



Malta & Italy Coach Tour 21 days from \$4999

Per person twin share including flights from Australia with Emirates



\$4999: Departs 19 May, 16 June, 8 September, 7 October 2019
\$5499: Departs 5 May; 2, 30 June; 14, 28 July; 22 September 2019

Book by 27 March 2019

Italy & Malta Tour Package Includes:

- Return economy airfare from Australian Capital Cities to Rome with Emirates.
- Extra \$250 from Hobart and Canberra. Extra \$600 from Darwin.
- **18 nights' accommodation** in twin rooms with private en-suite facilities. Single travellers have the option to pay a single supplement to ensure a private room.
- **Services of your tour leader**, who will be on hand with advice and tips to ensure that you get the most from your trip.
- 18 breakfasts, 1 Antipasto, 5 dinners
- All taxes and fees
- Any public transport used as part of the tour (excludes free days & airport transfers)
- Modern **air conditioned coach** with reclining seats, toilet & TV for showing DVDs.
- **20 Experiences** (including guided walking tours, orientation walks, driving tours of cities plus other exciting experiences)

Tour Highlights:

- Walking tour of Rome with an expert local guide
- Guided tour of the ancient ruins of Pompeii
- Free day's to explore Sorrento, Rome & Venice
- Visit Verona, Florence, Pisa and the Italian Lakes
- Explore the medieval fortified city of Mdina, Malta's former capital
- Discover the Grand Harbour area opposite Valletta, known as the Three Cities
- Visit Palazzo Parisio, Malta's foremost aristocratic palace
- You are invited to sample a selection of wines & local savouries in one of Malta's leading wineries
- Tour Hagar Qim temples & learn of Malta's limestone heritage
- Guided tour of the Megalithic temples of Ggantija, the world's oldest free-standing monuments that pre-date the pyramids

Subject to confirmation by the tour operator & airline.
Departure dates may vary depending on flight schedule.

Phone 1300 813 391. www.ditravel.com.au

Itinerary:

DAY 1: Depart Australia.

DAY 2: Rome

Welcome to Rome! If you arrive early enough, head into the city to see what Rome has to offer. An ancient city that has seen the rise and fall of entire empires, there is no shortage of historical real estate to feast your eyes on. Not to mention designer shopping and brilliant food. Meet up with your tour leader at our hotel in the afternoon, and prepare for the tour of a lifetime! Tonight, you'll meet the rest of the tour group at our included welcome dinner.

DAY 3: Rome



Today, we'll take a guided walking tour of the city, stopping off at the landmarks that have made Rome a perennial favourite with travellers all over the world. See Ancient Roman architecture, medieval buildings, Renaissance artworks and more remnants of Rome's illustrious past as capital of this incredible country. Highlights today include the Spanish Steps, the Pantheon, Piazza Navona and the Roman Forum. And let's not forget Trevi Fountain – legend has it that if you drop a coin into the fountain, you'll return again one day. In your free time this afternoon, why not visit the Coliseum, probably Rome's most recognisable landmark, and the centre of Roman social life. See where countless gladiators, martyrs, wild animals and other unfortunate souls did battle in the name of entertainment.

DAY 4: Pompeii - Sorrento region



Leaving Rome, we'll head to Sorrento peninsula via Pompeii. As it's our first day on the coach, take the time to get to know your fellow travel companions, and listen out for tips on Italy from your tour leader. On our way to the coastal region of Sorrento, you will see Mount Vesuvius and we will stop at Pompeii to explore the ruins of this ancient Roman town, destroyed in 79AD in a catastrophic volcanic eruption. Preserved since ancient times under meters of ash and pumice, it offers superb insights into life (and death) in the ancient Roman Empire.

As we leave Pompeii behind, you will have the option to visit the beautiful Amalfi coast, with some free time to explore the town of Amalfi. Upon arrival on the

Sorrento peninsula we have a two night stay. Amongst other things, this area is famous for limoncello (a sweet lemon liqueur), and this is the perfect way to finish off your meal.

DAY 5: Sorrento region - Free day

A gorgeous old town hugging the coastline, the Sorrento peninsula is our base for the day. Explore the towns in your own time, and seek out little shops producing lace-work, ceramics and specialising in marquetry (the art and craft of applying pieces of veneer to create incredible artwork). Alternatively, choose our optional excursion to the famous Isle of Capri. Capri has charmed everyone from Roman emperors to modern showbiz elites. Try it for yourself and enjoy the smooth mix of cafés, rugged coastline, ancient Roman ruins and stylish piazzas.

