



# JOURNEYS: NORTHERN ITALY, VENICE TO FLORENCE

7 days, Venice to Florence

Trip code EIVNG

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Murano Island Glass Blowing Experience with a Local Expert, Venice
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group
- Your Foodie Moment: Florence Market and Food Tour, Florence
- Evening orientation walk in Venice including vaporetto water taxis
- Hike from village-to-village in Cinque Terre or explore by train
- Orientation walk of Florence and aperitivo dinner experience
- Guided walking tour of Florence
- Evening walk to Piazzale Michaelangelo
- 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 August 29th, 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

## VENICE

Arrive at any time and meet your fellow travellers at a welcome meeting. After an optional group dinner, join the Expedition Leader for an evening walk through the city to experience the beauty of Venice under the soft glow of twilight.

Please make your own way to the joining hotel.

Please make every effort to arrive on time for this important welcome meeting. If you are delayed and will arrive late, please inform us. Your National Geographic Expedition Leader will then leave you a message at the front desk informing you of where and when to meet up.



### ACCOMMODATION

Eurostars Residenza Cannaregio (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Venice Evening Orientation Walk Venice 1h30m

Set off with your Expedition Leader on an evening orientation walk to get your bearings and to see the gorgeous city all lit up at night. Hop on and off the local water taxis, called "vaporettos," as you navigate Venice's picturesque canals and waterways. Truly a city like nowhere on earth, the best way to explore it is on foot and from the water.

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your National Geographic Expedition Leader 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.

Day 2

## VENICE

Experience another side of Venice on a visit to nearby Murano Island. Walk through the town's charming streets and hear stories about Murano's rise as a glassmaking hub during the Renaissance. Watch master glass blowers transform molten glass into intricate pieces, using traditional techniques and hear from a local expert about how this traditional craftwork has spanned generations and become part of the cultural identity of the Venetian islands. Back in Venice, spend the afternoon exploring on your own. Perhaps visit the Guggenheim Museum, indulge in a Venetian food tour, find a quaint cafe on the Grand Canal or enjoy a Venetian gondola ride.

We recommend that you review optional activities to determine whether they require advanced reservations.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### ACCOMMODATION

Eurostars Residenza Cannaregio (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

#### ACTIVITY

Experience the enchanting island of Murano on a private water taxi tour with a local expert. This excursion offers a unique glimpse into the rich history and artisanal traditions of Venice. Witness the intricate art of glassblowing in Murano. Visit an authentic workshop and hear from a local expert about the craft of traditional glassblowing and its significance to Murano's cultural heritage. Gain an understanding of the craft's history and ancient techniques, which have been featured in the National Geographic Magazine article "Made in Italy: Venice." These traditional craftworks have spanned generations and have become part of the cultural identity of the islands. Enjoy the serene beauty of this iconic island, away from the crowds.

Free Time

Venice

Enjoy free time after approximately 15:30 today. Admire great Renaissance works of art at the Accademia or the Scuola di San Rocco, or visit the Peggy Guggenheim Gallery for more contemporary pieces.



## Optional Activities - Day 2

Guggenheim Museum Visit **Venice** **15EUR** 1h-2h

While walking down the Grand Canal, stop into this museum to see its extensive modern art collection.

Venice Food Tour **Venice**

Immerse yourself in Venice's rich culinary heritage with a guided food tour through Cannaregio and the historic Jewish Ghetto. Savor a progressive meal that embodies authentic Venetian flavors – from the city's signature spritz to locally produced wines paired with creamy risotto. Enjoy traditional cicchetti such as baccalà mantecato, sarde in saor, and polenta, among other local delights, then raise a glass of crisp prosecco to your journey. As you wander through Venice's hidden alleyways and canals, uncover the stories, culture, and centuries-old influences that have shaped its unique cuisine. End your culinary adventure with a seasonal sweet finale, a classic tiramisù or artisanal gelato.

Doge's Palace (Palazzo Ducale) Visit **Venice** **17EUR**

Visit this former palace, rebuilt and restored numerous times, and admire the Gothic Venetian architecture. Once the seat of the government, the Palazzo Ducale is now a grand museum. Enjoy the stellar artwork, ornate chambers, and courtyards.

Campanile San Marco Lookout **Venice** **8EUR**

Climb to the top of the Campanile - Venice's tallest building - to take in a great bird's eye view of the cityscape and lagoon.

Saint Mark's Square and Basilica Visit **Piazza San Marco** **Free** 1h-3h

Enter the picture-perfect Piazza San Marco from one of the many winding alleyways and stare in awe at the grandeur. With the massive, ornate basilica standing tall at one end, pigeons gathering and flying around, and violinists playing a Vivaldi tune at a café table – this is Venice. Wander the square and people watch or duck inside the glittering basilica for more Venetian inspiration.

