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Britain by Choice is your resource for travel through Scotland, England, Wales, Ireland, northern France & Italy. With 25 years experience, programs have been developed over the years. We can also customize an itinerary to suit client's special needs and interests. All itineraries are designed to ensure the minimum number of hotel changes.

## **Absolute Italy in 9 days**

Rome (3 nights), Florence (3 nights) and Venice (2 nights)
Commencing Fridays from 02 April to 05 November 2021
Prices from \$2943



**Friday:** Meet and greet by your **private driver** on arrival in Rome and transfer to the **Hotel Conciliazone** in the heart of Rome. Late afternoon meet with your Tour Host in the hotel. You will learn about your tour and get to know your companions. Walk to a local restaurant for a **welcome dinner** 

**Saturday:** After breakfast, a unique visit to the **Vatican Museum** with your skip the line tickets. Your visit will be memorable: our guides have a route to include all the major sights as well as some unexpected surprises. See the Belvedere Courtyard with Apollo Belvedere & Laocoön & His Sons,

Raphael Rooms, the Galleries of the Candelabra, the Maps and of the Tapestries, the Sistine Chapel and the Pinecone Courtyard. End on St. Peter's Square to enjoy the magnificent view. Late afternoon meet your tour leader for a walking tour of the Baroque Town with Piazza Navona, Pantheon, Spanish Steps,



Piazza di Spagna, the Italian Parliament and the fascinating narrow streets of ancient Rome.

## Tour #:VIT-1

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

Airport and intercity transport
8 nights accommodation with breakfast
2 dinners
Tour of the Vatican Museums
Walking tour of Old Rome
Food experience and walling tour in Siena
Walking tour of Florence
Day tour to Cinq Terre with lunch

Walking tours of Venice & Gondola ride

**Sunday:** A day at leisure to create own travel experience in the city. Among the experiences are Imperial Rome with Colosseum and Forum, the most beautiful art collection in Europe at Palazzo Borghese, the Tivoli, the astonishing Villa Hadriana, and Villa d'Este, masterpiece of Italian gardening.

Monday: Motor coach through the Tuscany Hills to Siena, passing small enchanting villages as well as vineyards and castles in the region. Siena was the only city that competed against Florence for power, wealth and artistic beau-

ties. Enjoy a wine & food experience in the heart of the old town. After lunch discover Piazza del Campo, the main central square as well as exploring quieter backstreets and learning everything



about the Contrade, the 17 medieval city districts that compete against each other in the Palio. Arrive at the Executive Hotel n Florence in late afternoon for 3 nights,

**Terms and Conditions:** All accommodation is offered subject to availability. Alternate hotels will be offered when necessary. A deposit of \$250 per person is required within 7 days of confirmation. Final payment must be received 60 days prior to departure from the USA. All documentation will be received approximately 4 weeks prior to arrival in Britain. Full Terms and conditions available on line at <a href="http://www.britainbychoice.com/terms/">http://www.britainbychoice.com/terms/</a>



**Tuesday:** Visit the market of San Lorenzo where it's possible to see varieties of local cheese, fruit, vegetables and bread arrive from the Tuscan countryside. After lunch, meet you guide to **explore the heart of the town.** Lorenzo de Medici transformed Florence into the cradle of the Renaissance by attracting the best artists, architects and writers of the time; Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Botticelli who he commissioned to produce vari-

ous works of art and architecture. We'll visit Piazza della Signoria, walk by the Palazzo Vecchio, the Duomo with Giotto's bell tower (from outside), Ponte Vecchio and the Accademia to admire, among the many masterpieces, the jewel of Michelangelo: the statue of David.



Wednesday: Private full day guided tour, with pick-up and drop

off at the hotel, to **Pisa** and **Cinque Terre**. Discover the famous leaning tower and the historic center. Then experience the stunning coastal villages of Monterosso, Corniglia and Portovenere.



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**Thursday:** After breakfast, transfer to Florence train station. Board your **High-Speed train to Ven**ice with arrival late morning for a private transfer to the **Hotel Palazzo Selvadego** for 2 nights

The city does not have roads and cars but only boats and canals. It is built on several small islands linked by hundreds of bridges. Free time this afternoon to explore Venice on your own.

**Friday:** Morning at leisure to explore your own interests in this historic city. Afternoon is the best time to enjoy Venice, when most of the visitors leave the city, the cruise ships depart from the pier and the narrow streets again become fasci-

nating and mysterious, a secret path to the past.

Our guide will help you to visit the main sights of the city but also to discover the real soul of Venice spending some time outside of the main tourist areas, places that you can reach by yourself only if you get lost. The tour will end with a Gondola ride. In



the evening, enjoy a Venetian Dinner.

**Saturday: Private transfer** to Venice Airport for the flight home or railway station to continue you adventures in Italy

Italy comprises a total of 15 Regions, plus the islands of Sardinia and Sicily. Your Absolute Italy tour visits 3 of them - Lazio (Rome), Tuscany (Florence) and Veneto (Venice). You may wish to extend your adventure by adding Campania (Naples) at the beginning or (Lombardy) Milan, at the end. 4 nights are suggested in either city.

**NAPLES**: The capital of Campania, was founded by the Greeks in the 6th century BC. It is one of the oldest continuously inhabited areas in the world. It served as the capital of the Duchy of Naples from 661—1139, the Kingdom of Naples from 1282-1816 then the Two Sicilies until the unification of Italy in 1861. It is now the 3rd largest city in Italy and one of the leading ports in Europe. The historic city center is the largest in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Within an easy day out are several notable destinations, including the ruins of Pompeii, the Amalfi Coast and the Island of Capri.

**MILAN:** The second largest city in Italy, located in the northern Lombardy region, is a global capital of fashion and design. Home to the national stock exchange, it's a financial hub also known for its high-end restaurants and shops. The Gothic Duomo di Milano cathedral and the Santa Maria delle Grazie convent, housing Leonardo da Vinci's mural "The Last Supper," testify to centuries of art and culture.

Being in the center of the region, Milan is an excellent center from which to visit the Italian Lake District, the music capital of Cremona and several other historic towns.