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Wooster Street Travel

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DISCOVER ITALY TOUR

Escorted by Yolanda of Wooster Street Travel

October 2nd - October 17th, 2023

15 days and 14 nights

Travel Day (MON) – Oct 2nd, 2023: DEPART USA

Bus to NYC Airport will depart from **Hamden at 11:30am** (sharp). If you can not make it to the Hamden meeting point by that time, you will have to have your own transportation to JFK.) **Our flight 172** with **Delta Airlines** to **Milan** will depart at **5:40pm(US time)** and arrive in Malpensa Airport **Milan 7:45 am (Italian time the next day)**. Meals and refreshments will be served in flight.

Day 1 (TUE) Oct 3rd, 2023: ARRIVE MILAN / STRESA

Arrival as mentioned above. Once luggage is retrieve on own, we will meet and proceed to our motor coach. Before long we are on our way. Balance of afternoon is to relax and stroll along the boardwalk at **Lake Maggiore** and the **town of Stresa**. **Lunch will be on your own**. This evening, we enjoy a lovely **Welcome Dinner at the hotel. (B/D)**

Day 2 (WES) Oct 4th, 2023: STRESA to Lake Como

This morning we depart our hotel for a full day excursion to **Bellagio** which has been called the most beautiful city of Italy. **We will meet our Local Guide in Como** and then board a boat for a scenic tour **weather permitted**. To **Bellagio** is located on the tip of the triangle separating Como's two "legs". **Lunch will be on your own**. We will have free time to stroll around or perhaps sit and people-watch as you enjoy a coffee. Later that afternoon we return to **Stresa**. Balance of day is free. **Dinner is on your own. (B)**

Day 3 (THU) Oct 5th, 2023: STRESA / VERONA / PADUA

After a bright and early breakfast, we depart for Padua. En route to Padua, we will make a stop in Verona, the largest city of the mainland, Veneto, rich with Roman sites and streets of pink-hued medieval buildings. We will meet our **local guide** who will take us on a delightful walking tour of Verona where we will discover one of Europe's secret jewels. We will visit the 2,000 year old Arena, built by the Romans and is still in use today for Opera performances and popular concerts. We will also see Piazza Bra, Piazza delle Erbe and tomb of the renowned Scaliger family and of course, one of the most famous balconies of all, Giulietta's (Juliet's) balcony (Romeo and Juliet). **Lunch will be on your own**. With our heart content and our tastebuds charmed, we continue our drive to Padua to check into our Hotel for the next 2 nights. Time permitting, we will visit the Basilica of St Anthony's.

Tonight, Dinner at a local restaurant. (B/D)

Day 4 (FRI) Oct 6 th ,2023: VENICE

This morning, we will be joined by our **Local Guide** for an excursion starting in San Marco's Square and then on to the island of **Burano** . The island famous for its Lace Fish Island , where we will visit the museum of glass. **Lunch on your own**. We depart Murano and head to **a Local restaurant for dinner tonight. (B/D)**

Optional: Gondola

DAY 5 (SAT) Oct 7th, 2023: PADUA / LUCCA / TUSCANY

Today, we depart bright and early from Padua, after breakfast, for the Tuscan region of Italy. Our southerly scenic drive will bring us to beautiful Lucca, a cultural and artistic hub in Tuscany, which was formerly an Etruscan city. In fact, **Etruscan work is still visible in the foundations of LUCCA's** massive stone walls. It's the more than 2000 years of history that make Lucca one of the most fascinating and characteristic of Italian cities. We will enjoy a **guided tour with a Local Guide** as we walk through this beautiful city. Along the way, we will **stop for Lunch (on your own)**. After some leisure time (time permitting), we will continue short ride and chekin to Hotel in Lucca for next 3 nights. **This evening, dinner is at the hotel. (B/D)**