Gondola Ride **Venice** **80EUR** 30m-45m

Sit back and enjoy a different point of view as you glide through the historic canals of Venice on a gondola.

Day 3

## VENICE/CINQUE TERRE

Set off from Venice on a drive through the stunning landscapes of northern Italy to La Spezia, gateway to the spectacular Cinque Terre. From here, hop on a train to the seaside village of Monterosso al Mare, one of the area's 5 villages. Visit the town before choosing how best to continue exploring. Those seeking a more active option can join a local guide for an included moderate hike from Monterosso al Mare to Vernazza, following a trail along terraced landscapes and charming villages. Alternatively, continue exploring the coastal villages by train with your Expedition Leader who will provide additional insight into the region throughout your journey. Return to La Spezia and enjoy an evening exploring on your own.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Firenze e Continentale La Spezia (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Venice - La Spezia

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

Local Train La Spezia - Monterosso al Mare 30m

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

Cinque Terre Guided Hike or Explore by Train Cinque Terre 1h30m-2h 3km

Choose to explore the stunning area of Cinque Terre either on foot or by train. Those looking to hike will walk from the village of Monterosso to Vernazza along with a local guide. This trail is part of the famous Sentiero Azzurro (Blue Trail) and it offers breathtaking views of the Mediterranean Sea. The path winds through terraced landscapes and charming villages, providing opportunities to learn about local history, culture, and flora. The hike concludes in the picturesque village of Vernazza, known for its colorful houses and vibrant harbor. The elevation gain and loss is approximately 230m.

Alternatively, join your Expedition Leader to explore Cinque Terre's stunning landscapes and picturesque villages by train before returning to the hotel in the evening.

Day 4

## CINQUE TERRE/FLORENCE

Enjoy the morning discovering Cinque Terre on your own or join your Expedition Leader on a visit to Portovenere, a charming seaside village with colourful houses and sparkling blue waters. Later, travel south to Florence, the capital of the Tuscany region. Walk through the lively and historic streets with the Expedition Leader, stopping for an aperitivo experience with a light dinner at a local bar. After, enjoy an evening stroll back to the hotel, taking in the beauty of the city's architecture and monuments lit up at night.

We recommend that you review optional activities to determine whether they require advanced reservations.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### ACCOMMODATION

Diplomat Hotel Florence (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Free Time La Spezia

Enjoy a free morning before 12:00 in La Spezia to explore the city or take a short trip to the village of Portovenere.

Private Vehicle La Spezia - Florence 2h 154km

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

Aperitivo Experience Florence 1h-2h

Take a break: sip a pre-dinner drink and snack on some Italian specialties at a local bar.



### Optional Activities - Day 4

Visit Portovenere

Portovenere

Travel to Portovenere, known as the "sixth" Cinque Terre town. This picturesque coastal village overlooks the Gulf of La Spezia and is known for its natural beauty and charming historic center. Spend time exploring the area before returning to La Spezia in the late afternoon.

Day 5

## FLORENCE

Set off on a guided tour of Florence, a city renowned for its stunning architecture and vibrant history. This walking experience, led by a knowledgeable local guide, takes you on a journey through the heart of the Renaissance. Marvel at the architectural splendor of Il Duomo, which took more than 100 years to build. Explore the vibrant atmosphere of Piazza della Signoria, and stroll across the historic Ponte Vecchio. Learn about the city's illustrious past, from the powerful Medici family to its world-renowned artists. Afterward, continue to a delightful market, to explore vibrant stalls brimming with fresh produce, artisanal cheeses and cured meats. Savor the flavors of traditional Tuscan cuisine as you sample local products, including the renowned Pecorino cheese. This enriching experience offers a true taste of Florence's culinary heritage and will serve as a light lunch. Enjoy the rest of the day with free time to explore Florence's many plazas and world-class museums.

Il Duomo is viewed from the outside, admission inside is not included on the walking tour.

We recommend that you review optional activities to determine whether they require advanced reservations.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### ACCOMMODATION

Diplomat Hotel Florence (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

#### ACTIVITY

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

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.

Free Time **Florence**

There is so much of Florence to explore – its famous museums, galleries, cathedrals, and shops. Your free afternoon is expected to begin at approximately 13:30.



## Optional Activities - Day 5

Pitti Palace - Palatine Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art **Florence** **1775EUR** **1h-2h**

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

Medici Chapels Visit **Florence** **9-32EUR** **1h-1h11m**

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.

