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# SHORE EXCURSIONS

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GLORIOUS BAROQUE, PALM TREES AND LUSCIOUS STREET FOOD

# A DAY IN PALERMO

Moorish domes, mosaics and dizzying open-air markets... explore Palermo, a surprising city made of date palms, baroque churches and Gothic palaces led by a dedicated private guide, and savor the Sicilian Dolce Vita tasting luscious local specialties! Inhabited by Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, and Bourbons Palermo has always been a crossroad of civilizations and boasts a dramatic history, superb art and a rich centuries-old heritage. Admire the city's main landmarks, among which the Teatro Massimo, one of the most well-known and photographed attractions in the city (and renowned for the final scene of The Godfather n.3!), and Teatro Politeama, and splendid Piazza Marina. Dive into the local history and legends visiting stately Palazzo dei Normanni, headquarters of Sicily's regional parliament, admiring the spectacular frescoes in its royal apartments and magnificent chapel, the world-renowned Cappella Palatina. Follow your guide to Palermo's glorious Cathedral, an iconic example of Arab-Norman architecture. Built starting in 1184, modified and enlarged through the centuries it features crenellations, maiolica cupolas and geometrical patterns outside, and houses the royal Norman tombs and gem-studded jewels of the treasury, among which Costanza d'Aragona's striking gold filigree crown. During the day enjoy a bite of the most tantalizing local street food delights, such as deep-fried arancina and chickpea panelle, and an enlightening insider's view of the city's manifold artisan spirit. Follow your guide through the voice-filled streets and alleys and browse the characteristic craft shops to learn the centuries-old techniques used by skilled artisans to make the typical hand painted wooden wagons, leather goods, the characteristic Sicilian "pupi" marionettes and much more!

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Palermo Port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide
- Guided Tour of the historic center
- Entrance Tickets to Palazzo dei Normanni
- Entrance Tickets to the Cathedral
- Guided tour of the artisans workshops
- Tasting of typical local products

Lunch is not included. Palermo offers an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



AWE-INSPIRING ANTIQUITY AND VIBRANT STREET LIFE

# ANCIENT ROME & CITY CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

Discover the heart and soul of Rome, one of the world's most ancient cities! Unveil the secrets of the Eternal City's history and bewitching legends led by the expert knowledge of our best English-speaking guide, roam among columns, through archways, down the city center's quaint cobblestone alleys and across airy statue-studded piazzas. Start your day visiting the Colosseum and Roman Forum, ancient Rome's two most remarkable sights. The awe-inspiring Colosseum, commissioned by Vespasian in 72 B.C. was finished in 80 A.C by Titus. Just imagine: the inauguration lasted a hundred days! With room for over 70,000 spectators, and free seating for all, this amazing venue hosted thrilling popular events. Take an authentic insider's view of its majestic architecture following your guide along the tiers, learn about the animals and gladiators. Get to know the details of its enthralling brutal history: what mainly excited the crowds were the fights between gladiators, frequently slaves, criminals or prisoners of war fighting for rich prizes or their freedom. Then enjoy a short walk to reach the Roman Forum, an immense display of evocative ruins which used to be the social, political and commercial hub of the Roman empire. Learn about the ancient Romans' daily life and fascinating customs wandering through this impressive district of temples, basilicas and vibrant public spaces. After breathing the vestiges of the Roman Empire discover Rome's enchanting city center, a lively maze of cobblestone streets, shop-lined alleys and stupendous piazzas. Your visit will include main landmarks such as Piazza Navona, the most romantic square in Rome, the grandiose Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon and naturally Piazza di Spagna and the Spanish Steps. Feel Rome's throbbing heartbeat, follow your guide's lead and discover stupendous fountains, palaces and heart-stopping views!

