

# The Best of Italy

## 11 days from Rome to Rome (LB)



### Vacation Overview

On this Best of Italy tour, visit some of Italy's most popular cities, including Rome, Florence, Venice, Pisa, and Assisi. See the must-see sights in these cities, including the Vatican Museums, Colosseum, and Roman Forum in Rome; the Leaning Tower of Pisa; St. Mark's Square and Basilica in Venice; and the church where St. Francis is buried—St. Francis Basilica—in Assisi. In Orvieto, situated high atop a volcanic rock, ride a funicular through the ramparts and visit the cathedral.

A tour highlight is Pompeii, which was completely buried during the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. Imagine what life was like 2,000 years ago—this preserved town gives you an amazingly detailed look into life at the peak of the Roman Empire. Admire the paintings still on the walls, and look for the early fast-food restaurants beloved by ancient Romans. Another tour

highlight is the picturesque Isle of Capri, where you'll ride the funicular to Capri village and have time to pamper yourself at one of its luxurious spas, shop at its designer shops, enjoy limoncello (a sweet local drink), savor the sumptuous cuisine at a bistro, and enjoy the amazing views of the breathtaking azure sea.

Italy can satisfy even the most discerning traveler, and this tour allows you to experience its stunning beauty, ancient ruins, amazing sculptures, exquisite art, tasty cuisine, fine wines, and so much more. So grab your camera and leave all the details to Globus, so you can just enjoy yourself on this memorable vacation!

### Itinerary:

#### Day 1 - Arrive in Rome, Italy

Welcome to Rome! At 5 pm, meet your Tour Director and traveling companions, and leave the hotel for a special welcome dinner with wine at one of Rome's lively restaurants. (Dinner)

#### Day 2 - Rome

Sightseeing with your Local Guide starts with a visit to the VATICAN MUSEUMS and SISTINE CHAPEL, world famous for Michelangelo's ceiling paintings and The Last Judgement. Continue to monumental ST. PETER'S SQUARE and BASILICA. Cross the Tiber and visit the COLOSSEUM and the ROMAN FORUM, where Roman legions marched in triumph. To make the most of your stay, join our optional Roman Highlights

excursion, and see the sites and squares of medieval Rome made famous in the movie Angels and Demons. (Breakfast)

### **Day 3 - Rome – Orvieto – Tuscany**

Following the Tiber Valley, reach Orvieto, perched high atop a volcanic rock. Access, denied to many a would-be conqueror through the ages, is easy for you. Ride a modern FUNICULAR right through the forbidding ramparts. Time to browse through tempting shops in the lanes off Piazza del Duomo and to visit the gothic CATHEDRAL with its San Brizio Chapel. Next, drive through the Chianti wine area to the spa resort of Montecatini in Tuscany. (Breakfast)

### **Day 4 - Tuscany. Excursion to Florence**

All day dedicated to Florence, “Cradle of the Renaissance.” Your guided walking tour includes a visit to Michelangelo’s David in the ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS. Admire the magnificent cathedral, Giotto’s Bell Tower, the Baptistry’s heavy bronze “Gate of Paradise,” and sculpture-studded SIGNORIA SQUARE. The afternoon is free to shop for Florentine leather goods and gold jewelry sold by the ounce, which are attractive buys, or to join an optional excursion to the magnificent Uffizi Gallery. (Breakfast, Dinner)

### **Day 5 - Tuscany–Pisa–Venice Island**

A short drive to Pisa. Take the traditional picture pushing back the amazing Leaning Tower, 180 feet high and no less than 12 feet out of the perpendicular. Next, enjoy a comfortable drive north to Venice, a powerful magnet for romantics and art lovers from around the world. (Breakfast)

### **Day 6 - Venice Island**

Enter in style by PRIVATE BOAT to meet your Local Guide. Highlights of your walking tour are ST. MARK’S SQUARE and its byzantine BASILICA, lavish DOGES’ PALACE and the BRIDGE OF SIGHS. Also watch skilled GLASSBLOWERS fashion their delicate objects in an age-old traditional manner. Enjoy a [LF] traditional PROSECCO APERITIVO, and tonight is your chance to join an optional excursion to the island of Burano. (Breakfast)

