

Ropakele Travel presents...

Italian Vistas

with Optional 2-Night Milan Post Tour Extension

September 8 – 21, 2023



Book Now
& Save
\$150
Per Person

Upgrade to Elite Airfare! see inside for details



For more information contact
Robin Beard (225) 766-7132
robinb@ropakele.com



14 Days • 18 Meals: 12 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Rome, Colosseum, Ruins of Pompeii, Sorrento, Choices on Tour, Florence, Statue of *David*, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Tuscan Winery, Venice, Murano Island, Verona, Lake Maggiore, Stresa

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 5	Mediterraneo Hotel, Rome
Days 6, 7	Hotel Michelangelo, Sorrento
Days 8, 9	Starhotels Michelangelo, Florence
Days 10, 11	NH Venezia Santa Lucia, Venice
Days 12, 13	Regina Palace Hotel, Stresa

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Friday, September 8, 2023 Overnight Flight *Ciao, Italy!*

Day 2: Saturday, September 9, 2023 Arrive Rome, Italy Enjoy time to get to know the place where your journey begins.

Day 3: Sunday, September 10, 2023 Rome - Tour Begins Your tour begins today in Rome. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a special welcome dinner featuring regional delicacies and Italian wines. (B, D)

Day 4: Monday, September 11, 2023 Rome - Classical Rome City Tour Discover the city on a locally guided tour of Classical Rome, passing by the Baths of Caracalla as well as the remains of the ancient Circus Maximus. During an in-depth visit to the Colosseum, your guide recounts its rich history. Meander through Rome's Renaissance district for a peek at the mythic Pantheon and the oval-shaped Piazza Navona, adorned with Baroque fountains. This evening, consider strolling through the Borghese Gardens for views of the city's skyline or meander through Rome's medieval *Campo de' Fiori* neighborhood where the cobblestoned streets are lined with antique shops, independent boutiques and local restaurants. (B)

Day 5: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 Rome Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore Rome's cultural treasures. Your Tour Manager will be on hand to offer suggestions. Consider an optional trip to Vatican City to tour the Vatican Museums* and St. Peter's Basilica. The evening is yours. Perhaps you will join an optional food tour and taste your way around Rome's bohemian *Trastevere* district. (B)

Day 6: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 Rome - Pompeii - Sorrento Journey to the brilliant Bay of Naples, where charming villages are built into hillsides above the blue sea. Soak in 2,000 years of history at the excavated ruins of Pompeii with a local guide. Pause in nearby Gragnano for a late lunch and visit to a family-owned pasta factory. Continue to the scenic resort town of Sorrento, your home for the next 2 nights. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon to explore the city independently. You may wish to visit the Duomo, a Romanesque cathedral with inlaid woodwork, a famous local Sorrento craft. (B, L)

Day 7: Thursday, September 14, 2023 Sorrento - Choice on Tour - Sorrento Today, **it's your choice!** You have three tantalizing options today. Sail to the enchanting Isle of Capri.** Upon arrival, admire the island's iconic scenery on a panoramic cruise, passing by the steep cliffs, endless small caves, and the famous Faraglioni rocks, jutting out of the water. Spend time in Capri town with its world-famous *piazzetta* and explore this island paradise of chic boutiques, lush vegetation, and outdoor cafés **-OR-** journey along the Amalfi Coast for a morning at leisure in the colorful village of Positano, a maze of streets and stairways winding around pastel houses and draped in lush flowers. Perhaps you'll make your way to Positano's famous pebble beach, Marina Grande, offering a sweeping 'bottom to top' view of the village **-OR-** linger in Sorrento and put your inner chef to work during a hands-on cooking class where you'll learn to cook Sorrento-style gnocchi and other Neapolitan specialties before enjoying the fruits of your labor for lunch. (B)

