

## FULL ITINERARY

**Day 1 Wed July 14 Depart USA city to Munich**  
**Prepare to experience a “Journey of a Lifetime.”**

**Day 2 Thur July 15 Munich - Seefeld**

**D**

Arrival in **Munich**, Germany. Meet our expert tour guide upon arrival. Transfer in our first class motor coach across the scenic villages to our hotel in the glorious ski resort town of Seefeld, Tyrol, Austria.

**Day 3 Fri July 16 Oberammergau Passion Play**

**BLD**

Morning transfer to **Oberammergau** for shopping and time to wander the beautiful village. **Afternoon attend the sensitively presented performance of the Passion Play** starting at 2:30 until 10:30p.m.  
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner. Overnight Seefeld.

**Day 4 Sat July 17 Verona – Abano Terme**

**BD**

Morning transfer for a short visit to **Verona**, one of Italy’s most fascinating cities lying in a delightful setting and endowed with a wide variety of monuments, historic buildings and places associated with **Romeo and Juliet**. Continue to **Padua** and enjoy a tour of the Basilica built in honor of St. Anthony. Marvel at the many works of art, **the Shrine and burial place of St. Anthony** and the high altar with splendid bronze art works by Donatello and other historical masterpieces. Arrival late afternoon in **Abano Terme**. Dinner and overnight Abano Terme.

**Day 5 Sun July 18 Venice – Abano**

**BD**

Morning transfer to the magical and truly romantic **Venice** “Pearl of the Adriatic.” Enjoy a city walking tour starting with a private water taxi on the **Grand Canal**, the great water road filled with gondolas, motorboats and peppermint stick moorings. Admire the splendid Basilica, famous for its Byzantine and Gothic design, mosaic, marble and precious sculptures, **St. Mark’s Square** with its strolling musicians and minstrels. View the 15<sup>th</sup> century clock tower, **Doges Palace** (outside visit) and the **Bridge of Sighs**. Remainder of day at leisure to wander and discover this glorious city. Perhaps a gondola ride or stop for a Campari at the fashionable Florian Café. Dinner and overnight Abano Terme.

**Day 6 Mon July 19 Tuscany – Montecatini**

**BD**

Morning departure through the Veneto Plains via Bologna to the heart of Tuscany – **Montecatini Terme** Upon arrival check in at your centrally located hotel. Remainder of day free to wander the quaint streets of this marvelous town. Dinner and overnight in Montecatini Terme.

**Day 7 Tue July 20 Florence**

**BD**

Morning excursion to **Florence** – the “**Cradle of the Renaissance**”. Upon arrival enjoy a guided tour including the magnificent **Duomo** (Cathedral) with its immense cupola by Brunelleschi, the **Bell Tower** by Giotto, the “**Door of Paradise**” by Ghiberti and the **Academia** featuring **Michelangelo’s** original **David**. Visit the **Basilica of Santa Croce**, one of the largest Franciscan Basilicas, where Michelangelo and Galileo are laid to rest. Leisure time to shop for gold and leather specific to Florence. Return to Montecatini for dinner and overnight.

**Day 8 Wed July 21 Siena - Assisi**

**BD**

Early morning departure through Tuscany as we continue leisurely southwards through hilly countryside dotted with Chianti vineyards and olive groves to old **Siena**, the best preserved medieval town in Italy. Visit the **Cathedral** with frescos by Pinturicchio and the pulpit by Nicola Pisano. Visit **St. Dominic Church** which houses the **incorrupt body of St. Catherine of Siena**, doctor of the Church. St. Catherine’s letters are considered among the most brilliant writings in the history of the Catholic Church. Not to be missed is the famous shell shaped **Piazza del Campo** where the famous **Palio** (annual 75 second flag-waving horse race) is held every summer. We continue to the magical and enchanting town of **Assisi**, home of **St. Francis and St. Clare**, surrounded by its ancient walls, spread over the green slopes of **Mount Subasio** with its colorful houses of pink stone, narrow streets and flower-decked balconies. Visit the **Basilica of San Francesco** to view the cycle of Giotto’s frescos with its twenty eight episodes from the life of St. Francis. Visit the Church of St. Clare housing the **incorrupt body of St. Clare** and the **Cross of San Damiano** which spoke to Francis telling him to “build my church.” Remainder of the day at leisure to meander the winding streets and discover the peace that still remains in this small village. Dinner and overnight in Assisi.

**Day 9 Thur July 22 Assisi – Rome**

**BD**

Upon departing this peace-filled village we will visit the famous **Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli** housing the **Portiuncula**, the “little church that St. Francis built,” the thorn-less rose bush, and the ever present doves at the cave where St. Francis retired for prayer. Afterwards continue to **Rome - “The Eternal City”** built on 7 hills in 753 B.C. The Cradle of western civilization and the heart of Catholicism today, Rome is the center of Italian political, administrative, cultural life and the seat of the Papacy. Upon entering Rome, visit the **Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls** with cameo paintings of each of the popes to date lining the upper walls. Dinner at our hotel. Remainder of the evening at leisure to stroll magnificent Rome.

**Day 10 Fri July 23 Rome**

**BD**

We begin our day with a guided tour to the **Vatican Museum**, a group of impressive edifices with hundreds of rooms, halls, galleries, libraries and chapels overflowing with art treasures; the most beautiful of which is the overwhelming **Sistine Chapel** – seat of the Conclave for the election of the Pope and Michelangelo's masterpiece. This morning ends with a visit to **St. Peter's Basilica** with Michelangelo's **Pieta**. Afternoon at leisure to spend as you wish. You may enjoy the extra time in the Vatican or browsing the many shops in the area. **Farewell Dinner tonight with music in a local Rome Ristorante.**

**Day 11 Sat July 24 Rome**

**B**

Morning guided sightseeing tour of **Christian Rome** including the major **Basilicas of St. John Lateran** (the Pope's church), **Santa Scala** (stairs Jesus walked up to meet Pontius Pilate), **Santa Maria Maggiore**, and **St. Peter in Chains**. Overview of Classic and Imperial **Rome** featuring the **Coliseum**, the **Roman Forum**, **Piazza Navona** to admire the *Fountain of Neptune* and above all, stopping at the **Trevi Fountain**. Remember to *toss in a coin* to assure your return to Rome. Visit **Santa Maria sopra Minerva Church** where **St. Catherine's** body remains. Remainder of day at leisure for last minute shopping and maybe a photo on the Spanish Steps. Dinner "on our own" to discover magnificent Rome at night. Enjoy!!

**Day 12 Sun July 25 Rome - USA**

**B**

Morning departure to Rome airport for your USA flight with fond memories of spiritual experiences and peace, love and joy in our hearts. Arrivederci Roma!!