



## **Christmas in Italy: Rome to Venice**

9 days, Rome to Venice

Trip code EIRW

### **What's included**

- Your G for Good Moment: Migrantour Rome, Rome
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group

- Your Foodie Moment: Florence Market and Food Tour, Florence
- Christmas Market visits in Rome, Florence and Venice
- Visit Pienza
- Orientation walk of Montepulciano with wine tasting
- Orientation Walk in Siena
- Evening visit to Piazzale Michelangelo in Florence
- Guided walking tour of Florence
- Walking tour of Venice with a local guide
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing December 4th, 2024 and onwards

# Itinerary

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**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Rome

Arrive at any time. Meet your CEO and fellow travellers at a welcome briefing this evening at the hotel then head out for an optional dinner with the group.

There are no planned activities until tonight's welcome meeting.



### Accommodation

Hotel San Marco Rome (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.



### Optional Activities - Day 1

Colosseum Visit

Rome

24EUR

Enjoy a guided tour of this famous spot, the scene of many bloody gladiator fights for the entertainment of ancient Rome's aristocracy. Learn from your expert guide and you wander the old venue—a UNESCO World Heritage site—and feel free to walk around on your own. No battles, please!

St Peter's Basilica Visit

Rome

Free

Sistine Chapel

Vatican City

20-25EUR

1h-2h

Although the Sistine Chapel is always very crowded, it is a must-see for any visitor to the Vatican. The magnificent frescoed ceiling of the chapel painted by Michelangelo depicts over 300 figures from the Book of Genesis, the most well-known being “The Creation of Adam,” showing God touching the finger of Adam. “The Last Judgment” on the west wall depicts a scene from the Book of Revelations. Art aficionados, get ready to cross one of your list!

Borghese Gallery

Rome

25EUR

1h-2h

Take a visit to the beautiful Borghese Gallery villa to indulge in a rich collection of ancient sculptures, relics, mosaics, and paintings. Pieces from Renaissance masters such as Bellini, Raphael, Bernini can be found here.

Day 2

## Rome

Enjoy a G Adventures supported migrant led walk of Rome before taking public transit to discover the magic of Rome's most iconic Christmas market at Piazza Navona! Built on the site of the 1st century Stadium of Domitian, this ancient site transforms into a colourful paradise boasting merchant stalls selling local handicrafts, toys, and sweets, a classic carousel, and the quintessential Christmas tree. After, walk with your CEO from Navona to Spagna learning the local history of must-see stops along the way.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel San Marco Rome (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Learn all about a different side of Rome with a newcomer to Italy as your guide with Migrantour, a social enterprise that trains immigrants to give tours of the city - with their own flair. G Adventures travellers receive a unique experience as guides give them rare insight into Italian society through an immigrant's eyes. From ancient landmarks to the history of migration to Rome, expect this to be a guided tour like no other.

Free Time

Rome

There's so much to see and do in Rome. Take some time to explore as you see fit.

Christmas Market Visit

Rome

There isn't really a more festive way to partake in the holiday season than by wandering through wooden stalls of century old Christmas markets. Picture music playing, twinkling lights, and the aroma of delicious treats wafting through the air. Sip mulled wine while you shop for hand-crafted ornaments or gifts in arguably one of the most beautiful places in Europe.



## Optional Activities - Day 2

Colosseum Visit

Rome

24EUR

Enjoy a guided tour of this famous spot, the scene of many bloody gladiator fights for the entertainment of ancient Rome's aristocracy. Learn from your expert guide and you wander the old venue—a UNESCO World Heritage site—and feel free to walk around on your own. No battles, please!

St Peter's Basilica Visit

Rome

Free

Day 3

## Rome/Montepulciano

Depart Rome by train then transfer to the town of Pienza for a visit and for some free time to explore. Continue on to Montepulciano in the heart of the Tuscan countryside and enjoy the medieval and renaissance hill town with an orientation walk and a local wine tasting.

Montepulciano is famous for producing delectable local pork, cheese, "Pici" pasta, and honey. It is also major wine producing area. Take in the stunning vistas, wander cobbled lanes, or opt to sample the local delicacies in small, family-run establishments.

