

IAS TOURIST ITALIA

LA NOSTRA ITALIA



FOOD & WINE



**SPECIAL
ITINERARIES**



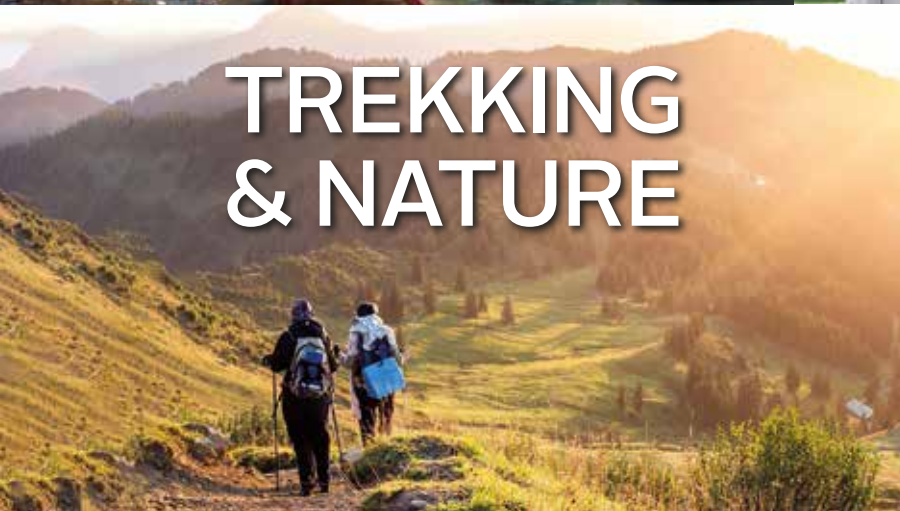
**DISCOVERY
TRIPS**



BEACH & SEA



**TREKKING
& NATURE**



**ITALIAN
LIFESTYLE**





PRESENTATION

IAS TOURIST ITALIA is a tour operator based in Cervia, a nice holiday resort on the Adriatic coast between Ravenna and Rimini. Our 40 years' experience in organizing tours, hotel accommodations, special events and ground handling services for groups and individuals helped us to keep growing and completing our offers. Our main aim is the client's complete satisfaction. The efforts of a strong and winning team who guarantee courtesy, professionalism and competence together with an excellent relationship with our clients and suppliers gave us the necessary motivation in developing more and more. We are constantly engaged to be competitive and we always keep in mind the customer's specific needs and expectations. The strength and the continuous force to be up to date with modern ideas give us satisfaction and a great love for all what is called tourism.

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OUR HOTELS

OUR HOTELS: A GUARANTEE OF QUALITY

Our directly managed hotels guarantee your guests all the best attention!

HOTEL AZZURRA - LIDO ADRIANO - with swimming pool

Located directly on its private beach, 12 km from the Standiana Rowing Centre, the hotel offers 120 rooms with shower, WC, hairdryer, TV Sat, phone, air-conditioning/heating and balcony with lateral sea view. Splendid private sandy beach. The hotel has a large living area, private disco, parking and fitness centre. Hotel Azzurra offers several sport activities with a swimming pool, 2 tennis courts, table tennis, volleyball/basket court and archery. Bikes are free of charge. The panoramic restaurant offers local and international specialities together with sport menus.

HOTEL RENO - LIDO DI SAVIO - with swimming pool

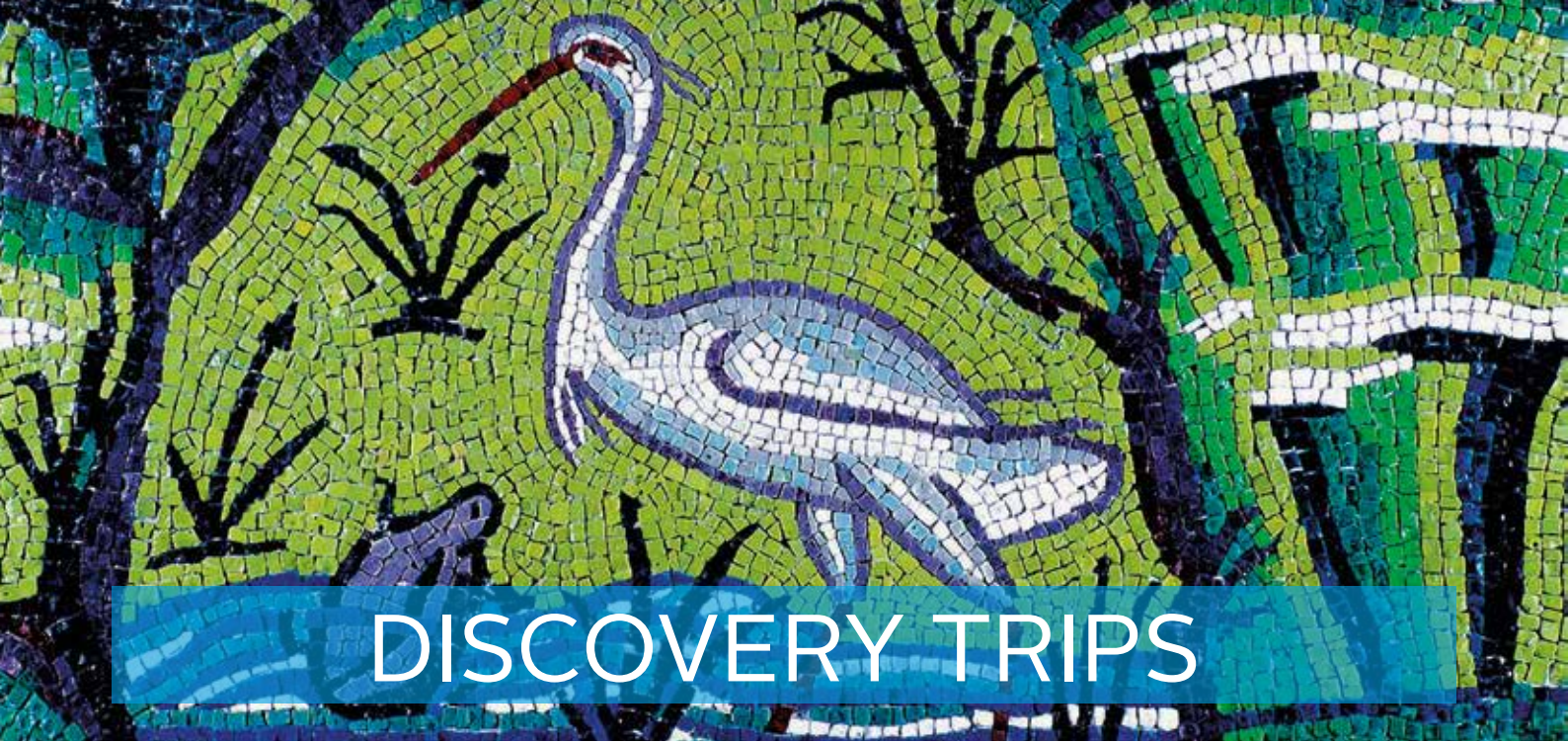
The ideal hotel for groups looking for a family welcome and typical Romagna conviviality. Hotel Reno is located on the beach and 7 km from the Standiana Rowing Centre. Comfortable and friendly hotel with 50 rooms. Every room has shower/WC, TV Sat, phone, heating and balcony with lateral sea view. The hotel restaurant offers local and international specialities together with sport menus. Swimming pool and direct access to the beach. Bikes free of charge.

HOTEL DE PARIS - LIDO DI SAVIO - with swimming pool

The hotel choice for active groups, with easy access to numerous sports grounds and facilities in the area. Featuring an outdoor pool and tennis court, Hotel de Paris is 80 metres from a sandy beach in Lido di Savio. The property is 25 km away from Ravenna. All 70 rooms have balcony, air-conditioned, private bathrooms, flat-screen TV, wardrobe and telephone. Guests at Hotel de Paris can enjoy a healthy breakfast buffet in the garden and nice lunch and dinner in the air-conditioned restaurant. They can relax in the swimming pool or at the beach, and in the evening, they can enjoy the animated night life in the surroundings. Lido di Classe / Lido di Savio train station is 6.5 km away.

We also collaborate with other partner hotels to satisfy all levels of service.





DISCOVERY TRIPS

ART TREASURES AND TRADITIONS

DAY 1 – ARRIVAL ON THE ADRIATIC COAST

Arrival at the hotel, welcome drink, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 – CERVIA AND RAVENNA

Departure to Cervia, known for the production of the famous “dolce” (sweet) salt. Visit of the salt pans, located in the Po River Regional Park and to the little village of Cervia, with the ancient “salt warehouses”. In the afternoon guided tour of Ravenna, celebrated all over the world for its wonderful mosaics of the 5th and 6th centuries (UNESCO World Heritage). We will visit S. Vitale and the Mausoleum of Galla Placida, S. Apollinare Nuovo, the Mausoleum of Theodoric (exterior), Piazza del Popolo and the tomb of Dante Alighieri, the father of Italian literature and language. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – COMACCHIO AND FERRARA

This morning we will travel by bus through the Po Delta Natural Park till Comacchio, known as the “Little Venice” because of its canals and bridges. In the afternoon we will continue to Ferrara. We will visit the Cathedral, the medieval streets and Corso Ercole d'Este, with its magnificent palaces that testimony to the importance of this great Renaissance city. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 – SAN MARINO AND SANTARCANGELO

Excursion to San Marino, the smallest Republic in the world. Lunch and in the afternoon visit to Santarcangelo, a town of magical charm, with a mysterious and noble atmosphere. We'll visit one of the oldest traditional hand-printed textiles “Bottega”. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - VENICE

After breakfast, full day excursion to Venice: transfer by boat from Sottomarina to Saint Mark's Square. Guided tour to discover this extraordinary city. Lunch in the city. Afternoon at leisure. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - CESENA

Morning at leisure, lunch at the hotel. Excursion to Cesena, a very ancient city built along the Emilia consular road. Here you will find the Biblioteca Malatestiana, one of the very few examples of a 3-nave library whose architecture, decor and books have been completely preserved! The place is full of charm. You'll love the ancient manuscript codes dating from the 9th to 15th centuries. One of the library's «curiosities» is a series of small-format volumes. Continue on to Bertinoro, famous for the production of wine, among them Albana gentile of Bertinoro, Pagadebit, Trebbiano, Sangiovese. Visit of a cellar and tasting of wine and typical products. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 7 – FAENZA – MUSEUM OF TAMO

The town of Faenza, which gave its name to a type of ceramic (la Faience), is a lively little town set in a beautiful countryside. We'll visit Master Gaeta's atelier, where we'll learn about the methods and tools used in the art of ceramics and see the artist at work. Possibility of visiting the Ceramics Museum. Lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon, we will complete our tour of Ravenna with a visit to the House of the Stone Carpet (one of the most important Italian archaeological sites discovered in recent years), the Cripta Rasponi and the TAMO Museum (dedicated to ancient and contemporary mosaics). Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 8 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast and departure. End of our services.



NATURE EXPERIENCE

DAY 1 - RAVENNA

Arrival on the Adriatic Coast. Accommodation in hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - RAVENNA AND ITS CENTURIES-OLD PINE FORESTS BY BIKE

Morning dedicated to a classic visit of Ravenna with its Byzantine mosaics. After lunch in hotel, we'll cycle between the woods and the beach. Here we'll observe the local fauna and enjoy the slow pace and tranquillity of these wetlands. We'll also explore the «capanni da pesca», small huts on the river where shrimps and small fish are caught with a fishing square net pulled down and up manually or with a small motor. Little snack with typical local products. Back to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - PARCO DEL CARNÉ, FAENZA, BRISIGHELLA

This morning you will departure to the Faenza area, in the hills 40 km from the hotel. Walk through the Parco of Carné. The park has a special feature: a gypsum vein formed around 6 million years ago. Karstic landscapes, crumbly, stratified rocks and caves. A visit to one of the caves is possible at an additional cost. In the afternoon, visit to Faenza and Brisighella. Wine-tasting lunch during the visit. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - CERVIA AND THE FOCE DEL BEVANO PARK

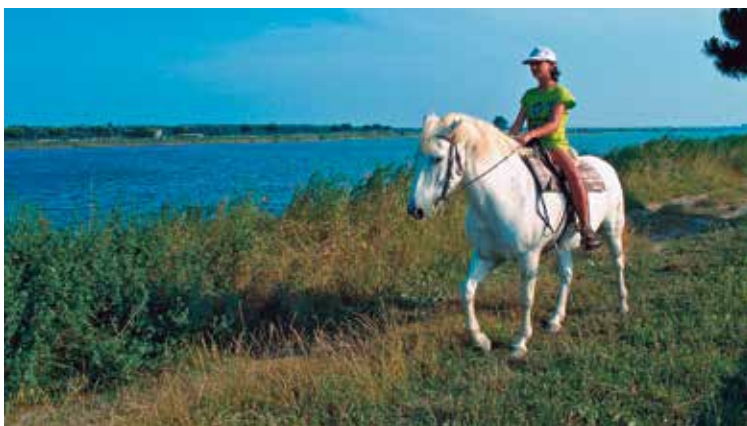
Morning at your disposal in Cervia. Lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon visit to the Foce del Bevano Park, a protected natural area with the possibility of a kayak or bicycle tour. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - FORESTE CASENTINESI

Full-day excursion to the "Forests Casentinesi, on the Tuscan-Romagnolo Apennines, about 1 hour 50 minutes by bus from the hotel. Meet with guide at a farmhouse for a trekking tour with donkeys, followed by a tasting of local products and a guided tour of Sarsina, of ancient origin and home of the Latin comedian Plauto. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - DEPARTURE

After breakfast, departure. End of our services.





“ROMAGNA MIA” FOLKLORE AND ANCIENT FLAVOURS

DAY 1 – ADRIATIC COAST

Arrival at the hotel on the Adriatic Coast, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 – CASA ARTUSI AND LONGIANO

Guided visit to Casa ARTUSI, the first centre for gastronomic culture dedicated to Italian home cooking. Possibility of a cooking class. Lunch at the restaurant. Wine tasting in Longiano, a fortified Renaissance village. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – BRISIGHELLA OIL, FAENZA AND DOZZA WINES

Departure to Brisighella, a picturesque medieval village surrounded by vineyards and olive groves. Tasting of the famous D.O.P. oil. Typical lunch, and then visit to the village of Dozza with its famous regional wine cellar, and to Faenza. Tasting of local wines. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 – RIMINI, SOGLIANO AND THE “FOSSA” CHEESE

In the morning guided visit of Rimini. Tasting of Sangiovese wine. Continue to Santarcangelo and visit of a typical “Bottega” where you can admire traditional hand-printed textiles. Typical lunch to taste the typical “piadina romagnola» and handmade pasta. Visit of the pits of Sogliano where «Fossa» cheese is matured and tasting. Back to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 – THE SALT OF CERVIA

Morning at disposal for individual activities. Lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon we will discover Cervia, famous for its salt pans. Tasting of Cervia's sweet salt chocolate. Walking tour in Cesenatico, lovely village, famous for its Leonardo's port. Good-bye dinner at the hotel, in Romagna style with music and «Liscio» dancers. Overnight.

DAY 6 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast and departure. End of our services.





EMILIA ROMAGNA: FERRARI, FELLINI AND FOOD

DAY 1 - PARMA

Arrival in the surroundings of Salsomaggiore, dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 2 – PARMESAN, PARMA AN FONTANELLATO

Early departure for a visit to a Parmesan cheese factory in the area of Parma with tasting. Meet your guide for the visit of Parma, with the Cathedral and the Baptistry. Lunch and continue on to Fontanellato Castle. Here you can admire a rare pearl: the small room painted by Parmigianino, a true masterpiece of Italian Mannerism. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – BUSSETO AND BRESCELLO

Breakfast and departure for Busseto, birthplace of Giuseppe Verdi and Guareschi. Visit to the museums dedicated to the Maestro. Typical lunch in a local “salsamenteria”, to taste the traditional charcuterie accompanied by delicious sauces and music by Verdi. Continuation to Brescello, the town of Don Camillo and Peppone, the famous film written by Guareschi. Visit to the film locations and the history of this lovely village. Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 – FERRARI, BALSAMIC VINEGAR, BOLOGNA

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we will depart first to Maranello, to visit the Ferrari Museum. At the end tasting at a balsamic vinegar producer. In the afternoon guided tour of Bologna, capital of the region, an ancient medieval city famous for its university, arcades and cuisine. Lunch during the excursion. Back to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 – RIMINI AND FELLINI

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Rimini, birthplace of Federico Fellini and capital of seaside tourism. Guided visit to the historic centre, the old fishermen’s bourg of San Giuliano, with the Murals in honour of Federico Fellini and the modern part of the city. Fish lunch during the excursion. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - RAVENNA

Breakfast at the hotel. Guided tour of Ravenna and its superb mosaics. Lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon slow walking in Cervia where you can taste the traditional “Piadina romagnola”. Back to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 – DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel and departure. End of our services.



CLASSICAL TOURS

FABULOUS ITALY

DAY 1 – LIDO DI JESOLO

Accommodation in the hotel in Lido di Jesolo. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 – VENICE

Transfer by bus and then by boat to Venice. Meet your local guide. Highlights of your walking tour are Saint Mark's Square and the byzantine Basilica, the Doge's Palace (external) and the Bridge of Sighs. Lunch at restaurant. In the afternoon 3-hour cruise to the charming islands of Burano and Murano, where skilled glassblowers fashion their delicate objects in an age old traditional manner. Return by boat to Punta Sabbioni and by coach to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – PADUA AND MONTECATINI

After breakfast departure to Padua. Guided tour of the old town: Piazza dei Signori, Piazza delle Erbe, Piazza dei Frutti and Palazzo della Ragione, characterised by its hull-shaped roof. Then on to the Basilica of San Antonio, one of the most important sanctuary in Italy. Continuation to Montecatini. Check-in at your hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - FLORENCE

Departure to Florence. Panoramic guided walking tour: we will see Piazza del Duomo with the Cathedral of Santa Maria in Fiore (outside) and continue our tour through the medieval streets till Piazza della Signoria, the ancient political heart of Florence. Lunch at the restaurant and afternoon at leisure for shopping. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 – SIENA AND ROME

After breakfast departure to Siena for a guided tour of the splendid historic centre. Of particular note is the polychrome marble of the Cathedral. Lunch at restaurant and continue on to Rome. Accommodation at the hotel in the surroundings of Rome. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - ROME

Transfer by bus to the city centre for a half-day guided tour of the ancient Rome with the Roman Forums, the Arch of Titus, the Arch of Costantinos and the Colosseum (outside). Lunch and free time in the city centre. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 - NAPLES

Departure to Naples. At the arrival panoramic tour of the city: Maschio Angioino, Castel dell'Ovo, Royal Palace, Saint Charles Theatre (external), Theatre (external). Transfer to your hotel on the Gulf of Naples. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 8 – POMPEI AND VESUVIUS

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Pompei, meet with your guide and visit to the archaeological park, an ancient Roman city that was completely buried by the terrible eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD. Lunch and climb to Vesuvius with an alpine guide. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 9 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast and departure. End of our services.





SPLENDID LAKES AND GARDENS OF NORTHERN ITALY

DAY 1 – ARRIVAL AT MAGGIORE LAKE

Accommodation in 3-star hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 – BORROMEAN ISLANDS

Full-day excursion to the Borromean Islands by private boat. Visit to Isola Bella, named by Charles III Borromeo in honour of his wife Isabella. The Palazzo Borromeo is an example of Lombard baroque style: its Italian-style gardens offer hundreds kinds of flowers and plants. Stop at the picturesque Isola of “Pescatori”, for a lake fish lunch. We will continue our boat tour to Mother Island with its botanical gardens. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – ORTA LAKE AND VILLA TARANTO

Departure to Orta Lake. Here, the absence of cars, ancient granite houses and wrought-iron balconies take us back to the past. We'll take a boat to reach the Ile of St. Giulio. Lunch at restaurant and return. Departure to Pallanza and guided tour of the Villa Taranto gardens, Europe's 2nd largest botanical garden. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 – VILLA CARLOTTA – GARDA LAKE

Departure for Tremezzo and visit to the famous Villa Carlotta, with its wonderful terraced gardens overlooking the lake. Lunch, boat trip to Bellagio and on to Varenna. Continuation to the Garda Lake region, dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 – SIRMIONE - VERONA

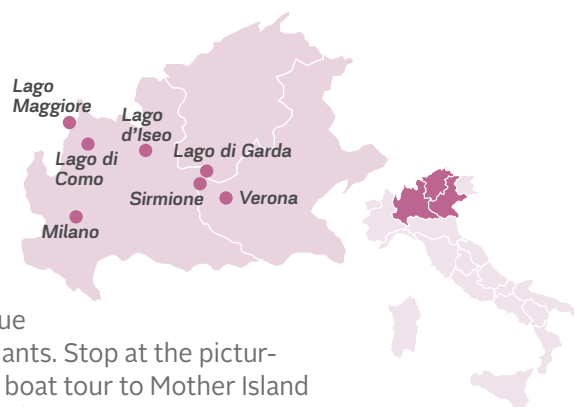
Morning at disposal in Sirmione, a peninsula on the Garda Lake. Lunch and continue by bus to Verona, scene of Romeo and Juliet's love story. Guided tour: the Arena, Piazza della Signoria, Piazza delle Erbe, Juliet's House (external). Return to hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 – ISEO LAKE, FRANCIACORTA AND BRESCIA

Iseo Lake is home to Italy's largest natural lake island: Monte Isola, with its two satellite islets, Loreto to the north and San Paolo to the south. Boat cruise. Then on to the Franciacorta area, for a wine-tasting lunch. Continuation to Brescia. Guided tour of the city centre, a journey that begins in Roman times and continues into the Middle Ages and Renaissance, through Piazza del Forum, Piazza Loggia and Piazza Paul VI. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 - DEPARTURE

After breakfast, departure. End of our services.





CHARMING VENETO

DAY 1 - VERONA

Arrival of the group, transfer to the hotel in Lido di Jesolo. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - VENICE

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure by bus to Punta Sabbioni, then boat to San Marco Square. Guided tour of this extraordinary city, with its beautiful renowned square, the Basilica of San Marco, built at the end of the 11th century, and the Doge's Palace (external), former seat of government of the Venetian Republic. Lunch and afternoon at leisure. Return by private boat to Punta Sabbioni and bus to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - MURANO - BURANO - TORCELLO

After breakfast, departure for an excursion to the islands of the lagoon: Murano, the home of glassblowing, where we'll visit a historical glass laboratory; Burano, with its colourful houses, and Torcello, which boasts a beautiful basilica. Fish lunch during the excursion. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - BRENTA BY COACH AND PADUA

Departure for a tour along the Brenta river of the splendid villas designed by the famous Palladio: Villa Pisani in Stra, the most imposing, which welcomed Napoleon; Villa Foscari la Malcontenta, which owes its name, «the unfortunate», to a young girl who was imprisoned there. Lunch in Padua and tour of the city, including the famous Basilica of St. Anthony, which houses the tomb of the Saint. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - ASOLO AND CONEGLIANO, PROSECCO TASTING

Departure to Asolo, an ancient village dominated by an imposing fortress, reign of Catherine Cornaro, Queen of Cyprus and a town loved of poets and artists. Here lived Robert Browning, Freya Stark, Eleonora Duse, Gianfrancesco Malipiero, Carlo Scarpa... Inside the ancient city walls, you will visit Piazza Maggiore, the Cathedral, home to masterpieces by Lorenzo Lotto and Jacopo Da Ponte, Villa Freya, the Queen's Castle, via Browning e via Cornaro. Lunch and continuation of the tour to Conegliano, capital of Prosecco. Visit of the Duomo, which houses a work by Italian painter Cima da Conegliano entitled «Madonna in trono e Santi» (Madonna on throne with Saints). Continue with a visit to a winery, where you can taste the local Prosecco DOC. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - VERONA AND SIRMIONE

Departure to Verona. Guided tour of the Arena, Piazza della Signoria, Piazza delle Erbe, the Scala della Ragione, Lamberti Tower. Lunch and on to Sirmione for a visit of this lovely peninsula. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast and departure. End of our services.





FASCINATING VILLAGES AND FLAVOURS OF TUSCANY

DAY 1 - MONTECATINI

Arrival in Montecatini. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 2 - FLORENCE

Transfer by bus to Florence. Meet your guide for a panoramic tour of the city centre: the Ponte Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, the heart of the city, and Piazza Duomo. Lunch at the restaurant. Afternoon at leisure or visit to a museum. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – MONTERIGGIONI, SIENA AND CHIANTI

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Siena, stop for a walk in Monteriggioni, a small fortified medieval town with its 14 towers. Continuation to Siena, a gothic city built on three hills and famous for the Piazza del Campo, where the Palio is held every year. Guided tour of the old town and lunch. Afternoon excursion to Chianti, famous for its excellent wines. Visit to a cellar and wine tasting of the famous Chianti. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 – PISA AND LUCCA

Depart for Pisa, powerful maritime republic in the 12th century, period to which the city owes its most beautiful monuments. Visit to the Piazza dei Miracoli with its Cathedral and Baptistery. Lunch and continue on to Lucca for a guided tour of its charming medieval historical centre. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 – PISTOIA AND VINCI

After breakfast, departure to Pistoia. At the foot of the Apennines, Pistoia offers to visitors some of the most suggestive monuments in Italy, all enclosed around a medieval square, the Piazza del Duomo. After visit of an oil-producing farm, followed by a typical lunch-tasting. Continuation to the small town of Vinci, where Leonardo da Vinci was born on 15 April 1452. Its native house has been rebuilt and now houses an exhibition that shows the different aspects of Leonardo's artistic personality and his inventions. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 – CARRARA AND TORRE DEL LAGO PUCCINI

Departure to Carrara, world-famous for the white marble quarried in the nearby Apuan Alps. Visit to a laboratory with explanations of how marble is worked. Tasting lunch in a typical "larderia", when you can taste the famous "lardo di colonnata". In the afternoon Torre del Lago Puccini on the small lake of Massaciuccoli. It was named after the famous composer Puccini, who lived here all his life and composed all his most famous works. Visit of the villa, full of memories and documents of the master. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast and departure. End of our services.





ROME, CAPRI AND THE ROMANTIC AMALFI COAST

DAY 1 - ROME

Arrival at your hotel in the surroundings of Rome, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - ANCIENT AND BAROQUE ROME

Departure to Rome for a walking tour of the “ancient Rome”: the remains of the Roman Forum and the Colosseum, the symbol of Rome built by the Flavian emperors. Lunch and then guided-visit to the “Baroque Rome”: the Trevi Fountain, Piazza Navona, the “Fontana di Trevi”, Piazza di Spagna with the magnificent Spanish steps and Pietro Bernini’s fountain known as «La Barcaccia». Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - VATICAN MUSEUMS AND ST PETER’S

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure for the Vatican area and visit of the Museums and the grandiose Basilica of Saint Peter. Lunch and afternoon at leisure to walk in the Eternal City. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - TIVOLI AND THE SORRENTO COAST

Departure for the town of Tivoli, a favourite holiday destination of the Romans since the time of the Roman Republic. Visit to Villa d’Este, renowned for its exceptional gardens, waterfalls and fountains. Lunch and leave to the Gulf of Naples or Sorrento Coast. Check-in at the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - AMALFI COAST

Full-day excursion to the Amalfi Coast, with panoramic views of Sorrento, then the charming Positano, with its white Mediterranean-style houses, and Amalfi, an ancient maritime republic. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - CAPRI

This day will be dedicated to the discovering of Capri, that you will reach by boat. Panoramic tour of Capri and Anacapri by minibus. Lunch during the excursion. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 - NAPLES AND MONTECASSINO

After breakfast, guided panoramic tour of Naples (Maschio Angioino, Castel dell’Ovo, Royal Palace, Theatre of Saint Charles). Lunch and departure for Chianciano for dinner and overnight. On the way stop at Montecassino to visit the abbey, which was destroyed during the Second World War.

DAY 8 – DEPARTURE

After breakfast, departure. End of our services.





ENCHANTING APULIA

DAY 1 - TRANI OR ANDRIA REGION

Arrival in Puglia and accommodation in hotel in the Andria region for 3 nights. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - TRANI, CASTEL DEL MONTE

Breakfast at the hotel. Full-day excursion to Trani, the Athens of Puglia with its pink cathedral, and to Castel del Monte. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - GARGANO

Breakfast. Departure to Vieste, and walking through this beautiful sea-side village with its winding streets, white houses, beaches and the famous monolith known as «Pizzomunno». Then continue on to Peschici, a village perched on a high cliff overlooking the sea. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - BARI, CASTELLANA GROTTA

Departure for Bari and visit of this town of Byzantine origin: the Basilica of Saint Nicholas, a place of pilgrimage, the exterior of the Swabian Castle and the Cathedral of San Sabino. Lunch stop. Continuing on to the Caves of Castellana and visit to this exceptionally large speleological complex, rich in stalactites and stalagmites of different colours. We will visit the first part, up to 1 km. Continuation to the Alberobello area. Check-in at your hotel for 4 nights. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - ALBEROBELLO, MARTINA FRANCA, OSTUNI

After breakfast, departure to Alberobello, home to the famous "trullis", characteristic ancient houses. Continuation to Ostuni and Martina Franca, the white towns. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - LECCE, OTRANTO

Departure for Lecce, the Baroque capital of Salento. Visit of the Piazza del Duomo, an example of Baroque splendour, Piazza S. Oronzio and the Roman amphitheatre. Lunch in town. Afternoon visit to Otranto, characterised by its old town, cathedral and mosaics. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 - MASSAFRA, MATERA

Departure to Massafra, the last world of troglodyte villages and monasteries. Then Matera, with a guided tour of its old area, the famous "Sassi". Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 8 - DEPARTURE

After breakfast, departure. End of our services.





SPECIAL ITINERARIES

FRIULI, AMAZING LAND

DAY 1 - UDINE

Arrival at the airport of Venice and transfer to Udine. Accommodation in Udine for 5 nights, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - AQUILEIA-GRADO

After breakfast departure to Aquileia, a Roman colony. Guided tour of the Forum, the Port and the largest mosaic in the Western world, which forms the floor of the Patriarchal Basilica. Continuation to the picturesque lagoon town of Grado, with its Romanesque churches. We finish with Palmanova, a unique example of a Renaissance fortress town, with its 9-pointed geometric star shape. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – MOSAIC AND HAM

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning guided visit of Udine. Departure for Spilimbergo, visit of the historic centre. Visit to the Mosaic School. Then continue on to San Daniele del Friuli, world-famous for its ham. Visit and tasting in a «prosciuttificio». Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - CIVIDALE – THE WINE ROAD

Breakfast and depart by bus for Cividale del Friuli, a town of Roman origins and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit to the «Devil's Bridge», the Christian Museum and the Tempietto Longobardo. Then a tour of the wineries of Collio, the part of Friuli that produces delicious white wines, as the Friulano, la Ribolla, the Sauvignon. Wine-tasting and lunch in a farm house with typical products. In the afternoon visit to the town of Gorizia, with the Chiesa of Sant'Ignazio and the Borgo Castello. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - TRIESTE

Breakfast at the hotel. All day dedicated to the visit of Trieste, capital of the region and an important Adriatic port. Its history is influenced by the Habsburg domination, which is still visible in the city's elegant artistic and architectural masterpieces. Visit to Miramare Castle, the love nest of Maximilian of Habsburg and Charlotte of Belgium (admission included). Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

DAY 6 - PORDENONE- SACILE

After breakfast depart for a visit of Pordenone, a town of medieval origin, with its elegant palaces that you can admire in the main street. After you will visit Sacile, the garden of Venice, a village built on the water; you'll end your visit with a Prosecco tasting. Transfer to Venice airport. End of our services.



THE UNFORGETTABLE VERDI, TOSCANINI E PAVAROTTI: THE MUSICAL TRADITION IN EMILIA ROMAGNA

DAY 1 - THE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC MUSEUM

Arrive at the hotel and visit to Bologna and its musical heritages: the organ of San Petronio, the oratory of St Cecilia, the Teatro Comunale in Piazza Verdi, the temple of opera, the International Music Museum, one of the richest in the world for the exceptional documentary value of its collections. Drive to the Parma region, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 – MUSICAL JOURNEY THROUGH PARMA'S HISTORIC SITES

Breakfast at the hotel. Guided tour of the city centre: the Cathedral, the Baptistry, the Farnese Theatre, a wooden theatre largely inspired by the one built by Palladio in Vicenza, and the Teatro Regio (exterior), one of the most prestigious theatres in Italy. We continue our musical tour with the visit to the Toscanini House, the House of the Music, the conservatory of Arrigo Boito and the Opera Museum. Lunch during the tour. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - THE PLACES OF VERDI AND CREMONA

After breakfast, depart for Busseto, birthplace of Giuseppe Verdi. What makes this town so original is the fact that it preserves the memory of the fundamental stages of master's life, from his humble origins in Roncole to the international acclaim and luxury of Villa Verdi. Visit Verdi's birthplaces: Casa Natale, Casa Barezzi, Teatro. It's an itinerary that will introduce us to the man, the artist and his works, as well as giving us an insight into the historical and social context of the time. We also visit the new museum dedicated to Renata Tebaldi, the «angel's voice», where we relive the history of melodrama and the artist. Continuing on to Cremona where we will visit to the Violin Museum, with the famous «Cremonese» by Stradivarius (possibility of audition of a historic violin). Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - MAGNA ROCCA MUSEUM, MODENA

Breakfast. In the morning we will leave to the Magnani Rocca Museum, which houses the collections of Luigi Magnani, musicologist, intellectual composer and collector of paintings related to music. Then continue on to Modena and the places related to Italy's greatest tenor, Pavarotti. Lunch during the visits. End of our services.



A DELICIOUS JOURNEY THROUGH THE HEART OF ITALIAN COOKING

DAY 1 - BOLOGNA

Arrival in Bologna. Guided tour of the city and then transfer to the Salsomaggiore area, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - LANGHIRANO, TORRECHIARA, PARMA

This day will be dedicated to the discover of Italy's world-famous food tradition: visit a cheese factory and taste Parmesan cheese. We will continue to the Prosciutto di Parma Museum and will enjoy the famous ham. Lunch in Torrechiara. In the afternoon guided tour of Parma. Possibility of visiting the Accademia Barilla, famous gastro-nomic centre. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - CULATELLO, SORAGNA AND COLORNO

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we will follow the Culatello route, the king of hams, to Zibello. Stop in Soragna and visit the Rocca Meli Lupi castle, taste culatello and enjoy a typical farmhouse lunch. Then on to Colorno Castle. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - REGGIO EMILIA, MODENA AND BALSAMIC VINEGAR

After breakfast, meet your guide in Reggio Emilia for a half-day visit, then we will move to Modena to a balsamic vinegar production for the tasting of the world-famous vinegar. Continuation to Bologna. Dinner in a typical "Osteria" in the city centre. Night in Bologna.

DAY 5 - GASTRONOMIC BOLOGNA

This morning we will discover the historic shops specialising in gastronomy, and we will taste the typical products of Bologna, including Mortadella, piadina and chocolate. Departure and end of our services.





ON THE ROAD WITH ST. FRANCIS...A JOURNEY OF THE SOUL

The spiritual Way of St. Francis offers unique landscapes and hikes in the midst of majestic nature.

DAY 1 - RIMINI

Arrival in the Rimini area, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - SAN LEO

Delightful breakfast at your hotel to fuel your day. Embark on a journey to explore one of the oldest Franciscan convents in Romagna, known for its iconic cypress tree that legend claims was planted by Saint Francis himself over 700 years ago. As you traverse the picturesque Valmarecchia landscape, you'll encounter olive groves, vineyards, and follow the path alongside a tranquil river, eventually ascending to the historic town of San Leo. Along the way, take a moment to visit the charming church of Sant'Igne. Upon reaching San Leo, immerse yourself in its rich history, including a visit to the Pieve and the majestic castle. After a day of exploration, enjoy a delicious dinner and spend the night in this captivating area.

DAY 3 - SANT'AGATA FELTRIA

Enjoy a delicious breakfast at the hotel. Our journey continues from San Leo to Sant'Agata Feltria, following picturesque and easily navigable roads. Sant'Agata is steeped in history, as it is a significant stop along the San Vicinio way, showcasing its legacy as a pilgrimage site for travelers en route to Rome. Immerse yourself in exploration, followed by a delightful dinner and a restful overnight.

DAY 4 - LA VERNA

Start your day with a satisfying breakfast at the hotel. Your coach will transport you to the captivating Balze of Verghereto region. From here, a path, known for its rugged terrain, leads to the Sanctuary of La Verna. You have the option to spend the night at the sanctuary itself. Alternatively, you may choose to descend and find accommodation in a nearby hotel. Rest and recharge for the night.

DAY 5 - GUBBIO

Following breakfast, you will be transferred by bus from La Verna to Gubbio. Upon arrival, embark on a guided tour of Gubbio, a beautifully preserved medieval town steeped in history. Explore the impressive Palazzo dei Consoli and the enchanting church of San Francesco. Conclude your day with a delightful dinner and a comfortable overnight in the region.

DAY 6 - ASSISI

Upon your arrival in the Assisi region, your guide will provide an enlightening tour of the Franciscan Basilicas, offering insight into the lives of Saint Francis and Santa Chiara. Conclude the day with a delightful dinner and a restful overnight.

DAY 7 – DEPARTURE

After breakfast, departure and end of our services.



THE “MARCHE” ... MYSTERIOUS CAVES AND LOVED CASTLES

DAY 1 - GRADARA

Arrival in the region and visit of the Gradara Castle, the place of the tragic love story of Paolo and Francesca, narrated by Dante in the «Divine Comedy». Check-in at the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - GOLA DEL FURLO

Breakfast at the hotel. Passage through the National Nature Reserve of the surprising Gola del Furlo, which can be admired passing through a tunnel built by the Emperor Vespasian on the ancient Via Flaminia. Departure by cableway to Mount Catria at 1,701 metres in the Umbria-Marche Apennines, offering spectacular scenery and colours as well as several activities. Lunch in a refuge followed by an easy trekking. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - FRASASSI, FABRIANO

After breakfast, depart for the Frasassi Caves, one of the region's most precious treasures, the result of the ceaseless work of water on rock. In the afternoon, visit to the small town of Fabriano, birthplace of the painter Gentile da Fabriano, famous for his contribution to the international Gothic style. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - URBINO

In the morning visit of Urbino, a splendid town with an extremely rich historical and artistic heritage, a point of attraction for Renaissance artists and scholars. Ancient Roman city, Urbino became the property of the Lords of Montefeltro in the 12th century. It was in the 15th century that Duke Frederick III commissioned the construction of the castle we see today. Then our visit will continue on to Fermignano, with its medieval tower and Roman bridge. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - JESI, ANCONA

After breakfast, departure to Jesi, a medieval town famous for its centre and the city walls and towers that surround it, with defensive fortifications dating back to its 14th-century. This territory is even famous for the production of Verdicchio white wine, that we will taste in a typical cellar. In the afternoon transfer to Ancona, capital of the Region and very important touristic and commercial port. Guided visit to admire the historical centre and enjoy an enchanting view from Saint Ciriaco Cathedral. Back to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 – DEPARTURE

After breakfast, departure and end of our services





THE SECRETS OF THE ETRUSCANS

DAY - TUSCANY

Check-in at the hotel in the surroundings of Poggibonsi. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - VOLTERRA, CHIANCIANO

After breakfast, transfer by bus to the ancient Etruscan town of Volterra. Half-day guided visit of the old centre and Etruscan Museum. Lunch and continuation to Chianciano with stop at Monteriggioni, an oval-shaped medieval village. Visit to the Archaeological Water Museum. Check into hotel in Chianciano for 3 nights, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - CORTONA, MONTEPULCIANO

Depart for Cortona, an important site of the Etruscan Confederation. Visit to the Etruscan Academy Museum and the archaeological site of Sodo. Then a guided tour of Chiusi, the National Archaeological Museum, the Porsenna labyrinth and the fascinating Etruscan tomb of La Pellegrina, situated outside the town centre. Stop in Montepulciano for a visit and wine tasting. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - ORVIETO, PITIGLIANO

Breakfast at the hotel. Meet your guide for a half-day visit of Orvieto, an extraordinary site on a volcanic tufa rock rich in artistic treasures. Then we will continue on to Pitigliano, also known as «Little Jerusalem» for its typical narrow streets, Jewish ghetto and synagogue. Visit to the Etruscan necropolis of Sovana and the Ildebranda Tomb. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - TARQUINIA

In the morning guided tour of the Park of the Monsters, then Tarquinia and its Etruscan Necropolis, which contains almost 6,000,000 tombs, some with magnificent frescoes, and its National Museum of Etruscan Antiquities. Check-in at the hotel in the Viterbo area. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - CERVETERI, LAKE BRACCIANO

Breakfast. Transfer by bus to Cerveteri, one of the most important Etruscan centre. Visit the necropolis, an astonishing city of the dead built in the image of the city of the living. Afternoon visit to Lake Bracciano. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 - BARATTI, POPULONIA

The last day of the tour will be dedicated to the visit to the archaeological park of Baratti and Populonia in front of the Isle of Elba. Departure and end of our services.





THE COLOURS OF TUSCANY

DAY 1 - VILLA TORREGGIANI

Arrival in Tuscany and visit to the gardens of Villa Torreggiani, an example of early 19th-century Anglo-Romantic style. Dinner and overnight in Montecatini.

DAY 2 - PALAZZO PFANNER, MARLIA GARDENS

Breakfast . Transfer to Lucca and visit of the town and Palazzo Pfanner with its Baroque garden in the heart of the medieval town. Then Villa Reale, commissioned by Elisa Bonaparte Baciocchi, princess of Lucca. We will have an olfactive visit of the park, a unique experience to enjoy this magnificent garden with all your senses. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - BOBOLI, VILLA BARDINI

Departure for Florence: visit to the immense Italian garden of Boboli, decorated with hundreds of statues and fountains, parterres and geometric hedges. Then on to Villa Bardini, known as the 'garden of three gardens': the English woodland, the Baroque steps and the agricultural park. The garden was restored over a period of five years and its history can be traced back to the Middle Ages. Finally, the Iris Garden, home of the International Iris Competition (only open for one month between April and May). Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - VILLA GARZONI, PISA

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning we will discover Villa Garzoni and its Italian Baroque gardens, with their graceful curves, terraces and steps, fountains and statues. Lunch and free afternoon in Pisa. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - THE MEDICI VILLAS

Breakfast at the hotel. All day will be consacrated to the visit of the magnificent Medici Villas: Villa Petraia, Villa Medici Castello, Villa Gamberaia with possibility of lunch in the villa. Back to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure. End of our services.





ABBEYS AND FILM LANDSCAPES IN ABRUZZO

DAY 1 - SULMONA

Arrival in the region of Sulmona, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - S. STEFANO SESSANIO, ROCCA CALASCIO, L'AQUILA

After breakfast, visit the oratory of S. Pellegrino and Santa Maria Assunta in Bominaco. Then proceed to S. Stefano di Sessanio, a former Medici estate. Explore the fortress of Rocca Calascio, famous for its appearances in the films «The Name of the Rose» and «Lady Hawke.» Enjoy a tasting of pecorino cheese and other local products. Visit L'Aquila and the currently accessible monuments. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - SULMONA

Explore Sulmona in the morning, renowned as the birthplace of Ovid, the poet of love, and celebrated for its delectable sugared almonds. This picturesque town also served as a background for some scenes in the film «The American.» Later, venture to Pescocostanzo, known for its splendid Renaissance and Baroque monuments. Conclude the day with a delightful dinner and a restful overnight.

DAY 4 – SCANNO – CIVITELLA ALFEDENA AND PESCASSEROLI

After breakfast, immerse yourself in the traditions of Scanno. Meet women dressed in traditional costumes, observe goldsmiths at work, and savor the local specialty, «mostacciolo» biscuit. Then visit Civitella Alfedena and Pescasseroli in the Abruzzo National Park, the largest nature reserve in Europe. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - TRABOCCO

Discover the picturesque coastline as you savor a delectable fish lunch at a «Trabucco,» a remarkable traditional fishing apparatus native to this region. Continue your journey to Lanciano, a city renowned for its rich artistic heritage, miraculous events, and vibrant local fairs. Delight in tastings of local olive oil and regional products. Wrap up the day with dinner and an overnight on the coast.

DAY 6 -ROCCASCALEGNA

Following breakfast, embark on a journey to the Rio Verde waterfalls, Italy's tallest cascades. Pause at an agriturismo to indulge in a tasting lunch spotlighting local mushrooms and truffles. Afterwards, explore the medieval Roccascalegna Castle, a setting for the film «Tale of Tales,» starring Salma Hayek and Vincent Cassel. Conclude the day with a delightful dinner and an overnight.

DAY 7 – DEPARTURE

After breakfast, departure and end of our services



WINE TOURS

LANGHE, MAGIC LANDS OF WINES

The elegance and charm of Turin and the excellence of the red wines produced in this famous territory.

DAY 1 – TURIN

Arrival in Turin and guided tour of this magnificent city, once the historical capital of Italy. The city tells more than 2000 years of history, from Roman conquest to the period of the Risorgimento. The walk through the historic centre will include Piazza Castello, the heart of the city with its historic palaces: Palazzo Madama, Palazzo Reale, Teatro Regio, and the Church of San Lorenzo. We will then walk on to the Duomo and the Roman archaeological area. We will stop to taste the gastronomic delicacies of the region in one of the ancient and refined historic cafes: let's not forget that Turin is the capital of chocolate, vermouth, grissini, and the delicious «Bicerin,» much appreciated by Cavour. Transfer to a hotel in the surroundings. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 – THE LANGHE AND THE RED WINES OF FONTANAFREDDA

Breakfast at the hotel. Meeting with your local guide and departure to discover the wonderful region of the Langhe. Departure by bus for a visit to the Castle of Grinzane Cavour, with its museum that reveals to the visitor the arts and crafts of the past, to better understand this territory through its culture and traditions that have made the Langhe a UNESCO World Heritage site. Continuation to a wonderful and renowned estate near Serralunga d'Alba. The winery is known for the production of Barolo and the great wines of the Langhe. During the visit, we can also taste local delicacies paired with a tasting of 4 traditional wines, and we can visit the cellars where the great red wines of the Langhe are produced. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – ALBA, HAZELNUTS AND TASTING OF THE FAMOUS BARBERA

Breakfast at the hotel and departure to Alba, the town of a hundred towers and the capital of white truffles. Meeting with the local guide for a visit to its medieval historic centre with the Cathedral and the Church of San Domenico. Continuation to a renowned local farm to discover hazelnuts: the hazel grove, the farm, the shelling, and the processing of hazelnuts and pastry. Each part will illustrate the different phases of hazelnut processing. And let's not forget that in this area, «Ferrero» is located with its production of the famous Nutella! Typical lunch during the visit, where hazelnuts will be the protagonist and will appear in different forms in every dish. Continue to discover this beautiful territory with a tasting at a winery near Rocchetta Tanaro for the guided tour of the production and aging cellars. Here, the visit will focus on the production and tasting of the famous «Barbera,» accompanied by snacks. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel and departure. End of our services.



THE RICH REGION OF FRANCIACORTA

Discovering this beautiful wine region par excellence, in the heart of Lombardy, inspired by stunning landscapes that bear witness to distant eras.

DAY 1 - HOTEL ARRIVAL

Arrival in the Franciacorta area and stop at a typical winery for an initial tasting of the excellent wines from this renowned region. Continue to the hotel. Check-in to the reserved rooms. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - LAKE ISEO AND BORNATO CASTLE

Breakfast at the hotel and departure for a day in the splendid setting of Iseo Lake. Embark in Sulzano for a wonderful boat tour of the 3 islands: Monte Isola, S. Paolo, and Loreto. Stop at Monteisola (45 minutes), the largest island in European lakes, rich in natural and scenic beauty. Lunch in a restaurant with typical menu. In the afternoon panoramic bus tour through vineyards, palaces, and castles. Visit with wine tasting at Bornato Castle, the oldest winery in Franciacorta, now used as a museum. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - BRESCIA

After breakfast, depart for Brescia and guided tour of the elegant town: Piazza del Foro to discover ancient Brescia; pass through Piazza del Duomo to see its most important medieval buildings and the two cathedrals; cross Piazza della Loggia to admire its Renaissance splendour; arrive at Piazza della Vittoria, the last large urban square, built in 1932 during the fascist regime. Lunch at a typical restaurant and free time. On the way back, wine tasting at a cellar. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 4 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel. Possibility of a stop for a beautiful visit to the Benedictine Abbey of Rodengo. End of our services.





THE ROAD OF “PROSECCO”

A «sparkling» journey through Veneto

DAY 1 - SANT' EUSTACHIO ABBEY / NERVESA DELLA BATTAGLIA

Arrival in the Treviso area and visit to the stunning Sant' Eustachio Abbey on Montello Hill, an important Benedictine monastery, suppressed in the 19th century and recently restored. It is here that Monsignor della Casa composed the famous Galateo in the 16th century. From the tower enjoy a panoramic view over the Treviso plain and the Piave River, the stage for battles of the First World War. Visit to a typical winery near Nervesa della Battaglia and wine tasting. Transfer to the hotel. Welcome drink, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - PROSECCO REGION

Breakfast at the hotel. Meet the guide and depart for Conegliano, the birthplace of the painter Gianbattista Cima and famous for its «Prosecco» wine. The historic centre boasts splendid frescoed Renaissance palaces, in addition to the 14th-century walls and castle. Visit the 14th-century Cathedral housing the magnificent and famous «Pala di Cima» of Conegliano. This is where the historic G.B. Cerletti School of Viticulture and Enology is located. Continue along the Prosecco Road to the town of Col San Martino, enjoying the unique scenery of this region. Stop for a wine tasting at a typical winery with a view of the vineyards. Today's lunch will be in a typical restaurant. In the afternoon, visit the Benedictine Abbey of Follina with its prestigious 13th-century cloister. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - TREVISO

After breakfast, depart for Treviso, known as «Little Venice» and the capital of the «Marca Gioiosa.» Stroll through the beautiful historic centre with the Cathedral Square and its charming streets that narrate the history of this city through the testimonies of the Roman era and Venetian rule. Afterwards, head to Valdobbiene, the capital of «Wine Making». Wine tasting in a typical cellar and a walk at the «Osteria senza soste» with a view over the Cartizze territory, a restricted hilly area of only 108 hectares, where the prestigious Prosecco DOCG Superiore di Cartizze sparkling wine is produced. In the afternoon, our tour will continue with a visit to a famous Venetian Villa in the region. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - TREVISO

Breakfast at the hotel. End of our services.



UNFORGETTABLE WINE EXPERIENCE IN EMILIA ROMAGNA

A unique experience among the vineyards of these beautiful hills famous for their excellent wine production: Merlot, Pignoletto, Cabernet, Lambrusco Marcello, Malvasia, just some of the wines you will taste!

DAY 1 – ARRIVAL

Arrival at the hotel in Bologna. Overnight accommodation.

DAY 2 – BOLOGNA

Breakfast. Tour of the city centre, with its charming porticoes, which are the longest of the world (47 km). The visit will include: Le Sette Chiese, Piazza Maggiore, the Basilica San Petronio. Lunch in a typical Osteria. The hills around Bologna and the neighbouring town of Imola («Colli Bolognesi» and «Colli di Imola») are Doc wine-making areas, with a production topped by Pignoletto and Trebbiano whites. Transfer to Monte San Pietro for a visit of a winery where Merlot, Pignoletto, Cabernet Sauvignon are produced. Wine tasting and visit of the local Museo Tradizionale Agricolo. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – PIACENZA

After breakfast transfer to Piacenza and visit of the town centre: the Romanic Cathedral of Piazza Duomo, the Basilica of Sant'Antonio, the Palazzo Comunale, reaching the central «Piazza dei Cavalli», where you can admire the «Palazzo Gotico». At the end transfer to Zola Pretosa and visit of a local farm, the ideal place to enjoy a farmers' lunch based on local products. In the afternoon visit and wine tasting in a winery. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 – PARMA

Breakfast and transfer to Parma and visit of the city centre, starting from the medieval Piazza Duomo, dominated by one of the greatest Romanesque cathedrals in Italy. It is noted for its classic gable facade, double loggia and its dome, frescoed by Correggio. The other eye-catching building in Piazza Duomo is the Baptistry, the work of the most brilliant sculptor and architect of the Middle Ages, Benedetto Antelami. Transfer to Sant'Ilario d'Enza, visit of a famous winery, tasting of the local wine and lunch. Visit of the production of Prosciutto di Parma DOP. DOP certification ensures that the products are made using pork meat obtained exclusively from locally reared pigs, which is then cured following strict protocols, ensuring the most delicious results. Tasting of this Italian typical product, the king of all cured meats, a pleasure for your palate. Overnight at the hotel.

DAY 5 – BREAKFAST AND DEPARTURE

Breakfast. Time to visit the local market and do some shopping. Transfer to the airport. End of our services.



THE PLACES OF “VERDICCHIO”

In the heart of the Marche region, between charming villages and rolling hills, tasting Verdicchio wine, named after the typical colour of its berries.

DAY 1 - JESI REGION

Arrival in the surroundings of Jesi. Accommodation at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - CASTLES OF JESI

Breakfast. Departure to Jesi to explore this beautiful town, a treasure of history and culture, halfway between the sea and the hills. It's in this region that the famous «Verdicchio of the Castles of Jesi» is produced. Guided tour of the elegant historic centre, with ancient origins dating back to Roman times, and also the birthplace of Frederick II of Swabia. Jesi has earned the title of UNESCO «Exemplary City» for its perfect preservation of centuries-old architectural, artistic, and cultural heritage. After a walk through the many alleys that take us back to ancient times, we will stop to taste the culinary delicacies in a typical trattoria. In the afternoon, we'll continue through the spectacular hilly landscape until we reach Montecarotto, a city known for its wine and olive oil, and notable for its city walls, clock tower, and the Church of the Annunciation. Wine tasting in a local farm, where we'll have the opportunity to taste the wines of the region accompanied by typical local gastronomic products. Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - CUPRAMONTANA/STAFFOLO

Breakfast at the hotel. Our day will continue with the discovery of the stunning hilly landscape of Verdicchio vineyards. Our first stop will be in Cupramontana, one of the most characteristic centres of this area, whose name derives from the goddess Cupra, the fertility goddess adored by the pre-Roman Piceni population. Cupramontana is also the capital of «Verdicchio of the Castles of Jesi» wine and the birthplace of Luigi Bartolini, a prominent engraver of the 20th century and author of the novel from which Vittorio de Sica's «Bicycle Thieves» was adapted. Visit of the historic centre and transfer to a local farm for a lunch-tasting. We'll then continue to Staffolo, where on clear days, you can admire a unique panorama of the hills and the Adriatic Coast. Depending on the schedule, we can visit the Wine Art Museum, a small museum attached to a wine shop that preserves some traditional tools used in the cellars to produce the local wines, especially Verdicchio. Tasting in a typical local farm. Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel. End of our service.



FLAVOURS AND CULTURE OF TUSCANY

A full immersion in the landscapes of this fascinating territory, in a perfect blend of art, culture, and flavours!

DAY 1 - FLORENCE

Arrival in Florence, the heart of the Italian Renaissance. Meeting with the local guide in the historic centre and discover of Florence's main landmarks, starting from Piazza del Duomo with the magnificent Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral, Giotto's bell tower, and the Baptistry. Continue to Piazza della Signoria with the Palazzo Vecchio and the Loggia dei Lanzi. Transfer to the hotel in the region of Siena for dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - SIENA AND THE CHIANTI WINE ROUTE

Breakfast. Departure to the centre of Siena, a splendid Gothic town built on three hills immersed in the Tuscan countryside. Guided tour of the old centre with its famous Piazza del Campo, where the famous Palio takes place every year. Entrance to the Cathedral. During the visit, tasting of local sweets in a famous pastry shop. Lunch at the restaurant, then departure towards the surrounding hills, famous for the vineyards producing excellent Chianti. Stop in picturesque villages like Radda in Chianti, Castellina in Chianti, Castello di Briollio, and Meleto. Visit to a winery and tasting of wine and local products. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MACHIAVELLI

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to San Casciano. Visit to the historic residence in the picturesque village of Sant'Andrea in Percussina, where Niccolò Machiavelli spent his exile from Florence, masterfully described in the letter «io mi sto in villa» to his friend Francesco Vettori. Here, he tells of the days spent with the woodcutters in the woods and the evenings of revelry in the tavern, before retiring to his study at night, contemplating different politics and writing one of his most famous works: The Prince. Guided tour of the Museum and historic cellars. Lunch with typical local product. In the afternoon, continue to Montefiridolfi, where we will arrive at the Bibbione Castle, dating back to 960 and another country residence of Machiavelli, purchased in 1511 as a hunting lodge. Visit to the castle and tasting. Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel. End of our services.





APULIA FOR WINE'S LOVERS

Exploring the DOC Wine Route of Locorotondo and Martina Franca, an itinerary through the certified excellences of this beautiful land, in the territory of the Trulli, evocative examples of popular architecture. We will discover two of the finest DOC white wines of Puglia: Locorotondo DOC and Martina Franca DOC.

DAY 1 - LOCOROTONDO

Arrival in the afternoon in Locorotondo, the white gem of Valle d'Itria. Meeting with your guide for a walk in the stunning circular old town, characterized by narrow concentric streets and white houses, the famous «Cummerse». Afterwards, transfer to a local farmhouse for a wine tasting accompanied by typical local products. Check-in at the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - CEGLIE MESSAPICA / CISTERNINO / MARTINA FRANCA

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure by bus to Ceglie Messapica, one of the oldest villages in Puglia, a renowned city of art and considered the gastronomic capital of Salento. We will taste the famous «cegliese» almond-based biscuit. We'll continue our tour through the Murgia countryside and arrive in Cisternino, an ancient village of Valle d'Itria, scenically erected on a limestone step of the eastern Murgia. We will breathe the air of old times, getting lost in alleys and small squares with an orientalising style. Typical lunch in a restaurant or farmhouse in the area of Martina Franca. Visit to the town, an open-air museum, with its historic centre rich in churches and precious palaces, featuring a particular Baroque style known as «barocco martinese.» Tasting of the famous Martina Franca DOC wine. Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 3 - MATERA

Breakfast at the hotel. In our itinerary, a detour to Matera could not be missed. European Capital of Culture in 2019 and UNESCO World Heritage site in 1993, it's famous for its sanctuaries and troglodyte dwellings, the «Sassi,» small lime-washed houses carved into natural or artificial caves in the karst landscape. The historic centre overlooks a deep gorge at the bottom of which flows a river. The city ascends in a harmonious succession of compact structures, excavated for numerous floors into the rock, creating a truly unique environment. Much of this tuff labyrinth has been restored, to the delight of visitors. The streets are cobblestone and steep, so good shoes are essential. Lunch in restaurant. In the afternoon, free time and return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - ALBEROBELLO / OSTUNI

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure for Alberobello, located in the «Valle d'Itria,» known for its characteristic grey or white houses: the famous Trulli, built in dry stone with conical roofs making this area so special. Visit to the Trullo Sovrano, the only two-floor trullo. Lunch-wine tasting in a typical local estate. Continue to Ostuni, the «White City» perched a few kilometres from the Adriatic, with a medieval quarter of white houses reminiscent of a North African medina. Visit to the historic centre: Piazza della Libertà, the church of S. Oronzo, the medieval village and its maze of winding streets, the fifteenth-century Cathedral and its late-Gothic façade. On the way back, we will stop for an olive oil tasting. Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel. End of our services.



TREKKING

CHARMING HIKING DISCOVERING THE NORTHERN LAKES

DAY 1 – MAGGIORE LAKE

Arrival at your hotel in the Lake Maggiore/Lake Orta region. Check-in, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 – MAGGIORE LAKE - BORROMEAN ISLANDS

After breakfast, depart for Stresa, the most elegant town on the shores of the lake, with its 19th century hotels. Crossing Lake Maggiore by boat to the Borromean Islands, called «the pearls of the lake» for their beauty. Guided tour of Isola Bella. Continuation to the picturesque Isola dei Pescatori and its tiny village. Lunch in a restaurant. Return to Stresa. In the afternoon, continuation to Verbania. Meeting with a trekking guide. From the town of Suna-Verbania we reach Cavandone (ring-shaped route - 3 hours), an ancient village with typical stone houses whose doors are decorated with symbols of pagan origin. Walk around and visit a ceramics workshop specialising in the production of «ocarina». Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - ORTALAKE - SACRO MONTE

Breakfast at the hotel, then transfer to Orta. Hiking to breathe the spirituality of Orta Lake. Arrive at Corconio, a jewel of Baroque architecture, then continue on to the Franciscan convent of Monte Mesma, a place of spirituality and peace. Finally, we reach the characteristic village of Vacciago and return to the centre of Orta for a packed lunch. In the afternoon, walk up to Sacro Monte, situated on a hill overlooking the town. Several of these Sacred Mounts were built in Piedmont and Lombardy and are part of the UNESCO World Heritage List. This is a devotional route made up of twenty chapels with life-size frescoes and statues illustrating the life of Saint Francis of Assisi. Descent to Piazza Motta, the centre of Orta, from where the boats leave for the island of San Giulio. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - COMO LAKE- TREMEZZINA AND VILLA CARLOTTA

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Como Lake, a holiday resort for the nobility of Lombardy from the 17th to the 19th century. Arrival in Lenno and walk along the Greenway from Lenno to Villa Carlotta, passing through Tremezzina, one of the most beautiful villages on Como Lake, with its splendid villas and gardens. Packed lunch. In the afternoon, guided tour of Villa Carlotta (2 hrs) and its extraordinary terraced gardens: 150 varieties of azalea, hedges of camellias, valley of ferns, pergolas of lemon and orange trees... Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast and departure. End of our services.





THE POETIC “5 TERRE” ... OVERLOOKING THE SEA

DAY 1 - GENOA

Arrival in Genoa, one of the most extended medieval historic centre of Europe and the most populated. Meet your local guide and have a walk in the “Caruggi”, a labyrinth of narrow streets that unexpectedly end up in small squares. The Genoese spirit resides in these alleys, where different smells, flavours, languages and cultures have always been mixing. Transfer to your hotel on the coast. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - SANTA MARGHERITA LIGURE – PORTOFINO - RAPALLO

Excursion: 5 km with an ascent of 50 Mt.

Departure by bus to Santa Margherita. Meet your local naturalist guide, and together start the easy and very scenic walk of 2h30 to Portofino. Free time in Portofino, a small fishing village, today a destination for luxury tourism and celebrities from the entire old continent. Transfer by boat to Rapallo and time at your disposal in the village. Back to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 - HIKING CINQUE TERRE

Excursion: km 6.5 with an ascent of 495 Mt.

Departure by bus to La Spezia and meeting with your guide. By train, you reach Corniglia, a village where vineyard activity dominates. You take the stage to Manarola, passing through Volastra, along the old mule track through the vineyards. You will reach the highest part of the village, which dominates its small port. In the afternoon boat trip from Manarola to Vernazza, free afternoon to enjoy the beauties of this small village. Return by train to Levanto. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

DAY 4 - GULF OF LA SPEZIA: PALMARIA - PORTOVENERE - OIL TASTING

Departure to La Spezia where you will take a boat to the island of Palmaria. It is part of an archipelago composed by the 3 islands of Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto. Panoramic walk on the island then boarding and cruise to the picturesque village of Portovenere, free time to visit this little fishing village. Return by boat to La Spezia. Olive oil tasting on the road to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 - DEPARTURE

Breakfast and departure. End of our services.



ECOLOGICAL HIKING BETWEEN LAND AND SEA THE PO DELTA NATURAL PARK

DAY 1 - RAVENNA

Arrival on the Adriatic Sea. Hotel accommodation, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - RAVENNA AND ITS CENTURIES-OLD PINE FORESTS

In the morning, enjoy a guided tour of Ravenna and discover its world-renowned Byzantine mosaics. After lunch at the hotel, walk through the St. Vitale pine forest. This quiet experience will take you across small bridges spanning the Fossatone canal, till reaching a basin where you can observe herons, coots, and ducks in their natural habitat. Return to the hotel for dinner and an overnight.

DAY 3 - PARCO DEL CARNE FAENZA, BRISIGHELLA

Depart for the hills of Faenza, located 40 km from the hotel, and walk in the natural reserve of Park Carné. This area is unique due to a gypsum vein formation dating back 6 million years, resulting in a karst landscape filled with caves and laminates. You'll have the option to visit an artificial cave where gypsum was once mined, a rare opportunity not typically open to the public. In the afternoon, visit Faenza, including the Ceramics Museum, and then continue on to Brisighella. Along the way, enjoy a tasting lunch featuring local specialties. Return to the hotel for dinner and an overnight.

DAY 4 - CERVIA AND THE FOCE DEL BEVANO PARK

Spend the morning at your leisure in Cervia. Enjoy lunch at the hotel, and in the afternoon, explore the Foce del Bevano nature reserve. Here, you have the option to have a kayak or bicycle tour. Return to the hotel for dinner and an overnight.

DAY 5 - PO DELTA

After breakfast, transfer by bus to the Po Delta Nature Park. This delta region combines nature, history, tradition, culture, and art, providing visitors with a unique and captivating landscape. Boat tour with a delightful onboard meal featuring a mussel starter, fish risotto, fried fish with bread, dessert, and white wine. The tour, lasting approximately 1 ½ hours, takes you along the river, offering insights into the typical vegetation, wildlife, and the influence of human activity, including fishing methods. On the return journey, stop in Comacchio to explore this renowned town often referred to as «Little Venice.» At the Manifattura dei Marinati, you'll gain a comprehensive understanding of the history of eel processing, with informative films providing a glimpse into life in years past. Return to the hotel for dinner and an overnight.

DAY 6 – DEPARTURE

Breakfast. End of our services.



HIKE IN THE SILENCE OF THE APPENINES

DAY 1 - ARRIVAL

Arrival at the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - EXCURSION TO PIAN DEL PERO TO POGGIO GALLONA

Walking time: 2 hours | Difficulty: medium

Embark on a picturesque hike along the ridge surrounding Ridracoli Lake. Starting from the road to Corniola Lama, the path ascends to Campominacci. A hidden trail leads to Poggio Pratovecchio, and after a crossroads, you'll reach the villages of Casette or Potriali. Continuing along the ridge, you'll pass by the top of Poggio Pratovecchio, eventually arriving at Poggio Gallone. The path then leads to a breathtaking viewpoint overlooking Ridracoli Lake. In the afternoon, ascend to Ridracoli Colle di Valle Strabatenza. Walking time: 2.20 hours | Difficulty: medium. Follow an ancient donkey trail to M. Marino Colle di Valle, proceeding on a regular road to C. Corneta. Continue to Fonte dei Cerri, where the old path leads to C. Poggiolo and then to C. Putine. Climb to Colle la Valle, where you'll find a lovely picnic area by a spring. Traverse through the woods to reach Alpicella. Ascend to the Colle di Valle grade, offering splendid views of Valle del Bidente di Ridracoli and Valle del Bidente di Strabatenza. Descend to C. Montaltuzzo and continue to Strabatenza. Enjoy dinner at a typical trattoria and overnight at a hotel in the area.

DAY 3 - PIETRAPAZZA CHIAR D'OVO TO BAGNO DI ROMAGNA

Walking time: 2.30 hours | Difficulty: medium

Starting from Pietrapazza, head to Chiar d'ovo. The wooded half-circuit leads to an old donkey path to C.I Prati, eventually arriving at Casa Nuova, surrounded by meadows and pine trees. Descend to the Fosso del Volanello, and from there, reach Castellaccio and the source of the Chiardovo. Continue descending to the centre of Bagno di Romagna. In the afternoon, explore the charming old town, renowned for its thermal baths. Enjoy dinner at the hotel and spend the night in Bagno di Romagna.

DAY 4 - COLLA DI NOCCIOLA, MONTE CASTELLUCCIO, PASSO DEL CARNAIO

Walking time: 2.45 hours | Difficulty: medium.

Beautiful, panoramic trail offering views of the Savio Valley and Pietrapazza. Starting from Colle di Nociocchio, ascend to Pociaccio, then descend to Bagno di Romagna and onwards to Monte Carpano. A small road leads to Colla dei Ripiani, looping around Monte Castelluccio. Descend to Sabbione, then continue along a forest path to Monte Piano. Follow an old donkey trail to Colla di Montepiano, descending to Rio Petroso. Proceed to Santa Sofia, concluding in San Piero in Bagno. In the afternoon, explore this nice place, followed by dinner. Return to Bagno di Romagna for the night.

DAY 5 – DEPARTURE

Breakfast. End of our services.



SWEET WALK IN TUSCANY

DAY 1 - SIENA

Arrival in Florence airport, meeting with your English-speaking guide and transfer to Siena. Guided tour of the fascinating town with its Piazza del Campo, where the famous Paliohorse race takes place and the Cathedral with its startling sequence of 56 marble panels pavements. Dinner and overnight in Poggibonsi region.

DAY 2 - THE EAST SIDE OF THE CHIANTI REGION

Excursion: 10 km with an ascent of 250 Mt.

Transfer to the Chianti region. Walking tour from Sambuca to Passignano and back. In the Passignano's Abbey you can admire the Ghirlandaio's Last Supper. Typical lunch based on row ham, salami and cheese. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 3 - VIA FRANCIGENA

Excursion: 13 km with an ascent of 344 Mt.

The Via Francigena is an ancient pilgrim route-running trail from Canterbury to Rome. It has been a pilgrimage route since medieval times and has enjoyed a recent revival since the Via Francigena was designated a European Cultural Route in 1994. You will do the stage 31 from Gambassi Terme to San Gimignano. In the afternoon free time to visit San Gimignano. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 4 - CHIANTI REGION

Excursion: 11 km with an ascent of 350 Mt.

Excursion in the heart of the Chianti Classico wine region. From Gaiole to Meleto's castle and afterwards to Castagnole and Barbisco. The route has all the elements of a typical Chianti walk: it starts in a stone-paved piazza, passes by a 10th century church and by a castle involved in the wars between Siena and Florence. It is, of course, set among a myriad of vineyards patterning the hillsides. In autumn, when fruits are ripe - blackberries, figs and grapes - the walk is a feast both metaphorically and literally. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 5 - URBAN TREKKING IN FLORENCE

During Florence Urban Trekking you will discover secret gardens and magical places where history meets nature. You will visit the Giardino Bardini, to encounter green spaces, old trails and medieval walls. You will experience those feelings of amusement that Stendhal well described in his bestsellers: "As I emerged from the porch of Santa Croce, I was seized with a fierce palpitation of the heart; the wellspring of life was dried up within me, and I walked in constant fear of falling to the ground". Make your way back to via san Miniato and head towards Piazzale Michelangelo with the best panorama in town. The final recommended stop is the church of San Miniato al Monte. Over 1000 years old, it is one of the finest examples of Florentine Romanesque architecture. Free time and transfer to the airport.



THE SEDUCTIVE AMALFI COAST

DAY 1 - NAPLES

Arrival of the group at Naples airport, welcome and panoramic tour of the city. Transfer to Maiori or Minori. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - POMPEI AND VESUVIUS

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure by bus to visit the Pompeii excavations with local guide. Lunch and continuation to Vesuvius and climb to the «Gran Cono», the summit of the volcano. Return to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 3 – RAVELLO AMALFI (VALLE DEI FERRIERE)

After breakfast, transfer by bus to Ravello for a suggestive hike through the Valle delle Ferriere to Amalfi. Descend among spectacular waterfalls and limestone rocks to the ruins of ancient mills once used for paper production. Visit to Amalfi town centre. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 - SENTIERO DEGLI DEI, CRUISE

Morning excursion on foot along the Path of the Gods (approx. 4 hours). The views of Positano and the Amalfi Coast are exceptional...you will feel like in paradise. The path is at an altitude of 550 metres. In the afternoon Positano-Amalfi mini-cruise. Continue by coach to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 5 – CAPRI

Breakfast. Boarding at the port of Sorrento for Capri. You will take the minibus to Anacapri with a visit to Villa San Michele, then on to Capri. Panoramic walk to the Natural Arch and the Belvedere delle Noci (40 min a/r). Return to Sorrento and transfer to the hotel. Dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 - DEPARTURE

Departure for the airport and end of our services.





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