

WHERE YOU'RE GOING



ITALIAN ESPRESSO

10 DAYS

10 days of la dolce vita, pronto. This one is pure Italian travel, covering all the big bucket-list destinations of Venice, Florence & Rome, plus the smaller charms of Pisa, Verona, and Siena. We'll ooh and aah over antipasto & chianti, dine on regional specialties in local trattorias, boat through the canals and islands of Venice, and explore the architecturally magnificent city of Florence. Expect comfy hotels and plenty of world-famous espresso & pizza on the way.

ITINERARY

DAY 1

START ROME

Rome

Welcome to Rome! Once known as the 'capital of the world' this richly historic, passionate and elegant city will steal our hearts as soon as we arrive. We'll meet and greet our Contiki crew at 4pm, before taking to the streets for an included Italian feast. After dinner we'll head on an orientation tour of the city ticking off all the sights in Rome.

Meals

Dinner

Included Experiences

- Tour Rome on Foot
- Dinner at La Trattoria de Gli Amici MAKE TRAVEL MATTER ® Experience

DAY 2

ROME TO FLORENCE VIA SIENA

Rome

Rise and shine, we're headed to another historical heavyweight today...

Siena

But not before stopping off at Siena for lunch. This place has medieval masterpieces and the historic city centre has been declared by UNESCO a World Heritage Site. We'll soak up all of that historic beauty and grab a bite before heading onto Florence...

Florence

We'll turn in for the night, dreaming of the Florentine adventures that await us tomorrow.

Meals

Breakfast

Included Experiences

- Get to know Siena

ITINERARY

DAY 3

FLORENCE

Florence

Florence is often referred to as a 'walking museum', and today we'll find out why. With a locally guided walking tour, we'll discover Renaissance Florence on foot, swooning at Giotto's Bell Tower, Basilica Santa Croce, and Piazza della Signoria. We'll also see the Duomo, one of the world's most remarkable architectural feats. Later, we'll get together for a Tuscan Risotto Evening indulging in wine from the nearby vineyards. Watch a risotto demonstration whilst our hosts have cooked up a feast of antipasto and Italian specialties. Save some room for 'dolce' i.e a mystery homemade dessert!

Meals

Breakfast

Included Experiences

- Florence Walking Tour

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Tuscan Risotto Evening -

Wind down with an aperitivo & take in the scenery of the Tuscan hills. Learn how to make risotto with the chef & indulge in wine from the Chianti region. In true Italian fashion, our warm hosts will load your table with a feast of antipasto, followed by a house speciality & something 'dolce' for dessert.

Price: 60.00 EUR

ITINERARY

DAY 4

FLORENCE TO CINQUE TERRE VIA LUCCA AND PISA

Florence

Farewell, Florence. We'll never forget you. But we've got more dreamy Italian hot spots to hit up.

Lucca

Now we get to stopover at lovely Lucca, with its charming piazzas, Renaissance architecture and historic cafes. Opt for wines at the local vineyards outside of Lucca. Or it's a perfect spot to grab a bite before we hit the road again

Pisa

We can't be this way of the world without a sneaky visit to the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Depriving you of the chance to perfect the holding-up-the-tower shot would be criminal.

Cinque Terre

Welcome to the Italian Riviera! You're going to fall head over heels with this region over the coming days...

Meals

Breakfast, Dinner

Included Experiences

- Visit Pisa (for that Epic Selfie)
- Explore Lucca

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Lucca Wine Tasting -

Visit the Fattoria Al Dotto winery outside Lucca and taste local wines accompanied with a delicious platter of snacks.

Price: 33.00 EUR

ITINERARY

DAY 5

CINQUE TERRE

Cinque Terre

Some people think Cinque Terre is just one place, but it actually translates to the 'five lands' and is made up of 5 stunning towns with their own unique identity and traditions. Included in your trip is an unlimited Cinque Terre hike and train ticket, and whichever way you choose to get around will be sure to make you fall in love with the dramatic cliff-faces and pastel coloured buildings.

