



# TRAVEL GROUPS 2026



BOSCOLO



2026  
TRAVEL  
GROUPS



## *Boscolo offers culinary refinement*

A true gourmet is your taste  
bud's best friend.

Travelling is a complex balance  
between history, culture, traditions. But  
to know a place in all aspects means  
also to learn about its culinary traditions.  
Food and wine is arguably the best  
way to know a country as it highlights  
the history and local specialities.  
We carefully select restaurants with  
originality and local dishes so to give  
you the best in each journey.



## *Boscolo is always there when needed*

Your attentive travel companion.

The journey is a moment of relax,  
an itinerary that has to proceed  
without any problem or difficulty.  
But when this unfortunately  
happens, our staff is always  
available to support you and to  
find the best solution.  
Boscolo traveller will never be  
alone. Let the experience of  
Boscolo work for you.





## *Boscolo hospitality ingrained by nature*

Homesickness is a feeling you will never experience with Boscolo.

We have a history of choosing hotels with expertise and painstaking care, balancing quality with good value, because comfort and relaxation are essential elements for an enjoyable, perfect journey.

The experience of your stay will live long in the memory of a trip.



## *Boscolo has the “know how” to fulfil your requirements*

We know that each trip and each traveller are unique.

We know that each trip and each traveller are unique. Our staff of experts waits ready to take on your most unusual requests. Tireless attention to each individual and to individuals details is our recipe for an excellent service. Experience and proven organizational skills enable us to deliver tailor made solutions that best fit the needs of the travellers. Let us help you to create your next itinerary, together.

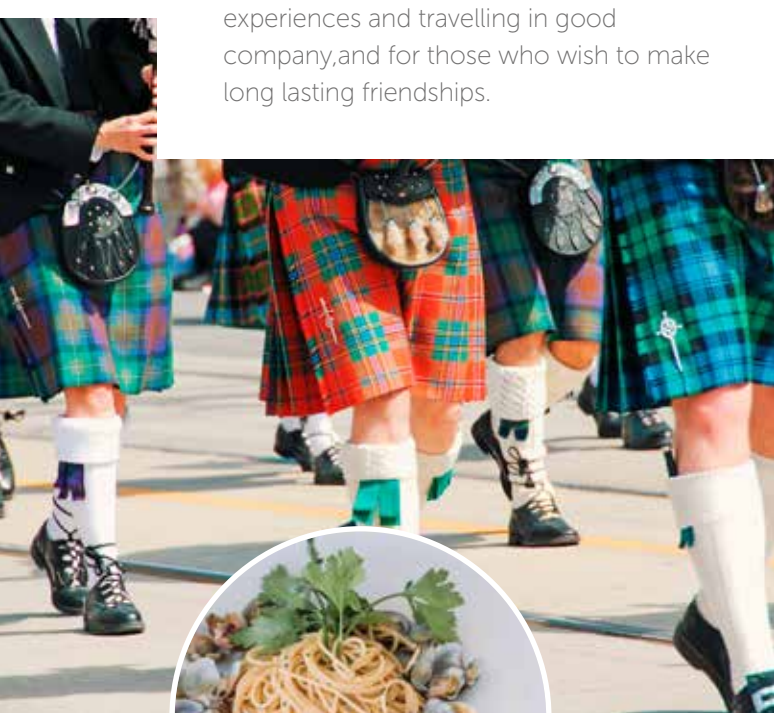




## *Group travels*

Sharing emotional experiences through unique itineraries.

Boscolo Group was born of a family's passion and the art of hospitality. It is about a team of world experts, connoisseurs of culture and lovers of travel. Thirty years of know-how are the starting point for our exclusive itineraries especially created for your groups; some of which you will find described here. For those who love sharing travel experiences and travelling in good company, and for those who wish to make long lasting friendships.

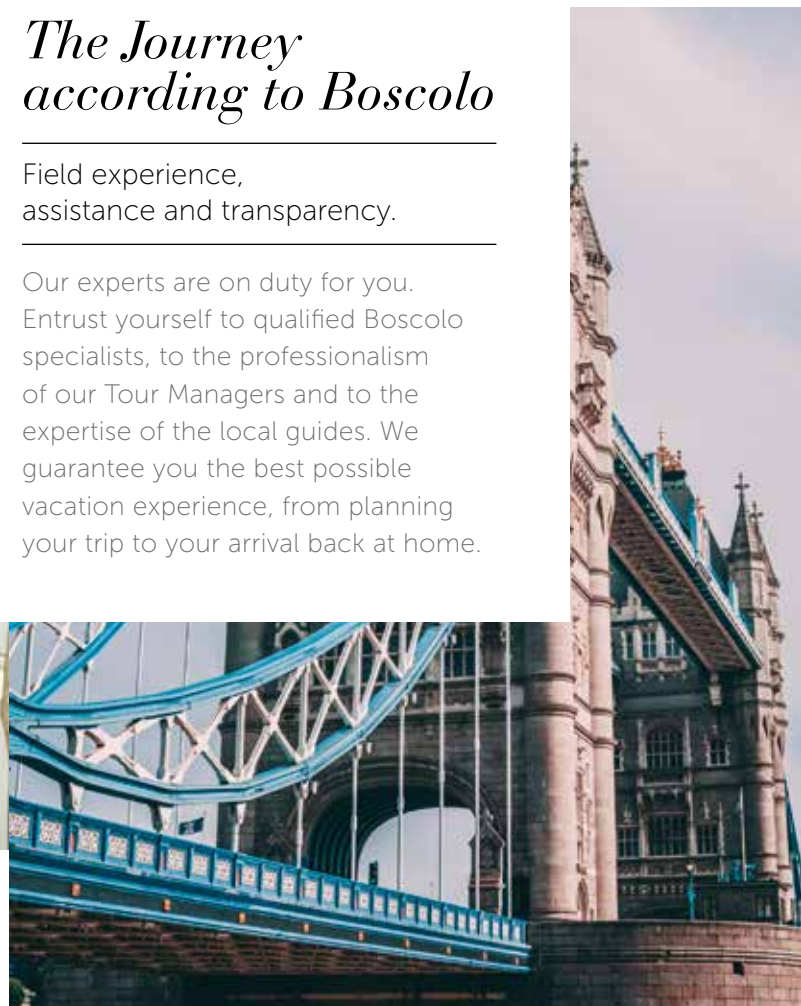




## *The Journey according to Boscolo*

Field experience,  
assistance and transparency.

Our experts are on duty for you. Entrust yourself to qualified Boscolo specialists, to the professionalism of our Tour Managers and to the expertise of the local guides. We guarantee you the best possible vacation experience, from planning your trip to your arrival back at home.



# BOSCOLO

*Emozioni e viaggi che valgono davvero*



## NOTE

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The current catalogue offers a great variety of unforgettable trips.  
Enjoy an extraordinary range of different journeys that will meet all your expectations!



All our programs are  
available for groups  
starting from 15 people.



The programs can be  
modified according to  
your personal requests.  
We are always at your own  
disposal.



Hotel name may change  
according to availability;  
Boscolo will offer a  
different though similar  
alternative.



For any information you may  
need, please contact the  
number **+39 049 7620365**  
or write an email at the  
following address:  
**[groups@boscolo.com](mailto:groups@boscolo.com)**

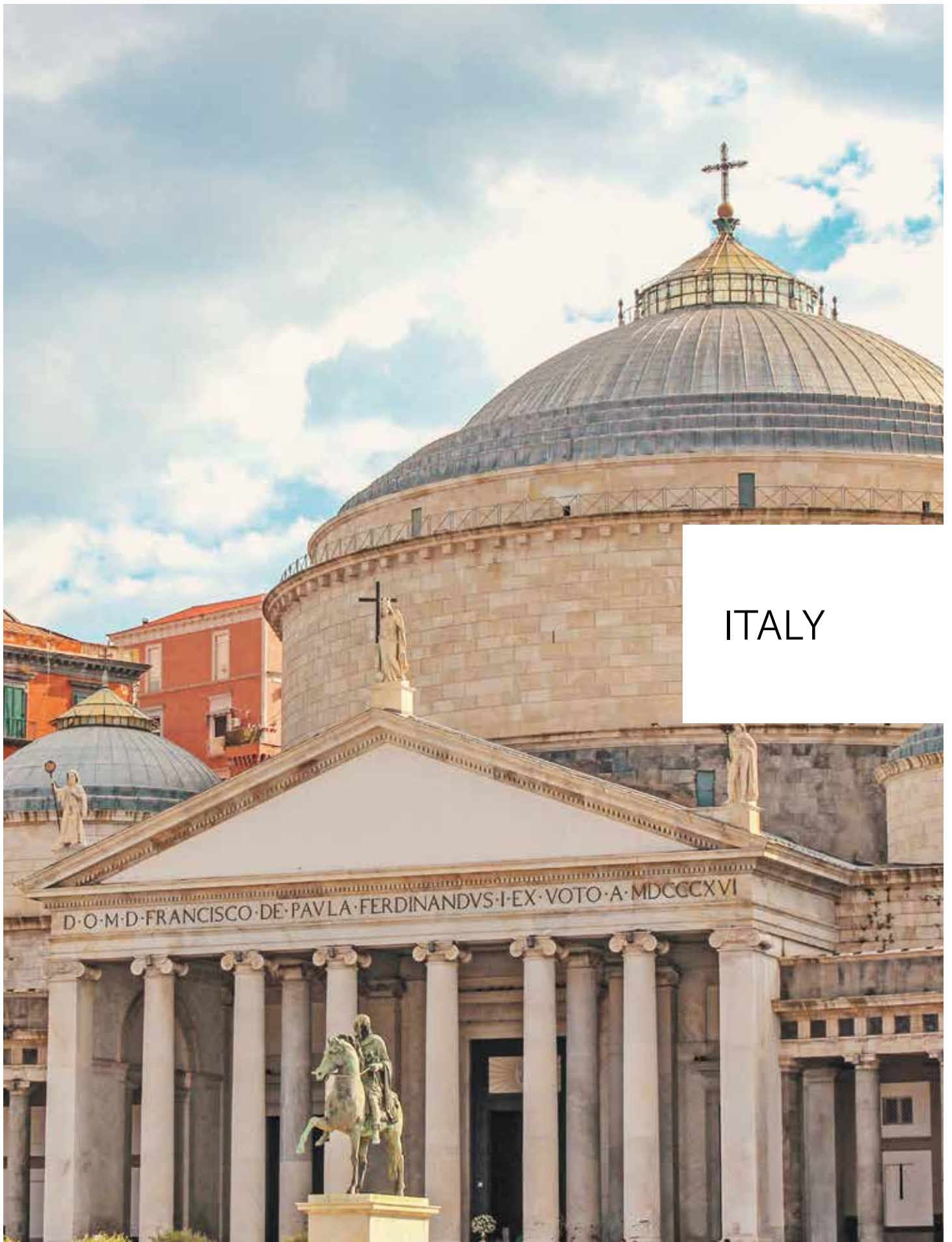


# INDEX

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|                                                                     |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Wonders of Italy                                                    | 10 |
| Italian lakes, 5 Terre and Venice                                   | 12 |
| Naples and Apulia                                                   | 14 |
| Journet to Marche & Umbria                                          | 16 |
| Italy, from North to South                                          | 18 |
| Sicily and Aeolian Islands                                          | 20 |
| Rome and the Amalfi Coast                                           | 22 |
| Italian Traditional Flavours                                        | 24 |
| Provence and Camargue                                               | 28 |
| Classic Spain                                                       | 30 |
| Spain and Portugal                                                  | 32 |
| England and Scotland                                                | 34 |
| Grand tour of Britain and Ireland                                   | 36 |
| Flavors from France                                                 | 38 |
| France, mystic abbeys and renaissance castles                       | 40 |
| Budapest and Prague, all inclusive Danube River Cruise              | 42 |
| Highlights of Germany                                               | 44 |
| Discovery Denmark, Norway and Sweden                                | 46 |
| France and Spain                                                    | 48 |
| Belgium and The Netherlands: A Journey Through The Flemish Painting | 50 |
| Best of eastern Europe                                              | 52 |
| Italy, Austria, Hungary and Czech Republic                          | 54 |
| France and Italy                                                    | 56 |
| European circuit                                                    | 58 |





ITALY

# WONDERS OF ITALY

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Cradle of the west civilization and of the catholic culture with its sweet climate, the beauty of the costs, the richness of art and history, love for food, make Italy a country to discover. A fascinating journey through the most beautiful Italian cities and masterpieces...



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

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**MILAN**, Hotel The Square, 4\*

**VENICE**, Hotel Splendid, 4\*

**FLORENCE**, Hotel Santa Maria Novella, 4\*

**ROME**, Hotel Imperiale, 4\*



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**MILAN****DAY 1**

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After custom clearance at the airport, you will meet your professional Tour Leader and your driver for a private transfer to your hotel in Milan. Check-in and time to rest. Boscolo will welcome you to Italy with a very special dinner in an exclusive restaurant located on the 20th floor of a charming building in Milan. You will enjoy a mouthwatering meal with a great 360 degrees' view of the city. (meals: B. D.)

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**MILAN****DAY 2**

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You will begin this day with an orientation tour of Milan city center. The first stop will be at the magnificent basilica (called Duomo) and its famous square (Piazza Duomo). You will then continue to Galleria Vittorio Emanuele, the Opera House and the Sforzesco Castle (only exterior visit). In the afternoon you will visit one of the most important masterpieces in the world: the Da Vinci's Last Supper. This fresco was painted between 1494 and 1498, and to do so, Leonardo substituted the usual method of the fresco with a new technique called "a secco" (on a dry wall). This is a very popular attraction and viewing is limited. Dinner in a local restaurant and overnight in Milan. (meals: B. D.)

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**VERONA - VENICE****DAY 3**

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Breakfast at your hotel and then board your private coach for a private transfer to Verona, home town of Romeo and Juliet. Our local guide will lead you to a beautiful promenade featuring a view from the outside of the famous Arena (the Roman amphitheater) and the Balcony of Juliet. Then our driver will take you to our final destination: Venice, city of canals and palaces. Once in Venice, enjoy a scenic private taxi-boat ride to your centrally located hotel. Pizza dinner in a nice local joint near by the hotel. (meals: B. D.)

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**VENICE****DAY 4**

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After breakfast, you will start a gorgeous walking tour of Venice. Venice is eternally beautiful and culturally vigorous. You will have a half day walking tour of Venice, including a visit to the Doge's Palace with its splendid rooms decorated by 16th century artists. You will also visit the Bridge of Sighs and St. Mark's Basilica, one of the most valuable church in the world with over 4000 feet of mosaic artwork. After

lunch some relaxing time on a gondola with a tour through the inner canals. Dinner at the hotel and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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**FLORENCE****DAY 5**

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After breakfast, you will board your water taxi to Venice rail station to catch your high speed train to Florence on board of the comfortable Frecciarossa trains. Enjoy the beautiful landscape on a first class seat. In the late morning you will arrive in Florence and check in at your hotel. In the afternoon, you will meet with your private guide at the hotel lobby for a half day walking guided tour of the city center. You will see the square of the Cathedral with the Giotto's Bell Tower and the Baptistry, the church of Santa Maria Novella and finally a visit to the Accademia Gallery, where the original Michelangelo's David is exhibited. Dinner in a local restaurant and overnight in Florence. (meals: B. D.)

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**LUCCA****DAY 6**

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This morning your private driver will take you to Lucca for a full day excursion. Your local guide will meet you in the city center. Most of the attractions in Lucca today show its ancient history: from the trace of the Roman amphitheater that can be seen in the shape of the Piazza dell'Anfiteatro to the archaeological remains under the 12th century church of Saints Giovanni and Reparata (the first city cathedral, located just around the corner from the present-day cathedral of San Martino), to the various towers and villas from the 12th to 16th centuries. Return to Florence in the afternoon for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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**SAN GIMIGNANO****DAY 7**

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Your Italian experience continues as you will drive across Tuscany towards Rome. Our first stop is the medieval town of San Gimignano, an enchanting village with narrow street located on a hilltop. Then we will stop in Cortona, the place that inspired Frances Mayes's novel "Under the Tuscan Sun". Here you will visit a ceramic shop where you can learn how the famous ceramics are made and painted. For lunch you will be hosted by a lovely Tuscan family, visit their farm and learn how they make their wine by visiting their winery. You will also taste their home-made olive oil and other local specialties. You will finally proceed to our final destination for the day: Rome. Dinner and overnight. (meals: B. L. D.)

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**ROME****VATICAN MUSEUMS****DAY 8**

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Welcome to the Eternal City! This morning you will experience a very special private guided tour of the priceless collection of art and treasures found in the Vatican Museums. You will be amazed by the beautiful wall frescoes created by Michelangelo, Perugino and Botticelli. The unique ceiling of the Sistine Chapel is surely one of Michelangelo's greatest achievements. Continue to St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the Christian world, built over the tomb of St. Peter. Then you will proceed to Piazza Venezia and the Roman Forum, with a stop at the Colosseum - a testament to the greatness of Rome's past. Continue your full tour day with visits to the Arch of Constantine, Circus Maximus, Castel Saint Angelo. Dinner at leisure and overnight in Rome. (meals: B. D.)

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**ROME****DAY 9**

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Full day at leisure with many interesting things to see and do. You may want to visit some of the famous churches or some of the museums or take the underground to the many sights such as the Spanish Steps, the Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona. Tonight our farewell evening will take place in a local restaurant where you will be entertained with Italian singers and their arias. (meals: B. D.)

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 10**

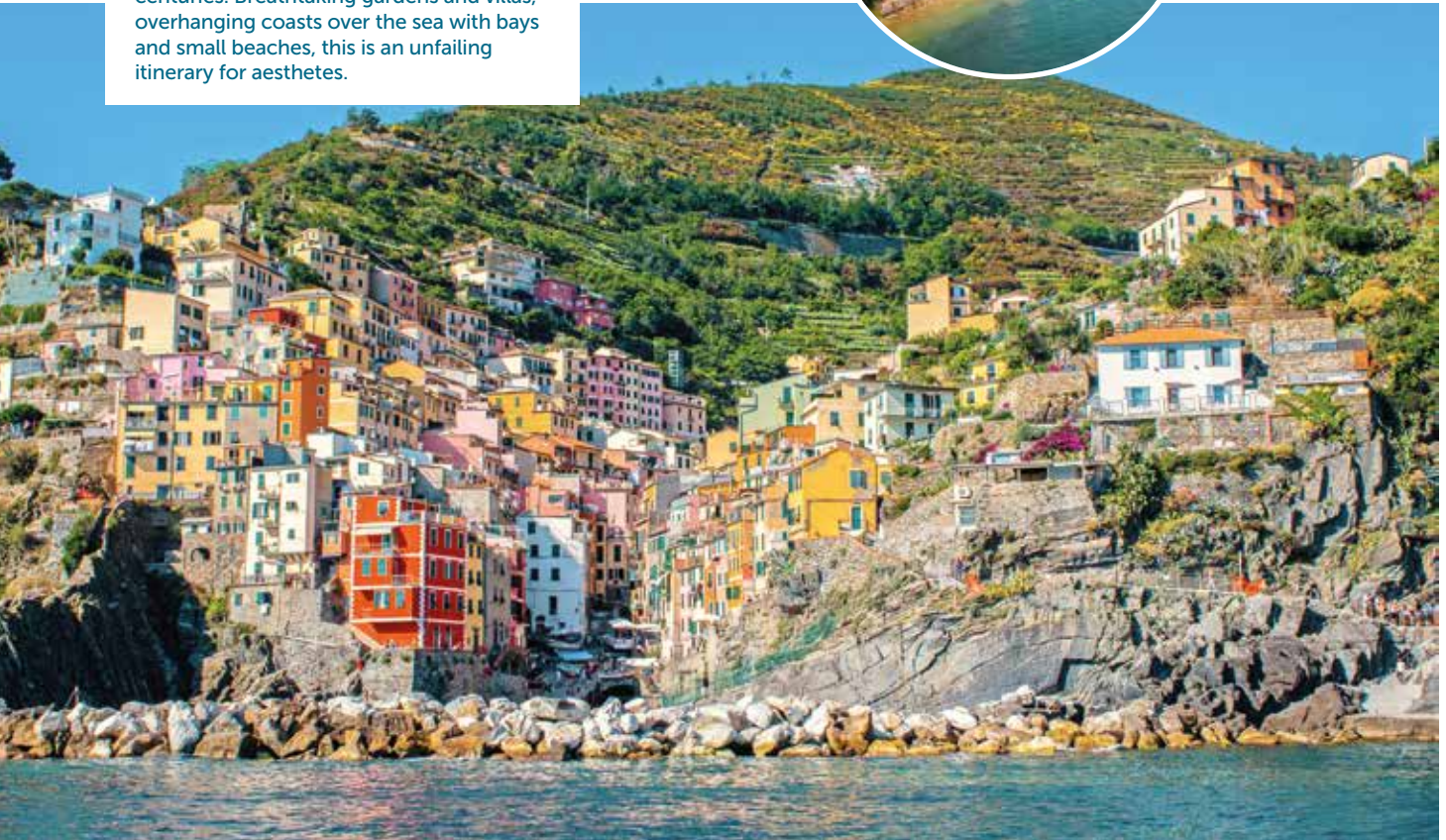
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Transfer by private coach from hotel to airport in Rome



# ITALIAN LAKES, 5 TERRE AND VENICE

The magnificent scenery of the Italy Lake District together with the picturesque beauty of the Cinque Terre have enchanted artists and travelers for centuries. Breathtaking gardens and villas, overhanging coasts over the sea with bays and small beaches, this is an unflinching itinerary for aesthetes.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**COMO**, Hotel Palace, 4\*  
**SIRMIONE**, Hotel Olivi Terme, 4\*  
**LA SPEZIA**, Hotel NH La Spezia, 4\*  
**FLORENCE**, Boscolo Hotel Astoria, 4\*  
**VENEZIA**, Hotel Splendid, 4\*

### MILAN - COMO

DAY 1

Arrival at Milan airport. After clearing customs, you will meet your private tour escort. You will board a coach for a private transfer from Milan airport to the hotel in Como. Check-in and time to rest. Welcome to Lake Como one of the most beautiful corners of Italy. Overnight in Como. (meals: B. D.)

### COMO - BELLAGIO

DAY 2

After breakfast you will take a walking tour of the city center, Piazza Cavour, a magnificent square that overlooks the lake, and the monumental Piazza Duomo,

built in 1927. Then you will proceed to the Broletto, home of the town hall, and the majestic Cathedral, the interiors are worth a visit thanks to the paintings, the altars and the decorated tapestries.

