

### DAY 1 • ROME/ASSISI/SIENA/FLORENCE

Departing at 7:15 am from the hotel St.Martin by a deluxe coach, you will arrive in Assisi, ready to explore, at your own leisure, this tiny town surrounded by walls, built in the Middle Ages. Take your time to visit the basilica of St. Francis, where you will see masterpieces by Giotto and Cimabue and, then, have free time for lunch (not included). Board on the bus to reach Siena, a Unesco World Heritage Site, world-known for the Palio, the historical horse race around the shell-shaped town square: Piazza del Campo. Next, you will continue on to Florence, where you will check in at your hotel before enjoying dinner and a well-earned night of rest. *(D)* 

### DAY 2 • FLORENCE

After breakfast, you will spend the day venturing around beautiful Florence, the "Cradle of Renaissance", where, with the help of Michelangelo, Italian art reached its pinnacle. Based on Etruscan-Roman origins, the city flourished in the Middle Ages as a free "Comune" and was further refined during the Renaissance. You will be fascinated by the uncountable monuments, churches and buildings as Santa Maria del Fiore, more commonly referred to as the Duomo. On your visit, you will be amazed by its magnificent dome built by Filippo Brunelleschi. Cross a small piazza to see the "Campanile" tower (partly designed by Giotto) and the Baptistery, with its bronze doors where Michelangelo imagined the "Gates of Paradise." In the heart of the city, you will see Piazza della Signoria, Palazzo della Signoria (also known as Palazzo Vecchio), and the Basilica of Santa Croce. Lunch in a typical Tuscan restaurant in Piazza Santa Croce. Spend the afternoon strolling the cobblestone streets of Florence on your own or take a short trip to Pisa (optional), one of the four main historical Marine Republics of Italy. There, you will tour the Piazza dei Miracoli with the Duomo, Pisa's symbol "the Leaning Tower" and the Baptistery. Dinner at leisure, overnight stay in Florence. (B/L)

### DAY 3 • FLORENCE/BOLOGNA/PADUA/ VENICE

After breakfast in Florence, departure to Bologna. There, you will discover the elegant city center

with its "porticos", it's shopping streets and so on. From Piazza Malpighi you will walk to Piazza del Nettuno and Piazza Maggiore (Neptune square and Major square) in the heart of the city, then King Renzo's Palace; Palazzo Podestà and the basilica of San Petronio, one of the biggest in the world. Bologna it's a real gourmet's heaven...don't miss a tasty meal at your own leisure! In the afternoon, continue toward Padova, with Sant'Antonio Basilica: one of the most visited churches by pilgrims of the catholic world. Later in the afternoon, arrival in Venice (Mestre). Check in at your hotel for dinner and overnight stay. (B/D)

### **DAY 4 • VENICE**

After breakfast, enjoy your transfer to Piazza San Marco, and visit the most iconic places of the "Floating City": the Palazzo dei Dogi, symbol of Venice's glorious past, the legendary "Bridge of Sighs". After this walking tour, let us offer you a spritz or a prosecco to crown your visit to Venice highlights with the company of your tour leader. Spend the afternoon roaming along Venice's canals at your leisure and then return to the hotel and overnight. *(B)* 

\*Want to add-on a Gondola Ride? Book early to reserve your spot at a discounted price. Ask for more info.

# DAY 5 • VENICE/TUSCANY WINE REGION (MONTEPULCIANO)/ROME

After breakfast, departure from Piazzale Roma heading to Tuscany, world-known for its landscapes, its churches and castles and its delicious wines. You will proceed to Val di Chiana with a stop in Montepulciano, a medieval town rich in history and art. Known for its "Nobile" wine, on purchase in local wine houses, Montepulciano also hosts an annual Jazz and Wine Festival every July. **Lunch in a typical restaurant included!!!** After lunch, quick stop to spend some free time. In the evening, you will arrive in Rome, where the tour ends. **(B/L)** 

\*Ask for transfers and/or pre and post-night discounted hotel options.



**FANTASTICO** 

### RATE PER PERSON IN CANADIAN DOLLARS (LAND ONLY)

### **SEASON** (Venice Island NOT included)

2023 MAR	27
2023 APR	3, 10, 17, 24
2023 MAY	1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29
2023 JUN	3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26
2023 JUL	1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, 31
2023 AUG	5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28
2023 SEP	2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30
2023 OCT	2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28

### DOUBLE/TRIPLE

\$1,709

### **OUR HOTELS OR SIMILAR**

FLORENCE Raffaello 4\*
VENICE (Mestre) Delfino (Mestre) 4\*

### **PACKAGE INCLUDES**

- 4 nights accommodation in 4\* hotels
- Buffet breakfast daily (4)
- · 2 lunches, 2 dinners (drinks not included)
- Ground transportation by deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach
- $\bullet \ \, \text{English only tour escort}$
- · Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Entrance fees where applicable
- 10% Italian VAT tax

### NOT INCLUDED:

- Transfers in/out
- Entrance tickets to sites and museums
- City/Tourist tax/Tips/Drinks
- Everything that is not mentioned under "Package Includes"



CATANIA – TAORMINA



# RATE PER PERSON IN CANADIAN DOLLARS (LAND ONLY)

### **SEASON**

2023 APR	8		
2023 MAY	6, 13, 20, 27		
2023 JUN	3, 17, 24		
2023 JUL	15		
2023 AUG	26		
2023 SEP	2, 9, 16, 23, 30		
2023 OCT	7, 14		
DOU	BLE	SINGLE	

TRIPLE ON REQUEST

### **OUR HOTELS OR SIMILAR**

\$3,489

CATANIA	Katane hotel 4* or similar
RAGUSA	Poggio Del Sole Resort 4* or similar
MARSALA	Baglio Oneto Resort 5* or similar
PALERMO	Grand Hotel Piazza Borsa 4*/Politeama Palace 4* or similar
TAORMINA	Villa Diodoro 4*/Hotel Caparena 4* or similar

### **PACKAGE INCLUDES**

- 7 nights accommodation in 4\* hotels
- 1 night in a 4\*S or 5\* stars Luxury Resort
- · Welcome drink on day 1.

