

# EASY GRAND TOUR OF NORTHERN ITALY AND FASCINATING CORSICA AND SARDINIA

MAE-FAS-COR-CER-ROM-2625

26 ☀️ days | 25 🌙 nights

ROME - MONTEPULCIANO - PIENZA - SIENA - SAN GIMIGNANO - CHIANTI  
- MESTRE - VERONA - SIRMIONE - MILAN - STRESA - BORROMEAN  
ISLANDS - PORTOFINO - SANTA MARGHERITA LIGURE - RAPALLO - LA  
SPEZIA - FLORENCE - ROME - OLBIA - PORTO VECCHIO - ALERIA - BASTIA  
- ILE ROUSSE - CALVI - CORTE - AJACCIO - SARTENE - BONIFACIO - OLBIA -  
CASTELSARDO - ALGHERO - BOSA - CAGLIARI





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**DAY 1 - SATURDAY**

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**ROME**

At 6:00 PM, meet the tour leader at the reception.

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**DAY 2 - SUNDAY**

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**ROME - MONTEPULCIANO  
- PIENZA - SIENA**

Breakfast at the hotel and departure to the Tuscany region. Arrive at Montepulciano, a medieval city perched on a hill, world-famous for producing the “Nobile” wine. This village is rich in Renaissance buildings, ancient churches, and hidden corners. From Montepulciano, enjoy the fabulous landscape of the Orcia Valley and Chiana Valley. Continue to the charming Pienza, one of the most characteristic medieval villages in the heart of the Orcia Valley, known as the “ideal city” of the Renaissance and for its strong ties to rural traditions. This is evident as soon as you enter the old town through its main gate and stroll along the “corso,” lined with shops showcasing local products, including the famous “Pecorino di Pienza.” Transfer to the hotel in Siena.

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**DAY 3 - MONDAY**

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**SIENA - SAN GIMIGNANO  
- CHIANTI - MESTRE**

After breakfast, visit the elegant city of Siena, full of charm and historical memories, considered one of the most beautiful medieval cities in Italy. The heart of the city is the famous Piazza del Campo, shaped like a shell, where the renowned “Palio di Siena” takes place, a key event for all Sienese. Visit the stunning Gothic-style Siena Cathedral, housing treasures by Donatello, Pisano, and Michelangelo, as well as frescoes by the celebrated Pinturicchio. Proceed to San Gimignano, a medieval village





famous for its towers, of which only 13 out of the original 72 remain. This UNESCO World Heritage site is characterized by its beautiful squares and historical center. Continue to the Chianti region, renowned for its Tuscan landscape with vineyards, cypress trees, and picturesque villages. Enjoy a panoramic drive and visit a local winery for a Chianti wine tasting and local delicacies. Transfer to the hotel in Mestre and free time.

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#### DAY 4 - TUESDAY

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### MESTRE

Breakfast at the hotel and free time.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Venice

Guided tour of Venice, a unique city built on 120 islands connected by over 400 bridges. Venice boasts an extraordinary cultural and artistic heritage, inspiring poets and artists for centuries: the elegant buildings along the Grand Canal, the delicate Doge's Palace overlooking St. Mark's Square, the majestic Basilica and Campanile of St. Mark, as well as small artisan workshops and colorful houses. Free time and return to the hotel in the afternoon.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Gondola Ride

A gondola ride is one of Venice's main attractions and a city icon. It offers an unforgettable experience, allowing you to truly immerse in Venice's charm. The ride provides a unique perspective of the city from the water.

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#### DAY 5 - WEDNESDAY

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### MESTRE - VERONA - SIRMIONE - MILAN

After breakfast, head to Verona, known worldwide as the setting for the tragic love story of Romeo and Juliet. Its historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage site, celebrated for its architecture, romantic charm, and scenic views over the Adige



River. Proceed to Sirmione, a picturesque town on the southern shores of Lake Garda, nicknamed “the pearl of islands and peninsulas.” It boasts historical and artistic treasures, including Roman villa ruins, the Scaligero Castle, and the Church of San Pietro in Mavino. Transfer to the hotel in Milan.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Boat Ride on Lake Garda

A boat trip on Lake Garda reveals its secrets and breathtaking views, offering a unique and relaxing experience.

