



Uniworld: River Countess

14 Nights

Splendors of Italy



Summary

Embrace *la dolce vita* on a culturally rich journey through beautiful Italia

Italy's myriad splendours are known the world over, and you'll encounter your first of many in Milan, where you'll see Da Vinci's *The Last Supper*. Delve into the luminous architectural and artistic highlights of water-bound Venice and discover Northern Italy's gems: Verona, Padua, Bologna and Ferrara.

Then travel to Florence, where the Renaissance began. See astonishing works by Michelangelo, Rafael, Donatello and Botticelli, and savor a spectacular homemade lunch and a Chianti wine tasting at Castello di Verrazzano. A fitting end to your Italian adventure awaits in Rome with all of its wonders—the Colosseum, St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican Museum, Trevi Fountain, Sistine Chapel and so much more.

Overview

Country:	Italy
Cities:	Milan – Venice – Chioggia – Polesella – Taglio Di Po – Venice
Season:	March till November 2018
Duration:	15 days / 14 nights
Port of departure:	Milan
Starting Price:	\$ 7299

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Itinerary

Day 1: **Milan**

Arrive at Milan Malpensa Airport, where you will be transferred to your hotel.

Day 2: **Milan**

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Milan city tour with visit to Da Vinci's *The Last Supper*
Milan, known the world over for its high-end fashion and dazzling bounty of artistic landmarks, provides the perfect starting point for your Italian adventure. Admire the grand Gothic Duomo in the heart of the city centre and then come face-to-face with Leonardo da Vinci's magnificent fresco, *The Last Supper*, housed at the Santa Maria delle Grazie convent.

Day 3: **Milan, Verona (Valpolicella), Venice (embark)**

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Verona, "City of Romeo and Juliet," and exclusive Valpolicella wine estate lunch

En route to Venice, stop in Verona—home to Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers, *Romeo and Juliet*. From Verona, journey on to an exclusive wine tasting and multicourse lunch at the Serego Alighieri estate, which belongs to descendants of Dante Alighieri, one of Italy's most famous poets. Once in magical Venice, board the River Countess where you'll begin your exploration of the "Queen of the Adriatic."

Day 4: **Venice**

Featured Excursions: Venice walking discovery tour, Murano glassmaking, a time-honored Venetian tradition, and exclusive evening opening of St. Mark's Basilica

Wind through Venice's labyrinthine back lanes as you get an up-close view of the city's residential heart as well as such legendary locations as the Doge's Palace and the Rialto Bridge. Be treated to a Murano glassmaking demonstration at Arti Veneziane alla Giudecca Glass Factory, where a skilled glassmaker demonstrates the timeless art of turning liquid silica into priceless figures. Cap the day off with an exclusive once-in-a-lifetime experience at an after-hours lighting ceremony inside St. Mark's Basilica without the crowds. Return to the ship for a Captain's Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner.

Note: It is not always possible to arrange after-hours visits to St. Mark's Basilica. If religious functions or festivities are taking place in the evening, we will visit during regular hours.

Day 5: **Chioggia (Padua)**

Featured Excursions: Choice of Padua walking discovery tour OR Chioggia walking discovery tour OR exclusive guided "Go Active" bike tour of Chioggia's beaches

Admire the magnificent views of "The Floating City's" greatest sights, including the Grand Canal, as your ship departs Venice and sails the lagoon for Chioggia. For those who wish to travel further back in time, an exploration of one of the oldest cities in Northern Italy, Padua, is the perfect choice. This medieval walled city is home to Italy's second-oldest university, established in 1222, with frescoes by Giotto in its Scrovegni Chapel and the vast 13th-century Basilica of St. Anthony, a pilgrimage site. Or if you prefer to discover Chioggia, often referred to as "Little Venice," you can do so with a discovery tour; for those who wish for a more active day, you can bicycle along the beaches of Chioggia.



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Day 6: Polesella (Bologna or Ferrara)

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Choice of full day excursion to Bologna with exclusive pasta-making workshop with lunch OR half day excursion to Ferrara with lunch onboard

Bologna is a food lover's paradise with unmatched specialty food stores and halls featuring locally made mortadella, handmade tortellini, luscious balsamic vinegar from nearby Modena, ham from Parma and great rounds of Parmesan cheese. Participate in a pasta-making workshop and then enjoy lunch at one of Bologna's most celebrated restaurants. For lovers of art, spend a half day in Ferrara, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a hidden Renaissance treasure with a long history of art founded on the sponsorship of the noble Renaissance family of d'Este.