\$2,899

- 2 Dinners (Catania on day 1 and Ragusa on day 3) and 7 Breakfasts at Hotel.
- Mineral water (1/2 per person) at meals in Hotel
- 2 Street food experiences in Catania and Palermo
- Cheese tasting in Ragusa
- Almond pastries tasting in Erice
- Visit of a cellar and Wine tasting in Marsala
- Visit of a cellar and Wine tasting on Mount Etna
- Transportation de Luxe motor coach\* with free wi-fi \*a minivan with English Speaking driver, normally not equipped with wifi, will be provided if the number of participants is equal to or less than nine
- English speaking Tour Escort\*
- · Local Guides where necessary
- Headsets where required
- Porterage at hotels
- Entrance fees to sites and museums
- Local Assistance and 24Hr Alitours Concierge Service

### NOT INCLUDED:

- By Law City/Tourist Tax must be paid directly at the hotel (1-6 Euro per person, per night.)
- Additional Supplements for transfers with pick-up times between the hours of 7:00 a.m 8:00 p.m.
- Tips, Additional Drinks and items of personal nature
- Anything not specifically mentioned under "Package Includes"



#### DAY 1 • CATANIA

Arrival at Catania airport and transfer to the hotel in Catania, accommodation. Welcome cocktail and dinner at Hotel. Overnight in your hotel. (*D*)

#### DAY 2 • CATANIA/SIRACUSA/CATANIA

After a buffet breakfast, departure to Syracuse: visit the World Heritage Site "Neapolis". The visit of this archaeological area includes the famous Greek theatre, the Roman Amphitheatre, the Latomie of Paradise and the "Dyionisios Ear". Continue to the island of Ortigia, the small baroque old city centre of Siracusa; free time for lunch. In the afternoon visit of the beautiful Cathedral, which is built upon the site of the Doric Temple of Minerva, the legendary Arethusa's Fountain and the Temple of Apollo. Free time at disposal to stroll through the streets of the centre and for shopping. Return to your hotel in Catania. Free evening at your disposal to experience the city and its nightlife and to dine in one of the typical restaurant in the city centre. Overnight. (B)

#### DAY 3 • CATANIA/RAGUSA

After a buffet breakfast, departure for a nice walking tour of Catania, stroll through the city centre with your professional guide who will charm you with the history of the city and visit the famous fish market "A PISCARIA", one of the largest fish markets in Sicily. As old as the city itself, it's a great way to experience the abundant fishing and seafood culture of Sicily, with a very special and authentic atmosphere. Here you will have the chance to taste the delights of typical Catania's street food. Depart to Ragusa and visit of the enchanting historical centre "Ibla", with its stunning baroque palaces and churches; together with other seven cities in the Val di Noto, Ragusa is listed among the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Ragusa is also renowned for its cheese production, therefore we will not miss a tasting of artisan cheeses. We will continue to the reserved hotel where we will have time at disposal to realx at the swimming pool or at the Spa. Dinner in hotel and Overnight. (B/D)

### DAY 4 • RAGUSA/AGRIGENTO/MARSALA

After a buffet breakfast, departure to Agrigento, a hillside town famous for its magnificent Valley of the Temples, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; visit of the Valley, including the Temple of Concordia, which is in almost perfectly preserved condition, the temples of Juno and Heracles. Free time at disposal for lunch. In the afternoon we'll proceed to Marsala a city on the western coast famous for its production of sweet Sicilian wine. Arrival at Baglio Oneto dei Principi di San Lorenzo Resort . Here we will do a tour of the resort's wineries, starting from the vineyards, where the whole wine-making process begins. We'll explore the historic courtyard and the Palmento Room, where grapes were laid down in berries to be crushed before being transferred to barrels. We will visit the Ageing Cellar, a room that has never stopped keeping its fascinating atmosphere intact. We will taste 3 different fine wines. Free time at disposal to relax at the swimming pool or to enjoy magic moments at sunset in your hotel. In the evening, we'll reach Marsala city centre and have free time at disposal to discover the historical centre by walking and free time for dinner. Return to the hotel and overnight. (B)

#### DAY 5 • MARSALA(SALT ROUTE)/ERICE/PALERMO

After a buffet breakfast, departure to Erice, via the spectacular "Salt Route", a road flanked by the salt pans, windmills, and the "salt houses" where they still extract the sea salt as the Phoenicians. Arrival in Erice, placed on the top of a hill overlooking the city of Trapani and the Egadi Islands: walk through its tiny and characteristic streets, the winding lanes and, inner courtyards and stop for marzipan and biscuit tasting. Free time at disposal for lunch. Continue to Palermo, the capital of Sicily. We will visit the Cathedral, one of the most important architectural monuments. We will continue our visit by walking along Corso Vittorio Emanuele to reach "I Quattro Canti di Città" Piazza Pretoria, Piazza Bellini and we'll visit the Martorana Church, one of the most beautiful churches of Palermo. We will then reach one of the most famous and historical markets of Palermo to experience the authenticity of this wonderful and colorful city. We will end our tour with a taste the delights of typical Palermo's street food, one of the most renowned all over the world. Accommodation at hotel and free time at disposal for shopping and dinner.

