

# VIP ITALY EXPERIENCE

**BELLA VACATIONS - LYNN CICCARELLI  
A VIRTUOSO AGENCY**

# Catturare l'essenza dell'Italia

T H E A R T O F T R A V E L I N I T A L Y

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2013**

**Party of 5**

**On your arrival into Venice Airport enjoy your Private Transfer from Venice Airport to Venice Hotel –** On arrival at Venice Airport please collect your luggage and make your way through customs and into the Arrivals hall where the Assistant will await you with a sign saying “Cicarelli family” Your Transfer Assistant will accompany you to the awaiting vehicle to transfer you for a very short journey to the Airport Boat House. Transfer from Venice Airport Boat House to the Hotel will be by Private Water Taxi.

**Important Note:** Water Taxi holds up to 10 pax with 10 pieces of luggage – any excess luggage, waiting time which exceeds 20 minutes or deviations to transfer as originally booked are to be paid directly to the driver upon arrival at your destination.

**Party of 7**

**On arrival in the heart of Venice check into Hotel Londra Palace where you have 2 Double Deluxe rooms with Lagoon view and 1 Junior Suite with Lagoon view and third bed reserved for 2 nights. Breakfast, services and taxes included.**

Hotel Londra Palace in Venice has one hundred windows looking on the Lagoon; an incomparable view on the entire basin of San Marco and on the island of San Giorgio. Originally built in 1860 and recently reborn from a US\$8 million restoration, the hotel's leaded-glass windows and white Istria stone exterior have the same ethereal grace of other monuments and palaces reflected in the Grand Canal. No wonder Tchaikovsky, when he stayed here in 1877, found the inspiration to compose his Fourth Symphony.



The hotel's 53 rooms, 17 of which are junior suites, feature silken walls, diaphanous curtains, antique furniture and recently refurbished bathrooms. The paintings old and new are original. The wine gallery offers tasting of famous wines prior to a feast, perhaps, in Do Leoni whose famous Italian and Venetian cuisine draws on Chianina beef and personally selected fresh produce from the Rialto market every day.

Any eventual City Taxes to be paid directly.

## **Facts**

- Hotel has 53 rooms
- Only junior suites can take an extra bed

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- Hotel has 1 Junior suite only that can take 2 extra beds
- Communicating rooms as follows: Junior suites+standard rooms or deluxe rooms + standard rooms
- Check-in from 2 pm/Check-out within 12 noon
- Restaurant Do Leoni – it opens every day– time 7 am to 10,45 pm
- Groups accepted in low and mid season 20 pax max



## **Amenities**

- Upgrade on arrival, subject to availability
- Buffet breakfast included in rates
- Fruit basket
- 12 Noon early check-in and 4 PM late check-out, subject to availability
- Honeymooners: complementary prosecco in their room upon arrival

## **Time at leisure to relax and enjoy the property..**

**Dinner at leisure in one of Venice Restaurants** – see IC Bellagio Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas.

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2013**

## **Breakfast at the hotel**

**This morning we will enjoy and explore some of the more beautiful off the beaten track area's of this unique city with our local expert guide who is so proud to call this place home..**

Meeting our guide in the hotel lobby we will begin our tour by exploring the minor canals of Venice as we make our way towards the heart of the historical centre. En route we will visit and enjoy many of the most beautiful, quaint minor canals which is a great introduction to the real Venice, the Venetians, their way of life, culture and industry. After enjoying two hours out on the canals, our final hour and a half will be spent on foot with the guide enjoying the silent squares, the parks, the forgotten churches with some of the cities most beautiful artworks as well as passing the gondola making factory where we have the opportunity to enjoy a stop to admire how these typical boats are produced. We will experience a visit to one of the local mask making artist to discover the secret of this ancient art. This really is a great introduction to the REAL VENICE and not the one which



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T H E A R T O F T R A V E L I N I T A L Y

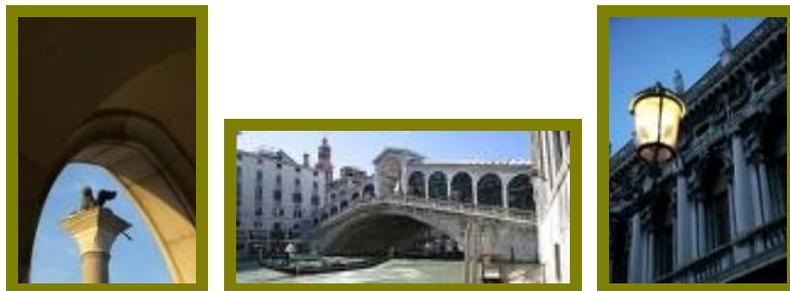
the majority of people visit. (Tour duration: 4,5 hours)



