

Italy's Classic Cities

16 days for \$6,974 total price from Washington, DC

(\$6,295 air & land inclusive plus \$679 airline taxes and fees)

Savor art, history, culture, and cuisine in this captivating small group journey to a collection of Italy's classic cities: cosmopolitan Milan; Verona, the "little Rome;" Bologna, with its medieval charm and culinary delights; Renaissance-tinged Florence, and the Eternal City of Rome. Add a pleasing combination of guided touring and ample free time – and it's magnificent!



Avg. High (°F)	Oct	Nov
Milan	56	46
Bologna	59	49
Rome	63	55

Physical Activity Level



Moderate

Refer to page 5 for more information.

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Milan		
2-4	Milan	NH Collection Milano Touring	First Class
5-7	Verona	Hotel Indigo Verona – Grand Hotel Des Arts	First Class
8-10	Bologna	Hotel Internazionale Bologna	First Class
11-13	Florence	Hotel Rivoli	Sup. First Class
14-15	Rome	Monti Palace Hotel	Sup. First Class
16	Depart Rome for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



Historic buildings, lively cafés, and the 1st century Roman amphitheatre flank Verona's grand Piazza Bra.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Milan, Italy

Day 2: Milan We arrive in Milan and transfer to our hotel. As guests' arrival times vary, we have no group activities planned during the day. This evening, we meet our Odysseys Tour Director and fellow travelers for a briefing about the journey ahead, followed by a welcome dinner at our hotel. *D*

Day 3: Milan We discover this world capital of design and fashion, and Italy's center of commerce and finance, on today's tour that features the multi-spired Milan Cathedral (*Duomo*), the world's third largest; the historic La Scala opera house; and the landmark Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, the city's grand arcaded shopping mall. After lunch at a local restaurant, we visit the Brera Picture gallery, housing works by Caravaggio, Tiepolo, Tintoretto, and other great masters. *B,L*

Day 4: Milan/Lake Como A tour highlight today as we travel to Italy's celebrated Lake District, where we enjoy a cruise on stunning Lake Como in the foothills of the Alps. Flanked by grand villas, palm trees, and wooded mountainsides, the lake and its surroundings have drawn visitors since Roman times. Following our cruise, we have free time for lunch and to explore on our own in this beautiful setting. *B*

Day 5: Milan/Bergamo/Verona En route to Verona today, we stop in historic, and beloved, Bergamo. Here we ride a funicular to the Città Alta (Upper Town), with its fortified city walls, cobblestone alleys, Renaissance architecture, and dramatic views that stretch to the Alps. After lunch together, we continue to Verona, arriving late afternoon. *B,L*

Day 6: Verona Rich in history, art, and culture – and of course, Shakespearean connections – Verona retains monuments from its 1st-century CE Roman era, as well as from its thriving medieval period. Highlights of our morning tour here include the austere Castelvecchio, the ancient Roman gate of Porta Borsari, Piazza delle Erbe, the 14th-century Scaliger Tombs, and Verona Arena, built in 30 CE and still used today. We also see Juliet's balcony on the 13th-century home of the Del Capello family said to be the inspiration for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Late this afternoon we take a guided tour of the Teatro Filarmonico, among Europe's leading opera houses, then dine together at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Day 7: Verona A free morning for independent exploration. Later today, we embark on an immersive wine experience at the historic estate of the Gaetano Bertani family, pioneers of Verona winemaking. We tour the frescoed rooms and romantic gardens of

the neo-classical manor house and walk through the vineyards lush with ancient grape varieties for Amarone and Valpolicella Classico. Our tour concludes with a tasting that showcases the region's unique terroir. *B,D*

Day 8: Verona/Modena/Bologna We leave Italy's Veneto region today for Emilia-Romagna, stopping first in Modena, known especially for its culinary heritage – and as the birthplace of the Ferrari. We visit the Museo Casa Enzo Ferrari; take a guided walking tour; and visit a family-run *acetai*, where we learn about the making of balsamic vinegar, a Modena specialty. Then we travel on to Bologna and dine tonight at our hotel. *B,D*

Day 9: Bologna We get our first taste of this lively historic capital and largest city of Emilia-Romagna on a morning walking tour of grand Piazza Maggiore and its highlights: Basilica of San Petronio, with its half-finished marble façade; 12th-century Asinelli Tower, and the Fountain of Neptune. We also see the



We enjoy a cruise on Lake Como.

Teatro Comunale opera house and stroll through Quadrilatero Market, abounding with fresh local foods of all kinds – and some of Italy's best street food. The remainder of the day is free to explore as we wish, and for lunch and dinner on our own in this city renowned for its fine cuisine. *B*

Day 10: Bologna Today is free for independent exploration, perhaps to explore some of the nearly 25 miles of porticoes (a UNESCO site) dating to the Middle Ages that start in the well-preserved city center; to see the Michelangelo sculptures in San Domenico Basilica; or to explore more of Bologna's impressive food scene. Tonight, we savor a small group highlight as we attend a private cooking class where we make

Post-Tour Extension

November 7-9, 2025

Rome – On Your Own

3 days/2 nights for \$395 total price

Single Supplement: \$155

Explore more of the Eternal City at your own pace.

Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights' accommodations at Monti Palace Hotel (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport

“ IN FAIR VERONA, WHERE WE LAY OUR SCENE ... ”

– WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Bologna's traditional tortellini, tagliatelle, and ragu – then enjoy our handiwork for dinner. *B,D*

Day 11: Bologna/Florence We travel today to Florence, “cradle of the Renaissance” and storied city of arts and culture. Our first stop: San Lorenzo Market, where we can browse the outdoor stalls and have lunch on our own at the indoor Central Market. This afternoon's touring takes in the historic city center (a UNESCO site): the Baptistery, Giotto's Bell Tower, and Santa Maria del Fiore – the fabled *Duomo* of Brunelleschi's dome. Then, we visit the Galleria dell'Accademia to see Michelangelo's *David* and his sculptures for the papal tombs. *B,D*

Day 12: Florence On this morning's excursion to Scuola del Cuoio, we learn about Florence's time-honored leather-making process and watch artisans as they craft fine bags, jackets, and other items. This afternoon is free for independent exploration; tonight, we dine together at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Day 13: Florence Another tour highlight today as we visit the world-renowned Uffizzi Gallery of paintings and sculpture, home to Botticelli's *Birth of Venus* and *La Primavera*, da Vinci's *Annunciation*, and other masterpieces by Michelangelo, Caravaggio, and Fra Angelico, among others. Then we have the rest of the day to explore Florence as we wish. *B*

Day 14: Florence/Rome We travel through the gentle scenery of the Italian countryside en route to Rome today. After our mid-day arrival, we join our Tour Director for an informal walking tour of the neighborhood surrounding our hotel. *B*

Day 15: Rome More outstanding art is on tap as we tour the famed Borghese Gallery, with its collection of masterworks by Raphael, Titian, Correggio, Bernini, and more. From here, we're free for independent exploration in this city brimming with history. Tonight, we celebrate our adventure and bid *arrivederci* to Italy at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 16: Depart for U.S. We transfer to the airport this morning for our return flight to the U.S. *B*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 14 nights' accommodations in Superior First Class and First Class hotels
- 24 meals: 14 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



Giotto's Bell Tower rises above the rooftops of Florence.

Tour Departs: October 23, 2025

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees

Boston, New York \$6,674

Chicago, Washington, DC \$6,974

Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia \$7,074

Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa \$7,174

Land Only (transfers not included) \$5,795

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$679, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,795. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$3,995 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,795 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Important Information About Your Tour

General Terms and Conditions

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve a tour with Odysseys Unlimited. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal.

Tour Prices

Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2025, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, surcharges, and fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation; meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

Gratuities

Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour) are not included. These tips are optional and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Gratuities are not included on "On Your Own" optional extensions.

Not Included in Your Tour Price

Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; immunizations and inoculations; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only

package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Registration and Payment

A deposit of \$500 per person confirms your reservation. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

Cancellations and Refunds

If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

For all tours (except as noted)

<u>Prior to departure</u>	<u>Charge</u>
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	25% of tour price
64-45 days:	50% of tour price
44-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

For Africa's Wildlife

<u>Prior to departure</u>	<u>Charge</u>
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	50% of tour price
64-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. If due to unforeseen circumstances Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Pre-Departure

Upon reservation, you will be able to access all information regarding your tour in My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal. This material includes your invoice, a detailed day-by-day itinerary, visa requirements (if applicable), Travel Protection Plan information, and more. Your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers), will be available in the portal two to three weeks before departure.

Single Travelers

We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

Changes to Your Reservation

We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason or at any time, you will be charged the single supplement. **Please note that no changes to your name(s) or departure date are allowed within 95 days of departure. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.**

Required Information

Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight program (for details, please visit www.tsa.gov), as well as for our international travel partners: **your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender; for domestic tours – your full name as it appears on the accepted form of government-issued photo identification that you plan to use, date of birth, and gender.** In addition, airlines may require that we provide them with your contact information prior to departure. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Travel Documents

A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on all of our international tours. For all domestic tours, where we fly into a U.S. city to begin the tour or out of a U.S. city at the end, you must present a valid U.S. government-issued photo identification. Starting on May 7, 2025, your government-issued photo ID must be REAL ID-compliant (or you can present an alternate form of ID, such as a passport). Visit www.dhs.gov/real-id or contact your local DMV for more information. If your tour requires a visa(s), we strongly recommend that you have at least six blank visa pages available; for tours not requiring a visa(s), we recommend that your passport have at least three blank visa pages. We will send you specific visa and entry requirements after you make a reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you need to obtain a visa, we recommend our preferred provider G3 Global Services. If you are traveling with a minor, please contact us for special entry requirements. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.

Health and Medical Issues

We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. **You must be able to**

get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire, and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have.

We ask that all guests review our guidelines for health on tour, which can be found on our website: www.odysseys-unlimited.com/travel-health.

We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. While we do our best to accommodate food allergy concerns, we cannot guarantee zero cross-contamination.

Travel Protection Plan

Odysseys Unlimited makes available an optional Travel Protection Plan that is available for purchase until your final payment. We strongly recommend that you protect yourself and your investment in the event you have to cancel or interrupt your tour. Your Plan payment is fully refundable if you cancel outside of the final payment due date. In order to provide you with the most effective coverage, the policy exclusion for “Pre-Existing Conditions” will be waived if you purchase this plan within 14 days of making your initial deposit/payment for your trip and are medically able to travel at the time the plan is purchased. Information on this Travel Protection Plan will be included with your tour confirmation package. To review full plan details please visit www.tripmate.com/wpGR350.

Air Transportation

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated departure cities as shown and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. Airline upgrades at additional cost may be available on request for the round-trip trans-Atlantic or trans-Pacific portion of your flights. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your**

international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour “Land Only” is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Responsibility

The liability of VMFA, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers.

We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary or staff changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions.

VMFA Member Travel reserves the right to use photos that might include you in marketing materials and for other purposes unless you specify otherwise.



RESERVATION FORM

To reserve your place on tour, please call **Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and mail it to Odysseys Unlimited’s office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

Tour Name _____
Departure Date _____
Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): Please sign me/us up

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)
Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____
Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____
E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____
Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an air upgrade to _____
I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)