ARNO
TRAVEL & EVENT DESIGN IN ITALY



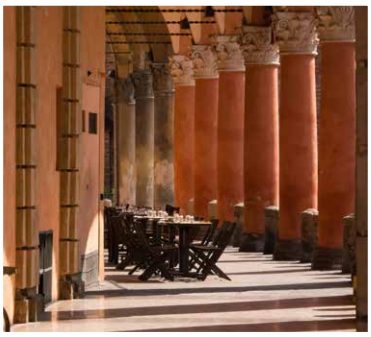
BOLOGNA, THE FOOD & MOTOR VALLEY

An exclusive exploration through Emilia-Romagna's art cities and culinary capitals, where Byzantine mosaics and legendary flavors weave together into a bespoke experience.

ARNO EXPERIENCES

A WALK IN BOLOGNA: HISTORY, FLAVORS AND AROMAS







Discover Bologna with a local guide, strolling past iconic porticoes and legendary culinary magic! Prepare to immerse yourself in the rich culture, warm hospitality, and unforgettable flavors of Italy's favorite food and art capital.

Duration:

2.5 hours

What is included:

- Private professional licensed English-speaking guide for 2.5 hours
- Tasting of typical products

FULL EXPERIENCE

Admire the sights, taste the best, savor the local Dolce Vita! Discover warm welcoming Bologna, haven of brilliant talents and treasure chest of culture and history led by a knowledgeable local guide and indulge your taste buds with the flavors of scrumptious local specialties. Founded by the Etruscans the city reached its peak as an independent state in the 12th century, when it also became the leading European university. Wealth, and the locals' innate creative energy, brought splendid palaces, porticoes, covered walkways, and graceful towers, 15 of which still stand today.

Capital of Emilia-Romagna Bologna is also the kingdom of gastronomic delight; just think Parmesan cheese, balsamic vinegar, lasagna, tortellini and Parma ham all come from here! Stroll down the fine colonnade lined-streets, discover the city's charm and grandeur admiring the airy squares, such as grand Piazza Maggiore with the city hall, and evocative palaces and churches such as the Sala Borsa, Basilica di San Petronio and Basilica di Santo Stefano, and get ready to be surprised by the city's luscious typical specialties and most iconic sight, the fascinating leaning towers Torre Garisenda and Torre degli Asinelli! End your tour with a flavorful bang: a luscious tasting of fine local specialties.

DISCOVERING FERRARA







Explore Renaissance Ferrara with a private guide, touring the magnificent Estense Castle and the Cathedral Museum, and discover the authentic local specialties and rich cultural heritage of this enchanting city.

Duration:

full day

What is included:

- Private transportation from/to your hotel in Bologna and throughout the day as needed
- Entrance fees to the Cathedral Museum and Estense Castle
- Private specialized English-speaking art-historian guide for 5 hours

Notes:

- Lunch is not included. Ferrara offers a variety of charming typical trattorias and restaurants. Your guide will be pleased to suggest options and book on your behalf.

FULL EXPERIENCE

Magnificent, peaceful, refined, and inspiring... discover castle-crowned Ferrara, a splendid capital of Renaissance grandeur governed by the noble Este family, traveling in style with private transport and an expert local guide!

Follow your guide through the historical center to discover its glorious past, roam the evocative Medieval streets admiring sumptuous palaces such as Palazzo Diamanti and Palazzo Schifanoia, and experience true marvel visiting the Cathedral Museum. Home to the Cathedral's ancient highlights the museum comprises the stunning 15th decorative panels of the organ by Turà, depicting the Annunciation and St. George and the Dragon, the 13th century panels from the Porta dei Mesi, and a collection of hymnbooks and paintings. Then visit the fascinating fairytale-like Estense Castle, located right in the heart of the city, surrounded by an actual moat and crowned by four graceful towers. Learn all about the family's eventful history exploring the lovely courtyard frescoed with portraits of the members of the Este clan, wander through the medieval rooms, ducal flats, kitchens and eerie prisons. Finally, for an all-round Ferrara lifestyle experience, enjoy a tasty bite of local fare: the city is famous for its signature "coppia" bread and luscious pumpkin-stuffed "cappellacci" pasta.



DISCOVERING PARMA







Immerse yourself in the sophisticated elegance of Italy's ultimate city of music, art, and gourmet delights! Prepare to discover the refined charm and timeless beauty of this remarkable cultural jewel.

Duration:

3 hours

What is included:

- Private English-speaking guide for tour of Parma (3 hours)
- Entrance fees to the Cathedral

FULL EXPERIENCE

Elegant streets virtually free of cars lined by fine shops and regal cafés, astounding museums and cathedrals and scrumptious local specialties, like prosciutto and parmesan cheese. Prosperous, metropolitan, stylish and musical Parma has given the world a rainbow of refined "goods" we all delight in, from the composer Verdi to the best ham and cheese you can find! Spend a day discovering this fascinating city's most remarkable highlights, lose yourself in its unique charm.

Meet your private dedicated English-speaking guide and set off to stroll the streets and avenues; synonymous with nature, history and art Parma boasts a range of admirable artists such as Antelami, Correggio, Parmigianino, (and Toscanini for the music fans!) which all left their in this sophisticated and graceful jewel of a city. Follow your guide through Parma's historic center and marvel at its religious centerpiece: the Cathedral, the Baptistery and Bishop's Palace.

Admire the exquisite Piazza del Duomo explore the charming Cathedral, one of the most important expressions of the Po Valley Romanesque style, and continue on through the well-groomed center, discovering the main highlights and landmarks.

DISCOVERING RAVENNA







Step back in time and lose yourself in a shimmering world of ancient imperial splendor! Prepare to be utterly mesmerized by breathtaking artistic treasures and timeless architectural wonders as you uncover the glittering heart of Italy's mosaic capital.

Duration:

full day

What is included:

- Private transportation from/to your hotel in Bologna and throughout the day as needed
- Entrance fees to Basilica di San Vitale, Mausoleo di Galla Placida, Basilica di Sant'Apollinare and Domus dei Tappeti di Pietra
- Private specialized English-speaking art-historian guide for 5 hours

Notes:

- Lunch is not included. Ravenna offers a variety of charming typical trattorias and restaurants. Your guide will be pleased to suggest options and book on your behalf.

FULL EXPERIENCE

Dazzling, gleaming, inspiring. Discover Ravenna, once capital of the Western Roman Empire, headquarters of the Ostrogoth Kingdom and stronghold of the emperor of Byzantium, today paradise on earth for art and history fans. Home to eight superb UNESCO-listed buildings and the world's most dazzling collections of early Christian mosaic artwork the city is... a mosaic lover's dream come true!

Discover the splendid Basilica of San Vitale, one of the most striking examples of Byzantine architecture in Italy, and marvel at its glowing mosaics, a unique rainbow showcase of deep greens, blazing golds and blues, depicting scenes from the Old Testament and of the Byzantine emperor Justinian with San Massimiano and Empress Theodora. Continue your polychrome journey in the small Mausoleo di Galla Placida, built for Emperor Honorius' half-sister, home to the most ancient mosaics in Ravenna, (probably dating back to AD 430!), and Basilica di Sant'Apollinare. Crown your experience with the city's superstar sight, the astounding Domus dei Tappeti di Pietra, one of the most important archaeological discoveries of the last decades. Namely "Home of the Stone Carpets" this amazing treasure chest of ancient beauty was discovered when skilled archaeologists found 14 rooms and 3 courtyards inside a small Byzantine palace. Just imagine their awe, when they saw that the floor surface of every single room was covered with marble inlay or mosaics displaying gleaming multi-colored patterns and figures!



FERRARI AND LAMBORGHINI







Fasten your seatbelts to feel the ultimate adrenaline rush in Italy's legendary homeland of horsepower! Prepare for an unforgettable exploration of speed, style, and engineering mastery as you dive into the heart-pounding world of motors.

