

Venice, Italy Extension Optional Package

3 days/2 nights June 8, 2022



VENICE -A timeless city of more than 100 tiny islands surrounded by the vast Venetian Lagoon

Venice, Italian Venezia, city, major seaport, and capital of both the provincia (province) of Venezia and the regione (region) of Veneto, northern Italy. An island city, it was once the centre of a maritime republic. It was the greatest seaport in late medieval Europe and the continent's commercial and cultural link to Asia. Venice is unique environmentally, architecturally, and historically, and in its days as a republic the city was styled *la serenissima* ("the most serene" or "sublime"). It remains a major Italian port in the northern Adriatic Sea and is one of the world's oldest tourist and cultural centres.

Since the fall of the Venetian republic in 1797, the city has held an unrivaled place in the Western imagination and has been endlessly described in prose and verse. The luminous spectacle of ornate marbled and frescoed palaces, bell towers, and domes reflected in the sparkling waters of the lagoon under a blue Adriatic sky has been painted, photographed, and filmed to such an extent that it is difficult to distinguish the real city from its romantic representations.

The visitor arriving in Venice is still transported into another world, one whose atmosphere and beauty remain incomparable.

Today Venice is recognized as part of the artistic and architectural patrimony of all humanity, a fitting role for a city whose thousand-year economic and political independence was sustained by its role in global trading. The situation of the city on islands has limited modern suburban spread beyond the historic centre; its framework of canals and narrow streets has prevented the intrusion of automobiles; and its unmatched wealth of fine buildings and monuments dating from the period of commercial dominance has ensured a keen and almost universal desire for sensitive conservation.

In 1987 Venice and its lagoon were collectively designated a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Venice is an enchanting city that casts visitors under an intoxicating spell. It's dreamy and romantic, with an undercurrent of mystery and drama. And while Carnival is only once a year, its mood is present year-round. The Grand Canal is the center of activity, with gondoliers singing to the passengers in their boats. The magnificent Piazza San Marco is another must-see hub.

Along the winding streets you'll find stylish cafes and gelaterias, souvenir shops and small businesses, plus Renaissance palaces and Gothic churches. After you've climbed the Campanille and visited the Gallerie dell'Accademia, stroll through the surrounding neighborhoods, where locals eat *cicchitti* and drink their *vino* in unfussy bars and restaurants.



SMALL GROUP GUIDED TOUR - VENICE, ITALY

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All Transfers, hotel accommodations, meals and tours as stated in above itinerary.
- All rates quoted are in US Dollars
- Accommodations including breakfast as listed, subject to availability at time of deposit
- All services as listed in your itinerary
- Luggage allowance on ground transportation is based on one standard sized suitcase and one small carry-on per person. Additional luggage must be arranged in advance, fees may apply
- Skip-the-line entry where available, queuing for security may still apply
- Applicable taxes & fees in force at time of confirmation. Changes, including per person city taxes, coach permit fees, etc., taking effect after confirmation may result in a supplement added to your final prices
- Meals listed
- Private transfers from Venice Airport to hotel
- Hotel portorage 1 bag per person
- Half day walking tour of Venice
- Admission to St. Mark's Basilica
- Private boat excursion to Murano and Burano Islands
- Admission to Burano Island Lace Shop
- Admission to Murano Glass Factory
- Private boat transfer to Venice rail station
- Standard class train ticket Venice to Rome

TRIP GLOSSARY

- Visit - In-depth sightseeing with a Local Specialist or your Travel Guide/Assistant/Director, includes fast track entry (where applicable).
- View - A brief stop to take in the sight and capture photos
- See - See the sight while driving by on the coach

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- No early check in/late checkout included
- International, domestic and internal airfares
- Cruise fare
- Meals unless listed in itinerary
- Travel Insurance, visas
- Items of a personal nature, laundry, phone calls, i beverages, meals and sightseeing not detailed in the itinerary, excess baggage, and optional experiences
- Gratuities for local Experts, drivers and guides.
- Baggage portage where not stated
- Visa, passport, and entry/exit/fees
- Any airline imposed baggage fees, please check website for details
- Airline seat assignment policies vary and may not be granted or may require an additional fee





