



# Italy, the Adriatic & Greek Islands Cruise

12 days | 14 days with Rome extension

Start your adventure exploring Venice before embarking on a cruise of the Mediterranean. While visiting many prominent ports of call, you'll discover temples dedicated to the ancient gods, sky-spanning sunsets, and the ruins of legendary civilizations.



## Your tour package includes

- 3 nights in handpicked hotels
- 7 nights aboard the Royal Caribbean Explorer of the Seas
- 10 breakfasts
- 6 lunches
- 9 dinners, some with beer or wine
- 2 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guide
- Private deluxe motor coach

## Included highlights

- St. Mark's Square
- Grand Canal
- Santorini
- Mykonos
- Athens
- Katakolon

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 1.5 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads, cobblestone streets, and unpaved trails, with few hills.

## Group size

15-38

# Italy, the Adriatic & Greek Islands Cruise

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## Overnight Flight → 1 night

### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Venice today.

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## Venice → 2 nights

### Day 2: Arrival in Venice

*Included meals: welcome dinner*

Welcome to Italy! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Venice

*Included meals: breakfast*

Admire historic churches, winding canals, and picture-perfect piazzas on a guided tour of the city known as the Queen of the Adriatic.

- Step into the iconic St. Mark's Square and enter St. Mark's Basilica.
- View the stately Doge's Palace, built in the Venetian Gothic style in 1340.
- Marvel at the Bridge of Sighs, the link between Doge's Palace and the New Prison.
- See a glassblowing demonstration to learn about the city's most celebrated art.

Enjoy a free afternoon in Venice or add an excursion.

*Please note: On some departures travelers may enter St. Mark's Basilica after the sightseeing tour based on ticket time availability.*

+ Gondola Ride: Venice Canal Cruise

+ Private Gondola Ride: Canal Cruise for Two

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## Overnight Cruise → 7 nights

### Day 4: Cruise embarkation

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Transfer to Ravenna this morning, where your cruise will depart this evening. Board your ship, Explorer of the Seas, and settle in to your stateroom. Then, sit down for an included dinner aboard the ship this evening.

### Day 5: Day at sea

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

Spend the day aboard the cruise ship. Soak in the ocean views as you enjoy an included lunch aboard the ship and make your way to Greece.

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Sit down for an included dinner aboard the ship this evening.

### Day 6: Santorini, Greece

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

Stop in Santorini this morning and spend the day exploring the volcanic isle known for its black-sand beaches, cliff-lined shores, and stunning whitewashed architecture. You'll have the option to return to the ship in the afternoon to enjoy an included lunch.

Sit down for an included dinner aboard the ship this evening.

### Day 7: Mykonos, Greece

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

Dock in Mykonos this morning and spend a free day exploring Mykonos Town, home to the island's iconic windmills. You'll have the option to return to the ship in the afternoon to enjoy an included lunch.

Sit down for an included dinner aboard the ship this evening.

### Day 8: Athens, Greece

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

Dock in Athens this morning and spend a free day exploring ancient ruins, shorelines steeped in mythology and villas bursting with local charm. You'll have the option to return to the ship in the afternoon to enjoy an included lunch.

Sit down for an included dinner aboard the ship this evening.

### Day 9: Katakolon, Greece

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

Cruise along to Ionian Sea and enjoy an included lunch. Then, visit Katakolon, a gateway to the UNESCO-recognized site of the Ancient Olympic games.

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

### Day 10: Day at sea

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

Spend the day aboard the cruise ship, enjoying the ocean views as you travel back to Venice. Enjoy for an included dinner aboard the ship this evening.

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## Venice → 1 night

### Day 11: Disembarkation

*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*

Transfer to your hotel after disembarking in Ravenna. Then, spend a free afternoon exploring the city or add an excursion.

This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ Islands of the Venetian Lagoon: Burano & Torcello

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## Flight Home

### Day 12: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or continue on to explore Rome.

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## + Rome extension

Have your sights on more art, history, and street life? Rome is sure to deliver. Only in the Italian capital can you sip cappuccino in front of the Pantheon and have an audience with the pope all in one morning. After a train ride, admire the highlights during guided sightseeing.

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## Rome → 2 nights

### Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Rome

*Included meals: breakfast*

Transfer to Rome via high-speed train. Then, follow in the footsteps of the ancient Romans on a guided tour of the Eternal City.

