

17 Days: Venice Florence Tuscany And Rome - BTCDFE



Day 1 - Rome arrival/ transfer to Venice

After your arrival at Rome airport you will meet your personal English speaking driver that, with a private car will transfer you to the Termini central train station in Rome. Here with a fast train you will reach Venice Santa Lucia central train station . Just out of the train station you will meet your private water taxi for a direct

transfer to your hotel. Check in at the hotel and rest of the day at your leisure. Overnight in Venice, Hotel Ca' dei Conti 4****.

Day 2 - Venice

After breakfast meet your private English speaking guide for your walking tour in Venice. The heart of Venice is a square: Saint Mark's Square. Entering in San Marco square by the two monumental columns in front of the lagoon (the so-called "water square"), near the Bridge of Sighs, suddenly we can admire the history of the Republic of Venice displayed: we can see the Doge's Palace, seat of government and center of political and administrative life of the city, the Basilica, with its golden mosaics and precious marbles, the Clock Tower and the Bell Tower. The walk then leads to the Grand Canal and to the famous Rialto Bridge through beautiful and hidden corners. After lunch on your own, you will meet again your private English speaking guide for a visit inside the Doge's palace Museum so to admire several masterpieces of Venetian and foreign artists. At 6.00pm you will enjoy a private gondola tour: it begins and ends at the gondola station that is in front of the Hotel Danieli, that is few steps from St. Mark's Square. You will pass through some of the oldest canals of the city and also under the Bridge of Sighs. Overnight in Venice, Hotel Ca' dei Conti 4****.

Day 3 - Venice

After breakfast you will meet your private English guide at your hotel. Today you will discover the several masterpieces that the 'Gallerie del'Accademia' museum can offer. This is a museum gallery of pre-19th-century art and, among the others, you can also admire the beautiful painting 'La tempesta' (the storm) by the Venetian painter Giorgione. After this visit you will have the rest of the day at leisure. Overnight at Hotel Ca' dei Conti 4****.

Day 4 - Venice/ Florence

After breakfast and check out at your hotel, your personal driver your personal English speaking driver that, with a private water taxi to Venice central train station and you will arrive , with a direct fast train and 1st class tickets, in 2 hours , at Florence train station. Here you will meet your personal driver that with a private car will escort you directly at your hotel in Florence. Check in at the hotel and time to relax. After your lunch at leisure, you will meet your personal guide in hotel that will bring you leisurely on a walking tour of the city including the visit at the Uffizi Gallery. The Gallery houses a superb collection of priceless art, originating in great part from the Medici family collection, enriched over the centuries by endowments, exchanges and donations, among which an important group of religious works stands out, resulting from the suppression of the monasteries and convents between the XVIII and XIX centuries. Here, you will find the richest collection in the world of works of the Tuscan school, Florentine in particular, among which: Cimabue, Michelangelo, Giotto, Leonardo da Vinci and Raffaello. The collection of works by Sandro Botticelli has also a great importance. Rest of the day at your leisure. Overnight Hotel Degli Orafi 4****.

Day 5 - Florence

After your breakfast you will meet, at your hotel, your private English speaking chef-guide : today you will have a wonderful and unique experience in Florence; a guided shopping of the ingredients with your chef at the ancient food market of S. Ambrogio and then the preparation of your own lunch. You will meet your chef-guide and begin your guided tour among the stalls of this ancient food market, shopping the ingredients for your Tuscan menu. Then, you will reach a special kitchen where your teacher will show how to prepare a complete meal. After the cooking class, lunch will be

served, accompanied with good quality Tuscan wines. Next, you will have the rest of the day at your own leisure Overnight Hotel Degli Orafi 4****.

Day 6 - Florence

After your breakfast you will meet your private English speaking guide at the hotel and begin your exploration of Florence with the first of the four great Florentine churches: the Basilica of Santa Maria Novella. It was founded in AD 1219 by twelve Dominicans under the guidance of Brother Giovanni da Salerno. The structure has a facade that represents one of the most important works of the Florentine Renaissance. The visit will continue on to the churches of San Lorenzo, Santa Maria del Fiore and Santa Croce. Santa Croce one of the largest churches celebrated by the Franciscan monks is famous for the numerous tombs of great artists, literary men and scientists. This magnificent church is appropriately called the "Temple of the Italian Glories" and is a true symbol of the city. These 4 splendid wonders reveal the grand history of this city through the works of painters and architects including Giotto, Michelangelo, Brunelleschi, Botticelli and many others. You will also be fascinated by the historic influence of the great Italian princely families (such as the Medici) who, over the course of three centuries, changed the political, social and above all, the artistic scene of Italy. After this enchanting visit, you will have the rest of the day at your own leisure. Overnight Hotel Degli Orafi 4****.

