

## **Trafalgar Tours: Best of Italy**

### **Day 1 - Welcome to Rome**

Ciao Roma! Explore this imperial city of emperors and senators, gods and goddesses, before joining your companions and Travel Director later for a Welcome Reception. Our introduction to the 'Eternal City' is an evening orientation drive to view some of the sights which await tomorrow.

Accommodations: Grand Tiberio

Meals: Welcome Reception

### **Day 2 - Discover Ancient Rome and the Vatican City**

The Holy See takes centre stage today as we join a Local Specialist for an included sightseeing tour in the Vatican Museums. Dive Into Culture and admire the Bramante staircase, created for Pope Julius II in the early 16th century, and Michelangelo's magnificent frescoed ceiling in the Sistine Chapel. See the marble masterpiece of the Piet, housed in St. Peter's Basilica before crossing the Tiber into Ancient Rome. Visit the famous Colosseum and see Circus Maximus, once the site of celebrated chariot races. This afternoon, enjoy free time to explore Rome. Indulge in an espresso in the Piazza Navona or clamber up the Spanish Steps.

Meals: Breakfast

### **Day 3 - Explore the Ruins of Pompeii and Sorrento**

We journey south to the well-preserved ruins of Pompeii. Here we join a Local Specialist who will share details of the devastation caused by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius as we wander through the ancient paved roads of a city that was frozen in time. Later, we arrive at our hotel in the clifftop village of Sorrento where we'll dine tonight.

Accommodations: Johanna Park

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### **Day 4 - A Day on the Isle of Capri**

We cross the Bay of Naples today by ferry to the glamorous Isle of Capri to visit some of its landmark sights. Wander past the chic boutiques and pavement cafés in Capri town in the company of a Local Specialist before taking your time to soak up the sophistication of this lovely island.

Later, we return to the mainland.

Meals: Breakfast

### **Day 5 - Onwards to Assisi**

See the Benedictine Abbey of Cassino, which featured as the site of the Battle of Monte Cassino in 1944, before heading north to the slopes of Mount Subasio, we arrive in the mystical town of Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis, under whose protection this medieval city is said to remain. We join our Local Specialist on a walking tour to the Basilica of St. Francis, which we will have an opportunity to visit before some free time to explore this fascinating hilltop town. We'll stay at one of Trafalgar's Stays With Stories - a fully renovated old Franciscan monastery.

Accommodations: Cenacolo

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### **Day 6 - Discover Verona and Venice**

We journey through the glorious countryside of the Emilia Romagna region. This area is also renowned for its gastronomy and is credited with being the origin of tortellini, mortadella and parmesan cheese. Travel to Verona, the home of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers, to admire the Roman arena and Juliet's Balcony. Arrive later in Venice, the 'Queen of the Adriatic', where we'll enjoy a Regional Dinner.

Accommodations: Principe  
Meals: Breakfast, Regional Dinner

### **Day 7 - St. Mark's and More in Venice**

Cruise your way through Venice by private launch to soak up the sights and sounds of what was once one of the world's greatest ports. Dive Into Culture and watch talented tradesmen share their centuries-old glassmaking traditions. Continue past the Bridge of Sighs and the Doge's Palace to St. Mark's Square where we will view the impressive square and Basilica. Consider an Optional Experience to see the colourful fishermen's houses on the Island of Burano or search for a cosy bacaro and indulge in some tasty Venetian treats.

Meals: Breakfast

### **Day 8 - On to Milan and the Scenic Italian Lakes**

Today we cross the lush green plains of Lombardy to sophisticated Milan, Italy's capital of design and fashion. An orientation tour takes us past the intricate Gothic Duomo, La Scala Opera House and the famous Galleria.

Accommodations: Barchetta Excelsior

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### **Day 9 - Stroll around Lake Como**

The glistening blue waters of Lake Como welcome us today. We'll enjoy some free time to explore the lakeside lifestyle and beautiful scenery which has enchanted visitors for centuries. Spend this morning exploring Como's historical quarter, relax with a cappuccino, take the funicular for spectacular views of the lake or consider a cruise on the lake.

Meals: Breakfast

### **Day 10 - Admire Pisa and on to Florence**

Tuscany lures us across the forested Apennine Mountains, past the marble quarries of Carrara to the famous city of Pisa and its Square of Miracles where we will enjoy an opportunity to view the Leaning Tower. Our next stop is Florence, the 'Cradle of the Renaissance'.

Accommodations: Grand Mediterraneo

Meals: Breakfast

### **Day 11 - Experience Art and Architecture in Florence**

Delve into the extravagant legacy of the Medici family, whose legacy of art and architecture are explored in the company of a Local Specialist. The elegant Duomo dominates the skyline as we visit Piazza della Signoria with its exquisite statues and palazzi. Enjoy spectacular panoramic views of Florence and the almost 700-year-old Ponte Vecchio from Piazzale Michelangelo. Later, learn about the quality and workmanship of two of this city's historic industries at demonstrations of Florentine leathercraft and 18-carat gold. Later, Connect With Locals over dinner at a Be My Guest experience, a castle set within a celebrated wine and olive oil estate.

Meals: Breakfast, Be My Guest

### **Day 12 - Treasures of San Gimignano and Return to Rome**

This morning we stop at the Florence American Cemetery and Memorial. Continuing south, we visit the charming Tuscan hill-town of San Gimignano, within whose city walls, one finds extraordinary examples of medieval architecture and history. Venture to the centre of town to view its Piazza del Duomo, surrounded by medieval towers and stroll along the town's 13th-century city walls. This evening in Rome we enjoy a Farewell Dinner spent in the company of newfound friends and our Travel Director.

Accommodations: Crowne Plaza St. Peter

Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

**Day 13 - Farewell Rome**

Our discovery of the best of Italy has come to an end. Find out more about your free airport transfer at [trafalgar.com/freetransfers](https://www.trafalgar.com/freetransfers).

Meals: Breakfast