DAY 6: Cassino - Assisi



Today, we depart the coast and head north to Assisi, stopping en route in Cassino. Famed for the site of the Abbey of Monte Cassino, along with its rolling green hills, vineyards and rivers, the city was also the scene of fierce fighting in World War II, which left the town almost completely destroyed. After a comfort stop here, we continue on to the region of Umbria and the medieval town of Assisi, whose most famous son, St Francis, was born here in 1181. A charming town and the most popular pilgrimage site in Italy, you will enjoy the ancient churches and basilicas – many of them are just as St Francis would have seen them almost one thousand years ago!

DAY 7: San Marino - Venice



Leaving the churches and basilicas behind, we head to Venice, stopping off for a comfort stop in Europe's third-smallest state – San Marino. Claiming to be the oldest surviving sovereign state in the world, San Marino was founded by Saint Marinus on the 3rd of September 301, and is now one of the most popular day-trip destinations for visitors to the area. Situated on a hilltop, you will witness stunning views of the surrounding countryside and the Adriatic sea. Later, we arrive in Venice in the early evening. You have the evening free to relax at the hotel, or explore Venice with the option to join your tour leader on a twilight water taxi cruise of the Venetian canals.

DAY 8: Venice - Free day

This morning we'll take an orientation walking tour with your Expat Explore tour leader, who will introduce you to sights including the Rialto Bridge and St Marks Square. The rest of the day is then free for you to explore as you wish. Every visit to Venice should include a gondola ride, which your tour leader can organise for you, as well as a trip further out into the lagoon to visit Murano and Burano. These islands are famous for their glass-blowing and lace-making crafts respectively, and rows of beautiful multi-coloured houses. Alternatively you can simply relax and soak up the sun on the sandy beaches at Jesolo or Lido. There's also The Bridge of Sighs and the Doge's Palace to see, and any number of culinary delights to sample too!

DAY 9: Verona - Italian Lakes



First up today, we'll stop off in 'fair Verona' to catch a glimpse of Juliet's balcony, where Romeo supposedly wooed Juliet in Shakespeare's classic 'Romeo & Juliet.' Beset by family feuds, drama and romance since its founding in Roman times, Verona has its share of stories to tell, and is an unmissable stop on Italian tours. Look out for the 2,000 year old arena and the ancient city gates. Later, we head to the Italian Lakes – and you'll find out just why famous writers like DH Lawrence and Hemingway were so inspired by this region of Italy. Peek at palatial lakeside villas, and revel in the pleasant mix of luxury and rural charm.

DAY 10: Cinque Terre - La Spezia



Leaving the beautiful Italian Lakes, we head to the Cinque Terre region. Made up of five picturesque Italian towns, Cinque Terre features hiking routes and trains running regularly along the coastline between the towns of Monterosso, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Riomaggiore. With cars and motorcycles banned from the towns, you'll have a wonderful time exploring the towns by train or by foot. Each town has its own unique charm - we are certain you will fall in love with each and every one! As you explore, why not taste local wines along with local produce such as pesto, freshly-caught fish and sweet lemons? Unforgettable!

DAY 11: Pisa - Florence - Tuscany



On our way to Florence, we stop off at the famous town of Pisa to get a few shots of its distinctive Leaning Tower. Now over 800 years old, it's a classic sight in Italy and well worth a visit. Bragging rights are all yours! On arrival in Florence, we take a guided walking tour of the city, exploring many of the most famous sites and gaining

local insight from our guide. Sights to see in Florence include Ponte Vecchio, Palazzo Vecchio, Florence Cathedral, the Basilica of Santa Croce and of course Michelangelo's David. A cultural and political focal point during the Renaissance, Florence is endowed with a huge variety of important buildings and famous artworks. After exploring, it's off to our accommodation in the Tuscan hills, in the ancient spa town of Montecatini Terme. Later, you are free to search for that perfect restaurant or ask your tour leader for recommendations.

DAY 12: San Gimignano - Siena - Rome



This morning we make our way through one of the world's most picturesque countryside landscapes, admiring Tuscan farmhouses, vineyards and olive groves as we drive by. Our first stop of the day will be in San Gimignano, a small walled hill town. Known as the 'Town of Fine Towers', it offers beautiful Romanesque and Gothic architecture and 12 well-preserved tower houses. We'll then make the short drive to Siena, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famous for the 'Palio' horse race held twice a year in the main piazza, or public square. We'll enjoy a wine tasting accompanied with antipasto, before we head back to Rome and round the off the day with a farewell dinner together on our last night of the tour.

DAY 13: End of Italy Tour – Fly to Malta

After breakfast, we say goodbye to our travel companions and depart for home. Check out of your hotel and take a taxi to the airport. We hope you have enjoyed your 12 day Italian tour. Arrivederci, Italia!



Day 13: Malta-Arrival

Upon arrival in Malta you will be met and transferred privately to your hotel in St Julian. Remainder of the afternoon is at leisure to explore this beautiful island.

Day 14: Malta- free day

Today is day at leisure to explore the beautiful island of Malta.

Day 15: Mдина (full day)

Today's excursion takes us to the central part of Malta, dominated by the medieval fortified city of Mдина, Malta's former capital city. The narrow, winding streets, dating back to medieval times, lead to the imposing bastions, commanding a magnificent panorama of the island. On the way there, you will discover different styles of architecture, including Siculo-Norman palaces and other baroque buildings of great historical portance.

Time stands still in this 'Silent City' which is a film-maker's paradise. Leaving Mдина through Greeks' Gate, we stop at the early Christian catacombs in Rabat before proceeding to the cliffs at Dingli. After lunch we will visit the San Anton botanical gardens situated near the residential Palace, which you will be able to admire from outside. We shall also spend time at the crafts centre at Ta' Qali . At the end of the tour, allow us to astound you with Mosta's majestic dome, that is one of Europe's largest.



Day 16: Three Cities

Discover the Grand Harbour area opposite Valletta known as the Three Cities – Vittoriosa, Cospicua and Senglea, where the Knights of St. John first settled in 1530. Driving past Cospicua we reach Vittoriosa for a walking tour through the narrow streets in the shade of historic buildings, including the first auberges of the various langues of the Order. At the Vittoriosa waterfront we take a typical harbour boat (dghajsa) for a tour of the colourful harbor creeks. From the Senglea Garden, situated at the tip of the peninsula, enjoy a stunning 360° view of the Grand Harbour, including the impressive Fort Sant Angelo from where Grand Master La Valette led the defence of the island during the Great Siege of 1565.

Day 17: The other Malta

This is a very special tour, combining Malta's foremost aristocratic palace with 400-year-old wine cellars where Malta's premium wines are allowed to mature. Palazzo Parisio has been justly described as 'a miniature Versailles'. Its intricate interiors contain fine frescoes, magnificent marble works, mirrored walls, tromp l'oeil, rare paintings and extravagant gilding. The beautiful landscaped gardens, acclaimed as being among the finest in Europe, reflect the splendour of this gracious home. After the opulence of the palazzo, one of Malta's leading wineries welcomes you to its cellars where you will be given a detailed explanation of local wine making and invited to sample a selection of wines and local savouries.



Day 18: Hagar Qim Temples, Limestone Heritage, Blue Grotto & Local Market (full day)

The tour starts with a visit to one of Malta's oldest quarries which has been transformed into an attraction for tourists and locals alike and which provides a vivid account of one of Malta's leading skills – the use of limestone for building purposes, a skill that goes back thousands of years. The magic of Malta's antiquity will be explained at Hagar Qim, Malta's main pre-historic site, overlooking the wide expanse of the blue Mediterranean and the islet of Filfla. From Hagar Qim you will proceed to Wied iz-Zurrieq where (weather permitting - boat price not included) you can take a boat trip to the Blue Grotto, renowned for its crystal clear waters. After lunch, we drive through local vineyards right up to the idyllic fishing village of Marsaxlokk. You will have time to stroll through the local market set out on its waterfront. Later we proceed to the cave at Ghar Dalam where archaeologists have unearthed ample proof that Malta once formed part of the European landmass.

Day 19: Gozo and Gantija Temples

After a short twenty-minute ferry crossing you will reach Mgarr harbour, which immediately sets the pace to Gozo's unique atmosphere. Your guide will lead you around the Megalithic temples of Ggantija, the oldest free-standing monuments in the world, pre-dating the Pyramids of Egypt. After lunch, we will visit the medieval citadel in Victoria, the fjord-like bay at Xlendi and Dwejra. Gozo is well-known for its crafts, particularly handmade lace and knitted garments. Visitors cannot fail to be impressed by the island's lush countryside, its serene atmosphere and how different it is from the larger island of Malta.

Day 20: Malta Departure

Your tour comes to an end after breakfast. You will be transferred privately to Malta Airport.

Day 21 Arrive Home.

Malta Hotels:

Dolmen Resort, Seashells Resort at Suncrest, Depiro Point Hotel and Spa



ATAS Accreditation Number: A10718

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DESTINATION INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read this information prior to making your reservation

BROCHURE VALIDITY

The information presented in our brochure is correct to the best of our knowledge, but is subject to change without notice. Changes can occur with respect to prices, itineraries, duration of holidays, service standards, tour content, airfares and schedules. This is out of our control. Please ensure you advise details of your requirements at the time of booking.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

The Australian GST does not apply to international travel. Any service fees, courier, cancellation and amendment fees are subject to GST. You will be charged GST where applicable.

DEPOSIT

A deposit is required to confirm your booking (varies depending on package booked). Receipt of deposit will be taken as an understanding by Destination International Holidays that the customer has checked their confirmed travel arrangements and has read and agreed to the terms and conditions.

FINAL PAYMENT

Payment in full must be made no less than 90 days before travel, unless required earlier by any supplier.

PRICES

All prices for our tours are advised in Australian Dollars (\$AUD). They are based on airfares, schedules and tariffs at the time of printing. Destination International Holidays reserves the right to vary the cost of the tour, taxes and airline prices if necessary by reason of currency fluctuation, cost increase, or airfare increase. All prices are subject to confirmation from local tour operators. Once full payment has been received by Destination International no surcharges in respect to currency fluctuations will be applied.

ITINERARY CHANGES

Destination International Holidays reserves the right to amend the itinerary for reasons such as service requirements, road or weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. Where a change is of a significant nature, it will be advised to our customers in writing. Destination International Holidays reserves the right to substitute hotels, lodges, inns and camps with properties of similar standard

AMENDMENT FEES

Any deviation to packages advertised or quotes will incur a fee of \$150 per person.

Should you need to alter your confirmed reservations, there will be an automatic fee charged of \$150 per amendment or transaction, plus any new arrangements made. Additionally, there may be cancellation fees levied by the tour operator or fees may be applicable where arrangements have been pre-purchased.

In addition, we charge

- \$50 per person for all airline seat reservations and baggage charges plus any airline fees.
- \$100 per person for all Tourist visa processing plus the cost for the visa fee.
- \$75 per person to reissue any travel documents lost in the mail.
- \$100 per person to process insurance claims when travel insurance has not been purchased from this office.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellation fees will be levied relative to the amount of notice given as follows:

Days' Notice	90 or more	75-90	65-75	65-1
	Loss of Deposit and 50% loss of fare	75%	85%	100%

The above are Destination International Holidays cancellation fees. Airlines and Tour Operators may have additional fees. Transfer of a confirmed booking to another tour or departure date is deemed a cancellation of the original booking. There will be no refund for cancellation of unused services on or after commencement date. Please note that employees of any overseas suppliers are not authorised by Destination International Holidays to make any undertakings to our clients in respect of refunds or other matters.

ACCOMMODATION

There will be variations in the size, standard and presentation of rooms and facilities within the one hotel. This is beyond the control of Destination International Holidays.

CLAIMS

If you encounter any problems on your holiday, you should try to solve it directly with the supplier whilst overseas. If it is not possible to do so please do so in writing within 30 days of completing your Destination International Holidays arrangements.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

You must be insured for the duration of your trip. You need comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, health requirements, luggage and additional expenses. Insurance policies rarely cover for loss of cash.

PASSPORT, VISA & VACCINATIONS

You must familiarise yourself with any visa and health requirements that may be applicable in the countries you are visiting. You are responsible for all entry/exit health and any other documents required by laws, regulations, orders, demands or requirements of countries visited or transited. Please note that passport and visa requirements are not the responsibility of Destination International Holidays. We will not be held liable for any loss or expense due to the failure to comply with the above. We recommend that you be in possession of a passport valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended stay overseas.

CONSULAR ADVICE

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