Galleria dell'Accademia Visit **Gallerie dell'Accademia** **20EUR** **1h-2h**

Admire beautiful sculptures by the Renaissance master, Michelangelo, including the famous statue of David, at this beautiful art gallery. Check out rare musical instruments made by Stradivari (who made string instruments) and Bartolomeo Cristofori, the inventor of the piano, at Accademia Gallery's Museum of Musical Instruments.

Uffizi Gallery Visit **Florence** **25EUR** **1h-2h**

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

Day 6

## FLORENCE

Take advantage of a free day in Florence to pursue whatever your interests may be. Perhaps visit the Galleria dell'Accademia, the Uffizi Gallery, the Pitti Palace or the Medici Chapels (note that some of the more popular attractions in Florence require pre-booking). Or explore the city on foot, stopping at cafes and gelato shops along the way. After an optional dinner out with the group, set off to the Piazzale Michelangelo and enjoy a breathtaking panorama of Florence, where locals and visitors gather to enjoy the picturesque sunset.

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 (especially during the high season from May-September, where this can take several hours). Advance tickets can be reserved online at <https://www.uffizi.it/en/tickets> and <https://www.galleriaaccademiafirenze.it/tickets>



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

Diplomat Hotel Florence (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

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!

Free Time Florence

Take advantage of a free day prior to 19:00 to discover the best of everything that Florence has to offer.



### 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.

Medici Chapels Visit

Florence

9-32EUR

1h-1h11m

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.

Galleria dell'Accademia Visit

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Uffizi Gallery Visit

Florence

25EUR

1h-2h

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

Day 7

## FLORENCE

Depart at any time.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your Expedition Leader can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Murano Island Glass Blowing Experience with a Local Expert, Venice
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group
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- Evening orientation walk in Venice including vaporetto water taxis
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- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Gaze in awe at Renaissance treasures in the stunning cities of iconic Venice and Florence, Witness traditional glass blowing in Murano as local artisans showcase this historic art form, Take in the mesmerizing beauty of the Cinque Terre, an iconic site on the Italian Riviera's coastline, Savor the flavors and aromas of delicious local foods on a tour of Florence's local markets then marvel at the panoramic views from Piazzale Michelangelo.

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## **Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?**

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

## **Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?**

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 National Geographic Expedition Leader throughout. The aim of the Expedition Leaders 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 travelling 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?**

6 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 dinner

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

Train, private minivan/bus, boat, walking.

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

We believe solo 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 solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

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

Hotels - 6 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 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 Venice airport (VCE), you can reach the city centre in a few ways. You can take a direct bus, either 'ATVO Airport Shuttle' or the 'ACTV Airport Line'. Alternatively, you can take a boat (Alilaguna Lines) or a private water taxi.

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 Expedition Leader. 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 Expedition Leader 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 Expedition Leader 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, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

# 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 either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or 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 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.)

**Light Hiking:**

- Hiking boots
- Hiking pants (Convertible/Zip-off and quick dry recommended)
- Walking poles

**Smart Dress:**

- Smart outfit (For evenings out)

**Warm Weather:**

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

# What are 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 Expedition Leader will assist with this requirement on tour.
- If your tour FINISHES in Venice (this includes staying in Venice after the tour finish date), your Expedition Leader 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

## **What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?**

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.

## **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!

## **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 Expedition Leader 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 Expedition Leader for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

At the end of each trip, if you felt your National Geographic Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is expected and appreciated. The precise amount is a personal preference, however €8-10 per person, per day can be used as a guideline.

# What activities are optional on this trip?

## Venice

- Guggenheim Museum Visit (15EUR per person)
- Doge's Palace (Palazzo Ducale) Visit (17EUR per person)
- Gondola Ride (80EUR per group)
- Venice Food Tour
- Campanile San Marco Lookout (8EUR per person)

## Piazza San Marco

- Saint Mark's Square and Basilica Visit (Free)

## Portovenere

- Visit Portovenere

## Florence

- Pitti Palace - Palatine Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art (17.75EUR per person)
- Medici Chapels Visit (9-32EUR per person)
- Uffizi Gallery Visit (25EUR per person)

## Gallerie dell'Accademia

- Galleria dell'Accademia Visit (20EUR per person)

## **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 group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Expedition Leader 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 and explore at your leisure. While your Expedition Leader 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 judgement 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. Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our Expedition Leaders to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s). Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. Read more about travel safety for ways to further enhance your personal safety while travelling.

## **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 Expedition Leaders 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 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 leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. 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 can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)\*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

## 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.