**At the end of this amazing experience enjoy your lunch at leisure in one of the local restaurant that our trusted guide will be delighted to show you...**

**Afternoon at leisure to experience the unique Venice on your own...**

Rising from the waters of the Venetian lagoons like a mirage, Venice, the city of canals is unlike any other. A romantic maze of alleys, waterways, silent squares, beautiful majestic palaces, Venice rarely fails to engage the imagination. Whether you are seeking to follow in the foot steps of Vivaldi, Titian or Marco Polo or enjoy a private art collection, learn all about the gondolas and masks, climb the Campanile for brilliant birds' eye views or simply explore and enjoy the beautiful shops which line the streets and canals of Venice, there really is something for everyone here.



**Dinner at leisure in one of Venice Restaurants – see IC Bellagio Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas.**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

**Breakfast at the hotel**

**Check out of the hotel and settle any incidental accounts...**

**This morning meet your English Speaking Assistant at the hotel lobby and enjoy your private Water Taxi transfer from your hotel to Venice Piazzale Roma...- The most leisurely way to transfer...**

**Important Note:** Water Taxi holds up to 10 pax with 10 pieces of luggage – any excess luggage, waiting time which exceeds 20 minutes or deviations to transfer as originally booked are to be paid directly to the driver upon arrival at your destination.



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**Today experience your Private Minivan Transfer with English Speaking Driver from Venice to Florence stopping in Bologna enroute for a gastronomic walking tour with local expert guide – one of the most interesting ways to transfer from Venice to Florence..**

**Gastronomic Tour:** Today we will enjoy a gentle stroll through the Medieval market and under the history, art and traditions linked to the ever so important 'Foods of Bologna'. As we head through the streets we will be introduced to a traditional bakery and pasta maker and the Tortellini and Tagliatelle of Bologna. Beccari's Salsamentaria where we will learn about the history of the mortadella from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century BC to present times. A traditional Chocolate Makers stop is a must on any itinerary not to mention a typical Bolognese Osteria where we have the perfect introduction to the fun loving side of the world's oldest university. (Guided Tour duration: 3 hours – Total transfer duration approx 6 hours)



**Take the Eurostar Train (First Class Tickets and Seat Reservations) which departs Florence and arrives into Rome...**

**On your arrival in Rome train station meet your English Speaking Driver and enjoy your Private Minivan transfer to your hotel in the very heart of town...**

**Check into Hotel Piranesi where you have 2 Executive Double rooms with balcony and 1 Junior Suite with third bed reserved for 2 nights. Breakfast, services and taxes included**

Located in Via del Babuino close by the Spanish Steps, Hotel Piranesi is situated inside the ancient Palazzo Nainer. The building was redesigned at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the famous architect Valadier and has since been completely remodelled to maintain its original structure while offering all modern comforts. The hotel rooms, lounges and common areas are furnished with elegant pieces of furniture that have been recovered with a splendid selection of fabrics from collections belong to the buildings owners – the Cesari.



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The hotel's 21 rooms and 11 suites feature parquet floors and marble bathrooms some with small balconies. The suites boast terraces overlooking the impressive Piazza del Popolo. The hotel features a meeting room, a well equipped fitness room, a sauna and a massage room run by staff members qualified in shiatsu, reflexology, lymphodrainage and aromatherapy.

Any eventual City Taxes to be paid directly.

## **Facts**

- Hotel accepts all major credit cards
- Hotel does not have parking
- Hotel has not a restaurant
- Hotel has a total of 32 Rooms
- Extra Beds can only be added to JUNIOR SUITES
- Twin Beds are possible ONLY in Junior Suites
- Check in 2:00 pm Check out 11:00 am
- Hotel does accept group,
- Hotel has not designated non smoking room
- The hotel has a gym and a sauna opening time from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm

## **Amenities**

- Free upgrade depending on availability on arrival

## **GPS latitude and longitude:**

41,909638 / 12,477549

## **Time at leisure to relax and enjoy the property...**

**This evening enjoy your dinner Reservation at Vero Alfredo – Payment direct to restaurant.**

This has to be one of the most fun restaurants in Rome and where the Fettuccine, without a doubt, is unbeatable. The story of Alfredo and the Fettuccine is too long to tell here, but you can get an idea of what kind of history this place has as you enter and review the accolades and photographs and thank you notes which line the wall; we guarantee you will recognise more than one face. The atmosphere is fun, but suitable also for a special meal. No dress code.