# DAY 6 • PALERMO/MONREALE/CEFALU'/MESSINA/

After a buffet breakfast departure to visit the town of Monreale, situated on a hill at few kms far from Palermo in panoramic position. Visit of the Cathedral, one of the most beautiful monuments in the world with its Moorish architecture, housing very fine mosaics representing a complete cycle of the Old and New Testaments in Arab-Norman style. Continue to Cefalù, a former fishing village, now a charming coastal town. Enjoy a walk to the city centre and down main street to reach the ArabNorman Cathedral and the medieval wash-house built in the rock. Free time at disposal to explore the town and shopping and lunch on your own. Proceed to Taormina through the coastal road passing through Messina from where we'll have the chance to admire the suggestive scenery of the Strait of Messina, Accommodation at your hotel and free time at disposal for dinner. Overnight. (B)

### DAY 7 • TAORMINA/MT, ETNA/TAORMINA

After a buffet breakfast, excursion to Mount Etna, the highest active Volcano in Europe. Weather conditions permitting, across fascinating landscape with different kind of vegetation, a mixture of citrus groves, vineyards and fruit trees. We will reach a height of 1800 metres to visit the Sylvester Craters where we'll enjoy a spectacular panorama over the Ionian Sea. Stop at a local vineyard on the eastern slopes of Etna and visit a prestigious cellar . We will have the opportunity to taste different local wines accompanied by local cheese and cold cuts. In the afternoon back to Taormina, charming city called "the pearl of the Ionian Sea": enjoy time at leisure for shopping or walking through its tiny streets. Possibility to visit the Greek-Roman Theatre on your own, with its spectacular view of Giardini Naxos and Mount Etna. Free time for dinner and overnight. (B)

### DAY 8 • TAORMINA

After buffet breakfast, end of the Tour. (B)

\*Would you like to extend your stay in Taormina? Please ask for additional info.



### 8 DAYS • 7 NIGHTS

HIGHLIGHTS OF ITALY FROM ROME



# RATE PER PERSON IN CANADIAN DOLLARS (LAND ONLY)

### **SEASON-1** (Venice Island NOT included)

2023 MAR 26
2023 APR 2\*, 9, 16, 23, 30
2023 MAY 5, 7, 12, 14\*, 19, 21, 26, 28
2023 JUN 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30
2023 JUL 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23\*, 28, 30
2023 AUG 25, 27
2023 SEP 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17\*, 22, 24, 29
2023 OCT 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27

**DOUBLE/TRIPLE SINGLE** \$2,195 \$3,110

**SEASON-2** (Venice Island NOT included)

2023 AUG 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20

DOUBLE/TRIPLE SINGLE

\$2,360

\$3,379

### **OUR HOTELS OR SIMILAR**

FLORENCE Raffaello 4\*

VENICE Delfino (Mestre) 4\*

ROME St. Martin 4\*

### **PACKAGE INCLUDES**

- Transfer in/out from airport in Rome
- Transportation by Deluxe Motorcoach
- English Only speaking tour-escort
   Accommodation in 4 star hotels
- Accommodation in 4 star notes
   Meals and Visits as per itinerary
- Rome: ENTER the Vatican Museums with no lineups!)
- Gondola Ride
- 10% VAT Tax

### NOT INCLUDED:

- Island Stay Upgrade \*Supplement on request
- Tips, Drinks, Portage, Extras
- City/Tourist Tax
- Everything that is not mentioned under "Package Includes"

#### DAY 1 • ROME

Welcome to Rome! After meet at the airport your driver, you will be transferred to your hotel (Transfer included!). At 07:45 pm p/up at the hotel and reach Via del Teatro Marcello. Our local expert guide will lead you to discover the wonders of the Eternal City, charming by day - absolutely romantic at sunset. You will cross the characteristic area of the Jewish Ghetto, one of Rome's most beautiful neighbourhoods. full with history and with a real Roman atmoshpere. As you know, one of Rome's typical landmarks are its beautiful fountains, and one of the prettiest is the Turtle Fountain (Fontana delle Tartarughe) in Piazza Mattei. The Jewish Ghetto of Rome is the second most ancient after the one in Venice and it can be considered the heart and soul of Roman cuisine! Then you will walk into Piazza Della Rotonda and enjoy the lit view of the Pantheon, the former temple of Marcus Agrippa later converted into a church: this is the only ancient Roman temple that remained untouched through the centuries and it's stunning at night when the crowds are away. Next Stop...Close your eyes and throw a coin over your right shoulder straight into the Trevi Fountain: it's said that those who do so, are granted to come back to Rome someday. Your walk continues towards Piazza di Spagna, one of the city's most popular squares, known for its setting at the bottom of the Spanish Steps. Walk up these famous steps to enjoy a lovely view from the top! After this intense and gratifying walk, there is only one thing missing to end this experience: relax enjoying a creamy and tasty Gelato, it's on us! The tour ends in Spanish Steps area. Enjoy on your own the rest of the night. Return to the hotel on your own and overnight stay.