Meals

Breakfast

Included Experiences

- Explore Cinque Terre

ITINERARY

DAY 6

CINQUE TERRE TO MILAN VIA COMO

Cinque Terre

We're hitting the road today to one of the most elegant cities in Europe.

Como

But not before experiencing the glitz and glamour of Lake Como, with its attractive villages and gorgeous gardens. The showstopper is the lake itself, of course, and we'll have the option to get out on the water for a cruise.

Milan

Welcome to Milan, the sophisticated cityscape that rewards the curious traveller. We have a free night to check out the local nightlife, and eat some of the local delicacies. As always, your Trip Manager will have the top tips on where to go and where to avoid...

Meals

Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Lake Como Cruise -

Take a leisurely cruise along Lake Como situated at the foothills of the Italian Dolomites.

Price: 33.00 EUR

ITINERARY

DAY 7

MILAN TO VENICE VIA VERONA

Milan

The dreamy destinations just don't stop coming...

Verona

Welcome to Verona, the heart of Renaissance romance (and the setting for Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet). Beautiful architecture, rich history and plenty of jaw-dropping art makes this place a very worthy stopover. We'll check out Juliet's balcony, part of a gorgeous 13th century house then it's onto another very romantic city...

Venice

Welcome to Treviso! Nothing like a free evening to spend the Italian way... Tonight you'll have the option to walk around this idyllic version of Venice (before taking on the real thing tomorrow!). Grab some local food on the way. And maybe even treat yourself to some tiramisu (because this little town is where it was born!). Seriously, it doesn't get more authentic than this.

Meals

Breakfast

Included Experiences

- See Juliet's Balcony

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Traditional Tastes of Treviso -

Eating the Treviso way - our local expert will take you bar hopping, sampling the local cuisine & wines at a host of locations off the beaten track. Get a real insight in to local life & the flavours of Treviso.

Price: 48.00 EUR

ITINERARY

DAY 8

VENICE

Venice

Wake-up sleeping beauties! Hop onto our coach because we've got this entire day to explore Venice. We'll be jumping aboard our own private boat and crossing the canal en route to the historical heart of the city. A gondola ride will be up for grabs, or you can always choose to get lost on your own and see where the maze takes you.

Meals

Breakfast

Included Experiences

- Cruise on a Motoscafo to Venice

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Gondolas -

See Venice from the canals in a gondola. From magnificent palazzi in the distance to the locals' laundry strung across the backwaters, Venice's charm gets you at every turn.

Price: 29.00 EUR

Burano Island Cruise & Dinner -

Cruise across the lagoon to the UNESCO fisherman's island of Burano. Snap pics of the streetscapes as we head to a local restaurant where we'll enjoy a traditional feast.

Price: 69.00 EUR

ITINERARY

DAY 9

VENICE TO ROME VIA BOLOGNA

Venice

See ya, Venice. You'll always have a piece of our hearts. Today we're headed back to Rome to explore the city in more depth.

Bologna

But not before making a quick stop in Bologna. Home of prosciutto, mortadella, bolognese sauce and many more tasty Italian delights, Bologna is known far and wide as La Grassa (the Fat One). Come hungry, but make sure you're not too full to explore the Unesco-listed porticoes either.

Rome

We'll have a free night for dinner and a chance to dine on a wholesome meal at a 17th-century tavern in Trastevere. All washed down with some fine Italian wine? If you say so.

Meals

Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Enjoy a Farewell Feast at a 17th-Century Tavern -

It's time to say goodbye to your new besties. And what better way to do so than with a wholesome meal at a 17th-century tavern in Trastevere that serves up delicious food using Grandma's recipes. Buon appetito!

Price: 42.00 EUR

ITINERARY

DAY 10

END ROME

Rome

Rome wasn't built in a day - so get up and get going early to make the most of this ancient city. Take a tour of the famous Colosseum and walk in the footsteps of Emperors and Gladiators with a guide, or snap epic selfies against a background of pink azaleas by the entrance. And with that, our trip has come to an end this afternoon. Swap contact details and start planning your next adventure!

Meals

Breakfast

Included Experiences

- Emperors & Gladiators inc Colosseum