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**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

## **Breakfast at the hotel**

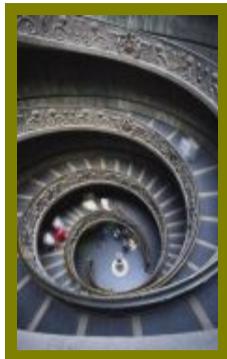
**This morning experience your time at leisure to enjoy the Eternal city on your own...**

**Lunch at leisure in one of the local restaurant...**

**This afternoon we will enjoy a very special introduction to the Vatican City and its amazing history, highlights and hidden gems with our local expert guide....**

Our Vatican experience will take us on the most amazing journey through the Vatican Museums, our entrances into which have been prearranged, and into the most beautiful and famous chapels in the world, the Sistine Chapel. From the Sistine Chapel, along with our local expert guide we will continue our 'voyage through the Vatican' by entering the ever majestic Basilica of St. Peters and discovering the secrets of one of the worlds most beautiful Basilica's before heading out into the Piazza to discover one of the Vatican city's most magical places.... (tour duration: 3 Hours) – Taxis to/from Vatican not included

**Important: entrances to Vatican are ON REQUEST and can be confirmed only two months prior to tour.**



## **Important to know: Bags, backpacks, umbrellas**

The cloakroom staff will accept from the visitors their bags and personal belongings (irrespective of the form, material or dimension of the object), with the exception of clothing items, hats, portable umbrellas.

It is obligatory to deposit in the cloakroom suitcases, backpacks and containers with dimensions larger than cm 40 x 35 x 15.

It is obligatory to deposit in the cloakroom bags and bag packs which are cumbersome, except those small-sized, that carried on shoulder, don't jut out by 15 cm from the body's shape in its highest point.

It is obligatory to deposit in the cloakroom any umbrella with a spike tip, umbrellas of medium and large size, walking sticks (except those required by disabled visitors to facilitate their movement), tripods for cameras and video cameras, signage of any kind (except signs used by official guides for their identification).



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It is obligatory to deposit in the cloakroom knives, scissors, any tools that could be harmful to other persons or damage works of art in the Museums.

It is not possible to deposit in the cloakroom, firearms of any kind or other dangerous objects. It is strictly forbidden to enter the Museums with any kind of weapon.

Access to the Museums by armed visitors is not permitted. Non exception to this rule is made for visitors holding a firearm permit, or if the weapon forms part of a uniform (police, military or others).

**Dinner at leisure in one of Rome Restaurants** – see IC Bellagio Recommended Restaurants Collection for ideas.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

**Breakfast at the hotel**

**Check out of the hotel and settle any incidental accounts...**

**This morning enjoy a very special introduction to the amazing highlights of Imperial Rome with your local expert guide and driver..**

A great way to see and enjoy the highlights of Imperial Rome. On this tour we will visit the valley of the Roman Forum. We see the inside of the Senate and the inside of the Basilica of Constantine. From the outside we will see the other ruins (temples, basilicas, Reggia, etc.,). We will walk the Via Sacra to the Arch of Tito and enjoy the Colosseum both externally and from the inside and also the pantheon. We'll walk to the palatine hill to visit the ruins of the imperial palaces and its small museum. We then head to the Basilica of St. Peter in Chains to see the Holy Chains of St. Peter and the Moses carved by Michelangelo!!! Not to mention the Vittoriano (otherwise known as the Wedding Cake). The tour ends with a panoramic drive past Circus Maximus, Aventino Hill and the Palatino Hill. (tour duration: 4 hours)



**At the end of this amazing experience enjoy your lunch at leisure in one of the local restaurant that our trusted driver will be delighted to show you...**

**After lunch continue your Private Minivan transfer to Civitavecchia port where you will board your exclusive cruise – the most leisurely way to transfer...**

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**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

## **Enjoy your day at leisure in the wonderful Sorrento...**

The Town of Sorrento began its career back at the beginning of the 19th century when Naples began to grow too piquant for English tastes. Sorrento's secret is a certain perfect cosiness, comfortable like old shoes or a favourite cardigan. It certainly helps that Sorrento is a lovely, civilized old town. Not many resorts can trace their ancestry back to the Etruscans or claim a native son like the poet Torquato Tasso.