Montepulciano has a charming Christmas market however opening times are variable and it is not active every day. If it is running when the group arrives to town it will be visited after the orientation walk, however this visit cannot be guaranteed.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Albergo Duomo (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Local Train

Rome - Chiusi

2h

160km

Climb aboard, take your seat, and get around like the locals do.

Minibus

Chiusi - Pienza

1h

40km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Orientation Walk Pienza

Pienza

30m

Visit Pienza with your CEO, a picturesque town in Tuscany which is a blend of Renaissance architecture and culinary delights. Stroll along Corso Rossellino, the main street, lined with charming shops and cafes.

Private Vehicle

Pienza - Montepulciano

30m

15km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 4

## Montepulciano

Spend the day in the Italian countryside. The famous wine-producing region is the perfect place for an optional vineyard tour and wine tasting, or a bike ride in the rolling hills.

For those looking to travel further afield, a visit to the thermal springs of Bagni San Filippo is a popular option.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Albergo Duomo (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Free Time

Montepulciano

Get out and explore this charming town by foot or bicycle.



### Optional Activities - Day 4

Bagni San Filippo Thermal Springs

Bagni San Filippo

The Tuscan region is known for natural thermal springs. Take a 30min ride out of town to Bagni San Filippo and find yourself in a picturesque setting of calciferous formations, waterfalls, and natural pools; this scene is made more spectacular by the vivid colour of the water made bright blue by effect of the hot springs meeting the cool river water. Sit back, relax, and be healed.

Montepulciano Wine Tour

Montepulciano

Travel outside of Montepulciano through the rolling vineyards to one of the surrounding wineries, such as the legendary Avignonesi estate or Cantina Fattoria della Talosa. Enjoy strolling through the hectares of greenery, indulging in a sample of local wines, and a guided tour of the cellars.

Bike Rental

Rent a bike from a local shop and head out to explore.

Day 5

## Montepulciano/Florence

Travel to picturesque Siena. After an orientation walk around this medieval city, opt to visit Torre del Mangia, Battistero, il Campo, or the Duomo or to take a "passeggiata" and meet the Sienese locals. Continue on to Florence and enjoy an evening walk to Piazzale Michelangelo for a fantastic panoramic view of the city, walking through the Mercato di Natale Firenze Christmas Market along the way.

The famous "Weihnachtsmarkten" is Florence's iconic Christmas market, located in the heart of the city on Piazza Santa Croce, in front of Basilica de Santa Croce.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Hotel Meridiana (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Montepulciano - Siena

1h15m

65km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Orientation Walk Siena

Siena

1h

2km

Wander through the medieval town of Siena, safely nestled in the heart of Tuscany. Feast your eyes on the gothic architecture while exploring the historic centre, a designated UNESCO World Heritage site.

Christmas Market Visit

Florence

There isn't really a more festive way to partake in the holiday season than by wandering through wooden stalls of century old Christmas markets. Picture music playing, twinkling lights, and the aroma of delicious treats wafting through the air. Sip mulled wine while you shop for hand-crafted ornaments or gifts in arguably one of the most beautiful places in Europe.

Private Vehicle

Siena - Florence

1h30m

75km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Piazzale Michelangelo Walk

Florence

Cross through the centre of the city and over the Arno. Climb to the top of the hill and check out the vista over the river from Piazzale Michelangelo. It's worth every step!

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## Optional Activities - Day 5

Ponte Vecchio Visit

Florence

Walk across this medieval bridge and look over the Arno River to feel the romance of this city. Jewelers, art dealers and souvenir shops run the length of the bridge, featured in many master paintings.

Il Duomo di Firenze Visit

Florence

Free-30EUR

1h-2h

This green, pink, and white marbled 13th century basilica is one of Italy's largest churches and its brick dome is the largest ever constructed. Wander through the cathedral or choose to climb the 463 steps to the top of the dome and be rewarded with extraordinary views of the city!

Immerse yourself in the splendor of Florence on a guided walking tour this morning. Catch a glimpse of the intricate buildings that make Florence a favourite to travellers the world over, and better understand the rich history and local way of living. With a free afternoon, the choices are endless. Opt to visit the Duomo, David at the Galleria dell'Accademia, Uffizi Gallery, medieval Ponte Vecchio, or the Medici Chapels, just to name a handful.

