

**For more information contact
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Vancouver Italian Folk Chorus

BELLA ITALIA

June 15 – 30, 2009 (16 days)



SPECIAL TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL

3503 East Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC V5K 2A8 ph: 604 – 291 1332 or 1 800 665 0998 www.sticanada.com

Day 01

June 15, Mon: CANADA – ROME
Departure for Italy

Day 02

June 16, Tue: ARRIVE ROME
After arrival – check in and time before dinner (D)

Day 03

June 17, Wed: ROME
Morning tour of the Vatican Museum (and the Sistine Chapel) – then after lunch we have a panoramic city tour, passing Colosseum, Forum etc and of course the Vatican with St.Peter’s Basilica (B, D)



Day 04

June 18, Thu: ROME
Morning walking tour with Trevi Fountain, Pantheon and Piazza Navona afterwards a bit of time at leisure (Via Veneto, Spanish Steps, etc) – then later in the afternoon we drive to the Via Appia Antica and visit one of the catacombs – from there we head out to the hills east of Rome: Tivoli, the Spa town of the ancient Romans – we visit the Villa d’Este with its wonderful fountains – and then enjoy a fun evening in a local restaurant before returning to our home base (B,D)

Day 05

June 19, Fri: ROME – MONTECASSINO – POMPEI – SORRENTO
We leave the Eternal City and climb up to the famous Abbey of Montecassino for a visit to the cradle of the Benedictine order – then we’ll have lunch in the area and then continue on and tour the excavations of Pompei (where life stopped in its tracks when Mount Vesuvio erupted in 79 AD) – at the end of the day we climb up to the rugged Coast of the Costa Sorrentina (B, D)

Day 06

June 20, Sat: SORRENTO
Today we take a boat to the island of Capri – spend the day there – and a trip to the Blue Grotto is a must of course as wellthis evening we enjoy a Folklore evening in Sorrento with songs and dances from the region (B, D)

Day 07

June 21, Sun: SORRENTO
A day at leisure to enjoy the town and there are a couple of suggested programs: chose to take the Circumvesuviana train into Naples to visit the Archeological Museum – or take the local bus along the beautiful coast to Amalfi and Positano and enjoy the brilliant coast with its charming houses, galleries and quaint restaurants (we could take the bus one way and a boat trip back!) (B, D)

Day 08

June 22, Mon: SORRENTO – ORVIETO – MONTECATINI
We bypass Rome on the way north and in the early afternoon stop in Orvieto to have a look at its historic city centre – high atop the hill (we get up to the town by funicular) – then we end the day in Tuscany and settle into the spa town of Montecatini (B, D)

Day 09

June 23, Tue: MONTECATINI
By train we head to Florence and enjoy a walking tour there with the Duomo, Santa Croce, Ponte Vecchio etc and then there is plenty of time to explore, shop for leather etc – we return to Montecatini in time for dinner (B,D)

Day 10

June 24, Wed: MONTECATINI
Siena and San Gimignano are on our agenda today and maybe we could stop by Vinci, the small birth town of the famous Leonardo (B, D)

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Day 11

June 25, Thu: MONTECATINI – CINQUETERRE

Today we leave for the Coast as we visit Pisa (with its famous Leaning Tower) and Lucca, a charming historic town and walled city – then we continue along the Ligurian Coast to picturesque Cinqueterre and we check into one of the small villages (B, D)

Day 12

June 26, Fri: CINQUETERRE

A day to enjoy the scenery, maybe take a hike in the Framura area, the name represents an area of villages and beautiful wild landscapes with great vistas – Anzo and Ravecca, 2 lovely villages with medieval houses will be part of our visit (B, D)

Day 13

June 27, Sat: CINQUETERRE – LAGO DI GARDA/VERONA

We'll spend a little more time in the area – enjoy the coast etc – and then head for Lago di Garda later in the afternoon (B, D)

Day 14

June 28, Sun: LAGO DI GARDA/VERONA

Today we enjoy some of the charming villages along Lago di Garda – like Sirmione and Lazise – and after lunch on your own – we head back to the hotel, time to freshen up and then we drive to Verona and visit the town, including the famous balcony of Juliet of course – then you have time to enjoy dinner in one of the many restaurants along the Piazza Bra – and then we attend a special Opera performance at the Arena di Verona ... AIDA by GIUSEPPE VERDI is scheduled – late return to the hotel after the performance (B)

Day 15

June 29, Mon: LAGO DI GARDA/VERONA – VENICE

We start a little later this morning – and head to Venice, the city on the lagoon – spend the afternoon there – then check into the hotel in time for dinner (B, D)

Day 16

June 30, Tue: VENICE – CANADA

Departure by bus to the airport – and flight back home where you arrive the same day or EXTEND your stay in Europe (B)

INCLUDED:

- Air fare Canada – Rome, Venice – Canada
- Private bus and guide
- Accommodation in comfortable superior class hotels
- Breakfast (B) and dinner (D) every day apart from NO dinner in VERONA (performance evening)
- Entrances and special events per itinerary
- City Tours per itinerary in Rome, Pompei, Florence with local experts
- Tips for driver and guide

NOT INCLUDED:

- Departure Taxes (approx \$ 400)
- Travel Insurance
- Lunches * Drinks and items of personal nature

Cost per person: in Can \$ based on double occupancy

from Vancouver:

\$ 4300

single supplement: \$ 550

Calgary/Edmonton: add \$ 100

Other cities: call our office

Land Only Rate (if you wish to make your own flight arrangements): deduct \$ 1100

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