collection of primitive and Renaissance paintings comprises several of the most universally acclaimed masterpieces of all time, including works by Giotto, Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Michelangelo and Caravaggio.

Exclusive Wine Experiences at the Bocelli Winery and Varramista Estate

- Journey to the Tuscan countryside for a day trip celebrating Italian history and wine. Dating back thousands of years, the ancient city of Volterra was a powerful center during Etruscan times and its city walls and barren ravines, believed to be mining cuts, still exist. In nearby Volterra stands the winery of the tenor Andrea Bocelli's family, where you will have an opportunity to taste their crisp, white wines. Endless fields of bright sunflowers will greet you at the entrance of the Varramista estate, where nature and passion, culture and quality form a refined blend to provide fine olive oil, wines and other products for sampling and purchase.

Shopping with Tina Ferragamo

- Explore Florence's finest shops and boutiques with Tini Ferragamo, the wife of the Tuscan winemaker, Salvatore Ferragamo, who is the grandson of the famed Italian fashion designer. By private car, depart the hotel for a morning shopping excursion, before venturing to a 15th century palazzo for a farm-to-table lunch at Cantinetta Antori. Afterwards, receive extraordinary access to the Ferragamo Museum and Store, featuring over 10,000 models from the footwear selection. Conclude your day with signature Bellinis from Harry's Bar.
- Alternatively, experience a day of shopping outside of the city with Mrs. Ferragamo. Venture to Tuscany to the family-owned Il Borro estate in Arezzo, where artisanal shops in the nearby village offer exquisite, one-of-a-kind pieces. Enjoy a wine tasting and tour of Il Borro Winery, then be taken to Montevarchi to

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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

visit the only Prada outlet in Italy. Conclude your day by returning to Florence and sharing a drink at the Grand Hotel.

Mask-Making Course in Venice

- Engage in a magical Venetian experience with a private mask-making course in Venice. Be transported to an antique Venetian mask studio, where you will choose from a selection of Carnevale masks from Venetian daily life, the theatre or modern times, to decorate. Your mask maker will explain the meaning of each one and share different coloring techniques before helping you craft your creation, which you will bring home at the end of the day.

Guggenheim Collection Private Tour

- With unsurpassed views of the Grand Canal, be accompanied by an art expert on an exclusive private visit to Venice's legendary Peggy Guggenheim collection housed in the magnificent Palazzo Venier dei Leoni. A sanctuary of 20th century art, Guggenheim was an early champion of cubist and abstract expressionism at a time when it was not collected in Europe, and notoriously purchased one painting a day on a collecting spree in 1939. Her signature museum features important early works by Pablo Picasso, Max Ernst and Jackson Pollock.

End of Services.

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