

Venice, Villas & The Veneto!

10 days/9 nights: Friday, May 25 – Sunday, June 3, 2018

Limited to 6 total participants

Built entirely on interconnecting islands, there is no other city in the world like Venice. Famous for gondolas, carnival masks, and Murano glass, the city also boasts a unique mix of Christian, Byzantine and Islamic architectural styles. Come explore this magical destination where lights dance on the water at night and by day the only form of transportation is on foot or by boat.

Travel the Brenta Canal from Venice to Padua (“Padova” in Italian). We’ll stop along the way to visit the most famous of the Palladian inspired villas that line its banks, elegant and elaborately frescoed summer residences from the 18th century. We’ll also visit the picturesque town of Sirmione on the shores of Lake Garda and relax in its famous mineral water baths.

But that’s not all! We’ll explore two of the Veneto region’s most beautiful cities: Verona and Padua. Verona boasts the largest number of Roman ruins outside of Rome and was the setting Shakespeare chose for his tragic love story, Romeo and Juliet. Padua claims to be the oldest city in Italy and is seat to one of the world’s first universities, where Galileo once taught mathematics. Its old town features arcaded streets, stylish cafes, and some of the most famous frescoes by the artist Giotto.

While exploring the Veneto, we’ll be based in our very own chic, renovated 16th c. Villa on the outskirts of Verona. While there, visit the villa’s working dairy farm, rest by the pool, and enjoy delicious 4-course dinners prepared by our private chef!

INCLUDES:

- Transfers from/to Venice airport
- 1 night in a 4-star boutique hotel in Padua; 4 nights in a villa outside Verona; 1 night in Venice in a 5-star hotel and 4 nights in 4-star accommodations
- Tours in Venice of St. Mark’s Basilica and the Doge’s Palace; Grand Canal boat tour and visit to a Murano glass-blowing facility; tour of a gondola workshop and gondola ride
- Vineyard visit and wine tasting
- Walking tours of Verona’s and Padua’s most famous sites
- Visit to Lake Garda’s Sirmione and its Aquaria Thermal Baths
- Brenta Canal boat ride with tours of 3 of its most famous Palladian inspired villas
- All breakfasts, three lunches, four dinners
- All tips for our guides and boat drivers

PRICING & PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- \$3,750/pp double occupancy (excluding airfare and trip insurance)
- 30% deposit due by: Friday, February 16, 2018
- Final payment due by: Friday, March 30, 2018



Venice, Villas & The Veneto!

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Friday, May 25: Arrival in Venice. Transfer from the Venice airport. Welcome 3-course dinner with wine. Overnight in Venice at the 5-star Hotel Metropole.

Saturday, May 26: Day transfer via boat along the historic Brenta Canal, with guided tours of three of the most beautiful Palladian style villas and gardens that line its shores, plus lunch. We'll stay overnight in Padua at the 4-star Hotel Majestic Toscanelli.

Sunday, May 27: Morning walking tour of Padua's highlights, including the famous Scrovegni Chapel that boasts some of the artist Giotto's best frescoes. Transfer this afternoon to our Villa outside Verona where we'll enjoy a 4-course dinner by our chef.

Monday, May 28: Day at leisure to enjoy our countryside Villa! Visit the adjacent working dairy, lounge by the pool, take a walk to the nearest little town, curl up with a book, or take a nap. That evening we'll enjoy another 4-course dinner prepared by our private chef.



Tuesday, May 29: Mid-morning vineyard visit and wine tasting, followed by lunch. Then transfer to Verona for a walking tour of this city's highlights, including its Roman arena, a famous opera venue to this day. Evening at leisure and dinner in Verona. Overnight at the Villa.

Wednesday, May 30: Day trip to the picturesque town of Sirmione on the shores of Lake Garda. Take time to explore on your own, then melt away your cares with an afternoon visit to the Aquaria Thermal Baths overlooking the lake. Dinner in Sirmione. Overnight at the Villa.

Thursday, May 31: Transfer back to Venice. Afternoon private guided tour of St. Mark's Basilica and the Doge's Palace. Evening at leisure. Overnight at a 4-star apartment in Venice.

Friday, June 1: Morning walking tour of Venice's Dorsoduro quarter and a gondola workshop visit followed by a gondola ride! Afternoon at leisure. Overnight in Venice.

Saturday, June 2: Morning at leisure. Afternoon Grand Canal tour by boat, followed by a visit to an artisanal glass-blowing facility on Murano. Farewell 3-course dinner with wine. Overnight in Venice.

Sunday, June 3: Departures back to the US, or further travel in Italy or Europe.

Buon viaggio!