GROUP GUIDED HOLIDAYS - SMALL GROUP GUIDED TOUR - VENICE, ITALY

DAY 1: Wed. Jun 08, 2022

Arrive to Venice on flights arranged separately

Meal(s) Dinner/Breakfast - In-flight

Private Transfer: Venice Airport to Venice Hotel - 1 transfer per room (Flights Arriving between 7:01AM and 8:29PM)

Hotel Porterage, 1 bag per person, in and out

Dinner on own

Hotel Bonvecchiati, Palazzo Veneziano, NH Venezia Santa Lucia, or similar 4 Star Hotel - Standard Room, Venice, Italy

Meal(s) N/A

DAY 2: Thu. Jun 09, 2022

Venice

Breakfast at hotel

Guide - meets group in the hotel lobby and provides a half-day walking tour of Venice

Admission: St Mark's Basilica

Remainder of day free to explore Venice at leisure

Lunch and Dinner on own

Hotel Bonvecchiati, Palazzo Veneziano, NH Venezia Santa Lucia, or similar 4 Star Hotel - Standard Room, Venice, Italy

Meal(s):Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 3: Fri. Jun 10, 2022

Venice - Rome

Breakfast at hotel

Guide - meets group in the hotel lobby and provides a Murano & Burano Islands tour

Private Boat - arrives near the hotel and provides an excursion to Murano and Burano Islands
Admission free: Burano Island Lace Shop (with possible demonstration)

Admission free: Murano Glass Factory

Tour concludes at the Venice rail station

Train: Venice to Rome - standard class

Assistant - meets group at the Rome rail station and accompanies them to the hotel
Private Coach - arrives at the Rome rail station and transfers group to the hotel

Meal(s):Breakfast, Lunch

Package price:

\$1363.00 per person double occupancy

\$2067.00 single occupancy

\$500 non-refundable deposit per person required at time of booking

Final payment due: April 2, 2022

Cancellation Policy:

Deposit of \$500 per person is NON-REFUNDABLE

180 to 121 days prior to departure Non-Refundable \$250 +\$50 per person

120 to 61 days prior to departure Non-Refundable \$250 +\$300 per person

60 to 46 days prior to departure 80% of land package price

45 days or less prior to departure 100% of land package

If an individual in the group cancels & causes a roommate to be accommodated in a room for sole occupancy, single supplement fees may be charged to remaining traveler.

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VENICE HOTEL INFORMATION



Hotel Bonvecchiati NH Venezia Santa Lucia, Venice*

The Hotel Bonvecchiati is one of Venice's oldest 4 star hotels, welcoming guests with charme since 1790, in elegant surroundings that are continually updated in line with the latest tendencies, which makes the Bonvecchiati one of Venice's most well-loved 4 star hotels . Just a stone's throw from St. Mark's Square at the heart of Venice's magic atmosphere. Featuring its own water landing for gondolas and water taxis, Hotel Bonvecchiati of Venice is a 2-minute walk from Saint Mark's Square and the Rialto Bridge. Rooms are individually designed in a classic Venetian or a modern style. Each room has free WiFi, air conditioning, satellite TV, and a private bathroom with bathrobe and slippers. Some rooms have views over the canal or the surrounding rooftops. Breakfast is buffet style. Restaurant La Terrazza offers Venetian, classic Italian and international cuisine, all served on the waterside terrace. Meals are accompanied by a wide selection of wines from the on site wine cellar.



Fondamenta Zattere Al Ponte Lungo, Venezia VE*

Palazzo Veneziano, a 4 Star Superior hotel in modern Venetian design, offer its guests a choice of 84 sumptuous rooms and suites all of which have breath-taking views of the city's spectacular scenery, the Lagoon and the canals. The rooms have wooden parquet floors, the lines and colours in different shades define a sophisticated and elegant style which is both modern and refined and where the choice of furnishings, fabrics and lighting contribute to an atmosphere of absolute comfort.

