ESSENCE OF ITALY: ROME, TUSCANY, VENICE

Itinerary: 10 Days/ 09 Nights

Program in Brief	
Day 01	Arrival in Rome — Walking Tour of Eternal Rome + Welcome Dinner
Day 02	Rome — Ancient Rome — Free afternoon
Day 03	Discover the Wonders of Rome — St. Peter's Basilica & Sistine Chapel
Day 04	Rome — Assisi with Lunch —Tuscany
Day 05	San Gimignano — Olive Oil & Wine Tasting with Light Lunch
Day 06	Full-Day Florence — The Art of the Renaissance
Day 07	Day at Leisure in Tuscany
Day 08	Tuscany — Venice — Guided Walking Tour
Day 09	Venetian Lagoon — Murano & Burano Excursion + Farewell Dinner
Day 10	Arrivederci, Italia! Transfer to Airport and Flight Home

Embark on an unforgettable journey through three of Italy's most iconic regions: Lazio, Tuscany, and Veneto, in our special tour. From the ancient splendor of Rome with its timeless ruins and Vatican masterpieces, to the rolling hills and rustic charm of Tuscany, where food, wine, and countryside serenity meet, every step reveals a new layer of Italy's soul. End your adventure in the magical canals of Venice, where gothic palaces, shimmering mosaics, and artisan islands like Murano and Burano create a dreamlike finale. Along the way, enjoy authentic culinary experiences, expert guides, and inspiring moments—from pasta-making with a Roman chef to gondola rides through Venice's silent waterways—all designed to connect you deeply with Italy's art, history, and local culture.

Itinerary day by day

Day 01: Airport Rome – Walking tour of eternal Rome – Welcome dinner

into the heart of the city for an unforgettable experience: a walking tour through Rome's most iconic film locations. Stroll through charming piazzas, the cafés, fountains, and hidden corners that served as the backdrop for timeless scenes, and feel as if you've stepped right onto a film set.

Celebrate your first day in Italy with a welcome dinner at a very special restaurant. It's the perfect beginning to your own "sweet life" in Italy.

Accommodation	Rome Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 02: Rome — Ancient Rome — Free afternoon

After a hearty Italian breakfast, get ready to step back in time as we explore the splendor of Ancient Rome. Walk in the footsteps of emperors and gladiators as you visit the Roman Forum, the heart of political and social life in ancient times, and the iconic Colosseum—known officially as the Flavian Amphitheatre, but nicknamed for the colossal statue of Emperor Nero that once stood nearby.

Accommodation	Rome Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

DAY 3: Discover the Wonders of Rome — St. Peter's Basilica & Sistine Chapel

After a delicious Roman breakfast, cross borders without even needing a passport—just a 10-minute drive takes us to the world's smallest independent state: Vatican City.

This is devoted to the Vatican Museums, home to one of the most impressive art collections on Earth, including ancient sculptures, Renaissance masterpieces, and medieval tapestries. The journey culminates in the awe-inspiring Sistine Chapel, where the eyes are drawn to Michelangelo's breathtaking ceiling and the dramatic Last Judgment.

Next, step into the magnificent St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in Christendom. Admire Michelangelo's deeply moving Pietà, sculpted when he was just 24 years old, and Bernini's towering bronze baldachin that crowns the papal altar.

After this rich morning of beauty and history, the afternoon is yours to enjoy at leisure—whether you prefer shopping in Rome's elegant boutiques, sipping espresso in a sunlit piazza, or simply strolling the charming streets.

Accommodation	Rome Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 04: Rome — Assisi with Lunch — Tuscany

Let's begin your journey north towards the hillside town of Assisi, a serene and spiritual destination known for being the birthplace of St. Francis of Assisi, the beloved patron saint of animals. As the founder of the Franciscan Order, St. Francis is one of the most revered figures in Catholic history. Here, we'll visit the stunning Basilica of St. Francis, taking in its profound beauty and the breathtaking views of the rolling hills and surrounding villages.

After soaking in the peaceful atmosphere, enjoy a traditional lunch with the friendly locals, savoring the flavors of the region. Then, it's time to continue our journey to Tuscany, to check into our charming Tuscan hotel. For the next four nights, we'll be immersed in the tranquil beauty of the Tuscan landscape.

Accommodation	Tuscan Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 05: San Gimignano — Olive Oil & Wine Tasting with Light Lunch

After breakfast, set off for San Gimignano, a UNESCO World Heritage town known for its towering medieval architecture. Once home to 76 watchtowers, only 13 remain today, but they still evoke the power and prosperity of the Middle Ages. Take a walking tour through the narrow cobbled streets, pausing at the Piazza della Cisterna, the Piazza del Duomo, and other charming corners that transport you back in time.

For lunch head to a local estate, nestled in the rolling hills of San Gimignano where you'll learn all about the wine production with a special host! Enjoy a light lunch accompanied with fine wines.

