

Join Your Name Here for an incredible journey to:

BEST OF ITALY AND GREECE September 1 -11, 2024

\$3399pp Double Land only**

Add Roundtrip Air from your home city: 0.00* Call for air rates.



*Air rates based on current rates, subject to change **Land cost based on early booking discount

10 Days, 2 Countries - Italy, Greece

10 Cities Rome, Florence, Mestre, Venice, Ancona, Igoumenitsa, KALAMBAKA, Kalambaka, Delphi, Athens

THE CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS OF TWO OF EUROPE'S MOST CLASSICAL COUNTRIES ARE SHOWCASED ON THIS TRIP.

Admire the art and architecture of Rome and the rich cultural heritage of Florence. Visit the monasteries of Meteora and see the sight of the most important oracle in the classical world Delphi!



Day 1 -2

Overnight Flight - Arrive Rome (2 Nights)

Welcome to Rome, the 'Eternal City'. Join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception and evening orientation drive to view some of this city's magnificent sites.

Hotel - Crowne Plaza St. Peter's

Included Meals - Welcome Reception



Day 3

Rome Sightseeing and Free Time

Visit St. Peter's Basilica and view Michelangelo's Pietà with a 'Local Specialist'. See the Circus Maximus where chariot races were held and visit the impressive Colosseum. There's time afterwards to explore the city on your own or simply relax and watch the world go by.

Included Meals - Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Piazzas and Fountains of Rome

Discover the most charming areas in the city with a Local Specialist. Wander through the labyrinth of narrow streets and beautiful squares of Rome's historic centre, leading to highlights such as the Trevi Fountain and the Pantheon, as well as hidden corners of the Eternal City.

Adult Price: **€33.00***

*** The Optionals and pricing listed here are a guideline only and subject to change.**

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Roman Delights With Dinner

Spend an evening getting to know Rome. We'll take you via coach where you'll have the chance to see some of the city's much-loved sights. Afterwards, you'll enjoy a delicious light dinner of Italian specialities, alongside local music and drinks.

Adult Price: **€51.00***

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Day 4

Rome Sightseeing – Florence

This morning, head to the Vatican with a 'Local Specialist'. 'Dive Into Culture' as you ascend the Bramante staircase, then admire Michelangelo's frescoed ceiling in the Sistine Chapel. Later, drive north to Renaissance Florence in Tuscany. Tonight, 'Connect With Locals' over a 'Be My Guest' dinner in the Chianti countryside.

Hotel - Cosmopolitan

Included Meals - Breakfast, Be My Guest



Day 5

Florence Sightseeing – Venice (2 Nights)

Your 'Local Specialist' reveals Florence's rich cultural heritage during your walking tour. Visit Piazza della Signoria, with its impressive sculptures and imposing palazzi. View the marble Duomo and the famous Baptistery, renowned for its bronze doors with relief sculptures and the Ponte Vecchio. Learn about the quality and workmanship of one of this city's historic industries at a demonstration of Florentine leathercraft. Then travel through the Apennines and cross the Veneto plains to Venice. This evening, you may choose to take a gondola ride through the city's enchanting canals.

Hotel - Novotel Mestre Castellana

Included Meals - Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Michelangelo's 'David' & Accademia

Enjoy an insight into the world of Michelangelo and his masterpiece, David. We visit the Academy of Fine Arts and its Michelangelo collection, where you'll learn all about the life and works of this immortal Renaissance genius through the expert commentary of our Local Specialist. This optional involves reservations and entrance prepayments. If you decide to cancel this optional, a 50% cancellation fee will be incurred.

Adult Price: **€47.00***

*** The Optionals and pricing listed here are a guideline only and subject to change.**

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Gondolas and the Grand Canal

Join us for a breathtaking cruise by private water taxi along Venice's Grand Canal. You'll admire the magnificent palazzi, as well as catching a glimpse of the Rialto Bridge and St. Mark's Square. Later on, you'll glide gracefully on a gondola along Venice's dreamy, narrow waterways.

Adult Price: **€70.00***

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Day 6

Venice Orientation and Free Time

Cruise by private launch to St. Marks Square to see the Bridge of Sighs, St. Mark's Square, St. Mark's Basilica and the ornate Doge's Palace. This afternoon, 'Dive Into Culture' and witness the ancient Venetian tradition of glassmaking and then consider taking an Optional Experience to one of the islands in the lagoon.

Included Meals - Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Venice's Secrets and St. Mark's Basilica

Explore the hidden maze of streets which make up this unique city as your Local Specialist gives you a fascinating insight into Venice's past and present. You'll visit the majestic Basilica of St Mark, where you'll have a chance to view some of the prized trophies looted by the Venetians in their rise to power.