- Soak up over 2,000 years of history in Imperial Rome, viewing the Arch of Constantine and the Arch of Titus.
- View the Colosseum, a monumental amphitheater that reverberates with the roar of ancient spectacles.
- Traverse the evocative ruins of the Forum, once the pulsating heart of Roman life.
- Pass Palatine Hill, see where ancient Romans raced chariots at Circus Maximus, and view the Baths of Caracalla.

**Day 13: Free day in Rome**

*Included meals: breakfast*

Spend a free day in Rome or add excursions.

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ Food of Rome: Walking Tour of Trastevere

+ Iconic Sights: Vatican City

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**Flight Home****Day 14: Departure**

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: [goaheadtours.com/MRV](https://goaheadtours.com/MRV) | 1-800-597-0350

## **Day 3: Gondola Ride: Venice Canal Cruise**

\$89/\$99\* (25 minutes, departure time varies)

More than 100 canals crisscross Venice, and boarding a sleek, black gondola to explore them has become a time-honored tradition. On this memorable excursion, join your fellow travelers for a tour through the canals of Venice, with a gondolier deftly guiding your boat along. Please note: This excursion runs as weather permits, and travelers should feel comfortable getting into and out of the gondolas. A private, two-person gondola ride is available for an additional cost.

## **Day 3: Private Gondola Ride: Canal Cruise for Two**

\$165/\$175\* (25 minutes, departure time varies)

More than 100 canals crisscross Venice, and boarding a sleek, black gondola to explore them has become a time-honored tradition. On this memorable excursion, you'll enjoy a private gondola cruise for two through the canals of Venice, with a gondolier deftly guiding your boat along.

Please note: This excursion requires two passengers. Cost is per person, and each traveler must book the excursion. Travelers should also feel comfortable getting into and out of the gondolas. This excursion runs as weather permits.

## **Day 11: Islands of the Venetian Lagoon: Burano & Torcello**

\$85/\$95\* (5 hours, departure time varies)

Visit the islands of the Venetian lagoon, a favorite day trip for locals and travelers alike. First travel by water taxi to Torcello, where the story of Venice began. It was here that mainlanders sought a safe haven from invading barbarians. Step inside the Basilica of Santa Maria Assunta, whose famous mosaics depict The Last Judgement. The next stop is the tiny fishing village of Burano, where brightly colored homes greet visitors. Wander as you please throughout Burano, and be sure to stop in at the island's bakeries.

## **Extension excursion options**

### **Day 13: Food of Rome: Walking Tour of Trastevere**

\$135/\$145\* (3.5 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Meet up with a local guide for a culinary-themed walking tour of Trastevere. This historic neighborhood is located across the Tiber River and is home to some of the Rome's best shops, bars, and restaurants. Step inside four handpicked eateries, each of which showcases the area's rich culinary traditions. You'll enjoy tastings of aperitivi, pasta, pastries, and gelato—all quintessential Italian foods. Over an aperitivo and a glass of wine, your guide will talk about the various flavors and cooking techniques that have come to define the local cuisine. Watch locals go about their daily lives as you stroll along the charming trattoria-lined streets during your tour.

### **Day 13: Iconic Sights: Vatican City**

\$125 (3.5 hours, departure time varies)

This guided tour takes you inside Vatican City—a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most sacred places in Christendom. This independent city-state within Rome serves as the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church and is home to the Pope. Upon arrival, turn on your pre-distributed headset and dive into the Vatican's rich history with your local guide. First, visit the Vatican Museums, which are more than 500 years old and house many of the world's most important Classical- and Renaissance-era sculptures. Next, step inside the Sistine Chapel, whose frescoed ceiling is arguably Michelangelo's greatest masterpiece. Finally, pay a visit to the enormous St. Peter's Basilica, the epicenter of the Roman Catholic faith. The artists who have contributed to its glory are some of the best Italy has ever known—Bramante, Peruzzi, Raphael, and Michelangelo. Masterpieces await at every turn, from Bernini's magnificent bronze canopy to Michelangelo's Madonna della Pietà.

Please note: Should this excursion fall on a Sunday, it'll be moved to another day of the tour. Backpacks aren't allowed in the Vatican, and shorts and sleeveless shirts are strictly prohibited. Due to closures of certain entrances and pathways, wait times may extend to several hours during busy travel months. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 70 days prior to departure.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at [goaheadtours.com/terms](https://goaheadtours.com/terms)