



THE LANDS OF THE SERENISSIMA

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE MOST SERENE
VENETO

8 - 21 JUNE 2025





OVERVIEW

AUD 10, 270

P.P. (double/twin-share)

AUD 12, 370

P.P. (solo traveller)

Nestled in northeastern Italy, the Veneto offers a picturesque escape with enchanting landscapes and rich history. The Republic of Venice, known as "*La Serenissima*", was a sovereign state that existed for over a thousand years. This tour explores some territories ruled by the republic on mainland Italy that correspond to today's Veneto region.

Explore the city of Venice, boasting stunning canals and marvellous architecture. Visit charming small cities like Verona, Vicenza, and Padua, famous for their romantic ambience and exceptional cultural heritage. Discover the rich agricultural heritage and typical products, including rice, cheese and prosecco. Indulge in the region's renowned cuisine and world-class wines, making Veneto a truly captivating destination.

On the tour, we stay in just four bases: three nights in Venice, three nights in the Prosecco Hills, four nights in Vicenza and three nights in Verona.

Since 2007, we've been designing itineraries for people who are fascinated by Italy and believe that a holiday is best experienced in good company. Our small groups (maximum of 12 people) and carefully chosen itineraries ensure you will have a delightful and authentic Italian holiday.

We travel at a relaxed pace, with plenty of free time, so you can make the most of your time in Italy without racing from one city to another.





ITINERARY

DAY 1 - ARRIVAL IN VENICE

Our tour begins with three nights based in Venice, the capital of the Veneto and, historically, the centre of the vast Venetian maritime republic, a leading power in medieval and Renaissance Europe.

Arrive at our hotel and check in. We meet in the evening for aperitivi and welcome dinner.

Overnight: Venice

DAY 2 - AN INTRODUCTION TO VENICE

This morning, we begin our Venetian adventure with a walking tour led by a local expert. Our guide will provide a fascinating introduction to Venice, revealing how this remarkable city was built and how it evolved into the marvel it is today. You'll hear captivating stories about Venice's rise and decline, and learn about the unique aspects of its history and architecture and discover the stories behind the grand palaces and gain insights into the city's rich cultural heritage.

Following our morning guided tour, the afternoon is free for you to explore at your leisure, allowing you to discover Venice's hidden treasures at your own pace. You may choose to visit San Marco or the Doge's Palace (please consider booking in advance - ask Philippa for help!).

Overnight: Venice

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"I have been on many big bus tours in the past- I will never go back to that! This trip has opened my eyes to this new way of travelling – it is great!!

The places we visited on this trip were truly beautiful and breathtaking vistas. There was a great balance of guided tours vs free time. The hotels were nice as well – and the location couldn't be better!!."

Nadia (2023)



DAY 3 - DORSODURO AND SAN POLO

On our second morning tour, we'll set off to visit some of the quieter areas of Venice, starting with the charming maze of Dorsoduro. With our expert Venetian guide, we stroll through its quaint streets, discovering artistic gems and soaking up the lively local culture. Moving on to San Polo, we'll visit notable churches and admire the celebrated artwork that defines Venice.

The morning focuses on gaining a deeper understanding and appreciation for this extraordinary city. The afternoon is for taking a breather and enjoying some downtime. Venice can be bustling, so taking a moment to relax and recharge is a great idea. This time is ideal for exploring the city following your personal tastes. We will be present to assist if you need us.

Overnight: Venice

DAY 4 - THE VENETIAN LAGOON

Today, we're taking a relaxed journey into the heart of the Venetian Lagoon aboard a private boat. Burano greets you with its vibrant colours, pretty houses, and lanes; Torcello, with its ancient church, offers a window into the lagoon's beginnings, with dazzling mosaics and weathered stones. It's a day to sense the daily rhythms, where history isn't distant but right there in the peeling paint and aged bricks.

After our boat adventure, our transfer will take us to our new base in the Prosecco Hills.

Overnight: Rolle (Prosecco Hills)

DAY 5 - PROSECCO HILLS

Our travelling companion today is the Prosecco countryside. It is a unique world with a perfect symbiosis between nature and agriculture. The land and its contours decide how the vineyards that produce its famous wines are set out, not vice versa. This, among other reasons, earned the Prosecco Hills UNESCO recognition.

The area boasts century-old mills, castles, churches for the illiterate farmers, and abbeys for the passing pilgrims. We will spend our day discovering this world

Overnight: Rolle (Prosecco Hills)

DAY 6 - A CHEESE PRODUCER

Although this area is known for its wine production, it also produces other remarkable agricultural products, like cheese, grappa, corn and chestnuts. Today, we drive to a secluded agriturismo, set in the hills above Valdobbiadene, where you can learn how the local cheeses are made and have a delicious lunch.

After lunch, we'll drive back through the countryside to our hotel, where there will be some downtime to relax.

Overnight: Rolle (Prosecco Hills)

DAY 7 - ASOLO AND ON TO VICENZA

Today, we move to our new base in Vicenza, stopping first at Asolo, the charming town often referred to as the "city of a hundred horizons" - you'll see why.. There will be time for a leisurely coffee and stroll to explore this quaint town's centre,

Our next stop will be in Marostica, where there will be time for lunch and a look at the city's medieval castle.

We will continue our journey towards Vicenza and check into our new hotel. With its rich history and cultural attractions, Vicenza is a spectacular destination, and it promises to be an exciting base for the next few days.

