

Durgan
Travel Service
www.durgantravel.com

**Valid
Passport
Required**

Must be valid for 3 mos.
past return date

Durgan Travel *presents...*

12 Days / 10 Nights

SPLENDID ITALY

Featuring Venice, Verona, Lake Maggiore, Borromean Islands, Como, Bellagio, Montecatini, Florence, Assisi & Vatican City

DEPARTURES:

March & November ^{at} **\$TBA***

**April, Early May &
October** ^{at} **\$TBA***

*Rates are for payment by credit card. See back for discount cash/check prices. Rates are per person, twin occupancy, and INCLUDE \$TBA in air taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges (subject to change).



OUR SPLENDID ITALY ITINERARY IS AS FOLLOWS:

DAY 1 – BOSTON~INTERMEDIATE CITY~ITALY: Depart Boston's Logan International Airport aboard our transatlantic flight to Italy (*via intermediate city*), with full meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, available while in flight.

DAY 2 – VENICE: *"Benvenuti in Italia"* – Welcome to Italy! At the airport, we will meet our Tour Escort, who will help us transfer to our motorcoach for the trip to Piazzale Roma. We will take a private boat to transfer to our hotel. After hotel check-in, the rest of the day is at leisure. Walk through Piazza San Marco or across the Rialto Bridge to admire the Grand Canal – Venice's main waterway that's used by *vaporetti* (water buses). Dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight. (D)

DAY 3 – VENICE: After breakfast, we start our sightseeing tour of Venice, often called *"La Serenissima* (most serene of cities)," which is full of narrow streets and some 400 footbridges that link to famous St. Mark's Square, where there are many galleries, shops, and charming cafes. We will enjoy a visit to the Doge's Palace and cross the Bridge of Sighs, which connects to Piombi Prison, from which its most famous prisoner, Casanova, managed a daring escape. After lunch (*on our own*), we will enjoy a gondola ride prior to meandering along the canals of Venice. Dinner in a local restaurant and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 4 – VENICE~VERONA~LAKE MAGGIORE: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we depart for Verona, an enchanting Veneto city that has gained UNESCO status for its collection of monuments from eras dating back to the 1st century BC. We'll meet our local guide and take a sightseeing walk through Verona's attractions, like Piazza della Erbe and Juliet's House, the setting of the world's most romantic story. We'll see the balcony where Juliet was serenaded by Romeo. After lunch (*on our own*), we will continue on to Lake Maggiore, nestled on the southern side of the Alps, and then check into our four-star hotel. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 5 – BORROMEAN ISLANDS: After breakfast, we meet our local guide and depart by boat for Isola Bella. We'll take a guided tour of the Borromeo Baroque Palace and Gardens, then we will travel to Isola Pescatori (Fishermen's Island), where we'll visit the village and church. After lunch (*on our own*), we'll travel to Isola Madre to see the English Gardens and Renaissance Palace. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 6 – LAKE COMO~TREMEZZO~BELLAGGIO: After breakfast, we will drive across the stunning landscapes of Lake Como. Upon arrival, we will meet our local guide and take the public boat for a ride along the southwestern branch of the lake to the beautiful central area. During the two-hour cruise, our guide will discuss all the various places of interest. We'll disembark at Tremezzo to visit Villa Carlotta and its splendid garden with more than 500 different plants. Inside the villa, there are many interesting sculptures and paintings by the most important artists of the Neoclassical period. After lunch (*on our own*), we'll transfer to Bellagio by boat and visit the "Borgo," the town's historic center, followed by free time for shopping or individual sightseeing. Return to Como for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 7 – CHIANTI~SAN GIMIGNANO~MONTECATINI: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will depart for Tuscany, renowned for its food and wine. *Viva el vino!* We will stop at Castello Oliveto for a fabulous vintner's lunch, including a wine-tasting! In the afternoon, we will enjoy a guided walking tour of San Gimignano, often described as *"the most famous small town in Italy."* This charming, medieval hilltop town is noted for its many towers and its breathtaking views of the Tuscan landscape. Depart for Montecatini and check into our 4-star hotel. Dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)

DAY 8 – FLORENCE: After breakfast, we will board our motorcoach for a full-day excursion to Florence. Here, we will enjoy a tour of the city, including a visit to the Academy Museum where we will see Michelangelo's *"David."* The afternoon will be at leisure for lunch (*on our own*) shopping, browsing, and independent sightseeing before returning to Montecatini. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 9 – MONTECATINI~ASSISI~ROME: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we depart for Rome, with a stop in Assisi to view St. Francis' Cathedral and the historic center. After lunch (*on our own*), we will continue on to Rome and check into our 4-star hotel. There will be time to relax before dinner at our hotel. Overnight. (B, D)

