



## LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEY Best Of Italy

### INCLUDED WITH EVERY LUXURY TAILOR MADE JOURNEY

Experience all the mesmerising highlights of Italy.

#### DAY 1 ○ ARRIVE IN ROME - AFTERNOON AT LEISURE - DINNER IN HOTEL

We are in Rome! Your Buongiorno Travel representative will greet you and arrange the complimentary transfer from Rome Airport to your hotel at scheduled times. Your afternoon will be free for you to explore this magical city at your own pace or even do some shopping. Your tour leader will meet you for a brief orientation and welcome drink, followed by dinner at your hotel.

Ambasciatori Palace  
Or Similar

Meals: Dinner

#### DAY 2 ○ ROME SIGHTSEEING - AFTERNOON AT LEISURE

Your chariot awaits for a panoramic tour of Imperial Rome, the Roman Forum, Largo Argentina (where Caesar was stabbed by Brutus), the Jewish Ghetto and the Circus Maximus.

##### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

##### Piazas and Fountains of Rome

Unravel the most charming areas in the city with a Local Specialist. The labyrinth of narrow streets will reveal beautiful squares of Rome's historic center, Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon and many hidden corners of the Eternal City. Typical Italian cuisine will be served accompanied by drinks and music should provide the perfect atmosphere for a delightful evening in Rome. You will be driven through the streets of Rome to get a glimpse of how Romans enjoy their magical city.

Ambasciatori Palace  
Or Similar

Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 3 ○ ROME - VATICAN MUSEUM - SISTINE CHAPEL - ST. PETER'S BASILICA

This morning it's five minutes by car to another country - Vatican City! With our expert local guide, we will tour the Vatican Museums, a huge collection of ancient Greek sculptures, medieval tapestries and Renaissance paintings. Our visit ends at the Sistine Chapel, the room where the Pope was elected.

### YOUR JOURNEY



Next, we visit St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the Christian world. We will see Michelangelo's sculpted Pieta when he was only 24 years old and Bernini's shade of bronze, seven layers above the main altar.

(Please note that the visit to St. Peter's Basilica is subject to availability as per the events planned by the Pope.)

You will have lunch on your own and then spend a free afternoon in Rome.

Tonight we thought you would enjoy a dinner on your own. Ask your tour guide for a suggestion!

Ambasciatori Palace

Or Similar

Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 4 ○ **ROME - POMPEII - SORRENTO**

This morning, we travel to Pompeii, with the view of the Bay of Naples on the way. Perfectly preserved city since its most famous eruption in the year 79 A.D, when the volcano buried this ancient city under a thick carpet of volcanic ash leaving behind tragic fossils of people attempting to escape along with children and animals.

##### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

###### **Neapolitan Dinner and Dance**

You will dine at one of our favourite family-run restaurants with a feast of Neapolitan specialties whilst being entertained by the local artists who'll take centre stage and demonstrate the famous Tarantella dance.

###### **Sorrento Farmhouse Dinner**

A mesmerising scenic drive takes you to the 18th century Olive Oil mill in Sorrentino countryside. There will be a guided tour of the gardens, mill and the wine cellar. Enjoy your freshly made traditional pizza and wine in this magical lemon country and inhale the scent of Sorrentino.

After your meal, you have the opportunity to see how pizza and mozzarella are made.

Parco dei Principi

Or Similar

Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 5 ○ **SORRENTO - CAPRI - SORRENTO**

This morning the enchanting Capri Island will be our destination by boat (weather permitting). There is nothing out of place here, not a grubby, neglected building or garden to spoil this incredible heaven with its steep cliffs emerging out of an impossibly blue sea and houses dressed with wisteria and bougainvillea. Capri's most iconic sight is the dramatic Faraglioni, three towering rock formations which jut out from the Mediterranean just off the island's coast is a must for all visitors to Capri.

Next, we visit the Grotta Bianca, one of several scenic caves along the coastline.

You will have free time to explore the island once we are back on Capri or you may want to take advantage of our special optional excursion with your tour leader.

Tonight, still feeling the warmth of the Mediterranean sun, enjoy a perfect ending to a perfect day with fine food and wine at Sorrento Eatery.

##### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

###### **Discover The Isle Of Capri**

You will experience Capri's spectacular scenery and famous turquoise waters by boat, which provided a hide away vacation to Roman Emperors and inspired many poets and lovers.

After the cruise, we ascend to Capri town to enjoy the island's specialty, lemon Granita whilst being charmed by this dazzling paradise and it's laid back, humble atmosphere.

If the weather doesn't allow, we'll take you on a mini bus tour of the island to Anacapri, and a visit to Villa San Michele.

###### **Sorrento Farmhouse Dinner**

A mesmerizing scenic drive takes you to the 18th century Olive Oil mill in Sorrentino countryside. There will be a guided tour of the gardens, mill and the wine cellar. Enjoy your freshly made traditional pizza and wine in this magical lemon country and inhale the scent of Sorrentino.

After your meal, you have the opportunity to see how pizza and mozzarella are made.

Parco dei Principi

Or Similar

Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 6 ○ **SORRENTO - DRIVE TO MONTECATINI**

You will enjoy a delightful day navigating with our deluxe coach, the perfectly contoured hills, scenic vineyards and picture perfect vistas of Umbria and Tuscany. Magical Tiber River Valley, Orvieto and Orte will take you back to medieval times along the way.