### DAY 2 • ROME/ASSISI/SIENA/FLORENCE

Departing at 7:15 am from your hotel by a deluxe coach, you will arrive in Assisi, ready to explore, at your own leisure, this tiny town surrounded by walls, built in the Middle Ages. Take your time to visit the basilica of St. Francis, where you will see masterpieces by Giotto and Cimabue and, then, have free time for lunch (not included). Board on the bus to reach Siena, a Unesco World Heritage Site, world-known for the Palio, the historical horse race around the shell-shaped town square: Piazza del Campo. Next, you will continue on to Florence, where you will check in at your hotel before enjoying dinner and a well-earned night of rest. (B, D)

### DAY 3 • FLORENCE

After breakfast, you will spend the day venturing around beautiful Florence, the "Cradle of Renaissance", where, with the help of Michelangelo, Italian art reached its pinnacle. Based on Etruscan-Roman origins, the city flourished in the Middle Ages as a free "Comune" and was further refined during the Renaissance. You will be fascinated by the uncountable monuments, churches and buildings as Santa Maria del Fiore, more commonly referred to as the Duomo. On your visit, you will be amazed by its magnificent dome built by Filippo Brunelleschi. Cross a small piazza to see the "Campanile" tower (partly designed by Giotto) and the Baptistery, with its bronze doors where Michelangelo imagined the "Gates of Paradise." In the heart of the city, you will see Piazza della Signoria, Palazzo della Signoria (also known as Palazzo Vecchio), and the Basilica of Santa Croce. Lunch in a typical Tuscan restaurant in Piazza Santa Croce. Spend the afternoon strolling the cobblestone streets of Florence on your own or take a short trip to Pisa (optional), one of the four main historical Marine Republics of Italy. There, you will tour the Piazza dei Miracoli with the Duomo, Pisa's symbol "the Leaning Tower" and the Baptistery. Dinner at leisure, overnight stay in Florence. (B, L)

#### DAY 4 • FLORENCE/BOLOGNA/PADUA/VENICE

**TOUR** 

After breakfast in Florence, departure to Bologna. There, you will discover the elegant city center with its "porticos", it's shopping streets and so on. From Piazza Malpighi you will walk to Piazza del Nettuno and Piazza Maggiore (Neptune square and Major square) in the heart of the city, then King Renzo's Palace; Palazzo Podestà and the basilica of San Petronio, one of the biggest in the world. Bologna it's a real gourmet's heaven... don't miss a tasty meal at your own leisure! In the afternoon, continue toward Padova, with Sant'Antonio Basilica: one of the most visited churches by pilgrims of the catholic world. Later in the afternoon, arrival in Venice (Mestre). Check in at your hotel for dinner and overnight stay. (B, D)

#### DAY 5 · VENICE

After breakfast, enjoy your transfer to Piazza San Marco, and visit the most iconic places of the "Floating City": the Palazzo dei Dogi, symbol of Venice's glorious past, the legendary "Bridge of Sighs". After this walking tour, let us offer you a spritz or a prosecco to crown your visit to Venice highlights with the company of your tour leader. Spend the afternoon roaming along Venice's canals at your leisure and then return to the hotel and overnight. (B)

# DAY 6 • VENICE/TUSCANY WINE REGION (MONTEPULCIANO)/ROME

After breakfast, departure from Piazzale Roma heading to Tuscany, world-known for its landscapes, its churches and castles and its delicious wines. You will proceed to Val di Chiana with a stop in Montepulciano, a medieval town rich in history and art. Known for its "Nobile" wine, on purchase in local wine houses, Montepulciano also hosts an annual Jazz and Wine Festival every July. **Lunch in a typical restaurant included!!!** After lunch, quick stop to spend some free time. In the evening, you will arrive in Rome to check in into your hotel. **(B, L)** 

### DAY 7 • ROME

Between 7:45 - 8:00 am, after breakfast, departure from the hotel for **the included tour of the Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Square with our exclusive**"Skip the Line" access! No stress to reach the area: upon orrival, your guide will lead you into the museums where you'll visit one of the most important art collections of the world. Walk along the beautiful Galleries of Tapestries and Geographical Maps before admiring Raphael's Rooms

the world. Walk along the beautiful Galleries of Tapestries and Geographical Maps before admiring Raphael's Rooms and, then, the amazing Sistine Chapel. After this incredible masterpiece, the tour ends in St. Peter's Square where you can admire the incredible masterpiece St. Peter's Basilica: the biggest church in the world! The tour ends in St. Peter's Square. Enjoy the rest of the day to explore the city at your own leisure or get any one of our selected tours for the afternoon or at night! Overnight stay. (B)

\*On this day it is possible to add the colosseum tour with lunch included! (Additional supplement applies please ask for more info).

### DAY 8 • ROME

After breakfast, transfer to the airport. Arrivederci! (B)

\*Alternative transfer to Rail Station can be requested. Post or pre-night(s) accommodation in Rome and/or other cities can be requested additionally at discounted "add-on package" price. Please inquire.



# PUGLIA PURA TOUR

#### DAY 1 • BARI

You'll reach Bari, the capital of Puglia, on your own. Meet your tour guide at the hotel and off you go on a tour to discover the beauties of Bari. In the afternoon you'll reach its historical center, known as "Bari Vecchia", and learn interesting information about Bari's past as well as the history of its main monuments. Walk down little alleys and find yourself in tiny little squares inside the walls, until you reach the Pontifical Basilica of Saint Nicholas, that contains the relics of Saint Nicholas, and the Castello Svevo (or Swabian Castle) built in the XII century by Norman King Roger II and later restored by Frederick II of the Holy Roman Empire. From inside the castle one can enjoy a beautiful view (entrances not included). After the visit, Piazza Mercantile is worth a visit: the Colonna della giustizia (or Column of justice) stands out right in the middle. It is thought to have been used as a pillory. Dinner at the hotel. Overnight is in Bari. (D)