DAY 10 – VATICAN CITY~ANCIENT ROME: After breakfast, we will visit Vatican City. First we will visit the Vatican Museums, a group of the most impressive edifices with hundreds of galleries filled with art treasures. We will see awe-inspiring relics and works of art donated throughout the centuries as tributes of faith. Included will be The Tapestry Gallery, The Raphael Rooms, and The Sistine Chapel, which houses Michaelangelo's "The Last Judgment." Later, we will enter St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in Christendom, built on the site where St. Peter was martyred. Unsurpassed in beauty, it is a monument to the long history of the Catholic Church, to which pilgrims come from around the world. Marvel at the "Pieta" and "St. Peter's Baldachin," Bernini's amazing monumental bronze sculpted canopy marking St. Peter's tomb. It's the first Bernini work to combine sculpture and architecture. After lunch (*on our own*), we will visit the glorious remains of Ancient Rome, birthplace of modern civilization and capital of the Roman Empire. We'll learn how Julius Caesar and many almighty emperors conquered the world and thrived in the heart of the Roman Forum. We will see the Colosseum and discover the grandeur, the glory, and bloody past of this amphitheater. Then we will visit the Forum, the Palatine Hill, the Emperors' Palace, the Capitol, the Senate, and much more. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 11 – ROME: After breakfast, we'll enjoy a free day. Lunch and dinner are on our own. Overnight. (B)

DAY 12 – ROME~INTERMEDIATE CITY~BOSTON: After breakfast, we will depart our hotel and transfer to the airport in Rome. We will board our return to Boston (*via a possible intermediate city*), with full meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, available while in flight. (B)

OUR SPLENDID ITALY TOUR INCLUDES ALL OF 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.
- ★ Special meet-and-greet service and assistance at Logan Airport by a Durgan Travel Representative.
- ★ Round-trip flights Boston-Intermediate City-Venice and Rome-Boston with full meal and beverage service aboard.
- ★ Porterage of luggage at the hotels
- ★ 10-nights' accommodations at the hotels described in the itinerary (or similar), 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.
- ★ All transfers and daily sightseeing aboard a private, deluxe, temperature-controlled motorcoach. Motor launch transfers in Venice.
- ★ Breakfast (B) each morning, one lunch (*with wine-tasting*) (L), and nine dinners (D).
- ★ Comprehensive sightseeing package as described in the itinerary, including entrance fees where applicable.
- ★ Services of a professional Tour Escort who will accompany our group throughout the tour.
- ★ Expert English-speaking step-on guides where required.
- ★ All room and meal taxes, and gratuities to bellman.
- ★ Complimentary Durgan Travel Service flight bag and complete packet of required travel documents

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

TRAVEL PROTECTION INSURANCE: Travel Protection Insurance: All persons traveling with **Durgan Travel Service** are automatically enrolled in **Travel Protection Insurance** through **Trip Mate (1-800-888-7292)** if they checked off the "YES" box on the Reservation Form. Please **ONLY** call **Trip Mate** if you have questions about your insurance or your eligibility. The plan covers trip cancellation or pre- or post-trip interruption, and tour operator/cruise line/airline bankruptcy up to the cost of the trip and travel delay up to \$750 (*max. \$150 per day*). Emergency evacuation is covered up to \$50,000. Accident or Sickness Medical Expense is covered up to \$25,000. Lost or stolen baggage/personal effects are covered up to \$2500. Baggage delay (24-hours or more) up to \$250 reimbursement, and death or dismemberment benefit \$25,000 max.

We encourage the purchase of the travel protection plan. You can protect your travel investment at a very affordable group rate – take peace of mind with you when you travel. Cover your vacation investment, your belongings, and most importantly, you. The Durgan Travel Service Travel Protection Plan is your ticket to worry-free travel. Before you purchase travel insurance, we recommend that you carefully review the plan information. Please Note: Plan benefits, limits, and provisions may vary by state jurisdiction. To review full plan details online, go to: www.tripmate.com/wpTPG02. **This plan is underwritten by:** United States Fire Insurance Company, Eatontown, NJ. Benefits are administered by: Trip Mate, Inc.*, 9225 Ward Parkway, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO, 64114, 1-800-888-7292 (*in CA, dba Trip Mate Insurance Agency).

TRIP DEVIATIONS: Any request for tour deviation will be subject to availability at the time of booking. The *maximum* extension permitted is 10 - 14 days, depending on the airline. A deviation form, along with the surcharge fee of \$150, *should* be submitted at the time of initial payment, but will be accepted up to 120-days prior to departure. After processing, the request, any additional deviation expenses (car rental, train, hotel, etc.) must be paid, in full, to the Retail Department of Durgan Travel Service at the time of reservation. Download form from www.durgantravel.com or contact Durgan Travel at 1-800-234-9959 to request a deviation form.

RESPONSIBILITY: Durgan Travel Service and their agents, in accepting bookings for this tour, clearly stipulate that they are not liable for faults or defaults of other companies and persons that may be used in the carrying-out of the tour services, also for accidents, baggage losses, delays, or cancellations, strikes, political unrest, riots, and acts of God and war, and changes in schedules. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable, for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operator. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw the tour due to insufficient participation or for any reason whatsoever; also to decline to accept or to retain any person as members of the tour. The airlines and bus lines concerned are not to be held responsible for any acts, omissions, or events during the time the passengers are not onboard. The pass contract in use by the airlines or bus companies concerned constitutes the sole contract between the company and purchase of this tour and/or passengers. The issuance and acceptance of receipt tickets and/or tour membership coupons, along with making the initial deposit, shall be deemed to be consent to and acceptance of the foregoing terms and conditions.

Splendid Italy/Promo/ml/rd

Departure dates:

**March & November \$TBA (credit card)/\$TBA (cash/check)
April, Early May & October \$TBA (credit card)/\$TBA (cash/check)**

**For more information, please contact:
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