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Civitavecchia port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the day
- Skip-the-line tickets to the Colosseum and Roman Forum
- Guided walking tour of Rome city center highlights

Lunch is not included. Rome offers an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



DISCOVER THE COLORS, TRADITIONS AND FLAVORS OF APULIA

# BARI AND ALBEROBELLO

Unspoiled, genuine and intense... Puglia is the quintessence of southern Italy! Discover two of the region's most attractive towns, enchanting Alberobello and colorful Bari. Relax, savor the ride and views of the gleaming sea and melodious countryside as you travel comfortably to Alberobello with your private dedicated English-speaking guide. And get ready to be surprised: Unesco World Heritage Site Alberobello is... a fairytale come true! Made up almost entirely of the limestone cone-shaped homes called trulli, the town is as close as one can get to fantasy land. Roam the silent sun-bleached streets where time seems to have stopped, and admire the extraordinary details of these striking rustic whitewashed rural buildings: shaped like beehives and surmounted by teepee-like white-tipped roofs, inside they feature a spacious hearth which provides heat in the winter, while the thick stone walls keep the dwellings cool in the summer. Then set off to discover vibrant Bari: capital of Puglia and major transport hub the city boasts an important university, renowned opera house, grand tree-lined promenades and a lively vital atmosphere. Follow your guide's lead through the city and unveil the local history and heritage exploring fascinating "Bari Vecchia" the ancient town. Admire the main landmarks, such as the Cathedral and Church of St Nicholas and wander leisurely down the narrow, winding alleyways where local signore hand-roll fresh orecchiette pasta right on the street. Yes, because Puglia offers a sumptuous selection of delicious typical dishes. Join the feast, enjoy a bite of the best in the heart of old Bari savoring the tempting typical street food: decadent deep-fried panzerotti and fragrant savory taralli.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Bari port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the day
- Guided tour of Alberobello
- Guided tour of Bari
- Typical specialties' tasting in Bari

Lunch is not included. Bari's charming old town offers a wide selection of alluring typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



CAPTIVATING VIEWS AND SUN-KISSED VILLAGES

# EXPLORING THE AMALFI COAST

Eye-catching, seductive, simply gorgeous... the Amalfi Coast is a Mediterranean icon! Explore it in full comfort traveling by private transportation escorted by a dedicated local guide throughout the day. Relax and lose yourself in the views: dizzying cliffs crowned by verdant gardens, citrus fruit orchards and exquisite pastel-hued villages perched high above deep gorges and the deep blue sea. Learn about the coast's sun-kissed towns, Positano, Sorrento, Amalfi and Ravello, lovely holiday resorts beloved by Italians and travelers. Visit stylish Ravello, perhaps the Amalfi Coast's most glamorous destination, built high up on a hill instead of on the coast because it was founded in the 5th century as a sanctuary from barbarian invaders. Admire the hillside villas and exquisite main square and catch a sequel of breathtaking views wandering down the picturesque streets to the town's most celebrated sight, the spectacular Villa Rufolo, world-renowned for its superb cascading gardens. Built for the rich Rufolo family the villa is famous because it is the site that inspired Richard Wagner as the setting for the second act of his Parsifal. Enter the property via the splendid ornamental Tower gateway, built in Gothic style with a pointed arch, walk between evocative ancient walls lined with cypresses and lime trees and discover the villa's exceptional features among which the Moorish Court, majestic Great Tower, the Garden pavilion, Belvedere and gorgeous park. Restored by Sir Francis Neville Reid in 1853 and called "the Garden of Soul" the park is an awe-inspiring succession of exotic colors, glistening bushes, artistically crumbling towers and sumptuous blooms of all kinds.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Naples port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the day
- Guided tour of Ravello
- Entrance fees to Villa Rufolo

Lunch is not included. The Amalfi Coast offers an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



STUNNING CLIFFSIDE VISTAS AND FASCINATING VILLAGES

# LE CINQUE TERRE EXPERIENCE

Spend a memorable day exploring one of the world's most spectacular coastal areas, the famed Cinque Terre, a fairytale-like destination where land and sea meet, led by the knowledge and personal attention of your dedicated private guide. Unveil the secrets and authentic charm of the area off-the-beaten tourist path, relish the flavors of ancient typical cuisine and aromas of sensational wines. Set amid some of the most dramatic coastal scenery on the planet le Cinque Terre, five ingeniously constructed fishing villages, are a Unesco World Heritage site since 1997, and still today look very much like a version of a seafront garden of Eden! Let your guide lead you into the heart and soul of this treasure chest of natural beauty and traditions traveling with your private driver, and then by train and boat! Admire the scenery: sinuous paths run across stunning cliffsides, and a 19th-century railway line cut through a series of coastal tunnels ferries the footsore from village to village. Learn all about the Cinque Terre's history and unique feature from your guide: the steeply terraced cliffs bisected by a complicated system of fields and gardens hacked, chiseled, shaped and layered over the course of nearly two millennia. So marked are these artificial contours that some scholars have compared the extensive muretti (low stone walls) to the Great Wall of China! And all enhanced by the charming villages - Riomaggiore, founded in the 8th century by Greek settlers fleeing persecution in Byzantium, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Monterosso - which look onto the gleaming pristine waters of the sea. Lose yourself in the gorgeous scenery and explore a few of the fascinating villages on foot. Crown your day with a memorable typical Ligurian lunch in a restaurant of your choice.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Port as needed
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the tour
- Cinque Terre Train Pass for the day

Lunch is not included. All the Cinque Terre villages offer a selection of typical restaurants and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.

## OPTIONAL SERVICES:

- Private typical gozzo style boat, with skipper, at guests' disposal (for a maximum of 3 hours)



CAVE DWELLINGS AND... THE BEST BREAD IN THE WORLD!

# MATERA AND ALTAMURA

Whitewashed villages where time seems to have stopped, an alluring coastline, legends of pirates, untracked forests and mountains. Authentic and largely unexplored Puglia and Basilicata seem to blend into a vivid kaleidoscopic land where ancient traditions are alive and honored, the cultural richness is amazing and the rustic home-made cuisine scrumptious. Enjoy the privilege of exploring Matera and Altamura, two of the Italy's peerless jewels, led by a charismatic local private guide. Start your day in evocative Matera, world-renowned for its extensive ancient cave-dwellings district, the sassi, (also the setting for Mel Gibson's "Passion of Christ"). Follow your guide through the stunning streets and get ready to be surprised! The first natural caves in the tufa limestone were first inhabited 7000 years ago, more elaborate ones were added on top and today one feels transported back in time into a mythical, biblical scene. Then set off to discover Altamura, an important historical town renowned for its striking tower-crowned cathedral and picturesque medieval streets and beloved throughout all of Italy for its extraordinary signature bread, called "the best bread in the world" by the Latin poet Horace back in 37 BC! Get to know the town's characteristic lifestyle, admire the main landmarks and stroll down the tiny alleyways to discover the typical bakeries. Each with its own wood-fired oven and one-of-a-kind rustic atmosphere these are the birthplaces of the famous pane di Altamura, anciently kneaded by each family at home, and then baked in public ovens where the baker marked the loaves with the family's initials of the head of the family. Join the locals in one of the bakeries for a memorable taste of this precious fragrant specialty, with its dark crisp crust and yellow-hued soft and fluffy inside.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Bari port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the day
- Guided tour of Matera
- Guided tour of Altamura
- Typical bread tasting in Altamura

Lunch is not included. Altamura offers a wide selection of typical restaurants and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



VIBRANT COLORS, BEWITCHING ARCHEOLOGY

# NAPLES AND POMPEI

Spend a memorable day visiting colorful Naples and Pompei, one of the world's most bewitching archeological sites, with the comfort and privilege of traveling by private transportation throughout the day. Discover Pompei, the famous town completely destroyed in 79 A.D. Meet your guide, enter the site easily with hassle-free skip-the-line tickets and get ready to be amazed: exceptionally well-preserved because of the ashes, the site offers a unique collection of perfectly maintained ruins! Today, almost 2,000 years later, you will be able to visualize and imagine the ancient inhabitants. Follow your guide to admire the magnificent amphitheater, the House of the Vettii and its frescoes, the taverns and wide avenues of a lost world. Other highlights include the Basilica, the Palace of Justice, the Temple of Apollo, and the city's ancient piazza and Forum, site of business dealings and fabulous processions, the Temple of Jupiter, ancient food market, bakery and thermal baths. Travel on to fascinating Naples, one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world. Home to world-celebrated artists such as Caravaggio, Salvatore Rosa and Bernini and UNESCO World Heritage Site the city boasts an immense array of astounding archaeological treasures. Enjoy a superb walking tour, uncover breathtaking frescoes, sculptures and panoramas. Wander across buzzing squares and lively streets filled with voices and laughter and admire the main landmarks such as the Royal Palace (Palazzo Reale), Galleria Umberto I, the vibrant Spaccanapoli promenade and Teatro San Carlo. Learn about the city's heritage viewing its fabulous Baroque churches and palaces and peeking into the quaint cafés, restaurants and shops. Important: in order to guarantee best results and guests' comfort the order of the visit may be varied for climatic/logistic/ operational reasons.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Naples port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the day
- Skip-the-line tickets to Pompei

Lunch is not included. Naples' and its surroundings offer an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



ANTIQUITY, HISTORY AND GORGEOUS SEA VIEWS

# POMPEI AND THE AMALFI COAST

Awe-inspiring archeological remnants, gorgeous landscapes and authentic local color... discover Pompei, one of the world's most remarkable archeological sites, and the iconic Amalfi Coast! Relax, savor the ride and take in the views traveling comfortably by private transportation. Enter the site easily with hassle-free skip-the-line tickets and...get ready to be surprised! Completely destroyed in 79 A.D. by the eruption of the Vesuvius, and exceptionally well-preserved because of the ashes, Pompei offers a unique collection of perfectly maintained ruins and today, almost 2,000 years later, one can actually "see", imagine, the ancient inhabitants. Follow your guide to admire the magnificent amphitheater, the House of the Vettii and its frescoes, the taverns and wide avenues of a lost world. Other highlights include the Basilica, the Palace of Justice, the Temple of Apollo, and the city's ancient piazza and Forum, site of business dealings and fabulous processions, the Temple of Jupiter, ancient food market, bakery and thermal baths. Travel on to the gorgeous Amalfi Coast, enjoying the ride and views: dizzying cliffs crowned by verdant gardens and citrus fruit orchards, pastel-hued villages perched high above deep gorges and the deep blue sea below. Stroll through one of the major towns, Positano, Amalfi or Sorrento see laughing children play in cobblestone-paved piazzas, admire the picturesque streets lined with whitewashed houses and chic boutiques, savor a tantalizing creamy gelato and admire. Marvel at the mystifying cathedrals and iconic piazzas, enjoy liaising with the friendly locals and take the opportunity to

shop for some charming Amalfi Coast souvenir!

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Naples port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the day
- Skip-the-line tickets to Pompei
- Guided tour of the Amalfi Coast with stop in one of the major towns

Lunch is not included. The area offers an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



DISCOVER THE SUN-KISSED ITALIAN RIVIERA

# PORTOFINO, CAMOGLI AND SAN FRUTTUOSO

A dazzling landscape studded by villages and terraced gardens, where the Alps and the Apennines cascade into the sea. Fabulous, rich in history and tradition the Italian Riviera is a real-life watercolor! Spend a memorable day exploring one of the world's most spectacular coastal areas and discover its most alluring towns with the privilege of private transportation and a dedicated private guide. Discover Portofino, the most fashionable of all the Italian Riviera towns, a delightfully painted village with an unspoiled atmosphere and peaceful air. Follow your guide through the picturesque alleys that lead up from the harbour, peek into the glamorous designer shops and pretty cafès and learn about the town's history while gazing at the blue sea beyond the glitzy boats and yachts. Journey on to Camogli, namely "house of the wives", a thriving fishing village famous for its splendid trompe l'oeil villas. Explore, admire the umbrella pines, olive groves and superb views of the sea, and hear about local traditions from your guide. Travel on to San Fruttuoso and prepare to be surprised: there are no roads here! Incredibly preserved this captivating town-that-is-not-a-town is a haven of centuries-old tranquility with a bewitching attraction, the ancient Benedictine monastery. Learn all about this lovely stone building with a small dome that houses the burial vaults of the aristocratic Genoese Doria family and admire the diversified architecture. See the nearby evocative 16th century watch tower and a replica of the famed Christ of the Abyss, a bronze statue which lies offshore at about 15m under the sea, housed in the church next to the monastery.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to La Spezia Port as needed
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the tour
- Private boat for the cruise

Lunch is not included. Portofino and Camogli offer a wide selection of typical restaurants and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



# ROME: THE VATICAN MUSEUMS & CITY CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

Spend a memorable day Rome's spiritual treasure chest, the Vatican Museums, and fascinating heart, the city center led by a charismatic dedicated private guide specialized in art and art history. Being the burial place of St Peter Rome has always been considered a holy city – a second Jerusalem. Embark on a journey back in time, travel through over 2000 years of mesmerizing history! Discover the awe-inspiring Vatican Museums, learn about the great artists who helped embellish one of the most fascinating sovereign states in the world. The museums comprise some of the world most precious artistic and religious treasures including the Galleries of Maps, Candelabras and Tapestries, the Raphael Rooms, Pinacoteca, or Egyptian Museum. Follow your guide into the stunning Sistine Chapel, magnificently adorned by Michelangelo's life-like, potent, frescoes. Here the conclaves of cardinals have come together periodically, throughout the centuries, to elect a new pope, and Pope John Paul II called it the "Holy Spirit's place of action". Then set off to discover Rome's enchanting city center, a lively picturesque maze of cobblestone streets and shop-lined alleys which lead into stupendous piazzas. Your visit will include main landmarks and sights such as Piazza Navona, the most romantic square in Rome, decorated with three fountains, the grandiose Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, once a temple dedicated to all the gods, and naturally Piazza di Spagna, with the Spanish Steps and unusual Fontana della Barcaccia shaped like a semi-submerged boat. Feel Rome's throbbing heartbeat, follow your guide's lead and discover stupendous fountains, palaces and heart-stopping views!

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Civitavecchia port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the day
- Skip-the-line tickets to the Vatican Museums
- Guided walking tour of Rome city center highlights

Lunch is not included. Rome offers an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



GORGEOUS LANDSCAPES, VIVID LOCAL COLOR, THRILLING ANTIQUE RELICS

# SORRENTO AND POMPEI

Awe-inspiring archeological remnants, gorgeous landscapes and authentic local color. Spend an unforgettable day exploring Pompei, one of the world's most remarkable archeological sites, and Sorrento, icon of Amalfi Coast charm, with the comfort and privilege of traveling by private transportation throughout the day. Discover Pompei, the famous town completely destroyed in 79 A.D. Meet your guide, enter the site easily with hassle-free skip-the-line tickets and get ready to be amazed: exceptionally well-preserved because of the ashes, the site offers a unique collection of perfectly maintained ruins! Today, almost 2,000 years later, you will be able to visualize and imagine the ancient inhabitants. Follow your guide to admire the magnificent amphitheater, the House of the Vettii and its frescoes, the taverns and wide avenues of a lost world. Other highlights include the Basilica, the Palace of Justice, the Temple of Apollo, and the city's ancient piazza and Forum, site of business dealings and fabulous processions, the Temple of Jupiter, ancient food market, bakery and thermal baths. Travel on to Sorrento, delightful "gateway" to the Amalfi Coast. Beloved by the Grand Tour travelers, Lord Byron, Dickens and Tolstoy, this sun-kissed town is where Italians spend their holidays and the jet-set throws extravagant parties! Enjoy some time at leisure and explore, walk down little picturesque streets, admire the dramatic view of high cliffs plunging into the turquoise blue sea. Browse the chic boutiques, shop for limoncello and local pottery and savor a creamy gelato. Marvel at the iconic piazzas and silent churches, enjoy liaising with the friendly locals and crown your day with a typical lunch in a restaurant of your choice.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Naples port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide in Pompei
- Skip-the-line tickets to Pompei
- Time at leisure in Sorrento