No Tuscan experience would be complete without a taste of its culinary delights! After the tour, you'll enjoy a light lunch at the farm, savoring typical Tuscan dishes, paired with the olive oil you've just learned about. It's a day that's truly a feast for the senses.

Accommodation	Tuscan Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 06: Full-Day Florence — The Art of the Renaissance

After a delightful breakfast, embark on a short drive to the enchanting city of Florence, the Cradle of the Renaissance. The day begins with a guided walking tour of this magnificent city, starting with the awe-inspiring Duomo (Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore), an architectural masterpiece completed in 1296. We'll also admire Giotto's Bell Tower, a stunning feat of design, and the Baptistery, home to "Gates of Paradise" doors, crafted by Lorenzo Ghiberti (outside visits).

As we stroll through Florence's medieval streets, we arrive at Piazza della Signoria, an open-air museum where statues and sculptures tell stories of the city's rich history. Our next stop is the renowned Academy Gallery, where we'll come face to face with the statue of David, Michelangelo's breathtaking work of art, standing as a symbol of beauty and strength.

In the afternoon, you'll have free time to explore Florence at your own pace. Wander through its charming cobblestone streets, admire majestic squares, and cross the iconic Ponte Vecchio. Florence is a treasure trove of art, crafts, and shopping—from exquisite Florentine paper and leather goods to world-class museums, every corner offers something unique to discover. Return in the late afternoon to the tranquility of your accommodation.

Accommodation	Tuscan Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 07: Day at Leisure in Tuscany

Take the day to unwind and enjoy Tuscany at your own rhythm. Wander through picturesque villages, discover local artisan shops, or relax with scenic views of the countryside. A perfect pause to breathe in the timeless charm of the region.

Accommodation	Tuscan Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 08: Tuscany — Venice — Guided Walking Tour

This morning, bid a warm arrivederci to Tuscany and journey north to one of the world's most enchanting destinations: Venice. After a scenic three-hour drive, we reach the edge of this unique floating city—a labyrinth of canals, bridges, and timeless romance. Upon arrival, a private water taxi carries across the shimmering lagoon to our hotel. Once checked in, we set out on a guided walking tour through Venice's historic heart. We'll step into the grandeur of Piazza San Marco, marvel at the golden mosaics of St. Mark's Basilica, and explore the majestic Doge's Palace, once the seat of Venetian power.

Wander through a maze of narrow alleyways and hidden waterways, discover the elegance of the Rialto Bridge, hear the stories behind the Clock Tower, and gaze upon the haunting beauty of the Bridge of Sighs, once the final view for prisoners crossing into the Palace of Prisons.

Accommodation	Venice Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 09: Venetian Lagoon — Murano & Burano Excursion + Farewell Dinner

Today, venture beyond Venice for a half-day excursion to two of the lagoon's most charming and artistic islands—Murano and Burano.

The first stop is Murano, world-renowned for its centuries-old tradition of glassmaking. Here, inside historic workshops, master artisans shape glowing molten glass into delicate works of art using skills passed down through generations. You'll witness this mesmerizing craft firsthand and have the opportunity to purchase authentic Murano glass, knowing each piece is a true original.

Next, we travel to Burano, a postcard-perfect island known for its vividly colored houses, peaceful canals, and exquisite handmade lace. As you stroll through its cheerful streets, you'll visit the island's famous lace houses, where lace is still made using intricate techniques that have stood the test of time. These delicate creations are more than souvenirs—they're works of living history.

After returning to Venice, enjoy lunch at your leisure and take the rest of the afternoon to wander, shop, and simply get lost in the city's enchanting maze of bridges, alleys, and hidden piazzas.

Tonight enjoy a Venetian Farewell Dinner.

Accommodation	Venice Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 10: Arrivederci, Italia! Transfer to Airport and Flight Home

All good things must come to an end—and so does our unforgettable Italian adventure. This morning, say "arrivederci" to the floating beauty of Venice and transfer to the airport with plenty of time to check in, breeze through security, and maybe even grab some last-minute souvenirs (because there's always room for one more magnet or bar of Italian chocolate). As we board our flight, we carry with us more than just luggage—we return with memories of pasta, piazzas, gondolas, laughter, and new friendships that last a lifetime. Until next time. Ciao, bella Italia

End of Program

Services and Hotels

Price Included:

- Professional English-Speaking Tour Escort
- 4 stars' accommodation in all the regions.
- r/t transfers transportation in Rome
- Private motor-coach from Day 4
- Mandatory hotel city tax
- Luggage handling at the hotel one bag per person
- Lunch and dinners listed above
- Food Tastings as mentioned above

Price excluded:

- Flight to and from Italy
- Gratuities to the local guides and driver

Accommodation at hotels mentioned hereunder or similar (upon availability)		
City	**4-Stars Hotels**	**Nights**
Rome	Hotel Empire or similar	**3**
Tuscany	Hotel Villa Casagrande or similar	**4**
Venice	NH Hotel Avani Rio Novo/ NH Hotel Santa Lucia or similar	**3**