Day 8: Friday, September 15, 2023 Sorrento - Florence - Michelangelo's David Head through Tuscany, with its landscape of vineyards and olive groves. Experience Florence, the "Cradle of the Renaissance." Home to Italy's best art and architecture, here you'll visit the Academy Gallery to see Michelangelo's renowned sculpture of David. Tonight, enjoy regional Italian cuisine at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 9: Saturday, September 16, 2023 Florence Embark on a locally guided tour of Florence, highlighting the Piazza del Duomo and the famous Gates of Paradise on the Baptistery. Wander through the Piazza della Signoria and stand in awe before the imposing Palazzo Vecchio. The rest of the day is yours. Consider an optional excursion to the 14th century *Certosa* monastery, featuring an after-hours tour and dinner in a popular Tuscan restaurant. (B)



Book Now & Save \$150 Per Person:

Double ~~\$6,059~~; **Double \$5,909***
 Single ~~\$7,319~~; **Single \$7,169**
 Triple ~~\$5,999~~; **Triple \$5,849**

For bookings made after Mar 10, 2023 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from New Orleans Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$399 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from MSY

Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Business Class \$3,790

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

Day 10: Sunday, September 17, 2023 Florence - Pisa - Venice

Visit the ancient maritime Republic of Pisa to discover the Piazza Dei Miracoli and the famous Leaning Tower. A special stop is made at a Tuscan winery and farm to enjoy lunch and sample local wines and specialties. Next, cross the Apennine Mountains en route to Venice, where 117 islands are connected by a latticework of 150 canals and 400 bridges. (B, L)

Day 11: Monday, September 18, 2023 Venice - Murano Island - Venice

Embark on a boat trip*** to Murano Island for a glass-blowing demonstration. When you return, step off the beaten path and see for yourself how the locals live. Explore the *Castello* district with a local expert, walking canal by canal through the narrow streets all the way to St. Mark's Square. Admire the stunning Basilica and the ornate façade of the Doge's Palace. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Consider an optional gondola cruise to experience Venice's most famous pastime. (B)

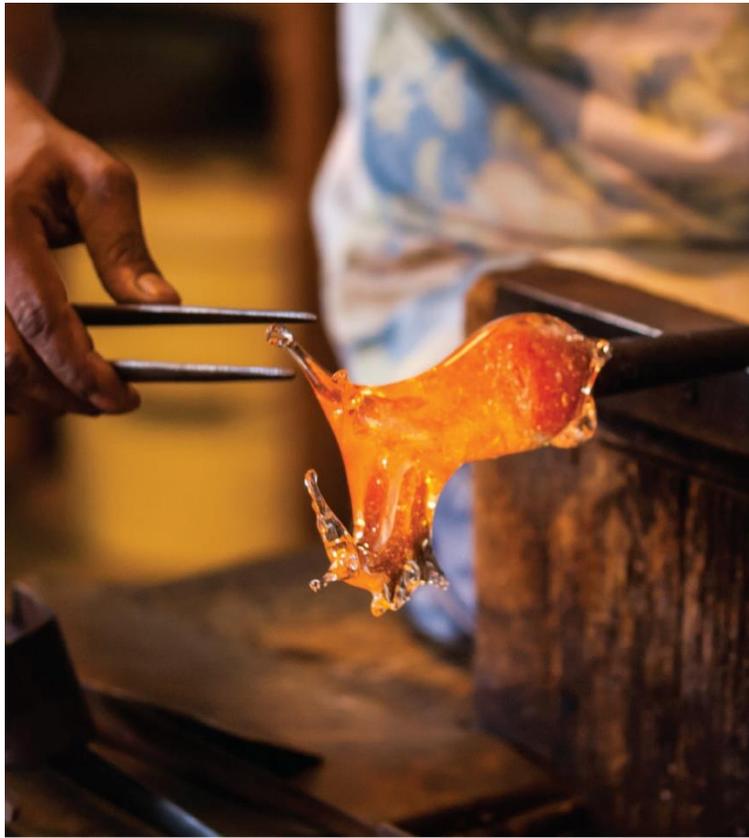
Day 12: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 Venice - Verona - Stresa, Lake Maggiore Depart Venice for Verona, and stroll the streets that were the backdrop for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Arrive in the resort town of Stresa in the breathtaking Italian Lakes District, your home for the next two nights, and admire the beautiful views of Lago Maggiore. (B, D)