Lunch is not included. Sorrento offers an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide and/or driver is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



ENJOY THE SICILIAN "DOLCE VITA"

# TAORMINA AND MOUNT ETNA

Spend a memorable day among sensational landscapes and enjoy a taste of the Sicilian Dolce Vita! Discover two of Italy's most remarkable sights, Taormina and Mount Etna, led by the knowledge and personal attention of your dedicated private guide. Start your day in Taormina, a charming town and one of Sicily's most popular summer destinations. Perched in an outstanding position on the mountainside it boasts a stunning ancient theatre and simply breathtaking views of the gleaming sea. Founded in the 4th century BC Taormina lured many a Grand Tour traveler, among which DH Lawrence and Goethe. Visit the ancient Greek Theatre, built by using local blocks of stone, and divided in three parts, the stage, orchestra and audience seating. Admire the details: the parts of the columns that once decorated the stage, the ample spaces once used as changing rooms and the musicians' area. Then set off on a scenic exciting drive up the slopes of Mount Etna, the largest active volcano in Europe and Italy's highest mountain south of the Alps! The majestic volcano and its slopes are now a national park, the Parco dell'Etna, a captivating wonderland of sounds, scents, and colors. Comprising 590 sq km and about 20 towns the park offers stark snow-crowned mountaintops, lunar lava deserts, thick woods, and the rich orchards and vineyards which yield amazing fresh produce and wines. Stop at a charming Etna winery for an unforgettable firsthand experience: a visit, wine tasting and luscious luncheon. Explore the grounds, get to know the unique wines and vegetables which grow here thanks to the rich dark volcanic soil and altitude. Crown your day with a memorable tasting of the estate wines and scrumptious typical lunch.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Catania Port and throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide
- Guided Tour of Taormina
- Entrance Tickets to the Greek Theatre
- Visit of a winery on the Etna slopes
- Wine tasting and typical lunch at the winery



DISCOVER THE ETRUSCAN HERITAGE

# TARQUINIA AND ORVIETO

Discover two of Italy's most exquisite gems, enchanting Orvieto and inspiring Tarquinia, traveling in full comfort by private transportation. Meet your private local English-speaking guide in Tarquinia and embark on a journey back in time. Symbol of Etruscan art par excellence, and studded by Medieval vestiges the town is a treasure chest of monuments and museums. Roam the evocative town center, and learn all about this ancient town's eventful past, and enjoy an insider's view of the mysterious Etruscan civilization and customs visiting the magnificent UNESCO-listed necropolis. Comprising over 6,000 tombs, among which 200 painted ones, this is the most extensive pictorial collection of Etruscan art in the world, and represents the most important existing document of pre-Roman painting. Admire the frescoes, a breathtaking display of stunning magical-religious scenes depicting banquets, dancers, musicians and jugglers, all in extraordinarily vivid colors. Continue your journey into the Etruscan realm viewing the amazing display of sarcophagi, vases, homeware, pottery, statues and ancient coins housed in the fantastic Archeological Museum. Then travel on along meadows, vineyards and olive groves to splendid Orvieto. Rising like a glistening crown high atop a stony cliff-like peak this ancient town was always very important because of its secure position. Meet your private guide and explore the exquisite center, a maze of cobblestone alleys, postcard-perfect churches and ancient buildings. Learn about the town's history and visit the spectacular Gothic Duomo, a hypnotizing display of multi-colored frescoes, gleaming mosaics, and carvings of flowers and vine. Follow your guide inside and gaze at Luca Signorelli's grandiose fresco, which is said to have inspired Michelangelo.