Duration:

full day

What is included:

- Private transportation from/to your hotel in Bologna and as needed throughout the tour
- Entrance fees to the Ferrari Maranello Museum
- Entrance fees to the Lamborghini Museum

Notes:

- Crown your day with a memorable typical lunch in the charming premises of an 18th century vinegar farmhouse and savor the best of the local fare: traditionally made balsamic served with Parmesan cheese, premium local cured meats, and ruby-red bubbly Lambrusco, and more!

FULL EXPERIENCE

Ferrari, Lamborghini, Maserati, Morini, Malaguti, Ducati, and legendary race tracks like Imola and Misano... Emilia-Romagna is the world's undisputed temple of speed, engineering genius, and automotive passion! Rev your engine for an unforgettable journey through the famous Motor Valley, exploring two flagship sanctuaries: the Lamborghini Museum and the Ferrari Maranello Museum.

Start at the striking Lamborghini Museum, celebrating the mechanical brilliance of Ferruccio Lamborghini. Trace the evolution of high-caliber engineering while admiring iconic classics like the 350 GT and Miura, cutting-edge hybrid models, Formula 1 racing cars, and the revolutionary Lamborghini Urus.

Continue to the red-bannered Maranello Ferrari Museum for an enthralling deep dive into the roots of the Prancing Horse. Discover the legend through successful F1 race cars, historic sports prototypes, and stunning GT road cars, experiencing the past, present, and future of world-class automotive design!

HALF DAY TOUR OF BOLOGNA







Immerse yourself to fall in love with the vibrant heart and soul of Emilia-Romagna! Prepare for an unforgettable exploration of history, art, and timeless elegance as you uncover the magnificent treasures of this iconic city.

Duration:

2.5 hours

What is included:

- Private professional licensed English-speaking guide for 2.5 hours

FULL EXPERIENCE

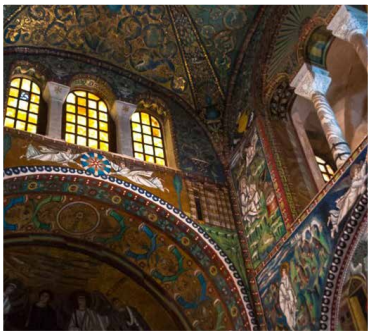
Terracotta medieval buildings, elegant porticoes, a lively contemporary atmosphere blending with the rich centuries-old cultural legacy. Discover elegant welcoming Bologna, home to the world's most ancient university and birthplace of a wondrous number of world-acclaimed artists, writers and musicians, unveil its fascinating heritage and eventful history led by a knowledgeable local guide. Founded by the Etruscans the city reached its peak as an independent state in the 12th century, when it also became the leading European university. Wealth, and the locals' innate creative energy, brought splendid palaces, porticoes, covered walkways and graceful towers, 15 of which still stand today.

Stroll down the fine colonnade lined-streets, discover the city's charm and grandeur admiring the airy squares, such as grand Piazza Maggiore with the city hall, and evocative palaces and churches such as the Sala Borsa, Basilica di San Petronio and Basilica di Santo Stefano. Marveling at the evocative architecture of the city's most iconic sight, the leaning towers Torre Garisenda and Torre degli Asinelli, you will become a part of the city's bustling and vibrant lifestyle!

RAVENNA AND FAENZA







Explore the dazzling Byzantine mosaics of Ravenna and the world-renowned ceramic artistry of Faenza on an exclusive private art tour through Romagna's hidden treasures.

Duration:

full day

What is included:

- Private transportation from/to your hotel in Bologna and throughout the day as needed
- Entrance fees in Ravenna: to Basilica di San Vitale, Mausoleo di Galla Placida, Basilica di Sant'Apollinare,
- Mausoleo di Teodorico
- Private specialized English-speaking art-historian guide for 2.5 hours in Ravenna
- Entrance fees in Faenza: International Ceramics Museum
- Private specialized English-speaking art-historian guide for 2.5 hours in Faenza

Notes:

