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PASSPORT  
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Must be valid for 6 mos.  
beyond return date



**DURGAN TRAVEL** *presents...*

**9 Days/7 Nights**  
**THE MISSING PIECES:**  
**THE ITALIAN PROVINCES OF**  
**MOLISE,**  
**MARCHE &**  
**ABRUZZO**

*Featuring* **Frosinone, Campobasso, Bonefro, Isernia, Frosolone, Agnone, Lanciano, Pescara, Ancona, Urbino, Pesaro, Ascoli Piceno, Loreto & L'Aquila**

**YOUR CHOICE OF DATES**

**\$TBA\***

\*Rates are for payment by cash/check. See reservation form for credit card rates. Rates are per person, twin occupancy, and INCLUDE \$TBA in departure taxes, fees, and fuel surcharge (*subject to change*). **Subject to air confirmation.**

With the addition of this three-region tour, we can now say we have covered every region of Italy with at least one tour! And by virtue of focusing on these three small provinces, you'll be provided by a wealth of experiences unique to Italian travel and feel like you've really "done" Italy! Among these varied experiences, you'll learn about the production of both knives and bells, visit the museum of a famous "American-Italian" photographer, the home of an iconic painter, the birthplace of a legendary composer, a house within a house that was transported by angels, and a winery visit! You'll wrap up with a stay in L'Aquila, the capital of Abruzzo and one of Italy's highest-elevation cities, surrounded by ski resorts. And most likely, it will be done with direct flights!

**OUR 9-DAY/7-NIGHT TOUR OF THE PROVINCES OF MOLISE, MARCHE & ABRUZZO:**

**DAY 1 – BOSTON~ROME:** Depart Boston's Logan Airport for Rome on our overnight flight. Meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, available in flight. (Intermediate stop possible if Alitalia is not available).

**DAY 2 – FROSINONE~CAMPOBASSO:** *"Benvenuti in Italia!"* Upon arrival at Rome's Fiumicino airport, we will meet our escort and transfer via private motorcoach and head for Campobasso in Molise. En route, we will stop for lunch in the town of Frosinone with some brief time to stretch our legs in the pretty downtown. Continuing on to Campobasso, capital of the Molise region, we check into our hotel. Time to freshen up and familiarize ourselves with our surroundings before a welcome drink and dinner this evening at our hotel. Overnight. (L, D)

**DAY 3 – CAMPOBASSO ~ BONEFRO:** After breakfast, we will have the unique experience of enjoying something distinctly American in the middle of this Italian hinterland with a visit to the Tony Vaccaro Museum in Bonefro. Vaccaro was born in Pennsylvania to Italian immigrant parents, who then returned to Italy. With the outbreak of World War II, they fled back to the U.S. only to have Tony drafted into the U.S. Army and sent back to Italy during the war. His war photographs are considered among the most significant in the world, and he went on to a long career as a world-famous photographer. The Tony Vaccaro Museum is located in Bonefro, the hometown of his father. While there, we will also visit the ruins of the Lombard castle there. Return to Campobasso for the afternoon at leisure. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (B, D)

**DAY 4 – FROSOLONE~ISERNIA~AGNONE:** After breakfast, we are off on a tour that has all the bells and... knives? We'll travel to the nearby town of Frosolone, known for its manufacture of knives and scissors, and visit the related museum there. Then it's on to Isernia to view the Fraternal Fountain, San Pietro Arch, and some of the other unique architecture, including the layout of the town which harkens back to Roman times. From there we will visit the Campi Valerio winery, where we will have a tasting and lunch. From there it is on to Agnone, a town world-famous for the production of bells, and we'll visit the Marinelli Family bell foundry, which has roots going back to the 1300's and has made famous bells including the one at the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the United Nations in New York, and St. Peter's in Rome (a gift to the Pope). Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)

**DAY 5 – LANCIANO~PESCARA~ANCONA:** After breakfast and hotel check out, we head to the Adriatic Coast, departing Molise and stopping in Abruzzo to visit Lanciano, a hill town known for being the site of the first Catholic Eucharistic Miracle. We'll visit the beautiful Plebiscite

Square, the ancient walls and towers, and the church containing the relics from the Eucharistic Miracle. Continuing on to the next town, we'll visit seaside Pescara, Abruzzo's most populous city. Here, we'll have time on the Corso Umberto I, the town's main commercial street, and a nearby restricted driving shopping area to shop, sightsee, and get lunch (on our own). Finally, we are off to the Marche region and its capital, the major seaport of Ancona. This fascinating city, having a wide range of influences from its history including Greek, Roman, Byzantine and Jewish, as well as having been its own maritime republic, will make a fine home for the next two nights. Check in at our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

**DAY 6 – PESARO~URBINO:** Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, before we head out for the day to visit these two towns which each offer us a look at a giant of art AND a "Palazzo Ducale." First, we drive just an hour up the coast to the town of Pesaro. Here, we will visit the birthplace of composer Gioachino Rossini and the museum to him that now occupies the home. We'll also view the façade of the beautiful Ducale Palace and nearby fountain in the city center. Continuing on, we visit Urbino and another Ducale Palace- this one a national museum that we'll get to visit, which contains an art gallery, a stone museum, and an archaeology museum within it. We'll also visit the home of the iconic painter Raphael, which is now a museum containing two 19<sup>th</sup> Century copies of the master's work as well as Raphael's original fresco of Madonna and Child, and an original by the poet/painter Giovanni Santi, who owned the home previously. There will be time for lunch (on our own). Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

**DAY 7 – ASCOLI PICENO~LORETO~L'AQUILA:** After breakfast, we will check out and head to the capital of the Marche region, Ascoli Piceno. Here, we'll enjoy the downtown area, uniquely covered in travertine, a gray stone mined in the surrounding mountains. We will have time to wander the beautiful Piazza del Popolo ("Square of the People") and any open-air markets that may have popped up. Following our visit here, we'll stay within The Marches and visit the hill town of Loreto. Here, we'll visit the impressive Basilica della Santa Casa- the Basilica of the Holy House. Here, it is said, angels carried the home that was Mary's birthplace from Nazareth to rest here. Regardless of your religious beliefs, it is a beautiful place to visit, as the house is contained within a gorgeous marble shrine within the larger basilica on a beautiful arch-lined property. Continue back into Abruzzo to its lofty capital, L'Aquila, and our hotel for check in, dinner and overnight. (B, D)

**DAY 8 – L'AQUILA:** After breakfast, we'll tour the city of L'Aquila. Among the highlights will be the Spanish Fort (unique by Italian standards) and the massive Fountain of 99 Spigots with its intriguing checkerboard design and water-spouting busts. The afternoon is at leisure to explore L'Aquila, which is a college town and a cultural center that has no shortage of things to keep you busy. Toast your memorable trip at a local establishment, or perhaps shop for that last-minute gift to bring back with you. Tonight, we'll have a farewell dinner out at a local restaurant. Return to our hotel for overnight. (B, D)

**DAY 9 – ROME~BOSTON:** After breakfast and hotel check-out, we transfer to the airport in Rome to board our return flight to Boston (intermediate stop possible if Alitalia is not available) with meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, while in flight. (B)

### **OUR 9-DAY/7-NIGHT MOLISE, MARCHE & ABRUZZO TOUR INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:**

- ★ Round-trip motorcoach transportation to and from Boston's Logan International Airport. FREE with a minimum of 35 paying passengers. Additional charge with fewer than 35. Minimum 20 for arranged bus transportation.
- ★ Special meet-and-greet service and assistance at Logan Airport by a Durgan Representative.
- ★ Round-trip flights Boston-Rome and return with meal and beverage service, and stereo headsets, while in flight. *Possible intermediate stop if Alitalia is not available.*
- ★ All transfers and sightseeing aboard a deluxe, private, temperature-controlled motorcoach.
- ★ Portage of luggage at the hotel.
- ★ 7-nights' accommodations as noted in the itinerary, based on twin occupancy. The single supplement is an additional \$TBA per single. *Limited availability – may be unavailable or subject to surcharge.* Triples are available at the twin rate.
- ★ Breakfast (B), 1 lunch/wine tasting (L), and dinner (D) daily.
- ★ A comprehensive sightseeing program as described in the itinerary, including entrance fees, where applicable.
- ★ All room and meal taxes, and gratuities to bellmen. A small per-night city tax may have to be paid directly to the hotels.
- ★ Full services of professional Tour Guide, who will accompany our group throughout the tour.
- ★ Complimentary Durgan Travel flight bag and complete packet of travel documentation.

**A \$TBA DEPOSIT DUE UPON RECEIPT OF FLYER. THE BALANCE IS DUE 75 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.**

**SPACE IS LIMITED~BOOK NOW~FIRST COME FIRST SERVED**

## **MOLISE, MARCHE & ABRUZZO/9-DAYS/7-NIGHTS/2020 PROMO/ml/ak**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

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