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Luxury Experience in Italy

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The best Italian theaters selected by Vertours

MUSIC & THEATER EXPERIENCE

Arena di Verona

Roman amphitheater of the first half of the Ist century a.D., one of the best kept in the world. The monument symbol of the city - was named after the Latin toponym which means sand that covered the stalls. The Romans built it in order to perform the shows they were particularly keen: the fights between gladiators and the huntings to the wild and exotic animals. Now a day during summer period it's the stage for the Opera Lyrical Festival. OPERA SEASON: mid June, July, August, beginning Septmeber.

La Fenice Venice

Teatro La Fenice is an opera house in Venice. It is one of the most famous theatres in Europe, the site of many famous operatic premieres. Its name reflects its role in permitting an opera company to "rise from the ashes" despite losing the use of two theatres (to fire and legal problems respectively). Since opening and being named La Fenice, it has twice burned and been rebuilt. Theatre promenade: welcoming of the group, exclusive private tour of the theater, after which it will be served a cocktail in one of the Apollinee rooms. OPERA SEASON: all year around.



MUSIC & THEATER EXPERIENCE

La Scala Milan

The Scala opera house and its Museum: a point of reference for opera enthusiasts. The Teatro alla Scala Museum was founded in 1913. Just likethe opera house, it was restored a few years ago and reopened in 2004with a new display by Pier Luigi Pizzi. The Teatro alla Scala Museum tellsthe life of the opera house through a vast collection of musicinstruments, portraits, busts and documents dedicated to the greatest musicians, from Giuseppe Verdi to Arturo Toscanini. Visitors can also admire the auditorium from boxes and have the possibility to get toknow the backstage machinery during the preparation of a show. OPERA SEASON: all year around (no August)

Theater dell'Opera- Rome

Teatro dell'Opera o Teatro Costanzi it's the most important theatre in Rome where take place ballets and operas. OPERA SEASON: all year around (no Juy and August).

Theater San Carlo Naples

Next to Plebiscito Square, one of the symbols of Naples, stands the shrine to Italian opera, whose foundation precedes the Scala theater in Milan by 41 years and the Fenice theatre in Venice by 55 years. It was in 1737 that the first king of Bourbon, Charles III became the promoter of a project that combined magnificence with amazement and became a clear sign of his power: a theater! OPERA SEASON: all year around (no Juy and August).

Cremona

The medieval town hall square is without a doubt the most charming part of the town and the best place to start a tour of discovery of Cremona with its history and art. The Torrazzo (1), the tallest stone bell tower in Italy, the Cathedral (2), an interesting example of Romanesque-Lombard architecture, the octagonal Baptistery (3), the thirteenth century Town Hall its Collection of Stringed Instruments (4) and the Loggia of the Militia (5) surround the town's main square which in times gone by excelled to the point that it competed with Milan. Leaving the square, crossing piazza Stradivari you reach corso Vittorio Emanuele. "Ponchielli" Theatre (6) overlooks this street and was rebuilt in neoclassical style in 1806 by the Milanese architect Luigi Canonica on the site of the seventeenth century Teatro "Concordia". Visit visita alla sala dei violini, presso il comune di Cremona, dov@ esposta una collezione di violini famosi. Audizione gratuita di uno degli strumenti esposti. Visita al museo civico e Stradivariano, che raccoglie oggetti e documentazione relativi ai personaggi più rappresentativi della vita musicale e della tradizione liutaria di Cremona; interessanti soprattutto i disegni autografi, i modelli e gli attrezzi da lavoro dello Stradivari e i manoscritti di Ponchielli. OPERA SEASON: all year around (no Juy and August).

