# Venice, Tuscany, Amalfi Coast, Rome Guided Italy Vacation

The Venice, Tuscany, Amalfi Coast, Rome Italy tour package is an all-inclusive two week escorted tour of Italy. This trip to Italy visits four distinctly beautiful regions of Italy: <u>Veneto</u>, <u>Tuscany</u>, <u>Campania</u>, and <u>Lazio</u>.

The vacation begins in <u>Venice</u>, which is located in Northern Italy's Veneto region. The tour travels through Italy all the way to the Amalfi Coast in southern Italy's Campania region. Along the way you'll have time to enjoy the region of Tuscany, where slow travel began, with plenty of time there to slow down. In Tuscany, the Italy tour stays in the SPA town Montecatini. In Tuscany there are included tours in Lucca and <u>Florence</u>. There are also optional tours to the breathtaking <u>Cinque Terre</u> and Renaissance hill town <u>Siena</u>. After four nights in Tuscany you'll travel to <u>Southern Italy</u>. In Southern Italy depending on tour departure day you may elect to stay in the resort town of Sorrento or the bustling city <u>Naples</u>. you'll tour Pompeii and the <u>Amalfi Coast</u>. You may also include an optional tour to the Island of Capri. This Italy tour ends in <u>Rome</u> the Eternal City. The Rome tour includes three nights with included tours of the Vatican Museum, St Peter's Basilica, Ancient Rome and the Colosseum.

#### **Tour Includes:**

- 12 nights First Class accommodations
- 19 meals: 12 buffet breakfasts, 6 dinners with wine, 1 Lunch

# **Daily Itinerary:**

Note: Order of tours may change depending on departure day and conditions on the ground while traveling.

# DAY 1 – Depart the USA

Depart the USA for Italy.

#### DAY 2 - Arrive in Venice

Arrive and transfer to your hotel. Balance of the day at leisure. This evening, enjoy an orientation meeting with your tour escort, followed by a welcome dinner

Overnight: Venice Meals: Dinner

### **DAY 3 – Venice City Tour**

Today begins with a boat ride to the Island of Murano, known throughout the world for its fine glasswork industry. Then, visit St. Mark's Square to begin a guided walking tour of romantic Venice. View the Golden Basilica of San Marco, the Bridge of Sighs and visit the Doge's Palace, whose facade features a massive late-Gothic gate, known as the Porta della Carta. Take the remainder of the day to explore Venice on your own.

Optional: Gondola Ride with Music (PM)

Overnight: Venice Meals: Breakfast

### DAY 4 – Lucca Sightseeing En Route to Montecatini

Travel through the stunning panorama of Tuscany to Lucca, one of Italy's finest medieval cities. Walk the narrow streets of the original Roman grid to San Michele and its beautiful piazza, which occupies the site of the ancient Roman Forum. Continue to Montecatini.

Overnight: Montecatini Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### DAY 5 - Full Day in Montecatini or tour Cinque Terre

Full Day at leisure to explore Montecatini and its surroundings on your own. Or visit the spectacular Cinque Terre, one of the most beautiful areas of the Liguria region. Here, five small villages are suspended between sea and earth, nestled in the cliffs overlooking the sea, set beside hills where the land's finest wine grapes are grown. Return to Montecatini and enjoy the evening at leisure.

Optional: Full Day Cinque Terre from Montecatini

Overnight: Montecatini

Meals: Breakfast

### DAY 6 - Full Day Montecatini or tour Siena

Enjoy the morning at leisure in Montecatini, or participate in the optional tour to the lovely medieval city of Siena that sits over three hills. The heart of the city is Il Campo, the huge central plaza where the Roman forum used to be, site of the famous Horse Race of Palio. After a walking tour of the highlights of the city, spend time at leisure before returning to Montecatini. This evening indulge in the Tuscan Atmosphere, its food, and its wines!

Optional: Siena from Montecatini

Overnight: Montecatini Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### **DAY 7 – Excursion to Florence**

Today, travel to Florence, birthplace of the Italian Renaissance. Upon arrival, start with the Accademia of Fine Arts, where Michelangelo's David is housed; stand in awe of this glorious work of art. Then, walk to the impressive Duomo, celebrated for its magnificent dome designed by Brunelleschi, and view the Baptistery's renowned "Gates of Paradise" by Ghiberti. From here, continue to the open-air museum of Signoria Square, ending at the splendid Ponte Vecchio, also known as the "Old Bridge". Return to Montecatini and enjoy dinner at your hotel.

Overnight: Montecatini Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### DAY 8 - Travel to Southern Italy

Depart Montecatini, driving south to Southern Italy. Along the way, we stop for lunch in the hills of Lazio, a region of central Italy bordered by the Tyrrhenian Sea. Then, it's onto the vibrant region of Campania. Thursday tour departures stay in the exciting city of Naples, the longest continually inhabited city in history, having been founded by the ancient greeks 5000 years ago. Saturday departures stay in the seaside resort town Sorrento. Both locations are located on the Bay of Naples, where you will be welcomed by the spectacular panoramic views and by the sapphire blue waters of the Gulf of Naples.

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Tonight, a lovely dinner together highlights our arrival in Southern Italy. Wednesday departures stay in Naples. Saturday departures stay in Sorrento.