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#### DAY 6 - THURSDAY

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### MILAN

Breakfast at the hotel and a guided tour of Milan, a city renowned for its immense historical, artistic, and architectural heritage. Milan is also famous as Italy’s fashion capital, a hub of industry, and a nerve center of the Italian economy. A walk through Milan must include its iconic landmarks: Piazza del Duomo, one of Italy’s largest and most breathtaking squares, with the imposing Gothic-style Cathedral; Teatro alla Scala, a cultural symbol of Milan and one of the world’s most prestigious theaters for history, architecture, and performances; and the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II. Free time and return to the hotel.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Milan’s Navigli District

Explore the Navigli district, one of Milan’s most picturesque areas, renowned for its vibrant nightlife and numerous bars and restaurants along the canals. Enjoy an evening aperitivo during “happy hour” after a brief stroll to discover the history of this charming neighborhood.

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#### DAY 7 - FRIDAY

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### MILAN - LAKE MAGGIORE: STRESA AND BORROMEAN ISLANDS - MILAN

Breakfast at the hotel and departure for Stresa, a splendid tourist destination on Lake Maggiore. This charming village is set in a unique landscape offering stunning views of the Alps and Lake Maggiore, home to the famous Borromean Islands. Next is an excursion to the Borromean Islands, including Isola Bella with its monumental palace, Isola dei Pescatori (Fishermen’s Island) with its picturesque charm, and Isola Madre, known for its botanical gardens filled with rare plants. Lunch will be on Isola dei Pescatori, featuring local cuisine. Return to Stresa for some free time, then back to the hotel in the afternoon.

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#### DAY 8 - SATURDAY

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### MILAN

Breakfast at the hotel and free time.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Lake Como - Como, Villa Carlotta, and Bellagio

Visit the city of Como, a beloved destination in northern Italy, with its Duomo, Broletto (medieval town hall), Terragni Palace, ancient alleys, and remnants of medieval walls. Continue to Tremezzo to visit Villa Carlotta, overlooking the lake and surrounded by magnificent gardens. A boat ride will take you to Bellagio, one of the most enchanting towns on Lake Como, where you can enjoy free time to explore its charming corners. Return to the hotel in the afternoon.

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#### DAY 9 - SUNDAY

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### MILAN - PORTOFINO - SANTA MARGHERITA LIGURE - RAPALLO - LA SPEZIA

After breakfast, the day is dedicated to exploring the Gulf of Tigullio. Discover Portofino, with its elegant harmony and brightly colored buildings overlooking the sea, and Santa Margherita Ligure, known for its pastel-colored facades and stunning promenade. In the afternoon, take a boat to Rapallo, a historic town in



the heart of the Gulf of Tigullio. Later, transfer to the hotel in La Spezia for free time.

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#### DAY 10 - MONDAY

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### LA SPEZIA

Breakfast at the hotel and free time.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Cinque Terre

Weather permitting, take a boat or train to the Cinque Terre. Over centuries, humans have shaped this unique landscape with terraces along the slopes, creating one of Liguria’s most beautiful and iconic panoramas. Explore Manarola, a true urban gem with its charming harbor and pastel-colored houses; Vernazza, one of Italy’s most beautiful villages, with its amphitheater-like harbor extending toward the sea; and Monterosso, the largest and westernmost of the Cinque Terre villages, featuring a pictu-



resque natural bay. Return to the hotel in the afternoon.

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#### DAY 11 - TUESDAY

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### LA SPEZIA - FLORENCE

Breakfast and departure to Florence, a city with an atmosphere that invites you to travel back in time, known worldwide as the birthplace of the Renaissance and the cradle of architecture and art. Guided tour of its historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, surrounded by churches, monuments, and beautiful Renaissance buildings praised by poets throughout the ages. The Baptistery of Saint John, dedicated to the city's patron saint, the famous Giotto's Campanile, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, and the imposing dome by Brunelleschi are just a few examples of the wonders Florence offers. After the tour, transfer to the hotel.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### The Uffizi Gallery

Designed in the mid-16th century by Giorgio Vasari, the Uffizi Gallery comprises 90 rooms housing some of the most important and famous paintings in art history: works by Giotto, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Botticelli, and numerous paintings by Flemish and Dutch artists, displayed in chronological order. A visit to this museum is a true journey through art history.