Day 13: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 Stresa - Choice on Tour - Isola Dei Pescatori

Today, it's your choice! Take a boat across Lake Maggiore to Isola Bella, where you'll join an expert guide and venture into the Borromeo Palace**** -OR- cross into Switzerland as your motor coach climbs up the Simplon Pass for a taste of the Swiss Alps, admiring the Simplon Hospice dominating the landscape. Tonight, travel by boat to Isola dei Pescatori***** for a farewell dinner surrounded by beautiful scenery. (B, D)

Day 14: Thursday, September 21, 2023 Stresa - Tour Ends Your Italian adventure comes to a close today. (B)

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1102769#extensions>



PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Mar 10, 2023, valid on air inclusive packages only.
IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel after May 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorization, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

Please note that most shops and businesses in Italy and Switzerland are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

When reserving single accommodations, be advised that single rooms in Italy are often smaller in size.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to

provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

***Your visit to Murano Island may be substituted with a visit to a local glass factory in Venice in the event of inclement weather.

**Your boat trip to Capri may not be available due to inclement weather. If this happens, we will make alternate sightseeing arrangements. In case the scenic boat ride around the Isle of Capri cannot operate, you will visit Anacapri village instead.

****Isola Bella and the Borromeo Palace are open from April 1 to October 31. If you are travelling between November 1 and March 31, you will enjoy a scenic cruise of the Borromeo Islands and a visit to Pallanza village instead.

*Due to the unpredictable nature of the events schedule at the Vatican, on certain dates it may be necessary to visit the Vatican Museums at a different time. For example, when the Vatican option falls on a Wednesday, the order of included and optional tours may be reversed in order to participate in all activities for that day.

****In the event of adverse weather conditions, the dinner at Isola dei Pescatori may be held at your hotel instead.

Please be advised that on occasion you may experience higher than average wait times for entering the Colosseum, the Vatican Museums, The Academy Gallery Museum and the Duomo.

All included museum visit dates and times are subject to change based on availability of reservations. Most national museums in Florence, including the Uffizi Gallery and the Academy, are closed on Mondays. If the Academy Museum is featured in your itinerary on a Monday, reservations will be made to visit the museum on an alternative day.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas such as Rome, Pisa, Venice, Verona and Florence which requires minimum 2.5 miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counselors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Air passengers will depart from Milan airport. All return transfers will depart from Stresa hotel for Milan airport.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$600 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of March 03, 2023 are based upon availability. Final payment due by July 11, 2023. Deposits are refundable up until March 10, 2023.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1102769>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.

BOOKING NUMBER: 1102769
DEPARTURE DATE: September 8, 2023

TOUR: Italian Vistas
GROUP NAME: Ropakele Travel

Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options. *Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.* Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Florence

Tuscan Feast

\$90 USD

This evening, set off on a scenic drive to nearby Galluzzo, a historic town famous for its Carthusian monastery which rests upon one of the beautiful hills surrounding Florence. Prior to dinner, enjoy an after-hours visit to this 14th-century monastery – La Certosa.* Revel in the beauty that lurks inside and experience the monastery’s magnificence as you learn about monastic daily life. Then your evening of fun continues at one of the area’s most popular dining establishments. Experience an authentic and traditional dinner served family-style! Savor local wines and Tuscan food and enjoy the entertainment. It’s a memorable – truly Italian – evening out that you won’t want to miss!
Duration: Approximately 4.5 hours. Please note a minimum of 15 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Venice

Venetian Serenaded Gondola Cruise

\$75 USD

Experience the romance that can only be found in Venice – La Serenissima – while traveling on its famous waterways. Partake in one of Venice’s most famous pastimes – a gondola cruise. Take a pleasant stroll toward the Grand Canal to board your gondola. As you relax in your elegant watercraft, your gondolier navigates the Grand Canal as well as smaller side canals. Admire the scenery as you listen to the melodic voice serenading you in true Italian style – just like in those romantic Italian movies! This option operates weather-permitting. *Duration: Approximately 1 hour.* Please note a minimum of 12 passengers is required. Transportation is not included.

Rome

The Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica

\$100 USD

The Vatican Museums are not only home to one of the world’s greatest collections of art, but also to the world-famous Sistine Chapel. Priceless artifacts from ancient Egypt, Etruscan Italy and cultures around the world are preserved in the Vatican’s palaces, galleries, halls and rooms. Follow a local expert guide on a three hour, in-depth visit through this vast collection. Highlights include the Gallery of Maps, the Gallery of Tapestries and, of course, a visit to the Sistine Chapel. The chapel’s famous ceiling frescoes took Michelangelo four years to complete. His brilliant Last Judgment, which rests on the altar wall, was a topic of controversy for centuries. Other walls feature paintings by Pietro Perugino, Sandro Botticelli, Cosimo Rosselli and Domenico Ghirlandaio. Your final stop will be at St. Peter’s Basilica, one of the most important churches in Christendom, and until recently, the largest in the world. Please note this option must be booked at least 90 days prior to departure and is not guaranteed while on tour. Due to the nature of this optional item, it is non-refundable. *Duration: Approximately 4 hours.* Please note a minimum of 15 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Trastevere Food Tour

\$120 USD

Follow your expert guide on an engaging tour of Rome’s more epicurean side. Your culinary journey takes place in the bohemian Trastevere district, where medieval architecture meets ivy-clung houses and the lively chatter from the many eateries sprinkled through the neighborhood echoes off the cobblestoned streets. Partake in the local tradition of aperitivo (pre-dinner drink) before tasting your way through Rome’s most representative street food, such as suppli (fried rice ball) and pastas. Top off your culinary exploration with a taste of artisanal gelato and learn how to tell a good one from a factory-made, ensuring you never eat a bad one again! *Duration: Approximately 5 hours.* Please note a minimum of 6 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Extend your vacation with

Optional 3 Days 2-Night Milan Post Tour Extension

Rate: \$549.00 USD per person, double, land only

3 Meals: 2 Breakfasts, 1 Dinner

Day 13: Stresa - Milan

Transfer to Milan, a chic and sophisticated metropolis known for being a hub of high fashion. Upon arrival, receive your 2-day public transportation pass. Then take in some of the city's iconic sights on a locally guided walking tour: view the La Scala Opera House and Vittorio Emanuele Gallery, and visit the Duomo,* Milan's magnificent Gothic cathedral. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure to explore this bustling city at your own pace. This evening, join your local guide for an authentic Milan ritual, an informal *Apericena* meal mixing pre-dinner drinks and tapas-style food. *Today dinner will be included.*

Day 14: Milan

This morning, join your local guide for a tour of the *Quadrilatero della Moda*, Milan's high-fashion district, including visits to some of the city's best ateliers and fashion stores. The afternoon is at your leisure. You may choose to visit the Sforza Castle, Sant'Ambrogio Cathedral, Leonardo's *Last Supper*** or the Brera Academy of Fine Arts. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 15: Milan - Depart for Home

Transfer to the airport for your flight home. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Please Note:

*Please be advised that on occasion you may experience higher than average wait times for entering the Duomo.

During this extension, you can expect to have a **hosted** experience or two, with a local representative revealing more of what this destination has to offer. Enjoy a mix of independent exploration and guided sightseeing and experiences.

**Leonardo's *Last Supper* fresco is one of Milan's most popular sites and is located in the refectory of the Santa Maria delle Grazie Church. Tickets are in high demand and are difficult to obtain on the day or close to the day of visit. If you are interested, we recommend that you purchase tickets online in advance through the official website of Cenacolo Vinciano Vivaticket. Tickets should be purchased for the afternoon of your first or second day in Milan.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Extensions are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 3 passengers is not met to operate.

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, Zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure.