



## Itinerary

Italy's Treasures Art, Food & Wine of Italy

Sep 26, 2021 - Oct 6, 2021

### Pre Night: Regina Palace Hotel



The Regina Palace is a charming first class hotel embedded in beautiful gardens and situated right on the lake promenade facing the Borromean Islands. All 170 guestrooms' decor is precious with fine stuccos, antique furniture and beautiful crystal chandeliers.

### Day 1: Stresa, Italy - Tour Begins



Travel along breathtaking landscapes and venture into metropolitan meccas ripe with culture and history. Discover Italy on an unforgettable journey that delves into its most cherished treasures. Begin on the arresting shores of Lake Maggiore, surrounded by the peaceful beauty of the Alpine lakes region. Visit a wine shop and enjoy a cocktail party with some antipasto snacks. Cruise to Isola dei Pescatori,\* the most picturesque of the Borromean Islands, where you'll engage with new friends at a dinner welcoming you to Italy.

#### Hotel

Regina Palace Hotel  
Stresa

#### Culinary

Dinner

#### Weather

High 24°  
Low 12°  
Rain 2"

### Day 2: Stresa



In an ancient village nestled in the mountains, a local family welcomes you to sample their very own artisanal cheeses, paired with the region's best wines. The remainder of the day in Stresa is at your leisure. Explore the piazzas, flower-lined cobblestone streets, and lakeside promenades. Or, perhaps relax and enjoy the breathtaking surroundings during an optional cruise of this scenic lake region.

#### Hotel

Regina Palace Hotel  
Stresa

#### Culinary

Breakfast

#### Weather

High 24°  
Low 12°  
Rain 2"

### Day 3: Stresa - Orta - Italian Riviera



Witness picture-perfect views from Lake Orta, an ancient glacial lake in the Alpine foothills. A boat delivers you to the island of San Giulio, dominated by its working convent. Journey to the Italian Riviera and discover its immeasurable grandeur along the Liguria coast.

#### Hotel

#### Culinary

#### Weather

## Day 4: Italian Riviera - Cinque Terre - Italian Riviera



Travel by rail and boat\*\* today as you discover the colorful Cinque Terre (UNESCO), a string of medieval villages perched on the edge of the sea. Feel like you have stepped back in time as you traverse the rugged coastal area dotted with terraced vineyards. Spend an afternoon independently exploring this awe-inspiring landscape.

### Hotel

Grand Hotel Dei Castelli  
Italian Riviera

### Culinary

Breakfast

### Weather

High 16°  
Low 11°  
Rain 2"

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## Day 5: Italian Riviera - Lucca - Tuscany



Encircled by 16th-century Renaissance walls, Lucca exudes an old-world ambience. Old storefronts and busy piazzas offer a glimpse into the city's medieval past. This morning, it's your choice! Discover Lucca on foot -OR- pedal the city via bicycle. Whatever you choose, you'll see historic marvels including the oval-shaped Piazza dell'Anfiteatro. Enjoy some free time to explore the rest of the city on your own while being on the lookout for a peak at Lucca's unique, tree-crowned Guinigi tower. Continue on through the rolling hills of Tuscany, ending the day in a historic Tuscan villa for a rejuvenating 4-night stay.\*\*\*

### Hotel

Villa San Lucchese  
Tuscany

### Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

### Weather

High 27°  
Low 15°  
Rain 2"

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## Day 6: Tuscany - Florence - Tuscany



Welcome to Florence – the birthplace of the Renaissance and the beloved home of the Medici family, Galileo, Botticelli and da Vinci. Set out on a walking tour of Florence's treasures and monuments, including the glittering storefronts on the Ponte Vecchio ("Old Bridge"), the only Florentine bridge to survive WWII. You'll also wander past the Palazzo Vecchio, the Piazza della Signoria, and Santa Croce. Enjoy time to explore Florence independently before returning to your villa.

### Hotel

Villa San Lucchese  
Tuscany

### Culinary

Breakfast

### Weather

High 21°  
Low 12°  
Rain 3"

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## Day 7: Tuscany - Siena - Tuscany



Travel south to Siena, where Romanesque and Gothic architecture surround you within this UNESCO World Heritage site. Walk the narrow medieval streets on a guided tour. Visit the Gothic cathedral,\*\*\*\* an architectural marvel featuring frescoes by Pinturicchio and masterpieces by Pisano, Donatello, and Michelangelo. Retreat to your Tuscan villa for a relaxing afternoon.

### Hotel

Villa San Lucchese  
Tuscany

### Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

### Weather

High 21°  
Low 12°  
Rain 3"

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## Day 8: San Gimignano - Tuscan Countryside



Take in Tuscany's landscape, a spectrum of verdant vineyards and endless groves en route to San Gimignano. Nicknamed the Manhattan of the Middle Ages, San Gimignano's 14 towers soar distinctively over the landscape making this iconic Tuscan hilltop village stand out against the rolling hills. Taste authentic Italian gelato from an award-winning ice cream parlor while you wander the cobbled streets and gaze up at the imposing towers during time at leisure in this Tuscan gem. Later today, journey further into the heart of the countryside, where a family-owned wine estate welcomes you. After a tour of the wine cellar, the estate, the vineyards and the olive groves, engage in a dinnertime cooking lesson with the estate's own chef. Break bread during an authentic Tuscan dinner and toast with wines produced on-site.

### Hotel

Villa San Lucchese  
Tuscany

### Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

### Weather

High 21°  
Low 12°  
Rain 3"

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## Day 9: Tuscany - Bologna - Venice



On a walking tour, discover the culture of Bologna, a city barely changed since the time of the Renaissance and Italy's food capital. Browse the city's specialty food shops and sample local delicacies such as parmigiano cheese, mortadella - the Italian progenitor of baloney - and lasagna. Arrive later in Venice, the "Queen of the Adriatic," and settle in for a 2-night stay in one of the most romantic cities in the world.

### Hotel

Ca' Dei Conti Hotel  
Venice

### Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

### Weather

High 18°  
Low 10°  
Rain 3"

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## Day 10: Venice



Spend the day in Venezia, the floating city home to lavish art collections, wonders of architecture, and where marbled palaces tower over gondola-laden canals. Travel by boat to Murano\*\*\*\*\* for an expert glass-blowing demonstration, a renowned tradition on the island. Journey back to St. Mark's Square, Venice's iconic main square. A local guide takes you on a tour of its incredible sites, including the Bridge of Sighs, the Clock Tower, and St. Mark's Basilica. Say arrivederci to Italy at a savory farewell dinner.

### Hotel

Ca' Dei Conti Hotel  
Venice

### Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

### Weather

High 18°  
Low 10°  
Rain 3"

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## Day 11: Venice - Tour Ends



Wake up in Venice and depart for home.

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## Post Night: Ca' dei Conti Hotel

Would you like to end your vacation with an additional Hotel in Venice?