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#### DAY 12 - WEDNESDAY

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### FLORENCE

Breakfast and free time.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Florence - Oltrarno

Located on the left bank of the Arno River, Oltrarno is one of the city's most typical areas, offering a unique, timeless atmosphere mainly populated by locals. Highlights include a visit to the Ponte Vecchio, with its shops and hanging houses, one of the world's



most famous landmarks, and the Pitti Palace, the last residence of the Medici family and now Florence's largest museum complex.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Accademia Gallery

The Accademia Gallery is one of the city's and the world's most important museums. Among its masterpieces is Michelangelo's unparalleled David, one of the most famous sculptures globally and a universal symbol of Florence.

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#### DAY 13 - THURSDAY

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### FLORENCE - ROME

Breakfast and departure by train to Rome. Transfer to the hotel and free time.

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#### DAY 14 - FRIDAY

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### ROME

Breakfast at the hotel and a panoramic tour of Rome to admi-

re the magnificent monuments symbolizing Ancient Rome: the Colosseum, Circus Maximus, Palatine Hill, Caracalla Baths, and the most representative basilicas of Christian Rome: St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. John Lateran, Santa Maria Maggiore, and St. Peter's Basilica. The tour continues along the Tiber River, offering views of Castel Sant'Angelo and the Ara Pacis. It concludes with a bus ride through the magnificent Villa Borghese and the elegant Via Veneto, the avenue of Hollywood stars, bars, and Rome's most elegant hotels. During the tour, there will be a stop at the Capitoline Hill for a panoramic view of the Roman Forum and the magnificent Piazza Venezia. We will also stop at St. Peter's Square, where it will be possible to continue with an optional visit to the Vatican Museums. Free time and return to the hotel.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel

The Vatican Museums, considered among the most important in the world, and the Sistine Chapel, the site of the Papal Conclave, magnificently painted by Michelangelo Buonarroti. This visit immerses you in the highest expressions of art throughout history, where beauty and faith combine in a unique harmony—an unmissable experience in Rome.

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**DAY 15 - SATURDAY**

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**ROME**

Breakfast at the hotel and free time to explore the city. In the afternoon, transfer to Civitavecchia to board the overnight ferry to Olbia.

**OPTIONAL EXCURSION:****Ancient Rome**

Guided tour with included tickets to the most impressive and iconic monument of antiquity, the Colosseum, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. The tour continues with a visit to the Roman Forum, an archaeological area symbolizing the Italian capital that showcases the architectural mastery of the Roman Empire.

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**DAY 16 - SUNDAY**

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**OLBIA**

Arrival and transfer to the hotel in Olbia. Free time to explore at your leisure.

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**DAY 17 - MONDAY**

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**OLBIA - SANTA TERESA DI GALLURA -  
PORTO VECCHIO - ALERIA - BASTIA**

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Santa Teresa di Gallura for the ferry to Bonifacio (Corsica) and onward to Porto Vecchio, a charming town in a bay designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Originally of Genoese origin, this picturesque village has transformed into an exclusive tourist destination, especially popular among lovers of seaside luxury and nightlife. Continue with a guided tour of Aleria, a town that encapsulates the rich history of the island, from its Greek colonization in the 6th century BC to the Genoese period, which ended in 1769. In the old town,

you'll find one of Corsica's most renowned museums, featuring numerous artifacts such as Greek, Roman, and Etruscan ceramics, coins, everyday objects, and vases with intricate depictions. Late in the afternoon, transfer to the hotel.

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**DAY 18 - TUESDAY**

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**BASTIA - ÎLE ROUSSE - CALVI - BASTIA**

After breakfast, visit Bastia, an enchanting city perched on a cliff overlooking the sea. Its pink-hued historic buildings, winding alleys in the old town, and bustling port welcoming ferries provide a picturesque scene. Transfer to Île Rousse, a quaint coastal town known for its history and stunning landscapes. Finally, visit Calvi, one of Corsica's most beautiful cities, situated on a rocky promontory. Nicknamed the "Garden of Corsica," Calvi is surrounded by fertile hills, expansive flower fields, and pine forests that stretch down to the beach. After the tour, return to the hotel for the night.