### **Day 7 - Venice Island – Assisi**

A scenic drive through the Apennine Mountains to peaceful Assisi, where your Local Guide will take you for a visit to ST. CLARE’S CHURCH and ST. FRANCIS’ BASILICA built above the Saint’s grave. (Breakfast, Dinner)

### **Day 8 – Assisi – Pompeii – Naples – Capri**

Arrive at fascinating POMPEII. Meet your Local Guide and start your highlight visit of this Roman city both destroyed and preserved by an eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. See a patrician home, public baths, and shops that give a striking picture of what day-to-day life was like in Rome at its apex of power. Next, drive to Naples, cross the blue bay by JETFOIL to the beautiful Isle of Capri for your two-night stay, and ride the FUNICULAR to Capri village. (Breakfast)

### **Day 9 - Capri**

This morning, enjoy sightseeing with a Local Guide. A highlight is your OPEN TAXI RIDE to Anacapri to [LF] visit famous VILLA SAN MICHELE in Anacapri. Afternoon at leisure with the chance to wander through the beautiful AUGUSTUS GARDENS. In the early evening, join a [LF] BOAT CRUISE around the island, followed by a special dinner with wine and seaview—the perfect ending of your Capri visit. (Breakfast, Dinner)

### **Day 10 – Capri – Sorrento – Rome**

Speed across the glittering bay to the charming resort of Sorrento. Enjoy time to stroll around and check out the local shops before returning to Rome. This evening, enjoy a special farewell dinner with wine in a local restaurant to celebrate the success of your vacation. (Breakfast, Dinner)

### **Day 11 - Rome**

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. (Breakfast)

## **INCLUDED FEATURES**

### **ROME**

Welcome and farewell dinners with wine at a local restaurant; guided sightseeing, visit the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's Square and Basilica, the Colosseum and Roman Forum

### **ORVIETO**

Ride a funicular through the ramparts and visit the cathedral

### **FLORENCE**

Guided walking tour, visit Michelangelo's David, and Signoria Square

### **PISA**

Marvel at the legendary Leaning Tower

### **VENICE**

Private boat ride; guided walking tour, visit St. Mark's Square and Basilica, Doges' Palace and the Bridge of Sighs; glassblower demonstration; [LF] prosecco aperitivo

### **ASSISI**

Guided sightseeing, visit St. Clare's Church and St. Francis' Basilica

### **POMPEII**

Guided walking tour of the excavations

### **NAPLES-CAPRI-SORRENTO**

By jetfoil

### **CAPRI**

Funicular ride; guided sightseeing, visit Augustus Gardens; [LF] ride an open taxi to Anacapri and visit Villa San Michele; boat ride around the island of Capri and a [LF] special dinner with wine and seaview

### **Headsets throughout the tour**

### **INSIDE VISITS**

Inside visits and special features are shown in the description, including admission charges when applicable.

## **Accommodations**

### **MEALS**

Full buffet breakfast, 5 three-course dinners, including special dinners with wine in Rome and Capri

### **SUPERIOR HOTELS - (D) Deluxe (SF) Superior First-Class (F) First-Class**

**ROME** Mediterraneo (F) or NH Villa Carpegna (F)

**TUSCANY** Settentrionale Esplanade (F) at Montecatini or Grand Hotel Tettuccio (F) at Montecatini

**VENICE ISLAND** Sant'Elena (F) or Gabrielli Sandwirth (F) or Boscolo Bellini (F)

**ASSISI** Windsor Savoia (F) or Giotto (F)

**CAPRI** La Residenza (F) or La Palma (F)

**ROME** Holiday Inn Rome Aurelia (F) or Villa Pamphili (SF)

## TRANSPORTATION

### Optional Excursions

The following list of optional excursions are **examples only** for this vacation. These optional excursions might or might not be offered. Whether it's a special dinner, a local show or a special behind-the-scenes glimpse into an historical site, optional excursions are a wonderful way to enrich your vacation even further. Plus, they give you flexibility. We include the must-see sites and experiences, and we also understand that people take interest in different activities and may want to craft a more personal vacation by hand-picking optional excursions that appeal to them.

