

## 14 Day Absolute Italy by First Class Rail

### AVG Travels – World Travel Experts!

#### Local Knowledge. Vacations of a Lifetime.

Discover the world with AVG Travels, where our team of destination experts combines local knowledge with a passion for adventure to offer you the vacation of a lifetime. At AVG Travels, we not only provide an immersive travel experience, prioritize your comfort, safety, and enjoyment, but also showcase the beauty and cultural richness of stunning destinations.

Specialists in touring since 2015, AVG Travels, previously known as Asia Vacation Group, are proud to craft your itinerary and create memories that last a lifetime. Travel with confidence knowing your trip has been thoughtfully crafted by our experts with you personally in mind.

<b>AVG Travels Trusted Partner</b>	<b>Independent Touring</b>	<b>Centrally Located Hotels</b>
<b>First Class Rail</b>	<b>International Flights Included</b>	

#### Day by Day Itinerary

Rome, Naples, Pompeii, Florence, Tuscany, Cinque Terre, Milan, Lake Como, Venice

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Tour Imperial Rome with a local guide with access to the **Colosseum & Roman Forum**
- Take a guided full day exploration of **Naples** and the historical site of **Pompeii**
- Enjoy free time to explore **Florence** at your own pace
- Journey to **Tuscany** on full day excursion to Siena, San Gimignano and Chianti with wine tasting included
- Explore the scenic **Cinque Terre** with an included train card giving you access to all the towns along the famous coast
- Take time to explore **Milan** on your own
- Visit the beautiful **Lake Como** and surrounding villages including **Bellagio** with a one day unlimited hop-on hop-off ferry ticket
- Stay on **Venice Island** and float along the romantic canals with an included **gondola ride**

## ITINERARY

### Day 1: Home -

Depart home today, en route to an exciting rail journey throughout Italy.

**Meals:** In-flight

**Accommodation:** In-transit

### Day 2: - Arrive Rome, Italy

Benvenuto a Roma!

On arrival into Leonardo da Vinci–Fiumicino Airport (FCO), you will be met by a local representative in the arrivals hall and transferred to your accommodation where you will have the rest of the day to explore Rome at your own pace.

Take this opportunity to visit iconic landmarks such as Piazza Navona, the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, and the Spanish Steps. If you arrive early in the day, we recommend joining a guided tour of the Vatican Museums to

experience Michelangelo's renowned Sistine Chapel and other Italian Renaissance masterpieces up close.

*Please note: when booking international flights, please ensure that your arrival date into the starting city, falls on Day 1 of the itinerary.*

**Meals:** n/a

**Accommodation:** Hotel Kennedy 3\* or similar

### **Day 3: Rome**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before embarking on another day of exploring Rome. Make your way to the meeting point for a guided tour of Imperial Rome. Your local expert guide will give you a historical tour of the incredible Roman Forum, then you will enter the Colosseum where you will learn the rich history of ancient Rome and the gladiatorial contests that took place there.

In the afternoon, you're free to continue your exploration of the Eternal City. Consider joining an excursion to the Rome Catacombs, or if you're feeling active, opt for an electric bike tour to discover either the historic center's famous landmarks or a more hidden, off-the-beaten-path Rome. For the evening, take a leisurely stroll through the Trastevere district, known for its charming streets and excellent traditional restaurants.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Kennedy 3\* or similar

### **Day 4: Rome - Naples - Pompeii - Naples - Rome**

After enjoying breakfast at the hotel, you will board a high-speed train to Naples, with the journey lasting approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. Upon reaching Naples station, you will embark on a full-day excursion to explore both Pompeii and Naples.

Your first stop will be the renowned archaeological site of Pompeii, the ancient Roman city that was buried under volcanic ash from the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. You'll have the chance to explore the remarkably preserved ruins and gain a deeper understanding of Roman life.

Following your visit to Pompeii, you will immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of Naples, a city known for its rich history, lively culture, and picturesque coastal scenery. In the evening, take the train back to Rome for the night.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Kennedy 3\* or similar

### **Day 5: Rome - Florence**

After breakfast at the hotel, make your way to Roma Termini station to catch your first class high-speed train to Florence, with a journey time of approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. Upon arrival in Florence, make your way to the hotel located a 5 – 10 minute walk from the station, Check into your hotel and have free time to explore this city, renowned as the 'cradle of the Renaissance.'