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**DAY 19 - WEDNESDAY**

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**BASTIA - CORTE - AJACCIO**

Breakfast at the hotel and departure towards Corte, a picturesque town in the heart of Corsica, considered one of the island's most beautiful villages. Surrounded by rugged landscapes, it exudes authentic Corsican charm. Continue to Ajaccio, the capital of Corsica and the birthplace of Napoleon Bonaparte. Built around the port and citadel, Ajaccio's old town is characterized by charming alleys lined with colorful, tall houses. After a guided tour of Ajaccio, transfer to the hotel.

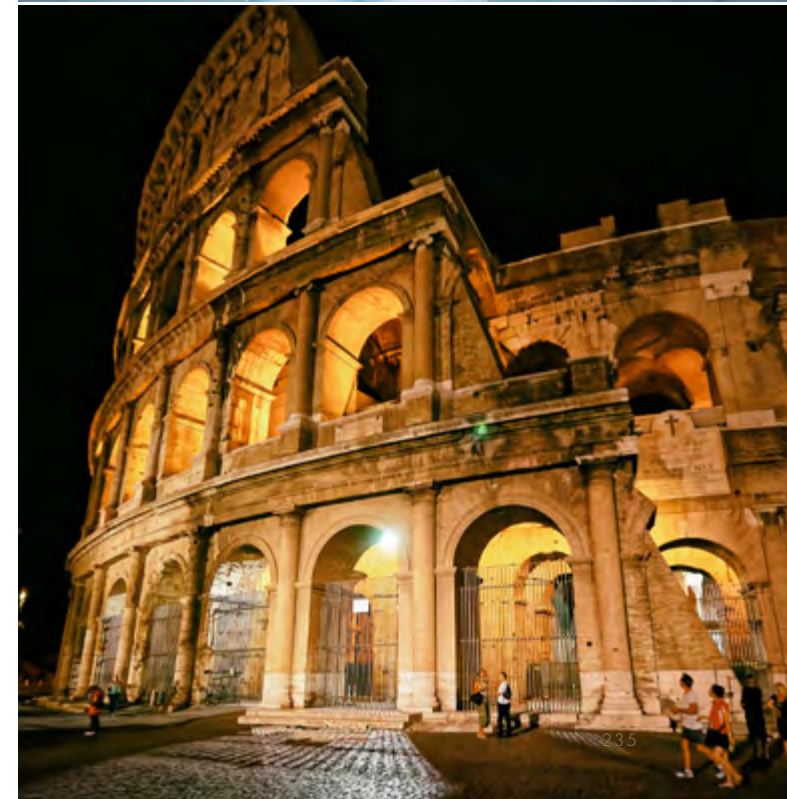
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**DAY 20 - THURSDAY**

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**AJACCIO - SARTENE - BONIFACIO**

After breakfast at the hotel, depart for Sartène, a delightful village steeped in history, known for its tales of piracy and ban-







ditry. Having left its turbulent past behind, the town now offers a serene atmosphere with its stone houses and quiet streets. Continue to Bonifacio, dramatically perched on cliffs overlooking the sea and nestled around a small fjord that plunges into the stunning waters of the Strait of Bonifacio. After exploring this breathtaking locale, transfer to the hotel for an overnight stay.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### **Boat Tour: Discovering Bonifacio**

A visit to Bonifacio is incomplete without a boat tour to explore the cliffs, beautiful caves, true gems set in the white limestone cliffs, charming coves, and to admire the Staircase of the King of Aragon.

