

South Italian Landscapes...2021

Roma, Mt. Vesuvio, Napoli, Amalfi Coast, Matera, Alberobello, Castellana, Castel Gandolfo



Day 1 Welcome to Italy - Rome

Upon arrival at Rome Airport, we will be greeted by our English speaking tour manager who will be with the group during the entire stay in Italy. We will board the private deluxe bus and transfer to our hotel. Following check-in, we will have free time to unpack and relax. Dinner and overnight at our hotel (D)

Day 2 Vatican Museums - Baroque Squares

After breakfast, we will start our tour with a visit of Vatican Museums where we will see the magnificent rooms painted by Raphael as well as the Sistine Chapel, followed by a tour of the Basilica of St Peter. In the afternoon, we will enjoy a downtown walking tour of Rome including Piazza Navona, Pantheon, Trevi and Spanish Steps. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight (B, D)

Day 3 Imperial Rome - Free afternoon

This morning we will tour the Colosseum (inside visit). Then we will continue to the Roman Forum, the religious, political, and commercial center of ancient Rome, and for centuries, the entire civilized world. We see the Arches of Constantine & Titus. We will reach also Aventino Hill for a special photo stop of the panoramic view from the Garden of Orange Trees. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore Rome on our own. Tonight dinner is at leisure. Overnight in Rome. (B)

Day 4 Rome - Mt Vesuvio Gran Cono Path (about 2.5 miles) - Naples

Following an early breakfast and check out, we will board our motor coach and drive to Mt Vesuvius National Park. From Piazzale di Quota 1000, a parking area which is 3.280 feet above sea level, we will start our walk along the path of the Gran Cono which is a unique experience for the thrill of walking along the crater of an active volcano and for the view of Campania and Lazio. In the afternoon we will enjoy a panoramic tour of Naples. Tonight we will be amused by a cooking class, where we will learn how to make the world-known Italian pizza and then taste it. Overnight in Naples (B, D)



Day 5 Napoli - Ravello - Salerno

Today we will drive along the Amalfi Coast, widely considered one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world; deemed a UNESCO World Heritage site as an outstanding example of a Mediterranean landscape. We will stop firstly in Ravello to see its interesting Cathedral devoted to Saint Pantaleone, and the Villa Rufolo, a venue for many festivals throughout the year and magnificent gardens. Then we will reach Amalfi, one of the four maritime Republics of Italy, to visit the cathedral and its coloured streets. After lunch, we will continue to Salerno. Dinner and overnight at our hotel (B, D)

Day 6 Salerno - Matera - masseria

After breakfast we will continue our drive to Matera where we will enjoy a relaxing walking tour including its ancient city, "Sassi," and the 13th Century-old Cathedral. We will visit also an archetypal cave dwelling, typically furnished and evacuated in the '50s for the unhealthy and sanitary conditions of the whole area. After lunch in a local restaurant, we will continue towards Puglia. Tonight dinner and overnight will be in a beautiful masseria (B, L, D)

Day 7 Alberobello - olive oil tasting

This morning we will visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of Alberobello with its trulli, the characteristic white-washed conical-roofed houses of the area. In the afternoon we will visit an oil farm and factory. After a relaxing walk amongst the ancient olive groves, we will be able to learn about the way the extra virgin olive oil is produced and taste it. Tonight we will enjoy a special "Pugliese" dinner at our masseria (B, Special dinner)

Day 8 Castellana Caves - Vieste

Following breakfast we will head Castellana caves to enjoy a subterranean journey into the heart of the Murge plateau. This 2 miles-long system of caves features a series of passageways and chambers located 230 feet underground and dominated by rows of stalactites hanging like giant needles, with glittering walls of crystal, underground lakes and huge stalagmites towering up from the rock floor. In the afternoon we will continue our drive to Vieste on Gargano. Dinner and overnight at our hotel (B, D)

Day 9 Vieste - Tivoli - Castel Gandolfo

Today we will board our motor coach and drive to Castel Gandolfo, by coasting the brackish lakes of Varano and Lesina and their fishermen villages, before entering the highway across exciting landscapes of the Appennino Range in Abruzzo. We will stop on the way for a visit of the ancient city of Tivoli and its Renaissance Villa d'Este with a beautiful Italian style garden. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Castel Gandolfo (B, D)

Day 10 Departure

After an early breakfast, we will leave by motor coach and transfer to Rome airport for return flights home. (B)

This is a suggested itinerary:

We will be glad to customize a program that meets your specific needs, requirements and budget. You may also choose your own travel dates and city of departure.

For information on our Fund Raising Program and benefits for your group please email: anton@travelwithus.com

