

ITALY OPERA TOUR



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operatunity

Travel

Opera, Food, Art, History, Culture
18 JULY ~ 16 AUGUST 2018



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Italy is the home of opera, great food, incredible cultural and historical landmarks, wine, sunflowers, art, gardens & architecture.

We encompass all this in our 2018 opera tour of Italy. We experience seven great operas or opera concerts, to be confirmed - 2 operas at Verona Arena, Puccini Festival Torre del Lago or Puccini concert, opera at La Fenice, *La Traviata* at Venetian palace, opera at St Marks Church, Florence, opera or opera concert in Rome, as well as numerous concerts and restaurants with music. Operas will be confirmed in Sept/ Oct 2017 when seasons are announced.

Our Italian trip is packed with other exceptional experiences: gliding through Venetian canals to the serenade of gondoliers, wandering the small lanes in Rome and Florence, marvelling at the art and sculpture in galleries and the beauty of Renaissance gardens, being captivated by Sorrento and the Isle of Capri, wondering at the historical splendour of Pompeii and the Forum, delighting in the flavours of Tuscany and basking in the tranquility of Lake Stresa.



Portofino



Amalfi



St Peter's Basilica, Rome

PLACES WE STAY

Saturnia & International Hotel enjoys a strategic position in town as it is located on one of the main streets in the heart of Venice, five minutes from the famous St. Mark's Square.

The Hotel Pierre Florence is housed in a 13th century historic building and is situated in the heart of the historic centre of Florence, just a few steps from Ponte Vecchio, Piazza della Signoria, the Duomo and Uffizi Gallery.

Royal Sporting Hotel, Portovenere occupies a stunning beachfront location, perfect for exploring the Cinque Terre and the surrounds of this magnificent region.

Grand Hotel Vesuvio, Sorrento offering views of the Bay of Naples and the city of Sorrento. This 4 star hotel is 1km away from the central square, Piazza Tasso.

Marriott Grand Hotel Flora Roma is a 5 star historic hotel, located in the heart of Rome, close to the Borghese Gallery & Park. Its breakfast terrace enjoys sweeping views over Rome.

Hotel La Palma, Stresa is located beside Lake Maggiore and is centrally located only 5 minutes walk from the town. We will enjoy lake view rooms in this lovely hotel.

Due Torri Hotel, Verona is a 5 star historic hotel set in the heart of Verona and situated a short walk from the famous Verona Arena.



The Hotel Pierre Florence



Royal Sporting Hotel, Portovenere



Marriott Grand Hotel Flora Roma



Due Torri, Verona



DUBAI

(4 nights - stopovers return)

~ Sheraton Mall of the Emirates Hotel

We begin and end our Italy Opera Tour with flights to and from Dubai on Emirates. As we arrive into Dubai early in the morning we have arranged another night's accommodation so we can go to our rooms immediately. On return we arrive into Dubai late at night so we will again have access to our rooms immediately.

VENICE (4 nights)

~ Saturnia and International Hotel

City of love, iconic buildings, San Marco Square, palazzi and canals.

HIGHLIGHTS in Venice include:

- 👁 Opera performance at the newly restored La Fenice Opera House, one of the most famous opera houses in the world.
- 👁 Boat ride entrance to Venice.
- 👁 Dinner at local restaurant followed by a Gondola ride with serenade from our handsome Gondolier, we hope!
- 👁 Morning guided sightseeing tour including reserved entrances to Doges Palace and San Marco Basilica.
- 👁 Tour of La Fenice Opera House & stroll to Venice markets.
- 👁 Cruise to Burano, the Fishermen's Island for a superb lunch and time at leisure.
- 👁 Time to stroll and enjoy the beauty of this most romantic of cities.
- 👁 Performance of La Traviata at the Venetian Palace, Musica palazzo.



Burano



St Marks Church, Venice



Venice

FLORENCE (4 nights) ~ Hotel Pierre (with Tuscany countryside tour)

City of art, leather goods, markets, Ponte Vecchio, Tuscan food. To Florence via guided tour of Padova including the Scrovegni Chapel with its Giotto Frescoes, the old university and the markets.

HIGHLIGHTS in Florence include:

- 👁️ Visit to Lucca, Puccini's birth place and visit his house. Opera concert at the Puccini Festival or opera at Torre del Lago dependent on availability.
- 👁️ Opera performances at St Mark's English Church.
- 👁️ Guided city sightseeing with reserved entrances for the Uffizi, displaying some of the greatest paintings in the world from the Old Masters and Accademia Galleries, including Michelangelo's David.
- 👁️ Tuscany Experience Day - Full scenic day in Tuscany, including a visit to San Gimignano, wine tasting and picnic highlight plus cooking demonstration.
- 👁️ Chianti Hills excursion - Eat-alian banquet and music.
- 👁️ Half day at leisure to explore the markets and sights including the Medici Palace.



SORRENTO (4 nights)

~ Grand Hotel Vesuvio, Sorrento

Neapolitan song, bays of shimmering light, Isle of Capri. To Sorrento including a guided tour of Pompeii en route.

HIGHLIGHTS in Sorrento include:

- ☞ Amalfi excursion including Amalfi town and Ravello with farm lunch.
- ☞ Lunch in Italian Agriturismo restaurant on the breathtaking Amalfi Coast.
- ☞ Isle of Capri full day tour including lunch.
- ☞ Full day at leisure in beautiful Sorrento to wander, with views over the Bay of Naples.
- ☞ Folklore show at the Teatro Tasso, featuring famous Neapolitan songs.

ROME (4 nights)

~ Marriott Grand Hotel Flora Roma

Home of the Vatican, ancient ruins, historic churches, mad drivers and art. To Rome via the Monti Cassino Abbey and Commonwealth Cemetery.

HIGHLIGHTS in Rome include:

- ☞ Numerous tours including guided tour of the Vatican Museums, St Peter's Basilica and Sistine Chapel and driving tour around Rome.
- ☞ Evening stroll in Rome including the Pantheon and the Trevi Fountain with dinner in local restaurant.
- ☞ City guided tour with reserved entrance to Borghese Gallery, a jewel of a gallery housed in a palazzo.
- ☞ A guided tour and reserved entrances to ancient Rome including the Colosseum, Forums plus panoramic vistas from the top of the Campidoglio.
- ☞ Villa d'Este to marvel at Renaissance fountains and statues.
- ☞ Hadrian's Villa with its classical buildings built in the 2nd century AD by the Roman Emperor Hadrian.
- ☞ Full free day in Rome to enjoy your own exploring or simply wander and enjoy the incredible atmosphere.

PORTOVENERE (3 nights)

~ Royal Sporting Hotel

Italian Riviera, the west coast of Italy, Cinque Terre, Portofino. Rome to Portovenere via guided sightseeing tour of Pisa including the Baptistry, Cathedral and Leaning Tower.

HIGHLIGHTS in Portovenere include:

- ☞ We experience the Italian Riviera with beaches of sparkling blue waters, seaside towns and old-world ritziness and literary appeal. Byron and Shelley were smitten and so will we be!
- ☞ Visit the extraordinary, steep villages of Cinque Terre of coastal Liguria, by boat and train, including guided tour (our day today is organised so as to allow for different levels of fitness).
- ☞ Tours of San Margherita and boat to Portofino.
- ☞ Free time to enjoy this beautiful region.



STRESA (2 nights)

~ La Palma Hotel

The Italian Lake District, magnificent castles, islands, Lake Como, Lake Maggiore.

HIGHLIGHTS in Stresa include:

- 👁 Private boat transfer to 17th century Borromea Palace on Isola Bella for guided tour of palace, followed by gardens.
- 👁 Cruising on magnificent Lake Maggiore and the Borromean Islands.
- 👁 Boat transfer to the Fishermen Island.
- 👁 Boat transfer to Isola Madre, with free time to admire the palace and gardens.

VERONA: (3 NIGHTS)

~ Due Torri Hotel

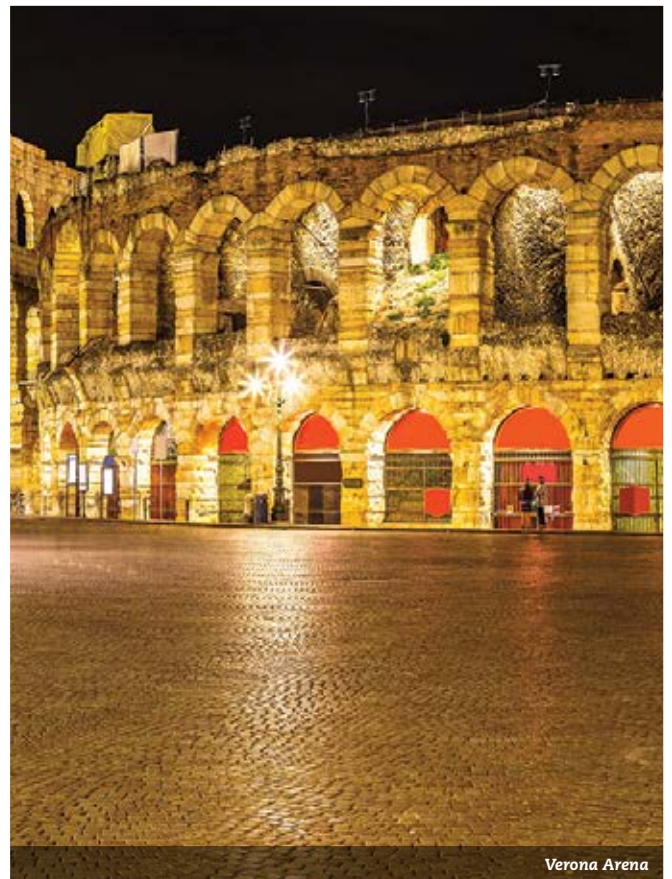
Exquisite town for walking and admiring all the ancient architecture, Verona Opera in the ancient outdoor Verona Arena, Home of Romeo and Juliet.

HIGHLIGHTS in Verona include:

- 👁 Verona Opera in the ancient outdoor Verona Arena, home of Romeo and Juliet.
- 👁 Drive to Verona via a lunch stop on the banks of Lake Garda. The Verona Opera is staged in a lovely pink marble Roman amphitheatre built in 1AD, which boasts wonderful acoustics. A truly magical opera experience!.
- 👁 *Aida*, Verdi's most spectacular opera, at Verona Arena! (To be confirmed).
- 👁 A second opera performance at Verona Arena. (Note we are in Verona Friday and Saturday when the best operas are performed).
- 👁 Half day walking tour of Verona including seeing Juliet's balcony.
- 👁 Free day to potter around this lovely town.
- 👁 Final night dinner with drinks in a wonderful restaurant, the walls of which are covered by photos of opera singers past and present.



Lake Como



Verona Arena

