

Explore Italy with travel blogger Megan Singleton

- September 1-22, 2018 -

ROME • ORVIETO • SIENA • FLORENCE • CINQUE TERRE • VENICE • MILAN

DAY 1

We depart Auckland for Singapore where we will have a one night stopover.

DAY 2

We arrive in Rome where we will be for the next 3 nights. We will start with a short walking tour with our personal guide to familiarise ourselves with this great city. We have an afternoon of free time and then dinner together, away from the tourists, for a local experience to get our first taste of Italy.

Accommodation: Hotel San Francesco in the heart of the Trastevere district with its own rooftop terrace and bar.

DAY 3

Today we really explore! After a leisurely morning we will take a personalised tour of the Colosseum and head downunder to see Underground Rome below the streets where 1st and 4th century ancient Rome houses, streets and temples are.

DAY 4

An early start today will ensure we are not swamped by crowds as we head inside the Vatican Museum, Sistine chapel and St Peters Basilica.

Then in the afternoon we head out of Rome to explore the best kept secrets of Castelli Romani including Lake Nemi, a village perched above a crater lake which has the remains of Emperor Caligula's floating palaces. We'll see underground tunnels, art, eat great food, drink in the views of Rome and the Mediterranean Sea and end with a 3-course locally-sourced dinner in the piazza of Frascati as the sun sets over St Peters Basilica dome.

DAY 5

Today we head to Orvieto by bus with our private guide and stop at the dying town of Civita di Bagnoregio. This tiny village is perched on top of a mountain accessed by a walking bridge that spans from one side of valley to the town.

Accommodation: Altarocca Wine Resort



Cost \$12,995pp share twin

This amazing tour has been designed to balance days at your leisure, free to explore, with days of traveling and visiting incredible sites, tasting food that will be prepared exclusively for us and enjoying not having to make any of the "hard" decisions yourself!

DAY 6

We'll enjoy a morning walking tour of the picturesque town of Orvieto perched on a mountain top, followed by a free day to explore on your own.

DAY 7

Today we take our bus to Siena, visiting Assisi on the way. This Medieval walled city is our base for the next 3 nights.

DAY 8

We'll start with a morning orientation tour of Siena, learning some amazing history, culture and enjoy the cuisine etc of Siena followed by a free afternoon.

DAY 9

We have arranged a day trip to visit some of these nearby towns: Montepulciano (the wine cellars below the city are amazing), Montalcino (Brunello), Bagno Vignoni (lovely village of thermal springs and Medici courtyard) and Pienza (famous for its cheese)

Accommodation: Hotel Alma Domas

DAY 10

Today we continue north to Florence where we'll visit Accademia Gallery to see the statue of David followed by free time to explore and shop at your leisure.

DAY 11

A free day to enjoy Florence.

Accommodation: Hotel Cellai in the heart of Florence

DAY 12

Today we travel to Cinque terre, and stop at Pisa if timetables permit.

DAY 13-14

We'll have lots of free time to explore these seaside villages, take photos, eat the local food, enjoy their wines and take a dip in the sea.

Accommodation: Hotel Il Gigante, Cinque terre, Monterosso which is a 1 minute walk to the beach.

DAY 15

Today we head to Venice, arriving in style and water taxi down the Grand Canal.

DAY 16

We will begin exploring the city with a morning stroll to the markets and visiting eateries to try the typical local Cicchetti (tapa style) food. We'll enjoy an evening gondo-



la ride and visit some of the highlights of this great city before a beautiful dinner together.

DAY 17

Today we'll take boats and explore the Islands, Murano (visiting a non-touristy glass blowing studio), Burano (the picturesque brightly coloured village famous for lace-work).

Accommodation: Hotel Ca d'oro, a quaint hotel in the heart of the city but away from the madding crowds!

DAY 18

Today we take the train from Venice to Milan where we have our final night together over a banquet dinner.

Accommodation: Art Hotel Navigli in the canal district.

DAY 19

Depart from Airport of Malpensa Milan home via Singapore.



All hotels are subject to availability at the time of booking. If these ones are not available, ones of the same quality will be selected.

This itinerary includes all breakfasts and some evening meals. All other meals are at your own leisure and expense.

All entrance fees to attractions are included as stated, transfers around Italy and economy class airfares from Auckland return.

We will have our own local guides with us so extras can be added if you wish, pick their brains for sightseeing tips, shopping tips, restaurants and bars, plus they can organise your own VIP tours or activities during your free time if you wish.

This tour has been thoughtfully planned by Megan Singleton (bloggeratlarge.com), WEKA Travel and House of Travel Howick.

Payment is due by 3 February. As cancellation fees apply, travel insurance is mandatory. Single supplement is \$3,800

Contact Alison Kearney at House of Travel Howick to book your place! Phone 09 5354559 • Email alisonk@hot.co.nz

Speak to us about adding on extra days or personal travel to this amazing Italy itinerary.



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