

# New Year in a Venetian Villa & Tuscany



Enjoy 3 nights in an 18th century Venetian Villa

## 9 Memorable Days Milan to Rome – Escorted Tour

Imagine exploring the 'Romeo and Juliet' city of Verona before staying in an 18th century Venetian Villa over the New Year. Experience stylish Milan, the romance of Venice, stay in the medieval Tuscan town of Lucca and visit renaissance Florence.



Visit Florence, known as the 'Cradle of the Renaissance'



Enjoy lunch in the town of San Gimignano

### DAY 1 ~ 28 DECEMBER Milan

Your tour commences this evening in Milan. A welcome drink and dinner are included tonight. This is an ideal opportunity to get to know your fellow travellers. **Meals: D**

#### Your Milan Hotel – Michelangelo Hotel

This modern 4 star hotel is in a brilliant location, opposite the central railway station.



### DAY 2 ~ 29 DECEMBER 'My Time' in Verona and our Venetian Villa

Boarding our coach we drive east and make a lunchtime stop to explore Verona, the city where tragic lovers, Romeo and Juliet, avowed a love that spanned the centuries. Later this afternoon we arrive at our Venetian Villa hotel, where we stay for three nights. **Meals: B,D**

#### Your Treviso Hotel – Hotel Villa Contarini Nenzi

This elegant 18th century grand residence has been sensitively restored into an excellent 4 star hotel, located just outside Treviso, surrounded by wonderful Italian-style parkland.



### DAY 3 ~ 30 DECEMBER Sightseeing and 'My Time' in Venice

After a leisurely start we visit nearby 'Venezia' (Venice) – arguably one of the most romantic cities in the world. At Tronchetto we board a private boat to take us to St Mark's Square, where we join our expert local guide for a walking tour through the central city's historic back streets to the famous Rialto Bridge and St Mark's Square. We have included visits to St Mark's Basilica, the pink and white marble Doges Palace and Bridge of Sighs. The rest of the day is free to meander the water lined streets. Dinner this evening is back in 'our' magnificent Villa. **Meals: B,D**

### DAY 4 ~ 31 DECEMBER New Year's Eve – Vicenza sightseeing and gala dinner celebrations

Our first stop is in beautiful Vicenza. Rich in history and culture, Vicenza was awarded UNESCO World heritage status principally due to the legacy left by the famous local architect Andrea Palladio. Considered one of the greatest architects of all time, you will find more than 16 of his palaces and villas scattered through the old town. In the glorious Piazza dei Signori, you will find the most beautiful of all – the Basilica Palladiana. A local guide will join us for a walking tour of the medieval and renaissance town centre, and later you will have free time to explore and enjoy the excellent shopping down the central Corso. We continue to Treviso to enjoy an afternoon stop in the historic centre. Later we will return to our villa to relax before enjoying a grand evening celebrating the New Year in the hotel's Restaurant 'Le Scuderie'. At midnight we will make a toast with Spumante, accompanied by 'Cotechino and lentils' - the traditional Italian way to welcome the New Year. The sausage is said to bring good luck into the New Year. **Meals: B,D**



### DAY 5 ~ 1 JANUARY

#### New Year's Day – sightseeing in medieval Lucca

A very leisurely start today before boarding our coach to drive south into Tuscany. We stay the next three nights in the typically 'Tuscan' town of Lucca – a medieval walled city, filled with palaces, churches and ancient houses.

On arrival we will enjoy a guided walking tour of this beautiful city. This evening we have included dinner in a local restaurant.  
**Meals: B,D**

#### Your Lucca Hotel – Hotel Ilaria

This elegant 4 star hotel is perfectly located in the historic centre of Lucca, a short walk to all the major sights.



### DAY 6 ~ 2 JANUARY

#### Leaning Tower of Pisa, lunch in the Tuscan countryside and 'My Time'

This morning we visit nearby Pisa with its famous Leaning Tower, Cathedral and Baptistry in the magnificent Piazza dei Miracoli. As a highlight we drive into the picturesque Tuscan countryside to visit a local Olive Farmhouse Estate, and enjoy an olive oil tasting accompanied by Tuscan wines and a selection of antipasto including local meats, cheese and bread – all specialities of this region, followed by a light lunch.

Returning to Lucca, the remainder of your afternoon has been left entirely free to explore delightful Lucca. Perhaps visit the former home of Puccini, where he wrote Turandot, walk, or hire a bike and ride, around the entire town on top of the broad city walls. Delightful! **Meals: B,L**

### DAY 7 ~ 3 JANUARY

#### Florence sightseeing and 'My Time'

Today is dedicated to nearby 'Firenze' (Florence). A local guide will bring to life this truly beautiful city which is otherwise known as the 'Cradle of the Renaissance'. Your tour starts with a visit to the famous Accademia Gallery, home to Michelangelo's 'David' and numerous extraordinary Italian, Florentine and Renaissance works of art. We see the Duomo and the magnificent statues in the Piazza della Signoria. Your afternoon is entirely free to enjoy Florence at your own pace. **Meals: B**

### DAY 8 ~ 4 JANUARY

#### 'Fairytale' San Gimignano to the eternal city of Rome

This morning we drive across the Tuscan Hills to enjoy lunchtime in the fairytale 'town of towers' San Gimignano, famous for its 13th and 14th century Tuscan towers. Exploring the pedestrian walkways of this hilltop town is an absolute delight. Tonight, in the eternal city of Rome, we will enjoy a farewell dinner.  
**Meals: B,D**

#### Your Rome Hotel – Hotel Mediterraneo

This 4 star hotel is centrally located close to Rome's Termini railway station.



### DAY 9 ~ 5 JANUARY

#### Rome

Your New Year tour ends after breakfast and it is time to say farewell. **Meals: B**

## Dates & Prices

9 days only \$4,089

per person twin share

Solo traveller \$4,789

Land only prices in AU dollars

For New Zealand pricing, please refer to our website

**Starts Milan**

28 Dec 2019

**Ends Rome**

5 Jan 2020

**Space strictly limited.  
Book now!**

**Over \$900  
value of extras  
already included**

- All excursions, scenic drives, sightseeing and entrances as described
- Fully escorted by our experienced Tour Manager
- Travel in a first class air conditioned touring coach
- 8 nights authentic, specially selected hotel accommodation
- Hotel portorage (1 suitcase pp)
- Welcome drink in Milan
- 15 Meals – Buffet breakfast daily (B), 1 lunch (L) and 6 evening dinners (D)
- A complimentary wine, beer or soft drink with all included dinners
- Tea and coffee with all included dinners
- Local guides as described
- Personal audio system whilst on tour
- Free WiFi on most coaches and at hotels
- End of tour tips to Tour Manager and Driver, tips for local guides
- Albatross Tours Travel App

**NO additional costs!**