During your free time, we recommend considering a guided tour of one of Florence's major museums. You might visit the Uffizi Galleries to admire masterpieces by Italian Renaissance greats such as Leonardo da Vinci, Caravaggio, Raphael, Titian, and Botticelli, or head to the Accademia Gallery to see Michelangelo's iconic statue of David. Alternatively, you could take a half-day excursion to Pisa to see the famous Leaning Tower.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Corona D'Italia 3\* or similar

### **Day 6: Florence - Monteriggioni - Siena - San Gimignano - Chianti - Florence**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before making your way to the meeting point to embark on a full-day tour to the Chianti region. The day starts with a visit to Monteriggioni, renowned for its well-preserved medieval walls. Next, you'll explore Siena, where you'll experience the beauty of Piazza del Campo, Piazza Duomo, the Cathedral, Palazzo Pubblico, and the iconic Torre del Mangia. Following your time in Siena, you'll journey to San Gimignano, a charming town famous for its white wine, Vernaccia, and its distinctive medieval towers. San Gimignano is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The tour will then take you through the scenic Chianti region, where you'll indulge in a wine tasting experience featuring the renowned Chianti red wine. Return to Florence in the evening where the rest of the night is at leisure.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Corona D'Italia 3\* or similar

**Tips & suggestions:** Tonight for dinner, we recommend trying the iconic "Bistecca alla Fiorentina", a classic Tuscan steak renowned for its rich flavor and tenderness. Made from Chianina beef and grilled to perfection, this dish offers a true taste of Florence's culinary tradition. Enjoy its juicy texture and smoky char while experiencing authentic Tuscan cuisine.

#### **Day 7: Florence - La Spezia**

After breakfast at the hotel, make your way to the train station to a regional train to La Spezia with a journey time of approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes and on arrival, make your way to your hotel. La Spezia serves as the gateway to the renowned Cinque Terre, a stunning coastal region comprised of five picturesque fishing villages: Monterosso al Mare, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola, and Riomaggiore.

Included with your trip is a two-day Cinque Terre Train Card, which grants access to the National Park allowing you to explore at your own pace by using the regional trains and local buses that connect the villages.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Corallo 3\* or similar

#### **Day 8: Cinque Terre**

After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy a free day to explore the Cinque Terre at your own pace. Use your included Cinque Terre Train Card to discover the area's highlights. This card grants you access to the National Park and allows you to travel between the villages using regional trains and local buses. Whether you wish to visit the picturesque villages, hike through scenic trails, or simply take in the stunning coastal views, your Train Card offers convenient and easy access to all the best that the Cinque Terre has to offer.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Corallo 3\* or similar

#### **Day 9: La Spezia - Milan**

After breakfast at the hotel, head to the station to board your first-class intercity train to Milan, a journey of about 3 hours and 20 minutes. Upon arrival, make your way to the hotel and enjoy the rest of the day free to explore the city on your own. We recommend visiting Milan's iconic landmarks such as the Duomo, Castello Sforzesco, Basilica of Sant'Ambrogio, and the Navigli canals, known for their vibrant nightlife. For a unique experience, consider touring the Teatro alla Scala and its museum, offering an inside look at one of the world's most renowned opera houses.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Flora 3\* or similar

#### **Day 10: Milan - Lake Como - Milan**

After breakfast at the hotel, make your way to the station and board a regional train to Como, a journey of approximately 40 minutes. Once in Como, explore the charming city and its renowned lake at your own pace. You have a day ticket for the hop-on/hop-off public ferry, which allows you to navigate the lake and disembark at various points of interest. Choose the best stops for a leisurely stroll or to explore local attractions, keeping in mind the boat schedule and your train back to Milan. Spend some free time in Como, discovering the town and shopping in its boutique stores. In the evening, return to Milan for an overnight stay at the hotel.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Flora 3\* or similar

#### **Day 11: Milan - Venice**

After breakfast at the hotel, you'll board your first class high-speed train to Venice S. Lucia, with a journey time of approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes. Upon arrival, a quick 5 – 10 minute walk will find you to your hotel located on Venice Island with all that this beautiful city has to offer at your doorstep.

This afternoon, enjoy a 30-minute gondola ride with commentary provided via an app on your mobile phone then spend the rest of the evening at leisure.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Carlton Capri 3\* or similar

**Tips & suggestions:** Before dinner, why not immerse yourself in a Venetian tradition by having an aperitif with

“cichéti” (small snacks) at one of the many “bacari” (bars) scattered throughout the “calli” (Venetian streets). It’s a quintessential experience you won’t want to miss!

### **Day 12: Venice**

After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy a full day exploring Venice on your own. Wonder the maze of waterways that make up this incredible city filled with shops, restaurants and local bars.

Alternately, you can choose a guided walking tour to see the city’s highlights, including Piazza San Marco with its Basilica and Clock Tower, the Rialto Bridge, and Campo Santa Maria Formosa, as well as some lesser-known gems. Or, opt for a skip-the-line tour of the Doge’s Palace to view the opulent apartments and the famous Bridge of Sighs. Another option is a boat trip to the lagoon islands: Murano, renowned for its glassmaking; Burano, known for its vibrant, colorful houses and lace; and Torcello, the lagoon’s earliest settlement. Return to your hotel in Venice for an overnight stay.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Carlton Capri 3\* or similar

### **Day 13: Depart Venice -**

Unfortunately, today marks the end of your time in Italy. Choose to extend your stay in Venice or make your way back to the train station as you commence your onward travel plans.

**Meals:** Breakfast & In-flight

**Accommodation:** In-transit

### **Day 14: - Home**

Arrive home today – we hope you have enjoyed your journey through Italy with AVG Travels.

**Meals:** In-flight

## **INCLUSIONS**

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- **International flights departing Melbourne or Sydney**
- 3-star hotels in central locations (upgrade to 4-star available)
- Daily breakfast
- Wine tasting in Chianti region
- Colosseum & Roman Forum Group tour with English speaking guide & entrance ticket
- Full day tour of Naples and Pompeii from Naples railway station with English speaking guide and entrance ticket to Pompeii
- Full day tour by coach to Siena, San Gimignano and Chianti Area from Florence including wine tasting
- 48hrs Cinque Terre Train Card
- One day ferry ticket on Lake Como with unlimited number of trips between the ferry ports of Como and Bellagio
- 30 minute shared Gondola ride
- Arrival private transfer from Rome Fiumicino Airport to hotel in Rome
- 1st class round-trip high-speed train tickets from Roma Termini to Napoli Centrale
- 1st class high speed train ticket from Roma Termini to Firenze Santa Maria Novella station
- 1st class Regional train ticket from Firenze Santa Maria Novella station to La Spezia Centrale
- 1st class Intercity train ticket from La Spezia Centrale to Milan Centrale
- 1st class round-trip regional train tickets from Milano Centrale to Como Centrale
- 1st class high speed train ticket from Milano Centrale station to Venezia St. Lucia

## **EXCLUSIONS**

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- Visas
- Travel insurance
- Tipping
- Airport departure transfer

- Transfers between train stations and hotels
- Anything not mentioned in the itinerary
- Luggage portorage
- Optional activities
- Personal expenses

## DEPARTURE DATES: PRICE IS QUOTED IN \$ PER PERSON

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
<b>Saturday</b> 25 Jan 2025	<b>Friday</b> 07 Feb 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 01 Mar 2025	<b>Friday</b> 14 Mar 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 29 Mar 2025	<b>Friday</b> 11 Apr 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 26 Apr 2025	<b>Friday</b> 09 May 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 17 May 2025	<b>Friday</b> 30 May 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 24 May 2025	<b>Friday</b> 06 Jun 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 31 May 2025	<b>Friday</b> 13 Jun 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 28 Jun 2025	<b>Friday</b> 11 Jul 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 12 Jul 2025	<b>Friday</b> 25 Jul 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 26 Jul 2025	<b>Friday</b> 08 Aug 2025	\$5,799		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 09 Aug 2025	<b>Friday</b> 22 Aug 2025	\$5,799		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 23 Aug 2025	<b>Friday</b> 05 Sep 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Sunday</b> 31 Aug 2025	<b>Saturday</b> 13 Sep 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Friday</b> 05 Sep 2025	<b>Thursday</b> 18 Sep 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 27 Sep 2025	<b>Friday</b> 10 Oct 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 04 Oct 2025	<b>Friday</b> 17 Oct 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
<b>Saturday</b> 18 Oct 2025	<b>Friday</b> 31 Oct 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>
<b>Saturday</b> 08 Nov 2025	<b>Friday</b> 21 Nov 2025	\$6,199		<a href="#">Book</a>

## OPTIONAL TOURS



### 4\* Hotel Upgrade - TWIN SHARE

**\$400**



### 4\* Hotel Upgrade - SOLO TRAVELLER

**\$955**

## FINE PRINT

### FLIGHT INFORMATION

This package includes return flights from Melbourne or Sydney.

Flights from Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart attract a \$400 per person surcharge.