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#### DAY 21 - FRIDAY

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### BONIFACIO - SANTA TERESA DI GALLURA - OLBIA

Breakfast at the hotel and return by ferry to Sardinia. Transfer to the hotel and free time.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### **Costa Esmeralda, the Jewel of Sardinia**

The tour visits the most famous villages of the Costa Smeralda, a favorite vacation spot for international celebrities from the worlds of fashion and cinema: Baja Sardinia, one of the most beloved destinations of the Costa Smeralda, located across from the La Maddalena archipelago. Porto Rotondo, a cornerstone of both national and international tourism, a true gem alongside Porto Cervo. Porto Cervo, a jewel of the Gulf of Arzachena, symbolizes unrestrained luxury and represents the quintessence of the Costa Smeralda with its dreamy beaches, crystal-clear waters, and glamorous social life.

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#### DAY 22 - SATURDAY

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### OLBIA

Breakfast at the hotel and free time.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### **Archipelago of La Maddalena**

Spend the day exploring the Archipelago of La Maddalena, a National Park composed of 7 large islands and 20 islets. During the tour, enjoy pristine white sandy beaches, exotic Mediterranean vegetation, rugged coastlines, and, above all, the stunning and vibrant emerald hues of the sea. The archipelago, particularly the island of Caprera, is also renowned for being the home and refuge of Giuseppe Garibaldi, where he chose to spend the last 26 years of his life and where he passed away. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon.

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#### DAY 23 - SUNDAY

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### OLBIA - CASTELSARDO - ALGHERO

Breakfast at the hotel and departure towards Castelsardo, a charming medieval village overlooking the center of the Gulf of Asinara. The old town, dominated by the castle perched atop the Castelsardo promontory, now houses the “Mediterranean Weaving” Museum, one of Sardinia’s most renowned museums. From the terraces along the castle walls, enjoy a breathtaking view of much of the northern coast and the Asinara Island. After the visit, transfer to the hotel and enjoy some free time.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### **Neptune’s Caves: A Jewel of Nature**

Visiting the Neptune’s Caves in Alghero is one of those experiences that should be done at least once in a lifetime. Considered the most famous caves in Sardinia, they are highly recommended to see in person to fully admire their beauty.

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#### DAY 24 - MONDAY

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### ALGHERO - BOSA - CAGLIARI

Breakfast at the hotel and visit to Alghero, a city with original Catalan Gothic architecture from the period when Sardinia was



under Spanish rule. Even today, it is still called “Barceloneta” (Little Barcelona) by the Catalans due to its cheerful and romantic atmosphere reminiscent of the Spanish city. Departure to Bosa, a charming town where tradition and modernity blend together, exuding curiosity and charisma. Its historic district, Sa Costa, features colorful houses climbing the slopes of Serravalle Hill, dominated by Malaspina Castle. During the stop, enjoy lunch with typical local dishes. In the afternoon, transfer to the hotel in Cagliari.

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#### DAY 25 - TUESDAY

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### CAGLIARI

Breakfast at the hotel and free time.

#### OPTIONAL EXCURSION:

##### **Cagliari**

Explore Cagliari, the capital of Sardinia and a quintessential example of Mediterranean charm. As the island’s largest and most populous city, Cagliari holds a wealth of history within its four historic districts, spanning from prehistoric times to the reign of the House of Savoy. Return to the hotel and enjoy the remainder of your day at leisure.

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#### DAY 26 - WEDNESDAY

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### CAGLIARI

Breakfast at the hotel. End of services.







