

La Dolce Vita Tour of Italy

Rome, Isle of Capri, Sorrento, and Pompeii

Italy is much more than ancient wonder and Renaissance Glory. It is also the home of the lifestyle known as "La Dolce Vita," or the "sweet Life." Italians over their 2,800 years of history, have created a lifestyle that is relaxed but exciting and always full of beauty as seen in their buildings, their customs, and of course their food and wine. On this special Italy revealed PRIME tour, we reveal the places most indicative of this famous Italian lifestyle, starting from the capital of the country and venturing South to the charming town of the mythical Sirens, Sorrento! We also include visits of the Isle of Capri and ancient Pompeii. These destinations have been written and extolled in song and poetry for millennium and now are yours to discover and to enjoy.



Your itinerary:

Day 1: **Benvenuti a Roma, the Eternal City**



Arrival in Rome, Italy. Transfer from the airport to your hotel, where you will have time to rest or to start discovering Rome, the eternal city! Your hotel is located near the Via Veneto, the home of la dolce vita lifestyle!
Evening: Meet your Tour Director at 1830. After a brief tour introduction, we will enjoy the tastes of Rome featuring a welcome dinner and local wine! We will top it all off with that stylish but tangy after-dinner drink, Limocello! (D)

Overnight in Rome

Day 2: **Ancient Rome and Monumental Rome Tour**

Today, after breakfast, we will discover Rome from its ancient monuments to its stylish piazzas, streets, and historical monuments. Our program begins with a bus transfer and is followed by a limited walking tour. We will start with a visit of Ancient Rome, featuring the Roman Coliseum followed with a grandiose view of the political center of the Roman Empire, the Roman Forum, before discovering other archeological gems of the empire. Next we will experience Rome and her lifestyles through the places where artists and today's jet-set crowds



make this city vibrant and one of the great world capitals. Our monumental tour will include the famous *Trevi Fountain*, the *Spanish Steps*, the *Pantheon* and end at the fabulous and eternally stylish *Via Veneto*. *Via Veneto*, has long been featured in any description of Roman style. Also along the way today, you will have time for lunch and for some shopping.

Rest of the afternoon free on your own to shop and explore more of the city.

Overnight in Rome.

Day 3: Roma!

Today after breakfast, you are free to explore the best of Rome. You may visit the Vatican and its famous museums that include the Sistine Chapel, or possibly visit the nearby Villa Borghese, located just steps away from our well placed hotel. Your Italy Revealed Tour Director can assist you in anyway you desire. Overnight in Rome.

Day 4: Pompeii / Vesuvius / Sorrento

After another delicious breakfast, we venture south to the Naples area for a visit of Pompeii. Pompeii is the fabled city buried in mud and ash in A.D. 79. This is a “can’t miss” for any trip to Italy wanting to discover Italian lifestyles from the past as the ancient Romans lived in grand style. We will explore the Roman baths and pleasure houses, as well as their bars and shops before experiencing the excitement of their local amphitheater, which was one of the first of the Roman world and even pre-dates the one in Rome! We will also discover how the city ended in tragedy through a visit of the houses still containing those Romans fleeing from the tragic calamity.



After some free time for lunch, we will set off and drive up the side of the volcano Mount Vesuvius. Besides this volcano’s fame as having destroyed Pompeii in A.D. 79, you will see Naples, Capri, Sorrento, and much more, all from 4,190 feet above sea level! This view is impressive and will show the beauty that has attracted first the Greeks followed by the Romans, and several successive civilizations to these shores in search of *la dolce vita*, or the sweet life...

Late afternoon: Transfer to Sorrento. Our Hotel is centrally located. Welcome to the home of the sirens, from which Sorrento earned its name.

Overnight in Sorrento.



Day 5: The Isle of Capri

After a delicious breakfast, we will board private transportation to the nearby port and cross the Bay of Naples to Capri by fast boat. Capri has been one of the most sought after vacation spots since the Greeks and the Romans. While the Emperor Tiberius made Capri his home 2,000 years ago, many of the rich and famous Italian jet-set crowds have homes here where they can bask in the sun and take in the shimmering

turquoise sea-views from below. We will have a choice of options to discover and enjoy. Your Tour Director will be on hand to help you reach and discover *the Natural Arch formations* of the island, the Emperor *Tiberius' old villa* from which he ruled the Roman Empire for a decade, or the *Gardens of Augustus* with its panoramic views! There will also be ample time to do some shopping in the chic botteghe (stores) or to sip some wine as the ancient Romans did, near the marina. The highlight will be a visit of the fabled Blue Grotto. Entering inside a cave by boat, the sunlight comes up from the waters creating visions of wonderment as the rock, sun, and water play! Afterwards, we head back to Sorrento and will enjoy some free-time. Overnight in Sorrento

Day 6: Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast: Positano, Amalfi, Vietri, and more!

After breakfast, we will have a tour of Sorrento and then proceed by deluxe bus down the Amalfi Coast. The Amalfi Coast is Italy's most lovely and scenic drive and where the road alternates from seaside passages to cliff hanging routes that let you view the coastline and nearby islands from hundreds of feet above the sea! Amongst many exciting and beautiful towns along the coast, we will explore Positano, Amalfi, and Vietri today before heading back to Sorrento. Today's highlight will be a visit of the Emerald Grotto, rarely known by the average visitor but an important part of la dolce vita experience!



Evening: We will enjoy a farewell Banquet! We will sample local cheeses, delicious breads, and many of the local wines that have been enjoyed since the days of the Roman Empire! You will also have the choice of local fish delicacies or succulent meats for your main course. This will be topped off with your choice of gelato!

Overnight in Sorrento.



Day 7: **Arrivederci Italia**

Alas alas, after our last breakfast, we leave early for our return flight home out of International Airport of Naples...

Prices and Trip Information:

Price per Person:

- Adults: \$1,239.00 pp in double occupancy / \$1,175.00 pp in triple occupancy
- Single Supplement: **\$344.00**

Departure Date options for the most complete Roman experience available:

20-26 February 2011

13-19 March 2011

To Reserve:

* A deposit of 20% per person will be required to guarantee your spot as there is a limited amount of seats on PRIME tours. Smaller groups mean more flexibility and more enjoyment! Call is at 404-437-6377 or e-mail us at reservations@walkertravels.com.

Your special price includes:

- *4 star deluxe Hotel Accommodations:*
 - 3 nights at the Hotel NH Vittorio Veneto****located in *central* Rome or similar.
 - 3 nights at the centrally located Grand Hotel Flora**** in Sorrento
- *Site-seeing Tours:*
 - Private Guided** Tour of the Roman Coliseum and Forum area.
 - Private Guided** Tour of Monumental Rome
 - Private Guided** Tour of Pompeii and Vesuvius
 - Private Guided** Tour of the Isle of Capri with the Blue Grotto
 - Private Guided** Tour of Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast with Emerald Grotto
 - All entries included as per itinerary
- *Italy Revealed Personalized Services:*
 - Hand-picked Italy Revealed Tour Director with additional commentary/assistance 24/7 of tour duration
 - All Italy Revealed staff are Masters or PhD level experts and a lot of fun!
 - Private deluxe mini-bus with climate control for duration of the trip providing all transportation, transfers, and parking fees as per our itinerary.
- *Dining:*
 - All breakfasts as per itinerary and two delicious dinners with wine

Extra Notes: As this is a land only tour, you may request air tickets from Italy Revealed if desired. It is important to note that if you are departing from the USA, your flight

should leave the evening before “day 1” in Italy. For payment and refund protocols, please consult our generous terms and conditions. All exact times and specific trip information provided upon final payment. In case of inclement weather, and the boat to Capri is not possible, we will enjoy a free day in Sorrento.

Note on Joseph Walker: This tour is led in conjunction with Joseph Walker’s Italy Revealed. Mr. Walker received his M.A. in Italian History. Overall, he has lived half of his life in Italy and has directed travel, entertainment, and sports programs for the US military stationed in Europe. Joseph has also been a consultant for various US and European TV documentaries focusing on Italy and has written extensively on his travels. Having a classical academic background, a long history with cultural activities in Italy, and having a deep knowledge of Italian language, culture and history, Joseph and his staff of dedicated professionals will make sure that this *unique trip* to Italy is one of the best ever undertaken.



Sign up Today for this program! Let us know the names of the guests, if the 3 star or 4 star package is desired, and the date you wish to begin, and leave the rest to us. Reservations can be made through your *trusted travel agency* or at 404-437-6377 or reservations@walkertravels.com.