**Airline Selection:** We book the best available airlines for your journey, which may include a mix of full-service and low-cost carriers. Specific airline requests can be made at the time of purchase. This includes upgrades to your preferred carrier, premium economy or business class cabins or specific seats. Whilst we will try our best, not all requests can be confirmed.

**Flight Conditions:** Flights may not be direct and could involve a maximum of two transits.

**Ticketing Information:** Once issued, tickets are non-refundable. Changes are subject to airline rules, airline change fees, and an Asia Vacations Group change fee of \$250 per person.

**Passenger Details:** Please ensure all traveller names are as per passports. This includes all middle names. Errors may incur a name change fee of \$150 plus airline charges, or may require a forfeit of the existing ticket and purchase of a new ticket at an additional cost.

**Flight Schedule Changes:** Any changes or cancellations to airline schedules are outside our control. We recommend staying updated with airline schedules before departure. Additional expenses for extended transits or alternative arrangements are the traveller's responsibility.

**Internal Airfares:** Local flights included in your itinerary may utilise low-cost carriers without meals or entertainment. Checked baggage is included; any additional baggage fees are payable at check-in.

**Booking Considerations:** If travelling with others on separate bookings, we may not be able to guarantee all flights are the same flight due to availability.

**Luggage and Fees:** You are responsible for your luggage at all times. Excess baggage fees, if incurred, are payable directly to the airline. All tickets will include 20 kg checked baggage per person, plus 7 kg of hand luggage. We recommend travelling with a max 20kg per person due to restrictions on internal flights (where applicable), as well as coach and train transportation. Please note, you will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters are not included.

**No-Show Policy:** Missing your flight may result in fees including a no-show fee, airline reissue fee, and possible new ticket purchase. AVG Travels charges a \$250 admin fee for re-booking assistance.

**Price Adjustments:** Prices are final at the time of ticketing. Any subsequent changes may result in additional costs due to factors beyond our control, such as currency fluctuations or airline surcharges.

#### **Flight requests, amendments or preferences**

We understand customers may wish to request changes to their included airfares. If you wish to fly with a certain airline, land at a certain time or change your flight in other ways we will gladly provide you with a personalized quote tailored to your specific requirements.

We would be more than happy to provide you with a quote for the following requests:

- Airline Preferences – You may wish to fly with a particular airline
- Cabin Preferences – These include upgrading to premium economy or business class
- Extensions (start and end cities must remain the same) – You may request to extend your stay pre or post tour.
- Meal Requests – You may request a specific meal for dietary requirements.
- Seat Requests – If you would like to request particular seating. However please note, not all airlines allow the selection of pre-purchased seat arrangements.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

#### **Physical Requirements**

A reasonable level of fitness is required. Participants should be comfortable navigating stairs, boarding and disembarking from the coach, and walking reasonable distances, typically around 2 kilometers per day or more. Please disclose any physical conditions at the time of booking to assess suitability for the tour.

#### **Tipping**

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. A gratuity of \$10 – \$15 per person/day can make a big difference to locals employed in the tourism industry as they have done an impeccable job to serve you through your holiday.

#### **Accommodation**

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences however any changes are beyond our control.

#### **Single Supplement**

Single supplement is **\$1329** in addition to the twin share price.

#### **Paired Solo Traveler**

Not available.

#### **Group size:**

Minimum 2

#### **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is recommended to protect yourself against the unexpected. In addition to the support that a policy may provide, you may be asked to present a copy of your travel insurance documentation while traveling.

We have partnered with **NibTravel Insurance** to offer our customers competitive rates for their travel insurance. You can book Comprehensive or Essentials cover for your domestic, international or multi-trip journeys simply with us.

#### **Visa & Passport information**

It is the traveller's responsibility to ensure they have a valid passport. The passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the intended date of return and must have more than 2 blank pages.

A visa is not required for travel to Italy for a maximum stay of 90 days for touristic purposes.

**IMPORTANT:** Visa requirements may change at any time without notice. You should contact the nearest high commission/embassy or consulate for the latest details.

#### **Tour Documentation**

Final documentation, including e-tickets and hotel details, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

#### **Children**

As this is an independent tour, children of all ages are permitted to travel on this tour.

**Tour Length**

The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land.

**HOW TO EXTEND YOUR STAY**

Pre and post accommodation is not available on this tour.

**AVG Travels**

Australia Call: 1800 229 339  
New Zealand Call: 0800 220 920  
US Call: 1 888 440 6001