#### DAY 2 • BARI/TRANI/CASTEL DEL MONTE/ ALBEROBELLO

After breakfast, you will head to Trani. Known as "Perla di Puglia" (or the pearl of Puglia), Trani is a medieval town located 53 kilometers (that's 33 miles) south of Bari, Its Jewish district and the majestic Cathedral will be yours to admire. The latter was built using a local stone, a calcareous tuff characterised by its colour, an extremely light almost-white pink. In the afternoon, the next monument will be Castel Del Monte. the most amazing castle built by Frederick II. It is protected as a World Heritage Site. Its geometric design is unique: it is an octagonal prism with an octagonal tower at each corner. Many mysteries are still unresolved, including the real purpose of the castle. After Castel del Monte, Alberobello is the next stop, the "città dei Trulli", also protected as a World Heritage Site. Trulli are dry stone huts with a conical roof originally built for storage purposes. They were also permanent dwellings and are called casedde by locals (or little houses). Alberobello is a gem, a true fairy tale place in the heart of Puglia. You will spend the night in a dream hotel, an "albergo diffuso" (one of the network of scattered hotels), and get the chance to sleep in a trullo. Dinner is included. Overnight is in Alberobello. (B/D)

#### DAY 3 • BARI/TRANI/CASTEL DEL MONTE/ ALBEROBELLO

After breakfast, a bus will be waiting in a parking lot adjacent to the hotel (200 meters from the Trulli). It will take you to Basilicata, a border region. Welcome to Matera, its capital, "la città dei sassi" (literally the city of the stones), Italy's own version of Cappadocia in the south of Italy. European Capital of Culture 2019, Matera is a UNESCO Heritage site. Take your time to admire the sassi from different perspectives and overlooks. These cave dwellings inhabited since the Paleolithic period make for the monumental historical center and are connected by a maze of quaint little alleys, which will make you feel like you are catapulted in a real-life nativity scene. The sassi are visually reminiscent of ancient sites near Jerusalem, and so they were a setting to many Christian-themed films, including The Gospel According to St. Matthew (Pier Paolo Pasolini, 1964), The Passion of the Christ (Mel Gibson, 2004), and Ben-Hur (Timur Bekmambetov, 2016). A visit to Matera Cathedral is a must. You will return to Alberobello in the evening. Dinner and overnight are in the trullo in Alberobello. (B/D)

### DAY 4 • ALBEROBELLO/LOCOROTONDO/OSTUNI/LECCE

After breakfast, a bus will be waiting in a parking lot adjacent to the hotel (200 meters from the Trulli). It will take you to Locorotondo. This picturesque town is one of the "Borghi più belli d'Italia" (most beautiful hamlets of Italy). Locorotondo comes from the Latin phrase "locus-rotundus", meaning circular place, for its round shape. Afterwards, you'll reach Ostuni, the "città bianca" (or white city), another true gem 74 kilometers (46 miles) south of Bari located on the summit of a hill. It was built by the Normans and has city walls with four gates (remains of them can be seen). The region is a producer of top quality olive oil and wine. You will have plenty of leisure time to go around the historical center, eat typical delicacies, shop for food or souvenirs or simply get lost in the old medieval streets. In the evening, you will move to Lecce, the

heart of the Salento area. Dinner and overnight are in Lecce. (B/D)

## DAY 5 • LECCE/OTRANTO/DINNER AT "MASSERIA LE STANZIE/LECCE

After breakfast, you will take advantage of a guided tour of Lecce with a professional guide. For its artistic and cultural buzz, Lecce is known as "southern Florence". Its underlying trait is though the baroque style of its buildings. A number of religious and secular monuments will be yours to take in at your leisure. For lunch, move to Otranto, just a 30 minute drive from Lecce. Along many centuries, Otranto was dominated by the Greeks, the Romans and the Turks, and traces of this melting pot of cultures can still be gazed in awe. Don't miss out on the Cathedral that keeps the bones of 813 martyrs in a shrine behind the main altar. Its floors are mosaics that rival those found in Ravenna's main churches. To end the day in the best of ways, you will have dinner in Supersano (near Lecce) at "Masseria le Stanzie", a typical salentine masseria (or large farm). You will visit the hacienda (some medieval graves belong to the property) and learn some of Puglia's gastronomy history, too. You will be told how traditional home-made pasta is prepared from scratch. Eventually, you will have dinner and taste some local products. Overnight is

### DAY 6 • LECCE/GALLIPOLI/LECCE

Day 6 is dedicated to Gallipoli, one of the most touristic and cosmopolitan destinations in the Salento. Gallipoli has Greek origins and is now a summer location preferred by young people who are attracted by its nightlife as well as beautiful wild beaches whose dunes and pine tree parks are paradise! You will have free time to discover the center of Gallipoli, the walls, and the port that shelters amazing yachts. In the afternoon, you will return to Lecce and still have time to enjoy the evening. Overnight is in Lecce. (B)

#### DAY 7 • LECCE/MARTINA FRANCA/LUNCH AT MASSERIA ZONA FASANO/BARI

After breakfast, we'll head back to Bari driving through the "Murge plateau" with unique landscape. You'll get to see Martina Franca, an elegant Baroque village full of churches, noble buildings, and squares perfect for a stage setting. The urban focal point is Piazza Plebiscito, the Cathedral, the Ducal Palace and the Torre dell'Orologio. Free time here. We'll continue driving in the Valle d' Itria, a rural area full of olive trees and vineyards. You'll enjoy lunch in a masseria where food and excellent extra virgin olive oil are produced from organic farming. A tasting of those products is included. In the afternoon, there will be some free time and then a short drive will take you to Bari. Overnight is in Puglia. (*B/L*)