Macerata

The Sferisterio of Macerata stands out as one of the most prominent architectural structures of the late European Neoclassical Style. In the first half of the Nineteenth century, a few wealthy gentlemen living in Macerata decided to enrich their city with a permanent structure used to host the game with ball and bangle and, at the same time, as an arena for the 'steccato' and for bull fighting, which was very popular at the time of the Papal State. Construction began on 2 October, 1820, according to the drawings provided by Salvatore Innocenzi. The Sferisterio was inaugurated on 5 September, 1829. The very special shape of the building which includes a playing field, a series of rooms for various purposes, a supporting wall, boxes and balconies was carefully designed to encompass the needs of the sports activities which were popular in the first half of the Nineteenth century. The building, which is in line with the best Neoclassical taste and betrays a Palladian influence, is not only magnificent per se, but it perfectly blends with the city landscape. The harmonious structure ensures perfect visibility and wonderful acoustics. Over the years which saw Claudio Orazi as artistic director, the Sferisterio welcomed on its stage all the best international performers like Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo, Monserrat Caballè, Marilyn Horne, FiorenzaCossotto, Ruggero Raimondi, MariellaDevia, Josè Carreras, Katia Ricciarelli and Renato Bruson. OPERA SEASON: July and August.

MUSIC & THEATER EXPERIENCE

Torre del Lago, Puccini Festival - Lucca

Established in 1930, over the years, it has become increasingly prestigious and draws thousands of spectators from all over the world. Torre del Lago is a favorite destination of opera lovers and tourists who want to visit the environment and the native land of the most beloved composer of the 20th century. During more than seventy years of history the most famous and acclaimed opera singers took the stage at the Festival Puccini. Close to Torre del Lago, Lucca has a very long history whose traces still remain in his walls, squares, churches, buildings. A Roman colony, as witnessed by the Amphitheatre and the two streets running North - South and East - West and meeting in the Forum, today Piazza San Michele, in 570 it became an important centre of Longobard power and capital town of Tuscia. In 1162 Lucca became a free municipality governed by rich silk trade companies and seat of a mint. Since the second half of 1500 Lucca changed into an independent aristocratic Republic: in order to defend its freedom against Florence and the Este to the north, town-walls were enlarged and fortified.

The strong walls and ramparts, nowadays planted with trees, are one of the town symbols. In 1799 Lucca was occupied by the French and became Principality of Felice and Elisa Baiocchi, Napoleon's sister. After Bonaparte's fall, Lucca was a dukedom under the Borbonis until 1847, when it entered the Tuscan Government. Giacomo Puccini was born here on December 22nd, 1858. OPERA SEASON: July and August.

PUCCINI









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LAND OF MOTORS EXPERIENCE

Ferrari, Maserati, Pagani, Lamborghini, Ducati

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THE LAND OF MOTORS TOUR Day 1 - Bologna

Arrival at Hotel, welcome Aperitif and check in. In the late afternoon you will meet our English speaking guide for a lovely walk through the medieval market to discover the history, art and traditions of Bologna. A traditional bakery and pasta maker's. The history of tortellini and tagliatelle. A traditional chocolate maker where solid chocolate was invented. The history of mortadella, from the third century BC up to modern times. A typical Bolognese osteria. After the tour welcome dinner escorted by music in one of the most ancient taverns in Bologna located in a 1400 palace in the historical centre. Overnight at Hotel.



LAND OF MOTORS EXPERIENCE

Day 2 Museo casa natale Enzo Ferrari, Balsamicvinegartasting, the Ferrari Gallery

Individual breakfast at Hotel. In the morning departure to Modena. Guided visit to the Museo Casa Enzo Ferrari. The museum complex extends on about 6.000 m2 and includes Enzo Ferrari's Birthplace and a futuristic automotive design gallery, painted in the yellow that Enzo Ferrari chose as the background for the Prancing horse on his famous logo. For lunch we will stop in the private house of an important traditional balsamic vinegar producer, you will learn the main rules for producing the best Traditional Balsamic Vinegar of Modena and finally will taste the true Balsamic Vinegar accompanied by a buffet lunch with special local dishes. After lunch departure to the famous Ferrari Gallery and meeting with the museums'guides . This Gallery is housed in several rooms designed to display historic vehicles, Formula 1 racing cars and modern GTs, innovative technology, trophies, technical drawings, film clips and photographs as well as the Ferrari Shop with original Ferrari merchandise. Even the interpretation of the exhibition space reflects the company spirit: making progress, improving and facing new challenges, in the awareness that the ultimate car has yet to be built, just as Enzo Ferrari used to say. Visit of the Museum and stop for shopping at the Ferrari Gallery's Shop. Back to Bologna. Free time for leisure, relax and dinner. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 3 Maserati Panini collection and Maserati factory

