



The Great Italian Opera

A unique experience through the Italian most beautiful theatres



The Teatro alla Scala in Milan

"I go out now from La Scala ... In my opinion it is the first theater in the world, because it is the one that procures the greatest pleasures of music ... As for architecture, it is impossible to imagine anything greater, more solemn and brand new."

Stendhal - French writer (1783-1842)

A unique itinerary, dedicated to the most sophisticated and demanding guests, to let them enjoy the great Italian Opera in the most beautiful Italian theaters. From the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the most famous Opera house in the world, to La Fenice in Venice, the path winds through beautiful cities and finely decorated caskets such as the Teatro Bibiena of Mantua and the Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza, ranging from the Roman era, represented by the Arena di Verona, to the nineteenth century.

The travel proposal will be tailored on the basis of performances dates and programmes.



PROGRAM

Day 1

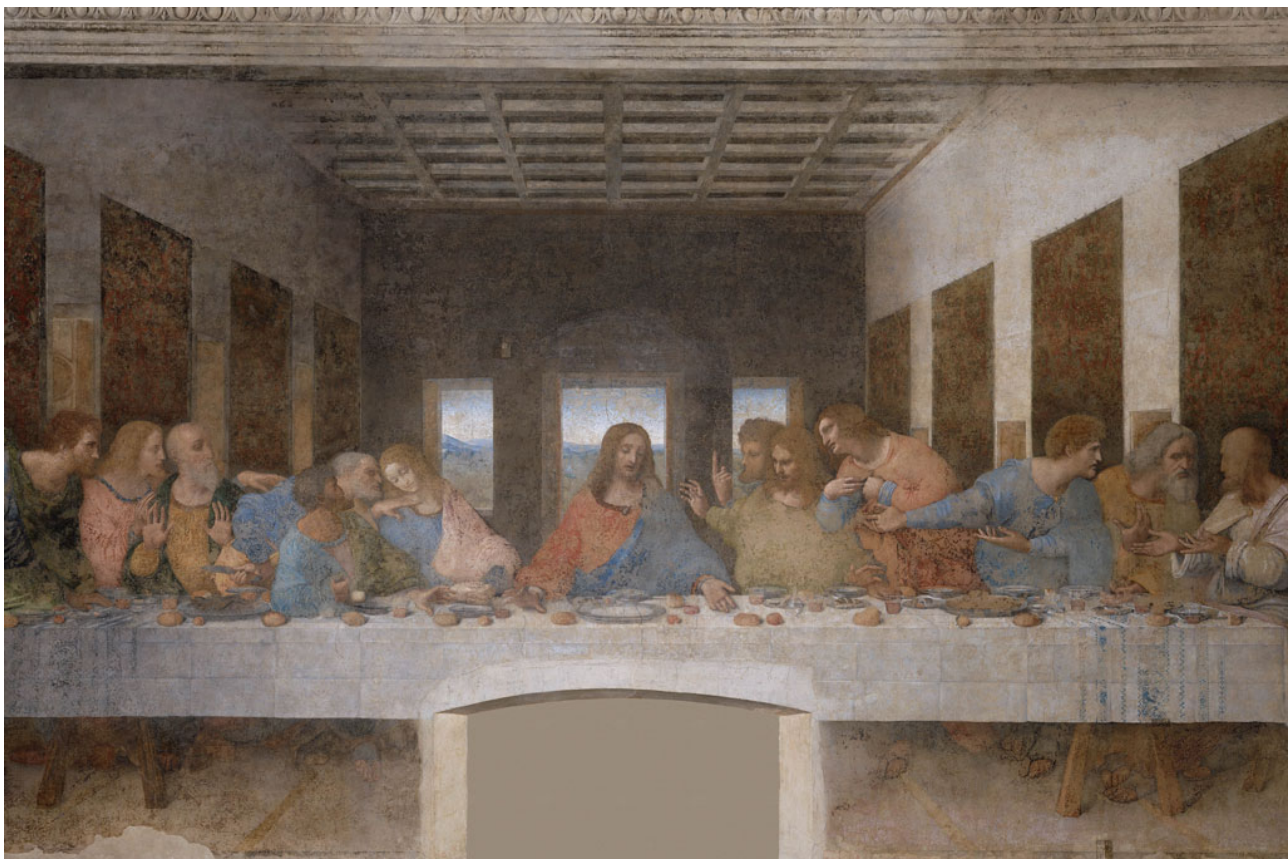
Private transfer from the airport to the 5* hotel (to be defined), located in the very heart of Milan. Depending on arrival time, lunch or welcome *aperitivo* at the hotel. Rest of the day and dinner at leisure.

Day 2

In the morning, meeting with a private guide and visit the Last Supper, the 15th-century mural painting by Leonardo da Vinci, one of the world's most famous paintings, included in the UNESCO World Heritage sites list. Continue with a visit at the San Maurizio church, an ancient monastery with its wonderful frescos by Bernardino Luini; the site includes a cloister and two ancient towers, part of the roman walls and the circus.

After lunch, guided tour of the Teatro alla Scala, with its beautiful museum, to admire some rare music instruments dating back to the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, porcelains, opera costumes and many other objects related to the theatre.

In the evening, enjoy a performance at the Teatro alla Scala: an opera, a concert or a ballet (to be defined, depending on the dates). Dinner in a charming restaurant.



The Last Supper from Leonardo da Vinci



Day 3

In the morning, private transfer to the Certosa di Pavia, a 14th century historical complex renowned for its architecture, both Gothic and Renaissance styles, with a church, a monastery and some beautiful cloisters.

Lunch in an elegant and cozy *Osteria*, in the heart of Certosa.

After lunch, visit of the ancient and fascinating city of Pavia, with its vast amount of artistic and cultural treasures, its medieval towers and one of the oldest university in the world, where - according to the legend- Christopher Columbus made his studies in the 15th century.

After a light dinner, enjoy a performance at Teatro Frascini, one of the most prestigious masterpieces of the city.

Private transfer back to Milan.



The Certosa di Pavia



Day 4

In the morning, guided visit to the Poldi Pezzoli Museum, one of the most significant house-museum in Europe, enriched by a finest private art collection, with paintings coming from the 14th to the 18th centuries, made by Botticelli, Mantegna, Piero della Francesca and Tiepolo. The collection also includes about 3000 items of wonderful jewellery, Murano glass, porcelain, arms and armours, tapestries and carpets, furniture and archaeology.

After lunch, in a charming restaurant, visit the Ansaldo atelier, to admire handmade works for the production of Opera performances: set designs, sculptures, carpentry works, mechanics workshops, set assembly, costume workshops and over 60,000 stage costumes.

Time at leisure to visit the famous Milan Fashion District, also known as *Quadrilatero della Moda*, with show rooms of the great Italian fashion brands, like Giorgio Armani, Dolce&Gabbana, Versace and Prada. If required, guests can also have a personal assistant at disposal.

In the late afternoon, enjoy an exclusive SPA treatment.

In the evening, enjoy a performance at the Teatro alla Scala: an opera, a concert or a ballet (to be defined, depending on the dates). Dinner in a charming restaurant and overnight.

Day 5

In the morning, private transfer to Verona. Meet your private guide and visit ancient palaces and squares, bridges and churches of this beautiful city, delivered to the myth of Shakespeare's masterpiece "Romeo and Juliet".

The tour begins at The Arena, the Roman monument famous worldwide for its magnificent opera performances.

The walk will lead you to the old market square, the center of the economic and social life of the city, since the Middle Ages, defined by the Guardian the most stunning *Piazza* in Italy.

After lunch in a charming restaurant, a walk will lead guests through the old castle and the stone bridge, to the Basilica of San Zeno, a 10th century church where, upon the tradition, the Romeo and Juliet marriage took place.

Lunch in a charming restaurant in the "old town".

In the afternoon, private transfer to the airport, for an amazing flight on a small plane, to enjoy the most beautiful sights of Verona; according to the weather guests will fly over the Lake Garda and the fascinating castle of Sirmione.

Time at leisure before enjoying an Opera in the wonderful Arena di Verona (in case the Arena season should be over, guests can enjoy a private concert in a spectacular 18th century villa close to Verona, surrounded by an English-style garden).

Dinner in a charming restaurant.



Day 6

In the morning, private transfer to Mantua, the city of Rigoletto.

Meeting with a guide and visit Palazzo Ducale, the famous residence of the Gonzaga, the princely family that ruled the *Ducato di Mantova* until the 18th century. In this astonishing palace guests can admire the Renaissance masterpieces, including the famous *Bridal Chamber* by Andrea Mantegna.

Lunch in a charming restaurant, tasting some Mantua's typical recipes, like the famous *ravioli di zucca* (pumpkin ravioli).

In the afternoon, visit of the Bibiena Theatre, a masterpiece of the late baroque period, an exquisite jewel for the balance between movement and elegance. In 1770, just a month after its inauguration, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart took a memorable concert in this theatre.

A walk among the most beautiful squares of the city will lead guests to visit the house of Rigoletto. The itinerary will end at Palazzo Te, a shining example of a Renaissance palace.

Dinner at a charming restaurant in Mantua.

Private transfer back to Verona.



Mantua



Day 7

Private transfer to Vicenza, to visit the *Teatro Olimpico*, the first and oldest covered theater of the modern era, designed in 1580 by the Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio.

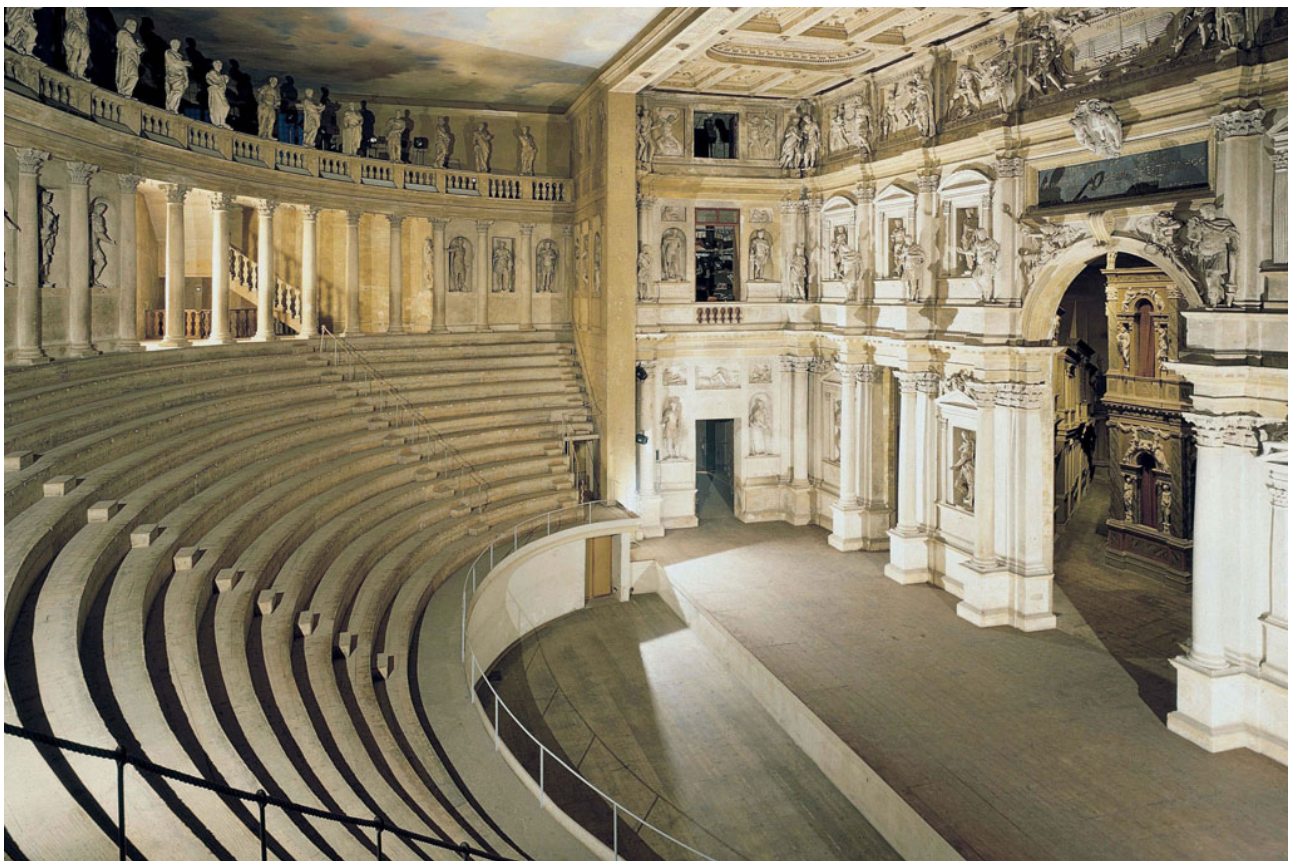
Lunch in an exclusive design restaurant.

In the afternoon, walking tour along the old city, to discover its monuments and its beautiful palaces, designed by Andrea Palladio.

Transfer at Villa La Rotonda, a 16th Century masterpiece. For centuries, the Villa has been visited by poets and artists, sovereigns and statesmen, art amateurs and travellers. *"Maybe never architectural art has reached such a level of magnificence"* said J. W. Goethe, the German writer, after the visit at La Rotonda.

Exclusive dinner and private concert at Villa La Rotonda (depending on performance dates).

Private transfer back to Verona.



The Teatro Olimpico, Vicenza



Day 8

In the morning, private transfer to Venice.

Visit the heart of the city: San Marco Square, the Basilica and Palazzo Ducale; this itinerary allows to unveil the history, the power and the tradition of the *Serenissima Repubblica*.

Lunch in a charming restaurant.

In the afternoon, walking tour to discover the places that tell the history of courtesans and debauchery in Venice, starting from the 14th century until the fall of the Republic in 1797.

Time at leisure to relax a SPA treatment in an exclusive and refined sanctuary of wellness and relax, located in the city center.

After a light dinner, enjoy an Opera performance in a 15th century noble Venetian Palace, facing the Canal Grande, enriched by frescoes of great Venetian painters like Tiepolo (depending on performance dates).



Venice



Day 9

In the morning, visit Ca' Rezzonico, a magnificent palace, now hosting the Museum of the 18th century, designed by the greatest Baroque architect of the city, Baldassarre Longhena. Through the centuries, many important painters in Venice - with Tiepolo among them- were called to decorate the palace.

Lunch in a charming restaurant.

In the afternoon, meet an expert guide and visit the wonderful Teatro La Fenice.

After the visit, enjoy an Opera performance in one of the Apollinee halls, closed for exclusively use, enjoying a drink before the Opera and during intermission.

Dinner in a luxury restaurant located in the very heart of Venice, overlooking a peaceful canal.



La Fenice Theater

Day 10

In the morning, private transfer to the airport.

Total quotation for the couple: starting from € 8.000,00.