

Community State Bank Select 50 presents...

Italian Vistas

May 6 – 18, 2024



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13 Days • 17 Meals: 11 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Rome, Colosseum, Ruins of Pompeii, Sorrento, Choices on Tour, Florence, Statue of *David*, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Tuscan Winery, Venice, Murano Island, Verona, Lake Maggiore, Stresa

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 4	Grand Hotel Palatino, Rome
Days 5, 6	Hotel Michelangelo, Sorrento
Days 7, 8	Grand Hotel Baglioni, Florence
Days 9, 10	NH Venezia Santa Lucia , Venice
Days 11, 12	Regina Palace Hotel, Stresa

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Monday, May 6, 2024 Overnight Flight *Ciao, Italy!*

Day 2: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 Rome, Italy - Tour Begins Welcome to Rome. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a special welcome dinner featuring regional delicacies and Italian wines. (D)

Day 3: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 Rome - Classical Rome City Tour Discover the city on a locally guided tour of Classical Rome, passing by the Baths of Caracalla as well as the remains of the ancient Circus Maximus. During an in-depth visit to the Colosseum, your guide recounts its rich history. Meander through Rome's Renaissance district for a peek at the mythic Pantheon and the oval-shaped Piazza Navona, adorned with Baroque fountains. This evening, consider strolling through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's medieval *Campo de' Fiori* neighborhood where the cobblestoned streets are lined with antique shops, independent boutiques and local restaurants. (B)

Day 4: Thursday, May 9, 2024 Rome Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore Rome's cultural treasures. Your Tour Manager will be on hand to offer suggestions. Consider an optional trip to Vatican City to tour the Vatican Museums* and St. Peter's Basilica. The evening is yours. Perhaps you will join an optional food tour and taste your way around Rome's bohemian *Trastevere* district. (B)

Day 5: Friday, May 10, 2024 Rome - Pompeii - Sorrento Journey to the brilliant Bay of Naples, where charming villages are built into hillsides above the blue sea. Soak in 2,000 years of history at the excavated ruins of Pompeii with a local guide. Pause in nearby Gragnano for a late lunch and visit to a family-owned pasta factory. Continue to the scenic resort town of Sorrento, your home for the next 2 nights. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon to explore the city independently. You may wish to visit the Duomo, a Romanesque cathedral with inlaid woodwork, a famous local Sorrento craft. (B, L)

Day 6: Saturday, May 11, 2024 Sorrento - Choice on Tour - Sorrento Today, **it's your choice!** You have two tantalizing options today. Sail to the enchanting Isle of Capri.** Upon arrival, admire the island's iconic scenery on a panoramic cruise, passing by the steep cliffs, endless small caves, and the famous Faraglioni rocks, jutting out of the water. Spend time in Capri town with its world-famous *piazzetta* and explore this island paradise of chic boutiques, lush vegetation, and outdoor cafés **-OR-** journey along the Amalfi Coast for a morning at leisure in the colorful village of Positano, a maze of streets and stairways winding around pastel houses and draped in lush flowers. Perhaps you'll make your way to Positano's famous pebble beach, Marina Grande, offering a sweeping 'bottom to top' view of the village. (B)

Day 7: Sunday, May 12, 2024 Sorrento - Florence - Michelangelo's David Head through Tuscany, with its landscape of vineyards and olive groves. Experience Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance." Home to Italy's best art and architecture, here you'll visit the Academy Gallery to see Michelangelo's renowned sculpture of David. Tonight, enjoy regional Italian cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 8: Monday, May 13, 2024 Florence Embark on a locally guided tour of Florence, highlighting the Piazza del Duomo and the famous Gates of Paradise on the Baptistry. Wander through the Piazza della Signoria and stand in awe before the imposing Palazzo Vecchio. The rest of the day is yours. Consider an optional excursion to the 14th century *Certosa* monastery, featuring an after-hours tour and dinner in a popular Tuscan restaurant. (B)

Day 9: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 Florence - Pisa - Venice Visit the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa to discover the Piazza Dei Miracoli and the famous Leaning Tower. A special stop is made at a Tuscan winery and farm to enjoy lunch and sample local wines and specialties. Next, cross the Apennine Mountains en route to Venice,