Adult Price: **€36.00***

*** The Optionals and pricing listed here are a guideline only and subject to change.**

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lagoon Cruise to Burano with Food and Drinks

Join us as we discover the Venetian Lagoon by private boat. You will enjoy a delicious meal with a selection of drinks on the fishermen's island of Burano, famous for its multi-coloured houses - a real photographer's paradise.

Adult Price: **€72.00***

*** The Optionals and pricing listed here are a guideline only and subject to change.**



Day 7

Venice – Overnight Ferry

Travel south to the ancient port city of Ancona to board your overnight ferry to mainland Greece.

Included Meals - Breakfast, Dinner



Day 8

Igoumenitsa – Meteora – Kalambaka

Arrive early at the port of Igoumenitsa and travel along the foothills of the Athamanika mountains before arriving at the UNESCO-listed monasteries of Meteora. These are some of the largest and most important complexes of Eastern Orthodox monasteries in Greece. Your 'Local Specialist' will guide you on a visit to two of the six monasteries built on sandstone rocks that tower above the town. Dine tonight at your hotel.

Hotel - Amalia Kalambaka

Included Meals - Breakfast, Dinner



Day 9

Kalambaka – Delphi

Drive south towards Mount Parnassos and Delphi, where we will stay overnight. Join a 'Local Specialist' and see the site of the most important oracle in the classical world and walk the Sacred Way to the Temple of Apollo where athletes competed in the Pythian Games.

Hotel - Amalia Delphi

Included Meals - Breakfast

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Flavours of Parnassos Mountain and Wine Tasting

A delightful evening commences as we meet our local wine expert at our welcoming restaurant. Located in the heart of the village of Delphi, it overlooks a sea of olive trees covering the stunning valley below. As we discover the tantalizing local wines and learn about the indigenous grape varieties cultivated locally, we savor a variety of Greek hors d'oeuvres followed by a choice of delicious entrees and sumptuous dessert. A wonderful night to remember! Wine tasting, drinks and dinner included.

Adult Price: **€51.00**



Day 10

Delphi – Athens Sightseeing

We depart the 'navel of the earth' this morning and travel to Athens where we'll discover the city's rich heritage during our morning sightseeing tour with a 'Local Specialist'. Marvel at the Agora, the Royal Palace and the Temple of Zeus. See Hadrian's Arch and the stadium where the first modern Olympics took place in 1896. Indulge in a Farewell Dinner to celebrate the end of your trip.

Hotel - Divani Palace Acropolis

Included Meals - Breakfast, Farewell Dinner



Day 11 Depart Athens

Say goodbye to your fellow travellers and Travel Director after an unforgettable journey. Airport transfers are available. Conditions apply.

Included Meals - Breakfast

Trip details

What's included

9 NIGHTS

Accommodation

14 MEALS

9 breakfasts, 5 dinners (including Be My Guest)

ON-TRIP TRANSPORT

All transport shown

Included Highlights that will delight you

CONNECT WITH LOCALS

Enjoy a local Tuscan 'Be My Guest' dinner with Count Miari Fulcis on his 15th-century organic olive oil estate in the Tuscan hills, used as a location for many famous films like 'Room with a View' and 'Tea with Mussolini'. (Day 3)

DIVE INTO CULTURE

Ascend the staircase designed by famous architect Donato Bramante, in a part of the Vatican not open to the public. (Day 3)

Witness the exquisite craft of glassblowing on Giudecca Island, a delicate tradition that generations of Venetian craftsmen have perfected over the centuries. (Day 5)

LOCAL SPECIALIST

For included sightseeing in Rome, Florence, Meteora, Delphi and Athens

Sightseeing highlights

VIP ADMISSION to the Vatican Museums

ORIENTATION of Venice

VISIT St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel and the Colosseum in Rome, Piazzale Michelangelo, Piazza della Signoria in Florence, the monasteries of Meteora, the Temple of Apollo in Delphi and the Acropolis in Athens

VIEW the ancient sites of Rome, the Duomo and Baptistery in Florence, the Doge's Palace and the Basilica in Venice and the Parthenon, Royal Palace and the Temple of Zeus in Athens

SEE Hadrian's Arch in Athens

SCENIC CRUISE by private launch to St. Mark's Square in Venice

Travel highlights

Specific transfer information can be found here:

Audio Headsets for flexible sightseeing

Daily breakfast and up to half your evening meals

Luxury air-conditioned coach with Wi-Fi in most countries or alternative transportation (such as rail journeys)

Overnight ferry from Ancona to Igoumenitsa

Cherry-picked hotels, all tried and trusted

Optional Experiences and free time

All portorage and restaurant gratuities

Must-see sightseeing and surprise extras

An expert Travel Director and professional Driver

All hotel tips, charges and local taxes

Handcrafted Highlights

VIP entry to many sights

Please call me with any questions and to reserve your space!

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