**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

## **Today you will enjoy a very special introduction to one of Italy's most beautiful Coastline – the Amalfi Coast- with your local expert driver who is proud to call the area home...**

One of the most scenic drives you will ever take, the perfume of the lemons, the locals, the sunshine and simply the atmosphere of the area will make you never want to say goodbye to the Amalfi Coast. Amalfi is our first stop of the day, approximately 30 minutes drive from Positano, probably one of the most famous towns along this coastline. The beautiful Cathedral of Amalfi just off the sea side promenade was founded in the 9<sup>th</sup> century and still to this day it retains its original bell tower. This church went through a number of alterations and although much of the façade was rebuilt in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, much of the original structure can still be enjoyed today. We do recommend during your visit there that you don't forget to pass through the church into the Cloisters of Paradise where you can admire one of the most charming and beautiful pieces of Norman/Arab architecture. You should take the time to explore the rest of the town too, before continuing your journey to one of the coastal areas most beautiful hidden secrets. Just a short drive from Amalfi, Ravello different to many of its neighbouring towns is actually located high up the sea level ... This small town has character, culture, art, history, great shops and pastry stores offering some of the best 'dolce' of the coastal area as well as the Villa Rufolo which is a beautiful 13<sup>th</sup> century Villa built by the Rufolo family in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Just like Wagner, we are sure you will fall in love with it, enjoy the Moorish style courtyard which was initially a cloister with an 11<sup>th</sup> century bell tower that overlooks the Villa and Gardens ...The views from the terrace areas give you picture postcard images of the area that so many of us know as the Amalfi Drive. (Duration of the tour 6 hours)



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**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

**On your arrival at Livorno Port meet your English Speaking Driver and enjoy your wonderful transfer to Lucca...**

Meeting our Driver at the Portside in Livorno our first destination today is the medieval town of Lucca where you will enjoy a wonderful walking tour through the highlights of this city with your local expert guide.



This tour will include the famous Via San Paolino, the statue of Giacomo Puccini (whilst we discuss this statue we will also learn about the life and works of Giacomo Puccini and his links to Lucca), we will visit the Piazza San Michele, the Cathedral of S. Martino whose exterior itself is a perfect introduction to its history and the picturesque setting of Piazza Napoleone. Once we are in Piazza Napoleone we should also see Palazzo Ducale as they should be seen together since the former became the backdrop for the place when it was totally modelled for Elisa Baciocchi in 1806. Passing also the famous Torre Guinigi and the Amphitheatre which was built outside the walls during the II century A.D the history and stories throughout the years here is amazing, the famous walls of the historical centre of Lucca, (the walls along with the view of the Guinigi Tower is the most astounding site the city has to offer) and the Church of S. Frediano whose apse stands majestically and is seen from the walls. The Church of S. Frediano which we will visit inside and out is the work of more than one century and it is considered to be one of the most interesting products of Romanesque architecture in Lucca. As you stroll through these elegant streets your guide will also introduce you to the local people, their culture, speciality foods and wines and every day life. (tour with guide duration: 3 hours)

**At the end of this amazing experience enjoy a brief Minivan transfer to Montechiari property and farm for the most special wine tasting and lunch...**

The property of Montechiari lies on the ancient site of a military fortress and was for years on the borderline between the territory of Florence and Lucca. The site is steeped in history and enchant...

Today Montechiari offers its guests an amazing view over the Tuscan countryside as the guests walk through part of its 10 hectares where the vineyards are grown to then visit the



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cellars where the grapes are stored and continuously monitored after a strict selection of just the best of the whole production.

After visit to the property you will a wine tasting and light lunch to take in all the flavour of this surprising land...

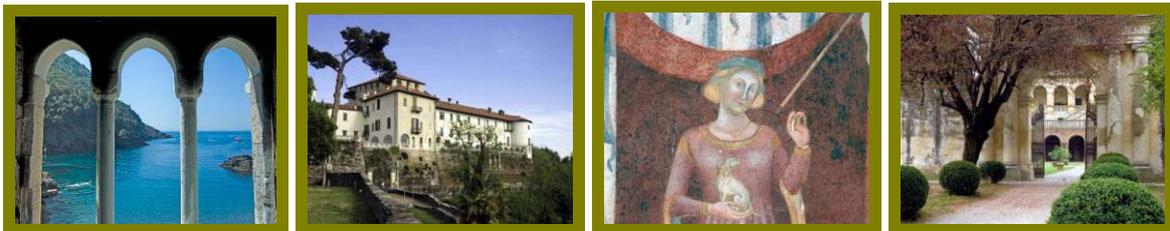


**Following This amazing experience meet Driver to return to Livorno Port...**  
(Total tour duration: 8 hours).

**Buon Viaggio!!!!**



The Italian National Trust is a non-profit organization preserving Italy's spectacular heritage. Help us help them! We include Euro 1 to your holiday to assist in maintaining some of these extraordinary places for the next generation.



We hope these indications of the **average maximum and minimum temperatures** over the time you will be in Italy are useful. Remember Italy is home to high mountain ranges and beautiful warm coastline, as a rule temperatures rise at least a few degrees the further South you go.

**June : 12° to 24 ° C / 39.2 ° to 75.2 °F**



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