

GLIMPSES OF WONDERFUL **ROME, FLORENCE & VENICE** with Montclair Chamber of Commerce



8 DAY TOUR | MARCH 14, 2025

LOS ANGELES | ROME | TUSCANY | FLORENCE | VENICE | LOS ANGELES

A scenic train journey through the charming cities of Italy that you'll remember for a lifetime!

Price per person on double occupancy: **\$3919** | Single Person Supplement: **\$599**



Group lead by
Tenice Johnson
Executive Director



Montclair Chamber of Commerce
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Online booking link
is available at the
Chamber's website.
Or scan the QR Code:



TOUR SUMMARY:

From exploring the fascinating Italian cities to learning about the art and culture, this is the perfect tour of Italy. Begin your tour with Rome, appreciating the architectural marvel, Roman Colosseum, followed by visiting places like Navona Square, Trevi fountain, St Peter's Basilica, and Vatican Museum, etc. Travel to Montecatini Terme, a picturesque town near Florence. Take a tour to the capital city of Tuscany - Florence. Since Florence is the birthplace of the Renaissance, it is rich in history. Visit the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and the Uffizi Galleries. The Michelangelo David sculpture at Accademia Gallery is not a miss! Your list of things to do in Italy cannot end without visiting the City of Water - Venice. Hence, the last leg of your tour takes you on a beautiful ride to Venice. Ride a gondola through the magnificent canals and waterways of this romantic city (optional). You may choose to visit San Marco Square, the Doge's Palace or explore the Venice lagoon's islands before your tour ends.



TOUR LODGING INFO:

6 Nights accommodation on double occupancy basis +
1 Night onboard the flight

CITIES	NIGHTS	SUPERIOR HOTELS
Rome	2 Nights	Hotel Marc'Aurelio
Montecatini	2 Nights	Tuscany Inn hotel
Mestre	2 Nights	Smart Hotel Holiday

Hotels may be replaced with similar superior accommodation for operational reasons.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Discover the eternal city, Rome known for its art, architecture and culture
- Visit the Vatican including Sistine Chapel
- Explore Florence, the birthplace of the great Italian sculptor, Michelangelo
- See amazing Pisa on full day tour
- Raise a glass as you taste some of the finest wines in the vineyards of Tuscany
- Experience a lovely gondola ride in the picturesque waterways of the Grand Canal

INCLUDES:

- International roundtrip airfare from Los Angeles
- Train tickets in second class Montecatini - Florence - Montecatini
- 6 nights accommodation on a double occupancy basis at listed or similar hotels
- Daily breakfast buffet
- Arrival and departure group transfers
- Coach transfers between the cities
- Travel Assistant for the whole duration of the trip
- Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel - Skip the line tour
- A full day tour to Pisa
- Services of English-speaking guide during the tours
- All sightseeing as per the detailed itinerary
- All entrance fees as per the detailed itinerary
- Air taxes and fuel surcharges & currently applicable taxes except local city taxes

TOUR ITINERARY:

DAY 1: LOS ANGELES - ROME

Please arrive in time at Los Angeles International Airport to check-in and board your international flight to Rome. Enjoy inflight meals and services.

Overnight Onboard Flight

DAY 2: ARRIVAL ROME

On arrival at Rome International Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. See the most famous attractions of Rome, such as the Colosseum, Navona Square, the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and Spain Square. In case of an early arrival in Rome, we recommend choosing our optional tour "Visit the Colosseum, Palatine Hill, and Roman Forum Overnight in Rome"

Optional: Visit the Colosseum, Palatine Hill, and Roman Forum: \$95 per person on SIC

Walk in the footsteps of Roman emperors and citizens on a tour of Ancient Rome, with a VIP entrance to the Roman Forum first: The Colosseum will be the last part of your tour. Before you visit the Archeological area, you will have the opportunity to immerse yourself in ancient Roman times with this intense 25-minute multimedia video showing the before and after effects of all the best sites of Rome including the Colosseum and Underground, Pantheon, Circus Maximum and the Vatican area. The video is ideal to view before taking your tours as one can appreciate the splendor of how the ruins were in the Ancient Roman Times. Skip the long line at the entrance and access the Roman Forum: walk along the Via Sacra and immerse yourself in Roman history. The main path through the Roman Forum, the Via Sacra once sparkled with festivals and triumphal processions. Ends at the Temple, which houses the altar where Julius Caesar was cremated. Visitors from around the

world still leave flowers and candles at the site to this day. Before reaching the Colosseum, you can have a general overview of Palatine Hill where legend has it Romulus founded the city of Rome. The hill looks down over the Roman Forum and the Circus Maximus chariot-racing circuit. Once inside the Colosseum, your expert guide will teach you about the amphitheater's bloody past, with tales of gladiators, mock sea battles, and executions.

DAY 3: ROME (B/-/-)

After breakfast enjoy a city tour by coach and on foot visiting the classic monuments of Rome. Crossing Piazza della Repubblica with the Fountain of the Naiads, our local guide will take you on a pleasant stroll through the historical centre, where you can admire the Trevi Fountain, Marcus Aurelius Column, The Palazzo Montecitorio, designed by Bernini, the Pantheon (visit inside), Palazzo Madama (seat of the senate), and Navona Square. Passing alongside Castel S. Angelo the bus will leave you close to the Vatican City. Having admired St. Peter's Square your guide will relate the history and anecdotes about the Basilica before taking a tour of the Vatican Museum & Sistine Chapel – Skip the line option.

Visit the Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel - Skip the line

This exceptional tour includes enjoying our guided tour of the Vatican Museums and visiting the largest art collection in the world. Jump the line as your expert guide will lead you into the museum and its best galleries where you will admire frescoes, statues, tapestries and historical maps. Walk through the famous Hall of Maps and the Gallery of the Tapestries until you reach the Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo's Last Judgement.

Overnight in Rome

DAY 4: ROME – MONTECATINI TERME - FLORENCE

(B/-/-)

After a filling breakfast take a transfer Montecatini Terme in Tuscany. Check in into your hotel. Afterwards take a train to Florence (2nd class). On arrival explore Florence on a guided tour.

Discover two thousand years of history of the cradle of the Renaissance through the eyes of an expert local guide, who will take you in an unforgettable journey to discover the most beautiful squares and monuments of Florence. The city of the Renaissance is literally dotted with architectural wonders and works of art, joining our tour you can admire with your own eyes the sites and monuments that have made Florence one of the most visited destinations in the world. The first stage of this enlightening guided promenade will be Repubblica Square, one of the most elegant squares in Florence, where the most refined cafés of the city are located. Follow your guide through the most characteristic streets and alleys until you reach the Loggia Del Mercato Nuovo, where



you will discover how to win good luck caressing the nose of the famous Porcellino (wild boar) bronze statue. At a stone's throw there is the suggestive Ponte Vecchio, a true icon of the city, famous for hosting the most exclusive jewelry stores of Florence and for its unique structure, and also for being the only bridge of the city spared from the bombings during the Second World War. Follow your guide to the Accademia Dei Georgofili and the Uffizi Square, and discover the beating heart of Florence, Signoria Square, a real open-air museum dominated by the imposing Palazzo Vecchio and the magnificent Loggia Dei Lanzi, which houses wonderful original statues including the Perseus by Cellini and the rat of the Sabine women by Giambologna. The journey to discover the wonders of Florence will culminate in San Giovanni Square, home of the wonderful Duomo and Brunelleschi's Dome as well as the Baptistery and Giotto's Bell Tower.

You can enrich your visit of Florence with the following optional tour. Return to Montecatini by train with your travel assistant (train ticket included).

Overnight in Montecatini Terme.

Optional: Entrance and Guided Visit to Uffizi:

\$90 per person on SIC

The Uffizi Gallery is the oldest art gallery in the world! This is a unique experience for those of you who want to immerse yourself in Florence's artistic background and history. You will be guided through the huge rooms and bright hallways to stop in front of and admire such classics as Botticelli's Birth of Venus, Leonardo's The Annunciation and Michelangelo's Tondo Doni to name but a few. At the end of the guided tour, you can remain in the Uffizi Gallery until closing time.

DAY 5: MONTECATINI TERME (B/-/-)

Post breakfast, enjoy your day at leisure and explore the beautiful town of Montecatini on your own. Montecatini Terme is renowned for its thermal baths and spa facilities. The town has been a popular destination for wellness and relaxation since the 16th century when the healing properties of its thermal waters were discovered. In Montecatini Terme, there are several establishments and locations where you can experience the town's renowned thermal waters. Among them: Terme Tettuccio, Terme Redi, Terme Leopoldine and some others in your free time. Today you will proceeding on a full day tour of Pisa.

Pisa – Full Day tour:

Have you ever wanted to climb all the steps up to the top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa? Well, this full-day tour from Montecatini gives you the opportunity to enjoy the city of one of the symbols of Italy. We start our excursion with a walk alongside the Medieval walls up to the old entrance gate: Porta Santa Maria. From here an extraordinary view will take your breath away! You will be in front of a unique panorama: Piazza dei Miracoli with its marble architecture and neat grass lawns. Your guide will accompany you on your visit to the precious interiors of the Cathedral, an unchallenged masterpiece of Romanesque art. Once outside you can admire the Baptistery, the Monumental Graveyard and, finally, the world-famous Leaning Tower, discovering all its secrets! Admission ticket to the Leaning Tower is included, so you will not just see the Tower, but you will also get to climb up it without waiting and queuing. Before heading back to Montecatini, you will have free time for an ice cream and for the inevitable photo --memories.

Overnight in Montecatini Terme.



DAY 6: SUN MONTECATINI – VENICE (B/-/-)

In the morning after breakfast, take a coach transfer from Montecatini to Mestre near Venice.

Rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight in Mestre.

DAY 7: MON VENICE (B/-/-)

After breakfast, discover Venice on a walking tour! Your travel assistant will take you by tram to the heart of Venice (tickets included) . The only way to visit the unusual and fascinating corners of Venice off the beaten track and where time seems to have stood still centuries ago. You will enjoy a panoramic walking tour (no entrance foreseen) with the Tourist Guide of the area between Piazza San Marco and the Rialto Bridge, through a labyrinth of little canals, and sites of historic and artistic interest, passing by some special places: Teatro la Fenice ("The Phoenix"), one of the most famous opera house in Europe, the site of many famous operatic premieres; Scala del Bovolo, a unique spiral staircase with a plethora of arches; Rialto Bridge and its typical shops, one of the architectural icons of Venice.

Remaining day at leisure or enrich your stay with the following optional tours.

Return to Mestre by tram with your travel assistant.

Overnight in Mestre.

Optional: Tour Gondola Serenade:

\$75 per person on SIC

Experience the magic of Venice with a peculiar small-group gondola ride along the Grand Canal and romantic canals, serenaded by a singer and musician and wearing your own Carnival Mask.

Discover the rich history and tradition of Venetian gondolas with our knowledgeable guide, who will share fascinating insights into the unique design and craftsmanship of these iconic boats. The guide will introduce you the gondola tradition before boarding. As a special gift, we'll give you a traditional carnival mask to wear during the ride and take home with you. Wear your mask, sit back and relax enjoying a beautiful sights of Venice, accompanied by live music.

Don't forget to snap some unforgettable photos with your mask on board the gondola and share them with your friends on your social media! Admire La Fenice Theater, the Peggy Guggenheim Collection Museum, and La Salute Church from a privileged point of view on board the gondola. Glide under small bridges and take in the breathtaking atmosphere of the Grand Canal, the perfect location for live music played by professional musicians and singers. e music.

NOTES:

- Each gondola can guest maximum 5 people; the seat aboard cannot be

chosen but will be assigned by the gondolier depending on guests weight.

- The tour group " "Gondola Serenade" " includes a couple of musicians (a singer + a musician) that will be boarded in one of the gondolas to perform throughout the trip, there is not a couple of musicians on each gondola; to permit all participants to listen the serenade, the musicians will board on a gondola in the centre of the row."
- Duration: 40 minutes approx. (10-minute introduction to the gondola tradition and 30-minute shared gondola serenade with live music).

Optional: St. Mark's Basilica: Skip The Line:

\$65 per person on SIC

A guided tour in one of the most majestic cathedrals in the world! On this tour, escorted by a professional and passionate Guide, you will enjoy a full visit of this masterpiece of Byzantine art, unique of its kind in Italy, you'll have the pleasure to savor beautiful gold mosaics (the Basilica has 43,000 square feet of mosaic alone!) and marble inlays of the floors. Our guide will show you the represented biblical scenes, the history and the particularities of this ancient basilica. The Basilica is the perfect synthesis of Venetian art and a unique blend of Byzantine, Romanesque and Gothic elements with the Five Oriental-looking domes crown.

Optional: Tour to the islands: Murano, Burano & Torcello:

\$60 per person on SIC

This panoramic city tour will lead you to the discovery of the Venetian Lagoon and its origins through a suggestive boat excursion that will stop in the three most important islands of the city: Murano, Burano and Torcello. On board, an expert hostess will tell you the story of each island, revealing their peculiarities and traditions. In Murano, you will visit a historical glassblowing factory, where you will be shown how they still work the typical glass that made Venice famous all over the world. In Burano, the island known for its colorful houses, you will admire the famous hand-made laces. The last stop is Torcello, where you will witness the vestiges of the first settlements of the inhabitants of Venice.

DAY 8: TUE VENICE – LOS ANGELES (B/-/-)

Today after breakfast, you will be transferred to Venice International Airport by coach to check in for your flight back home.

DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Items of personal nature, tips, and gratuities
- Travel insurance!
- Baggage fees may apply and vary by the carrier.
- Visa fees (if applicable)
- Local city taxes to be paid directly at the hotels
- Any other items not under inclusions.