

TRIP START DATES

2023	2024
APR 21, 28	APR 19, 26
MAY 05, 12, 19, 26	MAY 03, 10, 17, 24, 31
JUN 02, 09, 16, 23, 30	JUN 07, 14, 21, 28
JUL 14, 28	JUL 12, 26
AUG 11, 18, 25	AUG 09, 16, 23, 30
SEP 01, 08, 15, 22, 29	SEP 06, 13, 20, 27
OCT 06	OCT 04

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, visit insightvacations.com/itlelegance

↗ COUNTRY ROADS

ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

12 DAYS

2 COUNTRIES

18 MEALS

17 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

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GUEST REVIEW ★★★★★

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Venice: Witness the ancient skill of glassblowing, now practised by precious few masters. Watch artisans create delicate pieces using rare traditional practices, and support the preservation of their art.

INSIGHT EXPERIENCE

Vatican City: Gain priority access into the Vatican Museums, witness the genius of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel and view the splendid dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

INSIGHT CHOICE

Florence: Choose to visit the Accademia Museum and see Michelangelo's David. Alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a shopping tour.

AUTHENTIC DINING

Welcome Dinner in Rome • Highlight Dinner in the Vatican • Celebration Dinner in Venice
Taste prosecco in Veneto • Anise bread in Lucca • Gelato in San Gimignano.

TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Cruise from Santa Margherita to Portofino • Travel from the Cinque Terre by train • Ride a gondola in Venice.

City tours of Rome, Florence and Cinque Terre, all with Local Experts.

ITALIAN ELEGANCE

"A memorable moment from this trip is in San Gimignano. Guests always love to meet the charismatic Sergio Dondoli, a master of making gelato." – Lorena, Travel Director



SANTA MARGHERITA, ITALY



SERGIO DONDOLI, SAN GIMIGNANO



PORTOFINO



DAY 1 WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL CITY OF ROME

Welcome to Rome, a glorious city filled with classic antiquities, medieval buildings, Renaissance palaces and baroque churches. Transfers depart from Rome's Fiumicino Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your hotel at 09:30, 12:30 and 15:30.

Relax and settle in before joining your Travel Director at 17:30, and get to know your fellow travellers over a delicious Welcome Dinner with wine at a local restaurant. (DW)

Veneto Palace Hotel, Rome.

DAY 2 ROME WITH VATICAN DINNER

Enjoy the best of the city's highlights with a visit to St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican and see the Colosseum and Circus Maximus.

In the afternoon, gain fast-tracked priority entry into the Vatican Museums with a Local Expert. Admire the Papal art collection and observe the stunning Museo Gregoriano Profano before entering the Sistine Chapel.

Dine in the Vatican's Cortile del Giardino Quadrato and enjoy incredible views of the cupola of St. Peter's during a private Highlight Dinner. (B) (DW)

DAY 3 RENAISSANCE FLORENCE

Explore Florence with Insight Choice. Choose to visit the Accademia Museum and see Michelangelo's David. Alternatively, wander through the market stalls on a shopping tour, enjoying all the Italian treats and finery on offer. See the cathedral, campanile and baptistry, adorned with the Gates of Paradise. Wander the open-air gallery of Piazza della Signoria before enjoying time at leisure.

Continue to your elegant hotel in Tuscany. (B) (DW)
Villasanpaolo, San Gimignano.

DAY 4 THE FLAVOURS OF SAN GIMIGNANO

Relaxed Start. Journey across the rich Tuscan countryside to the hilltop village of San Gimignano, famous for its medieval towers. Spend time exploring the maze of alleyways and admire scenic views across the valley.

Meet world champion gelato maestro, Sergio Dondoli, for a taste of his finest frozen treats.

Stop at a local winery to sample robust Tuscan wines. (B)

DAY 5 PISA AND LUCCA

Drive through the Chianti hills and head to Lucca. Taste the lavish loaves of buccellato, Lucca's sweet raisin anise bread.

Continue to Pisa to see the incredible Leaning Tower and the splendid cathedral and baptistry. Enjoy leisure time to explore. Relax as you journey along the coast to the resort of Santa Margherita Ligure. (B) (DW)

Best Western Regina Elena, Santa Margherita Ligure.

