



**DURGAN TRAVEL**  
**GRAND TOUR OF ITALY ITINERARY**  
**SEPTEMBER 25 – OCTOBER 5, 2018**

**Day 1:** Tuesday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup> ~ Depart late evening ( 9:50 PM ), from Logan International Airport for your overnight flight to Florence, Italy (via Rome) to arrive at 3:00 PM on Sept 26th.

**Day 2:** Wednesday, Sept 26<sup>th</sup> ~ Florence - Montecatini

Upon arrival at Florence Airport, we will meet our local tour escort who will help us with our hotel transfer. We will enjoy a scenic morning drive to Montecatini, where we will check into our hotel. The remainder of the afternoon will be at leisure. This evening, we will gather for a "Welcome Drink" and orientation at our hotel. Wine and mineral water is included with all dinners. (Dinner)

**Your accommodations from 9/26 to 9/30**

**Hotel Nizza & Suisse**

**Viale Giuseppe Verdi, 72**

**51016 Montecatini Terme PT, Italy**

**+39 0572079691**

**[www.grandhotelnizza.it](http://www.grandhotelnizza.it)**

**Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, a/c, outdoor swimming pool**

**Tourist / City Tax per person per day approx. 1.40 Euros payable directly to hotel**

**Day 3:** Thursday, Sept 27<sup>th</sup> ~ Siena - San Gimignano

Following breakfast at our hotel, we will depart for Siena southwest through the heart of Italian wine country, over the rolling hills of Chianti. Once in Siena, our escort will lead us to Piazza del Campo, through narrow streets, past medieval towers and walls. One of the notable highlights of Siena is San Domenico, which holds the relics of St. Catherine. We will next visit 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. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Day 4:** Friday Sept 28<sup>th</sup> ~ Venice

After breakfast, we'll take a full day excursion to Venice. Our tour of the canal city includes a walking tour of Piazza San Marco, a visit to the Doge's Palace and then crossing the Bridge of Sighs, which connects to the Piombi Prisons. The remainder of the afternoon is free for shopping and browsing. We will have a light dinner this evening. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Day 5:** Saturday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Florence

After breakfast at our hotel, we'll enjoy a full-day guided sightseeing tour of Florence, including a walking tour of the historic city center and a visit to the famous Academia Museum, site of Michelangelo's "David." Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Day 6:** Sunday, Sept 30<sup>th</sup> ~ Montecatini - Assisi - Rome

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we'll head for Rome, with a stop in Assisi to view St. Francis' Cathedral. After we will have some free time to explore the city. Upon arrival in Rome, "The Eternal City" we will check into our hotel. There will be time to rest, relax, shop, and freshen-up prior to dinner at our hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Your accommodations from 9/30 to 10/03**

**Hotel Marriott Central Park**

**Via Giuseppe Moscati, 7**

**00168Roma RM, Italy**

**+39 390063505741**

**Amenities include: Hairdryer, a/c, safe, (Wi-Fi 10euros per day)**

**Tourist / City Tax per person per day approx. 6.00Euros payable directly to hotel**

**Day 7:** Monday, Oct 01<sup>th</sup> ~ Ancient & Modern Rome

Breakfast is at our hotel, followed by an all-day city sightseeing tour. In the morning, we will visit the glorious remains of Ancient Rome, birthplace of modern civilization and capital of the Roman Empire and learn how Julius Caesar and many other almighty Emperors conquered the world and thrived in the heart of the Roman Forum. We will see the Colosseum and you can discover the grandeur, the glory, and bloody Past of this amphitheatre. Then we will continue with visits to the Forum, The Palatine Hill, the Emperors' Palace, the Capitol, the Senate and much more. Time for lunch on your own. In the afternoon we will meet up for a tour of "Modern Rome" and we will walk along into the historic center of the city and the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Piazza Montecitorio, the Pantheon and Piazza Navona. Back to our hotel where dinner is included this evening. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Day 8:** Tuesday, Oct 02 ~ Vatican City

Breakfast is included this morning, then we'll transfer to Vatican City, first touring 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 centuries as tributes of faith. Included will be the Tapestry Gallery, the Raphael Rooms and the Sistine Chapel, which houses Michelangelo's "The Last Judgement". Later on, we will enter St. Peter's Basilica, the largest Church in Christendom. It was built on the site where St. Peter was martyred. Unsurpassed in beauty, a monument to the long history of the Catholic Church, to which pilgrims come from around the world. St. Peter's is the grandest of the world's churches. Marvel at Michelangelo's La Pieta and Bernini's amazing Bronze canopy. Before dinner, we'll have time at leisure, to explore, shop or sit in one of the outside cafes and watch the world go by. Dinner is included at our hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Day 9:** Wednesday, Oct 03 ~ Rome - Pompeii - Naples - Sorrento

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we say goodbye to Rome! We'll first stop for a guided tour of Pompeii, destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D. and, today, some of the best-preserved ruins of Roman times. Next on our agenda is a guided panoramic sightseeing tour of the famous Port of Naples. Upon arrival in Sorrento, we will check into our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Your accommodations from 10/03 to 10/06

Hotel Michelangelo

Corso Italia, 275, 80067

Sorrento NA, Italy

+39 081 878 4844

[www.michelangelohotel.it](http://www.michelangelohotel.it)

Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, a/c, outdoor pool

Tourist / City Tax per person per day approx. 3.00 Euros payable directly to hotel

**Day 8:** Thursday, Oct 04 ~ Amalfi Coast

After breakfast, we will take an excursion along one of the most scenic roads in the world - *The Amalfi Drive!* Our first stop will be above Positano, one of Italy's most famous and elegant resorts. We will then continue our drive through the ancient marine republic of Amalfi. There will be some free time to visit the beautiful Cathedral of St Andrew, explore the town or browse-and-shop. We'll stop for lunch (on our own) and in the afternoon, we will visit Ravello. Return to Sorrento for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Day 9:** Friday, Oct 05<sup>th</sup> ~ Isle of Capri

After breakfast we will visit the beautiful isle of Capri! Our excursion begins with a ferry ride across the Bay of Naples to Capri. We'll enjoy guided sightseeing in the town of Capri, with its chic shops, hotels, and restaurants lying along winding streets. The main square, Piazza Umberto, has a pretty white church and several open-air cafes where we can sit and people watch or enjoy a cup of Italian coffee. In the afternoon return to Sorrento by ferry for some free time to shop or explore on our own. Dinner at hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

**Day 10:** Saturday, Oct 06<sup>th</sup> ~ Sorrento - Boston

Following breakfast and hotel check-out, we will be transferred to the Naples Airport where we will board our return Alitalia flight to Boston via Rome. (Breakfast)

**PLEASE NOTE: SCHEDULING IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**