Day 7: Taglio di Po, Chioggia

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Chioggia market visit

There's no better place to indulge in Italy's famed frutti di mare than Chioggia, a colorful fishing village on the Venice Lagoon. Stroll through the town's bustling fish market with a guide. Or head via small boat to a casone (fisherman's hut on stilts in the middle of the lagoon) to experience how local fisherman harvest mussels.

Day 8: Venice Island (Burano, Mazzorbo and Torcello), Venice

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Full day "The Magical Islands of Venice"—colorful Burano with lace-making, peaceful Mazzorbo with wine tasting and Torcello with its Byzantine mosaics

Spend the day exploring the Venice Lagoon and three of its entrancing islands. Stroll through Burano with its rainbow of colorful homes, and visit a lace-making atelier. While on Mazzorbo, be treated to a very special wine tasting from a salt-water-tolerant heirloom grape, Dorona, which has been planted here to yield a luscious golden wine. Before heading back to Venice, visit Torcello, home to spectacular Byzantine mosaics depicting the Last Judgment in the seventh-century Cathedral of Santa Maria Dell'Assunta.

Day 9: Venice

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Choice of exclusive "Do as the Locals Do" Venice walking tour or "Venetian Painters at the Accademia" tour with art historian guide

Get a feel for daily life in Venice with a guided stroll through the bustling Rialto Market, or tour the renowned Accademia Gallery with an art historian. Celebrate your last night onboard at the Captain's Farewell Reception and Gala Dinner.

Day 10: Venice (disembark), transfer to Florence

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Guided Accademia Gallery tour with visit to Michelangelo's David

Gain deeper insight into why Michelangelo's David is the world's most famous statue at Accademia Gallery.

Day 11: Florence

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

"Architectural Treasures of Renaissance Florence" walking discovery tour

Uncover Florence's Renaissance gems, including the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Flower, the Uffizi and Signoria Plaza, and across the Arno River to the Palazzo Pitti, a palace once home to the Medici family.

Day 12: Florence, transfer to Rome

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Chianti tasting and lunch at Castello di Verrazzano wine estate

En route to Rome stop at the beautiful Castello di Verrazzano, producer of high-quality Chianti Classico, and be treated to a wine tasting and homemade lunch. When you arrive in Rome, join your host for a guided stroll through the heart of baroque Rome.

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Day 13: Rome

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

"Imperial Rome and the Heart of the City" discovery tour

Your panoramic tour showcases Rome's most iconic sights, including Nazionale Piazza Venezia, Piazza della Repubblica, Capitoline Hill and the Forum. Venture inside the Colosseum and then stroll through the heart of the city from Piazza Navona to the dome-topped Pantheon—an architectural masterpiece.

Day 14: Rome

FEATURED EXCURSIONS:

Guided Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel visit

St. Peter's Basilica and Michelangelo's sublime Sistine Chapel frescoes are just two of the wondrous sights awaiting you on your guided tour of the Vatican Museums.

Day 15: Rome

Transfer to Rome Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your flight home.

Prices Include	Prices Exclude
14-night cruise in a River view stateroom	International airfare
All transfers on arrival and departure days	Port charges of \$235
All meals on board: 14 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 9 dinners	
Welcome and Farewell Gala Dinners	
Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions	
Unlimited beverages onboard, including fine wine, beer, spirits, soft drinks, specialty coffee and tea, and mineral water	

Starting price per person in \$US

Category	Ship	Price
Category 5	River Countess	7299
Category 4	River Countess	7549
Category 3	River Countess	7999
Category 2	River Countess	8249
Category 1	River Countess	8899
Suite	River Countess	9799

Payment facilities available with CFC

This is a product sheet elaborated in order to give you a quick overview of our package with details pertaining to hotels, flights and proposed tours. This is not a tailor made quotation and should you wish to have specific details reviewed to better suits your need please do not hesitate to contact one of our travel consultants or visit one of our branches.

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