Day 6 (SUN) Oct 8th, 2023: FLORENCE

BIRTH PLACE of the RENAISSANCE AND SHOPPER'S WORLD

We depart this morning to meet our **Private Local Guide**. The tour begins with a visit of the Academia Museum, where we'll see **Michelangelo's original statue of "David"**, the Florentine symbol of courage and independence. Our next stop is in the **Piazza del Duomo**, where we will visit the **Church of Santa Maria delle Fiore**; capped by Brunelleschi's magnificent dome, the **Baptistery** with its "Gates of Paradise" bronze doors by Ghiberti and **Giotto's Bell Tower**. We will continue to the **Piazza Signoria**, the political center of the city, where we'll see the **Loggia della Signoria** and the **Palazzo Vecchio** where the powerful Medicis once held office. Our tour concludes at the **Church of Santa Croce**, which contains the tombs of **Michelangelo, Machiavelli, Galileo and other great Florentines**. **This is the City of lots and lots of GOLD JEWELRY shopping, LEATHER and more**. At some point during the day, **Lunch will be on your own**. **After we spend all of our MONEY,**

we go directly to a local Winery to enjoy dinner. (B/D)

Day 7 (MON) Oct 9th, 2023: TUSCANY / SAN GIMIGNANO / TUSCANY

Today, we drive through the beautiful countryside to **San Gimignano** - an attractive town often bypassed by travelers where we will meet **our Local Guide**. This small, medieval town has kept its appearance virtually unchanged throughout the centuries. Most renowned for its towers which were best used in the yesteryears for detecting enemy troops advancing for an attack. We'll have some time to walk through the narrow, cobbled streets, now lined with craft shops and boutiques and enjoy **lunch on your own**. We return to our hotel in Tuscany in the late afternoon. **This evening, Dinner is at another Local Winery. (B/D)**

Optional Cooking Class

DAY 8 (TUE) Oct 10th, 2023: TUSCANY / POMPEII / SORRENTO

This morning, we depart bright and early after breakfast, for Sorrento . We journey through the rolling hills, the scenic vineyards and post-card perfect scenery of Tuscany, as we make our southerly drive towards Sorrento . Along the way, **we will stop for lunch on your own.** After lunch, we continue towards Sorrento with a stop in **Pompeii**, where we will be joined by our **Local Guide**. Imagine, an entire city perfectly preserved as it was on that fateful day almost 2,000 years ago, when ash and lava literally stopped it in its tracks. You'll see the tragic fossils of people attempting to escape and also the 'secret room'. This advanced civilization came to an abrupt end by the violent eruption of **Mount Vesuvius in 79AD**. After our beautiful visit, we continue to **Sorrento** which sits high on a beautiful plateau where we are greeted by the **sapphire blue gulf of Naples** and the **Majestic Mount Vesuvius**. Tonight, after we get settled, we will have a **relaxing dinner at the Hotel. (B/D)**

DAY 9 (WES) Oct 11th, 2023: SORRENTO / CAPRI / SORRENTO

This morning, after breakfast, bright and early, we will board private transportation to transfer to the port to board the high speed hydrofoil to the fabled island of Capri. Today, **Lunch and Dinner are on your own.** There will be time for shopping in the town of Capri before we board the hydrofoil back to Sorrento. **(B)**

DAY 10 (THUR) Oct 12th, 2023 : SORRENTO / POSITANO / AMALFI / SORRENTO

Today after breakfast we depart be in the Lobby by 7:45am bright and early, after breakfast to meet our Transfer to the Pear up on the boat we will show us a day we will remember for a lifetime. Our coach will take us to a wonderland of small villages, via the spectacular "**Amalfi Coast** ", affording spectacular views of the sea and coastline. Our first stop will be **Positano**, where we can stroll the village and have a sip of Espresso or Gelato. From Positan pear 12:30 to up on the boat ,there we will visit the **beautiful town of Amalfi**. We'll stop to relax and have a **nice lunch on your own**. After lunch, we can stroll through the cobbled streets, and either to do some shopping, sip a cappuccino or just watch the passerbyers. As the sun sets, we'll return to Sorrento, filled with the warm memories and dreams of "Bella Italia". **Lunch & dinner will be on your own. (B)**

DAY 11 (FRI) Oct 13th, 2023: SORRENTO

FREE DAY IF YOU WANT RETURN TO THE AMALFI COAST

B/ Lunch & Dinner on your own

DAY 12 (SAT) Oct 14th, 2023: SORRENTO / SANTA MARIA A VICO / FAICCHIO / ROME

This morning, we depart bright and early after breakfast traveling north along the "Highway of the Sun" to the eternal city of Rome . En route, we will stop in Santa Mara a Vico, Yolanda's home town for a sip of espresso. We then journey to the small village of Faicchio and have **lunch hosted by Yolanda**. After lunch, we continue to our final destination - Rome. Upon checking into our hotel, **Dinner will be on your own (B/L)**

