



Itinerary

Discover Italy featuring Rome, Florence, Bologna and Lake Como

Nov 6, 2019 - Nov 15, 2019

Pre Night: Hotel Imperiale



The 4-star Hotel Imperiale is a 19th-century building on Rome's Via Veneto. Located in Rome's city center, it is nearby to Sistina Theater, Trevi Fountain and Teatro dell'Opera di Roma.

Day 1: Overnight Flight



Your Italian odyssey begins with an overnight flight. On this dramatic journey you'll enjoy walking tours that offer up-close looks at Italy's most charming towns. Along the way we visit magnificent historic monuments, marvel at stunning architecture and sample the mouth-watering cuisine and wines this part of the world is famous for.

Day 2: Rome, Italy - Tour Begins



Ciao Italia! Your tour opens in Rome. Meet your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner in a local restaurant. Join in an interactive and fun presentation on Italy's wines given by the restaurant's sommelier. Indulge in a traditional four-course meal paired with some of the country's finest wines.

Hotel

Hotel Imperiale
Rome

Culinary

Dinner

Day 3: Rome - Classical Rome City Tour



A locally guided tour of Classical Rome will allow you to discover famous sights such as the Baths of Caracalla, the legendary Aventine and Palatine Hills, the ancient Circus Maximus, and the Arch of Constantine. During an in-depth visit to the Colosseum, your guide recounts its rich history. The catacombs, burial place of early Christians, the mythic Pantheon, and Piazza Navona are also featured.

Hotel

Hotel Imperiale
Rome

Culinary

Breakfast

Day 4: Rome



Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore Rome's cultural treasures independently. Your Tour Manager will be on hand to offer suggestions. Perhaps a trip to Vatican City, with an optional tour to the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica, will be on your personal sightseeing list.

Hotel

Hotel Imperiale
Rome

Culinary

Breakfast

Day 5: Rome - Assisi - Florence



Travel north to the medieval walled city of Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis, patron saint of Italy. A local expert guides you on a tour of the magnificent Basilica of St. Francis and the historic old city. Continue on to another amazing city, Florence, your home for the next three nights.

Hotel

Hotel Kraft Florence
Florence

Culinary

Breakfast

Day 6: Florence



Today, it's your choice! You may choose a cultural tour of the "Cradle of the Italian Renaissance" that showcases the beautiful city of Florence; a local Florentine guide highlights many of the city's priceless treasures, including the Piazza del Duomo, which is the center of religious life in medieval Florence; you will also see the remarkable Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the impressive gilded bronze doors of the Baptistery dedicated to St. John; then continue to Piazza della Signoria and end the tour at Piazza Santa Croce -OR- perhaps you would prefer to explore Piazza Santa Maria Novella, the bustling San Lorenzo Market, and visit Orsanmichele church; you'll also view San Lorenzo church and admire historic Ponte Vecchio, the oldest bridge in Florence. Later, join your fellow travelers for a winery visit showcasing the wine cellar, family estate and stunning Tuscan views. This evening, delve into the local culture as you participate in a cooking class where you will learn the art of Tuscan cuisine.

Hotel

Hotel Kraft Florence
Florence

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 7: Florence



Your day is at leisure to discover this fascinating city. Perhaps you will choose to spend a relaxing day at one of Florence's many cafés, explore the city independently or immerse yourself in the Tuscan culture. Or, you may participate in an optional tour to discover the hilltop village of San Gimignano and the mystical city of Siena, two of the most picturesque places in Tuscany.

Hotel

Hotel Kraft Florence
Florence

Culinary

Breakfast

Day 8: Florence - Bologna Walking Tour - Como



Travel to Bologna, Italy's foodie capital. Join a local expert on a leisurely paced walking tour discovering this historic city from a culinary perspective. Visit one of the city's oldest food markets and check out traditional food shops like a bakery and pasta maker. Walk the city of Bologna discovering its culture, architecture and history as you enjoy tastings of cheese, cured meats, bread, chocolate, gelato and more. Later, continue north to beautiful Lake Como, an upscale resort area known for its dramatic scenery, set against the foothills of the Alps.

Hotel

Hotel Barchetta Excelsior
Como

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Day 9: Lake Como Cruise - Bellagio - Como



Few places are as romantic as Lake Como and even fewer resorts as beautiful as Bellagio. Today, discover the beauty and the feeling of the landscape, villages and mountains that surround Lake Como. During your cruise, a local guide provides captivating stories of fortresses and castles, fires and reconstructions, naval battles, powerful cardinals and monarchs who built spectacular villas and gardens and of past and present celebrities who chose to live on Lake Como. Called the "Pearl of the Lake," the village of Bellagio is characterized by century-old buildings, stone lanes and picturesque cobbled stairways filled with shops showcasing the finest Italian wares. Upon arrival, an orientation tour is followed by free time to stroll the Borgo, Bellagio's historic center, or enjoy lunch at an outdoor café. For longer walks, you may opt to visit the botanical gardens of Villa Melzi or explore the peaceful fishing hamlet of Pescallo or take in the breathtaking views of the lake and surrounding mountains from Punta Spartivento. Mid-afternoon, cruise back to Como passing quiet bays and elegant villas. This evening,

join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner celebrating the end of a memorable trip to the unforgettable country of Italy.

Hotel

Hotel Barchetta Excelsior
Como

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 10: Como - Tour Ends



Your tour ends today.