### DAY 8 • BARI/POLIGNANO/MONOPOLI/BARI

After breakfast, we'll set off to two of the most prominent coastal places of Puglia: Monopoli and Polignano a Mare. We'll start from Monopoli, a fortified citadel overlooking the sea. Getting lost in the intricate little streets of Monopoli is an almost mystical experience. From its port, just like a number of other Apulian ports, the crusaders left Puglia in the Middle Ages to reach the Holy Land and free it from the Muslims. A rich commerce with Constantinople flourished and this is why a marked oriental atmosphere can be felt here. The second stop is Polignano a Mare, hometown to Domenico Modugno, Italian singer-songwriter who co-wrote the world-known song Volare (nel blu, dipinto di blu). Polignano was built on the peak of a cliff, and therefore its coastline is characterized by coves, small bays and inlets. Lama Monachile is one of them, known for its crystal-clear waters and rugged cliffs all around. Free time for some shopping or an aperitivo in the main square. You will return to Bari after the visit. Overnight is in Bari. (B)

### DAY 9 • BARI

Breakfast is at the hotel. And this is the end of our services. (For a private transfer to Bari Karol Wojtyła Airport or Brindisi Airport, consult our transfer catalog or get in touch with our Booking Department, we can arrange one for you at an extra cost.) (B)

### 9 DAYS • 8 NIGHTS

Apura Regional Tour



# RATE PER PERSON IN CANADIAN DOLLARS (LAND ONLY)

SEASON				
	2023 MAY	5, 26		
	2023 JUN	16, 23		
	2023 JUL	14, 21		
	2023 AUG	25		
	2023 SEP	8, 22		
	2023 OCT	6, 20		
DOUBLE/TRIPLE		RIPLE	SINGLE	
\$4125		5	\$4.65	5

### **OUR HOTELS OR SIMILAR**

BARI	The Nicolaus 4* / Hi Hotel Bari 4*
ALBEROBELLO	Trulli Holidays Resort 4*
LECCE	Delle Palme 4*

### **PACKAGE INCLUDES**

- · Transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- ENGLISH ONLY Speaking Tour [Mono Language]
- Accommodation in 4 stars or 3 stars hotels
- Meals as per itinerary (please inform us at the moment of the booking, in case of any food allergy or alimentary restriction)
- Visits with local expert guide as per itinerary (Bari > Trani > Castel del Monte > Alberobello > Matera > Locorotondo > Ostuni > Lecce > Otranto )
- Porterage service included only on our escorted tours in Apulia

### NOT INCLUDED:

- Tips, Porterage service, Drinks, City/Tourist tax
- Entrance fees to monuments or museums when not mentioned
- Everything that is not mentioned under "Package Includes"



9 DAYS • 8 NIGHTS

**Puglia from Rome** 



# RATE PER PERSON IN CANADIAN DOLLARS (LAND ONLY)

SEASON				
	2023 MAY	4, 25		
	2023 JUN	15, 22		
	2023 JUL	13, 20		
	2023 AUG	24		
	2023 SEP	7, 21		
	2023 OCT	5, 19		
	DOUBLE/T	RIPLE		SINGLE

\$3,930 \$ 4,665 OUR HOTELS OR SIMILAR

ROME	Diana 4* / St. Martin 4*
BARI	The Nicolaus 4* / Hi Hotel Bari 4*
ALBEROBELLO	Trulli Holidays Resort 4*
LECCE	Delle Palme 4*

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### DAY 1 • ROME

Welcome to Rome! Arrival in Rome, meet with our driver at the airport and transfer to your hotel. Rest of the day free at your leisure. Overnight stay. **(D)** 

#### DAY 2 • ROME/BARI

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before leaving Rome. Transfer to the station for the train departure to Bari. Arrival at the hotel in Bari on your own. Meet our Tour Leader in your hotel in Bari, the main city of Puglia, and from here start our tour to discover this wonderful region. Walking tour in the afternoon to learn about the city's history and its most relevant monuments. Walk through the charming narrow alleys of the old city center, admire the Basilica of San Nicola where the remains of Saint Nicholas of Myra are preserved and the Norman-Swabian Castle, a 12th century fortress built by Roger the Norman and rebuilt by Frederick II of Swabia. Be amazed by the astonishing view that you can enjoy from the fortress (admission fee for the Castle at own expense). After the visit, reach Piazza Mercantile where you will see the ancient Column of Justice. Dinner and overnight stay. (B/D)

### DAY 3 • BARI/TRANI/CASTEL DEL MONTE/ ALBEROBELLO

Enjoy your breakfast at the hotel before leaving Bari by coach to reach Trani. Known as the 'Pearl of Puglia', the medieval town of Trani is one of the most remarkable cities of Southern Italy. Discover its art and monuments, visit the Jewish quarter and the wonderful white stone Cathedral. In the afternoon, reach Castel Del Monte, one of Puglia's most acclaimed landmarks. Visit this UNESCO World Heritage Site built in the 13th century under Roger the Norman, one of the most enlightened kings in history. The building is a harmonious geometrical complex, shaped as an octagon and surrounded by a still unsolved mystery. Your journey will continue towards Alberobello: a world-known UNESCO World Heritage Site made famous by the "Trulli". These dry-stone cone-shaped houses were built in the 14th century from local limestone and this village is really unique, with a fairytale-like atmosphere. The town of Alberobello gets its name from the ancient oak forest of "Arboris Belli" (beautiful trees) that once covered the area. It is possible to see these typical buildings all over the Itria Valley. Overnight stay in a scattered hotel, sleeping in a real "Trullo". Dinner included. (B/D)

### DAY 4 • ALBEROBELLO/MATERA/ALBEROBELLO

Matera will be the destination for today. After breakfast, in the "square" of the scattered hotel (consider 200 m from the Trulli), the coach will take you to this incredible UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit and learn the history of the "Sassi as houses for over 9.000 years! that are part of the historic center of the city. Admire the Romanesque Cathedral that overlooks the city, its beautiful "Campanile" (Bell Tower) and enjoy the amazing view of the "Sassi". Transfer back to Alberobello in the late afternoon. Dinner and overnight in the "Trullo". (B/D)

