



Venice - Veneto

A distinguished 1,700-year-old city that was at the nexus of major European art, music and political developments. It was an instigator of the Renaissance and is thought to have been the world's first financial center. Today, it is one of Italy's most important cities and a supremely romantic travel destination, where you can stroll alongside miles of winding canals. There are, in fact, 150 canals with more than 400 bridges that connect Venice's 118 small islands in the Venetian Lagoon, some large enough for magnificent churches and palaces, squares and museums, amazing restaurants and beautiful shops. The city hosts many great churches, museums and other places of interest; below is a guide to our top 10 favorites, which includes a unique gondola

ride along the canals to view the sites. Mass transit on the canals and lagoon is by Vaporetto. Day tours outside the city are to Verona, Treviso, Vicenza and the Veneto Villas.



- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Basilica San Marco | 6. | Palazzo Ducale (Doge) |
| 2. | Burano | 7. | Peggy Guggenheim Collection |
| 3. | Galleria dell'Accademia | 8. | Piazza San Marco |
| 4. | Gondola Ride | 9. | Rialto Bridge |
| 5. | Murano | 10. | Torcello |

1. Basilica San Marco

A multi-domed Byzantine cathedral built in the 11th century, containing treasures including glistening mosaics and paintings by leading Venetian artists.



2. Burano Island

Famous for artisan lace, you can buy lace products in many of the shops or visit the Lace Museum to find out more about the tradition of lace making.



3. Galleria dell'Accademia

Founded in 1750, the best museum for viewing Venetian art from the 14th and 18th centuries. Contains over 800 paintings by Renaissance artists like Bellini and Tiziano.



4. Gondola Ride

An expensive splurge for a romantic and memorable experience to view the city away from the busy Grand Canal and explore the network of narrow waterways.



5. Murano Island

A few centuries ago, all glassmakers were required to live on the island to protect the glass-making secrets. Today you can find out all about it in the glass museum.



6. Palazzo Ducale (Doges Palace)

Residence of the Dukes of Venice during the 1000 year reign of the Republic of Venice. Now a major museum where you can view the rooms occupied by all branches of government.



7. Peggy Guggenheim Collection

Housed in the collector's former home, one of the first contemporary art museums in Italy. Features works from 20th century artists including Pollock, Klee and Mondrian.



8. Piazza San Marco

Largest square and city's main meeting place at the mouth of the Grand Canal.

Lined with cafes, shops, museums and the Cathedral of St Mark.



9. Rialto Bridge

The oldest of the 4 bridges spanning the Grand Canal, built in 1590. Leads to the Rialto Produce Market in the heart of Venice.



10. Torcello Island

A quiet, green island. Much of it is a nature reserve. Visit the 7th-century Cathedral of Santa Maria Dell'Assunta to see the spectacular 11th and 12th-century Byzantine mosaics.