Individual breakfast at Hotel. In the morning departure to Modena. Visit to the beautiful private Maserati Panini Collection. In the museum you will learn the most important historical steps about this prestigious brand from 1926 to nowadays and will have the possibility to see a collection of 40 cars, 30 motos and bicycles, motors and very interesting army vehicles. The same property hosts also an important Parmesan Cheese farm and you will take the occasion to visit the production and taste our typical cheese. ery nice farmhouse for a traditional lunch. You will enjoy delicious dishes rigorously prepared by hand according to our local country traditions. In the afternoon, visit to the Maserati Factory. This tour involves visit to the production lines and the other areas in which tradition, passionate craftsmanship and cutting-edge technology combine to produce truly exceptional cars. Back to Bologna. Free time for leisure, relax and dinner. Overnight at Hotel.

Day 4 Lamborghini and Factory, The Ducati Museum

ndividual breakfast at Hotel. Check out. Meet the tour representative and departure to the unique Lamborghini Museum and factory located inside the Lamborghini stablishment. They show the cars that are witness of many seasons of the firm since 60 years to our days: from 350 GT of 1966, Countach of 1973 to "Formula Uno" cars. The history is shown by pictures and models from all over the world. After the visit lunch in a nice restaurant nearby Lamborghini. In the afternoon you will visit the beautiful Ducati Museum opened on June 12, 1998, during the first annual WDW (World Ducati Week), and was officially inaugurated on October 16th later that year. The Museum has preserved over half a century of Ducati racing history and also the history of the company (before it produced motorcycles) founded by the Ducati brothers in 1926. End of the tour after Ducati visit.







A selection of the best typical Italian dishes

FOOD EXPERIENCE

This tour will offer you the chance to learn the secrets of some of the most famous Italian gastronomic specialties. Of course the most delicious dishes: pasta, pizza, lasagna, tortellini can be eaten wherever in Italy!!

Parmesan cheese & ham - Parma and Reggio Emilia

Together with the cheesemakers you will discover a masterpiece of the italian artisan capacity and will learn to recognize the best Parmesan Cheese. A final tasting accompanied by local wine will delight you.

Truffle - Alba

The truffle is a subterranean mushroom that lives in total harmony with trees roots. Truffles look like tubers, and consist of a fleshy interior, called "gleba" and are externally covered by bark called "peridio". They contain a high percentage of water, fibres and mineral salts, absorbed from the soil through tree roots. Truffle fair mid October-mid November every year.



FOOD EXPERIENCE

Mortadella - Bologna

Appetizing and tasty, Mortadella Bologna has a centuries-old history and, not surprisingly, is the sausage most famous culinary tradition of Bolognese. Its roots go as far back as the sixteenth century and the typical Bologna name dates back to 1661, when Cardinal Farnese in Bologna published a notice that encoded the production of this meat and anticipated, in some ways, the current specification.

Aceto balsamico - Modena

Discovering the pleasure of 'agro', proposing a visit to an acetaia and its restaurant which offers a vinegar and the surprising use of a "liquid" whose instruments of production were passed on from generation to generation, forming the "dowry" for girls. Only after an appropriate period of aging, the product reaches the surprising balance of aromas and flavors that can carry the label of origin. Aging that occurs in a series of barrels, different woods and decreasing volume. Each year, the barrel smaller battery provides a few liters of product while the decrease due to the concentration is compensated by the addition of boiled must in the barrel's capacity. During the visits will be given explanations on what are the main rules that are followed to obtain the best Traditional Balsamic Vinegar of Modena, and finally, you can taste the products.

Oil Garda Lake

The story of oil-milling from its beginning as a rural activity to the dawning of the technological age, is the theme of the Oil Museum realized by the oil-mill in Cisano del Garda. The oil story begins in Cisano: "The rural mill from crafts to the industrial technology", this is the thread of the OIL MUSEUM. The oil press from rural craftsmanship to the dawn of the industrial technology: this is the main theme of the MUSEUM OF OLIVE OIL established by Umberto Turri in the spring of 1988. It's an exhibition, unique in its kind, that wants to provide an account of a production system that has involved the rural population for over a millennium. It is also the history of an environment devoid of equipment and scientific knowledge, that was measured for centuries by the urgent need to extract a food of primary importance from its precious fruit. The journey winds around the reality of a static and unchanging technology to reach, at the beginning of the 20th Century, the acquisition of the opportunities provided by the rising of the mechanical industry. Antique and rare instruments used in oil mills from 18th Century up until the beginning of the 20th Century are exhibited, as well as accessories and equipment used in the various eras. An imposing lever press made from oak wood, a water driven wheel mill (perfectly functioning) and other original examples of wooden and iron presses stands out amongst the rest.

Rise Isola della Scala/Verona and Mantova

The Veronese Plain covers a wide area, south of the city, characterized by large rice plantations, churches, historic residences, and castles. It is an internationally recognized marshland oasis. Visit to two beautifull villas: Villa Boschi and Villa Brà: they are XVIth century villas in the green countryside of Isoladella Scala, between rice field and old rural houses. Majestic and elegant are an evidence of the owners old history: noble landowner who lives and governed these cultivations. Transfer than to the splendid little romanic church of Santa Maria di Erbedello. After these visits it takes place a visit to the cultivations still run by the old agricultural families. A member of the staff of the rice-factory will lead you in a tour of a farm and will explain you all the processes of rice production. The visit could be followed by a cooking lesson held by a chef who will show you all the typical dishes you can create with this nourishment. An all rice lunch/dinner will follow to taste the dishes created. One of the many possible discovery routes in the area begins in Isoladella Scala, the most important center for VialoneNano rice cultivation. A visit to a local riseria, or rice farm, educates the visitor on the seasonal cycle of this grain, the importance of local springs in its cultivation, and ancient and modern methods of working and husking the rice. All restaurants and several of the riseria in the area offer tasting menus, based on the local crop.





A selection of the best Italian wines

WINE EXPERIENCE

SOAVE WINE ROAD

The lands of Soave, a noble white wine made with Garganega and Trebbiano grapes. The itinerary traces its path among wineries, villas, churches and unique landscapes. It starts in Soave, a medieval town, stands inside intact walls that reach the top of the hill standing above it, dominated by a castle. The Castle of Soave is a typical military artifact of the Medieval age representing one of the best example of castle architecture in Veneto. The history of the Castle evolves between feudal quarrels, struggles, factions, barbaric invasions, supremacies and defeats. As place of great and rare charm, this Castle reveals, with real and tangible testimony, the breath of the past along with the ability to enchant and allure whoever is wishful, in silence, to hear its voice. Then walk to a medieval stronghold and an internationally renowed oenological centre. In spectacular underground caves in the rock are stored large oak barrels and small barriques: an ideal place for preserving and ageing wines. The road of the Soave, then continue to San Pietro di Lavagno and Illasi plenty of noble palaces.



WINE EXPERIENCE

VALPOLICELLA VERONA

Valpolicella Area is known all over the world for the wine (Amarone and Valpolicella) and the historical small village. San Giorgio Ingannapoltron, the most beautiful romanic church of the region with a wonderful panorama on Valpolicella hills, wine yards and Garda Lake. Then visit to a marvellous Villa-cellar: a monumental complex positioned in the middle of a green valley surrounded by wooded slopes and marvellous vineyards. Here you will see the room where the grapes are withered to produce Amarone's wine, a little wine museum, the large cellars with its old barrels and the distillery.