Availability is subject to sufficient participation, weather conditions, seasonal suitability, days of operation, group interests, and general feasibility for your vacation. The approximate value listed gives you a good, general idea of what you can expect to pay but may vary once you are on your vacation. Some information provided might be in a foreign currency; you can use our online [currency converter](#) for exchange rate information.

Once you have booked your vacation, Globus provides the ability to pre-purchase excursions, register for your vacations and provide emergency contact information online.

#### **CITY: Rome**

##### **Orientation Drive**

Enjoy an unforgettable drive through some of the more exclusive streets of the "Eternal City". Marvel at the impressive piazzas, fountains and ancient buildings in all their majesty and much more...

**Approximate value:** €29 EUR per person

##### **Roman Highlights**

A guided stroll through the historical center of Rome: your Tour Director will propose a tailor-made itinerary featuring some of the city's authentic jewels. For instance: Trastevere and its basilica of Santa Maria, or the baroque district, Campo de' Fiori, the Pantheon, San Luigi dei Francesi, famous Piazza Navona, Via dei Condotti, Piazza del Popolo with its church of Santa Maria del Popolo and displays of Caravaggio paintings.

**Approximate value:** €38 EUR per person

##### **Roman Highlights & Dinner**

A guided stroll through the historical center of Rome: your Tour Director will propose a tailor-made itinerary featuring some of the city's authentic jewels. For instance: Trastevere and its basilica of Santa Maria, the baroque district, Campo de' Fiori, the Pantheon, San Luigi dei Francesi, famous Piazza Navona, Via dei Condotti, Piazza del Popolo with its church of Santa Maria del Popolo and displays of Caravaggio paintings. After your walk, relax and enjoy a four-course dinner, including drinks, at a popular Roman restaurant.

**Approximate value:** €68 EUR per person

#### **CITY: Montecatini**

##### **Tuscan Dinner**

Savor a traditional Italian four-course meal in the warm atmosphere of a famous agriturismo, amidst the green hills of Valdinievole.

**Approximate value:** €56 EUR per person

**CITY: Florence****Highlights of Uffizi Gallery**

With your Local Guide, visit one of the earliest museums in modern Europe with the world's finest collection of Italian and Florentine art. Gain fascinating insight into paintings by the great Masters Giotto, Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raffaello and Tiziano. Approximate value: €35 EUR per person

**CITY: Venice****A Venetian Night Out Including Transfer**

Travel by private water taxi along the splendid Grand Canal with its elegant palaces to a fine Venetian restaurant. Taste four mouth-watering courses of local specialties and wine or soft drinks. After dinner there is time to explore and absorb the unique, romantic atmosphere of Venice by night.

**Approximate value:** €71 EUR per person

**Gondola Serenade**

Enjoy a ride in a traditional gondola, gliding through centuries-old canals, under famous arched bridges, past lavish palaces and quaint piazzas. The Gondola's long, narrow, flat-bottomed boats with a high prow and stern, were designed specifically for the Venetian canals and made in unique shipyards called Squero. Black is the obligatory color, due to a law passed to reduce how the rich and noble over-decorated their personal craft. The 'comb' at the front of the gondola is made of iron and serves not only to balance the boat, but is also the symbol of gondolas and Venice - the six toothed comb represents the six Venetian districts: "i sestieri".

**Approximate value:** €38 EUR per person

**Lagoon Cruise and Meal in Burano**

Appreciate the peaceful vistas of the Lagoon while you glide past the islands of Santa Elena, San Michele and the famous Lido. On picturesque Burano island, renowned for its lace making and colorful houses, savor a mouth-watering meal, with drinks included. Afterwards there's time to shop and stroll.

**Approximate value:** €69 EUR per person

**CITY: Sorrento****Amalfi Drive & Positano**

Enjoy a scenic drive up to the Madonnina, a breathtaking viewpoint over the Amalfi Coast. Free time to visit and shop in the quaint terraced village of Positano, a prosperous port of the former Amalfi Republic. See the Byzantine church of Santa Maria Assunta and its famous majolica tile dome.

**Approximate value:** €39 EUR per person



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