

CLASSIC ITALY BY RAIL

Venice • Florence • Rome



10 DAYS • 11 MEALS

2017 Departure Dates:

March 27; April 23; October 2, 16; November 6


MayflowerTours[™]
Life Enriching Experiences

CLASSIC ITALY BY RAIL



The Rialto Bridge gracefully spans a Venetian canal

The Mayflower Way

- ✓ 11 Meals (8 breakfasts and 3 dinners)
- ✓ Airport transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Tours
- ✓ Included walking tour of Venice with a local guide
- ✓ Ride the high-speed train to Florence
- ✓ Included walking tour of Florence with a local guide
- ✓ Visit the Accademia Gallery and see the sculpture of *David*
- ✓ Three nights in Montecatini
- ✓ Included full-day excursion to Siena
- ✓ Included excursion to Pisa to see the Leaning Tower
- ✓ Ride the high-speed train to Rome
- ✓ Included city tour of Rome with a visit to the Coliseum
- ✓ Included tour to Vatican City with a visit to the Sistine Chapel
- ✓ \$50 in Mayflower Money

DAY ONE – Depart the USA

Today you'll depart the USA on your overnight flight to Venice, Italy.

DAY TWO – Venice

Upon arrival in Venice, you'll be met by a Mayflower Tours representative who will escort you to the canal boat for your transfer to the hotel. Flights should arrive by 3:00pm. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure before the included welcome dinner.

(Dinner)

DAY THREE – Fairytale Venice, The City of Canals

Venice is the "Jewel of the Mediterranean", a glorious cityscape with a wondrous artistic and musical heritage. The city itself boasts a marvel of engineering feats, built on 118 small islands crossed by its world-famous canals. But this engineering comes with a touch of fairy dust. Who can think of romance without imagining a pair of lovers floating beneath graceful bridges in a Venetian gondola?

During the included walking tour, your local guide will help you discover the exotic sights that surround you as you navigate the picturesque alleyways and cross bridges over the quaint canals filled with gondolas. See the soaring domes of St. Mark's Basilica, the Doges Palace and Bridge of Sighs among other sites of this remarkable city built on water. During the afternoon at leisure, sip coffee in a small café, shop in the boutiques and watch artists at work, recreating these lovely scenes. (Breakfast)

DAY FOUR – Florence, Cradle of the Renaissance

This morning, depart Venice and take a high-speed train to Florence. What a great way to travel as you watch picturesque hill towns, lush vineyards and beautiful wineries pass by.

Upon arrival, walk in the footsteps of great rulers, artists and philosophers as you explore Florence, the breathtaking capital of the Italian Renaissance, on the included walking tour. The city is steeped in the achievements of great minds who found inspiration here. A visit to the famous Accademia Gallery is included where you'll get an up-close view of Michelangelo's masterpiece, *David*. Undoubtedly the world's most famous sculpture, the museum also houses five other Michelangelo



The magnificent Duomo in the heart of Florence



sculptures - the four unfinished *Prisoners* and *St. Matthew* - and a collection of Gothic and Renaissance paintings that were once in the Medici collections. After the tour, enjoy your free time shopping for Italian leather goods, art and crystal as lovely reminders of your journey through Italy. This afternoon, continue on to Montecatini, home for the next three nights. Dinner is included at the hotel this evening. (Breakfast and dinner)

DAY FIVE – Montecatini and Siena

After breakfast enjoy an included excursion to Siena. This is one of Italy's most popular destinations, known for its fine cuisine, art, museums, medieval cityscape and the Palio, a horse race held twice a year in the Piazza del Campo. Your local guide will walk with you through this beautiful Tuscan town and UNESCO World Heritage Site, as you discover the highlights of the city, including the Duomo of Siena, the 12th-century cathedral that serves as a splendid example of Italian Romanesque-Gothic architecture. See the Palazzo Pubblico, once City Hall, now an art museum, showcasing its famous frescoes or climb the "Torre del Mangia", the tall bell tower overlooking the Piazza del Campo. Siena is also known for its glazed terracotta pottery as well as locally produced wines and olive oil. Be sure to taste the delicious gelato and panforte, a cake made with honey and candied fruits. You'll have free time for lunch on your own and shopping for local specialties before returning to Montecatini this evening. (Breakfast)

DAY SIX – Pisa, The Leaning Tower

This morning, depart on an included excursion to Pisa, best known for the bell tower of the cathedral, the "leaning Tower of Pisa". Your local guide will explain the history of this beautiful town as you walk around the Piazza dei Miracoli and see the architecture and historic walls of this medieval city. Return to Montecatini for an afternoon at leisure. It's the perfect time to stroll through the city center or visit a spa with the curative water and healing springs for which the town is famous.

(Breakfast)

DAY SEVEN – Rome, The Eternal City

Leaving the resort town of Montecatini, return to Florence by coach and board a high-speed train for the journey to Rome. With a history spanning more than 2,500 years, Rome offers a breathtaking overview of the highlights of Western civilization. From the remarkable Coliseum to the gorgeous Sistine Chapel to Vatican City, this bustling metropolis invites you to imagine



life centuries ago as you gaze upon memorials to ancient civilizations. Upon arrival, enjoy a panoramic tour of the city and a guided visit to the Coliseum. Built between 70-80 AD, the Coliseum is considered one of the greatest works of Roman architecture and engineering, and remains the largest amphitheater in the world. The tour ends at the hotel. (Breakfast)

DAY EIGHT – Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel

This morning, enjoy a guided visit to the spiritual center of the Roman Catholic Church and the smallest independent state in the world: Vatican City. During the guided visit of the Vatican Museums you'll walk through halls containing some of the most priceless art treasures in the world. The highlight of the visit may be the Sistine Chapel which houses the single most impressive work of art by Michelangelo. During the visit to St. Peter's Basilica, experience the magnificence of Bernini, Michelangelo, and other great artists of the Roman Renaissance and Baroque periods. Be sure to see Michelangelo's famous statue, *Pietà*, created by the artist when he was only 25 years old. The afternoon and evening are free to enjoy on your own. (Breakfast)

DAY NINE – Day at Leisure in Rome

Your last day in Rome is yours to enjoy as you wish. This evening join your Tour Manager and fellow travelers for a farewell dinner at the hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

DAY TEN – Rome / USA

As you depart Italy you'll be filled with memories of Renaissance art and architecture, rolling hills and vineyards, and all the glory of the Roman Empire. (Breakfast)



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The majesty of St. Peter's Square in Vatican City

2017 DEPARTURES	PER PERSON TWIN ROOM	SINGLE ROOM
March 27	\$2,449	add \$899
April 23	\$2,649	add \$899
October 2, 16	\$2,599	add \$899
November 6	\$2,449	add \$899



Call for air rates and schedules from
your city to Venice and from Rome, Italy

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL

EASY 1 2 3 **4** 5 **ENERGETIC**

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Days Two and Three – Hotel Ala*, Venice, Italy

Days Four through Six – Grand Hotel Tamerici and Principe,
Montecatini Terme, Italy

Days Seven through Nine – Hotel Universo, Rome, Italy

*April departure is at the Hotel Bonvecchiati

Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) - \$149

This nonrefundable fee waives all cancellation fees when we are notified of cancellation one day before the tour departs. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness, illness or death of a member of your immediate family, TPP guarantees full refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line, and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets were provided by Mayflower Tours. If you purchase the optional Travelers Protection Plan (TPP), you will be refunded all payments, including deposit amount, less the TPP premium amount.

Cancellation Charges Without Traveler's Protection Plan (TPP)

- 91 days or more Deposit Amount
- 90 to 45 days prior 20% of tour cost
- 44 to 15 days prior 30% of tour cost
- 14 to 1 day prior 40% of tour cost
- Day 1 of departure 100% of tour cost
- or early departure from tour
- No refund on unused portions of the tour

Exclusions: Mayflower Tours reserves the right to alter its refund and cancellation policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Tours.



Passport & Visas

Each U.S. citizen must have a valid passport. Expiry date of passports should be at least 6 months after the return date of tour. If you don't have a passport, call our office and we'll tell you how to apply for one. Some countries require visas for entry by U.S. citizens. We will send visa applications and instructions if a visa is required for your tour. Holders of non-U.S. passports should contact their nearest consulate and inquire about the necessary passport or visa documentation required for entry into the countries visited. NOTE: Due to airline security measures, your passport name must match your airline ticket name and your tour reservation name or you may be denied aircraft boarding.

