

GRAND CATHOLIC ITALY

11 days incl. air or 10 days Rome/Venice (TV)

Vacation Overview

Enjoy 11 days in Italy—from Rome to Venice. In Rome, enjoy a welcome dinner and guided visits to the Holy Stairs, St. John Lateran Basilica, St. Paul outside the Walls, St. Mary Major Basilica, the Catacombs, the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Square and Basilica, the Colosseum and the Roman Forum with a Local Guide. Stop in Montecassino to visit the first of the Benedictine monasteries founded by St. Benedict before arriving in San Giovanni Rotondo, home to the beloved St. Padre Pio. Visit his Friary, the Old Church, and the New Church.

Next, visit the Shrine of Monte Sant'Angelo, where St. Michael the Archangel appeared in the 5th and 17th centuries. Via Lanciano's Church and the Holy House of Loreto, travel to Assisi, where guided visits to the Basilicas of St. Francis and St. Clare are included. Via Siena with its Sanctuary of St. Catherine and the Basilica of St. Dominic, arrive in Florence, where guided sightseeing includes a visit to Michelangelo's *David*. Stop in Padua to visit St. Anthony's Basilica, and arrive in Venice. Enter by private boat to meet your Local Guide and visit St. Mark's Square and Basilica. Later, enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Map



Itinerary

Day 1

(Mon.) Board your overnight transatlantic flight.

Day 2 Arrival in Rome, Italy

(Tue.) Transfer to your hotel. Balance of the day is at leisure. At 6 p.m. meet your Tour Director, then enjoy this evening's welcome dinner at a local restaurant. (D)

Day 3 Rome

(Wed.) Attend the weekly general audience of the Pope (subject to availability). This afternoon, visit ST. PAUL OUTSIDE THE WALLS and the CATACOMBS. During the persecutions, the catacombs were used as places of refuge for the celebration of the Eucharist. Next, visit ST. JOHN LATERAN BASILICA, the HOLY STAIRS, which were brought from Jerusalem to Rome about the year 326 A.D. by St. Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, and consist of 28 white marble steps. As a favorite of pilgrims every where, these steps may only be ascended on the knees. Then visit the impressive ST. MARY MAJOR BASILICA. (BB)

Day 4 Rome

(Thu.) This morning, enjoy a guided visit of the VATICAN MUSEUMS and the SISTINE CHAPEL, world-famous for Michelangelo's ceiling paintings and *The Last Judgment*. Continue to monumental ST. PETER'S SQUARE and BASILICA. Cross the River Tiber, and visit the COLOSSEUM, one of the New 7 Wonders of the World®, and the ROMAN FORUM, where Roman Legions marched in triumph. (BB)

Day 5 Rome–Montecassino–San Giovanni Rotondo

(Fri.) Visit the ABBEY OF MONTECASSINO, the first of the Benedictine monasteries founded by St. Benedict around 529. Then journey to Italy's eastern coast and San Giovanni Rotondo, home to the beloved St. Padre Pio. (BB,D)

Day 6 San Giovanni Rotondo. Excursion to Monte Sant'Angelo

(Sat.) Visit the FRIARY OF PADRE PIO, including his tomb, cell, confessional, and the OLD CHURCH where he received the stigmata. Also visit the NEW CHURCH. Afterwards, visit the nearby SHRINE OF MONTE SANT'ANGELO, one of Christendom's most celebrated shrines and where St. Michael the Archangel appeared in years 490 A.D., 492 A.D., and 1656. (BB,D)

Day 7 San Giovanni Rotondo–Lanciano– Loreto–Assisi

(Sun.) Visit Lanciano and the CHURCH, which is home to an 8th-century Eucharistic Miracle. Afterwards, visit the HOLY HOUSE OF LORETO where, according to tradition, angels transported the home of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Arrive at the hilltop village of Assisi, home of St. Francis and St. Clare. (BB,D)

Day 8 Assisi–Florence

(Mon.) Celebrate Mass this morning followed by a guided walking tour of Assisi. Visit the BASILICAS OF ST. FRANCIS and ST. CLARE. See the crucifix that spoke to St. Francis. Also visit the ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS BASILICA and the PORTIUNCULA. On the way to Florence, stop in Siena and visit the SANCTUARY OF ST. CATHERINE and the BASILICA OF ST. DOMINIC. (BB,D)

Day 9 Florence

(Tue.) Guided sightseeing features a visit to the ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS to see Michelangelo's *David*, the CATHEDRAL, and Giotto's Bell Tower. Balance of the day is at leisure. (BB)

Day 10 Florence–Padua–Venice

(Wed.) Depart for Padua and visit the BASILICA OF ST. ANTHONY to see the tomb and reliquaries of this miracle-working saint and patron of lost and stolen articles. Journey on to Venice, one of the world's most romantic cities. Enter by PRIVATE BOAT and meet your Local Guide. Visit ST. MARK'S SQUARE and its BASILICA, and enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (BB,D)

Day 11 Venice

(Thu.) Transfer to the airport for flights leaving no earlier than 10 a.m. Your homebound flight arrives the same day. (BB)

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Airport transfers may be included when you make your flight arrangements. [Click Here](#) for more information.

Vacation Highlights

INCLUDED FEATURES

ROME:

Welcome dinner at a local restaurant; guided sightseeing including headsets, visit St. Paul Outside the Walls, the Catacombs, St. John Lateran Basilica, the Holy Stairs, St. Mary Major Basilica, the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Square and Basilica, the Colosseum, and the Roman Forum

MONTECASSINO:

Visit the Benedictine abbey

SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO:

Visit Padre Pio's Friary, the Old Church, and the New Church

MONTE SANT'ANGELO:

Visit the Shrine

LANCIANO:

Visit the Eucharistic Miracle Church

LORETO:

Visit the Holy House of Loreto

ASSISI:

Guided sightseeing, visit the Basilicas of St. Francis and St. Clare; also visit the St. Mary of the Angels Basilica and the Portiuncula

SIENA:

Visit the Sanctuary of St. Catherine and the Basilica of St. Dominic

FLORENCE:

Guided sightseeing including headsets, visit Michelangelo's *David*, and the cathedral

PADUA:

Visit St. Anthony's Basilica

VENICE:

Private boat ride; guided sightseeing including headsets, visit St. Mark's Square and Basilica; farewell dinner in a local restaurant

INSIDE VISITS

Inside visits and special features are shown in the description, including admission charges when applicable.

STANDARD INCLUDED FEATURES

Learn more about transportation, hotels, and other standard included features offered.

Accommodations**MEALS**

9 buffet breakfasts (BB); 6 threecourse dinners (D), including a welcome dinner in Rome and a farewell dinner in Venice.

SUPERIOR HOTELS

ROME Nova Domus (F), **SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO** Gran Paradiso (F), **ASSISI** San Francesco (TC), **FLORENCE** Holiday Inn (F), **VENICE** Novotel Castellana at Mestre (F)

Optional Excursions

Here's a list of optional excursions you can enjoy during your vacation. Whether it's a special dinner, a local show or a special behind-the-scenes glimpse into an historical site, optional excursions are wonderful way to enrich your vacation even further. Plus, they give you flexibility. We include the must-see sites and experiences, and we also understand that people take interest in different activities and may want to craft a more personal vacation by hand-picking optional excursions that appeal to them.

Availability is subject to sufficient participation, weather conditions, seasonal suitability, group interests, and general feasibility for your vacation. The approximate value listed gives you a good, general idea of what you can expect to pay but may vary once you are on your vacation. Optional excursions **can only be purchased when you're on vacation** and are not sold in advance. Some information provided might be in a foreign currency, you can use our online currency converter for exchange rate information.

CITY: Florence

Tuscan Dinner

Drive out to the Tuscan Hills to enjoy a traditional Florentine meal, including drinks, in a picturesque country setting.

Approximate value: EUR €51 per person

Highlights of Uffizi Gallery

Admire the world's greatest collection of Italian and Florentine art. The GALLERY showcases works by Leonardo da Vinci, Botticelli, and Michelangelo.

Approximate value: EUR €36 per person

Renaissance Dinner

In the magnificent setting of Palazzo Borghese, enjoy a four-course dinner with wine served by waiters wearing costumes inspired by the great Florentine banquets of the 15th century. Original Renaissance music, ballets, and a jester will add to the cheerful evening.

Approximate value: EUR €52 per person

CITY: Rome

Castelli Romani and Dinner in Frascati

Escape the hustle and bustle of Rome for a scenic drive past the Pope's summer residence at Castel Gandolfo, then Lake Albano, and Grottaferrata to famous Frascati. Unwind with a succulent four-course dinner with the traditional local white wine.

Approximate value: EUR €53 per person

Excursion to Tivoli with Dinner

Leave Rome for a guided visit of the famous VILLA ADRIANA or the VILLA D'ESTE GARDENS and FOUNTAINS in Tivoli, followed by a typical country-style dinner with wine, spumante, and music.

Approximate value: EUR €71 per person

Roman Highlights and Dinner

A guided walking tour takes you to some of the most famous monuments. Admire the Spanish Steps, Via Condotti, Piazza Navona, Parliament, and Pantheon. Later this evening enjoy a four-course dinner at a popular Roman restaurant. Drinks included.

Approximate value: EUR €63 per person

CITY: Venice

Gondola Serenade

Enjoy a serenaded ride in a traditional gondola (for 6 people), gliding through centuries-old canals, under famous arched bridges, and past lavish palaces and quaint piazzas.

Approximate value: EUR €40 per person

Dates and Prices

View the following dates and prices to find just the right date for your vacation. Below you'll find the date you'll depart, the date the vacation starts and date you'll return.

Once you've selected your date, you'll move to the next step to get an airfare quote and to begin booking your vacation. When you book your flights with us, you'll find we offer competitive and hassle-free airfares, plus you'll receive free airport transfers, flights coordinated with vacation dates and you'll avoid strict internet terms and conditions.

| Departure Details | Departure Date | Tour Start Date | Return Date | Land/Cruise Price | Status |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| | 4/7/2008 | 4/8/2008 | 4/17/2008 | \$1,989.00 | Not Available |
| | 4/21/2008 | 4/22/2008 | 5/1/2008 | \$1,989.00 | Not Available |

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|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|---------------|
| 5/5/2008 | 5/6/2008 | 5/15/2008 | \$1,989.00 | Not Available |
| 5/19/2008 | 5/20/2008 | 5/29/2008 | \$1,989.00 | Not Available |
| 7/14/2008 | 7/15/2008 | 7/24/2008 | \$1,989.00 | Not Available |
| 8/25/2008 | 8/26/2008 | 9/4/2008 | \$1,989.00 | Not Available |
| 9/22/2008 | 9/23/2008 | 10/2/2008 | \$1,989.00 | Please Call |
| 10/6/2008 | 10/7/2008 | 10/16/2008 | \$1,979.00 | Not Available |
| 4/6/2009 | 4/7/2009 | 4/16/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 4/20/2009 | 4/21/2009 | 4/30/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 5/4/2009 | 5/5/2009 | 5/14/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 5/18/2009 | 5/19/2009 | 5/28/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 6/1/2009 | 6/2/2009 | 6/11/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 6/15/2009 | 6/16/2009 | 6/25/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 6/29/2009 | 6/30/2009 | 7/9/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 7/13/2009 | 7/14/2009 | 7/23/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 7/27/2009 | 7/28/2009 | 8/6/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 8/10/2009 | 8/11/2009 | 8/20/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 8/24/2009 | 8/25/2009 | 9/3/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 9/7/2009 | 9/8/2009 | 9/17/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 9/21/2009 | 9/22/2009 | 10/1/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |
| 10/5/2009 | 10/6/2009 | 10/15/2009 | \$2,399.00 | Book Now! |

US\$ Price Details

- Applicable air fare taxes and fees
- Land price will incur a currency surcharge.

Single room supplement:

\$347

Triple room reduction per person:

\$50

Extra nights per person in Rome:

Mar.-Apr.: in single room \$212; in twin room \$155; in triple room \$123

May-Oct.: in single room \$225; in twin room \$165; in triple room \$132

Extra nights per person in Venice:

in single room \$155; in twin room \$100; in triple room \$90

Our Volume Buying Power Saves You Money!

-We may be able to provide you with flight arrangements from your gateway city.

-Additional accommodations before or after your tour may be available at our low prices.

Additional Information:

-Departure/arrival taxes and fares from other cities will be advised at the time of booking.

-2008, 2009 & 2010 vacation itineraries and prices are subject to change.

Guaranteed Air-Inclusive Price:

Air-inclusive prices do not include a September 11th fee up to \$10, passenger facility charges of up to \$18, Federal domestic flight segment fees of up to \$3.50 per segment and U.S. and International arrival and departure and other government imposed fees of up to \$300 depending on your itinerary. Please see the Applicable Airfare Taxes and Fee link above for more information.

Air booked in conjunction with a land vacation is considered an air-inclusive vacation. Air can only be booked by Globus in conjunction with a land package and is only available for passengers traveling from the United States. For vacation departures in 2008, your final air-inclusive vacation price is guaranteed when your air schedule had

been confirmed and your entire vacation package has been paid in full. For vacation departures in 2009, an additional \$250 non-refundable deposit (total \$500 non-refundable) is required for air booked in conjunction with any land vacation and your final air-inclusive vacation price is guaranteed when your flight information is confirmed and Globus has received your full land and air deposit.

Not Included in the Vacation Price:

Federal inspection fees for the Federal U.S. Customs and Immigrations; International Air Transportation tax; agricultural tax; other per person taxes imposed by government entities; airport taxes and fees including the September 11th Security fee up to \$10 per person, Passenger facility charges up to \$18 per person, Federal domestic flight segment fees up to \$3.50 per segment and U.S. and International arrival and departure, and other government imposed fees up to \$300 per person; port taxes; passports; visas and vaccinations; tips to your Tour or Cruise Director, Local Host, driver, Local Guides, and/or ships' crew; gratuities on ferries, trains, and cruise ships; laundry; telephone; minibar; alcohol, beverages, and food outside of the contracted Globus menu as presented at a hotel or restaurant (these extra items will be billed to you before leaving the hotel, ship, or restaurant); optional excursions; airport transfers on non-qualifying flights; portage at airports and train stations; Travel Protection premiums; all airline imposed baggage fees (including internal flights); and all other items of a personal nature.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

For travel terms and conditions, visit the Globus Web site, www.globusjourneys.com.

MAKING A RESERVATION

Call George Morello Travel Service at 650-348-2200 or email us at request@georgemorellotvl.com