

A QUICK LOOK TO ITALY

DAY 1 Venice



Today your journey takes you to the magical lagoon city of **Venice**. Built on 117 small islands, it is a pedestrian's city, so get set for a **walking tour**. Cruise from Tronchetto Pier and glide romantically past fairytale palaces, through incredible miniature canals to the Piazza San Marco (St. Marks Square), where you disembark. Witness the bronze Moors striking the hour, as they have been doing for the past 500 years! From there to the Doge's Palace, connected by the 'Bridge of Sighs' to its prisons. It was from here that the legendary lover Casanova made his famous escape! End this exciting tour with a brief visit to a **Murano Glass Showroom** for a demonstration in glass blowing. It was on the island of Murano that glass was first made in Europe and hand blown Venetian glass is world famous.

Celebrate with a dinner on the cruise to Tronchetto Pier. Overnight in Venice

DAY 2 Tuscany



Drive across the Apennine Mountains, to **Pisa** - the hometown of Galileo and a city, which makes the most of its claim to fame from its **Leaning Tower!** photo stop. It is the Duomo's (Cathedral), Bell Tower together with the Baptistery, these are all a part of the **Field of Miracles**. Continue to **Florence**, a shrine to the wonders of the Renaissance, with more

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artistic treasures per square metre than any other city in the world! Included in your **walking tour** of Florence is a visit to the remarkable Duomo (when open for visitors), which is the fourth largest cathedral in the world. Besides it is the 'Gate to Paradise' - the heavenly gilded bronze doors of the Baptistery, originally a pagan temple and an open-air gallery in Signoria Square. Walk on the famous Ponte Vecchio, the oldest surviving bridge in the city.

Drive to the magical **Piazzale Michelangelo** for a view of the city. After an exciting tour, drive through a stretch of olive groves and vineyards to the Tuscany region where on arrival you will be checked into your hotel. Overnight in Florence

DAY 3 Rome



Rome was not built in a day'- the truth of this oft quoted adage hits you with full force, as we pack in all the 'must see' agenda into our **guided panoramic city tour**! Start your introduction to Rome with a journey to The Vatican the smallest nation in the world! It boasts a priceless art collection and is probably per square foot the richest country in the world! Visit the **Vatican Museum**, one of the largest museum complexes in the world. A must see is the **Sistine Chapel**. The most famous square of the Vatican is St. Peter's Square with St. Peter's Basilica, the spiritual centre of Christendom. Gaze in awe at Michelangelo's Pieta in **St. Peter's Basilica**, one of the largest churches in the world.

Pay tribute to the brave Gladiators of Rome, with a photo stop at the mighty **Colosseum**. At this amphitheatre, the notorious and gory gladiatorial games were held, where they fought one another and wild animals while the crowd roared! See the triumphal Arch of Constantine, one of the most important commemorative monuments of antiquity and then drive through Piazza Venezia, the main square in Rome, where the grandiose monument to the reunification of Italy is often referred to as the Marble wedding cake! Pass the Circus Maximus - the Hippodrome - known for its ancient chariot races, which was reconstructed by Hollywood for 'Ben Hur'! Pass the ruins of the Roman Forum and end the tour at the famous **Trevi Fountain**. Legend has it, that if you make a wish and toss a coin over your left shoulder into the fountain, you are sure to return to Rome! **Note:** Due to Rome city regulations, certain roads may be off limits for long distance coaches. This may result in the Rome sightseeing being done partly by foot / public transport.

Overnight in Rome

DAY 4 Depart Rome

Transfer from your hotel to the airport