The afternoon is yours to explore. Check out the Mercato Centrale or any number of cafés and trattorias. If you came to shop, start at one end of the city and just keep going. There's beautiful architecture, famous museums, Renaissance art pieces, and charming cobblestone streets everywhere. If you wish to go further afield, take a wine tasting bike tour up to Fiesole and the vineyards of Chianti.

If you wish to visit popular museums like the Uffizi and Accademia Galleries, we strongly advise reserving tickets in advance to avoid waiting in line for a long time. Advance tickets can be reserved online at <https://www.uffizi.it/en/tickets> and <https://www.galleriaaccademiafirenze.it/tickets/>



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Accommodation

Hotel Meridiana (or similar)

Hotel



## Today's Activities

Florence Guided Walking Tour

Florence

2h

Discover the enchanting beauty and rich history of Florence on a guided tour through its iconic streets and landmarks. This immersive experience, led by a knowledgeable local guide, takes you on a journey through the heart of the Renaissance. Marvel at the architectural splendor of the Duomo, explore the vibrant atmosphere of Piazza della Signoria, and stroll across the historic Ponte Vecchio. Learn about the city's illustrious past, from its Medici rulers to its world-renowned artists.

## ACTIVITY

Enjoy the local specialities on this CEO-led market and food tour. Take in the sights, sounds, and smells, and enjoy every moment.

Free Time

Florence

There's plenty to see and do in Florence, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like a visit to the Uffizi Gallery to see the works of the Renaissance masters. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

## Optional Activities - Day 6

Pitti Palace - Palatine Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art

Florence

17.75EUR

1h-2h

Visit the Pitti Palace and learn about history alongside modern art.

David (Galleria dell'Accademia) Visit

Florence

22.50-26.50EUR

Visit Michelangelo's most famous statue, 'David'. Marvel at the artistry on display in the intricately carved piece of marble. Please note that pre-booking your admission online will be 26.50EUR and booking on site will be 22.50EUR.

Ponte Vecchio Visit

Florence

Walk across this medieval bridge and look over the Arno River to feel the romance of this city. Jewelers, art dealers and souvenir shops run the length of the bridge, featured in many master paintings.

National Museum of Bargello

Florence

15.75EUR

Explore this museum, housed in one of the earliest buildings in Florence (dating to 1255). Stroll through the corridors to learn about the history of this site and its many uses, and see the fantastic works from master artists such as Donatello and Michelangelo.

Medici Chapels Visit

Florence

9-32EUR

1h-1h1m

Admire the opulence of the two Medici Chapels. The Sagrestia Nuova was designed by Michelangelo and built as a mausoleum for the powerful Medici family.

Uffizi Gallery Visit

Florence

25EUR

1h-2h

Head to the Uffizi Gallery to see spectacular Botticelli and Leonardo da Vinci paintings in person.

Il Duomo di Firenze Visit

Florence

Free-30EUR

1h-2h

This green, pink, and white marbled 13th century basilica is one of Italy's largest churches and its brick dome is the largest ever constructed. Wander through the cathedral or choose to climb the 463 steps to the top of the dome and be rewarded with extraordinary views of the city!

Day 7

## Florence/Venice

Settle in for the journey to Venice by train this morning and soak in the beautiful scenery along the way. Once at the hotel, take time to relax before heading out on foot for a guided walking tour and immerse yourself in this incredible city's beauty before exploring the local Christmas market. Enjoy a free evening or join the group for an optional dinner at one of your CEO's favourite local spots.

Known as the "City of Canals" or "The Floating City," Venice is one of Italy's most famous and picturesque destinations. Between the winding canals connecting San Marco with the Santa Chiara church, the bridge of sighs, and the Doge's Palace, there are no shortage of photo ops and iconic moments.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Accommodation

Albergo Marin (or similar)

Hotel



### Today's Activities

Train

Florence - Venice

2h15m

Climb aboard, take your seat, and get around like the locals do.

Guided Walking Tour of Venice

Venice

2h

Discover iconic Venetian landmarks on a guided walking tour. Revel in the labyrinth like alleyways, charming bridges, and bustling squares, while gondolas glide through serene canals. Enjoy the unique ambiance of this historic city where every corner tells a story.