### DAY 5 • ALBEROBELLO/LOCOROTONDO/OSTUNI/ LECCE

Breakfast in the "square" of the scattered hotel (consider 200 mts from the Trulli. Leave Alberobello by coach and reach Locorotondo. Enjoy some free time to visit this small town that is part of the "white towns" of Puglia. Board on the coach again and travel to Ostuni: located between the "Trulli" region and Salento, overlooks the coastal plain rich of ancient olive trees. Free time at your disposal to explore another "white town" with free time for lunch, shopping and tasting of several local products like the world's famous ostuni olive oil (all at your own expenses). In the late afternoon, get again on board of the coach and reach Lecce in the heart of the Salento region. Dinner and overnight stay. (*B/D*)

# DAY 6 • LECCE/OTRANTO/DINNER AT THE "MASSERIA LE STANZÌE/LECCE

After breakfast at your hotel, enjoy a 3 hour guided visit of the city, learn the history of Lecce, visit the old town center, the 12th century Cathedral, the Basilica of Santa Croce and Piazza del Duomo. After the visit, board on the coach and leave Lecce. You will reach Otranto where you will have some free time at your disposal for lunch. Spend the afternoon visiting the wonderful city of Otranto at your pace. Over the centuries, the city has been invaded by an impressive number of populations, amongst the others we can find traces of Greek, Roman and Turkish cultures. Wander around the old quarters to see how these cultures have blended together. Don't forget to visit the iconic Cathedral where the bones of 813 martyrs are displayed in a glass case behind the altar. See its marvelous mosaic floor which rivals the well-known mosaics of Ravenna in its richness and significance. In the early evening, reach Supersano where you will have dinner at the "Masseria le Stanzìe". Visit this ancient farm, learn about the history and culture of Puglia. See how homemade pasta is made and visit the medieval tombs that are part of the farm. Dinner with typical meals and products from the region. In the night, travel back to Lecce. Overnight stay. (B/D)

### DAY 7 • LECCE/ROME

Breakfast at the hotel. At the time indicated, transfer to the station for the train departure to Rome. Arrival at the train station and transfer to the hotel. Overnight stay. (B)

### DAY 8 • ROME

Breakfast at the hotel. Spend a leisurely day exploring the wonders of Rome at your own pace. Opportunity to choose one of our I Love Rome experiences.

Overnight stay. (B)

### DAY 9 • ROME

Breakfast at the hotel and END OF OUR SERVICES. (B)

# HARMONIA ITALIANA

### 10 DAYS • 9 NIGHTS

Rome, Tuscany, Cinque Terre & Amalfi Coast

NEW FEATURES! - AMALFI STAY AND VISIT POSITANO AND RAVELLO WITH 2 NIGHTS EXTENSION IN ROME!



ON REQUEST

### PACKAGE INCLUDES

- Accommodation in 4\* hotels with breakfast
   Sight Seeing of country coast and city tours
- Sight Seeing of country, coast and city tours as per itinerary
- 2 Lunches
- 2 Dinners
- Boat and train trip along the enchanting Cinque Terre coastline
- Florence walking tour with Academia
- Pisa, Tuscan countryside: Siena S. Gimignano guided tour with wine tasting
- Amalfi & Positano drive
- Guided tour of Pompeii, including entrance fee
- Full day excursion to Capri
- Visit to the BLUE GROTTO (weather permitting/ entrance fee included)
- Multilingual Tour (ENG)
- Transfer to/from hotel
- Transportation by minivan or by rail (1st class/ direct)
- 10% VAT tax

### **NOT INCLUDED:**

- Tips, Drinks, Portage, City/Tourist Tax
- Anything not mentioned under "Package Includes"



#### DAY 1 • ROME

Welcome! Benvenuti! Arrival in Rome, you will be transferred by private car to your hotel. Check-in, the rest of the evening at leisure.

### DAY 2 · ROME

Breakfast, free at leisure - you may add an additional tour such as the famous fountains and piazzas, The colosseum, or the Vatican please advise your agent at the time of booking. Overnight.

### DAY 3 • FLORENCE

Buongiorno! After breakfast, get ready to reach Florence Fantastico.(Transportation by Rail or by Minivan- depending on Participants). Check-in, freshen up, and in late afternoon your guide will reach your hotel to begin together a visit of the historical center and where you will also have a chance to see the famous the "DAVID" statue by Michelangelo, after your visit your guide will provide suggestions for dinner (on your own.) Rest of the evening to get familiarized with your surroundings, return to your hotel and overnight.

### DAY 4 • FLORENCE/CINQUE TERRE/ FLORENCE

Good morning! Today, you will be transferred to your meeting point, where you will join other participants to visit the beautiful Cinque Terre. Our first stop of the day will be in the marvelous town of Manarola. This town was an ancient fishing village, and it is now celebrated for its historic charm and delicious white wine! Manarola has one of the most stunning viewpoints, where you can see towering, bright colored homes suspended over the sparkling sea! Next, you will visit the harbor town of Vernazza. You will have some free time to explore the picturesque streets and shop for artisanal souvenirs. Be sure to

make your way to the harbor, as it is one of the most iconic sights in Cinque Terre! If you are lucky, you will see some of the fishermen returning home from their morning trip at sea. The third stop of the day will take you to Monterosso. This town has lovely restaurants and shops, but it is most popular for the wide, whitesand beach sitting right next to the town. You can find crystal clear water perfect for taking a dip to cool off. Don't forget to grab some fresh, local pesto or lemon-flavor liquor during your free time! After spending some time relaxing at the beach, you will move to Riomaggiore, the final destination of the day! Riomaggiore is known for its bright homes, which overlook the natural port. As the sun begins falling deeper into the sky, the colors soften over Riomaggiore, and you will see hints of gold sparkling over the water. It is truly the perfect place to finish our tour of Cinque Terre. You will go back to Florence flooded with amazing memories and priceless photos! Return late evening in the center where you may have dinner, and then return at your own pace to your hotel. Overnight.

