



7 Days Itinerary

Romantic Rome and Tuscany

Day 1	Hassler Roma (2 Nights) Campo Marzio Walking Tour
Day 2	VIP Vatican Tour Imperial Rome City Tour
Day 3	Rail · Frecciarossa 11:15 AM Hotel Brunelleschi Explore Florence At Leisure
Day 4	Florence Walking and Tasting Tour
Day 5	Florence at Leisure morning Rail 12:10 PM (1hr 35min) Grand Hotel Continental (2 Nights)
Day 6	Celebrity Chef Cooking Class
Day 7	Montepulciano, Pienza and a local Birrificio. Castello Banfi - Il Borgo

Day 1



Hassler Roma

+39 06 69 9340

Piazza Trinità di Monti, 6 Rome 00187 Italy

2:00 PM

Check In

12:00 PM

Check Out

2 Nights

Duration

The Hassler Roma is one of the most prestigious hotels in the world. It is owned by President and Managing Director Roberto E. Wirth, the fifth generation of a famous Swiss dynasty of hoteliers. Elegance, style, the highest quality in terms of service and discretion have made the Hassler the very symbol of international hospitality, making it the preferred destination of VIPs from all over the world.

In addition to its 91 rooms and suites, the hotel's Michelin-starred panoramic restaurant Imàgo offers a breathtaking view over the city of Rome, and is the meeting place of choice for important personalities and celebrities both international and local.

The Hassler Roma is located in the heart of Rome, next to the Trinità dei Monti church at the top of the famous Spanish Steps and Piazza di Spagna: one of the most beautiful and charming locations in the "Eternal City".



Campo Marzio Walking Tour



Walking through Campo Marzio is at once a living history lesson and a celebration of Rome's famed Dolce Vita. Join your local expert guide to explore the area's rich history, cultural highlights and true Roman flair...

For close to three millennia, Campo Marzio has played a vital role in Rome's history: as the ancient city's breadbasket and a military training ground with a flooded "naval stadium" in the Imperial Age, as a medieval slum for destitute immigrants and a trendy neighborhood for the Baroque upper class.

Today, it is home to must-see sights like the Pantheon and the Spanish Steps, the power center of modern government at Palazzo Chigi and the city's most fashionable shopping street Via del Corso. The amusing anecdotes and insider insight of your local expert guide will make Campo Marzio's rich history come alive as we make our way from Piazza di Spagna to Piazza Navona, stopping along the way to admire the art of travel in Italy...

Architectural and artistic treasures, stylish storefronts and flowing fountains – and tossing an obligatory coin into the recently restored Fontana di Trevi! As a fitting end to an exciting experience, enjoy an al fresco cocktail or meal on lively Piazza Navona to the burbling soundtrack of Bernini's Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi.

(Tour duration: 3 hours – 2 Entrances to Pantheon included)

Day 2



9.15 am – Meet your English speaking guide in front of the Cafe of the Vatican Museum which is located opposite the museum, on the other side of the street.

Please note that your guide will be waiting for you with a sign saying EHRENREICH. The correct address to give to the Taxi driver is Viale Vaticano 100 (Cafe Vaticano).

On today's 'voyage through the Vatican', our local expert guide will show you the city-state's most beloved masterpieces and little-known treasures, all the while sharing tales of intrigue, tragedy and power from the Holy See's turbulent history. Meet your guide at the Vatican Museum's entrance and skip the lines with your timed tickets.

Originally built as papal palaces for the Renaissance pontiffs, the Vatican Museums have an unparalleled collection of classical statuary, ancient treasure like Egyptian mummies and Etruscan bronzes, a hallway lined with 16th-century topographical maps of Italy and paintings by Old Masters from Giotto and da Vinci to Titian and Raphael.

Continue with a wander through the Sistine Chapel, gazing up at Michelangelo's masterful ceiling, and a stroll down the cavernous nave of St. Peter's Basilica with its majestic dome and bronze canopy. The tour ends on the square of the same name, a sacred and monumental site where throngs of the faithful gather to receive the pontiff's blessing.

(Tour duration: 3 hours – 2 Entrances to Vatican Museum and Basilica of St. Peter included – Taxis to/from Vatican not included)



Imperial Rome City Tour

Image credits: Pixabay

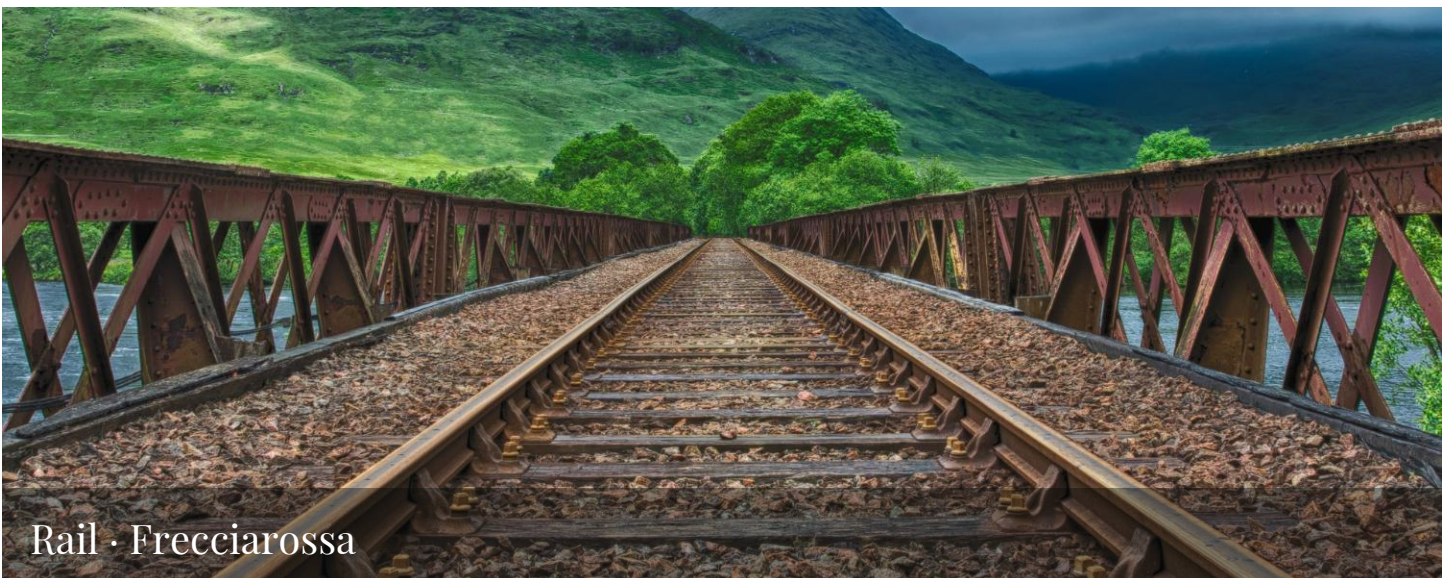
9.00 am – Meet your English speaking guide and driver in the lobby of the hotel. From the rise of Julius Caesar to the fall of the Roman Empire, Rome was the center of the modern world. Join our expert local guide to explore the highlights of Imperial Rome on foot and by your private vehicle... Visit the best-loved sights of Rome in our highlights tour that perfectly combines walking with relaxed sightseeing in the comfort of a luxury vehicle.

Follow in the footsteps of Cicero and Caesar in the valley of the Forum Romanum, as your guide recounts myths and legends that make the ruins come alive – like the Basilica of Constantine with its imposing arches and the Senate House with its floor featuring marble from the far corners of the Empire. We continue down the Via Sacra to the triumphal Arch of Titus and make our way to the Colosseum. After admiring its exterior and exploring its interior, we'll walk the Palatine Hill and visit the ruins of the imperial palaces and the small museum.

The tour continues to the Basilica of St. Peter in Chains to see the relics and Michelangelo's Moses, before venturing to the Vittoriano monument, sometimes called disrespectfully the "Wedding Cake". The tour ends with a panoramic drive past Circus Maximus, where daring Romans competed in fast-paced chariot races, and the two closest of the seven Hills of Rome, Aventino and Palatino.

(Tour duration: 4 hours – 2 Entrances to Colosseum included – No rucksacks are permitted in the Coliseum! If you have one, you will be forced to renounce it)

Day 3



Rail · Frecciarossa

11:15 AM

Departure

Arrival Location
Florence

Train Number
train 9526

Notes

Check out of the hotel and settle any incidental accounts....

11.20 am – Take the Frecciarossa train 9526 (first class and seat reservation in Coach: 2 Seats: 9D, 10D PNR: VT27S5) from Rome to Florence...

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please remember to bring the printed electronic tickets (that you received together with your Land Arrangements) – this ‘ticketless’ reservation needs to be presented onboard the train to the inspector.

Transfer from Florence train station to your hotel in Florence – to be arranged and paid locally...



Hotel Brunelleschi

+39 055 27370

Piazza Santa Elisabetta #3 Florence 50122 Italy

2:00 PM

Check In

12:00 PM

Check Out

Hotel Brunelleschi is an historical pearl inside the heart of Florence city center, located just a few steps from the Duomo, Piazza della Signoria, the Uffizi Gallery, Ponte Vecchio and the main shopping streets. Hotel Brunelleschi has been completely refurbished in 2013, its elegant rooms are equipped with all comforts and supplied with all of the expected bathroom amenities.

The hotel also boasts a range of suites, that are astonishing for their elegance, individual designs and views, and provided of exclusive services, such as a dedicated concierge and chef for exquisite breakfasts served in an exclusive breakfast area, the fine dining Santa Elisabetta restaurant.

Hidden inside the Byzantine Hotel's Tower, Restaurant Santa Elisabetta, on the first floor, is the 7 table fine dining restaurant of the hotel, the ideal setting for a romantic intimate dinner. For a new dining experience, to taste Tuscany's delicacies, the Osteria della Pagliazza restaurant offers a wide choice of typical Tuscan food

Amenities

Signature Amenities

\$70 Food and Beverage Credit

Bottle of Prosecco
Special Welcome Amenity

The following amenities are subject to availability at the time of check-in:
Upgrade Early Check-In Late Check-Out



Explore Florence At Leisure

Image credits: Pixabay

Florence is a vast and beautiful monument to the Renaissance, the artistic and cultural reawakening of the 15th century that heralded giants of literature, art, engineering and philosophy like Machiavelli and Dante, Michelangelo and Donatello, Galileo and da Vinci as well as all-powerful patrons like the Medicis.

Day 4



Florence Walking and Tasting Tour

Image credits: Pixabay

9.00 am - Meet your English speaking guide in the lobby of the hotel. A walking tour with a difference! Join your local expert guide for a tour of Florence that is tailored specifically to your interests... Whether you are brand new to the City of the Lily or a “been-there-done-that” veteran, we have just the Florence walking tour to suit your needs.

First-timers will not want to miss the city’s highlights Piazza della Signoria: Europe’s most beautiful square with the Palazzo Vecchio, the center of the city’s political life for over 700 years. The Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore: view the cathedral, adorned by the lovely campanile and crowned with its imposing cupola, an amazing challenge of engineering to be solved only by the genius of Brunelleschi.

We discuss how the difficulties were to be overcome in the most imaginative of ways. We reach the Arno River and view the lovely bridges that span its waters and the charming riverfront houses of the Oltrarno district. The oldest bridge, the Ponte Vecchio, is lined with tiny old-style shops where meat was sold in medieval times and now are jewelry stores. But our expert guides won't stop there, they take you down roads less traveled, share fascinating tales from the city's history and hunt down hidden treasures chosen especially for you. Whether your interests lie in history, architecture, food, arts & crafts, rest assured that our bespoke tours will take you places you've never been before.

(Tour duration: 4 hours – 2 Entrances to Uffizi gallery included – tastings included)

Day 5



Day at leisure to explore Florence on your own...

Escape the city's frenetic pace in the lush Boboli Gardens at Pitti Palace, an open-air museum for horticulturists. Its mix of statuary and topiary, fantastical fountains and grottos, terraces and bosquets, was a prototype 'Italianate' garden for aristocrats across Europe.

Rise above the fray on Piazzale Michelangelo's hilltop perch (the view is your reward for the climb!) or engage in quiet contemplation at the Oblate convent turned library. Between the two is the San Niccolò district with lively piazzas, 'Beach Arno' and an artsy, hipster vibe.



