

# XXXXX'S AMAZING ITALIAN ADVENTURE

This is the quintessential Italian scenic tour that has you tasting a glimpse of the hustle and bustle of Rome, the fabulous scenery of Tuscany and its sumptuous wines, and the luxurious otherworldly Riviera-like feeling of the Amalfi Coast.

**The estimated cost for this trip is: \$3,769 total (not per person)– well below your original budget!**

This leaves you wonderful leeway for eating out, shopping, museum or church entry fees, and shopping. I did not include any hotels in Rome itself. I used arbitrary dates in May. Once we have firm dates we can re-assess and confirm everything but this should give you an idea of the budget.

- Any days that do not have an organized tour, I can send you suggestions of things to do or where to eat at a later date.
- “The traveler’s week” = 8 days including travel because you arrive on a Saturday morning and leave on a Sunday. If you stay for the 9 days (the optional day is below) it would mean leaving on a Friday night from Florida and then leave Italy on a Monday(arrive in USA on the same day), so the number of “extra” vacations days you would have to take from your employer is actually minimal.
- Which brings us to: If you could squeeze in just more day I think you would feel like you have a good amount of relaxing vs travelling to the next place. See note about the Amalfi coast and the yacht.

This itinerary has you flying into Rome, staying two nights, then returning to Rome for the last night for your flight home. You have a total of 3 nights in Rome, 3 nights in Florence and Tuscan area, and 2 or 3 nights on the Amalfi coast.

**INCLUSIONS:** *In estimating the cost I used the following items:*

- Private transfer from the airport to your hotel in Rome
- Train from Rome to Florence
- Villa Medici Hotel in Florence– 5 star hotel 3 nights
- Tuscan Cooking class
- Tour to San Gimignano and Siena
- Wine country Chianti tour
- Breakfast at the Uffizi Gallery
- Train to Sorrento
- Mediterraneo hotel in Sorrento – 4/5 star hotel 3 nights
- Day on a yacht on Amalfi coast
- Train to Rome
- Airport transfer from Rome hotel to the airport
- One night hotel Rome if you need it on the way back

**Travel times – I know you were concerned about too much moving around in a short time. Florence is 1.5 hours by train from Rome. From Florence to Sorrento it will be 3-4 hours. Then from Sorrento to get back to Rome you would go to the main station in Naples and it would be 1 hour to Rome. So you are not spending that much time on trains aside from Florence-Sorrento section.**

**PROPOSTED ITINERARY:**

Day	Activity	Notes
Day 1 – Rome	<p>Early morning arrival on international flight.</p> <p><b>Private transfer</b> from the airport to your hotel.</p> <p><b>Hotel:</b> <i>*leaving blank as they may be staying with family. If not, I recommend the Hotel Mascagni or something similar.</i></p> <p>Keep recovering from jetlag by walking on your self-tour of the Eternal City. Check out the Colosseum, the Forum, and the Pantheon. Stop for pizza and/or pasta, and definitely gelato. Don't forget the Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel, and St Peter's Basilica. (Tickets and/or private/semi-private tours can be arranged.)</p>	
Day 2 – Rome	<p>Enjoy Rome!</p> <p>Continue with your exploring of Rome “on your own”, consider having dinner in Trastevere, touring the Jewish Ghetto, or taking the train to nearby Tivoli and discover the beautiful Renaissance-style Villa D'Este manor. (A complete list of suggested activities can be sent later.)</p>	
Day 3 – Florence	<p>Depart in the morning for Florence by <b>train.</b></p> <p><b>Suggested hotel: Villa Medici Hotel:</b> Immersed in a green garden and located in the centre of Florence, the 5 star hotel Villa Medici was the residence of one of the most important Italian families.</p>	



(Hotel alternate: Embassy Hotel)

Explore Florence on your own until the evening, **where you can engage in a Tuscan cooking class and dinner.**

- We will cook together with our experienced Chef! Under his careful control we will prepare regional dishes and we will discover the precious secrets of Italian cooking tradition as the choice of the ingredients, cooking times and wine coupling. We will select a typical Tuscan menu composed by appetizer, first course or second course with a side-dish and dessert. At the end of the lesson we will taste the dishes we prepared all together during a wonderful dinner.

Day 4 –  
Florence

In the morning, explore Florence’s winding streets and beautiful piazzas (town squares).

**Leave this day free to truly enjoy Florence and have some flexibility,** or consider a small group tour to the other impressive towns of Tuscany: Siena and San Gimignano, and possibly Pisa to see the Leaning Tower of Pisa. (*You can take a country bus to San Gimignano without a tour if you want to be adventurous and not a tour. We can discuss more.*)



Activities on your own; suggestions include:

- The Duomo
- Accademia and Uffizi Galleries to see The David & other famous artwork– private tour guides and/or “skip the line” tickets can be arranged for you
- Basilica di Santa Croce
- Ponte Vecchio
- Boboli Gardens

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shopping!</li> </ul>
<p>Day 5 – Florence</p>	<p><b>Take a full day small-group tour into wine country, the beautiful Chianti countryside.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You will be comfortably escorted in a minivan through the outskirts of Florence to three different wineries located amidst the rolling hills of the Chianti wine region.</li> <li>• A sommelier will guide your experience as you taste and learn about the different methods of wine production in two famous wineries plus a family-run organic farm and winery.</li> <li>• Some of the best wines ever produced have come from the hills just outside of Florence, thanks to the beautiful climate and the rich soil, allowing these wineries to become top leaders in the industry for hundreds of years.</li> <li>• A Supertuscan is the utmost expression of quality and winemaking skills of a wine producer and his enologist. You will see world famous Supertuscan vineyards and discover their production process.</li> <li>• A final stop at a noble Villa will let you enjoy a gourmet lunch in its “enoteca”, set in the 1000-year-old cellar. Specialties of the Tuscan cuisine and local products will be served with wine pairing. This full day tour provides a more intimate and embracing setting, ensuring the best experience possible for all wine lovers</li> </ul>	 <p><i>Note: you can also choose to participate in a wine tour that leaves at 2pm (if you want to spend the morning in Florence instead of a full day tour), goes to a similar region, and returns around 9pm after dinner at a Tuscan farmhouse.</i></p>
<p>Day 6 – Florence/ Sorrento</p>	<p><b>If you are interested in Renaissance art, consider this small group activity: Breakfast at the Uffizi Gallery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skip the long lines with this priority entrance tour.</li> <li>• A professional English-speaking guide will let you truly understand what’s behind each painting, following the evolution of Italian art through the centuries, from the Middle Ages to Renaissance.</li> </ul>	

- During the visit, a delicious Italian breakfast will be served at the Uffizi cafe, giving you the opportunity to enjoy a relaxing break and the fascinating views from the magnificent ancient terrace on the Loggia dei Lanzi.
- At the end of the tour, you can exit the museum or decide to remain inside to continue visiting it on your own..

After your Uffizi experience, it's time to leave Florence. Take the train to Sorrento to enjoy beautiful Southern Italy and the Amalfi Coast.

**Suggested Hotel: Hotel Mediterraneo**



**I will be booking you a balcony room for this section of the trip – you can't pass up these views!**

The evening is free to explore the beautiful town of Sorrento or to enjoy your luxurious ocean views.

Day 7 - Sorrento

Take a bus to neighboring towns, continue to relax in Sorrento, or take the ferry (1 hour) to the beautiful magical isle of Capri (a MUST!). Directions for doing this on your own can be provided later.



DAY 8 – Sorrento optional (would make the trip 9 days)

**Amalfi Coast by Luxury Yacht – sample description:**

Pick up from your hotel and transfer to the port of Piano di Sorrento. Departure to Amalfi along the Sorrento Peninsula and the Amalfi Coast, stopping in Sorrento: Marciano, Mitigliano and Bagni della Regina Giovanna (Free time for swimming and snorkeling). Additional stops include the Island of Li Galli, Nerano, Praiano (Free time for swimming and snorkeling), Grotta Smeraldo (entrance fee not include.). Enjoy a 2-hour visit to Positano, the pearl of the Amalfi Coast and a 1.5-hour stop in Amalfi to visit the ancient Maritime Republic. Return to Piano di Sorrento for a happy hour *limoncello* tasting and transfer to hotel.

*This particular tour is with a small group.*



Day 8 (9) - Rome

In the morning, return to Rome by train for your next-day flight. Consider staying at a hotel closer to the airport for an early morning flight.

Spend the afternoon/evening finished off any souvenir shopping and enjoying the amazing Roman food. Restaurant recommendations can be made at a later date.

**Additional Hotel Suggestion: Castello della Casteluccia**, a castle hotel on the outskirts of Rome. Transportation directly to airport from the hotel can be arranged.



Day 9 (10) -	<b>Private transfer to the airport. Departure for USA – Goodbye beautiful Italy!</b>	
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