

**10 Days/9 Nights**  
Departs Daily



## FLAVORS OF ITALY (BY RAIL) BOLOGNA - FLORENCE - ROME

A flavorful feast of foodie experiences! Learn traditional recipes while cooking in local homes, stroll through city streets and lively markets tasting regional specialties, and discover Italy's famous wines.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

3 Nights Bologna | 3 Nights Florence | 3 Nights Rome

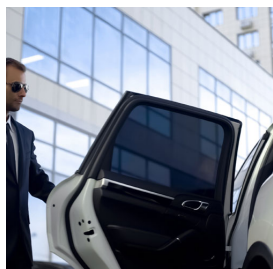
### INCLUSIONS

- Private Bologna Walking and Gourmet Tour 4 Hours Morning
  - Small Group Florence Food Walking Tour 3 Hours
  - Private Afternoon Cooking Class at Chefs Villa in Bagno a Ripoli with Dinner from Florence 5 Hours
  - Small Group Panoramic Tour of Rome by Driving Escort 3 Hours
  - Private Arrival and Departure Transfers per City
- Private Half Day Market Tour and Cooking Class at Rita's Place 4.5 Hours
  - Wine Tasting at Le Volpi e l'Uva 5:00pm
  - Dinner Party in Local Roman Home
  - Rome: 5:45pm One wine tasting session at Enoteca Angolo Divino
  - Daily Breakfast



### Day 1 ARRIVE BOLOGNA:

After arriving in Bologna, meet your driver for a private transfer to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to rest or explore your surroundings. Ask your concierge for restaurant suggestions for this evening, as Bologna is full of amazing dining.



#### Private Transfer - Bologna Airport to Bologna Hotel - Day

*Duration:* 30 Minutes

You will be met outside of customs of the Bologna airport by an English speaking driver. You will then be escorted to the lobby of your downtown Bologna hotel.



## Bologna - Art Hotel Corona D`Oro - Classic

3 Nights ★★★★★

*Style:* Boutique, Traditional *Location:* Bologna Historical Center

*Nearby Attractions:* La Macchina del Tempo Towers of Bologna Palazzo del Podesta Mercato Di Mezzo In the heart of Bologna, just a few steps away from the Two Towers, sits the Hotel Corona D'Oro. Built in the 13th century, it once belonged to the powerful Azzoguidi family. Today, it has been renovated and turned into a boutique hotel, but has kept some of the elements of the original building the medieval portico and the paneled ceilings covered in renaissance frescos are distinguishing features.

### Day 2 BOLOGNA:

Bologna home to Ducati (motorcycles), Lamborghini and Maserati (cars) has one of Europe's largest and best preserved historic centers, with a wealth of Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque buildings. Bologna is one of the richest and interesting cities in Italy. Here you will find the details of your half day walking tour of the city: Private Half Day Walking and Gourmet Tour of Bologna Bologna is one of the richest and most interesting cities in Italy. While strolling with your guide you will discover why it was given various nicknames: the red one, the learned one and the fat one. This tour is a combination of art and eno gastronomic traditions. During the walking tour you will see some of the most important buildings. You will visit Piazza Maggiore, the city's main gathering place, opened in the 13th century with its famous statue of Neptune, the Basilica of San Petronio, the Medieval market, the Two Towers and the Archiginnasio, the first permanent seat of the University with the Anatomical Theatre. You will then make a stop at Majani s shop, a traditional chocolate maker where solid chocolate was invented. You will not miss the visit at Atti s shop, which is a must in Bologna, where you will hear the history of tortellini and tagliatelle. The tour will end at Tamburini s shop, where, while hearing the history of Mortadella, you will taste some delicious local products such as Mortadella, Parmigiano Reggiano, salami, accompanied by local wine. Please note that in July and August Majani s chocolate shop is closed. In this period it will be replaced by Venchi s shop, the famous ice cream makers.

(Breakfast)



### Private Bologna Walking and Gourmet Tour - 4 Hours - Morning

*Duration:* 4 Hours *Category:* City Tour, Food And Drink *Tour Type:* Walking Tour

During the walking tour you will see some of the most important buildings. You will visit Piazza Maggiore, the city's main gathering place, opened in the 13th century with its famous statue of Neptune, the Basilica of San Petronio, the Medieval market, the Two Towers and the Archiginnasio, the first permanent seat of the University with the Anatomical Theatre.

### Day 3 BOLOGNA:

Today, you will have a private cooking class in a home in Bologna, to educate you further about the riches of Cucina Bolognese: Private Market Tour and Cooking Class at Ritas Place Rita meets guests at their hotel and takes them downtown for a short tour and a visit to the old market (Sundays and Monday mornings excluded, as many of the most interesting shops are closed). On they way to her house, they will stop and buy some products and, if there is some spare time, they will have a drink and buy some wine. The city tour and shopping would take about one hour and a half. Once at Rita's house, the guests will put on an apron and begin. They will begin to knead the dough and to make the Bolognese meat sauce and then a dessert. While the sauce is cooking, they will finish making pasta (usually tagliatelle and tortelloni so as to show how to prepare both simple and stuffed pasta). After preparing the meal, sit down to enjoy the feast!

(Breakfast)



### Private Half-Day Market Tour and Cooking Class at Rita`s Place - 4.5 Hours

*Duration:* 5 hours *Category:* Food And Drink *Tour Type:* Classes Workshops

The city tour and shopping would take about one hour and a half. Once at Rita's house, the guests will put on an apron and begin. They will begin to knead the dough and to make the Bolognese meat sauce and then a dessert. While the sauce is cooking, they will finish making pasta (usually tagliatelle and tortelloni so as to show how to prepare both simple and stuffed pasta) and after having cooked it, they will sit down to eat.

### Day 4 BOLOGNA TO FLORENCE:

After breakfast, private transfer to the train station for the 40 minute train ride to Florence. Upon arrival in Florence, you are met on the platform at the rail station by your driver for a private transfer to your hotel. Rest of the day at leisure to explore on foot the incomparable treasures of this jewel of the Renaissance. Use your TripBuilder CityGuide to help prioritize your sightseeing. We suggest dinner at: Restaurant Buca Mario: For over one hundred years travellers have come here, to the heart of Florence, from all over the world, to delight their taste buds with old Florentine recipes. Buca Mario is housed in a sixteenth century buca. In Florence, buche were typical cellars situated beneath imposing historic palazzos often owned by aristocratic families. They were used to store salted meats, ham and salamis, and, above all, to house precious wine.

(Breakfast)



### Rail Transportation



### Private Transfer - Bologna Hotel to Bologna Rail Station - Day

*Duration:* 15 Minutes

You will be met in the lobby of your downtown Bologna hotel by an English speaking driver. You will then be escorted to the Bologna rail station.



### Day 4 FLORENCE:



### Private Transfer - S.M. Novella Rail Station to Florence Hotel - Day

*Duration:* 25 Minutes

You will be met at the Santa Maria Novella Rail Station in Florence by an English speaking driver. You will then be escorted to your Florence hotel.



### Florence - Hotel Degli Orafi - Classic 3 Nights ★★★★★

*Style:* Boutique, Traditional *Location:* Florence Historical center

*Nearby Attractions:* Uffizi Gallery, Ponte Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, Pitti Palace, Piazza del Duomo  
Located in a prestigious building with parts dating back as far as the 12th century, the Hotel Degli Orafi sits in the center of Florence, facing the famous Ponte Vecchio and the Uffizi Gallery. It offers a warm and hospitable atmosphere, with a welcome drink provided for every guest upon arrival.

### Day 5 FLORENCE:

After breakfast, your Small Group Florence Food Walking tour is scheduled. A three hour tour dedicated to the flavors and the savors of Florence, a different way to get to know, through smell and taste, the heart of a city which has embodied, since the Renaissance, the perfect equilibrium between Beauty and Grandeur, Art and Power. This same equilibrium is nowadays to be found in Florence cuisine, constantly striving between the two souls of the city: the House of Medici, aristocratic, powerful and future oriented, architects of Florence prominence, and the stream of artists, craftsmen and workers who gave the Medici ground and tools to build Florence splendor. All of them are still alive and kicking in Florentine food, and we will be proud and delighted to accompany you in its discovery. Meet our guide outside Bar Scudieri in Piazza S.Giovanni, and walk in locals' shoes by sipping a caff, accompanied by a homemade, mouth watering pastry, to balance the strength of caffeine. Head then for the Mercato Centrale, an imposing XIX century building where butchers, fishmongers and grocers display their goods in a triumph of colorful and lively bustle. Refreshed by some fruit or a smoothie, wander around to observe, breath and take in the life of the market and, before leaving it, stop for a fritto toscano, delicious battered, deep fried fish and vegetables morsels. From here, head for the very heart of the city and its lively tiny streets to taste a fragrant schiacciata with truffles. All these strong flavors require a sweet interlude, and a creamy gelato will serve our cause, accompanying us Oltrarno, across the Arno River, to pay a visit to one of the finest winehouses in Florence, where we will be served a cheese and cold cuts board accompanied by a goblet of Chianti coming from the hills around the city. Here, our guide bids you farewell. After the tour, free time in the afternoon to explore Florence on your own. At 5:00, arrive at the site of your wine tasting experience: Wine Tasting at Le Volpi e l'Uva Enjoy an interesting evening of wine tasting at a centrally located wine bar in Florence. The wine tasting will consist of 3 wines accompanied by various types of Tuscan meats, cheeses and breads. It is also possible to order dinner at the wine bar after the wine tasting for an additional cost.

*(Breakfast)*



### Small Group Florence Food Walking Tour - 3 Hours

*Duration:* 3 Hours *Category:* City Tour, Food And Drink *Tour Type:* Walking Tour

This tour is dedicated to the flavors and the savors of Florence. Through smell and taste, participants will experience a different way to get to know the heart of a city, which has embodied the perfect equilibrium between Beauty and Grandeur, Art and Power since the Renaissance.



### Wine Tasting at Le Volpi e l'Uva - 5:00pm

*Duration:* *Category:* Food And Drink

Enjoy a wine tasting at a centrally-located wine bar in Florence.

## Day 6 FLORENCE:

Spend the morning at leisure exploring Florence. This afternoon you will have a cooking class in a Tuscan home just outside the city. Private Afternoon Cooking Class at Chef's villa in Bagno a Ripoli with Dinner: You will be met at your hotel and transferred to Bagno a Ripoli, at approximately 5 miles away from Florence, in the Tuscan countryside. You will arrive at the chef's villa, situated on a hilltop overlooking Florence and surrounded by the typical Tuscan landscape. The house was built as a lookout tower in the 11th century and later it belonged to Francesco Granacci, a successful 16th century painter, a close friend of Michelangelo, and the reason why it is known as the "Casa del Pittore" (painter's house). The guests will prepare each of the three courses, all based on typical Tuscan recipes. Once the dishes are ready, you will enjoy tasting the results of your work. During the summer months, weather permitting, dinner will be served in the villa garden overlooking Florence. After enjoying the dinner you have prepared, you will be transferred back to your hotel.

*(Breakfast, Dinner)*



### Private Afternoon Cooking Class at Chefs Villa in Bagno a Ripoli with Dinner from Florence 5 Hours

*Duration:* 5 Hours *Category:* Food And Drink *Tour Type:* Classes Workshops

You will be met at your hotel and transferred to Bagno a Ripoli, approximately 5 miles away from Florence in the Tuscan countryside. You will arrive at the chef's villa situated on a hilltop overlooking Florence and surrounded by the typical Tuscan landscape.

## Day 7 FLORENCE TO ROME:

After breakfast, private transfer to the train station for the 1.5 hour train ride to Rome. Upon arrival in Rome, you are met on the platform at the rail station by your driver for a private transfer to your hotel. This evening you will be picked up at 7:30pm for your dinner: Dinner in Local Roman Home At 7:30 pm your driver will meet you at hotel and will take you to Barbara's house for an unforgettable evening and memories in the Eternal City. At 8:00 pm Barbara will be glad to warmly welcome you as friends for dinner in her place in Trastevere. You will meet other guests that decide to live this culinary and social experience in a Roman home with Italian people instead of going out in search of a restaurant like most other tourists. Everyone in Barbara's house speaks very good English and have traveled all around the world, so you will be able to engage an interesting conversation with everyone. She will introduce you some excellent Italian wines, and you will start by tasting delicious appetizers. For dinner you'll enjoy a traditional dish such as bruschetta, amatriciana, carciofo alla romana, or pollo e peperoni. The dinner will end with the authentic desserts prepared by Barbara like tiramisù, panna cotta, crostata di ricotta. After a lovely evening of food, wine, and conversation, return to your hotel on your own.

*(Breakfast, Dinner)*



### Rail Transportation



### Private Transfer - Florence Hotel to S.M. Novella Rail Station - Day

*Duration:* 25 Minutes

You will be met in the lobby of your Florence hotel by an English speaking driver. You will then be escorted to the Santa Maria Novella Rail Station in Florence.



# ROME

## Day 7 ROME:



### Private Transfer - Termini Rail Station to Rome Hotel

*Duration:* 30 Minutes

You will be met at the Rome Termini rail station by an English speaking driver. You will then be escorted to your Rome hotel.



### Rome - Hotel Dei Borgognoni - Classic 3 Nights ★★★★★

*Style:* Contemporary *Location:* Spanish Steps

*Nearby Attractions:* Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Roman Forum, The Pantheon, Piazza Navona  
Situated in one of the most beautiful and exclusive areas of the city, between the Spanish Steps and the Trevi Fountain, Hotel dei Borgognoni embodies all the atmospheric charm of a truly fascinating corner of central Rome. No ordinary hotel, the Borgognoni is a haven for those in search of peace and tranquility. In addition, it is located right in the pulsing heart of the capital, just a short walk from some of the city's most famous landmarks. A unique location for a charming hotel, decorated in contemporary Italian Modern style, while still exuding timeless elegance.



### Dinner Party in Local Roman Home

*Duration:* 3 Hours and 30 Minutes *Category:* Food And Drink *Tour Type:* Classes Workshops

At approximately 7:30pm your driver will meet you at your hotel to take you to Barbara's house for an unforgettable evening in the Eternal City. Barbara (or her assistants) will warmly welcome you. You will meet other guests, and you will have the opportunity to enjoy the evening in a Roman home.

## Day 8 ROME:

This morning you will have a three hour tour of the city with an English speaking guide, to orient you to the highlights of Rome: Semi Private Panoramic Tour of Rome by Driving Guide A panoramic drive through Rome during which your driving guide will show you the highlights of the Eternal City, including The Spanish Steps, Piazza del Popolo, Piazza Venezia, Piazza Navona, Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, Gianicolo Hill After the tour, you have the afternoon and evening to explore more of Rome on your own. Consult your Rome TripBuilder CityGuide to make best use of your time. Begin your evening with a wine tasting experience: One wine tasting session at Enoteca Angolo Divino Enjoy a wine tasting at the "Enoteca L'Angolo Divino" winery. Make your own way to the winery, which is situated approx. 20 minutes walking distance from our centrally located hotels. The wine tasting is held by an English speaking somelier and it includes three different wines, accompanied by some Pecorino cheese and local salami. The winery is located in the Campo di Fiori area, famous for its daily open air market.

*(Breakfast)*



### Small Group Panoramic Tour of Rome by Driving Escort - 3 Hours

*Duration:* 3 Hours *Category:* City Tour *Tour Type:* Car/Bus Tour

A panoramic drive through Rome during which your driving guide will show you the highlights of the Eternal City. You will see some of the highlights of the Eternal city: the Spanish Steps, Piazza del Popolo with its churches and monuments, Piazza Venezia with its impressive monument dedicated to King Victor Emanuel II and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and the beautiful Piazza Navona with its fountains. The city tour will continue to the Pantheon, originally a pagan temple converted into a Christian Church. You will then reach the Trevi Fountain, where the legend says you must throw a coin if you wish to insure your return to the Eternal City



### Rome: 5:45pm One wine tasting session at Enoteca Angolo Divino

*Duration:* 1 Hour 30 Minutes *Category:* Food And Drink *Tour Type:* Car/Bus Tour

Tasting includes tasting of 3 different wines, accompanied by some Pecorino cheese and local salami.

### Day 9 ROME:

Morning and afternoon at leisure for personal exploration of Rome's attractions. Consider a visit to the Roman Forum the city's center and most important district 2,000 years ago, with many monuments that will evoke the golden age of the Empire.

(Admission cost extra)

*(Breakfast)*

### Day 10 DEPART ROME:

After breakfast, enjoy a private transfer to the train station or airport, to head for your next Avanti destination!

*(Breakfast)*



### Private Transfer - Rome Hotel to Fiumicino Airport

*Duration:* 1 Hour

You will be met in the lobby of your Rome hotel by an English speaking driver. You will then be escorted to the Rome Fiumicino airport.

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*\*\* Itinerary and inclusions are subject to change*