

Viva Italia

Day One

Board your overnight flight to Rome!

Day Two

Arrive in Rome

Leisure Time to Explore Rome

Spend your first day in this magnificent city exploring your surroundings and taking in various landmarks and pieces of culture at your own pace. An evening walk to a local restaurant to enjoy some authentic Italian cuisine acts as a perfect beginning to your adventure.

Overnight in Rome

Day Three

Guided Tour of the Vatican Museums

The Vatican, one of the most awe-inspiring and historically significant areas of the world, is yours to discover on this half day guided tour. One of the greatest art collections in the world is featured here, contained within the beautiful palace walls of this center of power for the Catholic Church. Amazing artifacts from Egyptian statues to Etruscan ruins to Renaissance paintings all reside in these museums. The unquestionable highlight, of course, is Michelangelo's legendary **Sistine Chapel**, a marvel of artistic creation. This tour is an entertaining, once in a lifetime experience that should not be missed.

Visit to St. Peter's Basilica

This late Renaissance church located within Vatican City is an architectural phenomenon matched by few places of worship across the world. Built over a hundred year period in the 16th and 17th centuries, St. Peter's is famous for having the largest interior of any Christian church, capable of holding nearly 60,000 people inside its beautifully decorated walls. Enjoy your exploration of these hallowed halls that attract tens of thousands of tourists each year.

Overnight in Rome

Day Four

Guided Tour of the Colosseum and Forum

An infamous site of death, destruction and barbaric Roman entertainment awaits you on this guided tour of the Colosseum. The elliptical amphitheatre was the largest of its kind built during the Roman Empire, still standing as an impressive partially ruined structure. After exiting the Colosseum you will take a short climb to the top of **Palatine Hill** to look down on the Forum, the center of Roman parliament, and **Circus Maximus**, the most well known stadium for chariot racing during this period.

Visit to the Roman Houses

After experiencing the entertainment of the ancient Romans, take a step into their daily lives with a visit to a series of homes maintained in authentic Roman style. Imagine what life would have been like as a citizen of this powerful empire by enjoying an exploration of the day to day activities of an average Roman plebe.

Overnight in Rome

Day Five

Walking Tour of the City Centre

The center of Rome is full of remarkable sites for you to experience on this stroll through the city. The Spanish Steps at the **Piazza di Spagna** is your first stop, offering a beautiful view of Rome. Next, an exciting visit to some of the amazing shops along **Via Condotti** gives you a chance to pick up a keepsake or two. **The Trevi Fountain** follows, with its crystal clear water holding supposed mystical powers. Your tour ends in the **Piazza Navona** near the Pantheon, decorated with the famous **River Fountain**, one of Bernini's Baroque masterpieces.

Visit to Villa Borghese

Built by the architect Flaminio Ponzio to house his art collection, the Villa Borghese features a magnificent garden which is the second largest public park in Rome. Remade in the early 19th century, these gardens are a stunning stop on your excursion through Rome.

Overnight in Rome

Day Six

Transfer to Pompeii

Guided Tour of Pompeii

Take a thrilling excursion through the ancient city of Pompeii, once a bustling Roman centre before its destruction at the hands of an epic volcanic eruption from Mount Vesuvius. Excavations have been taking place in Pompeii since the 18th century, providing you with archaeological evidence of Roman life at the height of the Imperial Age.

Transfer and overnight in Rome

Day Seven

Transfer to Siena

Guided Tour of Siena

One of the most architecturally unique cities in Italy, Siena features numerous churches and palaces that you will experience on this guided tour. The most notable of these is the magnificent Gothic Cathedral of Siena, a testament to the impressive style of design that flourished during the late medieval period.

Transfer and overnight in Florence

Day Eight

Walking Tour of Florence

Once home to such influential figures as Dante, Savonarola, Machiavelli and Michelangelo, this city is truly a centre of Italian culture. Your walking tour will feature such amazing sites as the **Arno River, Ponte Vecchio, the Piazza della Repubblica, the Duomo, the Piazza della Signoria** and the **Pitti Palace**, providing you with a true sense of the magnificence of this city.

Guided Tour of the Uffizi Gallery

This Renaissance palace was built by the Vasari in 1560 and bequeathed to the people of Tuscany by the last grand duchess of the Medici family when she died. Today, it houses what is widely considered the finest collection of art in all of Italy, a truly transcendent location to experience.

Visit to the Galleria dell'Accademia

This wonderful site is home to a picture gallery housing the finest work of the Tuscan masters Botticelli and Perugino, worthy of a visit for these two artists work alone. But, most famously, it also houses Michelangelo's David, one of the most well known sculptures in the world.

Overnight in Florence

Day Nine

Leisure Time to Explore Florence

Take some time in the morning to explore Florence and visit any landmarks you may have missed. The church of Santa Croce, which was created in 1294 and houses Giotto's frescoes in the chapel and the tombs of Michelangelo, Galileo, and Machiavelli is a recommended spot. Or, for those looking for something slightly more relaxing, the open-air market known as the Mercato Centrale is a fun location to wander through. Be prepared to bargain for leather, raffia, art reproduction and more at this entertaining locale.

Transfer and Overnight in Rome

Day Ten

Transfer to Airport for Return Flight

Your tour guide assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