**Hotel assigned upon booking*

ADDITIONAL INCLUDED TOUR INFORMATION



Rialto Bridge on the Grand Canal

Rialto Bridge, Italian Ponte di Rialto, stone arch bridge crossing over the narrowest point of the Grand Canal in the heart of Venice. Built in the closing years of the 16th century, the Rialto Bridge is the oldest bridge across the canal and is renowned as an architectural and engineering achievement of the Renaissance. It was designed and built by Antonio da Ponte and his nephew, Antonio Contino, following a design competition in the city.



St. Mark's Square

Piazza San Marco (St Mark's Square) is the heart of Venice. As the largest square in the city St Mark's Square has always been the location of important government buildings and other facilities central to the goings on in Venice. There are several museums and attractions in and around St Mark's, the most popular being Doge's Palace and St Mark's Basilica. St Mark's Square as well as being the largest square is also one of the largest open spaces in Venice, a big contrast to the winding alleys and lanes within Venice where you are hemmed in by the buildings most of the time. North of the square are narrow streets full of shops leading towards the famous Rialto Bridge



St Mark's Square: Doge's Palace (Palazzo Ducale)

Doge's Palace (Palazzo Ducale) is located in Piazza San Marco (St Mark's Square) is the heart of Venice right next door to the Basilica. Until 1797, the Doges ruled the Venetian Empire and the Palazzo Ducale was where they ruled from. A Venetian Gothic fantasy palace, it was one of the first things those arriving in Venice saw as their ships sailed through the lagoon and landed at Saint Mark's Square. The Doges lived here and the government offices were also in this building. Justice was meted out here and the Golden Book, listing all the important families of Venice, was housed here. No one whose family was not in the Golden Book would ever be made a Doge. Inside the palace is wonderful art (paintings by Titian, Tintoretto and Veronese), majestic staircases, the Doge's apartments, the government chambers, the prison cells and the Bridge of Sighs. Outside, along the piazzetta, each column is different. Between the ninth and tenth column death sentences were declared and executions carried out.

To a visitor's eye Burano's houses might seem like a modge-podge, but there's actually a specific system that follows a color pattern. If a resident wants to paint their house, they have to apply to the government and the government will respond with the colors permitted for that house. Burano is also famous for its lacemaking, which dates back to 1500. Initially lace working was almost exclusively done at the Scuola Merletti (Lace School) and it was traded across Europe. A lace cloth even found its way to the town of Lefkara on the then Venetian-ruled Island of Cyprus; the cloth made its way home to Italy when Leonardo da Vinci purchased it in Lefkara in 1481 to be placed on the altar in the Duomo di Milano. Visitors are drawn to Burano because of its rainbow of bright, colorful houses which make the sleepy little island a photographer's dream. Lacemaking and fishing are the main industries of



Burano: The Colorful Island of Lace...And Much More

Burano and most visitors spend a couple of hours wandering around snapping photos and popping in and out of the lace shops that line the main street. Burano is among the top 10 most colorful cities in the world and the locals are proud of that distinction. It's a tradition that began when fisherman decided to paint their houses in bright colors to be able to easily find their way home after a long day fishing and in the thick fog that often descends upon the Lagoon. It's a tradition that has carried to today.



Murano, the Glass Island

In English-speaking countries, glass artisans are often performer-pitchmen at craft shows and festivals, where they blow glass baubles for a few dollars or pounds each. However, there was a time when the trade of glassblowing--indeed, glassmaking in general--was an elite pursuit dominated by craftsmen in the Venetian Republic, most notably on the island of Murano in the Venetian Lagoon. Murano was a commercial port as far back as the 7th Century, and by the 10th Century it had grown into a prosperous trading center with its own coins, police force, and commercial aristocracy. Then, in 1291, the Venetian Republic ordered glassmakers to move their foundries to Murano because the glassworks represented a fire danger in Venice, whose buildings were mostly wooden at the time. From there, Murano's long and storied history was born as one of the most prominent centers of glassmaking in the world. Today, visitors can still see artisans making handcrafted glass in a number of foundries on Murano. While there are other sites to see on Murano Island, undoubtedly most visitors come here to see the glassmaking and to take home some genuine Murano glass. Over the centuries, the prominent glass products made on Murano have grown and changed with the times from mirrors early on to jewelry, lighting fixtures, chandeliers, artistic pieces, and, of course, the world-famous Murano glass beads.

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