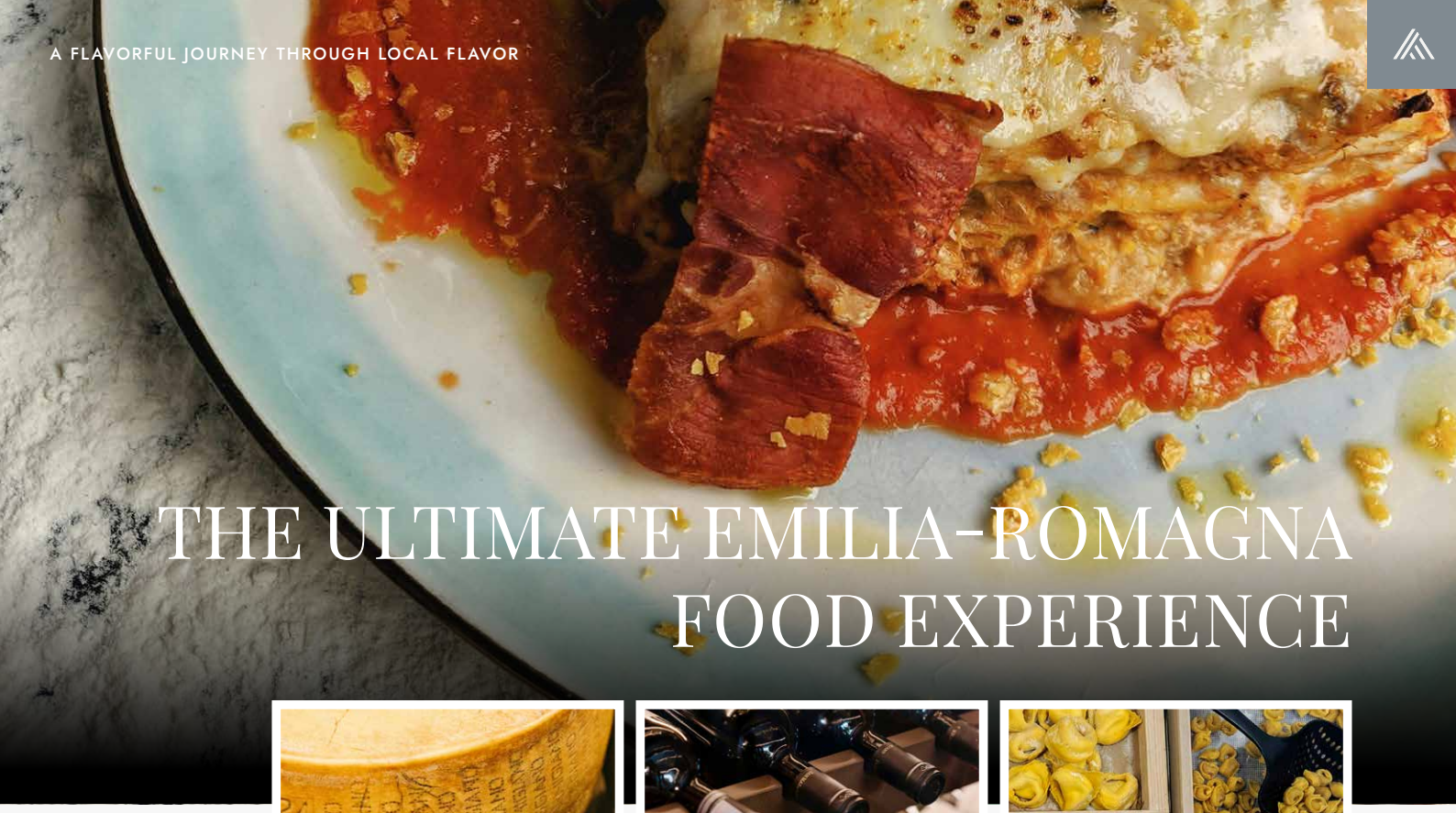
- Lunch is not included. Ravenna and Faenza offer a variety of charming typical trattorias and restaurants. Your guide will be pleased to suggest options and book on your behalf.