In the afternoon enjoy a two-hour panoramic cruise of Lake Como to the enchanting village of Bellagio. On your cruise, admire the lakeside villas set in tropical gardens. The mild Mediterranean climate ensures an abundance of exotic and rare plants to thrive year round. Docking at the town of Bellagio, one of the most famous towns on the lake, you can follow the steep alleys running up from the lake and stop for a coffee or gelato at one of the lively cafes housed in grand historic buildings. Return by boat to Como for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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## **SIRMIONE** DAY 3

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After breakfast, you will check out your room and board the coach for a private transfer from Lake Como to Lake Garda, the largest lake in Italy. You will arrive at your hotel in Sirmione, the so called "Pearl of the Lake", set along a narrow peninsula on the southern part of the lake. After check in, you will enjoy strolling around the town, with its narrow medieval streets, the old Scaliger Fortress, the striking Roman Villas and the Catullo Caves, known as the most imposing archaeological area in Northern Italy. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (meals: B. D.)

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## **BARDOLINO TORRI DEL BENACO** DAY 4

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Lake Garda offers many off-the-beaten path gems, such as Torri del Benaco and Bardolino. You will enjoy a full day excursion on these Lake shores. The mild climate makes Bardolino ideal for vineyards—so it's no surprise that its hilly and picturesque landscape produces the famous Bardolino red wine. Then you will continue to Torri del Benaco, one of the lake's smaller towns, with a lovely harbor filled with colorful fishing boats and an imposing Scaliger Castle. Return to Sirmione for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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## **PARMA - LA SPEZIA** DAY 5

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After breakfast and hotel check-out you will be transferred, by private coach, to the city of Parma. Whatever your interests may be, Parma won't let you down. The heart of Parma is its square, Piazza Duomo. See

the buildings that dominate the square, the Duomo, the adjoining Campanile (bell tower) and the striking Battistero (baptistry). Parma is famous all around the world for its fine cheese (parmigiano or parmesan) and prosciutto and you will have a great opportunity to taste these extraordinary culinary traditions. Your driver will then take you to your hotel in La Spezia. Check in, dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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## **5 TERRE** DAY 6

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After breakfast, you will be transferred to the embarkation point where you will meet your private guide for an excursion of the Cinque Terre. Cinque Terre means 'five lands', and Italy's famous Cinque Terre are five perilously-perched villages strung along a short stretch of cliffs of the Region: Manarola, Riomaggiore, Corniglia, Vernazza and Monterosso al Mare. You will have lunch in a local restaurant in Monterosso. In the afternoon your guide will take you to Portovenere, a very picturesque village set on a slope behind a traditional harbor. Time at disposal to explore the old town. Return to the hotel in La Spezia for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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## **FLORENCE** DAY 7

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After breakfast, you will check out your room and board your private coach to Florence. A city-size shrine to the Renaissance, Florence offers frescoes, sculptures, churches, palaces and other monuments from the richest cultural flowering the world has known. Meet your guide for a half day walking guided tour of the city center. You will see the square of the Cathedral with the Giotto's Bell Tower and the Baptistery, the church of Santa Maria Novella and finally a visit to the Accademia Gallery, where the original Michelangelo's David is exhibited. The rest of the afternoon is free. Hotel check in, dinner and overnight in Florence. (meals: B. D.)

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## **LUCCA** DAY 8

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This morning we will take you to Lucca for a full day excursion. Your local guide will meet you in the city center. Most of the attractions in Lucca today show its ancient history: from the trace of the Roman amphitheater that can be seen in the shape of the Piazza dell'Anfiteatro to the archaeological remains under the 12th century church of Saints Giovanni and Reparata (the first city cathedral, located just around the corner from the present-day cathedral of San

Martino), to the various towers and villas from the 12th to 16th centuries. Return to Florence in the afternoon for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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## **BOLOGNA - VENICE** DAY 9

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After breakfast, you will check-out from your hotel in Florence and board your private coach for a comfortable transfer to the city of Venice. Along the way you will stop in Bologna, the capital of the prosperous Emilia Romagna region. A stroll in the city to enjoy its medieval streets and the beautiful porticos. After lunch we will proceed to the unique town of Venice, where your private water taxi will take you to the centrally located hotel. Dinner will be served in a local restaurant. (meals: B. D.)

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## **VENICE** DAY 10

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Venice is eternally beautiful and culturally vigorous. This morning we will have a half day walking tour of the city. We also see from outside the Bridge of Sights and St. Mark's Basilica, one of the most valuable churches in the world with over 4000 feet of mosaic artwork. After lunch you can relax on a gondola with a tour through the inner canals. Back to the hotel and dinner in a local restaurant. (meals: B. D.)

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## **VENICE** DAY 11

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Today you visit Rialto Fish Market (not open on Sundays) and experience a unique lunch inside a private Palazzo overlooking the Gran Canal. You will meet our English speaking guide near the Rialto Bridge and start your culinary adventure as locals do – at the Rialto Fish Market. This is where the seafood restaurants in Venice buy their fish daily. For lunch you will be hosted by a Venetian countess in her Palazzo, a memorable aperitif overlooking the Gran Canal followed by a tasty buffet lunch. Free afternoon at leisure. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (meals: B. D.)

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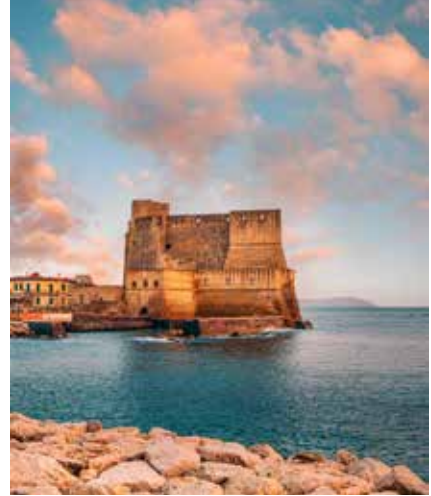
## **DEPARTURE** DAY 12

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Transfer by private coach from hotel to airport in Venice.

# NAPLES AND APULIA

Explore the beauty of the Sorrento peninsula, the "heel" of Italy's boot, which looks onto two seas, the Adriatic and the Ionian. An extraordinary journey through two of southern Italy's regions; sometimes green and lush with large vineyards and olive groves, sometimes rocky and rough with ravines, caves and gorges where ancient civilisations settled.



## ROME - NAPLES

DAY 1

Arrival at Rome airport. After clearing customs, you will meet your tour manager for a comfortable transfer to your hotel in Naples. Check-in and time to rest. Naples is one of the most beautiful cities in Italy; a walking tour through Spaccanapoli (a long straight street that splits Naples in two) and its colourful streets will be the perfect opportunity to discover Naples' most magical and genuine locations. You will then proceed to the Royal Palace, the Maschio Angioino, the Capuano Castle and the lungomare, and take a walk along the beach from where you will enjoy stunning views. Dinner and overnight stay in Naples. (Meals: B. D.)

## VESUVIO AND POMPEI

DAY 2

After breakfast, you will take a tour of the "sleeping giant", Mount Vesuvius (weather permitting). After the tour, we stop at a famous farm that produces amazing olive oil and a delicious wine called Lacrima Christi. Along with a wine expert, you will visit the winery, walk through the vineyard and taste some fine wine. In the afternoon we drive to Pompeii, "the metropolis of ancient times," for a private guided tour of this incredible archaeological site. We then return to the hotel for a succulent dinner and a traditional show. Dinner and overnight stay in Naples. (Meals: B. D.)

## AMALFI COAST - CAPRI

DAY 3

After breakfast and check out from the hotel, we drive to the town of Sorrento. Here you will be transferred by ferry to the island of Capri for a full day private excursion. Along with a panoramic tour of the island, which includes the villages of Capri and Anacapri, your expert guide will give you an introduction to Axel Munthe the man, and his famous memoirs, written



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**NAPLES**, Grand Hotel Santa Lucia, 4\*  
**SORRENTO**, Hotel Antiche Mura, 4\*  
**MATERA**, Hilton Garden Inn, 4\*  
**LECCE**, Hotel Risorgimento, 4\*  
**BARI**, Hotel Nicolaus, 4\*



in 1929. This unique experience will offer an insight into this unique Swedish character who lived here in Capri for over 50 years. You will also visit a very special place in Capri; Villa San Michele, Munthe's home and its beautiful garden. At the end of the day we return to Sorrento and check in at the hotel. Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel. (Meals: B. D.)

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## AMALFI COAST

DAY 4

After breakfast, enjoy a full day excursion on the breathtaking Amalfi Coast. We will make a short stop in Positano to take in the stunning views, ideal for taking pictures that will be the envy of your friends. Then we proceed to the town of Amalfi that was one of Italy's four Marine Republics along with Venice, Pisa and Genoa. In the afternoon we visit the charming little village of Ravello, a mix of history and legend. During the day there will be a Limoncello tasting, after which, we drive back to the hotel in Sorrento. After dinner, we take an evening walking tour in Sorrento and maybe some well deserved gelato. Dinner and overnight stay in Sorrento. (Meals: B. D.)

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## MATERA

DAY 5

After breakfast and check out from the hotel, board your private coach that will take you to Matera, where you will spend the night. Matera is famous, in the main, for an area of the town called "I Sassi" (ancient buildings carved into the rock). Visiting this area transports you through time along the human journey from the Palaeolithic age to the present day. You will also admire the rock churches built by religious communities, who were always looking for the soul's purification, and the elegant streets of the Piano, rich in seventeenth century monasteries and palaces. Matera is also known for its bread and baked goods and that is why your next stop will be a local bakery for a tasty treat of Matera's bread, Focaccia bread and traditional biscuits. Dinner and overnight stay in Matera. (Meals: B. D.)

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## TARANTO - LECCE

DAY 6

This morning we leave Matera for the town of Taranto, called the city of two seas because of its location on a strip of land that sits between two seas. The artificial channel that connects them is surmounted by the famous Swing Bridge, beyond which lies the heart of old Taranto. You

will visit this ancient Medieval town with its Cathedral of San Cataldo and Aragonese Castle, also known as Castel Sant'Angelo. After lunch we move on to Grottaglie. The surrounding area is very rich in clay and it is therefore perfect for the production of pottery crafts. The origin of pottery crafts in this town dates back to the Middle Ages. You will visit a ceramics workshop to experience this ancient art. At the end of the day we depart to one of the most beautiful towns in Apulia: Lecce. You will check in, relax and have some great food at the hotel. (Meals: B. D.)

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## LECCE

DAY 7

Lecce is the capital of a stunning region in Apulia called Salento. Lecce is also called the Florence of the South, thanks to its fabulous architecture. Your visit to Lecce will begin in the main square (Piazza Duomo), considered the most elegant part of the town. Not far from the square, you will find the evidence of Roman colonisation with the ruins of a traditional Roman amphitheatre. You will also visit the renaissance palace, Palazzo del Seggio, also known as the "Seat," the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie and the Castle of Charles V. Not to be missed is the Basilica of Santa Croce with its monumental façade and beautiful interiors, a harmonious balance between the sobriety of classical style and the splendour of Lecce's Baroque. In the afternoon you will take part in an authentic cooking course, a special "hands on" experience, where you will learn not only regional recipes but of the culture of this part of Apulia. Dinner and overnight stay in Lecce. (Meals: B. L. D.)

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## ALBEROBELLO - BARI

DAY 8

This morning we drive to Alberobello where we spend a relaxing day at leisure. Alberobello has been a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1996 and is world famous for its characteristic cone shaped buildings known as "trulli". The trulli are built entirely without the use of mortar and are whitewashed inside and out. The trullo originated in the late 1500s when the Count of Conversano authorised the peasants to build dwellings without using mortar so that they could be easily dismantled in the case of inspection, in order to avoid paying building taxes. In the historic centre you will see Aia Piccola and Rione Monti, both national monuments. Here we walk through the incredible alleyways and pay a visit to the Siamese Trulli and the Master Trullo, built around 1700, which is the only dwelling with more

than one floor. You are free to explore Alberobello on your own, with time for shopping and lunch before we continue with our itinerary and head for Bari. We arrive in Bari in the afternoon. Bari is a sparkling resort town with a lovely historic centre. We will stop for well deserved refreshing lemonade or iced coffee at one of the many sidewalk cafes. (Meals: B. D.)

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## BARI, GROTTE DI CASTELLANA, POLIGNANO A MARE

DAY 9

This morning is dedicated to a visit to the "città vecchia" the old town. Together with our guide you will see the Basilica of St. Nicholas one of the most beautiful examples of the Romanesque architecture in Apulia, the Swabian castle, Piazza del Ferrarese, Piazza Mercantile and the old port. Experience Arco Alto and Arco Basso where women make and sell "orecchiette" the typical Apulia homemade pasta. In the afternoon, we tour the Castellana Caves and spend time in Polignano a Mare. "Grotte di Castellana" is a wonderful experience; within its 70-metre deep caves witness an amazing scenario made up of stalactites, stalagmites, fossils, and cavities. In Polignano a Mare we will enjoy the lively and picturesque city centre, the terraces offering breathtaking views of the Adriatic sea and the jagged coastline. This is also the birthplace of Domenico Modugno the author of "Nel blu dipinto di blu (Volare oh oh!). Return to Bari. We say farewell tonight with a typical dinner, giving you the opportunity to savour traditional Apulian cuisine, simple ingredients and rustic flavours together with a large variety of seafood from the Adriatic Sea. (Meals: B. D.)

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## DEPARTURE

DAY 10

Transfer by private coach from the hotel to the airport in Bari.



# JOURNEY TO MARCHE & UMBRIA

Welcome to the green heart of Italy!  
Experience with us the best part of Marche and Umbria..a slow journey, quiet and sweet that allows you to experience these amazing lands, get in touch again with genuine people, enjoy the rhythm of nature but at the same time discover an incredible architecture of the ancient villages. This is a journey with a perfect combination between art, history and nature.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**URBINO**, Hotel San Domenico, 4\*  
**ASCOLI PICENO**, Hotel Villa Pigna, 4\*  
**SPOLETO**, Hotel San Luca, 4\*

### URBINO

DAY 1

Arrival at the airport of Florence. You will be welcomed by our Tour Manager that will assist you during the whole journey. Departure by private coach to your Hotel in Urbino. According to the arrival time, lunch is at leisure. Arrival in Urbino. Accommodation at your Hotel and free time at leisure. Dinner and overnight at the Hotel.

### URBINO

DAY 2

After breakfast, meet your private guide and start a walking tour of the town:

Urbino holds an important place in the artistic history of Italy. Duke Federico da Montefeltro (1422-1482), military leader, ruler and humanist patron of the arts, built a palace and maintained a famed court here; one of the most important in Renaissance Italy. The principal tourist sight today is his palace, which houses the National Gallery of Le Marche (Galleria Nazionale delle Marche). Urbino has UNESCO World Heritage status for representing 'a pinnacle of Renaissance art and architecture, harmoniously adapted to its physical site and to its medieval precursor in an exceptional manner. Urbino is the home town of the Renaissance painter Raphael, one of the most representative painters of the XVIth century. Back to the Hotel  
Overnight at the Hotel

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### CONERO AND ANCONA DAY 3

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After breakfast, transfer to Monte Conero nature reserve with a walk through the woods accompanied by a specialized guide who will explain the complexity of this singular ecosystem and help to better understand such environment and the history of the area.  
In the afternoon, we will reach the town of Ancona for a private guided tour: the historic center is crowned by the hilltop cathedral dedicated to San Ciriaco, a Byzantine-Gothic blend of styles with sweeping views, built over the remains of a pagan temple. Greek settlers founded Ancona and Roman remains are scattered about, too. Piazza Anfiteatro is a good place to see the footprint of the old Roman amphitheater that once served the city. The Archeological Museum is housed in a 16th century palazzo graced with frescoes, with neolithic, Etruscan and Roman artifacts to trace the area's history.

Return to the hotel  
Overnight at the Hotel

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### RECANATI – ASCOLI PICENO DAY 4

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After breakfast, departure to Recanati, home of its famous poet, Giacomo Leopardi. It is a very famous bathing resort where you will enjoy a nice walking. The southern part of Porto Recanati still preserves the remains of Potentia, a roman maritime colony founded in 184 a.C. and abandoned in V cent. d.C.; the nearby abbey of S.Maria was instead founded in the XII cent. The history of the actual city begins in the 1299, when Frederik II ordered the construction of a castle and of

a port in between the two rivers Potenza e Aspio; the castle was completed in the XV cent. (then destroyed and rebuilt many times), while the big port remained always a utopia. In the XVI cent.  
In the afternoon, departure to Ascoli Piceno, a beautiful Medieval town considered one of the most majestic cities in the centre of Italy. With towers, bell towers, ancient palaces and Renaissance squares, and a beautiful historical centre, Ascoli Piceno is very peculiar since it is surrounded by water on three sides .  
Accommodation at your Hotel in Ascoli Piceno.  
Overnight

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### SPOLETO DAY 5

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After breakfast, we will leave the Marche region so to reach another Italian jewel which is the Umbria region.  
Through a nice road, we reach the town of Spoleto. After some free time to relax, we will meet our private guide so to discover this amazing town. Spoleto is an important and popular historical town dating back to Roman times that is located in the southern part of the Umbria region. The town contains numerous important monuments including a Roman theatre, an imposing fortress, a cathedral and several important churches. The visit starts from the Piazza del Duomo, in the upper part of town and surrounded by Renaissance buildings, the Cathedral and Fortress.  
Arrival at the Hotel  
Overnight

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### PERUGIA DAY 6

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After breakfast, departure to Perugia. The walking tour takes in a series of fascinating narrow streets and corners before arriving at the Cathedral of San Lorenzo. For example, the 15th century gothic Palazzetto dei Notari. The facade of the building contains the coat of arms of the Notaries Guild bearing a gryphon above an ink well and the symbol of Perugia. Nearby is Via Volte della Pace, one of the best preserved vaulted medieval streets, as well as the terrace of the covered market through the archways of the Logge dei Lunari. The San Bevignate Church contains a fresco of immense importance to the Knights Templar while Via Cialdini boasts the remains of several medieval workshops. Piazza Rossi Scotti is located near the ruin of the Porta Sole fortress and is one of Perugia's most scenic viewpoints from where you can even see the Appennines. Three sides of the square are bordered by the Church of Sant'Angelo della Pace, the Palazzi Rossi Scotti and the Conestabile

della Staffa. Piazza Michelotti is the highest point of Perugia and just a little further is Piazza Raffaello whose San Severo Church contains frescoes by Raphael and Pietro Perugino.  
Back to your Hotel in Spoleto  
Overnight at the Hotel

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### SPELLO AND GUBBIO DAY 7

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After breakfast, departure to Spello. Spello is a pleasure for those who love walking. Three well-preserved Roman stone arches form the entry points to the town, Porta Venere, with its towers, Porta Urbica and Porta Consolare. Once inside, the cobblestone streets meander in and out of mysterious alleyways that lead to simple, yet elegant stone houses.  
At the end of our visit, we will enjoy an amazing wine tasting in one of the oldest wine cellars.  
Our journey continues to Gubbio, which is rich in monuments and architectural masterpieces that evoke the power of this town. Narrow streets, historic buildings, squares, theaters and churches with seventeenth-century frescoes. In short, a real open-air museum.  
Back to your Hotel in Spoleto  
Overnight at the Hotel

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### ARRIVEDERCI.... DAY 8

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Breakfast at hotel and departure towards your airport. End of all services.



# ITALY, FROM NORTH TO SOUTH

Listen to an aria echoing from a gondola on a Venetian canal, relax at a trattoria sipping a glass of ruby red wine in the Chianti region, taste a refreshing Limoncello in Capri and smell the aroma of fresh herbs in Campo dei Fiori. There's no better Country than Italy to satisfy your senses. A journey from North to South: Venice, Florence, Sorrento and Rome, where art, food and culture reach their pinnacle. Italy is a country as varied and colourful as the palette of its great Renaissance artists, and thanks to Boscolo Tours you will experience the best of everything it has to offer.



## VENICE

### DAY 1

Meet your English speaking tour manager who will assist your private transfer from the airport to your hotel in Venice. To reach your centrally located Hotel, you will take a water taxi. Then, time to leisurely familiarise yourself with the hotel surroundings. Welcome dinner at your hotel. (Meals: B. D.)

## VENICE

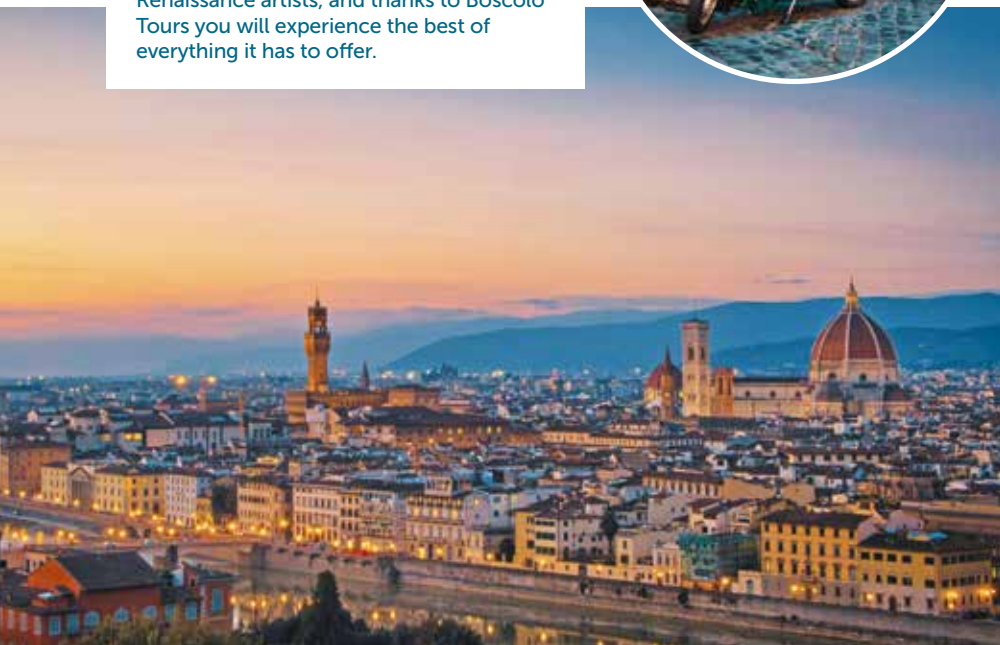
### DAY 2

After breakfast, meet your English speaking guide in the hotel foyer. We begin with a tour of the highlights of Venice; starting with a walk through the St Mark's square, highlighting its most celebrated monuments such as the Bridge of Sighs, the beautiful architecture of the Doge's Palace and the Renaissance Marciana Library. We will then visit the golden Basilica of St. Mark to admire some of its most precious treasures: about 90,000 square feet of golden mosaics, the four famous bronze horses and the astonishing Golden Screen, decorated with 1,927 precious gems. Late afternoon, our tour guide will take you through the backstreets "far from the madding crowd," to discover some of the more tranquil corners of the city. You will see where Marco Polo's house used to be, and venture to Campo San Giovanni and Paolo, one of the most interesting monumental areas of the city; here you have the chance to taste the "Cicchetti" (Venetian tapas) and a good glass of wine. Dinner tonight is at leisure. Overnight stay in Venice. (Meals: B.)

