

## **A classic cultural tour in Italy: Florence, Rome and Naples**

Written by

Tuesday, 14 June 2011 12:36 - Last Updated Friday, 29 July 2011 11:21

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**Thursday - Embark on your flight to Florence today.**

**Friday - Today you arrive in Florence.**

A driver with a sign, bearing your name, will meet you at the airport to transfer you to your hotel. After having a chance to check into your hotel and freshen up, your professional English-speaking guide will meet you in the lobby of your hotel. Today you will enjoy a half-day orientation tour of Florence. Your tour will include entrance to the Galleria dell'Accademia, the highlight of your visit will include Michelangelo's 'David', as well as his famous sculpture 'The Slave.'

**Saturday - This morning, meet your professional English-speaking guide in the lobby of your hotel for a full-day tour of Florence.**

You will start the day with a visit to the Museo del Duomo. As part of its collection, this museum includes the story of Brunelleschi and his amazing dome – now the Duomo of Florence. This afternoon you will enjoy a guided visit to the Uffizi Gallery – one of the most famous museums in the world.

**Sunday - Today you will enjoy a full-day excursion into Tuscany.**

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Your private car & driver, along with your professional English-speaking guide, will meet you at your hotel this morning. You will visit the towns of Siena and San Gimignano today. Your day will also include a wine tasting at either an Enoteca in a Tuscan Hill Town, or a Tuscan Wine Estate.

**Monday - This morning board a regional train (first class) in Florence and travel to Pisa.**

Upon arrival, you will meet your professional English-speaking guide for a half-day tour of Pisa. Your visit will include timed entry into the Tower, as well as the Cathedral of learning. Following your tour, you may wish to spend the rest of the day on your own in Pisa, or return to Florence for some time on your own.

**Tuesday - This morning you will board your direct train to Rome by Eurostar (first class).**

Upon arrival, meet your driver to transfer to your hotel. This afternoon you will meet your professional English-speaking guide at your hotel for your half-day orientation tour of Rome. A highlight of your day may be the visit to the Coliseum and the Roman Forum!

**Wednesday - Meet your guide in the lobby of your hotel this morning for another exciting day in Rome – with a focus on Art.**

Today you will visit the Vatican Museums, St. Peter's Basilica, and Villa Borghese. The Vatican Museums are some of the most renowned museums in the world. Your tour of the museum ends at the recently restored Sistine Chapel. Villa Borghese is graced by beautiful gardens – and some first-class museums. The Galleria Borghese, a legendary art gallery, shut its doors in 1984 and appeared to have closed forever. However, in early 1997, after a complete restoration, it returned in all its fabulous glory. This treasure trove includes such masterpieces as Bernini's Apollo and Daphne, Titian's Sacred and Profane Love, Raphael's Deposition, and Caravaggio's Jerome. You will also enjoy a visit to the National Etruscan Museum. This 16th-century papal palace shelters a priceless collection of art and artifacts from the mysterious Etruscans, who predated the Romans.

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### **Thursday - Enjoy a full day in Rome on your own.**

You may wish to spend the day relaxing and exploring the streets of Rome. Or – take a full-day excursion to Tivoli, with a guided tour of Hadrian's Villa and Villa d'Este. Or perhaps enjoy a half-day tour to Ostia Antica – an excursion to the ancient harbour town of Ostia, including a guided tour of the excavation site and shoreline.

### **Friday - This morning take the train from Rome to Naples by Eurostar (first class).**

Upon arrival in Naples, transfer directly to the beautiful seaside town of Sorrento. After checking into your hotel, meet your professional English-speaking guide for a half-day orientation tour of Sorrento. Saturday - This morning, meet your guide in the lobby of your hotel for your full-day excursion to Pompei and Amalfi Coast. You will be transfer to the Pompei and Herculaneum ruins and an expert guide will walk with you along the monuments. In the afternoon you will drive to Amalfi, Ravello and Positano along the Amalfi Coast road.

### **Sunday - This morning, meet your guide in the lobby of your hotel for your full-day excursion to the Isle of Capri.**

You will transfer to the port and then board a hydrofoil for Capri. Following a walking tour of Capri, if the weather permits, enjoy a beautiful visit (via boat) to the Blue Grotto. Following lunch on your own, continue on to Anacapri for a visit. Return to Sorrento late this afternoon. If you choose, you can stay on the island a bit later than your guide and enjoy dinner, before taking the Hydrofoil back to Sorrento.

### **Monday - Enjoy a full day at leisure in Sorrento.**

You may choose to take advantage of the beach today and spend a day as the Italians do – relaxing on the beach. Enjoy dinner on your own tonight – a Fourth of July that you'll never forget.

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**Tuesday - Early this morning you will be picked up at your hotel in Sorrento by a private car and driver.**

You will travel to Naples, where you will meet your professional English-speaking guide. Today enjoy a full-day tour of Naples. Your tour will include a visit to the Antiquities Museum. Your guide will be at your disposal to recommend a wonderful restaurant for your last dinner in Italy.

**Wednesday - This morning transfer to the Naples Airport for your flight home.**