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where 117 islands are connected by a latticework of 150 canals and 400 bridges. (B, L)

Day 10: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 Venice - Murano Island -

Venice Embark on a boat trip*** to Murano Island for a glass-blowing demonstration. When you return, step off the beaten path and see for yourself how the locals live. Explore the *Castello* district with a local expert, walking canal by canal through the narrow streets all the way to St. Mark's Square. Admire the stunning Basilica and the ornate façade of the Doge's Palace. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Consider an optional gondola cruise to experience Venice's most famous pastime. (B)

Day 11: Thursday, May 16, 2024 Venice - Verona - Stresa, Lake Maggiore Depart Venice for Verona, and stroll the streets that were the backdrop for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Arrive in the resort

town of Stresa in the breathtaking Italian Lakes District, your home for the next two nights, and admire the beautiful views of Lago Maggiore. (B, D)

Day 12: Friday, May 17, 2024 Stresa - Choice on Tour - Isola Dei Pescatori Today, **it's your choice!** Take a boat across Lake Maggiore to Isola Bella, where you'll join an expert guide and venture into the Borromeo Palace**** **-OR-** cross into Switzerland as your motor coach climbs up the Simplon Pass for a taste of the Swiss Alps, admiring the Simplon Hospice dominating the landscape. Tonight, travel by boat to Isola dei Pescatori***** for a farewell dinner surrounded by beautiful scenery. (B, D)

Day 13: Saturday, May 18, 2024 Stresa - Tour Ends Your Italian adventure comes to a close today. (B)

Experience It! Pompeii

Step into the past in Pompeii, a land eerily conserved in time. When Mount Vesuvius erupted in the 1st century AD, the city was covered in nearly 20 feet of ash, conserving its last tremulous moments. Excavations began in the 1700s but were not complete for centuries. In 1863, a technique was developed to use plaster into the spaces where bodies had decomposed – creating a near-perfect image of the victims. Explore this legendary UNESCO World Heritage Site with an expert guide and get a glimpse into what life was like in this prosperous ancient city.

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1165185>

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Nov 07, 2023, valid on air inclusive packages only.
IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel after November 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorization, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

Please note that most shops and businesses in Italy and Switzerland are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

When reserving single accommodations, be advised that single rooms in Italy are often smaller in size.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

*******Your visit to Murano Island may be substituted with a visit to a local glass factory in Venice in the event of inclement weather.

******Your boat trip to Capri may not be available due to inclement weather. If this happens, we will make alternate sightseeing arrangements. In case the scenic boat ride around the Isle of Capri cannot operate, you will visit Anacapri village instead.

********Isola Bella and the Borromeo Palace are open from April 1 to October 31. If you are travelling between November 1 and March 31, you will enjoy a scenic cruise of the Borromeo Islands and a visit to Pallanza village instead.

*Due to the unpredictable nature of the events schedule at the Vatican, on certain dates it may be necessary to visit the Vatican Museums at a different time. For example, when the Vatican option falls on a Wednesday, the order of included and optional tours may be reversed in order to participate in all activities for that day.

********In the event of adverse weather conditions, the dinner at Isola dei Pescatori may be held at your hotel instead.

Please be advised that on occasion you may experience higher than average wait times for entering the Colosseum, the Vatican Museums, The Academy Gallery Museum and the Duomo.

All included museum visit dates and times are subject to change based on availability of reservations. Most national museums in Florence, including the Uffizi Gallery and the Academy, are closed on Mondays. If the Academy Museum is featured in your itinerary on a Monday, reservations will be made to visit the museum on an alternative day.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-



time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas such as Rome, Pisa, Venice, Verona and Florence which requires minimum 2.5 miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our Client Care Agents can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Air passengers will depart from Milan airport. All return transfers will depart from Stresa hotel for Milan airport.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of October 31, 2023 are based upon availability. Final payment due by March 07, 2024. Deposits are refundable up until November 07, 2023.

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For important reservation information visit
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You can also find this information on your tour documents.