FULL EXPERIENCE

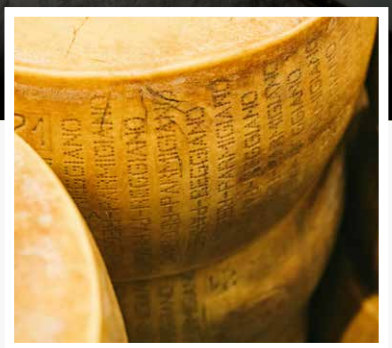
Step off the beaten path, discover central Italy's lesser-known marvels: mosaic-studded Ravenna and Faenza, world capital of artistic pottery! Start your day in Ravenna, home to eight superb UNESCO-listed buildings and the world's most amazing collection of early Christian mosaic artwork. Meet your specialized art-history guide and explore the city, once capital of the Western Roman Empire, headquarters of the Ostrogoth Kingdom and stronghold of the emperor of Byzantium, today paradise on earth for mosaic-lovers. Discover the Basilica of San Vitale, and marvel at its glowing mosaics, rich in deep greens, blazing golds and blues. Continue your polychrome journey in the small Mausoleo di Galla Placida, which houses the most ancient mosaics in Ravenna, Basilica di Sant'Apollinare and stunning Mausoleo di Teodorico. Travel on to discover exquisite Faenza, world-renowned for its faience, a unique type of pottery made here and exported worldwide for hundreds of years. Meet your specialized local guide, admire the sights and learn all about the city's history and fascinating traditions. Stroll through the town center and view the main landmarks, such as the magnificent Renaissance cathedral, Piazza del Popolo and Galleria dei Cento Pacifici. Crown your visit with the superb pottery masterpieces housed in the International Ceramics Museum. Comprising a vast range of exceptional local pottery, ancient and medieval artwork, tableware, and modern art masterpieces produced by great artists such as Chagall, Picasso and Matisse, the museum boasts the world's most extensive, and dazzling, ceramic collection!

Optional:

Enjoy an enlightening insider's view of pottery, and a memorable hands-on experience attending a ceramic workshop! Please ask us for details.



THE ULTIMATE EMILIA-ROMAGNA FOOD EXPERIENCE







Get ready to indulge your senses in Italy's ultimate culinary heartland! Prepare for an unforgettable adventure of flavor and tradition as you discover the legendary tastes born in this remarkable region.

Duration:

8 hours

What is included:

- Private transportation from/to your hotel in Bologna and as needed throughout the tour
- Visit and Parmesan cheese tasting at cheese factory
- Visit and tasting at balsamic vinegar factory
- Visit and tasting at prosciutto factory
- Typical lunch in the charming premises of the balsamic vinegar factory

FULL EXPERIENCE

Thank Heaven for Emilia-Romagna, its welcoming people, creativity and glorious food! Birthplace of Fellini and composer Verdi, home to the world's most ancient university and some of Italy's most famous carmakers (including Ferrari and Ducati), this is the native land of some of the best Italian food.
Embark on a luscious journey along the famous Via Emilia, the 162 miles long road which connects the region's main towns and fills the world with sensational flavor. Just think Parmesan cheese, balsamic vinegar, lasagna, tortellini and Parma ham all come from here! Join the local taste-bud frenzy and enjoy a memorable firsthand experience: visit Parmesan cheese, balsamic vinegar and prosciutto producers. Stop at a local cheese factory and learn all about the meticulous process which makes it so very special: the producers use only raw milk from grass-fed local cows, press the curd into giant wheels and age these for 12 to 36 months. Taste a selection of differently seasoned cheeses, then drive on to a prosciutto plant to learn all about this luscious local treat made, according to tradition and with painstaking attention, by the skilled "salting masters". Crown your visit by relishing a few tender, supple slices and its savoury flavor.Travel on to a fascinating 18th-century vinegar farmhouse which produces excellent balsamic using only its own grapes and traditional techniques. Meet the friendly in-house staff, get under the labels and into the bottles of this precious delicacy by exploring the decanting room and aging area. Savor the rich aromas of different types of balsamic (including a 100-year-old one!) directly from the wood barrels, and end your experience with a memorable lunch featuring luscious typical products, including balsamic served with Parmesan cheese, premium local cured meats, and bubbly ruby-red Lambrusco, one of the oldest wines in the world.