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Civitavecchia port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide in Tarquinia
- Entrance Fees for the Necropolis
- Entrance Fees for the Archeological Museum
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide in Orvieto
- Entrance Fees for the Orvieto Cathedral

Lunch is not included. Both towns offer an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



A MEMORABLE JOURNEY INTO THE SOUL OF ROME

# THE VATICAN MUSEUMS & CITY CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

Spend a memorable day Rome's spiritual treasure chest, the Vatican Museums, and fascinating heart, the city center led by a charismatic dedicated private guide specialized in art and art history. Being the burial place of St Peter Rome has always been considered a holy city – a second Jerusalem. Embark on a journey back in time, travel through over 2000 years of mesmerizing history! Discover the awe-inspiring Vatican Museums, learn about the great artists who helped embellish one of the most fascinating sovereign states in the world. The museums comprise some of the world most precious artistic and religious treasures including the Galleries of Maps, Candelabras and Tapestries, the Raphael Rooms, Pinacoteca, or Egyptian Museum. Follow your guide into the stunning Sistine Chapel, magnificently adorned by Michelangelo's life-like, potent, frescoes. Here the conclaves of cardinals have come together periodically, throughout the centuries, to elect a new pope, and Pope John Paul II called it the "Holy Spirit's place of action". Then set off to discover Rome's enchanting city center, a lively picturesque maze of cobblestone streets and shop-lined alleys which lead into stupendous piazzas. Your visit will include main landmarks and sights such as Piazza Navona, the most romantic square in Rome, decorated with three fountains, the grandiose Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, once a temple dedicated to all the gods, and naturally Piazza di Spagna, with the Spanish Steps and unusual Fontana della Barcaccia shaped like a semi-submerged boat. Feel Rome's throbbing heartbeat, follow your guide's lead and discover stupendous fountains, palaces and heart-stopping views!

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Civitavecchia port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide for the day
- Skip-the-line tickets to the Vatican Museums
- Guided walking tour of Rome city center highlights

Lunch is not included. Rome offers an enormous range of typical restaurants, cafés and trattorias; we recommend you select your preference on site directly. Your guide is at your disposal for suggestions and, if needed, assist with booking.



INTRIGUING HISTORY, DAZZLING PARKS AND LUSCIOUS LOCAL FARE

# TIVOLI AND THE ROMAN CASTELLI

Step off the beaten tourist track, discover the views and wines of the Roman countryside! Meet your private guide in Tivoli, once a lavish summer resort for ancient Romans and wealthy Renaissance lords, which houses two stunning Unesco World Heritage Sites: Emperor Hadrian's extensive Villa Adriana, and the 16th-century Villa d'Este, a Renaissance villa celebrated for its legendary gardens and opulent fountains. Follow your guide through enchanting Villa Adriana, built by Hadrian to be a modest (!) summer resort for his lover. Explore the ruins of the estate, including remnants of thermal baths, libraries and temples, and learn all about the court's daily customs. Proceed on to Villa d'Este and its superlative classical Renaissance gardens, a stunning park studded by water-spouting gargoyles, and over 500 extravagant fountains. Admire the Fountain of Neptune and Fountain of the Organ, and let your guide lead you into the depths of Renaissance intrigue, with tales about the son of Lucretia Borgia, a scandalous 15th century duchess. Then set off to discover the views and peaceful ambiance of the Castelli, once a holiday resort for the well-to-do Romans. The name, "castles" is misleading: these are not castles, but towns immersed in luxuriant vegetation. Visit delightful Frascati and discover the town's signature typical wines, golden and light in flavor: the fertile soils here have been used in wine production since the Roman Era, there are thousands of years of winemaking heritage to uncover! Stop at a winery along the way, visit of the grounds and cellars, learn all about the grapes used and understand how the traditional winemaking techniques have evolved from the Roman era to the present day. Crown your day with a memorable tasting the estates' best blends. Emperors, duchesses, intrigue and fountains, hills and delicious wines... a captivating day, in an outstanding scenario!

## INCLUSIONS:

- Private transportation from/to Civitavecchia port and as needed throughout the tour
- Professional licensed English-speaking guide in Tivoli
- Skip-the-line tickets to the Villa Adriana
- Skip-the-line tickets to the Villa D'Este
- Visit and tasting at a winery in the Castelli hillside

Lunch is not included. Your guide will be pleased to suggest charming typical options and book on your behalf.