VALDOBBIADENE TREVISO PROSECCO

The so-called "Prosecco road" leaves Conegliano passing through Rua di Feletto, that grew around the old Camaldolese Monastery of S. Maria Assunta. The road continues through S. Pietro di Feletto where you can visit the old medieval Pieve (parish church from the twelfth century) with its Romanesque bell-tower, frescoes of the thirteenth century and "Madonna with Babe and Saints" of the fifteenth century. The next stop is Refrontolo, which, as well as its Prosecco, cultivates an excellent Marzemino (red dessert wine). Taking the lane in front of the church you will come to the medieval MolinettodellaCroda, a picturesque mill situated among century old trees. The road proceeds onto Pieve di Soligo, Solighetto (where there is a small museum dedicated to the opera singer Toti Dal Monte at Villa Brandolin), Farra di Soligo, and finally Valdobbiadene, known mainly for its production of Prosecco, and the superior quality called Cartizze.

FRANCIACORTA BRESCIA

Franciacorta was the first Italian sparkling wine produced exclusively by the Classic Method, or second fermentation in the bottle, to win, in 1995, official status as a Denominazione di OrigineControllata e Garantita (DOCG). Today, the front label on the wine reads simply "Franciacortaw: this one term defines the growing area, the production method, and the wine. All of Europe boasts only 10 such privileged wines, and only three of them are made by refermentation in the bottle, Cava, Champagne, and Franciacorta. The area's venerable wine cellars, which today have transformed themselves into cathedrals of modern winemaking technology, proudly produce the four categories of Franciacorta sparkling wines:

- FranciacortaNon Vintage: at least 18 months

- FranciacortaSatèn and Franciacorta Rosé non-vintage: at least 24 months

- FranciacortaSatèn Vintage, Franciacorta Rosé vintage and Franciacorta Vintage: at least 30 months

- FranciacortaRiservasSatèn, FranciacortaRiservas Rosé and FranciacortaRiservas: at least 60 months and also Franciacorta's still wines as well, Curtefranca DOC Bianco and Rosso and Sebino IGT.

LANGHE TORINO

Travel in the Langhe, a historic region of Piedmont located between the provinces of Cuneo and Asti. The area is a famous tourist destination thanks to its excellent food and wine products and also thanks to the artistic and cultural beauty of the landscapes and the presence of ancient castles and monuments in almost all the territory. The area is famous for its wine production: the world-famous reds Barolo, Nebbiolo, Barbaresco, Dolcettod'Alba, Dolcetto di Cuneo, Barbera d 'Alba, Barberad'Asti. Equally famous is the white truffles of Alba, the hazelnuts and various cheeses.

TOSCANA MONTALCINO, CHIANTI

Enjoy the charm of the Chianti countryside, one of the most suggestive areas of Tuscany, well knew all over the world not only for its famous wine, but even for its landscapes and vineyards, olive trees and cypresses surrounding churches, parishes, castles and villages hidden among the hills. The trip moves on to Greve in Chianti with a stop in the historic square flanked by open galleries where you can wander around the shops selling typical products of the Chianti area. Then you will visit Castellina in Chianti, a characteristic ancient hamlet set on a hill and nestled between stretches of vineyards and olive groves. Then San Donato in Poggio, an ancient settlement in a fortified castle dating back to the eleventh century, which maintains part of its walls and a stunning Romanesque parish church. Close to Siena the famous village of Montalcino where the Brunello di Montalcino is made.