DAY 6 THE CINQUE TERRE AND PORTOFINO

Head for the port of La Spezia for a highlight of your travels and one of Italy's most beautiful landscapes, the Cinque Terre. With a Local Expert, appreciate the views as you approach one of the picturesque fishing villages by boat.

For lunch, enjoy a delicious Sea-to-Table dining experience. Next, cruise along the rugged Ligurian coast to the elegant seaside village of Portofino, the epitome of la dolce vita (should weather permit). Enjoy leisure time to admire the coloured houses, browse the boutiques or simply stay a while in the cafe bars on the piazzetta, watching the yachts moored in the harbour. (B) (LW)

DAY 7 LAKE MAGGIORE

Relaxed Start. Head north to the beautiful Italian Lake District, a favourite retreat of the rich and famous where Alpine scenery combines with lush vegetation. Relax and enjoy an afternoon at leisure at this popular resort and beautiful lake. (B)

Hotel Simplon, Baveno.

DAY 8 CORTINA D'AMPEZZO

Travel through the stunning northern Italian countryside to one of the world's most breathtaking wine regions. Protected by the Alps to the north, and caressed by the warm breezes from the Adriatic, the vineyards around Conegliano Veneto produce Italy's most prized sparkling wine.

Stop at Carmina where great care is taken to ensure these hand-picked grapes produce the world's finest prosecco. See how production differs from

its more famous French counterpart, champagne. Be tempted with a taste of the crisp and aromatic flavours and learn how to make the perfect bellini. Continue through the Dolomites, to the mountain resort of Cortina d'Ampezzo. (B) (DW)

Hotel de la Poste, Cortina d'Ampezzo.

DAY 9 EXPERIENCE THE DOLOMITES

Relaxed Start. The whole day is free for you to explore the colourful peaks and sheer valleys of the Dolomites. There are a number of walking tracks to explore, or perhaps take a thrilling Optional Experience to the summit of one of the peaks for breathtaking panoramic views? (B)

DAY 10 VENICE, QUEEN OF THE ADRIATIC

Relaxed Start. Descend through the mountains to the romantic city of Venice.

A private boat glides you past canals lined with ornate palaces to St Mark's Square. See the basilica, the Doge's Palace and Bridge of Sighs, before checking into your luxurious hotel. With the afternoon at leisure, why not cruise the Venetian Lagoon to the island of Burano? (B)

Splendid Venice - Starhotels Collezione.

DAY 11 VENICE AT LEISURE

Relaxed Start. Join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER Experience during a visit to a traditional arts centre, where you can see how beautiful handcrafted glass is made by expert glassblowers, safeguarding traditional skills.

Then there is free time to enjoy the magical atmosphere of this incredible city at your own pace. Later, on your romantic gondola serenade, glide along the atmospheric canals while musicians set the mood with traditional songs.

This evening, stroll past the famous Opera House to La Fenice restaurant for a magical Celebration Dinner. Indulge in traditional Venetian dishes that are enriched with inspiration from seasonal produce. (B) (DW)

DAY 12 ARRIVEDERCI VENICE

Your departure transfer arrives at Venice Marco Polo Airport at 08:00 and 09:30. (B)

KEY

✈ Join/Leave Options

UNESCO Heritage Site

1 Central Hotels + Nights

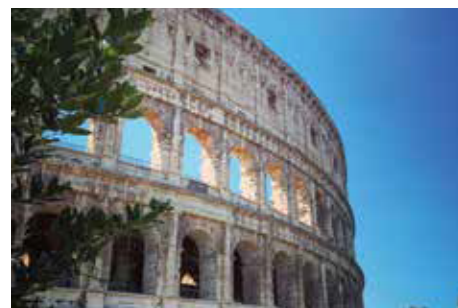
1 Scenic Hotels + Nights

● Place Visited

🚢 Cruise

CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travellers.



TOP RATED HIGHLIGHT See the mighty Colosseum. (Photo by @Insightsharon, Day 2, Rome)



Use the camera on your smart phone to view the full details of this trip on our website.