

Best of Italy

12 Days • 16 Meals: 10 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 5 Dinners • **Avg Group Size 19**

Uncover Italy's soul through artisan traditions, Renaissance treasures, and culinary passions from Venice's canals to Rome's timeless streets. Embrace the history, culture, art, and romance of Italy.

Highlights: Venice and Murano • Venetian Mask-Making • Ravenna • Republic of San Marino • Romagna Countryside and Adriatic Coast • Florence • Orvieto • Rome • Pasta-Making Experience

	TRAVEL STYLE	Explorations - Small groups, local connections, unexpected angles. You'll step into communities, not just visit them — and come home with more than just photos.
	ACTIVITY LEVEL	Level 3: Active  See page 5 for more information
	ENHANCE YOUR TOUR	1 optional excursion available , see itinerary on page 2 Upgrade your accommodation , details on page 4
	EXTEND YOUR TOUR	Pre Tour: arrive early with an extra night in Venice Post Tour: stay an extra night in Rome

Itinerary: Best of Italy



AT A GLANCE

On some dates similar accommodations will be used

Day 1	Overnight Flight	
Days 2-4	Hyatt Centric Murano	Venice
Days 5, 6	Batani Hotels, Romagna Riviera	Rimini
Days 7, 8	Grand Hotel Cavour	Florence
Days 9-11	Ponte Sisto Hotel	Rome

CULTURAL CONNECTIONS	MUST-SEE HIGHLIGHTS	CULINARY INCLUSIONS
Be dazzled by medieval mosaics in Ravenna that gave inspiration to the poetry of Lord Byron and to Cole Porter's romantic song, <i>Night and Day</i>. Discover the craftsmanship behind the creation of Venetian gondolas and Murano glass. Unleash your creativity in a Venetian mask-making workshop, guided by expert artisans in the heart of Venice.	Embark on a walking tour featuring Florence's artistic gems. Discover the long-lost Etruscan civilization during a visit to hilltop Orvieto. Discover the heart of Rome as you explore the timeless charm of Trastevere and the historic grandeur of Piazza Navona.	Taste traditionally-made <i>Parmigiano</i> cheese and balsamic vinegar in the Food Valley. Enjoy a food tour in Rome in the liveliest area of the city. Discover how <i>tagliatelle</i> pasta is made and enjoy a farm-to-table dinner and wine pairing.

Day 1: Overnight Flight

From the romantic canals of Venice to the Renaissance treasures of Florence and timeless allure of Rome, get ready for an Italian adventure. Along the way, you'll unwind on the Romagna Riviera and visit the Republic of San Marino, an enclave surrounded by Italy. Embrace the history, culture, art, and romance of Italy.

Day 2: Murano, Venice, Italy

Welcome to enchanting Murano, one of Venice's 117 storied isles. Known for its centuries-old glassmaking tradition, Murano offers a peaceful introduction to the magic of the Venetian Lagoon. As arrival times will vary, today is yours to explore at your own pace. This evening,

gather with your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner. *Today dinner will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** Hyatt Centric Murano or similar

Day 3: Murano, Venice

Today, glide across the lagoon by motorboat to the center of Venice. With a local guide leading the way, walk among Venice's most iconic sights. Pause for the perfect view over the Bridge of Sighs and take in St. Mark's Square, adorned with marbled palaces and gilded basilicas. After time to enjoy lunch on your own, dive into one of Venice's most whimsical traditions during a hands-on Venetian mask-making workshop. *Today breakfast will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** Hyatt Centric Murano or similar

➕ **Optional Excursion:** *Venetian Serenaded Gondola Cruise* - see details on [web](#)

Day 4: Murano, Venice

This morning, explore the traditional Venetian craftsmanship behind two of the city's symbols: the fascinating blown glass typical of Murano, and the sleek, iconic gondola boats. The afternoon is yours to explore more of the floating city. Perhaps you'll head out for your own treasure hunt in search of the city's hidden gems. Or, consider an optional gondola ride to see the city from its most magical vantage point and fully appreciate the craftsmanship you observed at the gondola shipyards. *Today breakfast will be included.*

🏠 **Accommodation:** *Hyatt Centric Murano or similar*

Day 5: Murano, Venice - Ravenna - Romagna Riviera

Say *ciao* to Venice as you journey towards the Romagna region, famous for its epicurean lifestyle and its *joie de vivre*. Spend the afternoon exploring Ravenna (UNESCO). During the darkness that enveloped the last days of the Roman Empire, Ravenna emerged as a center of power thanks to its strategic position. The city's rulers - the Byzantines, the Goths - adorned its churches with dazzling mosaics. During a guided walking tour, discover the city's most illustrious monuments. In the afternoon, continue to your hotel on the Adriatic coast and settle in for your two-night stay. *Today breakfast will be included.*

🏠 **Accommodation:** *Batani Hotels, Romagna Riviera or similar*

Day 6: Romagna Riviera

Grab your passport* and journey to the landlocked Republic of San Marino, the fifth-smallest country in the world. Perched at the top of Mount Titano, the old town of San Marino (UNESCO) gives visitors sweeping views over the Adriatic Riviera and the gentle rolling hills of the Romagna countryside. Explore the Old Town's intricate system of fortification towers, walls, gates, and bastions during time at leisure. This afternoon, discover how to make pasta staples such as handmade *tagliatelle*. Then, sit back and enjoy the results of your work for dinner. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

🏠 **Accommodation:** *Batani Hotels, Romagna Riviera or similar*

Day 7: Romagna Riviera - Florence

Today, travel to the Emilia region, Italy's foodie haven. During an **Impact Moment**, meet students and teachers at a vocational high school** dedicated to the culinary arts and agriculture. Here, Italy's future chefs

and farmers learn how to make *Parmigiano Reggiano* cheese according to traditional standards, dating back to the 1300s. Students also try their hand at aging balsamic vinegar, a generational process taking anywhere from 12 to 25 years. Enjoy a farm-to-table light lunch prepared by the culinary students using ingredients from the school's farm. Later, continue to Florence (UNESCO), the "Cradle of the Renaissance" and your home for the next two nights. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included.*

🏠 **Accommodation:** *Grand Hotel Cavour or similar*

Day 8: Florence

This morning, meet a local expert for a walking tour of a city that is a work of art all on its own. Your guide will highlight the Piazza del Duomo, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, and the Baptistery. The remainder of the day is yours to explore Florence's cultural riches independently. Perhaps you'll visit one of the city's many museums,** such as the Uffizi or Academy Gallery, where Michelangelo's *David* is kept. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

🏠 **Accommodation:** *Grand Hotel Cavour or similar*

Day 9: Florence - Orvieto - Rome

This morning, traverse southern Tuscany, the ancient land of the Etruscans. This mysterious civilization predated the Romans, who assimilated them, erasing most of their way of life, even though many early kings of Rome were Etruscans. By all accounts, they were an advanced society and culture. One of the Etruscans' most important cities was hilltop Orvieto. Here, **it's your choice!** Join an expert local guide for an in-depth walking tour of the city **-OR-** enjoy free time to eat, drink, and dive into the local scene. Arrive in Rome (UNESCO) in the late afternoon and settle in for a three-night stay. *Today breakfast will be included.*

🏠 **Accommodation:** *Ponte Sisto Hotel or similar*

Day 10: Rome

This morning, your extensive walking tour winds its way through Rome's medieval district which developed organically from the ruins of the ancient city. This neighborhood is a charming combination of narrow cobblestone streets, dark tufa stone, and repurposed Roman ruins. Ascend to the panoramic terrace of the *Vittoriano* with a combination of stairs and elevator to take in one of the city's most impressive views. Gaze upon the vestiges of the Roman Empire, from the Forum to the majestic Colosseum before making the most of a free afternoon in the Eternal City. This evening, explore Rome's dynamic dining scene during a food tour in the bohemian Trastevere district. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** *Ponte Sisto Hotel or similar*

Day 11: Rome

Delve into Rome's second Golden Age on a walking tour exploring the city's Renaissance and Baroque heritage alongside views of the Pantheon and the oval-shaped Navona Square. Then, **it's your choice!** At your own pace, peruse the remarkable collection of antique Greek and Roman statuary of the Palazzo Altemps Museum **-OR-** extend your walking tour with a challenging visit to the Castel Sant'Angelo fortress. Standing tall above the Tiber River, this imposing castle sheltered popes and became the setting for Puccini's beloved opera, *Tosca*. The afternoon is yours. Perhaps you'll indulge in shopping along Rome's Cola di Rienzo

Street or make your way to the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel, and Saint Peter's Basilica.**** Gather tonight to toast the end of your Italian tour during a farewell dinner. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

 **Accommodation:** *Ponte Sisto Hotel or similar*

Day 12: Rome - Tour Ends

Your tour comes to a close today, leaving you with many fond memories of incredible Italy. *Today breakfast will be included.*

See page 5 for essential tour information

Optional Hotel Upgrade Available

During your stay at the Batani Hotel on the Romagna Riviera, you may choose to enjoy a partial view of the sea by upgrading your accommodations to a partial sea view room. Please inquire about this upgrade at time of booking.

Pre-Tour Extensions

- **Pre-Night Stay in Venice:** Arrive early and enjoy an extra night in Venice. This is an independent hotel stay before your guided tour begins.

Post-Tour Extensions

- **Post-Night Stay in Rome:** Extend your stay with an extra night in Rome. This is an independent hotel stay after your guided tour ends.

Essential Tour Information

What to Expect: Best of Italy

GROUP SIZE & AGE POLICY

Group Size: **Travel with an average of 19 people (maximum of 24).**

PHYSICAL EFFORT & ACCESSIBILITY

Activity Level: The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Physical Requirements: In Florence and Rome, you must be prepared to stand on your feet and walk for 3 hours with only 1 restroom stop. There is no seating available during the walking tour. You will be walking around very crowded areas. The streets are cobblestone, with narrow sidewalks. Some streets are pedestrianized but many others allow cars, motorbikes, and small public transportation vehicles. To complete your sightseeing tour, you should expect to walk a minimum of 1.4 miles (2.3 km), plus 1.1 miles (1.7 km) to return to the hotel at the end of the guided tour.

While in Rome, the visit to the Vittoriano roof terrace requires negotiating 2 to 3 flights of steps. The elevator is not accessible for those who require special assistance as it requires climbing steps to reach it and may not be suitable for those suffering from vertigo.

Venice is not accessible to vehicles and requires navigating large crowds, narrow streets, and climbing over multiple bridges with steps up and down. Agility is required to board the gondola boats if participating in the optional tour.

During your Choice on Tour in Rome, if you select Castel Sant'Angelo, it will require climbing 9 very long flights of stairs to reach the top floor. Escalators and elevators are not available at this site.

Medical Equipment/ Devices: If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at the time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Terrain: The areas featured on this tour require extensive walking over cobblestones, uneven and often narrow sidewalks, and occasionally unpaved terrain with loose gravel. For your comfort, we recommend bringing well broken-in walking shoes.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations: When reserving single accommodations, be advised that single rooms in Italy are often smaller in size.

Accommodation Restrictions: Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

Travel Requirements: Best of Italy

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & ENTRY RULES

Passport/ Identification Requirements: Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department's latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Destination Entry/ Exit Requirements: Collette will provide all necessary information, updates, and supporting documents for your travel requirements, including visa and Electronic Travel Authorizations (ETAs), if required, approximately 60-90 days prior to your departure.

ETIAS visa waiver requirements are anticipated to begin during the last quarter of 2026, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit https://travel-europe.europa.eu/etias_en

Customs and Immigrations: At the end of your tour, and upon returning to the U.S., please be prepared to fill out a Declaration Form for U.S. Customs. You are allowed to bring back up to \$800 USD per person of purchases duty free. (Dollar amount is subject to change without notice). There may be restrictions as to quantities and types of items that may be brought back to the United States. For purchases being shipped home, check with the store for the proper VAT forms and any shipping or duty fees that may apply.

Terms and Conditions

IMPORTANT RESERVATION INFORMATION

***Airfare:** For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all tour packages. If you purchase an air inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted inclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Preassigned seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date. **Checked Baggage Charges:** Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

Cancellation Charges for this tour: After your seat reduction date has passed, a non-refundable deposit will be retained. For Cancellation between 90-16 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 40% of total price. For cancellation between 15-1 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 75% of total price. For cancellation on the day of departure and after: 100% of total price. For Ocean Cruises: For cancellation between 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 40% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: 60% of total price. 30 or fewer days prior to departure: 100% of total price. For River Cruises: including Europe, Russia, Egypt and China, 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 50% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 85% of total price. For cancellation 30 or fewer days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 100% of total price. For Galapagos and Antarctica: A cancellation fee of 60% will apply for cancellation between 120-90 days prior to departure; A cancellation charge of 100% will apply for cancellation less than 90 days prior to departure. Cancellation protection is highly recommended and must be purchased at time of deposit. Air rates are subject to change until tour is paid in full. If Travel Protection Plan has not been purchased and a reservation is cancelled for any reason prior to departure - Air is 100% non-refundable once paid in full. Cancellation charges also apply to reservations made for "pre" and "post" night accommodations. Payment of a Per Person Travel Protection Plan Fee guarantees a full refund of all payments (including deposit), except the Travel Protection Plan Fee itself, made to Collette for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. The Travel Protection Plan Fee with Air only covers airline tickets you have purchased from Collette. Exception: If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, Part B of the Travel Protection Plan may provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes, or fees in the event of a cancellation for a covered reason (see Part B for more details). The Travel Protection Plan Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. However, the Part B travel insurance includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons as detailed in Part B. In this case, the single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. Division of this charge between the two passengers involved is solely their responsibility. If insufficient funds are deducted from the canceling client, the traveling client will be charged the remaining portion of the single supplement. Cancellation waiver protects you from penalties in the event you have a need to cancel your entire inclusive tour package up to the day prior to departure. Cancellation waiver does not indemnify you from penalties if you chose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you chose to partially cancel your vacation, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation. Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the customer, are not at fault and have not canceled in

violation of the terms and conditions above, you will be refunded 100%. Please see your sales agent for more information, or review our brochure for details.

Responsibilities: Collette monitors security situations around the world as well as government travel advisories. Conditions may require Collette to change or even cancel trips. You accept the risks involved in travel, both foreign and domestic, and accept responsibility for your own travel decisions. Travelers may be required to review and sign a participation agreement prior to engaging in certain activities on the trip. Neither Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Collette"), own or operate any person or entity which is to or does provide goods or services for these trips. You agree to be bound by the conditions of carriage for all transportation providers. Collette does not maintain control or operate the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers it uses and as such Collette assumes no responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful or negligent act or omission on the part of any other party. Client shall indemnify and hold harmless Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, agents, shareholders, officers, successors and assigns (collectively "Collette"), from all suits, actions, losses, damages, claims or liability for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience or irregularity which is occasioned by any negligent acts or omissions of Collette arising out of any goods or services provided for this or these trips. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism, computer problems, or other such causes. Other risks may arise such as, but not limited to, hazards of traveling in foreign countries including undeveloped areas, the hazards of travel by aircraft, bus, van, train, automobile or other motorized vehicle, differing safety standards, sickness, criminal acts committed by others, allergic reactions, and/or animal encounters. You are voluntarily participating in the tour and Collette, and as lawful consideration for the agreement to travel with Collette, you agree not to make a claim against Collette, its related companies, officers and employees for injuries, death, or any other claim and agree to release Collette, its related companies, officers and employees from any such claim. This release is binding on all members of your traveling party, as well as your Estate and heirs and this provision shall be enforceable even after your trip has ended. If you make your own air reservations, Collette is not responsible and shall provide no refund if your flight schedule changes so that you are not able to enjoy the entirety of your tour. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Collette reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if Collette deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour. Collette reserves the right to withdraw any tour announced. Collette reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of the tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by the Tour Manager to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. If you are traveling with children, you are solely responsible for their behavior and monitoring them throughout the tour. Neither does Collette accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline or other ticket to the tour departure city and return or otherwise. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times. Collette is not responsible, and will not be bound by, representations made by third party representatives, travel agents, unaffiliated websites, or any other party. Participants may be photographed for the promotional purposes of Collette. In addition, any comments that you submit as a review or your social media posts may be used for Collette's promotional purposes. Payment of the deposit to Collette constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Collette reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time, without notice.

Consumer Protection Plans: Collette Travel Service holds membership in the following highly reputable industry organizations: the United States Tour Operators Association and the American Society of Travel Agents. Each association operates a consumer protection plan to cover deposits made by travelers. Full details are available from the organizations or Collette Travel Service. Collette is pleased to give this additional protection to our clients. **Our California Sellers of Travel registration number is 2006766-20. Our State of Washington Unified Business Number is 601-220-855. Florida Seller of Travel registration number. ST35613.**

