

# NORTHERN ITALY

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## *Venice, Milan, Turin - 11 days*

Departure: May 13, 2018

Return: May 23, 2018



*Treat yourself to a Dream Opera Tour to hear Bellini's opera Norma in Venice at La Fenice and Verdi's Aida in Milan, where on the occasion of Franco Zeffirelli's 95th birthday, Teatro alla Scala Production will stage this performance, with its Chorus, Ballet company and orchestra. This is an exceptional tour of this year we are*

*offering you.*

### *Opera Performances*

#### **In Venice:**

May 15 – **La Traviata** by Verdi at Teatro La Fenice

May 16 – **Norma** by Bellini at Teatro La Fenice, with Mariella Devia

#### **In Milan:**

May 18 – **Aida** by Verdi at Teatro alla Scala

#### **In Turin:**

May 22 – **Il Segreto di Susanna** by Wolf Ferari and **La Voix Humaine** by F.Poulenc at Teatro Regio

### **Sunday, May 13 (D)\* DEPART FOR VENICE**

Depart this evening aboard any airline of your choice to Venice, Italy. Dinner and light breakfast served on the plane.



## Monday, May 14. (B,D). VENICE

Upon arrival at the Marco Polo International airport in Venice, take a water taxi to the centrally located BAGLIONI HOTEL LUNA where we stay three nights. We will reimburse you the taxi fare. Reception and cocktails at the hotel. Gala Welcome dinner at the hotel.

## Tuesday, May 15. (B). VENICE

Morning sightseeing of this fascinating city between the sea and the sky are the Basilica of St. Marks, the Doges Palace, Rialto Bridge and St. Mary of Salvation church. Afternoon free. This evening we will see the opera **La Traviata** by Verdi at the Teatro La Fenice.

*Venice built on 117 islands has 15 canals and 400 bridges. The famous gondolas have been traditional means of transport for centuries. Venice has a reputation for intrigue, politics and arts. Its school of paintings exemplified by Bellini, Lotto, Titian, Veronese, Tintoretto and Canaletto later influenced the impressionists. Among its musicians was Antonio Vivaldi (1678 – 1743).*

## Wednesday, May 16. (B). VENICE

Today is free to shop or take a water bus to see the fine collection of paintings in the Accademia, the Guggenheim and Santa Maria della Salute church. This evening we will see the opera **Norma** by Bellini at the Teatro La Fenice, with **Mariella Devia**.

## Thursday, May 17. (B,D). PADUA – MILAN

This morning we will drive west, first to stop in Padua to see the Scrovegni Chapel with its most beautiful early 14th century fresco by Giotto and his team showing the lives of Christ and of the Virgin. Afternoon arrival in Milan where we stay three nights at the centrally located Hotel de la Ville. Dinner at a gourmet restaurant.

## Friday, May 18. (B). MILAN

Morning sightseeing of this dynamic city. Among the sights to see is the beautiful Duomo, the world's largest Gothic Cathedral and the third largest Catholic Church in the world – after the Vatican and the one in Seville. Afternoon free to take in the Pinacoteca di Brera or any of the other museums in the city. This evening we will see an opera **Aida** by Verdi at La Scala opera house, to celebrate Franco Zeffirelli's 95th birthday.



*MILAN is just not very Italian. All the Milanese do is work to make money and they refuse to indulge in the myth of la-dolce-vita. The city has its origin from Celtic settlements, which were subdued by the Romans in 222 B.C. In 312 A.D., Emperor Constantine published the Edict of Milan making Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire. On Christmas day, 800 AD, Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne as the Holy Roman Emperor in the Cathedral of Milan. To the Milanese people, all that is just history.*

### Saturday, May 19. (B). MILAN

This morning we will visit the Villa Resposa which Verdi funded and had it built for retired musicians and singers to live free for the rest of their lives. Afternoon free.

### Sunday, May 20. (B). ALBA - TURIN

Today we drive west to stop first in ALBA to visit one of the wine museums in the famous Piedmont region where the "King of Italian reds", Barolo, and the fragrant Nebbiolo come from. Lunch en route. This afternoon we continue our drive west to arrive in Turin where we stay three nights at the centrally located GRAND HOTEL SITEA.

### Monday, May 21. (B,D). TURIN

Morning sightseeing of this elegant and prosperous city begins with a drive along the wide Via Roma Avenue from Piazza San Carlo, exhibiting a graceful example of city layout planning of the 17th Century, with the churches of San Carlo and Santa Christina symmetrically placed on the south end and the Cathedral placed at the north end. We will visit the Cathedral San Giovanni, where behind the high altar is the Chapel of the much-contested Holy Shroud. Gala Farewell dinner at a gourmet restaurant.

*Turin is to Italy what Detroit is to the U.S.A. It is here that the Italian motor industry, represented by Fiat and Lancia, was born. The textile and leather industries are also highly developed here. Yet, the city center is lined with arcades, beneath which are attractive shops selling highly reputed articles made in Turin itself. The wines of the Piedmont are nearby and with the famous vermouths of Martini and Cinzano, accompanied by the good cooking of the region, give its people a certain sense of being connoisseurs.*



## Tuesday, May 22. (B). TURIN

Today is free to take in any of the many fine museums in the city, the Egyptian Museum or the Museum of Automobiles. This evening we will see two operas at Teatro Regio di Torino, **Il Segreto di Susana** by Wolf -Ferari and **La Voix Humaine** by F. Poulenc.

## Wednesday, May 23. (B). TURIN – BACK HOME

We provide transport to the Turin International airport for you to take your flight back home arriving the same afternoon. Arrivederci See you on another H.A.T. Tours.

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\* B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner (including wine)



## LAND COST

DOUBLE: \$6,950 PER PERSON

SINGLE: \$1,250

## TOUR INCLUDES

- 1st Category orchestra level seats in theaters
- Deluxe centrally located hotels
- Buffet breakfast daily, 3 dinners with wine in gourmet restaurants and one lunch
- Welcome reception with cocktails
- Private sightseeing in each city
- Experienced English speaking guides
- Entrance fees to museums
- Intercity coach services
- Transportation to and from theaters
- Baggage handling
- Guide, driver and bellboys gratuities
- Complete package with details of all operas listed
- Transfer between airports and hotels on published arrival and departure days only

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