Rail

Image credits: Pixabay

12:10 PM

Departure

1:45 PM

Arrival

1hr 35min

Duration

Arrival Location
Siena

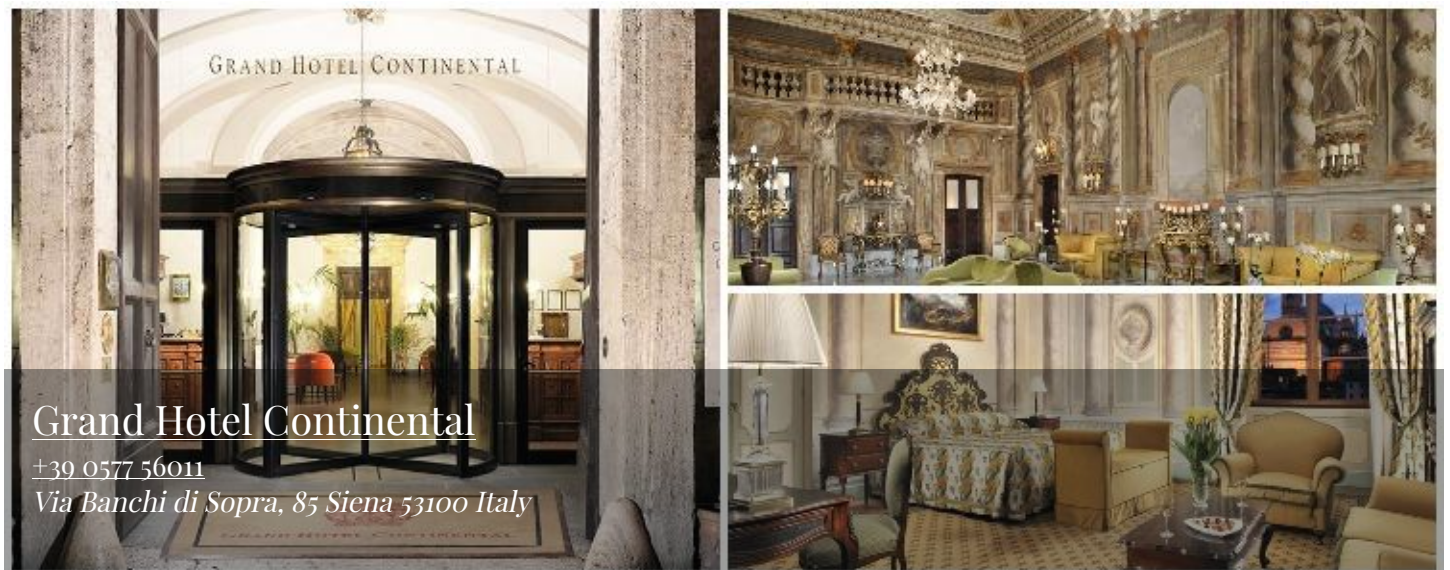
Train Number
Regional train 11749

Service Class
Second Class

Notes

12.10 pm – Take the regional train 11749 from Florence (second class tickets with free seating Ticket Code: 967597887 & 967597890) arriving in Siena at 1.38 pm.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please remember to bring the printed electronic tickets (that you received together with your Land Arrangements) – this ‘ticketless’ reservation needs to be presented onboard the train to the inspector.



Grand Hotel Continental

+39 0577 56011

Via Banchi di Sopra, 85 Siena 53100 Italy

2:00 PM

Check In

12:00 PM

Check Out

2 Nights

Duration

The Grand Hotel Continental, which is the only five-star luxury hotel within the walled city of Siena, reopened on the February 14, 2002 after a full refurbishment that uncovered hidden frescoes of incredible beauty and restored the medieval tower which now

distinguishes the building. A 17th century Italian palazzo was built by Pope Alexander VII for his niece, Olimpia, as a wedding present. The Palazzo stands in the pedestrian heart of the town, on the chic shopping street, in the borough known as the Contrada of the Dragon.

It is just a few steps from the Piazza del Campo, famous for its bareback horse race, from the Basilicas of San Domenico and the Duomo. Everything is just a stone throw away. On arrival, every guest is immediately given the feeling of having crossed the threshold into an exclusive place with an extraordinary atmosphere.

The original interior layout has been maintained and 51 rooms were created many of which frescoed. They have been painstakingly restored and furnished with antiques. The fine dining restaurant is the place to taste delicious Tuscan specialties in an elegant atmosphere where the music soothes the mind and the seasonal specialties delight the palate. The Bar, situated in the crystal covered courtyard of the noble palazzo, is the home to the perfect drink. And last but not least, the Wine Cellar by Sapordivino is located at the base of a recently rediscovered medieval tower, one of the most fascinating parts of the hotel. Its thick stone walls, dating back to the 13th century, house a vast collection of fine wine labels.