Overnight: Vicenza

DAY 8 - VICENZA AND PALLADIO

We will start our day by discovering our new base with our local guide. Walking through the city, we will discover its rich history, the importance of Palladio, and how he contributed to and





influenced how the city looks today. We will look at one of his works in the Teatro Olimpico, a theatre with perfect proportions and an optical illusion that has been used in performances staged here for over 500 years.

After the theatre, we will have some free time in the afternoon for people to explore, shop, or relax. Vicenza is a beautiful city, and we encourage everyone to take some time to walk around and enjoy its beauty.

Overnight: Vicenza

DAY 9 - A PALLADIAN VILLA AND A BAROQUE GARDEN

Today, we'll explore two of the Veneto region's most remarkable sites, starting with a visit to the iconic Villa La Rotonda. Designed by the renowned architect Andrea Palladio, this stunning villa is a masterpiece of Renaissance architecture. As we tour its elegant rooms and beautifully landscaped grounds, our guide will share insights into Palladio's design principles and the villa's historical significance.

In the afternoon, we'll head to the enchanting garden of Valsanzibio. Known as one of the most beautiful and well-preserved Baroque gardens in Europe, Valsanzibio offers a serene escape with its intricate maze, elegant fountains, and lush greenery. We'll stroll through the garden's winding paths, discovering its artistic features and learning about the symbolism behind its design.

Overnight: Vicenza

DAY 10 - PADOVA AND THE SCROVEGNI CHAPEL

Our itinerary for the day is to explore Padova, a delightful city that has been integral to Veneto's history since pre-Roman times. Accompanied by our guide, we will marvel at this city: the interconnecting piazze, the beautiful urban fabric, and one of the oldest universities in the world, all of which helped earn the city's historical centre UNESCO World Heritage status. The highlight of the day will be the Scrovegni Chapel. Giotto's fresco cycle is one of the most significant pieces of early Renaissance work to have reached us today. The artist used techniques and introduced aspects



into his work (human emotions, realism) that were groundbreaking then and awe-inspiring to this day.

Overnight: Vicenza

DAY 11 - A RURAL RETREAT AND RICE FIELDS

This morning, our journey takes us to the delightful area south of Verona, a rural area of rice fields. Our day begins with a visit to a local rice producer, where you'll delve into the centuries-old tradition of rice cultivation. Discover the unique characteristics of the rice produced in this fertile region, gaining insights into its flavours and uses. Witness history in action as we observe an ancient husking machine still operational today, connecting us to the rich agricultural heritage. Our day winds down at a cosy osteria for a simple taste test.

We'll drive on to Verona and check-in to our hotel, just steps from the famous Piazza Bra and you can start enjoying Verona.

Overnight: Verona

DAY 12- VERONA

Today, you will have the morning off from organised activities, and time to sit and relax in a cafe, do a spot of shopping or take a walk along the river.

In the afternoon, we will have a more formal exploration of Verona with a local guide. Amidst the historic charm, we discover architectural wonders, cultural gems, and Roman ruins scattered throughout the city. Beautiful churches adorned with frescoes and stunning piazzas contribute to Verona's rich tapestry.

Overnight: Verona

DAY 13 - THE SHORES OF LAKE GARDA AND THE OPERA

This morning, we depart from Verona and make our way to the charming town of Lazise, located

on the picturesque shores of Lake Garda. With its medieval walls and quaint harbour, Lazise offers a delightful mix of history and natural beauty.

After our visit to Lazise, we'll drive back to Verona through the rolling hills of Valpolicella, a region renowned for its vineyards and exquisite wines.

We'll return to Verona in the afternoon, allowing you some time to relax and prepare for an unforgettable evening. Tonight, we'll attend the opera at the Arena of Verona, one of the world's most iconic open-air theatres. As the sun sets and the stars come out, you'll experience a spectacular performance in this ancient Roman amphitheatre, a true highlight of our journey.

Overnight: Verona

DAY 14 - FAREWELLS

The tour finishes this morning in Verona. Verona is well connected to Venice and Milan by the fast train network, and Verona airport has flights to many European capitals. Get in touch if you'd like advice on arranging your onward travel.

Overnight: NA (B)





ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

STAY

- ❖ 3 nights in Venice in a lovely, quiet hotel off the tourist track
- ❖ 3 nights in Rolle in the Prosecco Hills in an agriturismo immersed in the vineyards
- ❖ 4 nights in a hotel in the centre of Vicenza
- ❖ 3 nights in a hotel in the centre of Verona, just moments from the Arena and Piazza Bra

INCLUSIONS

- ❖ A dedicated tour leader will be on hand for the duration of the tour
- ❖ Breakfast daily and 5 lunches and 5 dinners (wine, or something softer if you would prefer, included with all lunches and dinners)
- ❖ All land travel in Italy in private, air-conditioned mini-coach
- ❖ Entry fees to all attractions listed in the itinerary
- ❖ Expert, local guides at many of the attractions
- ❖ Tickets to an opera performance at the Arena in Verona
- ❖ All gratuities and local taxes



WEATHER

June is a beautiful time to visit this part of Italy. It is the start of summer, so temperatures during the day can be warm, but the evenings are still cool.

PHYSICAL FITNESS

We don't place any age limits on clients and welcome anyone with good physical fitness. Specifically, you should be comfortable on your feet for up to 3 hours with short breaks and confident on the cobblestones and uneven surfaces.



BOOKING

If you would like to book a place on this or any other tour or have questions about the itinerary, please don't hesitate to contact Luca or Philippa at Italian Tours.

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