Overnight: Sorrento (Monday & Wenesday departures) or Naples (Friday & Saturday departures).

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **DAY 9 – Full Day in Sorrento or Naples**

Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore Sorrento or Naples on your own. Or join an option tour to Capri.

Optional: Capri Tour

Overnight: Sorrento (Monday & Wednesday departures) or Naples (Friday & Saturday departures).

Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 10 - Tour of Amalfi Coast

Today enjoy a drive of the world-famous Amalfi route and admire panoramic views of the enchanting towns along the Mediterranean coast. Pass the distinctive white Moorish homes of Positano on this legendary road to reach the coastal town of Amalfi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Return to Sorrento (Monday & Wednesday departures) or Naples (Friday & Saturday departures) for dinner.

Overnight: Sorrento or Naples Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### DAY 11 - Tour of Pomepii en route to Rome

This morning you will tour Pomepii. Your escorted tour includes the Temples of Apollo and Jupiter, and the ancient Roman Forum. After the Pompeii tour you will depart Southern Italy for Rome. Along the way north you'll pass the famous Monte Cassino Abbey. This site was originally where the ancient Romans built a Temple to Apollo. St. Benedict of Norcia founded his first monastery here in 529. The Benedictine Abbey occupies a strategic location. It was destroyed on four separate occasions by various invaders. Most recently the allies bombed it during WWII. It was rebuilt and dedicated in 1964. This evening arrive in Rome and enjoy an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Rome Meals: Breakfast

### DAY 12 - Tour Ancient Rome and the Colosseum

This morning you will tour Ancient Rome. Visit the Roman Forum where the Arch of Constantine welcomed the troops from their wars. You'll also tour the Roman Colosseum, maybe the most iconic ancient building. This afternoon enjoy your free time shopping the Made in Italy brands strolling the fashionable streets. This evening enjoy a final cocktail party. Then plan to visit your favorite Roman trattoria and toss a coin in the Trevi Fountain.

Optional Tour: Afternoon Piazzas of Rome Tour

Overnight: Rome Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 13 - Vatican Museum & Sistine Chapel

Today begins with the visit to the Vatican Museums and Michelangelo's breathtaking Sistine Chapel. Stroll through St. Peter's Square, passing Bernini's famous colonnade, to visit St. Peter's Basilica, where

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you will view Michelangelo's Pieta. This highly-finished marble sculpture depicts the body of Jesus in the arms of Mary after the Crucifixion and is considered to be among the most compelling of all works of art in the Western world. Afternoon and evening at leisure.

Overnight: Rome Meals: Breakfast

### DAY 14 – The Northern Italy, Tuscany, Southern Italy and Rome tour ends

Depart for the USA with fabulous memories of your Venice, Tuscany, Amalfi Coast, and Rome tour package.

Meals: Breakfast

### **Scheduled Accommodations**

Southern Italy: Monday and Wednesday Departures stay in Sorrento Southern Italy: Friday and Saturday Departures stay in Naples

Accommodations are always subject to change

# **Monday Departure**

Hotel Carlton & Grand Canal, Venice

This first class hotel is located on the Grand Canal and is just a few minutes from the shopping and historical center.

Grand Hotel Plaza, Montecatini

This first class hotel is located on the main square, close to the Thermal Park.

Grand Hotel Vesuvio, Sorrento

This superior first class hotel overlooks the Bay of Naples.

Massimo D'Azeglio, Rome

This first class hotel in the historical center of Rome dates back to 1875

### **Wednesday Departure**

NH Venezia Rio Novo, Venice

This first class hotel is situated in Venice's Dorsoduro district.

Grand Hotel Plaza, Montecatini

This first class hotel is located on the main square, close to the Thermal Park.

Grand Hotel Vittoria, Montecatini

This first class hotel is located in Montecatini Terme, near Terme Park.

Hotel Michelangelo, Sorrento

This first class hotel is situated in the heart of Sorrento.

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K Hotel Boutique, Rome

This first class hotel is located within walking distance of the Colosseum.

# **Friday Departure**

NH Venezia Rio Novo, Venice

This first class hotel is situated in Venice's Dorsoduro district.

Hotel Francia e Quirinale, Montecatini

This first class hotel is located amongst picturesque streets and thermal springs in the heart of Montecatini Terme.

Grand Hotel Croce di Malta Wellness & Golf, Montecatini

This first class hotel is located beside the thermal park of Montecatini Terme, just a short walk from the city center.

Hotel Royal Continental, Naples

This first class hotel is a historic establishment located right on the Neapolitan water front.

Starhotels Michelangelo, Rome

This first class hotel is located in the city center, just a short walk from St. Peter's Square.

### **Saturday Departure**

Hotel Carlton & Grand Canal, Venice

This first class hotel is located on the Grand Canal and is just a few minutes from the shopping and historical center.

Grand Hotel Plaza, Montecatini

This first class hotel is located on the main square, close to the Thermal Park.

Grand Hotel Vittoria, Montecatini

This first class hotel is located in Montecatini Terme, near Terme Park.

Hotel Royal Continental, Naples

This superior first class hotel overlooks the Bay of Naples.

Grand Hotel Palatino, Rome

This first class hotel is located in the heart of ancient Rome, just a short walk from the Colosseum.