Day 7 - Florence

After breakfast at your hotel, you will meet your private English speaking guide in hotel and will have a morning visit at the Galleria dell'Accademia, where the more symbolic work of Michelangelo is housed : Il David, an expression of beauty and physical perfection.

It also has other sculptures by Michelangelo and a collection of Renaissance paintings. There is also 'Il Ratto delle Sabine' by Giambologna (The Rape of the Sabine Women), as well as 'La Madonna ed il Bambino' (Madonna and Child) and 'la Madonna del Mare' (Madonna of the Sea) by Botticelli. After this interesting and pleasant visit, you will have the rest of the day at your own leisure. Overnight Hotel Degli Orafi 4****.

Day 8 - Florence / Cortona

Breakfast and check out at your hotel in Florence. Soon after meet your private English speaking driver for a direct transfer to your next destination: Cortona , at your Hotel Relais Il Falconiere: you will reach it in approx. 2 hours. Check-in at the hotel and light lunch at the one Michelin star Il Falconiere restaurant of the hotel. Transfer with your private car and private English speaking driver to a nearby riding stables. You will reach it in about 30 minutes and once there you will be able to enjoy a wonderful guided excursion on a horse, in a country area. While riding, you will enjoy the surrounding areas and corners with its beautiful colors and there will be also some stops to relax. At about 5.30 pm you will be transferred back to your hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight at Hotelito/ Relais Il Falconiere 4****L.

Day 9 - Torrita di Siena - Siena, San Gimignano

Breakfast in Hotel. Today you depart to Siena with your private driver. Once arrived in the city center you will meet , personal guide and begin a journey of discovery. The history of this small and unique city will be expertly illustrated, allowing you to open your hearts as if you were a true inhabitant of Siena. You will discover the Magnificent Piazza del Campo where twice a year (2 July and 16 August) an event , that every citizen of Siena looks forward to , takes place: the Palio di Siena. You will learn about the history of

the Contrade (ancient Sieneese name for neighborhood) and visit the famous Duomo but also other monuments of the city.

After the tour, your lunch is reserved in one of the most famous restaurant in Siena where you can taste the best delicious Tuscan dishes. After lunch, your driver will accompany you to the charming village of San Gimignano, which has been declared a World Heritage Site : here you will be able to walk through its Medieval streets with your private guide. You will see the main attraction of San Gimignano: the 16 Medieval Towers that still stand today. The oldest is the Torre Rognosa, 51 meters high, while the tallest is the Torre del Podestà, also known as the Torre Grossa (Big Tower), standing 54 meters. Then, you will come back to your hotel. Overnight at Hotelito/ Relais Il Falconiere 4****L.

Day 10 - Torrita di Siena - Montepulciano and Montalcino

After the breakfast at your hotel, you will be ready for a splendid day and you can discover the best wine of the world “Brunello di Montalcino”. Meet your private English speaking driver at your hotel and depart to Montepulciano ; here you will have the visit in one of the most famous wineries in the region, home to the Vino Nobile di Montepulciano (meticulously produced with 100% Sangiovese grapes: those that the Tuscans define as “the true table wine”). You will be able to taste the wines, including the famous ‘Asinone’, guided by an expert wine steward and accompanied by a variety of delicious local delicacies including local organic cheeses and coldcuts. After this experience your English speaking driver will escort you to discover the legendary land/area of Brunello di Montalcino at the ‘Casato Prime Donne’ Winery. This is a very special “ladylike” winery - run only by women - who will guide you on an extrasensory journey through the four different wines of the region, including their well-known “Brunello di Montalcino Riserva”

, all accompanied by samples of cheeses that will delight your palate. You will also be delighted by the freshest Tuscan ingredients you can taste during your light lunch. Next, you will meet your driver for a transfer back to your hotel. Here, you will enjoy a special beauty treatment of 50 minutes in the beauty center of your hotel: a relaxing massage (olive oil and Tuscan flowers-based). Overnight at Hotel/ Relais Il Falconiere 4****L.

Day 11 - Torrita di Siena, Monteriggioni and Colle Val D'Elsa

After the breakfast at your hotel, you will meet your private English speaking driver at your hotel and depart to Monteriggioni. Here you will meet your private English speaking guide that will escort you to visit Monteriggioni and then Colle Val D'Elsa The original and unique little town of Monteriggioni will open its doors to you in order to let you discover its history that is , still nowadays, linked to the daily life of this splendid Tuscan burg. You will also have the possibility to enjoy a unique panorama from its castle, located in the highest part of the town: from here you can see the Chianti valley and the Val D'elsa Valley.

Then, you will move to the scenic village of Colle di Val d'Elsa, where there is one of the last existing crystal factory in Italy. You will have the opportunity to witness from beginning to end how master craftsmen create this beautiful crystal. You will discover the magic of glass blowing, a technique capable, with a simple breath, of transforming this incandescent material into an object of rare beauty. After this visit it is time for lunch that will be served in a restaurant that is hosted inside a real mill that dates back to the year 1100 . You will taste your lunch with several delicious Tuscan specialties Next, you will meet your driver for a transfer back to your hotel. Overnight at Hotel/ Relais Il Falconiere 4****L.

Day 12 - Torrita di Siena, free day Breakfast in hotel.

Today you can relax and enjoy . We reserved for you a special beauty morning treatment at your hotel : a day spa of 2 hours and 30 minutes : with beauty treatment for the face and for the body. Then, you will have the rest of your day at leisure. Tonight, the farewell Tuscan dinner will be served for you at the Il Falconiere restaurant, the one star Michelin restaurant. Overnight at Hotel/Relais Il Falconiere 4****L.

Day 13 - Torrita di Siena / Rome

Begin the day with a leisurely breakfast at your hotel before a late morning check-out. Outside the hotel you will meet your private English speaking driver that will escort you to Bagnoregio, a small town of Lombard origins, where you will enjoy a wonderful lunch in one of the most well-known restaurants in the area. Here, the cuisine is simple with traditional dishes of Viterbo, where you will discover picciarelli (local pasta made with water and flour), wild boar, truffle and fungo porcino (boletus mushroom). For wine lovers, or for those who simply enjoy a good glass of wine to accompany your meal, there is an excellent and abundant list from which to choose, with particular regard to the local wines and wineries, such as the famous Orvieto Classico or the EST EST EST di Montefiascone. All of this is seasoned with a splendid panoramic view from this exclusive location. After lunch, you can enjoy on your own a walk around the village discovering all of its hidden, evocative corners, before the transfer to Rome with your driver. Arrival at the hotel Fortyseven 4**** in Rome and check-in. Rest of the day at your own leisure. Overnight at hotel Fortyseven 4**** .

Day 14 - Rome / Amalfi coast

After your breakfast , you will meet your personal private driver at the hotel for a transfer to the Amalfi coast. Your first stop will be in

Sorrento. Once in Sorrento, you will enjoy a walk around the historic center with your guide, admiring the beauty of this town. Discover the many characteristic souvenir shops, including local craftsmen who specialize in the centuries old tradition of wood intarsio (which dates back to the early 19th century). After the tour, you will have free time for lunch. Then, you will move towards Positano following the beautiful scenic route along the Amalfi Coast, admiring the magnificent surrounding mountains along this stretch of road. Along the way you will have the chance to stop at some of the most picturesque viewpoints to soak up the breathtaking views and take photographs. Once you reach Positano you will have the opportunity to relax and walk around this small and colorful town, admiring the splendid emerald colored sea while doing some shopping in the small local shops. Later, you will depart for Rome that will reach in about 3 hours. You will have the rest of the day at your free disposal. Overnight at the hotel FortySeven 4****L.

Day 15 - Rome

After your breakfast you will meet your personal private driver at the hotel for a transfer to the Vatican Museums. Meet your personal English speaking guide at the Museums for a guided tour of 4 hours. Following, you will have the chance to visit Saint Peter's basilica with your guide. After the visit you will enjoy your lunch in a nearby restaurant with a menu with the freshest ingredients. Then, transfer with your private car to the Ancient part of the Eternal city in order to visit Colosseum and Imperial Fora with your private English speaking guide. We are certain that you will discover several special corners that will remain in your mind for a long time. Then, you will have the rest of the day at your free disposal. Overnight at the hotel FortySeven 4****L.

Day 16 - Rome -Tivoli

Breakfast in Hotel. Meet your private English speaking driver and guide and the hotel and reach the ancient town of Tivoli, which boasts being older than Rome. Locals would call this tour "a trip outside the gates". Here, you will visit Villa d' Este, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a fine example of Renaissance architecture and the Italian Renaissance garden. With its impressive number of fountains, nymphs, grottos, waterworks and music, many of which have been emulated in gardens throughout Europe, the garden is considered exceptional in terms of landscape, artistic and historic value. Lunch will be served in a very nice restaurant in Tivoli where you can enjoy several specialties of the Latium region. After lunch guided visit at Villa Adriana.

The Emperor Hadrian built this country villa for himself and his court, and it bears unique testimony to the grandeur and architectural and decorative characteristics of the period. The grounds also contain the "Teatro Marittimo", an artificial island which was a private residence of the Emperor Excavations, still in course, have brought to light an intricate system of roads which lead to the imperial residence. After this visit transfer back to Rome, at your hotel to rest a while. Then, at about 05.00pm meet your private English speaking driver to reach the Spanish steps to have your horse carriage tour that will include: Spanish steps/ Navona square / Pantheon/Trevi fountain/ Spanish steps. 06.00pm approx. end of the tour and transfer back to your hotel with private car Overnight at the hotel FortySeven 4****.

Day 17 - Rome, Departure

Breakfast at the hotel and check out. Meet your personal English speaking driver with a private luxury car for a transfer to Fiumicino Rome airport for your flight back home.

THE TOUR INCLUDES:

- 3 nights at the hotel Cà de' Conti 4**** in Venice (Superior room) or similar
- 4 nights at the hotel Degli Orafi 4**** in Florence (Executive double room with view) or similar
- 5 nights at the Hotel / Relais Il Falconiere 4**** L in Cortona (Deluxe room: sitting corner and bathroom with Jacuzzi bathtub) or similar
- 4 nights at the hotel FortySeven 4**** L in Rome (executive room) or similar
- At all hotels : breakfast every day
- Transfers with private luxury car equipped with A/C, where mentioned.
- Arrival and departure transfers in Venice with private water taxi
- Private Gondola ride in Venice of approx. 30 /35 minutes.
- Private car with English speaking driver for a full day on the Amalfi coast
- Professional, personal, English speaking driver for the wine tour in Montepulciano and Montalcino
- Professional, personal, English speaking guide for tours in the following cities, as per program: Venice, Florence, Siena, San Gimignano, Monteriggioni and Colle Val D'Elsa, Sorrento and Rome
- Cooking lesson with guided visit and shopping at the market in Florence including lunch
- Excursion on horses in the Tuscan countryside
- Welcome lunch (light lunch including 1/2 water, 1/4 wine, coffee) and farewell dinner (3 courses without beverages) at the restaurant Il Falconiere – 1 Michelin star – at your hotel il Falconiere

- Lunch in Siena after the city tour (3 courses without beverages)
- One beauty treatment of 50 minutes at the Spa of the Hotel il Falconiere on 13 August
- One beauty treatment of 2 hours and 30 minutes at the Spa of the Hotel il Falconiere on 15 August
- 2 Wine tasting and one lunch in the wineries in Montepulciano and Montalcino
- Lunch in Colle Val D'Elsa after the city tour (3 courses without beverages)
- Lunch in Civita di Bagnoregio on 16 August (3 courses without beverages)
- Lunch in Rome, after the Vatican Museum tour (3 courses without beverages)
- Lunch in Tivoli after the Villa d'Este visit (3 courses without beverages)
- 1 hour carriage tour in Rome
- Entrance tickets at monuments, as per program, with pre-reserved turn of visit.
- All mentioned train tickets in 1st class with pre-reserved seats.

THE TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:

All meals not mentioned in the program- All transfers not mentioned in the program

- Municipality taxes at hotels that have to be paid on arrival directly at each hotel
- Tips
- All that is not expressly listed in "THE TOUR INCLUDES"

For prices – Pls contact us.