Christmas Market Visit

Venice

There isn't really a more festive way to partake in the holiday season than by wandering through wooden stalls of century old Christmas markets. Picture music playing, twinkling lights, and the aroma of delicious treats wafting through the air. Sip mulled wine while you shop for hand-crafted ornaments or gifts in arguably one of the most beautiful places in Europe.

Day 8

## Venice

Take advantage of a full free day to experience everything that Venice has to offer including the festive atmosphere of the Christmas markets. Explore Venice's diverse culinary scene with a food tour, take a gondola ride, or wander along canals and through the maze-like streets; pass world-class museums and incredible architecture in all directions. Regroup in the evening for an optional final dinner out with the group.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Accommodation

Albergo Marin (or similar)

Hotel

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### Today's Activities

Free Time

Venice

There's plenty to see and do in Venice so today is the day to explore.

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Day 9

## Venice

Depart at any time.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

## What's included

- Your G for Good Moment: Migrantour Rome, Rome
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Foodie Moment: Florence Market and Food Tour, Florence
- Christmas Market visits in Rome, Florence and Venice
- Visit Pienza
- Orientation walk of Montepulciano with wine tasting
- Orientation Walk in Siena
- Evening visit to Piazzale Michelangelo in Florence
- Guided walking tour of Florence
- Walking tour of Venice with a local guide
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Wander through cities renowned for their stunning art and architecture, Immerse yourself in the magic of Christmas Markets in some of Italy's most iconic cities, Experience a Migrantour City Tour with a Planeterra partner - connecting culture and community, Indulge in local meats and festive drinks while soaking up the holiday spirit

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## Is there an itinerary Disclaimer?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## What is the group leader like?

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our Chief Experience Officer's (CEO). The aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are traveling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

## How large will the group be?

Max 16, avg 12.

## What meals are included in this trip?

8 breakfasts

## What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Train, private vehicle, walking

## What transportation will we take on this trip?

Intercity transport on this trip will mostly be by train and occasionally by local bus. The bus and train systems in Italy are generally good, with seat reservations and toilet/snack facilities on longer journeys. Keeping to schedules is notoriously not one of the Italian transport system's specialties, so queue up some music, a good book and some Italian phrases, and kick-back and enjoy the views with the locals.

Please note that you MUST be comfortable carrying your own luggage as there will be a lot of up and down stairs on this trip due to the nature of station layouts in Italy (very few are equipped with escalators or elevators). Between public transport and hotels you may be required to carry your luggage short distances (up to 15mins walk), in larger cities you may travel by metro or city bus, and occasionally the group will take taxis to and from hotels.

## **Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?**

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Hotel (8 nts).

## **Will I get my own room?**

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

## **What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?**

On this trip you can expect to stay in small family-run hotels or pensions (with the exception of the start and finish hotels, which are often larger city hotels), which will vary a little in standard and facilities: some may not have elevators, air-conditioning or English-speaking staff, but most importantly all are locally-run, with some traditional character, and in excellent central locations to give you maximum time for exploring the sights. You can expect to find clean, safe, simple accommodation in convenient locations.

## What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

From Rome airport (FCO), you can reach the city centre in a few ways. You can take the train (The Leonardo Express) to central Rome's Termini station. Alternatively, you can take the shuttle bus from the airport to Rome Termini station. Look for the Terravision stand at the arrival terminal.

To arrange an arrival or departure transfer, we recommend you book through our preferred transfer provider - [Welcome Pickups](#)

We advise that you book both your arrival and departure transfers in advance. Please make sure you have the following details before booking:

- Flight number
- Flight Arrival Time and Date
- Flight Departure Time and Date
- Passenger's Name
- Number of Passengers
- Email
- Valid Mobile Telephone Number
- Drop off and/or Pick Up Address

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO. If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office London, United Kingdom

During Office hours (Weekdays, 9am-5:30pm Local Time)

+44 20 7243 9870

For absolute emergencies after office hours please contact: +441858378000

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What should I take on my trip?

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage. You must be prepared to carry your luggage up and down stairs, on and off transportation, and to hotels (max 15-20 mins.)