APRIL: 19  
MAY: 17  
SEPTEMBER: 06 - 20

From **€ 6,353.-**  
per person in DOUBLE occupancy

From **€ 6,338.-**  
per person in TRIPLE occupancy

SINGLE supplement: From € 2,560.-  
Half Board supplement: € 1,304.-

## PLANNED HOTELS OR SIMILAR

- **Rome**  
Hotel Gambrinus/ Hotel Napoleon/ Romanico Palace Luxury Hotel / IH Cicerone/ Palladium Palace/ Best Western Ars Hotel/ Club House Hotel/ NH Villa Carpegna/ Al Manthia Hotel/ DoubleTree by Hilton Rome Monti o similar
- **Siena**  
Hotel Executive/ Four Points by Sheraton Siena/ Hotel Garden/ NH Siena o similar
- **Mestre**  
Smart Hotel Holiday/ Plaza Venice/ Leonardo Royal/ BW Tritone/Voco The Quid Hotel/ Hotel Alexander/ Antony Palace Hotel/ Park Hotel Ai Pini/ Four Points by Sheraton/ Hotel Belstay/ LH Hotel Sirio o similar
- **Milan**  
Best Western Antares Concorde/ Starhotel Ritz / Starhotel E.c.h.o/ WorldHotel Casati 18/ Windsor Hotel/ Milan Marriott/ Antares Hotel Rubens / Best Western City/ Unahotels Scandinavia/ Unahotels Mediterraneo/ NH Nhow o similar
- **La Spezia**  
CDH Hotel La Spezia/ Hotel Firenze e Continentale/ The Poet Hotel/





Hotel Ghironi/ NH La Spezia o similar.

- **Florence**

Hotel Grifone/ Hotel Palazzo dal Borgo/ Cellai Boutique Hotel/ FH55 Hotel Mediterraneo/Hotel Albani/ Grand Hotel Adriatico/ NH Firenze/ Smarthotel Derose o similar

- **Olbia**

Hotel Mercure Olbia/ Hotel For You/ Grand Hotel President/ Hotel Martini/ Hotel Panorama o similar

- **Bastia**

Hotel Posta Vecchia/ Hotel Des Gouverneurs/ Best Western Hotel Montecristo/ Hotel Port Toga o similar

- **Ajaccio**

Hotel Fesch & Spa/ Hotel Castel Vecchio/ Hotel Napoleon/ Hotel San Carlu Citadelle/ Hotel Campo Dell'Oro o similar

- **Bonifacio**

Santa Teresa Hotel/ Best Western Hotel du Roy D'Aragon/ Hotel Le Caravelle/ Hotel U Capu Biancu o similar

- **Alghero**

Hotel Catalunya/ Hotel Alma di Alghero/ Hotel DomoMea/ Rina Hotel o similar

- **Cagliari**

Holiday Inn Cagliari/ Unahotels T Hotel/ Best Western Hotel Italia/ Hotel Regina Margherita o similar

## THE PRICE INCLUDES:

- 24 nights of accommodation in double rooms at the mentioned hotels with breakfast included
- 1 night on the ferry in a double cabin with breakfast included, as well as dinner on board the ferry.
- Transportation by Gran Turismo bus or tourist minibus with included WIFI
- English-speaking tour guide assistance throughout the itinerary
- Guided tours with authorized local guides in English: Siena, Venice, Milan, Borromean Islands, Florence, Rome, Aleria, Bastia, Ile Rousse, Calvi, Ajaccio, Sartene, Alghero
- Audioguides available throughout the trip
- Entrance tickets: Siena Cathedral, Milan Duomo, Borromean Islands, Archaeological Museum of Aleria, Governors' Palace in Bastia, Bonaparte House Museum in Ajaccio
- Wine and local products tasting in Chianti
- Boat transfer to the Borromean Islands

- Lunch at Isola dei Pescatori with typical local dishes – beverages included
- Boat transfer to Portofino and Santa Margherita Ligure
- Train transfer to Rome
- Ferry transfer Civitavecchia / Olbia
- Ferry transfer: Santa Teresa di Gallura / Bonifacio / Santa Teresa di Gallura
- Transfer to Castelsardo
- Lunch in Bosa featuring local specialties

*\*IMPORTANT: Portofino and Santa Margherita Ligure, Lake Maggiore, Archipelago of La Maddalena - In case of adverse weather conditions, the excursion may be canceled without prior notice, or the itinerary may be subject to changes without prior notice.*

## THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Flights to/from Italy
- Any internal connections or transfers to reach the tour starting destination
- Private arrival and departure transfers
- City tax
- Drinks during meals, except where expressly indicated in "The Price

Includes"

- Porterage, tips, and general or personal extras
- Optional excursions
- Cancellation insurance and assistance (optional and upon request)
- Anything not specifically mentioned in the program and the "The Price Includes" section

NOTE: FOR PRE-TOUR AND POST-TOUR NIGHT RATES OR EXTRA NIGHTS IN SPECIFIC CITIES, PLEASE REFER TO THE GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT.