

# 13D12N ESSENCE OF ITALY

Email: [customerservice@atlastravelz.com](mailto:customerservice@atlastravelz.com)  
 Website: [www.atlastravelz.com](http://www.atlastravelz.com)



## \*\* HIGHLIGHTS \*\*

### ROME

- ▶ Historic Centre (UNESCO)
- ▶ Colosseum
- ▶ Roman Forum
- ▶ Palatine Hill
- ▶ Vatican City

### FLORENCE

- ▶ Historic Centre (UNESCO)
- ▶ Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral
- ▶ Baptistery of St John
- ▶ Giotto's Campanile
- ▶ Ponte Vecchio
- ▶ Piazza Signoria
- ▶ Siena (UNESCO)
- ▶ San Gimignano (UNESCO)
- ▶ Pisa (UNESCO)
- ▶ Cinque Terre (UNESCO)
- ▶ Chianti wineries

### VENICE

- ▶ Historic Centre (UNESCO)
- ▶ St Mark's Basilica
- ▶ Doge's Palace
- ▶ Murano / Burano / Torcello Islands

### MILAN

- ▶ Milan Cathedral & Terrace

### DAY 01 ARRIVE ROME

On arrival at Rome Airport, your driver will meet you at the arrival hall and drive you to your hotel in **Rome**, the capital of Italy.

### DAY 02 ROME: VATICAN CITY [B]

Birthplace of the Roman Empire and home to **Vatican City**, **Rome** is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Steeped in history with rich offerings of historical monuments, Roman architecture and works of art, Rome also has lots to offer in terms of food and fashion. No visit to Rome is complete without visiting Vatican City, an independent city-state and HQ of the Roman Catholic Church. Within Vatican City is one of the world's greatest museum complexes with a huge collection of highly-acclaimed Renaissance art. Not to be missed is the **Sistine Chapel** – home to Michelangelo's "The Last Judgement" fresco. Enjoy a guided tour of Vatican City and Sistine Chapel.

### DAY 03 ROME: CENTRO STORICO [B]

Spend your morning on a guided tour of Rome's "**Centro Storico**", its historical centre and an **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Visit iconic sites like the **Colosseum**, **Forum** and **Palatine Hill**. Spend the rest of the day soaking in the charm and ambience of Rome with its ubiquitous Baroque churches, fountains and palazzos. Suggest to visit Trevi Fountain and Piazza Navona at your own leisure. And, don't forget to eat a gelato .. or two!

### DAY 04 ROME – FLORENCE [B]

Depart Rome on one of Italy's high speed trains and head to **Florence**, the capital city of Tuscany and often regarded as the most beautiful city in Italy. In fact, the beauty of Florence places it among the most beautiful cities in the world. Its rich heritage is attested to by its accreditation as an **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. One of Florence's most iconic sights is the **Duomo – Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral**, a cathedral with a terracotta-tiled dome and a bell tower ("Campanile") by **Giotto**. The **Galleria dell'Accademia** houses **Michelangelo's "David"** sculpture. The **Uffizi Gallery** is one of the world's top art museums exhibiting art by Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Botticelli and many other celebrated artists. Upon arrival in Florence, enjoy the old town at your own leisure, or pre-book an optional visit to The Galleria dell'Accademia or Uffizi Gallery.

#### **DAY 05 FLORENCE [B]**

Go on a guided tour of Florence city centre and appreciate some of its exterior architecture such as **Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral**, the **Baptistry of St John**, **Giotto's Campanile**, **Ponte Vecchio**, **Piazza Signoria**, and the famous statues of the **Loggia dei Lanzi**, just to name a few. Continue with your exploration of Florence at your own leisure thereafter.

#### **DAY 06 FLORENCE: SAN GIMIGNANO – SIENA – PISA [B/L]**

Spend the day enjoying Tuscany's beautiful sights, famous cities, medieval villages, and its wines and local produce as you visit historic **San Gimignano** and **Siena**, both of which are **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**. San Gimignano and Siena will certainly leave you with lasting memories of Tuscany. Continue on for a photo-stop at **Pisa**, one of the most exciting cities in Tuscany, home to its crowning glory, the **Leaning Tower of Pisa**. At the beautiful **Square of Miracles (Piazza dei Miracoli)**, be captivated by (1) the magnificent 60m tall Pisa Leaning Tower (climbing up the tower is excluded), and (2) the **Pisa Cathedral** that rests on a white marble pavement and is an impressive example of Romanesque architecture famous for its bell tower. A Chianti Hills lunch and wine tasting are included in today's guided tour.

#### **DAY 07 FLORENCE: CINQUE TERRE [B]**

**Cinque Terre** ("five lands") consists of 5 uniquely and ingeniously constructed picturesque fishing villages that line the **Italian Riviera**. Located at one of the most isolated and ruggedly beautiful stretch of the Italian coastline, it was declared an **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 1997. The 5 towns from north to south are: **Monterosso al Mare**, **Vernazza**, **Corniglia**, **Manarola** and **Riomaggiore**. These tiny villages are perched on jagged cliffs with sweeping views of the sparkling blue waters of the Mediterranean Sea, defying not just gravity but time! Visit all 5 villages on a guided tour.

#### **DAY 08 FLORENCE – VENICE [B]**

Depart Florence and travel to **Venice** on one of Italy's high speed trains. An **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, Venice is a city unlike any other – it is built on 118 small islands that are separated by canals and linked by bridges. Some of Venice's top attractions include **Grand Canal**, **St Mark's Square**, **Doge's Palace** and **Bridge Of Sighs**, just to name a few. Join a guided tour to visit the Doge's Palace and St Mark's Basilica (with Terrace access).

#### **DAY 09 VENICE: MURANO – BURANO – TORCELLO [B]**

Take a guided boat trip to the famous and picturesque islands of **Murano**, **Burano** and **Torcello** renowned for their handicrafts and history. Resembling a mini-Venice, Murano was once a major glass-making centre in Europe and it continues to be popular for its blown glassware. Burano is a very stunning island, thanks to its brightly-coloured houses. Just as Murano is famous for its glass-blowing industry, Burano is famous for its lace-making industry. Torcello is very much about history being the oldest centre of civilization in the Venetian Lagoon and famous for its Byzantine mosaics in the seventh-century Cathedral of Santa Maria Dell'Assunta

#### **DAY 10 VENICE – MILAN [B]**

Depart Venice and proceed to **Milan**, the capital of fashion and finance (home to the national stock exchange), and a bustling metropolitan city with a rich history of art and culture. Enjoy Milan at your own leisure. Some suggested attractions you may wish to visit include the **Castello Sforzesco** (15th century defensive fortress with large courtyards and massive walls); the **Santa Maria delle Grazie** convent (housing the "The Last Supper" mural by Leonardo da Vinci); the **Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II** (impressive building filled with shops); the **Quadrilatero della Moda** (Milan's exclusive shopping district); the **Navigli Canals** (canal neighbourhood with lots of restaurants and bars); the **Teatro alla Scala** (opera house); and the beautiful Romanesque **Basilica of Sant' Ambrogio**.

#### **DAY 11 MILAN [B]**

Go on a discovery tour of the stunning **Milan Cathedral** – the **Duomo of Milan** – and its terraces. Standing proud in the main city square, this highly impressive cathedral with 5 naves is in fact the largest Gothic cathedral in the world. The rooftop terraces of the cathedral (included in the tour, with elevator access) offer stunning views of the city. Explore the archaeological area beneath the Duomo where among others the ruins of the 4th century Baptistry of San Giovanni alle Fonti (a baptismal font for full immersion) were found.

#### **DAY 12 MILAN [B]**

Continue to explore **Milan** at your own pace. Shopping aside, check out **Milan's vibrant gastronomic scene**. Savour excellent Italian cuisines, gelatos and coffees. It is said that you can never have a bad cup of coffee in Italy as they are always strong, fresh, and tasty. From Michelin-starred restaurants to rustic local trattorias, Milan's food scene with focus on local produce and regional recipes is among one of the most exciting in Italy.

#### **DAY 13 DEPART MILAN [B]**

Free time until your transfer to Milan Airport for your departure flight.

**Includes**

- Accommodation in 4\* hotels with daily breakfast
- 1 lunch
- Airport transfers
- Train tickets/passes as per itinerary
- Join-in guided group tours in English
- Fast track entry pass & admission tickets as per itinerary

**Excludes**

- Airfare
- Tourist city tax (if any)
- Local bus / tram / subway / taxi fares (if any)
- Tipping for local guide & driver (at your discretion)
- Personal travel insurance
- Any item not mentioned as included

**Terms & Conditions**

- ❖ If there are events (e.g. trade shows/conventions) affecting the availability and/or price of accommodation in any particular city/town listed on the itinerary, alternative accommodation will be arranged in a nearby city/town.
- ❖ Atlas Travelz requires written notice of at least 30 days from customers for any cancellation of, or changes to, a booked package.
- ❖ Customers are strongly advised to purchase travel insurance with adequate coverage and add-on Covid-19 cover.
- ❖ Please contact Atlas Travelz directly on 6278 8311 if clarification on any of the above-mentioned is needed.