## FLORENCE

### DAY 3

After breakfast at your hotel, you will leave Venice by private water taxi for the city coach terminal, board the deluxe motor coach and then on to your next Italian destination, Florence. Check in at your hotel in the centre of Florence. The rest of the day is set aside for leisure. Dinner and overnight stay. (Meals: B. D.)



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**VENICE**, Starhotel Splendid, 4\*  
**FLORENCE**, Grand Hotel Cavour, 4\*  
**SORRENTO**, Hotel Antiche Mura, 4\*  
**ROME**, Hotel Imperiale, 4\*

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**FLORENCE****DAY 4**

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After breakfast at your hotel, enjoy a wonderfully full day excursion to the medieval towns of Siena, San Gimignano and to the beautiful countryside of Chianti to visit a charming winery and taste some of the best wines in the world. First stop in Siena, where you will visit the city's famous basilica and the very centre of the city to admire its narrow streets and its beautiful square (Piazza del Campo), a UNESCO World Heritage site. After Siena and a good lunch, we will proceed to San Gimignano, another fine example of well preserved medieval architecture, with its towers overlooking the whole town. On the return to Florence we will traverse the Chianti region with its villages, hills and vineyards. We will stop in the heart of Chianti at Rocca delle Macie for some wine tasting and relaxation. Back to the hotel and time for a hearty dinner and perhaps a mouth watering gelato. Dinner and overnight stay in Florence. (Meals: B. D.)

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**FLORENCE****DAY 5**

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After breakfast at the hotel, you will meet your private English speaking guide for a half day tour of Florence and the Accademia Gallery. You will visit the heart of the city experiencing amazing locations such as Palazzo Vecchio and Piazza della Signoria, Santa Maria Novella, Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral with Giotto's masterpiece, the bell tower and Baptistery of San Giovanni. You will then visit the Accademia gallery where David's Michelangelo is waiting for you! The rest of the day is spent at leisure. Dinner is also at leisure tonight. Overnight stay in Florence. (Meals: B. D.)

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**FLORENCE****DAY 6**

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After breakfast at the hotel, you will board your private motor coach for a full day excursion to the Cinque Terre area. You will arrive in the town of La Spezia and board a public boat to visit some of the five towns of this charming area: Manarola, Vernazza, and Monterosso. After your private boat excursion and a local lunch, you will be taken to the town of Pisa (or Lucca if you prefer) for a two hour private, guided tour of the town. Back to Florence in the late afternoon. Dinner and overnight stay in Florence. (Meals: B. D.)

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**SORRENTO****DAY 7**

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After breakfast at your hotel, you will board your private motor coach for a transfer to your

hotel in Sorrento. Along the way we will stop in the Castelli Romani region for a succulent lunch. After check in at the hotel the rest of the day can be spent at leisure under the sun of the Amalfi Coast. Dinner and overnight stay in Sorrento. (Meals: B. L. D.)

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**SORRENTO****DAY 8**

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After breakfast at the hotel, you will board your private motor coach for a full day excursion to the Amalfi Coast to visit gems such as Positano, Amalfi and Ravello. The founding of Amalfi can be traced back to the Romans; we visit the most famous monument the cathedral (Duomo) built in an Arabo-Norman style. The natural beauty of this location is why the city of Amalfi has been classified as a world heritage site by UNESCO since 1997. We continue to Positano; a curious note is that in the latter half of the 19th century, more than half the population emigrated, due to the city falling on hard times, and the majority chose the United States. Our last stop will be Ravello, a terrace jutting out into the sea. From this vantage point the Amalfi Coast becomes a vision of rare beauty. Dinner and overnight stay in Sorrento. (Meals: B. D.)

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**SORRENTO****DAY 9**

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After breakfast, you will enjoy a full day tour of the beautiful island of Capri; known for its dramatic views, striking Faraglioni rocks and sheer beauty. We will visit Villa San Michele, built in the early 20th century by Axel Munthe, a Swedish physician; it is home to an enchanting and serene garden that is billed as one of the top 10 gardens in Italy. We will take a stroll through the historic centre of Anacapri, less crowded than Capri, the atmosphere here is also more laid-back, with a more authentic character. (Meals: B. D.)

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**ROME****DAY 10**

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After breakfast at your hotel, you will check out and board your private motor coach as we head for the city of Rome. Along the way we will stop in Pompeii for a two hour private tour of the excavations. This fascinating archaeological site was buried by lava and ash following the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD. Our guide will take you on a compelling walk through the ancient streets of Pompeii where you can see baths, forums and villas built by the prosperous Romans in the year 80 BC. Admire the fabulously preserved Frescos that decorate the walls and floors of the villas. After the visit, we will proceed to Rome, check in at

your hotel and take some time for a stroll or simply to relax. Dinner and overnight stay.

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**ROME****DAY 11**

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Today is dedicated to a visit to Vatican City. In the morning we will depart for St. Peter's Square, where each Wednesday it is possible to attend the Papal Audience, when Pope Francis blesses the attending crowd. In the afternoon we will visit the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica. In the Vatican Museums you will be shown a fine collection of antiques. The visit includes: the Sculpture Museum, the fascinating Tapestry Gallery, the Gallery of Maps and the world famous Sistine Chapel decorated by Michelangelo. The tour will then proceed to St. Peter's Basilica where you will view the artistic treasures of the largest Roman Catholic Church in the world, which includes Michelangelo's Pietà. Our final stop is the Grand Piazza Navone, one of the most beautiful piazzas in Rome, where you may wish to remain, explore and have a meal in one of the many restaurants in the area. Overnight stay Rome. (B.)

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**ROME****DAY 12**

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After breakfast at your hotel, you will be taken by private motor coach to the Coliseum. Here you will meet your private English speaking guide for a stroll back in time, visiting the Coliseum, Roman Forum and Palatine Hill. In the Coliseum you will be surrounded by impressive monuments and the ruins of the Arch of Constantine the Great. The tour will then proceed to the Roman Forum, the old centre of the Imperial City where the Senate House, the Basilicas and the Temples of the major gods are located. You will walk the Via Sacra and pass by the Arch of Titus. Then, your English speaking guide will take you to Palatine Hill, the location where brothers Remus and Romulus battled over who would found the first empire, and where Romulus founded the city that would become Rome. The rest of the day is spent at leisure. Tonight enjoy a farewell dinner at the beautiful Trastevere, the place where Romans go to eat, people watch and enjoy ice cream. Overnight stay in Rome (B.D.)

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 13**

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Transfer by private coach from the hotel to the airport in Rome.

# SICILY AND AEOLIAN ISLANDS

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Sicily, the largest Italian island which is separated from the continent by the straits of Messina, is reached by the Ionian, Tyrrhenian and Mediterranean Sea. This beautiful treasure awaits you. Discover the unbelievable archaeological monuments that will take you back to a glorious past...



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

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**PALERMO**, Piazza Borsa Grand Hotel, 4\*  
**AGRIGENTO**, Hotel della Valle, 4\*  
**TAORMINA**, Excelsior Palace, 4\*  
**LIPARI**, Hotel Tritone, 4\*



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**PALERMO****DAY 1**

After clearing customs, you will meet your private Tour Manager and your driver for a comfortable transfer to your hotel in Palermo. Palermo is the regional capital of Sicily with its own distinct atmosphere. The grandeur of Palermo's wonderful palaces and churches gives way to popular areas with a very particular life. This is about the markets, whose Arabic origins are still evident today thanks to their noise, smells, colours, narrow labyrinthine streets, the splendid array of food and other goods on display and the general 'souk' atmosphere. According to the arrival time, you will enjoy an orientation tour of the city centre. Tonight a welcome dinner at the hotel is included. (meals: B. D.)

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**PALERMO - MONREALE****DAY 2**

Breakfast at the hotel and morning departure for a full day excursion to Palermo and Monreale. Our English speaking guide will accompany you to discover the capital of Sicily with its unique history, monuments, markets, people and churches. You will enter the Royal Palace with the 12th century Palatine Chapel. The nearby Cathedral built by the Normans and decorated at various times in many different styles. After lunch we drive to Monreale. Monreale is a historic hill-town, a picturesque place most famous for the fine mosaics that can be found inside the great Cathedral. Return in the afternoon to Palermo and dinner at leisure. Overnight in Palermo. (meals: B.)

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**MARSALA - AGRIGENTO****DAY 3**

Breakfast and hotel check out. Morning departure to Marsala. Today we will explore the Marsala region, best known for its wine. We will visit a wine cellar and finish the tour with a delicious tasting and a typical lunch. After lunch the tour continues to Agrigento. The history of Agrigento began in 581 B.C. and the city reached the height of its splendour in the 5th century B.C. During this period, art and culture were intensely pursued, the temple of Olympian Zeus was constructed as well as most of the other temples, rendering Agrigento, according to the Greek poet Pindaro, "The most beautiful among the dwellings of mortals." The Valley of the Temples is the most renowned attraction, a large archaeological site containing the remains of various Doric temples. Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel. (meals: B.L.D.)

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**PIAZZA ARMERINA  
TAORMINA****DAY 4**

After breakfast at the hotel we will drive to Piazza Armerina for a guided tour of the Villa Romana del Casale, built between the late 3rd and early 4th century B.C. Because of the floors decorated with some of the finest surviving mosaics from Roman antiquity, it considered one of the most important archaeological sites of Sicily. Today lunch is included in Piazza Armerina. After lunch we then continue our journey to Taormina where we will overnight. Taormina is a wonderful medieval town located on the slopes of Mount Tauro, an attractive and permanently-fashionable destination. Our suggestion is visit of the Greek-roman theatre (optional) followed by a walk along the Corso Umberto. Dinner tonight is at leisure. (meals: B.L.)

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**MOUNT ETNA****DAY 5**

After breakfast at the hotel, you will enjoy an adventurous exploration of Mount Etna which is the highest volcano in Europa. It is also called the "Mongibello" from the Arabic "gebel" meaning mount, source of fertility and destruction. You will go up the Volcano to a height of 1800m and have the opportunity to reach the crater by jeep. Today lunch is included. Return to Taormina for dinner at leisure and overnight stay. (meals: B.L.)

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**SIRACUSA****DAY 6**

After breakfast at the hotel we travel to Siracusa, "The most beautiful Greek city" where you can admire the fusion of different architectural styles. In the morning we will visit the famous Archaeological Park. Inside the Park are situated most of the classical monuments of the Greek and Roman Siracusa, most importantly the Greek Theatre (fifth century B.C.), which is the largest theatre in Sicily and one of the largest of the entire Greek world. In this park there is the famous "Latomia of Paradise" where we find the mythical cave Ear of Dionysius. Our day continues to Ortigia where you will enjoy lunch at leisure and free time. Return to the hotel in Taormina for dinner and overnight. (meals: B.D.)

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**LIPARI, STROMBOLI AND  
SALINA****DAY 7**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will leave Taormina and head towards Milazzo. From here a ferry transfer takes us to the Lipari. Lipari is the largest of the Aeolian Archipelago islands and perfectly balances leisure, amusement and natural beauties. The center is brimming with shops, where one can enjoy pleasant afternoons of shopping, and delightful evenings in the most renowned restaurants celebrated for their food and wine specialties. Today you will also enjoy an excursion to Vulcano, the nearest island for a relaxing promenade. Lunch is at leisure. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (meals: B. D.)

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**PANAREA - STROMBOLI****DAY 8**

Morning and lunch at leisure. In the afternoon we will join an excursion to the islands of Panarea and Stromboli, reaching the two islands by boat. First stop will be Panarea where we will discover the beautiful bays and the colorful "streets" of its marina. We later transfer to Stromboli with time to visit the little village and for swimming. We tour the islands and stop to see the "Sciara del Fuoco", hopefully we get the chance to see the wonderful fireworks of the eruption. Dinner is served on board on our return by boat to Lipari. (meals: B. D.)

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**SALINA****DAY 9**

Breakfast at Hotel and visit the island of Salina. You can easily identify Salina thanks to the contours of its two mountains, that's the reason why the Greeks called it Didyme (twins), it is also the greenest island of the Aeolian archipelago. Besides its natural beauty the island is renowned for the production of "capers" and "Malvasia", a distinctive wine with a very sweet flavor and aroma derived from raisins. We will have a tasting with lunch on the island. Tonight we say farewell to Sicily and its beauty with a typical dinner in Lipari. Overnight in Lipari (meals: B.L.D.)

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 10**

Transfer by private coach from hotel to airport in Catania.

# ROME AND THE AMALFI COAST

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From Rome, the Eternal Town, with its antique monuments to the Sorrentine peninsula, a wild country rich in different landscapes, lemon and olive trees with a spectacular view on the sea.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

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**ROME**, Hotel Imperiale, 4\*  
**NAPLES**, Grand Hotel Oriente, 4\*  
**SORRENTO**, Grand Hotel Flora, 4\*



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**ROME****DAY 1**

Arrival in Rome and transfer to the hotel. Depending on flight arrival times, take time to relax or explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Rome.

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**ROME****DAY 2**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will begin our guided tour to St. Peter's Square, whose basilica is the biggest in the world and is considered the spiritual centre of the Catholic Church. We will then go to the Vatican Museums and take a guided tour of its collection of masterpieces; we visit the Sistine Chapel, the greatest masterpiece in Western art planned and executed by one man, Michelangelo. In the afternoon, enjoy a guided tour of Ancient Rome by visiting Piazza Venezia, the Campidoglio, heart of political life, the Via dei Fori Imperiali, ancient heart of political, commercial and legal life, the exterior of the Colosseum, arena of the gladiators and Arch of Constantine, dedicated by the Senate and the people of Rome to Constantine in 315. You will also see the Palatine, ancient dwelling of emperors and influential people, the exterior of the massive Circus Maximus, the ancient city's main venue for chariot races. We will return to the hotel in the late afternoon. Overnight in Rome.

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**ROME - NAPLES****DAY 3**

After breakfast we will head for Naples, one of the most beautiful cities in Italy: a walking tour through "Spaccanapoli" and its colourful streets will be the perfect opportunity to discover the most magical and genuine parts of Naples. In the afternoon we will visit the exterior of Palazzo Reale, Castel Novo known as Maschio Angioino, the San Carlo theatre, Capuano Castle and the lungomare, from which you will enjoy a stunning view. Overnight in Naples.

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**NAPLES - CAPRI ISLAND  
NAPLES****DAY 4**

Breakfast at the hotel will be followed by a full day excursion to the island of Capri, one of the loveliest resorts in Italy, a dramatic island soaring upward from the sea with sweeping views, whitewashed homes and villas, lemon trees, narrow winding lanes, and flower-filled courtyards. We reach the island by hydrofoil and enjoy a guided tour of its main towns:

Capri and Anacapri. We will enjoy a walk through the narrow streets and admire the lovely terraces, piazza and the breathtaking landscapes. Lunch included in a local restaurant. In the late afternoon we will take the hydrofoil back to Naples. Overnight in Naples.

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**NAPLES  
(MOUNT VESUVIUS  
AND POMPEI) - NAPLES****DAY 5**

Following breakfast we will take a guided tour of the "sleeping giant", Mount Vesuvius. We will stop at an agricultural business producing olive oil and the wine called Lacryma Christi, visiting its cellar and vineyard with a wine expert with a chance to taste fine wine. In the afternoon we will head to Pompei "the metropolis of ancient times" where we will visit the ancient Roman city considered as one of the most important archaeological sites in the world. Overnight in Naples.

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**NAPLES  
COSTIERA AMALFITANA  
SORRENTO****DAY 6**

After breakfast, enjoy an excursion to the Amalfi Coast where you will see magical and breathtaking views. We will make a short stop at the Positano viewpoint and visit Amalfi, the first of the Sea Republics. In the afternoon we will head for Ravello, cross-point of history and legend. Drive back to the hotel in the late afternoon in Sorrento. After dinner, enjoy a traditional Tarantella show. Overnight in Sorrento.

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**SORRENTO****DAY 7**

After breakfast, enjoy a full free day to explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Sorrento.

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**SORRENTO  
CASERTA - ROME****DAY 8**

After breakfast in the hotel we will depart to Caserta to visit the Royal palace. Created by the Bourbon king Charles III in the mid-18th century to rival Versailles and the Royal Palace in Madrid, is exceptional for the way in which it brings together a magnificent palace with its park and gardens, as well as natural woodland, hunting lodges and a silk factory. It is an eloquent expression of the enlightenment in material form, integrated into, rather than imposed on, its natural setting. In 1996, the Palace of Caserta was listed among the world heritage sites on the ground that it was 'the swan song of the spectacular art of the baroque from which it adopted all the features needed to create the illusions of multidirectional space'. We will visit the apartments richly decorated with gold, stucco and marble and contain empire style furnishings and fine pavements and the park covering an area of some hundred hectares and its beautiful fountains. After the visit we will head to Rome for the last overnight. Overnight in Rome.

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 9**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then depending on the flight departure time, transfer from the hotel to the airport and return to your original departure city.



# ITALIAN TRADITIONAL FLAVOURS

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Whether it's the hearty flavors of Tuscany or the countryside flavors of Emilia Romagna, our cookery holiday allows you to taste the authentic flavors of Italy's regional cuisine. There are many regional dishes to enchant during your journey.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

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**ROME**, Hotel Imperiale, 4\*  
**ASSISI**, Castello Di Petrata, 4\*  
**FLORENCE**, Grand Hotel Minerva, 4\*  
**BOLOGNA**, Zahn Hotel Tre Vecchi, 4\*  
**MODENA**, Hotel Maranello Palace, 4\*  
**MILAN**, Hotel Dei Cavalieri, 4\*



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**ROME****DAY 1**

Arrival at the airport in Rome and meet with your tour manager. A private coach will take you to your hotel in Rome where you will spend the first two nights. Time at disposal for relaxing. Departure to the city centre for tasting pizza in a legendary, authentic pizzeria near Piazza Navona. Back to the Hotel Overnight stay in hotel in Rome

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**ROME****DAY 2**

After breakfast at your hotel, we will leave for a panoramic and orientation tour of Rome. At the end, we will reach a local farm. You will be able to see closely, through a glass window, the processing of milk and its subsequent transformation into dairy products. The visit also includes a tasting of the delicious cheese. Afternoon at free leisure. Before dinner, enjoy a typical aperitivo. In Italy the drink before the evening meal, is absolutely a must and an enjoyed tradition of many people. Dinner on your own at a restaurant of your choice, your tour manager will gladly assist you with table reservations. Overnight stay in hotel in Rome

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**ASSISI SURROUNDINGS** **DAY 3**

After breakfast at your hotel, departure to Assisi and walking tour. The town with its Roman ruins, winding medieval streets and sacred shrines, has been a major Catholic pilgrimage destination for centuries and is today one of the most popular tourist destinations in Italy. Time for lunch on your own and arrival and accommodation at the hotel. For the evening get ready for a delicious dinner. The cuisine of Umbria originates from its Etruscan roots, and is characteristically simple, relying on seasonal ingredients that can be found growing in its rich soil, swimming in the region's lakes, raised on local farms, or discovered in the lush forests that cover much of the region. Overnight stay in hotel in Assisi.

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**ASSISI****DAY 4**

Breakfast at your hotel and departure to the city of Perugia. Arrival at the amazing house of chocolate where we will take part to a cooking lesson. A school to discover the secrets of chocolate-making, learn the techniques to create impressive masterpieces, taught by the passion and creativity of our Perugia School of Chocolate Masters. Meals are not included today. Afternoon at free disposal. Return to Assisi and overnight

---

**FLORENCE****DAY 5**

This morning after breakfast we head to to Siena. We start our guided tour with a visit to San Domenico, a church much frequented for its venerated relics of Saint Catherine, patron saint of Italy and Europe. Then we head for the magnificent palace of Monte dei Paschi bank, founded in 1472 - the oldest bank in Europe. From there we reach nearby Piazza del Campo, the unrivalled center of vivid city life. After, we drive straight to the little village of Vinci where a particular wine and olive oil tasting wait for us. We will be surprised by the elegance and richness of the landscape and we will be enchanted by the marvellous savors. As we arrive in Florence this evening another culinary experience in a typical "Trattoria" waits for you for dinner. Overnight stay in hotel in Florence.

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**FLORENCE****DAY 6**

After breakfast at your hotel, meet your local guide for an orientation sightseeing tour of Florence. At the end, relax with a typical aperitivo served with salami and cheese. Afternoon at free disposal Dinner is at leisure and at your choice, your tour manager will gladly assist you with table reservations. Overnight stay in hotel in Florence

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**BOLOGNA****DAY 7**

After breakfast at your hotel, departure to the World's largest agri-food park in Bologna. FICO Eataly World shall be a huge (over 850.000 square feet) and joyful place, where the wonders of the Italian agri-food industry and its food and wines is presented and narrated from their birth inside mother earth to their final destination on a dish and in a glass. Live a unique, new food experience. Accommodation at your hotel in Bologna. Dinner out at a restaurant of your own choice. Your tour manager will gladly assist you with table reservations. Overnight stay in hotel in Bologna

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**MODENA****DAY 8**

After breakfast we depart to Modena where we will attend to a balsamic vinegar tasting. Discover the secrets of "black gold", one of the symbol of Made in Italy in the world Continue your journey to Parma, better known as "ham cradle". We will have lunch in a special place savoring typical local dishes, an experience you will never forget. This evening dinner at your own choice. Overnight stay in hotel in Modena

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**MILAN****DAY 9**

After breakfast departure to one of the world's most important fashion capitals, but not only. Milan is rich in amazing restaurants where your culinary experience will be highly satisfied. You will tour its centre occupied by the most important Gothic monument in Italy: Duomo Cathedral. You will see the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II. This place that was built in the second half of the nineteenth century it is a bit like the symbol of the industrial bourgeoisie that was the city's most important social class at that time. It's time for lunch on your own. The afternoon is at leisure. In the evening we reach "the Navigli" area, a canal system which was becoming increasingly pivotal for the economic development of the city. A special and particular dinner in a fancy restaurant will end our Italian Traditional Flavours tour. Overnight stay in hotel Milan

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 10**

It is time to leave Italy, after breakfast we will transfer you to Milan airport for departure.



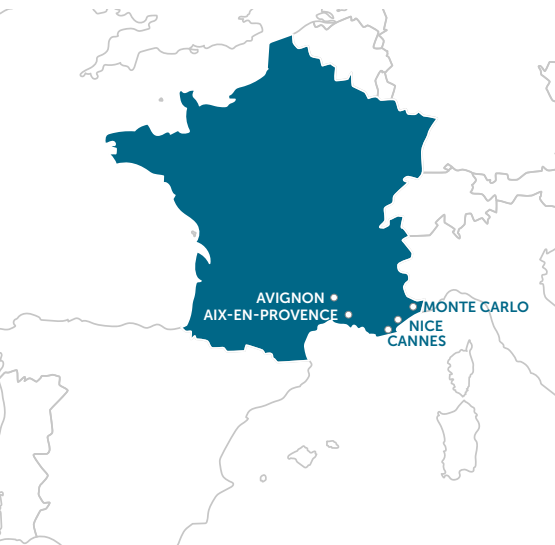


EUROPE

# PROVENCE AND CAMARGUE

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Delightful medieval villages, boundless landscapes and artistic treasures of rare beauty. From the hills to the sea, a trip to Provence and Camargue seduces with unique colours, sounds and scents that make the strings of the soul vibrate. France reveals its sweetest and most seductive face. Discover a combination of rural landscapes and medieval cities, fortified towns, elegant Boulevards..The magic of Provence, the violet of its lavender fields, the green of its olive trees, the white Camargue horses, pink flamingos, the black bull and the blue Mediterranean Sea will make your journey unforgettable.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

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**NICE**, La Malmaison Nice Boutique Hotel, 4\*

**AVIGNON**, Hotel Le Cloître St. Louis, 4\*



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**NICE****DAY 1**

Arrival at the airport of Nice. Meet with your Tour Manager that will assist you during the whole journey.

Your private coach will wait for you and take you to a first panoramic tour of Nice. You will be surprised to the dynamism and charm this town will offer.

Arrival at your hotel. Welcome dinner.

Overnight at your Hotel

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**MONACO -  
MONTE CARLO****DAY 2**

After breakfast, we will leave Avignon and reach the amazing town of Monaco. It is the second smallest country in the world, and paradoxically the first in population density. The Principality of Monaco is situated at the foot of the Southern Alps and on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, on the southern coast of France, near the border with Italy, on the French Riviera, also called the Riviera. It is a state of Western Europe, on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. Its climate, Mediterranean by excellence, makes Monaco a privileged place, where life is very pleasant in all seasons. It is also a prestigious center of culture in which are located the most luxurious hotels in the world as well as one of the most prestigious oyster systems in the world. Our private guide will let us discover the Prince's palace and the changing of the guards. After a free time of disposal, you will get the chance to discover the Casino of Monte Carlo and enjoy a visit inside.

Back to the Hotel in Nice for the overnight.

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**ST-PAUL-DE-VENCE -  
GRASSE - CANNES****DAY 3**

After breakfast, your guide will take you for a walking tour of Nice's old town and its famous Marché aux Fleurs. This is the real heart of Nice..you will be enchanted by the colours and perfumes that will surprise you. In the afternoon we will reach St. Paul de Vence, the medieval village built against the South Alps and famous all around the world for its beauty, its artistic influence, its numerous art galleries, shops and peaceful way of life.

Then on to Grasse for guided visit of the well-known Perfumery Fragonard where you can create your own perfume!

Your tour ends with a discovery of Cannes, the star of the Riviera, which is famous for its film festival, glitzy hotels, shopping, the old port, beaches, exotic sport cars and yachts. Walk through the renowned 'Croisette Promenade'.

Back to the hotel for the overnight

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**AIX-EN-PROVENCE -  
AVIGNON****DAY 4**

After breakfast, you will discover Provence. The first stop will be Aix en Provence where we will have a nice guided tour and visit the Tapestry Museum and Paul Cezanne's studio. City of art and culture, Aix en Provence is a real paradise. Come walk through the narrow streets to meet artisans, where we will taste their Provencal specialties. After this visit, we reach Avignon. Go back in time at the Palace of the Popes built in the 14th century, dance on the Pont d'Avignon, see the treasures at the Petit Palais museum. Between the years 1309 and 1377, Avignon, not Rome, was the seat of the papacy. During this time, the popes who lived here ordered the construction of a palace, as well as fortification walls surrounding the centre of the city. Both the palace and the walls still remain and are two of Avignon's most famous attractions.

Accommodation at the Hotel in Avignon

Overnight at the Hotel

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**CAMARGUE****DAY 5**

After breakfast, we leave Avignon and we drive towards the beautiful Camargue: Bird-watching, horse riding, pony-trekking for all (no experience needed), equestrian events, hiking, cycling, riverboat trips, some wonderful and remote Mediterranean beaches, and a world-famous gypsy pilgrimage each year in May; the Camargue has all this, and more. Guided tour of Arles which is well known for its Roman heritage and where Van Gogh and Picasso lived.

We continue our journey till Aigues-Mortes where we will discover an extraordinary medieval fortified city.

Back to Avignon and overnight at your hotel.

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**PONT DU GARD -  
NÎMES****DAY 6**

Pick up at your hotel and transfer to Pont du Gard, the best preserved part of the Roman aqueduct which drove the water to Nimes. Then on to Nimes, where the important monuments are the impressive Roman buildings: the Arena, the best-conserved Roman amphitheater in the world, the amphitheater, 2000 years old and the best preserved Roman arena in France, it could hold more than 24,000 spectators. The Maison Carrée, the main temple of the Gallo-Roman city.

We continue on to Châteauneuf-du-Pape where grapes were first planted in the 14th century by the Avignon Popes. We tour a local winery and enjoy some of the finest wines.

Back to Avignon & overnight at your hotel.

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**ST-RÉMY-  
DE-PROVENCE -  
GORGES - ROUSSILLON****DAY 7**

After breakfast, departure for St-Rémy-de-Provence, which highlights include 'Les Antiques', Grecian and Roman archaeological ruins as well as St-Paul-de-Mausole—the mental hospital where Van Gogh stayed in 1889.

In the afternoon, you will enjoy a panoramic tour of the most amazing villages in Provence. Start with Gorges: discover this top hill medieval village, completely made with the local dry stones called 'lauze', classified among one of the most beautiful villages in France. Continue to Roussillon, top hill village, surrounded by red, orange and yellow ochre cliffs, natural unusual landscape.

Back to Avignon & overnight at your hotel.

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 8**

After breakfast departure towards Nice Airport.  
End of all services

# CLASSIC SPAIN

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There is a plethora of reasons to visit Spain; it is a Country of many different peoples, each with their own culture, attitude and cuisine. Discover Spain's fascinating past, its seductive Gypsy soul, and the modern vitality of its Catholic faith. Our journey explores Barcelona and the iconic Gaudi buildings, Zaragoza and a glimpse of the Basque country with an excursion to Pamplona. We enjoy the cosmopolitan city life of Madrid; we visit Toledo and El Escorial. We also travel through traditional villages on rolling green hills flanked by mist-covered mountains, taste wines and gastronomic delicacies in the Cuenca, and of course, we experience Valencia and the beautiful coastlines. This itinerary reveals Spain's diverse heritage, and its culture and traditions guarantee a fascinating journey of discovery.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

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**BARCELONA**, Catalonia Diagonal, 4\*  
**SARAGOZA**, Catalonia El Pilar, 4\*  
**MADRID**, Catalonia Gran Via, 4\*  
**VALENCIA**, NH Valencia Center, 4\*



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**BARCELONA****DAY 1**

After custom clearance at the airport, you will meet your professional Tour manager and your driver for private transfer to your hotel in Barcelona. Check-in and time to rest. Welcome dinner in a local restaurant and overnight stay in Barcelona. (Meals: B. D.)

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**BARCELONA****DAY 2**

Following breakfast at the hotel take a morning tour of Catalonia's capital, including Park Guell with its amazing stone structures and stunning tiling. The tour includes the absorbing "Barrio Gothic" and Santa Maria del Mar Church, symbol of Catalan mariners.

You will then take a walk on the famous thoroughfare La Ramblas, a bustling street of sights, colours and people. Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Barcelona. (Meals: B. D.)

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**ZARAGOZA****DAY 3**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before we depart for the city of Zaragoza on the banks of the River Ebro. This city has been influenced throughout time by the Romans, Moors and Christians evident when taking your walking tour to admire the eclectic mix of buildings throughout the city. We visit the Basilica del Pilar dedicated to the Virgin Mary, with free time to explore at leisure. After a whole day spent visiting Zaragoza, the best way to restore our strength is to visit a few of the bars in the El Tubo neighbourhood. This is an area of small alleyways packed with bars and restaurants, where the usual custom is to go from one bar to another sampling the speciality served at each location, accompanied by a glass of wine or beer. (Meals: B. D.)

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**PAMPLONA****DAY 4**

After breakfast we drive out to the heart of the Spanish Basque Country. We arrive in Pamplona where a local guide will be waiting to give you an insider's look at the city's art, food and cultural sites, along with a good dose of history. Pamplona's name is synonymous with the running of the bulls; enjoy a pleasant stroll through the city's meandering stone streets where this event takes place. We return to Zaragoza in the afternoon for dinner at the hotel and overnight stay. (Meals: B. D.)

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**MADRID****DAY 5**

After breakfast we check-out from our hotel and drive to Madrid. Today we will show you the highlights of this cosmopolitan city. We will visit Puerta de Alcalá, Cibeles Fountain, Puerta del Sol, Plaza Mayor and Catedral de la Almudena. We will take you down medieval streets, across majestic squares and through 1200 years of history. We will walk from the heart of the city through twisted medieval streets and along grand boulevards to give you a truly wonderful taste of Madrid, its architecture, culture and its traditions. We welcome you to Madrid with a special dinner and exhilarating Flamenco show. Overnight stay in Madrid. (Meals: B. D.)

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**MADRID****DAY 6**

This morning is dedicated to a visit to Madrid's top cultural sight, The Prado Museum. Together with our expert guide you will tour one of the world's greatest art galleries. It displays works by great European masters such as Velázquez, Goya, Raphael, Rubens, and Bosch. In the afternoon we drive just 45km north-west of Madrid and discover another of Spain's famous sights; the Royal Palace of El Escorial. Spanish monarchs as far back as Carlos V are buried here in the Panteón de Reyes and this will also be the current monarch's final resting place. Return to Madrid for dinner at the hotel and overnight stay. (Meals: B. D.)

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**TOLEDO****DAY 7**

Today, enjoy a full day excursion to Toledo. Upon arrival we begin with a panoramic walking tour. We enter the Alcazar and old city to visit the Primate Cathedral, a magnificent example of flamboyant Gothic style. We continue through the old Jewish quarter to visit the Church of St. Tomé with the famous painting of El Greco "The Burial of Count Orgaz". The old Synagogue of St. Maria la Blanca and the Monastery of San Juan de los Reyes. We will end with a panoramic bus tour around the outskirts with a short stop to admire the views from the other side of the river and allow for the opportunity to take photos of the beautiful views. Return to Madrid. Dinner tonight is at leisure. (Meals: B.)

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**VALENCIA****DAY 8**

We leave Madrid this morning and take you to sunny Valencia, the third largest city in Spain. Along the route we will stop in Requena, an important village specialising in fine wine productions. We will visit a local winery where you will experience the culture and traditions of winemaking. You will also visit an artisan sausage boucherie where you will enjoy local "embutidos". Our journey continues to Valencia where you will see special monuments such as the City of Arts and Science, an avant-garde building designed by Santiago Calatrava, the Cathedral, Plaza de la Reina, Plaza de la Virgen, and Plaza Redonda. Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Valencia. (Meals: B.L.D.)

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**BARCELONA****DAY 9**

After check out from the hotel in Valencia we board our private coach and drive to Barcelona. We are close to the end of the trip and cannot miss a visit to see Gaudi's architecture at the inspiring Sagrada Família. During your guided sightseeing tour with our local guide you will also visit Plaça Catalunya and view the monument to Christopher Columbus. In the afternoon we experience a special visit, as we drive to Montserrat to see the shrine of the Black Madonna, affectionately known in Catalonia as 'La Moreneta'. Return to your hotel and prepare to say goodbye to your group at tonight's farewell dinner. (Meals: B. D.)

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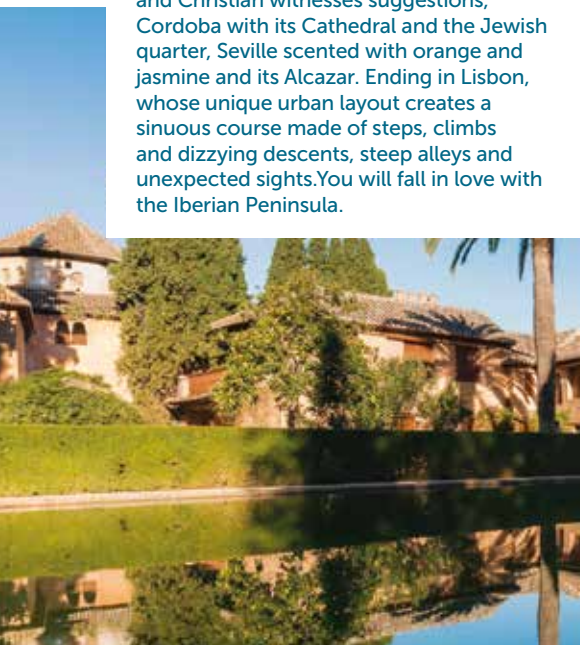
**DEPARTURE****DAY 10**

Transfer by private coach from hotel to airport in Barcellona.

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# SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

A tour to discover Spain and Portugal. Starting from Madrid, located in the geographic centre of the country and is the capital for over 500 years, when Philip II decided to bring his court there. Among the many attractions of the city including the internationally renowned art galleries, rich museums that preserve the art and history of the nation, majestic squares and imposing buildings, the first of the Royal Palace, the royal residence for centuries, now used for state occasions. The journey will continue to the magical atmosphere of Andalusia. From Granada, full of Moorish and Christian witnesses suggestions, Cordoba with its Cathedral and the Jewish quarter, Seville scented with orange and jasmine and its Alcazar. Ending in Lisbon, whose unique urban layout creates a sinuous course made of steps, climbs and dizzying descents, steep alleys and unexpected sights. You will fall in love with the Iberian Peninsula.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**MADRID**, Senator Gran Via 70 Spa Hotel, 4\*  
**GRANADA**, Andalucia Center Hotel, 4\*  
**CORDOBA**, Hotel Cordoba Center, 4\*  
**SEVILLE**, Hotel Tryp Macarena, 4\*  
**LISBON**, Real Palacio Hotel, 4\*



## MADRID

## DAY 1

Arrival at Madrid airport and transfer to the hotel. Depending on flight times, take time to relax or explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Madrid.

## MADRID

## DAY 2

After breakfast, we will take a guided tour of the city to visit the most important places in Madrid including its fountains, Cibeles and Neptun, view of the Prado, Reina Sofia and Thyssen Bournemitza, Atocha Liberty railway station and one of Madrid's symbols: Puerta d'Alcala. We will go on to Plaza de Toros, the Paseo of the Castellana and exterior of the Royal Palace and Opera. Enjoy free time for lunch. In the afternoon we will visit Toledo, a World Heritage sight, the Mudejar Cathedral, the church of Saint Tome' with its famous El Greco painting, then a short walk in this open air museum. In the evening we will enjoy a typical dinner in a tapas restaurant with a typical flamenco show. Overnight in Madrid.

## MADRID

## DAY 3

After breakfast, enjoy a full free day to explore the city at your leisure. In the morning, take an optional guided tour of the Prado Museum to see Goya and Velasquez masterpieces. In the afternoon, you may take an optional guided tour of the famous Monastery Real of El Escorial. The structure comprises a monastery, church, pantheon or royal mausoleum, a palace intended as summer and autumn residence of the court, college, library, art galleries and is renowned as the eighth wonder of the world. It was begun in 1563, at the order of Philip II, by the architect Juan Bautista de Toledo, assisted by Lucas de Escalante and Pedro de Tolosa, and was intended to commemorate the Spanish victory over the French at the battle of St-

Quinten in 1557. Probably another reason was that Philip II was obliged by the will of Charles V to erect a royal mausoleum. Overnight in Madrid.

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## **MADRID-ARANJUEZ GRANADA**

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**DAY 4**

Following breakfast we will depart from Madrid to Granada via Aranjuez, where we will visit the Royal summer castle with its magnificent gardens. We will then head south to Granada driving through La Mancha region, the world's largest wine producing area. Overnight in Granada. In the evening enjoy an optional Gipsy show in the picturesque area of Sacromonte and visit of the Albaicin quarter with its fantastic view over the Alhambra.

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## **GRANADA**

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**DAY 5**

After breakfast we will take a guided tour of one of the most important monuments in Spain: the Alhambra. You will discover the unique Arabic medieval citadel, probably the best preserved in the world. We will show you the gardens and yards, like the Partal or the Generalife Gardens; the fortress and the dungeons and the sultan's palaces such as the Palace of the Lions or the Throne Palace. You will feel the atmosphere of Moorish culture surrounded by the scent of the flowers and the murmuring of the water. Spend the afternoon at your leisure or perhaps pay a visit to Plaza Isabel the Catholic, Gran Via, the Gothic Cathedral and the old market known as Corral del Carbon and the Alcaiceria, that resembles an Arabic souk. Overnight in Granada.

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## **GRANADA - CORDOBA**

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**DAY 6**

After breakfast we will proceed to Cordoba and enjoy a guided tour of the Mezquita, a mosque of exceptional beauty with its 850 columns, the Cathedral and the Jewish quarter. We will enjoy a short walk to discover the old city centre. Overnight in Cordoba.

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## **CORDOBA - RONDA SEVILLE**

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**DAY 7**

After breakfast we will travel from Cordoba to Ronda, one of Andalucia's loveliest towns, steeped in history and dubbed the Dream City by the poet Rilke. We will proceed to Seville, called "the city of grace", a magical town, simultaneously

Spanish and Arabic. Dinner is followed by a beautiful boat trip along the Guadalquivir River. Overnight in Seville.

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## **SEVILLE**

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**DAY 8**

Breakfast at the hotel will be followed by a guided tour of Seville. We will visit the old city with the Cathedral and the Giralda tower at its heart. (You can climb the steps inside the tower for a magnificent view of the City). Very close by are the royal Mudéjar palace known as the Alcazar with its marvellous gardens and the Santa Cruz quarter with its cramped streets, flowered balconies, richly decorated facades and hidden patios. Other sights not to be missed in the old city are the Casa de Pilatos, a large sixteenth-century mansion where Mudéjar, Gothic and Renaissance styles blend harmoniously amidst exuberant patios and gardens and, crossing the Triana bridge over the large Guadalquivir River, the lively popular quarter of Triana with its charming narrow streets around the church of Santa Ana and traditional ceramic factories. In the afternoon take an optional visit to Reales Alcazares, masterpiece of Mudéjar Art. Overnight in Seville.

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## **SEVILLE - LISBON**

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**DAY 9**

After breakfast we will drive to Lisbon, capital of Portugal and legendary city with over 20 centuries of history. Once the launch pad for many of the voyages of discovery (notably Vasco da Gama's epic journey to India), Lisbon was the first true world city, the capital of an empire spreading over all continents, from Brazil to China (Macao). It is forever known as the city of the explorers, and you too will be filled with the spirit of discovery as you retrace the footsteps of Prince Henry the Navigator or Ferdinand Magellan. On arrival, relax and take time to explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Lisbon.

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## **LISBON**

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**DAY 10**

After breakfast, we will take a half-day guided tour of the city: we will drive down Avenida da Liberdade to Rossio, the very heart of the city and then up the hill for a stop at St George's castle to have a glimpse at the old quarters. Then we will drive along the riverside to admire black old square, the bridge over the Tagus with stops at the Belem Tower and the monument to the discoveries. There we will see the largest collection of some of the world's finest old coaches. In the afternoon, enjoy free time.

In the evening you may choose to see an optional Fado show with dinner. Overnight in Lisbon.

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## **LISBON (SINTRA-CASCAIS-ESTORIL)**

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**DAY 11**

Following breakfast, we will take a full day excursion to Sintra, Cascais and Estoril. We will enjoy a walking tour through the historical center of Sintra, classified as a World Heritage site by Unesco. We will visit the Pena palace, the most beautiful romantic palace in Portugal before proceeding to the picturesque and charming town of Cascais, where we will take a short walk through its animated center. We will then drive past the Estoril casino and its gardens and will enjoy a tour along the coast road of Estoril, one of the most beautiful and charming itineraries of Lisbon's surroundings. We will then continue to Lisbon and stay overnight.

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## **LISBON**

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**DAY 12**

After breakfast, enjoy the city of Lisbon at your leisure. Overnight in Lisbon.

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## **LISBON - DEPARTURE**

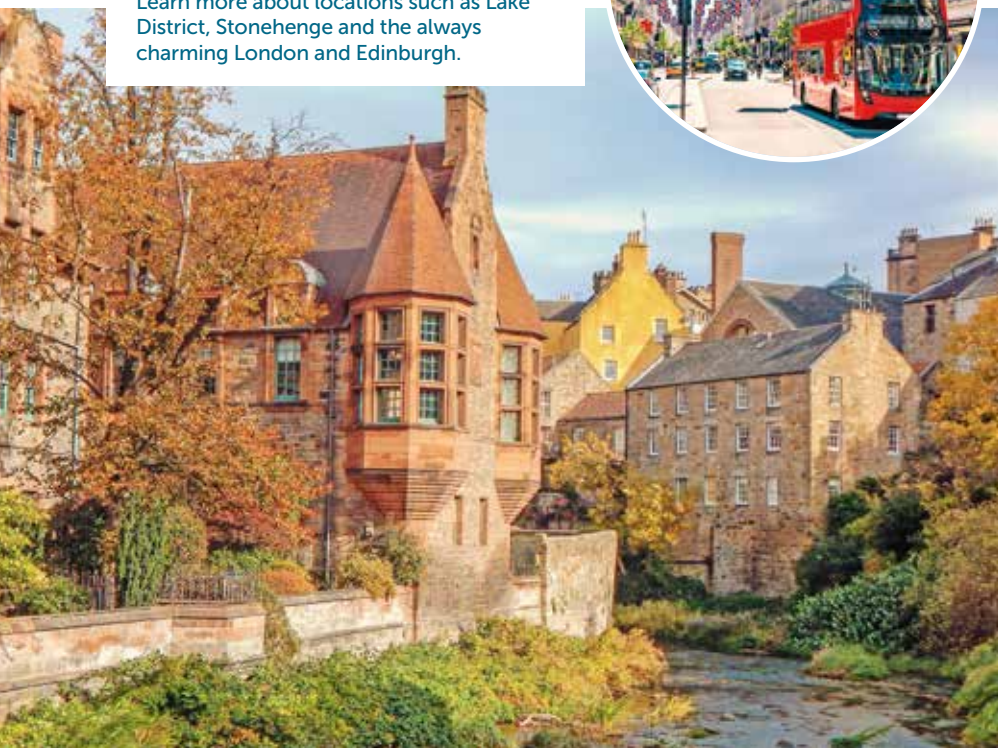
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**DAY 13**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then depending on the flight departure time, visit the city on your own for shopping or sightseeing. Transfer from the hotel to the airport and return to your original departure city.

# ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND

A tour that imbues everything from majestic landscapes and great cities, to a proud heritage and the warmth of people. Learn more about locations such as Lake District, Stonehenge and the always charming London and Edinburgh.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**LONDON**, Park Plaze Hotels, 4\*  
**BRISTOL**, Hotel Marriott, 4\*  
**LIVERPOOL**,  
 Mercure Liverpool Atlantic Tower, 4\*  
**GLASGOW**, Glasgow City Hotel, 4\*  
**EDINBURGH**, Apex Hotels Group, 4\*  
**YORK**, Royal Hotel York, 4\*

## GREENWICH, WINDSOR CASTLE DAY 3

Stand at the home of time. This morning you will enjoy a cruise along the river Thames up to Greenwich. Come and stand on the world-famous Greenwich Meridian Line. From the top of the hill of Greenwich park you can admire one of the best views of the city. In the afternoon we will visit the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world, Windsor Castle, the Queen's favorite weekend residence. Return to London for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

## OXFORD, LACOCK BRISTOL DAY 4

Time to leave London, but you will be back in a few days for your souvenirs shopping. We drive to Bristol and along the route we stop in Oxford for a tour of the town. We continue and visit Blenheim Palace, home to the 12th Duke and Duchess of Marlborough and birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. A true masterpiece of 18th Century Baroque architecture. Before arriving in Bristol you will explore the village of Lacock which dates from the 13th century. This village with its lime-washed half-timbered and stone houses, was used as a location in the TV and film productions of *Pride and Prejudice*, *Moll Flanders* and *Emma and Harry Potter*. Dinner and overnight in Bristol. (meals: B. D.)

## STONEHENGE, SALISBURY BATH DAY 5

Today after breakfast we will lead to the most important prehistoric monument in the whole of Britain: Stonehenge. What we see today is the final stage that was completed about 3500 years ago, but the monument is 5000 years old. We will have a short break for lunch in Salisbury and in the afternoon we will drive to Bath walking on the ancient pavements as the Romans did 2,000 years ago. We will visit The Great Bath, one of the best preserved Roman remains in the world. Over one million liters of steaming spring water reaching 46 °C (115 °F) still fill the bathing site every single day. There's one thing you must check off your to-do list of this trip: an English Afternoon Tea. Not just any tea, we're talking a good, old-fashioned English tea time, with finger sandwiches, dainty china cups and all the formality a Downton Abbey lover could wish for. Return to Bristol and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

## LONDON DAY 1

Arrival at London airport, meet our professional Tour Manager and private coach transfer to your Hotel. Check-in and time for leisure to get acclimated to new time zone. Your first night in London commence with a unique welcome dinner. Meet the chef at the restaurant and savor fine food whilst taking in the incomparable views of London skyline. (meals: B. D.)

## LONDON DAY 2

After breakfast we will begin our tour of London. We will visit Buckingham Palace, official residence of the Royal family, Oxford Street, Piccadilly, Trafalgar Square and the Big Ben, one of the most famous symbols of London. We will also visit the Tower of London, where the crown jewels have been kept since the 14th century. Dinner and overnight in London (meals: B. D.)

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**STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, DAY 6  
LIVERPOOL**

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Check out from your hotel in Bristol and drive to Liverpool. Stop en route to Stratford-Upon-Avon where we will find out more about the English poet and playwright that makes it famous, William Shakespeare. We will visit the birthplace, the house where the world's most famous playwright was born and grew up to discover more about his early years. Arrival in Liverpool and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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**LIVERPOOL DAY 7**

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Welcome to Liverpool, a city of art, culture and music. Liverpool is proud to be the birthplace of the Beatles, the first stop of the day will be the Albert Dock, a fantastic visitor attraction dedicated to the Fab Four. Later we will take you on a gentle and relaxing cruise to Chester. Here your guide will lead you on a captivating journey through 2,000 years of history, taking in all the main sites including the Rows, Walls, River and the Cathedral. We return to Liverpool via coach for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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**LAKE DISTRICT, DAY 8  
GLASGOW**

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Drive today through the Lake District, England's largest National Park. There are breathtaking lakes, soaring mountains known locally as 'fells', picturesque valleys and even sandy coastline. Times may have changed but your 'runaway' wedding can still happen here at Gretna Green! Discover why so many couples got married in this tiny village. Dinner and overnight in Glasgow. (meals: B. D.)

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**GLASGOW DAY 9**

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Boscolo introduces Glasgow on its distinguished way with an exterior design tour. Barcelona has Gaudí, Chicago has Frank Lloyd Wright and Glasgow has the pioneering Art Nouveau of Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Our walking tour looks at the fascinating exterior design of the Mackintosh Building along with a number of hidden architectural gems in the local area with a special connection to this celebrated architect. The rest of the day is at leisure in the Scotland biggest city. (meals: B. D.)

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**LOCH LOMOND DAY 10  
GLASGOW**

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Woods, forests and wild flowers, this morning we get off the coach and take a very easy walk inside the nature. We will stop in Luss and explore this conservation village with an easy hiking activity along the Loch Lomond lake shore. Your day in the nature continues with the visit of the Inveraray Castle's gardens. The garden and park covers 180 hectares and form one of the most important designed landscapes in Scotland. On our way back to Glasgow, we will introduce you to an important Scottish tradition, the Whiskey. We will stop at a distillery and have fun ... not too much though! Dinner and overnight in Glasgow. (meals: B. D.)

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**EDINBURGH DAY 11**

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Trace Edinburgh's hidden gems, our today itinerary will explore this beautiful city and savor the best of it. The views from the summit of Scott Monument are well worth the climb, be aware there are 287 steps. St Giles Cathedral contains memorials to around 200 distinguished Scots, as well as some incredible stained glass windows. There's just time for a quick photo with Greyfriars Bobby before the stop Edinburgh's most popular and famous attraction, Edinburgh Castle. Home to Royalty for hundreds of years including Queen Margaret, Mary Queen of Scots and James VI. In the afternoon another Boscolo special visit, Rosslyn Chapel. Founded in 1446, as the Collegiate Church of St Matthew, it took some 40 years to complete. Our guide will tell you how Rosslyn has survived turbulent times and focus the tour on the recent interesting program of conservation. Return to Edinburgh for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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**EDINBURGH DAY 12**

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After breakfast, today we will discover the story of British golf visiting the British Golf Museum. It is the most comprehensive golf collection in Britain that displays material dating from the 17th century to the present day. Driving further north, we reach Glamis Castle the legendary setting for Shakespeare's Macbeth, we will visit this breathtaking monument. Back to Edinburgh for special theatre evening! The world-famous Fringe and International Festivals might take place in August, but there are great performances taking place all year round. Tonight you can get a flavor of the festival experience as we book a seat in one of Edinburgh's many theatres. Dinner and overnight in Edinburgh. (meals: B. D.)

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**YORK DAY 13**

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Our itinerary is close to an end as our journey continues south back to London. Relax on a scenic rail trip admiring enchanting landscapes and travel from Edinburgh to York by train. We will arrive in York for lunch time. After lunch, you will visit the medieval city starting from the Exhibition Square, you will see the 4th Century Roman fortifications and the ruins of the North's largest medieval abbey, St. Mary's. We will enter two of the four major medieval gateways into the City, Bootham and Monk Bars and take a walk along part of its walls. (The walk along the walls involves climbing and descending stone steps), giving amazing views of York Minster. Towards the end, we will also visit Holy Trinity Goodramgate, a hidden medieval gem with 15th Century. The final part of the tour takes us to York's oldest street, the Shambles. Dinner and overnight in York. (meals: B. D.)

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**YORK, LONDON DAY 14**

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We will leave York this morning and driver to Cambridge. The visit will cover the history of Cambridge, it's personalities, scientists, poets and writers as well as the discoveries that have changed the world. Entrance to the magnificent King's College and Chapel and beautiful Queens' College is also included when available. Later in the afternoon let's punting! Led by a private chauffeur you will enjoy this lovely boat trip on the River Cam, the only way to see the riparian colleges in comfort & style. Our drive continues to London for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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**LONDON DAY 15**

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This day is entirely dedicated to you, you are free to go shopping in the best known malls in Knightsbridge or enrich your travel experience with our tips, visit the Wallace Collection for example, the entrance is free, but please save some energy for our farewell dinner. English food, beer and fun at Dickens's Inn, tonight you can share with your travel fellows the thoughts and stories about this amazing journey through England and Scotland. (meals: B. D.)

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**DEPARTURE DAY 16**

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Transfer by private coach from hotel to airport in London.

# GRAND TOUR OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Explore the best of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales on this in-depth Grand Tour. Visit London and attend to a concert in St Martin-in-the-Fields Church, explore the royal Windsor Castle. Drive to Liverpool through scenic Cotswolds and stop in Oxford. Cross the Irish Sea from Holyhead to Dublin, Ireland's capital. Explore the popular resort of Killarney, along the scenic "Ring of Kerry" see sparkling seascapes, mountains dotted with brightly colored farmhouses. Head west to the spectacular 668-foot Cliffs of Moher. Visit Galway and Belfast. Cross the border to Cairnryan and spend the night in Glasgow. Follow the banks of mysterious Loch Ness on the way to Inverness. Reach regal Edinburgh, Scotland's capital, continue south to Blair Castle and York, England's most complete medieval city; enjoy time in Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon on your way back to London for the finale of your unforgettable Grand Tour.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**LONDON**, Park Plaza Hotels, 4\*  
**LIVERPOOL**, Mercure Liverpool Atlantic Tower, 4\*  
**DUBLIN**, Maldron Cardiff Lane, 4\*  
**KILLARNEY**, Killarney Plaza, 4\*  
**GALWAY**, Radisson Blu, 4\*  
**SLIGO**, Clarion Sligo, 4\*  
**BELFAST**, Clayton Belfast, 4\*  
**GLASGOW**, Glasgow City Hotel, 4\*  
**INVERNESS**, Kingsmills Hotels, 4\*  
**EDINBURGH**, Apex Hotel Group, 4\*  
**YORK**, Royal Hotel York, 4\*

at the lavish State Apartments and see the impressive artwork hanging on the walls. During the tour you will also visit St George's Chapel – the resting place for many past monarchs, including Henry VIII, Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. Return to London for some time at leisure. Dinner and overnight in London. (meals: B. D.)

## OXFORD - COTSWOLDS LIVERPOOL DAY 4

Today we depart towards Liverpool. On route we pass through Oxford, renowned for over 900 years as a center of academic excellence. Discover at your own pace the college courtyards, narrow alleys and the historic town square. Harry Potter fans might want to see Christ Church, where many scenes from the films have been shot. After lunch prepare to be intrigued by Cotswolds, one of the most 'quintessentially English' and unspoiled regions of England where you cannot help but fall in love with the uniqueness of it. We arrive in Liverpool for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

## DUBLIN DAY 5

After your included breakfast we travel to Albert Dock, Liverpool's iconic waterfront, for our included visit to the Beatles Story. This exhibition takes you on a journey through the lives, times, culture and music of the Beatles, with a fantastic array of information, images and memorabilia. In the afternoon we drive to Holyhead and take a short ferry boat trip to Dublin. Overnight in Dublin. (meals: B. D.)

## DUBLIN - CHASHELL KILLARNEY DAY 6

This morning you visit Dublin. Pop in the ivy-covered stone buildings of Trinity College to see the Old Library's vast rows of antiquarian books. Visit Dublin Castle's and St Patrick's Church, Ireland's largest church. In the afternoon we drive to The Rock of Cashel one of Ireland's most spectacular archaeological sites. We later reach Killarney where we check in and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

## KILLARNEY - RING OF KERRY DAY 7

Be ready for a beautiful journey along part

## LONDON DAY 1

Arrival at London airport, meet our professional Tour Manager and take a panoramic tour of central London with a visit to St Paul's Cathedral. You are transferred to your Hotel for check-in and time to rest. Overnight in London (meals: B. D.)

## LONDON DAY 2

Begin your tour with one of the country's most potent icons, Westminster Abbey, where most of England's kings and queens have been crowned. You will admire the House of Parliament and the Big Ben and spend time at Trafalgar Square. In the afternoon stroll along Regent Streets and Piccadilly Circus. We welcome you tonight with a music concert at St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church. Dinner and Overnight in London. (meals: B.D.)

## LONDON - BERKSHIRE DAY 3

After breakfast this morning, visit the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world, Windsor Castle, the Queen's favorite weekend residence. Have a peek

of the Ring of Kerry to view spectacular mountain scenery. Visit a farm to watch trained dogs herding sheep and tour the gracious 19th century Muckross House. In the afternoon head back to Killarney. Overnight in Killarney. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **THE BURREN - GALWAY DAY 8**

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Early this morning we drive through the Early this morning we drive through the Galloway. Stop at J. B. Keane's Pub in Listowel for tea with scones, cross the River Shannon Estuary by a scenic ferry ride. Continue to Burren to view the majestic Cliffs of Moher, which rise 700 feet above the foaming Atlantic Ocean. Overnight in Galway. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **GALWAY - CONNEMARA DAY 9 SLIGO**

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Experience today the beauty and heritage of Galway city. The tour includes a visit to Spanish Arch, the Collegiate Church of St Nicholas, Lynches Window, Eyre Square, and Augustinian Church. Spend the rest of the day on a panoramic drive through the beautiful Connemara. As we leave Galway and head towards Sligo, we will drive through Connemara taking breaks to admire everything around us. You will really enjoy taking pictures and it will be hard to decide what to shoot when everything around is picture-worthy. We stop in Cong where you can admire the location of "The Quiet Man" the famous 1952 movie starred by John Wayne. Another stop through Connemara includes the visit of Kylemore Abbey. Our journey continues to Sligo where we overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **SLIGO - DONEGAL - DAY 10 BELFAST**

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Today, before leaving Sligo, we visit the Dominican abbey that survives from medieval days. Built in 1252 and accidentally burnt down in 1414, it was further damaged during the 1641 rebellion. Legend says that worshippers saved the abbey's silver bell which was thrown into Lough Gill and only those free from sin can hear it peal. In the same morning we drive towards Belfast. On the route we stop in Donegal and visit the Castle. Built by the O'Donnell chieftain in the 15th century, it is furnished throughout and includes Persian rugs and French tapestries. Overnight in Belfast. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **CAIRNRYAN - GLASGOW DAY 11**

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After breakfast we invite you to a pleasant walk through the heart of Belfast. From the City Hall we will take a look at the vibrant industrial heritage, through to its rich maritime past. Walking the River Lagan and pass by the site of the original castle we will end outside Titanic Belfast. The city is indeed home to Titanic Studios where Game of Thrones is shot. We drive to Cairnryan in the afternoon where we take the ferry to UK. Overnight in Glasgow. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **DRUMNADROCHIT - DAY 12 LAKE LOCHNESS INVERNESS**

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After your morning breakfast, we depart to Drumnadrochit. Once arrived at this village on the lake shore, we meet our experienced skipper for a trip on Loch Ness. During the cruise you will enjoy stunning views of the Great Glen and the ruins of Urquhart Castle. On board instruments monitor sub surface activity showing the bottom profile and targets everyone hoping for a glimpse of the monster. Overnight in Inverness. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **INVERNESS - DAY 13 PITLOCHRY EDINBURGH**

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This morning we begin our day discovering Inverness, the highland capital. We will have a panoramic view of the Castle and St Andrew's Church. In the afternoon we will drive south to Blair Atholl and visit the Blair Castle. The building dates back to 1269 and has been transformed through the ages to a Victorian castle in the baronial style. The different influences can be seen across the 30 rooms on full display. We will continue our trip to Pitlochry for lunch and arrive in Edinburgh for dinner and overnight. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **EDINBURGH DAY 14**

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Wake up this morning as Scotland's capital welcomes you. With Boscolo you discover an Edinburgh beyond mass tourism. Our first visit will be Edinburgh Castle with an easy skip-the-line entrance. Battles and sieges were fought over it, royalty lived and died within its walls, and countless generations have been inspired by it. We will continue with Blair Street Underground. Beneath the bustle of Edinburgh's Old Town you will discover a dark, damp world unchanged since the 18th century. The rest of the day is free, return to the hotel

and get ready for an informal dinner out. Overnight in Edinburgh. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **DURHAM - YORK DAY 15**

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We leave Edinburgh and drive to Durham. Its Castle, together with the Cathedral, was awarded the status of a World Heritage Site in 1986. Opening can vary and are subject to availability. We will continue to York, where you will visit the medieval city starting from the Exhibition Square, see the Roman fortifications and the ruins of the North's largest medieval abbey, St. Mary's. We will enter two of the four major medieval gateways (Bootham and Monk Bars) and take a walk along part of its ancient walls, (The walk along the walls involves climbing and descending stone steps). Towards the end of the tour, we will also visit Holy Trinity Goodramgate, a hidden medieval gem with 15th Century. Dinner and overnight in York (meals: B. D.)

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#### **STRATFORD-UPON-AVON LONDON DAY 16**

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This morning we drive further south England up to Stratford, 1 mile from Stratford-upon-Avon. Relive Shakespeare's Tudor love story and visit the Anne Hathaway's Cottage, the childhood home of Shakespeare's wife. The young Shakespeare would have courted Anne here and the thatched cottage has often been described as the most romantic in England. Enjoy beautiful gardens in Stratford upon Avon. Time to relax and taste a scrumptious English afternoon tea in the café. Overnight in London. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **LONDON DAY 17**

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Our last day together will be spent in London visiting Tower of London with its spectacular Crown Jewels. We later embark onto a panoramic river Thames cruise up to Greenwich. Return to the hotel and let's meet once again for the farewell dinner. We say goodbye at the Dickens Inn, make up a cheers with a Lager, up to next trip with Boscolo tour. (meals: B. D.)

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#### **DEPARTURE DAY 18**

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Transfer by private coach from hotel to airport in London.

# FLAVORS FROM FRANCE

France with its traditions of gastronomy and wine will stimulate your senses. With this particular itinerary you will become familiar with the finest flavours of Burgundy, Alsace and Champagne. We will certainly entertain you; visiting cultural and historical locations, while discovering sensorial pleasures. Paris, one of the most alluring locations in the world, gives you a very warm welcome. We visit Dijon, Paris's sister, Colmar the "Ville Fleurie" (Flowering City) and the medieval towns of Beaune, Strasbourg and Reims. Again, back to Paris where you will say "au revoir" to France with an exquisite dinner with panoramic views, at the Eiffel Tower.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**PARIS**, Mercure Montmartre, 4\*  
**DIJON**, Oceania Le Jura, 4\*  
**STRASBURG**, Cour du Corbeau, 4\*  
**REIMS**, Best Western Plus Hotel de la Paix, 4\*



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**PARIS****DAY 1**

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Arrival at Paris airport. After clearing customs, you will meet your private tour manager and board our deluxe air-conditioned coach.

First, a stunning panoramic tour, where you will see Paris's most famous sights and monuments: Place Vendôme, the Opera House, the Pantheon, the Luxembourg Palace and Gardens, the Orsay Museum, Place de la Concorde, the Champs-Élysées, the Arc de Triomphe and the Invalides. We come to a stop at the Eiffel Tower where we climb aboard a riverboat to take a cruise along the Seine. Here you can admire the amazing architecture of the Louvre Museum and Notre Dame Cathedral while seated in the fully-glassed boat with terrace. In accordance with, the arrival time we can also include a visit to the Eiffel Tower, Paris's most popular monument. Check in at your hotel, dinner and time to rest. (Meals: B. D.)

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**DIJON****DAY 2**

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After your petit déjeuner, our France experience begins with a tour of the Burgundy Region. We stop in Vézelay and visit the Basilica of St. Mary Magdalene, the largest Romanesque church in France, only 10 yards shorter than Notre Dame in Paris. We continue to Dijon, which is just as chic as Paris, without the big city vibe. We will take a pleasant walking tour that begins at the spacious Place de la Libération, where you will see the huge Palais des Ducs et des États de Bourgogne. Rising behind the palace, is the ancient Tour Philippe le Bon, the tallest structure in the historic centre. You might wish to climb it if you're up to the 316 steps! We will stroll along Rue de la Liberté, Dijon's main pedestrian street for shopping. Here, we will taste the Kir, the famous drink made from crème de cassis (black currant liqueur) and white wine. Dinner and overnight stay in Dijon. (Meals: B. D.)

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**BEAUNE****DAY 3**

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After breakfast and check out, we visit another gem of Burgundy, the city of Beaune. This lovely medieval town is nestled in the heart of a vine-growing region. We will visit the city centre exploring the striking 15th century Hôtel-Dieu des Hospices before heading out to drive past fields dotted with vineyards, as we head to the Renaissance Château Clos de Vougeot; the castle was established by monks in the 12th century. Now, another culinary experience awaits you! We hunt

among the hazel, hornbeam and black pine to find a real local luxury, the Burgundy truffle! We will also have a tasting of this fragile (and very expensive!) musky scented fungus. Drive back to Dijon for dinner and overnight stay. (Meals: B. D.)

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**COLMAR - BARR STRASBURG****DAY 4**

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Today we head to the heart of Alsace to visit the picturesque city of Colmar. Centre of culture since the 13th century, Colmar was an important city during the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. We will walk along the tree-lined Krutenau Quarter, also known as "Little Venice." Our local guide will give you an introduction to the famous sculptor of the Statue of Liberty, Auguste Bartholdi, who was born here. We continue our journey along the Wine Route, from south to north, below the wooded foothills of the Vosges Mountains. Along the way, you can find hundreds of inviting wine cellars with excellent wines, just waiting to be discovered. We will be stopping in the village of Barr for a delicious tasting, and will end our day in Strasbourg with dinner and overnight stay (Meals: B. D.)

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**STRASBURG****DAY 5**

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Good morning Strasbourg! After breakfast we will take a tour of the city, on foot. We will visit Notre Dame Cathedral, a richly decorated gothic masterpiece of pink-tinted Vosges sandstone. You will be suitably impressed by its high bell tower (466ft) and the remarkable Renaissance Horloge Astronomique (Astronomical Clock), one of the world's largest clocks. In the afternoon we visit Château du Haut-Koenigsbourg. This site is one of the symbols of Alsatian heritage and offers breathtaking views over the Alsace plain, the Vosges Mountains and the Black Forest. The armoury and canons of this impressive castle permit you to step back in time to the Middle Ages. Dinner and overnight stay in Strasbourg. (Meals: B. D.)

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**REIMS****DAY 6**

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Today we explore the Champagne region, skipping the famous vineyards and searching for smaller cellars where we can taste excellent champagne. We visit Reims the square Drouet d'Erlon, the Reims Cathedral where the kings of France were crowned and the Carnegie library. Reims is also a city of Art Deco like New York City and Miami. You will be able to admire many

ornamented facades with low reliefs, cut off corners, wrought iron gates and guard rails, mosaics made with ceramic and stainless steel windows. We will also visit a winemaker and his cellar for a wonderful Champagne experience. Dinner and overnight stay in Reims. (Meals: B. D.)

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**PARIS****DAY 7**

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Before heading back to Paris, it is well worth a detour to the idyllic village of Hautvillers, known as the birthplace of champagne. In the 18th century the monk Dom Pérignon realised here, in the ancient Benedictine abbey of Hautvillers, the champagne wine-making process. Dom Pérignon's tomb rests today in the chancel of Saint-Sindulphe abbey. After, we arrive in Paris where you will have some free time for shopping. You will be entertained this evening with a feast for the eyes as well as the palate as you join our farewell dinner in the Eiffel Tower. Dinner and overnight stay in Paris. (Meals: B. L. D.)

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 8**

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Transfer by private coach from the hotel to the airport in Paris. (Meals: B.)



# FRANCE, MYSTIC ABBEYS AND RENAISSANCE CASTLES

No matter what your beliefs, we will take you on a journey through time, looking at spirituality and art, while revealing mystical places. France has some of the world's most beautiful Abbeys and Castles and all have unique and fascinating histories, tied to the fortunes of their monastic orders and Kings. Our journey begins in Bordeaux, a city with a rich history spanning at least two thousand years. We visit Abbaye St Jean in Sorde l'Abbaye and the Abbey of Saint Savin-sur-Gartempe. We continue towards the Loire Valley to discover world renowned Castles: Château de Chambord which was built in the early 16th century, and probably the most well known French palace, and Versailles, the residence of the famous Sun King, Louis XIV. We end in Paris discovering the spiritual message of Notre-Dame de Paris and the Abbey of St Denis, mostly forgotten by visitors; and where most of the French Kings are buried. The Louvre Museum and the Tour Eiffel will also be paid a visit and is not to be missed.



## BORDEAUX

DAY 1

Arrival in Bordeaux. After clearing customs, you will meet your private tour guide and driver for a comfortable transfer to the hotel. En route enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour of Bordeaux from the motor-coach where you will see some of the city's most important sites such as the Porte Cailhau, Palais de la Bourse Grand-Theatre and the Grosse Cloche. Check-in and time to rest. Dinner and overnight stay in Bordeaux. (Meals: B. D.)

## DAX - SORDE L'ABBAYE

DAY 2

After breakfast we depart for Dax, a commune in Aquitaine, sub-prefecture of the Landes department, whose history dates back to pre-roman times. We will visit the Cathedral, Notre Dame, and the Abbaye St Jean in Sorde l'Abbaye. Feel welcomed in this solemn place where the stone, water and clean lines invite contemplation and impose sanctity. Return to Bordeaux where you will visit the Cathedrale Saint Andre, as well as the Basilique Saint Seurin and Basilique and Fleche Saint Michel. They have all been listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites since 1998, as part of the pilgrim road to Compostela. Dinner and overnight stay in Bordeaux. (B,D)

## CHATEAU LA ROCHE COURBON

DAY 3

After breakfast we head towards Saintes. Not far from here we visit the Château de la Roche Courbon, known as Sleeping Beauty's Castle. It is an elegant château with beautiful French gardens that pre-date those at Versailles. The château was originally built during the 15th century, but its current style is down to Jean-Louis de Courbon who transformed it during the 17th century. We will visit the decorated interiors, including the painted panelling and the large kitchen with its full set of copper pans. We also visit the award-winning gardens and orchard, a flower garden, geometrical flower beds and lawns surrounding a small lake. We continue our drive up to Poitiers, a commune and the capital of the Vienne department and also part of the Poitou-Charentes region. Dinner and overnight stay in Poitiers. (Meals: B. D.)

## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**BORDEAUX**, Best Western Bayonne Etche-Ona, 4\*  
**POITIERS**, Mercure Poitiers Centre, 4\*  
**TOURS**, Oceania L'Univers, 4\*  
**CHARTRES**, Best Western Hotel Spa Grand Monarque, 4\*  
**PARIS**, Terrass Hotel, 4\*



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**POITIERS - DAY 4**  
**SAINT SAVIN-SUR-GARTEMPE**

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After breakfast we take a walking tour of Poitiers. We will visit the Church, Notre-Dame-la-Grande, a Romanesque Church built in the first half of the 12th century and also the Cathedrale Saint-Pierre (St. Peter), begun in 1160. After lunch we travel to Saint Savin-sur-Gartempe and visit the Abbey. This monument is an artistic jewel registered on the UNESCO world Heritage List in 1983. Known as the 'Romanesque Sistine Chapel', the Abbey-Church of Saint-Savin contains many beautiful 11th and 12th century murals; you will be impressed by its remarkable state of preservation. Return to Poitiers for dinner and overnight stay. (B.D.)

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**TOURS - AMBOISE DAY 5**

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Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Board your private motor coach and travel to the Loire Valley. We arrive in Tours, known for its quiet atmosphere; Tours is a city that really has to be visited. Admire the well-preserved historic centre, the magnificent cathedral and the basilica that houses the tomb of Saint Martin. After lunch we travel to Amboise. Amboise is a serene, easygoing town where you will enjoy exploring the streets lined with boutiques as well as the esplanades along the Loire river banks with excellent views of the river. We will visit a spectacular monument from the Renaissance period, the Royal Amboise Castle. Perched on a promontory overlooking the Loire, the castle is surrounded by landscaped gardens. It houses an exceptional collection of Gothic and Renaissance furniture. The tomb of Leonardo da Vinci, who spent his final years in Amboise, is located in the chapel. We drive back to Tours where, before dinner, we invite you to partake of an aperitif in the Plumereau; many say this is the best place in France to take a pre dinner drink! Dinner in a local restaurant and overnight stay in Tours. (B.D.)

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**CHAMBORD - ORLEANS DAY 6**

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Breakfast and check out from your hotel in Tours. This morning we will visit Chambord Castle, another UNESCO jewel. Chambord is an exceptional work of art built to match the tastes of François I. The chateau is inextricably related to its naturally surrounding forest; it measures 5440 hectares, and is the largest walled estate in Europe. You will be immersed in a uniquely enchanting atmosphere; some say Leonardo da Vinci inspired its Renaissance

architecture. Enjoy the breath-taking view from the terraces and the 18th century furnished apartments. After lunch we depart toward Chartres and on the route we stop in Orleans. Orleans does not form part of the 'major sights' of the Loire Valley and perhaps for this reason it is less visited. This is unfortunate because Orleans is a very attractive city with lots to see. We will explore Place du Martroi, where you can see a large 19th century statue of Joan of Arc. We will visit the Cathedral Sainte-Croix, a 17th century gothic style cathedral and the most important historic monument in the city. We walk directly along the Rue Jeanne d'Arc, the broad avenue, to the front of the cathedral created at the beginning of the 19th century. After visiting Orleans we continue our itinerary and arrive in Chartres the "Earthly Palace of the Queen of Heaven" for dinner and overnight stay. (B.D.)

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**CHARTRES - VERSAILLES DAY 7**

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This morning enjoy a guided tour of Chartres old city with its beautiful buildings, cobbled streets, and religious monuments dominated by the magnificent Cathedral. We visit the Cathedral with over 1,000 beautiful stained glass windows. Pilgrims have marvelled for centuries at this masterpiece of Gothic architecture. The Cathedral contains part of the Sacred Tunic, worn by the Blessed Virgin at the time of Jesus' birth. Before arriving in cosmopolitan Paris we take you through the enchanted grounds of Palais de Versailles, stopping to visit the magnificent Palace and its beautiful gardens, we will reveal the stories of the shamelessly self-indulgent kings, queens and consorts of 17th and 18th century France as well as the scandals that shook the monarchy and lit the fires that started the Revolution. After the visit, we arrive in Paris for dinner and overnight stay. (B.D.)

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**PARIS DAY 8**

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After breakfast, with a stunning panoramic tour, you will see Paris's most famous sights and monuments: Place Vendôme, the Pantheon, the Luxembourg Palace and Gardens, Place de la Concorde, the Champs-Élysées, the Arc de Triomphe and the Invalides. We also visit the second floor of the Eiffel Tower, Paris's most popular monument, where we will have lunch. In the afternoon we visit Notre Dame de Paris. Begun in 1163 and largely completed by 1250. One of the most famous cathedrals in the world; this Gothic beauty is a must-see for its magnificent artworks. We later drive a few miles out of Paris and visit the Abbey of Saint Denis. Its construction started over 1500 years ago; necropolis

of the kings of France, from the first King Clovis, who died in 511, to Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, all buried in this church. We return to the city of Paris for Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay. (B.L.D.)

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**PARIS DAY 9**

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In the morning you will enter the second most visited Museum in the world; the first is a bit further away being the Palace Museum in China. At the Louvre you will see the Apollo Gallery, admire the ceiling and the King's crown; you will also visit the Medici gallery and view Italian paintings from the Renaissance, such as Da Vinci's Mona Lisa. Also not to be missed are masterpieces such as "La Liberté Guidant le Peuple," Liberty leading the People, by Delacroix, and "Le Sacre de Napoléon," Coronation of Napoleon by Jacques-Louis David. Finally, you have the chance to see "La Vénus de Milo", Aphrodite from Milos. Our visit lasts approximately an hour and a half but if you are not yet too tired, you can take a walk through the museum and explore the different galleries by yourself. After lunch, we will take you to Sacre Coeur for a walk through the area of Montmartre. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight stay in Paris. (B.D.)

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**PARIS DAY 10**

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After your petit déjeuner, enjoy a walking tour of the Palais Garnier, Paris' premier Opera House, to see one of the largest theatres in Europe. The Opera Garnier, as it is often called, inspired the setting for the famous musical, 'Phantom of the Opera.' During the tour, your expert guide will show you the Grand Foyer, the sumptuous main staircase (Grand Escalier), the Member's Rotunda and the auditorium itself. Enjoy the opulent Neo-Baroque décor of this beautiful building, designed by French architect Charles Garnier in the late 19th century. In the afternoon you will have time to shop at leisure, explore Paris at your own pace and take a stroll along the elegant Champs Élysées, the city's most famous Avenue. Au Revoir France. The last evening meal is introduced with a special Champagne aperitif on board Le Bateaux Parisien for an outstanding dinner cruise with view. Overnight stay in Paris. (B,D)

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**DEPARTURE DAY 11**

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Transfer by private coach from hotel to airport in Paris

# BUDAPEST AND PRAGUE, ALL-INCLUSIVE RIVER CRUISE

During these 10 days journey you will visit grand cities and quaint villages along this great river. The Danube is the longest river in the European Union and the second-longest river in Europe after Russia's Volga. We begin from Budapest where you will have the opportunity to explore both sides of Hungary's capital, traditional Buda and cosmopolitan Pest. You will experience Vienna's imperial architecture and visit the medieval cathedral towns in Austria's Wachau Valley. You will savour premier wines and visit private vineyards. You tour ends in Prague considered one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Also, learn of local legends and why Strauss immortalised the "Blue Danube" in his waltz.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**BUDAPEST**, Boscolo Hotel Budapest, 5\*  
**PRAGUE**, Boscolo Hotel Prague, 5\*

### BUDAPEST

#### DAY 1

Arrival at Budapest airport. After clearing customs, you will meet your tour manager and your driver for a comfortable transfer to the Boscolo 5\* hotel in the city centre. Boscolo Hotel Budapest is considered a must for those in search of excellence; maximum comfort alongside elegant and refined interior architecture, with no shortage of marble, bronze, brocades and ancient frescoes, all harmoniously combined with crystal and steel, materials typical of modern design, in the quest for originality and perfection. Welcome dinner at the hotel and overnight stay. (Meals: B.D.)

### BUDAPEST

#### DAY 2

After breakfast at the hotel, meet your English speaking guide in the foyer and enjoy a daylong guided tour of the town. Both the Pest and Buda embankments of the Danube, extending from Liberty Bridge to the Margaret Bridge are all areas of World Heritage today.

You will see the area encompassing the Chain Bridge, Gellért Bath, and Gellért Hill with its Liberty statue, the Citadel, the Castle of Buda, the Baroque churches and Turkish baths of the so-called Water Town. The most visited site in Trinity Square, dominated by one of Budapest's most characteristic building, is the Mathias Church, which is over 700 years old. Lunch is at leisure, time to collect your bags at the hotel and transfer to the port. Late afternoon you will board ship, where you will find the friendly crew awaiting your arrival. You will have time to appreciate the features of your cabin, all with panoramic windows and French balconies. Soon after, your Cruise Director will invite you to a welcome cocktail, while enjoying a romantic evening cruise through the illuminated city of Budapest. The head chef will soon after, treat you to a lively Hungarian dinner with a folklore show and traditional dancing; all while heading upstream to Esztergom. (Meals: B.D.)

### ESZTERGOM

#### DAY 3

Enjoy this morning at leisure. In the afternoon a coach excursion will take you to visit Hungary's largest church, the Basilica in the Archdiocese of Esztergom, which can be seen for miles around. Here there is an excursion to Szentendre, site of a famed artist's colony since 1926. The small town is home to numerous contemporary galleries and museums, which all serve to highlight its significance as the artistic stronghold of Hungary.

Your ship joins you in Esztergom, raises its anchor and continues downstream towards Bratislava. (Meals: B.L.D.)

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#### **BRATISLAVA - VIENNA** DAY 4

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Your ship arrives in the Slovak capital, Bratislava, around breakfast time. You will spend the morning on a city tour visiting the impressive castle, from where you have a beautiful panoramic view of three countries: Slovakia, Austria and Hungary. After lunch on board, an excursion to the Imperial Schlosshof Palace, once the country estate of the Empress Maria Theresa; another highlight of the trip. You will also visit the imperial rooms, the chapel and the magnificent banqueting hall. Afterwards, there is plenty of time for a stroll through the beautiful palace gardens. Rejoin the ship, and spend the afternoon on board. By the time evening arrives, Vienna will already be in sight. After dinner, music fans can enjoy a performance of "Sound of Vienna" at Vienna's Kursalon; the "Alt Wien" orchestra plays popular pieces from Vienna's classical era and promises a delightful evening of lively waltz music and famous concert melodies. (Meals: B.L.D.)

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#### **VIENNA** DAY 5

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Today is entirely devoted to the former imperial seat and residence of the Habsburgs. You will take a tour of the city after breakfast; passing along the Ringstrasse and into Vienna's historic centre where you can admire the famous sights of St Stephen's Cathedral, the Hundertwasserhaus, the Hofburg Palace and numerous other magnificent buildings. In the afternoon, you will take a trip to the majestic Schönbrunn Palace with its magical gardens. The palace was, in its heyday, under the rule of Empress Maria Theresa and is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful buildings in Vienna. Return to the ship. The "Vienna by Night" excursion (bookable only on board) will show you the night time splendour of this city of over a million people. The tour takes you through the Vienna Woods to the best viewpoint in the city, the Kahlenberg, from where there is a spectacular panoramic view of Vienna and the surrounding vineyards. Afterwards, we visit a cosy wine tavern in the traditional wine-growing village of Neustift am Walde. With a couple of glasses of wine, typical wine bar snacks and music, you will soon discover the famed Viennese hospitality! A ride along the magnificently illuminated Ringstrasse rounds off this eventful excursion. We return to the ship before setting off for the Wachau in the evening. (Meals: B.L.D.)

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#### **MELK EMMERSDORF - DUERNSTEIN** DAY 6

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In the morning, the ship docks at Melk - Emmersdorf, right in the heart of Wachau's UNESCO-protected cultural heritage landscape. A coach then takes you to this bucolic valley dotted with tiny towns far from the bustle of the modern world. We will stop in Duerstein where you will find some of Austria's premier vineyards and experience a local wine tasting. After lunch onboard ship, your afternoon is busy basking in the spirituality of the Benedictine Melk Abbey, Austria's largest baroque monastery. You will visit the modern Abbey Museum and then join a tour to admire the splendour of the prelatore hall, the Marble Hall and the world-famous abbey library. Return to the ship and sail to Linz. (Meals: B.L.D.)

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#### **LINZ - SALZBURG** DAY 7

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Today you will join a full-day excursion to the romantic "Mozart city" of Salzburg and the stunning lake scenery of the Salzkammergut. The excursion ends in Linz where we will transfer by coach to Passau where your ship is docked. In the evening the Captain will invite you to an exclusive gala dinner while we sail on to Regensburg. (Meals: B.L.D.)

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#### **REGENSBURG** DAY 8

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After breakfast, we reach one of the best preserved medieval towns in Germany, where there will be a morning guided tour showing you the main sights including the Town Hall, St Peter's cathedral and the Stone Bridge, which has spanned the Danube ever since it was first built in the 12th century. Afterwards we return to the ship in time for lunch. In the afternoon, you join an excursion to the impressive Benedictine Weltenburg Abbey, one of the oldest monasteries in Bavaria and home to the world-famous dark beer that is still brewed on site. A tour of these sacred buildings would, therefore, not be complete without sampling this special beer at the finish! To relax at the end of the day, we offer a typical Bavarian evening on board, while the ship leaves Regensburg and heads back to Passau. (Meals: B.L.D.)

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#### **PASSAU** DAY 9

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Disembark after breakfast and drive to Prague. The journey lasts approximately 3 hours. Check in at the 5 star Boscolo Hotel.

Enveloped in a fabled atmosphere the hotel will captivate you with its refined details: from the rooms to the restaurant, from the Cigar Bar to the mosaic bottom of the pool, everything is presented with a refined elegance that characterises the hotel as being amongst the most prestigious of the Czech capital. The stuccoes, the splendour of marble, classic motifs, precious woods and antique furnishings; if Prague is the city of alchemists, the Boscolo Prague is its enchanted palace. Dinner is at leisure. (Meals: B.)

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#### **PRAGUE** DAY 10

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After breakfast meet your English speaking guide for a guided tour of Prague. The city is divided into five areas, spanning both banks of the Vltava River. Charles Bridge is the main pedestrian connection between the two. On your walking tour, explore with your private English speaking guide, the Old Town along the Vltava River, Wenceslas Square and the Jewish Quarter. Lunch and afternoon is at leisure. Enjoy a farewell dinner at your luxury hotel and overnight stay. (Meals: B.D.)

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#### **DEPARTURE** DAY 11

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Transfer by private coach from hotel to airport in Prague.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF GERMANY

From the warming Munich, to Dresden, the "Florence of the Elbe"; the multifaceted Berlin, which is constantly renewed in the wake of the avant garde, to the noble Potsdam; from Leipzig to the imperial city of Nuremberg. An intense and amazing journey that explores the many faces of Germany and alternates beautifully preserved natural landscapes and architectural wonders. A trip that makes fall in love with this country.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**MUNICH**, Leonardo Royal Hotel Munich, 4\*  
**DRESDEN**, Hilton Dresden, 4\*  
**BERLIN**, Park Inn by Radisson Alexanderplatz, 4\*  
**LEIPZIG**, Marriott Leipzig, 4\*



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**MUNICH****DAY 1**

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Arrival at Munich airport and transfer to the hotel. Depending on flight times, take time to relax or explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Munich.

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**MUNICH - REGENSBURG DAY 2  
DRESDEN**

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After breakfast at the hotel, we will take a tour of Munich, the capital of Bavaria, with its most important point the Maximilaneum, which is home to the Regional Parliament, Koningsplatz ( Royal Square). We then continue our walking tour where we will find the Ducal Palace, the Frauenkirche Church and Marienplatz square, the heart of the old town. Then we will head for Regensburg, in western Bavaria. Here we will stop for lunch in a local restaurant followed by a guided walking tour. The town is on the banks of the Danube and its historic centre is an example of perfectly integrated different architectural styles. In the afternoon we will head for Dresden, known as Elba's Florence for its substantial artistic heritage. Overnight in Dresden.

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**DRESDEN - MEISSEN DAY 3  
BERLIN**

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Following breakfast, we will take a guided tour of Dresden, to see its most important landmarks: the Opera Theatre, the Zwinger, the Hofkirche, the Frauenkirche and the panoramic and spectacular Bruhl terrace on the Elba river. In the afternoon we will follow the Elba river to arrive in Meissen and stop for a visit to the Porcelain Factories; inside you will see a rich collection of masterpieces dating from 1710 to today. We will then walk through the medieval centre. Onward journey to Berlin and overnight stay.

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**BERLIN****DAY 4**

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After breakfast, a chance to see the modern city of Berlin, the laboratory of the new Europe. After World War II, and the fall of the Berlin Wall, the city continues to rebuilt to stunning effect. Take a full day guided tour of former East Berlin, West Berlin and the exterior of the principal monuments Alexanderplatz, Kreuzberg neighbourhood, the New Jewish Museum, Nikolai neighbourhood, Gendarmenmarkt with its French and German Dom, the Brandenburg Gates, the Reichstag and Potsdamer Platz. Then we will head for

Charlottenburg, the Prussian Mansion, with a brief stop to see the exterior. Free time for lunch. Overnight in Berlin. Optional: Night tour of Berlin.

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**BERLIN****DAY 5**

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After breakfast at the hotel enjoy a full free day at your leisure or visit the Pergamon Museum, where masterpieces such as the Pergamon Altar and Ishtar door can be appreciated, or visiting the West Berlin for shopping and leisure time. Overnight in Berlin.

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**BERLIN - CECILIENHOF DAY 6  
POTSDAM - LEIPZIG**

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After breakfast, we will take a guided visit to the Brandenburg Area in the morning, with the first stop at Cecilienhof (exterior of the Palace) where the Postdam Conference took place in the 1945. Then we will proceed to Postdam where, in the 287 acres of the Sanssouci park, we find one of the most important ensembles of masterpieces. Take a guided tour of the gardens and one of the palaces. Then we will head for Saxony. Free time for lunch. We then arrive in Leipzig, to take a walking tour in the historic centre, visiting Markplatz, with the old City Hall and the gothic churches. Overnight in Leipzig. Leipzig – Nuremberg

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**MUNICH****DAY 7**

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Following breakfast, we depart for Nuremberg, the German imperial city where we will stop for lunch in a local restaurant. We will then take a short walking tour to see the Castle, the Church of Saint Sebald, Hauptmarkt square and the church of Our Lady of the Sands, the banks of the river and St Lawrence's church. We then head to the hotel in Munich where we will overnight. Farewell dinner in a typical beer-garden with music.

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**MUNICH / DEPARTURE DAY 8**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then, depending on the flight departure time, visit the city on your own for shopping or sightseeing. Transfer from the hotel to the airport and return to your original departure city.



# DISCOVERY DENMARK, NORWAY AND SWEDEN

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With vibrant cities, distinct cultures and unspoiled landscapes, on this tour through Scandinavia, you will spend time in the major cities exploring Nordic city life. We start in Copenhagen, a pulsating metropolis, then, it's on to the historical oasis, Oslo, which combines vibrant city life with the beautiful outdoors. We visit, Stockholm, famous for its archipelago and diverse architecture. Sightseeing includes all the must-see sights and much more besides. Take a ride on a Horse drawn carriage through Dyrehaven Woods in Copenhagen, and experience the trolling fishing for pike and pikeperch with a local fisherman in Sweden.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

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**COPENHAGEN**, Radisson Blu Scandinavia, 4\*  
**OSLO**, Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, 4\*  
**ESKILSTUNA**, Clarion Collection Hotel Bolinder Munktel, 4\*  
**STOCKHOLM**, Hotel Nordic C, 4\*



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**COPENHAGEN****DAY 1**

After arrival at the airport in Copenhagen, you meet with the Tour Manager. In accordance with arrival time, enjoy a guided tour of the city. You will see the Amalienborg Palace, Gefion Fountain, the old harbor of Nyhavn and the famous little mermaid. You will also tour the popular pedestrian shopping street, Stroget. After the tour we check in at the hotel and where there will be a welcome reception. Welcome dinner in one of the Tivoli gardens' restaurants. Overnight stay in Copenhagen.

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**COPENHAGEN****DAY 2**

Our first appointment is at the home of the Royal Family, Christiansborg Palace, which today, is the seat of the Danish Parliament. You will be welcome to participate in a private tour of the past and the present; and to explore the history of Christiansborg which spans eight centuries. After lunch, which is taken at leisure in one of the restaurants recommended by your guide, we spend the afternoon taking a Horse drawn carriage ride through centuries-old Dyrehaven Woods. The rest of the day is left free for exploration at your own pace. Overnight stay in Copenhagen.

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**COPENHAGEN-OSLO****DAY 3**

After a tasty buffet breakfast, the morning in Copenhagen is free to do some last minute shopping and sightseeing. In the afternoon we are transferred to DFDS Seaways terminal for your overnight cruise to Oslo, in which you will enjoy a delicious Scandinavian buffet dinner and onboard dancing and entertainment, or you may prefer to sit on deck and watch the sunset, the choice is yours. Accommodation is in 2-berth outside cabins.

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**OSLO****DAY 4**

A delicious buffet breakfast is served as you cruise along the enchanting Oslo Fjord; after which, we disembark and meet our guide, then it's off to enjoy the capital of Norway. We begin our discovery of the city with a panoramic tour that includes Holmenkollen and Vigeland park and the Opera house. After the tour we check in at the hotel where there will be time for a rest and a leisurely lunch. In the afternoon we will have our first encounter with Viking culture when we visit the Viking ship museum. Overnight stay in Oslo.

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**OSLO****DAY 5**

After breakfast at the hotel, we visit the Norwegian Folk museum and the Fram Museum. For lunch we drive to Bølgen and Moy at Høvik. After which, we drive back to the centre of Oslo along the Tyrifjord to Dronningens, stopping to enjoy the views. Dinner is at a restaurant of your own choice. Your tour manager will gladly assist you with table reservations. Overnight stay in Oslo

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**VASTERAS****DAY 6**

After breakfast at the hotel, we leave Oslo and venture further afield on our amazing journey. We will take part in salmon fishing and discover the secrets and the beauty of this ancient tradition, which is still such a part of this fascinating country. After, we return to the hotel for some rest and free time. For dinner, we will be treated to a tasty and authentic Viking meal. Overnight stay in hotel

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**STOCKHOLM****DAY 7**

After breakfast, we will meet our guide for a city tour of discovery, which also includes the ship, Vasa Museum; the ship capsized and sank in Stockholm in 1628. After 333 years on the sea bed, the mighty warship was salvaged; to become the world's only preserved 17th century ship, and the most visited museum in Scandinavia. The rest of the day will be free. Dinner is at a restaurant of your own choice. Overnight stay in hotel.

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**STOCKHOLM - UPPSALA****DAY 8**

After breakfast, we departure for the city of Uppsala, home of the esteemed scientist Carl Linnaeus, the 18th century professor of medicine at Uppsala University. Become better acquainted with this great man by visiting the Linnaeus Museum and Linnaeus Garden. Uppsala is a university city and many important historical buildings and much of its rich cultural heritage is linked to the university. One such is the Carolina Rediviva library where you can see the 'Silver Bible' as well as priceless books, maps and manuscripts. In the afternoon, we take a guided tour of Sigtuna, a picturesque medieval town of 8,000 inhabitants. Overnight stay in Hotel

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**STOCKHOLM****DAY 9**

After breakfast, we will departure for Archipelago where we take a boat tour. A boat tour is perfect for experiencing the untouched nature of the unique archipelago, in Stockholm, in a short amount of time. The tour is 2.5 - 3 hours long. On board our guide will inform you of what's typical about the Stockholm archipelago in a very inspiring manner, making this journey not only beautiful but informative. Lunch on board. Return to the hotel to enjoy some free time. Enjoy this evening an Abba Dinner!! A tasty Mediterranean buffet is placed on your table. Glasses are raised across the room. Everything happens on a magical evening of acts filled with singing, dancing, daredevil stunts, Greek Gods, flirty waiters, and perhaps a Zorba and an Ouzo or two. Overnight stay in Hotel.

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 10**

After breakfast at your hotel we will be transferred to the airport.



# FRANCE AND SPAIN

Journey dedicated to discover France and Spain. Paris, where the atmosphere of the capital, with its splendid palaces, the romantic banks of the Seine, the elegant gardens and the prestigious boutiques, are combined with the splendor of the Loire castles, vestiges of a glorious past that continues to live and excite. Lourdes with its spirituality, which attracts thousands of pilgrims each year, and to enjoy the grace of timeless medieval villages, Barcelona, the Catalan capital is synonymous with design visionary and futuristic spaces, the city of Gaudi is also characterized elegance of the Passeig de Gracia, with its boutiques and stately homes, and the Sagrada Familia. A city to live. Madrid, the Spanish capital with museums that fascinates and seduces with the beautiful Plaza de Oriente. An unforgettable holiday in two of the most beautiful european countries.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**PARIS**, Mercure Paris Tour Eiffel, 4\*  
**TOURS**, Alliance Hotels Tours, 4\*  
**BORDEAUX**, Mercure Bordeaux Centre, 4\*  
**LOURDES**, Hotel Alba, 4\*  
**BARCELONA**, Hotel Catalonia Barcelona Plaza, 4\*  
**MADRID**, Senator Gran Via 70 Spa Hotel, 4\*



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**PARIS****DAY 1**

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Arrival at Paris airport and transfer to the hotel. Depending on flight times, take time to relax or explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Paris.

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**PARIS****DAY 2**

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Following breakfast at the hotel we will begin a full day guided tour of the city visiting Ile de la Cite', Notre Dame cathedral, Sorbonne and St-Germain-de-Pres. In the afternoon we continue the guided tour taking in Place Vendome, Place de la Concorde, exterior of Les Invalides, Eiffel Tower, the beautiful Champs-Elysees and the Arc de Triomphe before returning to the hotel. You can choose to enjoy an optional dinner in a typical restaurant in Montmartre. Overnight in Paris.

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**PARIS - VERSAILLES - PARIS****DAY 3**

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Following breakfast, we will visit the sumptuous "chateau" of Versailles. You will spend the morning appreciating the fabulous State Apartments, the Hall of Mirrors and the Queen's Apartment. The Grand Apartment, where Luis XIV held court, consists of 6 gilded salons, all of which are fine examples of baroque craftsmanship. The Queen's Apartment includes the Queen's bedroom where royal births took place in full view of the court. We will then return to Paris where you can enjoy the afternoon at your leisure or take an optional guided tour of the Louvre. It may no longer be the centre of French power, but the Louvre exerts its presence both as a grandiose palace within the city and a symbol of cultural Paris. It is arguably the most famous museum in the world, in fact it is many museums in one; a palace whose medieval origins were discovered during the Grand Louvre project, it encompasses architecture from every era. The main attractions are its paintings and sculptures, most of which are housed in the vast Denone wing. Here the Mona Lisa has a new home, in the Salle des Etats, it is complemented by 52 works on the Venetian Renaissance, including paintings by Titian and Tintoretto. In the evening choose to see an optional show at the well-known Moulin Rouge. Overnight in Paris.

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**PARIS - AMBOISE CHAMBORD - TOURS****DAY 4**

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After breakfast, commence a full day guided tour of some of the most famous castles in the Loire Valley. Known as 'the Garden of France', the Loire Valley is an enchanted land of vineyards, flowers and rolling green hills dotted with more than a thousand chateaux being the favourite residence of the Kings of France during the Renaissance period. They surrounded themselves with the greatest artists and architects of this era. We will have a short visit in Amboise. We will also visit Chambord castle, the most famous and majestic castle in the Loire Valley. It combined the dream of King François I with the imagination of Leonardo de Vinci and the result is a grandiose creation: 440 rooms, a fabulous double staircase and a unique roof terrace. Enjoy lunch at your leisure. Overnight in Tours.

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**TOURS - BORDEAUX****DAY 5**

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After breakfast we will travel all the way to Bordeaux where we will stop for an overnight. Free lunch on route. Overnight in Bordeaux.

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**BORDEAUX - LOURDES****DAY 6**

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After breakfast we will depart to Lourdes. In the afternoon we visit the City of Lourdes together with the local guide. Since 1858 it is known for its Christian pilgrimage. We climb through a path that starts from the Basilica and ends at the summit of the hill, where we meet the 14 Stations of the Cross. Overnight in Lourdes.

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**LOURDES - BARCELONA****DAY 7**

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After breakfast we will travel from Lourdes to Barcelona. We will arrive late in the afternoon in the second biggest Spain's city. Overnight in Barcelona.

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**BARCELONA****DAY 8**

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Following breakfast at the hotel, take a morning tour of Catalonia's capital including Park Guell with its amazing stone structures, stunning tiling and fascinating buildings. Get a thorough overview of this modern and rich city with its elegant neighbourhoods. Afternoon at leisure to explore the city on your own like the 'Barrio

Gothic', up to the Santa Maria del Mar church, symbol of Catalonia for mariners, La Ramblas: a busy street of sights, colours and people. Overnight in Barcelona. Optional dinner: Typical Catalan menu.

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**BARCELONA - MADRID****DAY 9**

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After breakfast we will take our transfer to Barcelona railway station to boarding the Renfe train to Madrid. This fast train travels between the 2 cities in about 03h30. Arriving at Madrid railway station and transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Madrid.

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**MADRID - TOLEDO - MADRID****DAY 10**

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After breakfast, we will take a guided tour of the city to visit the most important places in Madrid including its fountains, Cibeles and Neptun, view of the Prado, Reina Sofia and Thyssen Bournemitz, Atocha Liberty railway station and one of Madrid's symbols: Puerta d'Alcala. We will go on to Plaza de Toros, the Paseo of the Castellana and exterior of the Royal Palace and Opera. Enjoy free time for lunch. In the afternoon we will visit Toledo, a World Heritage sight, the Mudejar Cathedral, the church of Saint Tome' with its famous El Greco painting, then a short walk in this open air museum. Optional: in the typical dinner in a tapas restaurant or you can take an optional visit to see flamenco. Overnight in Madrid.

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**MADRID - DEPARTURE****DAY 11**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then depending on the flight departure time, visit the city on your own for shopping or sightseeing. Transfer from the hotel to the airport and return to your original departure city.

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# BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE FLEMISH PAINTING

Flemish painting is characterized by extraordinary subtlety, attention to detail, vivid colors, and inspired technique. The medium oil painting on panel was invented by Flemish master Jan van Eyck. He is credited with developing illusionist effects and luminosity with the newly invented oil glazes. This new medium allowed the smooth blending of colors, the use of transparent glazes, and ability to go back in and change the same section over and over again. Let yourself be inspired by an amazing journey through these extraordinary colors.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**BRUSSELS**, Hotel NH Bruxelles, 4\*  
**ANVERSA**, Ramada Plaza, 4\*  
**BRUGES**, NH Bruges, 4\*  
**AMSTERDAM**, Hotel Park Plaza Vondelpark, 4\*  
**THE HAGUE**, Hotel Hampshire Meerdervoort, 4\*  
**VUGHT**, Hotel Valk Vught, 4\*



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**BRUSSELS****DAY 1**

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Arrival at the airport of Brussels where you will be greeted by the Tour Manager. Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Brussels that will begin with the majestic Grand Place with the Saint-Michael's cathedral. We will visit the widely known Atomium and pass by the Chinese pavilion and Japanese Tower. From the Royal Residence we will return to the city center to visit the Sablon area, with its numerous antique shops, while passing the Palace of Justice and the Royal Palace. The next part of our tour covers the district in which you will see the headquarters of the European Parliament and Commission. Dinner and overnight in hotel

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**GHENT - BRUSSELS****DAY 2**

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After breakfast, you will be guided into the Museum Magritte: the René Magritte Museum occupies the house in which the Belgian surrealist painter worked nearly 24 years of his life. On the ground floor the museum presents the apartment where the painter lived and worked from 1930 to 1954. At the end time at disposal for lunch at leisure. In the afternoon we depart to Ghent. Discover Graslei and Korenlei - the medieval harbor of Ghent - the City Hall, Graffiti Street and St. Jakob Church. We return to Brussels. Dinner and overnight in hotel

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**ANTWERP****DAY 3**

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After breakfast you will leave Brussels to Antwerp. At your arrival, you will be delighted by a tasty lunch in the historical restaurant "De Pelgrom". In the afternoon, a nice tour of Antwerp with the medieval castle (outside visit), the marketplace with its gold houses and the town hall, the Baroque church of Borromeo Saint Charles and the Cathedral with the masterpiece of Rubens. Dinner out in a restaurant of your choice, your tour manager will gladly assist you with table reservations. Overnight stay in hotel

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**ANTWERP - BRUGES****DAY 4**

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Today after breakfast, visit the Museum Plantin & Moretus. The original residence and workshop of the Plantin and Moretus publishing dynasty, offers you a unique historical experience, which is why it is a Unesco world heritage site. The building's creaking oak planks and panels seem imbued in the history of books, the art of printing and the story of a family's

entrepreneurial flair. The oldest printing presses in the world can be found here, and much more besides. Time for lunch on your own. In the afternoon, departure to Bruges. Dinner and overnight in hotel

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**BRUGES - AMSTERDAM****DAY 5**

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After breakfast, meet your local guide for the visit of the Groeninge Museum which offers a varied overview of the history of Belgian plastic arts. Although the Flemish Primitives are a high point, you will also marvel at top 18th and 19th-century neoclassical pieces, masterpieces from Flemish Expressionism and post-war modern art. A nice cruise along the canals will delight you before lunch. Time for lunch on your own. Departure to Zundert for the visit of Van Gogh birth house. Not a classical museum but a living art centre on the very spot where the artist was born. In the late afternoon arrival in Amsterdam. Dinner and overnight in hotel

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**AMSTERDAM****DAY 6**

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After breakfast at your hotel, departure for a guided tour of Amsterdam: Dam square, Begijnhof, Flower Market, the Old Church, Amstel River and the Canal Belt. Free time for lunch. In the afternoon, guided tour of the Van Gogh Museum. This museum maintains the world's largest collection of the works of the world's most popular artist. Special dinner in a restaurant. Overnight in hotel

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**VOLENDAM - THE HAGUE****DAY 7**

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Today after breakfast we depart to Zaanse Schans and Volendam to discover the typical Dutch countryside outside the capital. Lunch is included in local restaurant in Volendam. Departure to Den Haag and visit the Mauritshuis, the house of Dutch painting from the Golden Age. Masterpieces such as Vermeer's Girl with a Pearl Earring, The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp by Rembrandt, The Goldfinch by Fabritius and The Bull by Potter are on permanent display in the intimate rooms of this seventeenth-century monument. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

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**DELFT - VUGHT****DAY 8**

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After breakfast departure to Delft. Enjoy a guided tour of the town, stroll the well-preserved streets of Delft where Johannes Vermeer once walked, see the Prince's

Court, where William of Orange was murdered and visit the new church, burial place to the Dutch Royal family. Departure to Otterlo for a lunch at the Amsterdam Park. Dinner and overnight in hotel in Vught

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**MECHELEN - BRUSSELS****DAY 9**

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After breakfast, we drive to Mechelen for a guided tour. You will be inspired by the old city center, the cathedral, the town hall and the Market place. We go along the Casern Dossin, the river Dijle and the Large Beguinage. Departure to Brussels and time for lunch on your own. This evening dinner is included in a typical and nice restaurant in Brussels. Overnight in hotel

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**DEPARTURE****DAY 10**

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Your journey has come to an end as we transfer you to airport for departure.



# BEST OF EASTERN EUROPE

A great journey into the heart of Europe which captivates with its extraordinary cities and the enchanted landscapes. Vienna, with the legacies of Habsburg and the art treasures of the early twentieth century; Budapest and Prague, where modernity has left intact the charm of the past; Auschwitz, the testimony of the horrors of war, and then Warsaw and Krakow, welcoming and on a human scale. An extraordinary itinerary.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**VIENNA**, Courtyard by Marriott Wien Messe, 4\*  
**BUDAPEST**, Hotel Novotel Budapest Centrum, 4\*  
**KRAKOW**, Doubletree by Hilton Krakow Hotel, 4\*  
**WARSAW**, Radisson Blu Centrum Hotel Warsaw, 4\*  
**WROCLAW**, Radisson Blu Hotel Wroclaw, 4\*  
**PRAGUE**, Mgallery Hotel Century Old Town Prague, 4\*



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**VIENNA****DAY 1**

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Arrival at Vienna airport and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Vienna.

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**VIENNA****DAY 2**

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After breakfast at the hotel enjoy a full day guided tour of the city. We will visit the Ring, the central area where the Opera, the historic Art Museum, Parliament, the City Hall, University, and National Theatre are located; you will see the Prater area with its panoramic wheel, and view of the exterior of Vienna's most famous symbol – St. Stephen's Cathedral. In the afternoon we will visit the Wienerwald, crossing Mayerling, heading for the Heiligenkreuz Cistercian abbey and Baden, famous for its spa. Overnight in Vienna.

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**VIENNA****DAY 3**

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After breakfast, visit of Schoenbrunn Castle, the most famous of the Habsburg's imperial residence. In the afternoon take an optional guided tour of the exterior of Hofburg Palace, the Augustinian Church and the Imperial Treasure Museum which is inside the Hofburg Palace. Overnight in the hotel.  
Dinner with music in Grinzing, the wine region, in a typical "Heurigen".

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**VIENNA - BUDAPEST****DAY 4**

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After breakfast at the hotel, we will depart for Budapest. The origin of the modern city is in the merger of three cities Buda, Obuda e Pest. We will visit Pest with Roosevelt square, the heart of the town, Andrassy Boulevard, Heroes Square, the exterior of St Stephen Cathedral and the neo-Gothic Parliament Palace - the symbol of the city. Overnight in Budapest.

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**BUDAPEST****DAY 5**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, followed by a morning visit to Buda, the old part, on the hill: the Fortress and Saint Mathias Church, the Fishermen's Bastion and the other side of the town Pest, the exterior of the Royal Palace and the citadel. Free time in the afternoon. Overnight in Budapest.  
Optional: Lunch and visit to Lazar Horse Park, in the suburbs of Budapest or mini cruise on the Danube not included.

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**BUDAPEST - BANSKA  
BYSTRICA KRAKOW****DAY 6**

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After breakfast, we depart for Slovakia with a stop in Banska Bystrica, a small town with silver and copper mines. We arrive in Krakow in the late afternoon and stay for the overnight.

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**KRAKOW - WIELICZKA  
KRAKOW****DAY 7**

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After breakfast at the hotel, we will visit Wieliczka to admire the oldest salt mine. In the afternoon, take a guided tour of the town included in the UNESCO Heritage list: Market Square in the Old town, St Mary's church, the Collegium Maius of the Jagellonian University and the Wavel hill on the gothic Cathedral. Overnight in Krakow.

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**KRAKOW - AUSCHWITZ  
KRAKOW****DAY 8**

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After breakfast, we will take a morning visit to Auschwitz, the largest Nazi concentration camp. We will then go back to Krakow where you can enjoy some leisure time in the Old town. Overnight in Krakow. Optional dinner in a typical Krakow restaurant not included.

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**KRAKOW - CZESTOCHOWA  
WARSAW****DAY 9**

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Following breakfast, we will head for Czestochowa and take a guided visit of the Jasna Gora (Hill of Light) Holy Buildings, the most important place of worship in Poland. We then depart for Warsaw, the capital of Poland. Overnight in Warsaw.

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**WARSAW - WROCLAW****DAY 10**

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After breakfast you will see the miracle that is represented by the modern Warsaw. The architects have completely rebuilt it using paintings, maps and even people's memories. In the morning, take a guided tour of the Old town with the Market square, Krakowsskie Przedmiescie boulevard, Chopin's monument and the Belvedere Palace. We then depart for Wroclaw, the main town of Silesia, with medieval origin. Overnight in Wroclaw.

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**WROCLAW - PRAGUE****DAY 11**

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After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy a morning guided tour in the historical centre of Wroclaw. See the market square in the old town, city hall, the gothic church of Our Lady and the Leopoldinian room. We will then head for Prague and stay overnight.

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**PRAGUE****DAY 12**

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After breakfast at the hotel, we'll take a full day guided tour of the city: in the morning we will visit the Hradcany Borough, where we will see the Royal Castle "Hrad", the "Zlata Ulicka" (Golden Street) and the Gothic Cathedral of St Vitius. In Mala Strana (Lesser Town) we will then visit St Nicholas Church, masterpiece of baroque art. In the afternoon we will walk around the Church of the Holy Infant, Kampa Island and then starting from the famous Charles IV Bridge, walk along the elegant Paris Avenue, to Josefov, the oldest Jewish borough in Europe. Overnight in Prague.

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**PRAGUE - DEPARTURE****DAY 13**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then, depending on the flight departure time, visit the city on your own for shopping or sightseeing. Transfer from the hotel to the airport and return to your original departure city. Optional farewell dinner in a typical Prague restaurant not included.

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# ITALY, AUSTRIA, HUNGARY AND CZECH REPUBLIC

An itinerary that take us through four beautiful countries: Italy, Austria, Hungary and Czech republic: we will start discovering Milan, the Italian capital of fashion and luxury, heading to Verona, the most loved and romantic city in the world thanks to the symbol of love which has been well described by William Shakespeare (Romeo and Juliet), Venice, the Unique amazing town with its narrow streets, the elegant Palazzi, the nice bridges and canals, Cortina D'ampezzo in the Italian Alps. Austria with Innsbruck, the capital of Tyrol. The notably Salzburg - the birthplace of Mozart - with stunning baroque churches and finally its capital, Vienna with its magnificent Opera House and the former imperial residence of the Hofburg. A small country divided by the River Danube, the twin cities of Buda and Pest combine to form Hungary's vibrant and atmospheric capital, Budapest. Eventually the stunning Prague that holds 600 years of the past almost untouched. A tour made of unforgettable memories.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**MILAN**, Four Points by Sheraton, 4\*  
**VENICE (MESTRE)**, Hotel Lugano Torretta, 4\*  
**INNSBRUCK**, Hotel Grauer Baer, 4\*  
**SALZBURG**, Hotel Mirabell Platz, 4\*  
**VIENNA**, Courtyard by Marriott Wien Messe, 4\*  
**BUDAPEST**, Hotel Novotel Budapest Centrum, 4\*  
**PRAGUE**, Gallery Hotel Century Old Town Prague, 4\*

### MILAN

#### DAY 1

Arrival at Milan airport and transfer to the hotel. Depending on flight times, take time to relax or explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Milan.

### MILAN

#### DAY 2

After breakfast, we will take a guided tour of Italy's thriving capital of commerce and fashion to admire its architectural heritage and sophisticated lifestyle reflected everywhere in its impressive buildings, the city's old centre and elegant boutiques. We will visit the magnificent Gothic dome, the elegant glass-domed galleries, the famous

Scala Opera House which dates back to the 18th century, admire views of the Sforzesco castle and the elegant shopping mall Galleria Vittorio Emanuele. Enjoy an afternoon free for leisure. Overnight in Milan.

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### **MILAN - VERONA MESTRE (VENICE) DAY 3**

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Following breakfast, we will drive to Verona to visit this charming city with a local guide. Verona was an important Roman town rich in archeological sites., the grandest of which is the Roman Arena, where operas are now performed during the summer season. We will explore the narrow streets lined with handsome palazzi that make up the historic centre. It is a passion town: the unlucky love of Romeo and Juliet and of course the strong fascination for music with its Arena. Free time for lunch. We will continue our travel to Mestre. Overnight in Venice Mestre.

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### **VENICE DAY 4**

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After breakfast at the hotel, we will spend the day in Venice, known as 'la Serenissima', city of canals and palaces. It is almost impossible to find the right words to describe Venice's beauty and uniqueness. Our guided tour of Venice includes St Mark's square, the basilica of San Mark built in the 9th century and one of the most valuable churches in the world, home to over 4000 feet of mosaic artwork, covering every surface of the interior with rubies, diamonds, emerald, precious marbles and gold and the impressive Rialto bridge. In the afternoon enjoy free time to explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Venice Mestre.

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### **MESTRE (VENICE) - CORTINA D'AMPEZZO - INNSBRUCK DAY 5**

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Breakfast is followed by a scenic drive in the Italian Alps. We will enjoy the Dolomite mountains where you can admire the picturesque landscapes of Cortina d'Ampezzo which is one of the world's most famous ski resorts where you will enjoy some leisure time: stroll along its most famous street, Corso Italia; take pictures or simply admire the fascinating surroundings of this picturesque village before heading back to Innsbruck, Austria. Overnight in Innsbruck.

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### **INNSBRUCK - SALZBURG DAY 6**

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After breakfast we will have a guided tour of the Tyrol Capital. Enjoy a guided tour of Landhaus the old Palace and the "Goldenes Dachl" Gold roof. After free lunch, we depart for the Lakes region of Salzkammergut. Overnight in Salzburg.

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### **SALZBURG - VIENNA DAY 7**

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After breakfast at the hotel, we will take a guided tour of Salzburg in the morning visiting the Cathedral, the lively Residenplatz, and the massive Hohensalzburg medieval fortress. Enjoy free lunch. In the afternoon we will head to Vienna crossing the amazing Danube valley. Overnight in Vienna.

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### **VIENNA DAY 8**

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After breakfast at the hotel enjoy a full day guided tour of the city. We will visit the Ring, the central area where the Opera, the historic Art Museum, Parliament, the City Hall, University, and National Theatre are located; you will see the Prater neighbourhood with its panoramic wheel, and view of the exterior of Vienna's most famous symbol – St. Stephen's Cathedral. In the afternoon we will visit the Wienerwald, crossing Mayerling, heading for the Heiligenkreuz Cistercian abbey and Baden, famous for its spa. Overnight in Vienna.

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### **VIENNA DAY 9**

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Following breakfast, we visit the Schoenbrunn Castle, the most famous of the Habsburg's imperial residence. Lunch and afternoon at your leisure. Take an optional guided tour of the exterior of Hofburg Palace, the Augustinian Church and the Imperial Treasure Museum which is inside the Hofburg Palace. In the museum we will see all the power and importance of the Habsburgs. Overnight in Vienna.

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### **VIENNA - BUDAPEST DAY 10**

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After breakfast at the hotel, we will depart for Budapest. The origin of the modern city is in the merger of three cities Buda, Obuda e Pest. We will visit Pest with Roosevelt square, the heart of the town, Andrássy Boulevard, Heroes Square, the exterior of St Stephen Cathedral and the neo-Gothic

Parliament Palace - the symbol of the city. Overnight in Budapest. w

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### **BUDAPEST DAY 11**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, followed by a morning visit to Buda, the old part, on the hill: the Fortress and Saint Mathias Church, the Fishermen's Bastion and the other side of the town Pest, the exterior of the Royal Palace and the citadel. Free time in the afternoon. Overnight in Budapest. Optional: Lunch and visit to Lazar Horse Park, in the suburbs of Budapest or mini cruise on the Danube.

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### **BUDAPEST - PRAGUE DAY 12**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, followed by a Following breakfast, we will head for Prague. The Czech Republic is a small country located at the very heart of Central Europe. The last home of legendary Casanova, the place where the great poet Goethe fell in love and where Mozart's opera Don Giovanni had its world premiere. Free lunch. Overnight in Prague.

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### **PRAGUE DAY 13**

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Following breakfast, we will begin the day with a guided walking tour to see the Nove Mesto (the New Town) and the Stare Mesto (the Old town). In the Nove Mesto we will find Wenceslas Square, the heart of Prague. We will visit The Stare Mesto (Old Town), see Renaissance and Baroque monuments and see the City Hall, the Astronomical Clock, and the Kinsky Palace, one the most significant historic buildings in Prague. After free time for lunch take an optional mini cruise on the Moldave River (note that lunch is included in this trip). Spend the rest of the afternoon at your leisure before enjoying dinner with folk music in a typical restaurant. Overnight in Prague.

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### **PRAGUE - DEPARTURE DAY 14**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then depending on the flight departure time, visit the city on your own for shopping or sightseeing. Transfer from the hotel to the airport and return to your original departure city.

# FRANCE AND ITALY

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Journey dedicated to discover France and Italy. Paris, where the atmosphere of the capital, with its splendid palaces, the romantic banks of the Seine, the elegant gardens and the prestigious boutiques, are combined with the splendor of Chartres cathedral and its stained glass jewel, with the magnificence of Loire castles, vestiges of a glorious past that continues to live and excite. Lyon, the second city of France, Milan the most cosmopolitan city of Italy and the world's capital of fashion, visiting Venice the unique amazing city of love. A special place that will enchant you with its atmosphere that rise up from the narrow streets, the elegant palazzi and bridges. Padua, Ravenna, Florence with the most beautiful renaissance history and the eternal city: Rome. Capital of culture and faith, modern and old, past and present, the cradle of the western civilization.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

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**PARIS**, Hotel Mercure Paris Centre Tour Eiffel, 4\*  
**TOURS**, Alliance Hotel Tours City Centre, 4\*  
**LYON**, Best Western Du Pont Wilson, 4\*  
**MILAN**, Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 4\*  
**VENICE (MESTRE)**, Hotel Lugano Torretta, 4\*  
**FLORENCE**, Hotel Santa Maria Novella, 4\*  
**ROME**, Hotel Imperiale, 4\*



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**PARIS****DAY 1**

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Arrival at Paris airport and transfer to hotel. Depending on flight times, take time to relax or explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Paris.

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**PARIS****DAY 2**

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Following breakfast at the hotel, we will begin our full day guided tour of the city. We will visit Ile de la Cite', Notre Dame cathedral and St-Germain-de-Pres. In the afternoon we will visit Place Vendome, Place de la Concorde, exterior of Les Invalides, the Eiffel Tower, the Champs-Elysees and the Arc de Triomphe. In the evening we will have a typical dinner aboard the Bateaux Parisiens to enjoy the atmosphere and lights of the France capital city navigating the Seine. We return then to the hotel. Overnight in Paris.

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**PARIS - VERSAILLES  
PARIS****DAY 3**

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Breakfast in the hotel. In the morning we will visit the sumptuous "chateau" of Versailles with its fabulous State Apartments, the Hall of Mirrors and the Queen's Apartment. We will then return to Paris where you may spend the afternoon at your leisure or take an optional guided tour of the Louvre, the most famous museum in the world. In the evening choose to see an optional show at the well-known Moulin Rouge. Overnight in Paris.

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**PARIS - CHARTRES  
TOURS****DAY 4**

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After breakfast we depart to the Loire Valley. We will stop at the magnificent Chartres Cathedral. We will then proceed to Tours and stop for a short walking tour. Overnight in Tours

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**TOURS - AMBOISE -  
BLOIS - CHAMBORD -  
TOURS****DAY 5**

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After breakfast we will begin our full day guided tour of some of the most famous castles in the Loire Valley with free time for lunch. Overnight in Tours.

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**CHAMBORD  
CHENONCEAUX - LYON****DAY 6**

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Following breakfast, we will spend the morning visiting the castle known as "le Chateau des femmes" in Chenonceaux. In the afternoon we will proceed to Lyon, France's second city. Overnight in Lyon

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**LYON - MILAN****DAY 7**

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After breakfast, we will enjoy a tour of Lyon visiting the Roman ruins, the basilica, its cathedrals and museums and other sights of historical and cultural importance. We will then travel to Milan for an overnight stay.

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**MILAN -  
VENICE (MESTRE)****DAY 8**

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After breakfast at the hotel, we will enjoy a guided tour of Milan. We will visit the famous Duomo, the Scala opera house and admire views of Sforzesco castle. We will then proceed to Venice Mestre for an overnight stay.

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**MESTRE - VENICE  
ISLAND - MESTRE****DAY 9**

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After breakfast, we will spend the day in Venice. Our guided tour includes: St Mark's square, the basilica of St Mark built in the 9th century and one of the most valuable churches in the world. We will view the Doges Palace, the highest expression of Venetian gothic architecture, the impressive Rialto bridge and visit one of the most prestigious glass blowing factories. In the afternoon enjoy a typical Gondola tour through the canals. Rest of the afternoon free to explore the city. Overnight in Venice Mestre.

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**VENICE (MESTRE) -  
PADOVA - RAVENNA -  
FLORENCE****DAY 10**

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After breakfast, we will drive to Padua where we will stop to visit St Anthony's church. We will then travel to Ravenna, city of art, culture and mosaics. After a short guided tour of the city we will proceed to Florence for an overnight stay.

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**FLORENCE****DAY 11**

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After breakfast, we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of the world's greatest artistic capital. Our guided tour will include the Duomo of Santa Maria del Fiore, the baptistery with its soaring campanile designed by Giotto, and the beautiful Piazza della Signoria. In the afternoon explore the city and shop at your leisure. Overnight in Florence.

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**FLORENCE - SIENA  
ROME****DAY 12**

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After breakfast, we will drive to Siena, one of Tuscany's architectural and historic jewels. We will stop for an orientation tour to see Piazza del Campo, famous for its "palio" horse race and its beautiful medieval buildings before proceeding to Rome. Overnight in Rome.

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**ROME****DAY 13**

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After breakfast, we will drive to Siena, one of Tuscany's architectural and historic jewels. We will stop for an orientation tour to see Piazza del Campo, famous for its "palio" horse race and its beautiful medieval buildings before proceeding to Rome. Overnight in Rome.

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**ROME****DAY 14**

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After breakfast, enjoy the city of Rome at your leisure or take an optional excursion to Naples and Capri. Visit the exterior of Palazzo Reale, Castel Novo, the San Carlo theatre, Capuano Castle and the Lungomare from which we can enjoy a stunning view. The town with its pretty piazza, maze of streets and fashionable boutiques is a mecca for the jet-set. Overnight in Rome.

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**ROME - DEPARTURE****DAY 15**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then depending on the flight departure time, visit the city on your own for shopping or sightseeing. Transfer from the hotel to the airport and return to your original departure city.

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# EUROPEAN CIRCUIT

A 16 days itinerary throughout Europe to discover this fascinating continent. We will start from Spain visiting Madrid and Toledo with their cultural and artistic activity, continuing to Bordeaux, Chambord and Paris with its museums, art galleries, gardens, monuments, the Seine, the beauty of the every day life, London, the vibrant, multi-cultural capital of the United Kingdom, Belgium with its unique Bruges and Brussels, Amsterdam with its canals and flower markets. Driving to Luxembourg until the peaceful city of Zurich in Switzerland continuing to Innsbruck stopping in Liechtenstein, one of the smallest country in Europe. We leave the romantic and beautiful Italy at the end after a short break in Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia. Venice, which makes you fall in love with its narrow streets, canals and bridges, Florence the capital of the Renaissance history and finally the Eternal City of Rome, the capital. A journey of a life that you will never forget.



## OUR SELECTED HOTELS

**MADRID**, Rafael Hotels Atocha, 4\*  
**BORDEAUX**, Mercure Bordeaux Centre, 4\*  
**PARIS**, Mercure Paris Centre Tour Eiffel, 4\*  
**BRUSSELS**, Mercure Brussels Centre Midi, 4\*  
**ZURICH**, Novotel City West, 4\*  
**INNSBRUCK**, Hotel Grauer Baer, 4\*  
**MESTRE (VENICE)**, Hotel Lugano Torretta, 4\*  
**FLORENCE**, Ricasoli Hotel, 4\*  
**ROME**, Hotel Imperiale, 4\*

## MADRID

DAY 1

Arrival at Madrid airport and transfer to the hotel. Depending on flight times, take time to relax or explore the city at your leisure. Overnight in Madrid.

## MADRID - TOLEDO - MADRID

DAY 2

After breakfast, we will take a guided tour of the city to visit the most important places in Madrid including its fountains, Cibeles and Neptun, view of the Prado, Reina Sofia and Thyssen Bournemitz, Atocha Liberty railway station and one of Madrid's symbols: Puerta d'Alcala. We will go on to Plaza de Toros, the Paseo of the Castellana and exterior of the Royal Palace and Opera. Enjoy free time for lunch. In the afternoon we will visit Toledo, a World Heritage sight, the Mudejar Cathedral, the church of Saint Tome' with its famous El Greco painting, then a short walk in this open air museum. Overnight in Madrid.

## MADRID - BURGOS - SAN SEBASTIAN - BORDEAUX

DAY 3

After breakfast, we will depart early in the morning to Burgos where we can spend free time visiting the Cathedral on our own. A masterpiece of Gothic and Heritage, rich in relics of the pilgrimage to Santiago. We will continue to San Sabastian where we will have free time for lunch and enjoy the city on our own. Take a picture of the famous Playa de la Concha! We will then continue to Bordeaux where we arrive in the evening. Overnight in Bordeaux.

## BORDEAUX - CHAMBORD - PARIS

DAY 4

Following breakfast, we will continue to Chambord. During the way stop for a free lunch. At our arrival, you will have time on your own to discover this amazing town with its incredible Castle. Afterwards, we will drive to Paris. Arrival at the Hotel and overnight.

## PARIS

DAY 5

Following breakfast at the hotel we will begin a full day guided tour of the city visiting Ile de la Cite', Notre Dame cathedral, Sorbonne and St-Germain-de-Pres. In the afternoon we continue the

guided tour taking in Place Vendome, Place de la Concorde, exterior of Les Invalides, Eiffel Tower, the beautiful Champs-Elysees and the Arc de Triomphe before returning to the hotel. You can choose to enjoy an optional dinner in a typical restaurant in Montmartre. Overnight in Paris.

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#### **PARIS - LONDON - PARIS DAY 6**

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Following breakfast, we will take our transfer to Paris station to board the Eurostar train to the capital of the United Kingdom, London. Paris and London are linked by this train that travels under the English Channel in a tunnel. Arriving at St. Pancras International station and meeting our local guide for a full day city tour: we will visit the exterior of Buckingham Palace, official residence of the Royal family, Oxford Street, Piccadilly, Trafalgar Square and Big Ben, one of the most famous symbols of London. Then we drive back to St. Pancras station to take the Eurostar again to Paris. Arriving at Paris station and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Paris.

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#### **PARIS - BRUGES - BRUSSELS DAY 7**

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Following breakfast, we will leave France capital and continue our trip to Belgium. First stop will be Bruges where we meet the local guide for a half day city tour: visiting the historical town centre reach of little canals, the Love Lake. This city has been classified as the UNESCO heritage. Free time for lunch. Then we will drive to Brussels where we spend our night. Overnight in Brussels.

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#### **BRUSSELS - AMSTERDAM - BRUSSELS DAY 8**

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Following early breakfast in the morning, we will spend this day visiting Amsterdam. Drive to this wonderful city where we will have a full day guided tour: for centuries the world's largest commercial port, known as the "Venice of the North" because of the many canals and over 600 bridges that cross it. Our tour includes the famous Dam Square, the Begijnhof, the flower market on the Singel, the Tower of Montelbaan, the Waag and a diamond cutting factory. Free time for lunch. After the visit we will drive back to Brussels where we spend another night. Overnight in Brussels.

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#### **BRUSSELS - LUXEMBOURG - ZURICH DAY 9**

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After breakfast, we will continue to Luxembourg where we meet our local tour guide for a short half day city tour. Free time for lunch and continue of the travel to Zurich, Switzerland where we arrive in the evening. Overnight in Zurich.

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#### **ZURICH - LIECHTENSTEIN - INNSBRUCK DAY 10**

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Following breakfast, we will enjoy a half day guided tour of Zurich with our local guide: adventuring into a traditional route, the tour focuses the old Zurich neighborhood - a place now known for its contemporary perception. After learning about the history of Zurich, enjoy a visit to a famous Swiss chocolate store. This walking tour terminates at the lake of the city. We will then continue to Liechtenstein where we have free time for lunch and enjoy this small country on our own. Then we will drive to Austria, to the city of Innsbruck arriving in the evening. Overnight in Innsbruck.

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#### **INNSBRUCK - LJUBLJANA - MESTRE (VENICE) DAY 11**

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After breakfast, we have a short guided tour of the Tyrol Capital, Innsbruck with our local guide. Enjoy a visit of Landhaus the old Palace and the "Goldenes Dachl" Gold roof. We will then depart to Ljubljana, the Slovenian capital, where we make a stop for a free break. Lunch at your leisure during the travelling. We will continue to Mestre (Venice) where we arrive in the evening. Overnight in Mestre (Venice).

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#### **MESTRE (VENICE) - FLORENCE DAY 12**

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After breakfast, we will spend our morning in Venice, known as "La Serenissima", a city of canals and palaces. It is almost impossible to find the right words to describe Venice's beauty and uniqueness. Our guided tour includes St. Mark's square, the Basilica built in the 9th century, home to over 4000 feet of mosaic artwork, covering every surface with rubies, diamonds, emeralds and gold.. We end our visit with the massive Rialto bridge. In the afternoon we will continue to Florence. Overnight stay at the hotel.

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#### **FLORENCE - ROME DAY 13**

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Following breakfast, we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of the world's greatest artistic capital also known as 'the cradle of the Renaissance', a perfect haven for art lovers. Our guided tour will feature most of the city highlights including the Duomo of Santa Maria del Fiore which is Europe's largest church, the baptistery with its soaring campanile designed by Giotto, and the Ponte Vecchio, the ancient bridge crammed with jewellery shops and the beautiful Piazza della Signoria. In the afternoon, we will drive to Rome where we arrive in the late afternoon. Overnight in Rome.

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#### **ROME DAY 14**

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Following breakfast, we will begin our discovery of the capital of Italy, the eternal city of Rome which is probably the most fascinating of all Italian cities. It is said that "Rome is not so much a city with museums but a city within a museum". Every street and square offers layers of history. Our guided tour of Rome will include some of the main tourist sights including its legendary symbol, the imposing Colosseum, the Roman forum, heart of ancient Rome and the Trevi fountain, the most beautiful fountain in all of Rome. In the afternoon enjoy the city at your leisure. Overnight in Rome.

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#### **ROME DAY 15**

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After breakfast, enjoy the city of Rome at your leisure or take an optional excursion to Naples and Capri to discover the most magical and genuine parts of Naples. Visit the exterior of Palazzo Reale, Castel Novo known as Maschio Angioino, the San Carlo theatre, Capuano Castle and the Lungomare from which we can enjoy a stunning view. Capri is a legendary island surrounded by rose-tinted rocks with incredibly coves of translucent blues and greens; the island is a real mecca for the international jet-set. Return to Rome for an overnight stay

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#### **ROME - DEPARTURE DAY 16**

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Then depending on the flight departure time, visit the city on your own for shopping or sightseeing. Transfer from the hotel to the airport and return to your original departure city.



# BOSCOLO

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