DAY 13 (SUIN) Oct 15th, 2023: ROME – WALKING TOUR

This morning, we will meet our **local guide** for a walking tour in the center of Rome . We will visit **Piazza Navona, Pantheon, Piazza di Spagna, and Via del Corso**. **Lunch will be on your own**. During the course of the day, we will also visit the Trevi Fountain where you will have the opportunity to throw some coins in the water and make a WISH to visit Italy and its splendors again soon. **Farewell Dinner at a Local Restaurant (B/D) Optional: Colosseum**

DAY 14 (MON) Oct 16th, 2023: ROME

Today, we depart our hotel this morning, bright and early, after breakfast, for a very special, privately guided tour with a **Local Guide** of the priceless collection of art, maps and tapestries of the **Vatican**. We'll tour **Raphael's rooms**, decorated with frescoes by the artist, **Raphael**, whose paintings inspired the revolutionary style of the high **Renaissance**. But the highlight of our tour is the **Sistine Chapel**, where **Michelangelo's famous frescoes** are to be seen in new splendor after their recent renovation. The scene on the ceiling is literally a painted Bible and the story of humanity, a task that took four years of mental and physical anguish. The scene of the "**Last Judgment**" painted 30 years later behind the main altar, is a powerful and dark expression of the moment of final judgment. We return to our hotel, where the balance of the day is free. **Lunch will be on your own. Dinner at a local restaurant. (B/D)**

DAY 15 (TUE) Oct 17th, 2023: DEPART FOR USA

This morning we bid "ARRIVEDERCI ROMA" as we transfer to the airport for our return flight home. **Flight DL 153 Alitalia Departure from airport time 13:00pm) and arrives (US time 4:50 pm) at JFK. We should arrive back in Hamden off 91 Exit 10 Community parking area by 8:30 pm .**

TOUR FEATURES INCLUDE:

- **Bus from Hamden off 91 Exit 10 Community to the airport round trip.**
- **Round Trip coach airfare via Delta Airlines (transfers included).**
- **14 nights accommodations at First Class hotels or similar with private bath or shower.14 Buffet breakfast daily (depending upon hotel's service)**
- **9 dinners at local restaurants or hotels including wine (1/4 Bottle pp) and (1/2 bottle mineral water pp) as described above. 1 in Stresa (Welcome Dinner), 2 in Padua, 3 in Tuscany (2 Local Winery), 1 in Sorrento, 2 in Rome (1/Farewell Dinner)**
- **1 Lunch Hosted by Yolanda in FAICCHIO (BN)**
- **All sightseeing and entrance fees as outlined in itinerary.**
- **Winery Visit**
- **Professional English Speaking Local Guide for the entire trip**
- **Private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach**
- **Portage of one (1) piece of luggage per person entire trip. Must be no more than 28 inches and can not exceed 50 pounds**
- **(Gratuity for the maid is not included)**
- **Some gratuity for waiters is required.**
- **This tour will be escorted by YOLANDA.**
- **This tour does not include gratuity for bus driver, tour Escorted or Local guide.**
- **Optional Tours will be at own expense and must be 25 people minimum.**

For further information, please call Yolanda @ 203-281-5888

Wooster Street Travel

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**\$1000.00 non-refundable deposit (see below for price) per person is required with reservation.
Credit Cards cannot be accepted for this tour.**

**Please return this reservation form along with your non-refundable deposit of \$1000.00
by check to Wooster Street**

Name: _____ Roommate: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

The balance in full is due by June 15th, 2023. There will be no refunds under any conditions (100% penalty applies). In case of illness, medical documentation will be needed to support the claim which will be submitted to the insurance company YOU WILL PURCHASE ON YOUR OWN.

Land prices are based on the current Euro to US dollar rate of exchange and are subject to change with major market fluctuations. Exchange rate adjustments, if warranted and drastic, will be determined prior to collection of final payment.

Signature _____ Date _____