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Venice & Florence


from
£ 1,095.00
per person
Based on 2 adults
(August 2019 departure)



Venice
Italy



Florence
Italy

2 
DESTINATIONS

2 
HOTELS

3 
TICKETS

1 
TRANSFERS

6 
NIGHTS

Rail Tickets included

Flights not included in the price of the experience: to be added as per your personal choice of UK departure airport

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☾



About the city

Perhaps no city is as fabulous as Venice, a metropolis built upon pilings, a labyrinth poised over a lagoon. Venice has been called the drawing room of Europe, and indeed for centuries the city was a sanctuary for ideas and idealists, a crossroad of the Byzantine and Roman worlds. Today Venice is a different kind of drawing room. Wealthy visitors clamber into gondolas to gawk at the Byzantine palaces while being serenaded by accordionists and art appreciators stand on tiptoe for a glimpse of Renaissance masterpieces. No monument is as memorable as the city itself, so use the major sights only as an excuse for wandering. Venice revolves around piazza San Marco. The best feature of the mosaic-covered Basilica di San Marco is the Pala D'Oro, a glittering gold Byzantine bas-relief. The Torre dell'Orologio, left of San Marco, is a beautifully embellished clock tower. For culture vultures check the Accademia for the best of Venetian paintings. Some say that the tourist Venice is indeed Venice, but there are other Venices as well. To find them, wander away from the major sights and into the quieter outlying residential neighbourhoods, you won't be disappointed, this maze of stone and colour exudes enchantment from every brick.

Points of interest

Basílica de Santa María dei Frari, Campo San Polo, Punta della Dogana, San Barnaba church, Goldoni theater, Santa maria e donato, Royal Gardens, Scala Contarini del Bovolo, Bridge of Sighs, Venecia Lugares de interés Basílica de Santa Maria della Salute, Grassi Palace, San Gallo Church, Palazzo Grimani, San Zacarias Church, St Mark's Basilica, St Mark's Square, Polo museale veneziano, St Mark's Campanile, Palazzo mocenigo, Gran Canal de Venecia, Burano, Museo del vetro, Giardini della biennale, Palacio Ducal de Venecia, Murano

Royal San Marco

 4 stars
08/08/2019 - 11/08/2019 (3 Night/s)

 **DOUBLE**
BED AND BREAKFAST

About the hotel

The Royal San Marco undoubtedly has a perfect location, set in the very heart of the world's most romantic city. Housed in an ancient building, the classic décor and the vintage furniture create a warm, cosy atmosphere reflecting the city's ambiance. Just crossing a bridge, guests are already on world-famous St. Mark's Square with the beautiful Campanile, the St. Mark's Basilica and the Doge's Palace. Other attractions such as the Rialto Bridge are within a 5-minute walk. An ideal romantic getaway for couples and those about to be.



Popularity

70 %

Address

CALLE DEI FABBRI - SAN MARCO, 848

Activities in this destination

1 activities in 3 days



Day 1

The Doge's Dominion: St. Mark's Basilica and the Palazzo Ducale

Tour for up to 6 people at 9:30 AM

Food, Wine & Nightlife

09/08/2019

The elegant Piazza di San Marco, the political and religious heart of Venice for over 1,000 years, is the starting point for this guided tour. At the eastern end of the spacious piazza is the Basilica of San Marco, built in 1063. With its Byzantine style domes and its stunning golden mosaics, the Basilica is a testament to Venice's historical power as a sea-trading empire, and to its political links with both East and West. Our next stop will be the adjacent Palazzo Ducale, or Doge's Palace, the seat of the Venetian government until Napoleon's conquest in 1797. Today the Doge's Palace houses myriad Renaissance masterpieces, including Tintoretto's *Paradiso*, one of the largest paintings on canvas ever produced. The Doge's Palace also contains the infamous "Bridge of Sighs," where prisoners took a last, wistful look of Venice before descending to the dank cells below. We will conclude the tour with either a climb up to the Loggia dei Cavalli for a close-up view of the famous equestrian statues, or a visit to the Basilica's stunning gold altarpiece known as the Pala d'Oro.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to changes in the booking policy of the Doge's Palace, this tour no longer includes a visit to the "Secret Itineraries" portion of the Palazzo Ducale.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Entrance tickets to Doge's palace and Basilica di San Marco are included. All other tickets must be paid for on location by clients.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to possible conflicting schedules with Sunday Mass the visit to the Saint Mark's Basilica is not guaranteed on Sunday morning.

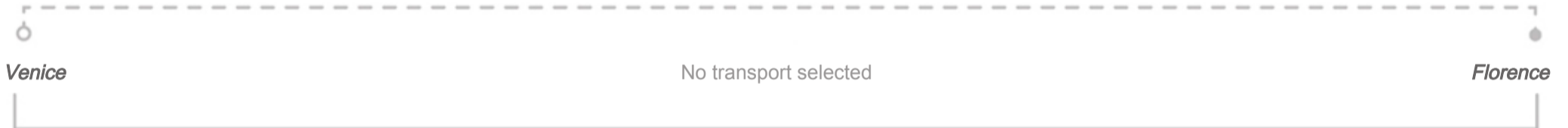
PLEASE NOTE: You will not be allowed to enter St. Mark's Basilica without proper attire - no shorts or miniskirts; sleeveless shirts or bare shoulders should be covered with a scarf.

Sites Included:

- Palazzo Ducale (Doge's Palace)
- Piazza di San Marco
- Basilica di San Marco
- Prisons & Bridge of Sighs
- Pala d'Oro OR the Loggia dei Cavalli

Please note: Due to the location of the Loggia dei Cavalli, this part of the tour is unfortunately suitable only for those people capable of climbing the many stairs to reach the upper Gallery of the Basilica.

All visitors to the Doge's Palace and Basilica di San Marco must pass through a security line. While you will have advance entrance tickets, there is no way to skip the security line.



Florence

From day 4 to day 7 (11/Aug/2019 > 14/Aug/2019)

Italy

3



About the city

Florence is as vital and beautiful today as when its wool and silk merchants and bankers revolutionized the economy of 13th century Tuscany, and the art of Dante and Michelangelo stunned the world. Florence was the centre of the Italian Renaissance. The fruits of the city's rebirth are still evident in its seemingly endless array of museums, churches and palazzi. With its historic centre classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site, the Duomo, the elegant and beautiful cathedral, dominates the city and is an unmistakable reference point in your wanderings. The River Arno, which cuts through the oldest part of the city, is crowned with the Ponte Vecchio bridge lined with shops and held up by stilts. Dating back to the 14th century, it is the only bridge that survived attacks during WWII. Standing by the river at night, when the city is illuminated with a myriad twinkling lights, is unforgettable. But more remains of Florence's incomparable heritage than stones and paint, the city's indomitable spirit has also survived the centuries, ensuring Florentine life today its liveliness and sophistication.

Points of interest

Boboli Gardens, Florence Cathedral, Fountain of Neptune, Cathedral of Santa Maria de la Flor, Florence City Center, Piazza della Signoria, Hippodrome of the Visarno, Basilica of Santa Maria Novella, Meyer Pediatric Hospital, Republic Square, Florence Baptistery, Peretola Airport, Via de' Tornabuoni, Ponte Vecchio, Boboli Garden, Uffizi Gallery, Piazza del Duomo, Santa Maria Novella Tren Station, Art Museum Galleria dell'Accademia, Plaza de la Señoría, Fortezza da Basso, Piazzale Michelangelo.

Palazzo Ognissanti

4 stars

11/08/2019 - 14/08/2019 (3 Night/s)

 **DOUBLE**
ROOM ONLY

About the hotel

The hotel's location, close to the most glamorous streets of the historical centre, is perfect for guests who want to visit the Via Tornabuoni and Via Della Vigna Nuova, where the most important Italian fashion boutiques are located. This elegant hotel is located within a palace dating back to the 19th century. The public areas, as well as the rooms, are warm and comfortable. Hotel's facilities include a café, bar and restaurant. The reception staff, will be pleased to organise and book a visit to the most famous fashion houses (Gucci, Prada, Dolce&Gabbana, Ferragamo etc) which are located in the wonderful countryside of Valdarno. In addition, there are conference facilities. Cars can be parked in the hotel's private car park. The welcoming rooms come with an en suite bathroom. The soundproof rooms offer every comfort and are fully - equipped as standard.



Popularity

70 %

Address

Via Maso Finiguerra, 12

Activities in this destination

2 activities in 3 days

The Genius of Michelangelo

Tour for 1-6 people at 9:30 AM

Cultural & Theme Tours

Day 4

12/08/2019

A prodigious genius and the world's most celebrated Western artist, Michelangelo's 75-year long career produced many seminal works of art that are found in Florence. Discover what distinguishes him as a master as you make your way through the museums and monuments of this splendid city to focus on one man's brilliance.

The tour begins in Piazza della Repubblica, Florence's Forum in ancient Roman times. Leaving the piazza you will walk the same streets as Michelangelo did, passing the Duomo where it was first planned that the statue of "David" would go, high up on the cathedral's exterior.

First stop is the Medici Chapel behind the nearby church of San Lorenzo. Here Michelangelo carved the Medici tombs with their enigmatic, reclining figures of Dawn, Dusk, Night and Day. In their unfinished state, they tell us more about the tormented psychology of the sculptor himself than they do about the family they were meant to commemorate.

After passing the great Medici Palace, where Michelangelo lived for a time when he was 15-years old, you arrive at the Accademia Gallery. Here, the 15-foot tall marble "David" dominates the specifically created, light-filled apse where he has stood since the late 19th century. You will explore the symbolism and carving technique that characterizes this supreme masterpiece and his attendant "Slaves."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Entrance tickets to the Accademia Gallery and Medici Chapel are included in the total price.

Please note that transportation to/from the meeting point is **NOT** included in the total price. Select Italy will be happy to arrange a private transfer for a supplemental fee.

Sites Included: Medici Chapel at San Lorenzo, Medici Palace (exterior only), Accademia Gallery



Day 5



Private Tour of the Accademia & Uffizi

Tour at 9:00 AM

13/08/2019

This special highlights tour gives a whirlwind introduction to the art of Florence's two foremost galleries. We begin at the Galleria dell'Accademia, where Michelangelo's 15-foot tall David still amazes visitors with its masterly carving technique and its potent aesthetic presence. Nearby are Michelangelo's Slaves, studies in the raw power of sculptural creation.

A short walk through Florence's historical center brings us next to the Galleria degli Uffizi, a veritable pantheon of Western master painters. With the expert knowledge of your guide, you can exult in the coloristic flourishes of such Italian Renaissance geniuses as Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael.

Other illustrious artists in the collection include Durer, Titian, Caravaggio, Rembrandt, and several ancient Roman sculptors, whose works were the very inspiration for their Renaissance successors.

This special, 2-museum tour provides invaluable assistance in navigating the vast collections of the museums, guiding you to the most important works and enriching your experience with critical artistic insights. Don't miss this opportunity for an expert look at the masterpieces in two of Italy's most famous art museums.

Purchase of this tour includes tickets and pre-reserved entry times to both sites. Please note that the order in which we visit the museums will depend on the ticket availability to these galleries.

Both museums require visitors to pass through metal detectors before entering. While the general admission line is skipped, eventual lines at the metal detectors cannot be avoided.

Please note that transportation to/from the meeting point is **NOT** included in the total price.

Sites Included: Accademia Gallery, Uffizi Gallery



 **Transfer from Palazzo Ognissanti to Pisa**

14/08/2019 - Private Standard