A selection of luxury Villas in Italy

VERONA

The square-plan residence spreads on an overall area of about 4,000 square meters on two levels. The frescoed rooms, as well as the dance and music hall, the dining rooms, the jardin d'hiver and the Suite Rossa are located on the main floor. On the first floor, accessed via a monumental staircase topped by a dome, we find all other bedrooms, accessed through a corridor running around the entire house. Majestic, elegant fascinations of an ancient residence, a precious jewel set in the heart of Verona's gentle hills, offering exclusive and unique hospitality protected by an avenue of centuryold cypress trees. The history of the ancient Villa d'Acquarone, located on the Musella hill in San Martino Buon Albergo, near Verona, within a 300-hectare private property, can be traced back to the XVII century. The main building was erected in 1600, while the current layout with a central courtyard and four main parts, all with different styles and levels, comes from the works commissioned by Matilde Muselli, wife of the podestà (mayor) of Verona, between 1860 and 1894, and curated by the architect Giacomo Franco. A journey between past and present. Antique splendors still shine today: the fresco paintings of the late 17th century, the inner cloister, the ancient fountain, the library, the monumental entrance. The most important room in the villa is the central "Salone dei Ventiw (Hall of the Winds), featuring a groin-vaulted ceiling with a central elliptical dome where a mechanical system, linked with an external vane.



GARDA LAKE

The Cristoforetti and Delibori families welcome you to the Villa Cordevigo Wine Relais, an 18th century Venetian Villa with formal Italian gardens and an ageold park which has recently be entirely refurbished as a 5 star hotel with its Oseleta Restaurant. The spectacular entrance along a drive flanked with tall cypresses leads to the Relais itself with its olive groves and woods, a 100 hectare estate on the hills of Cavaion Veronese above Lake Garda and just a few kilometers from the famous city of Verona. Villa Cordevigo Wine Relais is a fine example of historical residence typical of the Veneto region, an extraordinary heritage site in itself. Built on the site of a Renaissance palace in the 1700's in the sumptuous style of the times, over the centuries it has been the property of a number of noble families. In the 1500's it was owned by the wealthy Verona family, the Pignolati's, who acquired both the whole estate and the rights to the vicarship. In the 1600's, the family died out and it passed into the hands of the Lombardo family, through the female side of the family. In the early 1800's, it passed to the Salandini De Moreschi family and then some time later the Dolci family. In 2002, the wine and olive estate with Villa Cordevigo on its land, was acquired by the Delibori and Cristoforetti families. After ambitious restoration over a number of years, the nature and soul of the Villa were preserved while turning it into a superb country hotel with a wealth of art and history.



TUSCANY

In our medieval village, a Relais & Chteaux nestles in the picturesque Tuscan countryside. Il Borro offers charm and hospitality totally orientated to the needs of our guests. An astonishing variety of activities and indulgences to suit the most discerning of palettes. Luxury and wellbeing sum up our philosophy. Our rooms are an elegant portrait of the classic Tuscan style. Subjected to meticulous restoration, we have retained their original features whilst enriching them with all the most modern comforts. Stay in historic villas or in one of the suites in the village and enjoy the unique culture of Il Borro. In the heart of Tuscany you are invited to experience our story, you are guests at Relais Il Borro.





TUSCANY

Signature property of the Group, is a five-star mansion that goes back to the nineteenth century. Located in a park amid planetree woods and the Viale dei Colli gardens, few steps away from Boboli and the Oltrarno, this "Grande Dame" of the hills south of Florence, with its 46 rooms and suites, heated swimming pool in the park, gastronomic restaurant and wellness area, is a real sophisticated City Resort.





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We offer classic convertible car hire (Alfa Romeo Spider, MG, Porsche and others) for tourism, company incentives and events for individuals and groups.

We proposes a new and unique service. It's not just another car rental company, but a touchstone for everyone who loves classic cars, gastronomy and fine wines.



LUXURY EXPERIENCE - ASSISTANCE SERVICE

MEET & GREET PRIVATE GUIDE VIP ASSISTANCE PERSONAL SHOPPER CONCIERGE SERVICE





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