# DAY 5 • FLORENCE/PISA/SIENA/ SAN GIMIGNANO/FLORENCE

After breakfast, get ready to travel to Pisa and the Tuscan Countryside, for some sight seeing and wine tasting - a day for the senses! First, you will visit the nearby town of Siena, an ancient city with picturesque streets and a rich history. In fact, Siena's historical center is considered a UNESCO World Heritage Site! Here, a local guide will meet our small group to explain the most important sites, including Piazza del Campo and the majestic Siena Gothic Cathedral. At the end of the guided tour, you can choose to enter the Cathedral on your own to witness the incredible sculptures, mosaic floors, and gold decorations.

After a short drive through the enchanting Chianti countryside, you will stop in a small, family-owned winery between Siena and San Gimignano. Enjoy an exquisite lunch of Tuscan appetizers, pasta, and desserts paired with local wines in the lovely scenery of this estate. You also have the opportunity to purchase some bottles of locally produced wines. Next, you will head to San Gimignano, also known as the "Town of Towers", as it is most famous for its fourteen medieval skyscrapers which still remain perfectly preserved. Enjoy exploring the cobblestone streets, taking in the views of the green countryside, and meandering through the artisanal shops. Your tour leader will share the fascinating, medieval history of San Gimignano and point out the best view points. Your last stop of the day will be in Pisa, a must-see for anyone visiting Italy! Your tour leader will show you to the Square of Miracles, where you can find the iconic Leaning Tower. It is truly breathtaking to see the bright, white buildings in contrast to the green grass. Spend some time snapping pictures of the famous Italian symbol! Return in the late afternoon, rest of the evening at leisure and Overnight.

### DAY 6 • FLORENCE/NAPLES/SORRENTO

After breakfast your driver awaits to transfer you to the rail station where you will board the high-speed direct train to Naples, once arrived, you will transfer to your Sorrento Hotel to meet the rest of your group where you will join them for Lunch with a real Neapolitan pizza! After lunch, you will enter into one of the most important archaeological sites in the world: a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the ruins of Pompeii, with Skip the Line entrance and a guided tour. Through the remains and ruins of this ancient city you will learn how the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD destroyed the city, killing its inhabitants and burying it under tons

of ash. The site was lost for about 1,500 years until its initial rediscovery and the objects beneath the city have been well-preserved for centuries. So you can walk along the ancient streets for a glimpse into the lives of the Romans, discovering ancient houses, bakeries and shops and imagine the everyday life in the Roman times. After the visit, you will drive along the Sorrentine Coast, arriving in Sorrento for dinner (dress code: jacket for men) and an overnight in your new hotel.

### DAY 7 • SORRENTO/CAPRI/SORRENTO

Pick-up from your accommodation or nearest meeting by your driver. Meet your guide and the rest of the group at the Sorrento Port and board on fast jetfoil to Capri. (Blue Grotto weather permitted, to be paid locally on the spot). Once on the island you will catch a minibus with your guide to reach Anacapri. After a guided tour of Villa San Michele that hosted the famous Swedish doctor Axel Munthe, enjoy free time at leisure. The second stop of the tour will be Capri town. A walking tour along the glamourous Via Camerelle; Continue along a panoramic alley to reach Augustus's Garden. Stop in the world known "Piazzetta" for some free time. Return to Sorrento by Jetfoil at about 4:30 pm and transfer to your accommodation or a nearby meeting point. Dinner and an overnight stay.

### DAY 8 • SORRENTO/AMALFI/POSITANO/ RAVELLO/SORRENTO

After breakfast in your hotel, at 11:30 am transfer to the beautiful coastal town of Amalfi. Check-in to your new hotel. At approximately 2:00 p.m. Pick-up from your accommodation or and get ready to enjoy the most spectacular drive along the picturesque villages of the Amalfi Coast with breathtaking views of the sea. First

stop is Positano: developed vertically within a tangled overlay of streets, alleys and shops that expose the colorful Positano fashions well-known all around the world. In the town center is the Parish Church of Santa Maria Assunta that shows up with its large dome, tiled in majolica and sheltering some precious works like polychrome marble altars. Then onto Ravello, another pearl of the coast, an elegant and refined village, dipped in green and characterized by luxurious villas. At the end of the visit transfer back to your hotel, and overnight.

**TALY TOURS 2023** 

### DAY 9 • AMALFI

Enjoy a leisurely day exploring the wonderful ancient Capital of the Maritime Republic of Amalfi, taking in the city's main sites, plunging into the waters of the gulf of Salerno, or sipping on some of the locally-produced limoncello at one of the nearby factories, a cooking lessor or visit the art of Mozzarella making! Return to your hotel for some well-deserved rest. Overnight.

### DAY 10 • AMALFI/NAPLES/ROME

After breakfast at your hotel, do some last minute sightseeing or shopping in Amalfi. Then, around 3:00 in the afternoon, depart for Pompeii and continue on to Rome, where the tour will come to an end (estimated arrival in Rome is 9:00 pm). Please let us know if you would like to extend your stay in Rome, or proceed to your next destination from Naples - we offer door-to-door transportation to any Italian city or village, in addition to providing additional transportation such as car rentals and rail tickets also. Grazie e Arrivedercil.