# What should be on my packing list?

## Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

**Health & Safety:**

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

**Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

**When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge or ask your CEO where the closest laundromat is. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

# What the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

For other nationalities, travelling in Europe has been simplified with the introduction of the Schengen visa. As a visitor to the Schengen area (Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland) you will enjoy the many advantages of this unified visa system. Generally speaking with a Schengen visa, you may enter one Schengen country and travel freely throughout the Schengen region during the validity of your visa. There are limited border controls at Schengen borders, if any at all.

Please note that the UK and Ireland are NOT part of the Schengen agreement.

A Schengen visa is applied for at the Embassy or Consulate of the Schengen country in which you will be spending the most nights on your trip to the Schengen space. If you are only visiting one country on your trip then you apply for your visa at the Consulate of this Schengen country.

## VENICE ACCESS FEE:

On April 25th 2024, Venice introduced a new tourist entry requirement. Travellers who are only visiting Venice for the day are charged a tourist fee imposed by the city.

We kindly request that you visit the [Venice Access Fee Homepage](#) to complete the form prior to travel. Completing this form stating you are staying overnight will exempt you from this fee. Please check the specific dates on the link above - if your departure is affected, please follow the steps below:

- If your tour STARTS in Venice (this includes arriving into Venice prior to tour start date) you will need to complete this form prior to arrival.
- If your tour TRAVELS THROUGH Venice, your CEO will assist with this requirement on tour.
- If your tour FINISHES in Venice (this includes staying in Venice after the tour finish date), your CEO will assist with this requirement on tour.
- Once you have clicked on the above link, you will find a specified announcement with the concerned dates. Double-check if your stay in Venice happens to fall into one of these dates.
- Click on Exemptions.
- Choose "I am a guest of an accommodation facility located in the municipality of Venice".
- Continue to Request Exemption.
- Put the start and end date of your Venice stay.
- Fill all the requested information of the "Main Holder" - (which is you!). Read the privacy policy before going to the next step.
- Fill the Main Holders personal data (Name - Surname - Place of Birth - Date of Birth) as per passport.
- Enter your contact number.

- Double-check the data summary before confirming it and going into the next step.
- You will now have to make a toll-free call to the number displayed on the screen, using the same phone number you filled beforehand. The call does not require a response.
- Once you have successfully verified the telephone number, you can now download your voucher containing a specific QR code.

As of 2025, various European countries are introducing ETIAS travel authorisation as an entry requirement for visa-exempt nationals.

We highly recommend you checking in advance how your nationality and country/s you are visiting may be affected.

Further details can be found [here](#)

Last updated: January 27th 2025

## **How much spending money do I need for my trip?**

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## **What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?**

Italy is in the Eurozone and the unit of the currency is the Euro.

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Visa cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work in Italy - check with your bank. You should be aware when purchasing products or services on a credit card, that a fee usually applies.

## **How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## **Do I need to pay a departure tax?**

Usually included in international air ticket

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

While conventions can vary from country to country, tipping is customary in Europe. A general rule is 10% of the bill for wait staff, and a smaller amount (€1 or €2) for other service providers.

Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program, and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from €3-5 per day, depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

At the end of each trip, if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is expected and appreciated. The precise amount is a personal preference, however €6-8 per person, per day can be used as a guideline.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Rome

- Colosseum Visit (24EUR per person)
- St Peter's Basilica Visit (Free)
- Borghese Gallery (25EUR per person)

### Vatican City

- Sistine Chapel (20-25EUR per person)

### Bagni San Filippo

- Bagni San Filippo Thermal Springs

### Montepulciano

- Montepulciano Wine Tour
- Bike Rental

### Florence

- Ponte Vecchio Visit
- David (Galleria dell'Accademia) Visit (22.50-26.50EUR per person)
- Medici Chapels Visit (9-32EUR per person)
- Il Duomo di Firenze Visit (Free-30EUR per person)
- National Museum of Bargello (15.75EUR per person)
- Uffizi Gallery Visit (25EUR per person)
- Pitti Palace - Palatine Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art (17.75EUR per person)

## **Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?**

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

## **What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?**

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

## **What are the trip specific safety considerations?**

Always keep an eye on your belongings especially in major cities, bus and train terminals.

## **What rules should I know before joining this trip?**

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?

In Italy, shoulders should be covered while visiting churches and cathedrals. Ask your CEO for more specific advice.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.