It's the perfect place to visit for anyone wishing to enter the world of superb Tuscan wine and a perfect place to host events in a unique setting. The views over the roof tops and on the Duomo, the renaissance painted ceilings, the fine cuisine and the terraces with blossoming flowers are all aspects which render the stay truly memorable.

Payment

Breakfast, Service and TAX's included. Any eventual city TAX to be paid directly to the hotel...

Cancellation Policy

48 Hours prior to Arrival by 12:00 Local time to Avoid a One (1) Night's Penalty.

Day 6



Image credits: Pixabay

10.30 am – Join celebrity chef, cookbook author and food historian in the heart of Siena's old town for a master class in Tuscan cuisine... The Scuola was the first cooking school to open in the historic Tuscan town of Siena and today, more than a decade later, it has gained in popularity among professional chefs, fanatic foodies and eager Epicureans from near and far. Her dedication to the history of Italian and Tuscan culinary traditions have given her unique insight into the techniques and recipes that really stand the test of time, and she and her team look forward to sharing them with you.

Join your small group in Lella's bright state-of-the-art kitchens and get to work preparing a three-course meal using the best in local, seasonal produce, not forgetting that, at Lella's school, 'fun' is the main ingredient! As the sauces bubble away, lose the aprons, take a seat at the dining table with your classmates and enjoy a Tuscan feast accompanied by local wines.

Lella never lets anyone leave empty-handed: a recipe packet and a final diploma – along with the happy memories! – are yours to take home. (Tour duration: 4 hours)



Image credits: Pixabay

Montepulciano, Pienza and a local Birrificio.

9.30 am – Meet your English speaking driver in the lobby of the hotel.

Enjoy the day exploring – Montepulciano, Pienza and a local Birrificio. From Siena, accompanied by your Local Expert Driver head south through the valleys and passing the many beautiful hill towns that have made this area so famous as you head towards the southern area of the Region to your first port of call, Montepulciano.

Famous for its ‘Vino Nobile di Montepulciano’, this medieval town is picturesque, quaint, extremely interesting to visit and explore and tasting the famous Wine of Montepulciano is a must. Before arriving at Montepulciano, like the other towns to be visited your Local Expert Driver will give you a brilliant introduction on the area, the town, what to see, enjoy and explore, its people, history, culture and products allowing you to make the most out of your time.

From Montepulciano you will head to Pienza located high on one of Tuscany’s hillsides both the views arriving here and the views from the town itself are unforgettable. The town itself is quite small and easily visited and enjoyed although as your Local Expert Driver will tell you, its difficult to tear yourself away from these views and enjoy the town. Your last stop is a wonderful local birrificio in Quirico D’Orcia, where you will have the opportunity to taste some beer.

The birrificio is located in an ancient building in the historic center of San Quirico d’Orcia and they are able to produce high quality craft beer with traditional recipes and modern quality control systems. After this experience, you will go back to your Hotel in Siena.

(Tour duration: 8 hours – Beer tasting included)



Castello Banfi – Il Borgo

+39 0577 877700

Castello di Poggio alle Mura Montalcino Tuscany 53024 Italy

3:00 PM

Check In

12:00 PM

Check Out

This hotel is seasonal from March 26th to November 10th 2019. Castello Banfi – Il Borgo is nestled into the homes that were built alongside the medieval fortress historically known as Poggio alle Mura. In the 17th and 18th centuries, when it became safe to live outside of the thick walls and locked gates but prudent to be close for protection.

The Castello is the hospitality center of the 7100-acre (2850 hectares) vineyard estate. Guests are nurtured in a warm and refined environment with attention to detail. Culinary and cultural adventure, including cooking classes and sunset picnic, wine tastings, vineyards treks and sightseeing, as well as simple relaxation, are the hallmark of the property.

Amenities

Signature Amenities

Two course lunch paired with Castello Banfi wine at La Taverna or at the Pool Bar during the summer months, once during stay
Welcome bottle of Cuvee Aurora Rose The following amenities are subject to availability at the time of check-in/departure:
Upgrade Early Check-in Late Check-out