This evening you will taste fine local wines with your dinner at your hotel.

Hotel Columbus

Or Similar

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 7 ○ **MONTECATINI - FLORENCE CITY SIGHTSEEING INCLUDING THE DAVID**

Florence - the fountainhead of the Renaissance, will embrace you with open arms today!

Our sightseeing includes the Duomo di Firenze, the Cathedral of Florence built between 1296-1436. This will be followed by the most beautiful example of Gothic architecture in the 1300's, Giotto's Bell Tower and the Baptistry with its renowned "Gates of Paradise" doors.

The medieval streets will finally lead you to the most striking square in Florence, Piazza della Signoria, home of Santa Croce Church, Michelangelo's final resting place. One of the greatest masterpieces ever created by mankind Michelangelo's David, will take your breath away at first view.

But the real magic is how Michelangelo chipped away the gleaming white marble with cleverness, not sheer force with just a hammer and a chisel to create this masterpiece.

#### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

##### Tuscan Dinner, Wine And Music In The Tuscan Hills

A scenic drive through the beautiful Tuscan countryside with its hilltop towns and the gentle rolling hills will take us to a charming restaurant where you get a chance to taste some of the best regional food and wine, accompanied by live music.

Hotel Columbus  
Or Similar  
Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 8 ○ MONTECATINI- PISA -PORTOFINO

This morning you will see the Leaning Tower of Pisa, known worldwide for its , nearly four-degree lean, the result of an unstable foundation along with the beautiful Cathedral and Baptistry.

Portofino is a fishing village on the Italian Riviera coastline, southeast of Genoa city. Pastel-coloured houses, high-end boutiques and seafood restaurants fringe its Piazzetta, which is lined with super-yachts. It's the perfect time to steal a slice of 'la dolce vita' in peace.

This evening will feature delicious food and fine wines at your hotel.

Hotel Columbus  
Or Similar  
Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 9 ○ MONTECATINI - VENICE

Finally, we arrive Venice by boat. Gondolas drift along the canals, not just for show, but also to deliver the staples of daily life.

Tonight, we'll have dinner in Italian style with good food, tasty wine and recount our experiences.

#### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Palace Bonvecchiati  
Or Similar  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 10 ○ VENICE - CITY SIGHTSEEING

Our expert local guide will take you for a walking tour of St. Mark's Square, the great Byzantine Basilica, the Bridge of Sighs and the Doge's Palace.

You can spend the afternoon getting lost in the city's labyrinth of canals, bridges and tiny piazzas. Although it seems difficult to get lost navigating the 118 islands, it won't hurt to master the phrase "Dov'e' Piazza San Marco?"

You have the evening free in this romantic city. When in Venice, do as the Venetians do! Having Cicchetti in a traditional Venetian Bar called 'Bacari' or back road Pizzerias will bring you closer to the locals and give you a feel of Venetian life.

#### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

##### Venice's Secrets and St. Mark's Basilica

Your local specialist will give you a fascinating insight into Venice's history and present state whilst you are exploring this romantic city made up with maze of streets.

You'll visit the majestic Basilica of St Mark, one of the best-known examples of Italo-Byzantine architecture, related to Venice's past as a major seafaring power.

##### Lagoon Cruise to Burano with Food and Drinks

You will enjoy delicious food and selection of drinks on Burano Island after a Venetian Lagoon tour by a private boat. Famous for its lace and coloured houses, this island is also a real photographer's paradise. Perfect location for those great holiday snaps!

Palace Bonvecchiati  
Or Similar  
Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 11 ○ VENICE - SIRMIONE - MILAN SIGHTSEEING - DINNER IN HOTEL

Lake Garda – the peninsula of Sirmione will be a delightful stop on the way to Milan.

We will park outside the town and walk across a drawbridge and through a medieval gateway to enter the town itself.

Finally, we are in Milan. We will start experiencing the city with a panoramic drive through the streets either radiating from the gothic Duomo or circling it.

We will visit the world's first shopping center The famed Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, a magnificent building with a glass and iron roof and the famed La Scala Opera House.

Tonight, we enjoy a Milanese dinner at our hotel.  
NH Touring  
Or Similar  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 12 ○ **MILAN - LUGANO - LAKE COMO**

Our last night together will be at a fine Milanese eatery, which will provide a perfect atmosphere for exchanging emails and talking about your future plans with your new friends. How about meeting again on another Buongiorno Travel trip?

**OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

**Lugano (Switzerland)-Lake Como**

This morning's visit to Lugano is actually in Switzerland, but this Alpine paradise is infused with a mix of Swiss sophistication and Italian passion. You can find a perfect balance of natural beauty and great shops filled with Swiss specialties— like clocks, watches and, of course, chocolate!

Next we visit Como, the charming town and pristine lake of the same name, upscale resort area known for its dramatic scenery, set against the foothills of the Alps.

NH Touring  
Or Similar  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 13 ○ **DEPART MILAN**

It is time to say "arrivederci" to Italy and board your flight home, arriving in the USA the same day, taking a little piece of Italy back home with us.

Thanks for traveling with **Buongiorno Travel** and please return soon.

Meals: Breakfast

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