# The Hidden Treasures of Venice and Rome



# 1 - 13 October 2019

A 13-day tour of lesser known collections, palazzi and districts of Venice and Rome



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# The Hidden Treasures of Venice and Rome

Rome were the destinations of the 18<sup>th</sup> century English Grand Tourists searching for the grandeur of the ancient world, the sophistication of the Renaissance and the theatre of the Baroque. It is in these two cities that the tapestry of Western civilization can be endlessly unravelled. However few have time to discover the treasures of the smaller churches, tiny canals, little known collections and the stories they tell of districts that have all but disappeared.

In Rome we will explore how the city had been used as a gigantic propaganda film set from the time of the Roman Emperors, through the Popes of the Renaissance and Baroque periods to Mussolini. We will descend the four levels of San Clemente, interpret the early Christian mosaics in Santa Prassede, decipher the frescos of Santo Stefano and meander through the little lanes of Trastevere to Santa Cecilia. We will have private tours of the Palazzo Farnese, the Colonna, Borghese and Capitoline collections and will visit small architectural gems by Bernini and Borromini.

In Venice we will discover little-known

masterpieces in the small churches and chapels in the back canals, from the Campo San Giacomo dell'Orio to San Nicolo dei Mendicoli and the collections of the Palazzo Mocenigo and Ca Zenobio. One day will be spent on the islands that predate Venice and another exploring the Scuole that employed Tintoretto, Carpaccio and Veronese. We will also have access to the unique Ospedali chapels where Vivaldi trained the female orphan choirs for whom Venice became famous.

The tour will be led by Sylvia Sagona, who has been leading cultural tours to Italy and France for the past fifteen years.

### **Tour Price Includes**

- 12 nights accommodation in centrally-located 4 star hotels including daily breakfast
- All museum and monument entrances
- Two dinners in specially selected restaurants
- Guided tours and lectures
- Pre-tour lecture programme in Melbourne
- Baroque concert in Rome
- Unlimited public transport on buses and underground in Rome
- Unlimited Vaporetto transport in Venice and to the Lagoon islands
- Travel by train between Venice and Rome

## Price

\$8990 (twin share / double) Single supplement \$2350



Note: The prices listed above are for land content only and do not include transfers to and from the airport.