

Venice & the Gems of Northern Italy

Venice to Venice | 8 Days

TRUE ALL-INCLUSIVE BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISING™

All gratuities onboard and onshore; unlimited beverages onboard including an extensive selection of distinctive wines, craft and regional beers, spirits, cocktails, and non-alcoholic beverages; shore excursions with local experts as your guide; free Internet and Wi-Fi; all arrival and departure day transfers.

HIGHLIGHTS

TASTE

All meals onboard, prepared using the finest ingredients

7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners

Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions

Welcome and Farewell Gala Dinners

Unlimited beverages onboard, including fine wine, beer,

Spirits, soft drinks, specialty coffee and tea, and bottled water

EXPLORE

9 excursions, including "Choice Is Yours" options, all fully hosted by English-speaking local experts

Guided "Do as the Locals Do" and "Gentle Walking" programs

3 UNESCO World Heritage sites

Services of an experienced Uniworld Cruise Manager

State-of-the-art Quietvox audio headset system on all excursions

Use of bicycles and Nordic walking sticks



Epicurean Adventurer Program™

Pasta-making workshop in Bologna
 Italian dessert-making demonstration and tasting
 Special food-and-wine-pairing dinner

TRAVEL & EXPERIENCE

7-night cruise in a riverview stateroom on the *River Countess*
 Cultural enrichment, including a Signature Lecture:

"La Serenissima—The Lagoon of Venice"

Exclusive Epicurean Adventurer Program™

All transfers on arrival and departure days



DAILY ITINERARY

DAY 1 Venice (embark)

Arrive at Venice Marco Polo International Airport, where you will be transferred to the ship. After you've settled into your floating hotel, consider jumping right into Venetian culture with a private boat ride to a nearby arts center where you'll see the fine arts of glassblowing and lace-making on display. (D)

DAY 2 Venice

FEATURED EXCURSIONS: Walking discovery of Venice and exclusive special evening opening of St. Mark's Basilica

Venice, which was founded in the sixth century, controlled all European trade with the East during the Middle Ages. Local guides will lead you through hidden alleys where tourists rarely go to the Piazza San Marco and the Doge's Palace, which is brimming with artistic treasures. The tour concludes at Rialto Bridge; stay in the city and explore on your own, or return to the ship. Cap off your day with a most memorable experience: an exclusive, crowd-free visit to spectacular St. Mark's Basilica. In the evening enjoy a Captains Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner. (BB, L, WD)

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

DAY 3 Venice, Chioggia (Padua), Taglio di Po, Polesella

FEATURED EXCURSION: Half-day excursion to Padua

Enjoy magnificent farewell views of "The Floating City's" grandest sites as your ship departs Venice for Chioggia. In the afternoon, you will be driven to the Medieval walled city of Padua, one of Italy's oldest towns and home to one of the oldest universities in the world. Here, many notable scholars sought academic freedom, including Galileo and Copernicus, and two of Italy's most famous writers, Dante and Petrarch, were students. Join your local guide on a walking tour of Padua through ancient arcades and porticos to Palazzo della Ragione, Padua's historic city center, and then visit the Basilica of Saint Anthony of Padua. Later in the evening, reboard your ship and sail to Polesella. (BB, L, D)

DAY 4 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

Spend the whole day in Bologna, called *la grassa*, meaning bountiful. Its portico-lined streets are home to the oldest university in Europe. But does it really have the best food in Northern Italy? You be the judge. There's more to the city than Bolognese sauce, that's for sure—there's Parma ham, parmesan cheese, and perhaps the best tortellini in the world, all on lavish display in the amazing food markets. Join a pasta-making workshop and learn how to create your own fabulous pasta. Or spend a half day in Ferrara, one of Italy's best-kept secrets, where you'll discover how the city became an artistic hub for the likes of Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Titian, and Petrarch, among others. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Polesella, Taglio di Po (Ravenna or Porto Levante), Chioggia, Venice

FEATURED EXCURSION: Choice of full-day excursion to Ravenna OR half-day excursion to Porto Levante with lunch

Ravenna, a vital seaport and Italian capital of the Byzantine Empire, is celebrated for the fifth- and sixth-century mosaics that adorn its churches. You will see the UNESCO-designated Basilica di Sant'Apollinare and the mausoleum of Galla Placidia. The buildings are sheathed in spectacular mosaics. Spend the afternoon rambling through the lovely historic downtown on your own and enjoy an artisanal foods tasting, or enjoy the morning at leisure onboard your floating hotel as your ship sails from Polesella to Taglio di Po. Today, you'll visit Porto Levante, which is located south of Venice on the Northern Adriatic Sea. This is the perfect place to relax and unwind as you take in the beauty of the Po Delta Nature Reserve with 2 million trees of 150 different species. Be treated to a delicious seafood lunch. Later in the afternoon, reboard your ship in Chioggia and sail to Venice. (BB, L, D)

DAY 6 Venice (Verona)

FEATURED EXCURSION: Full-day excursion to Verona, city of Romeo and Juliet

Shakespeare endowed Verona with enduring fame when he wrote of two star-crossed lovers, but Verona has been an important city in Northern Italy for 2,000 years. Though Juliette and her Romeo are Verona's best-known pair, Verona's best-known landmark is the pink-marble-sheathed Roman arena, where many of today's famous composers, musicians, and opera singers still perform. Savor the magic of Verona and get swept away in its romance. (BB, D)

DAILY ITINERARY

DAY 7 Venice

FEATURED EXCURSIONS: Choice of exclusive “Do as the Locals Do” Venice walking tour or visit a local arts center
 See Venice like a local during a walking tour of the Dorsoduro district and the Rialto, the city’s historic core. Visit the markets and indulge in a Venetian *aperitivo*. Or, if you didn’t join the arts center visit on day one, you can do so today. See master glassblowers and lace makers, arts for which Venice is renowned. During the afternoon, sail through the scenic Venice Lagoon. In the evening enjoy a Captain’s Farewell Reception and Gala Dinner. (BB, L, FD)

DAY 8 Venice (disembark)

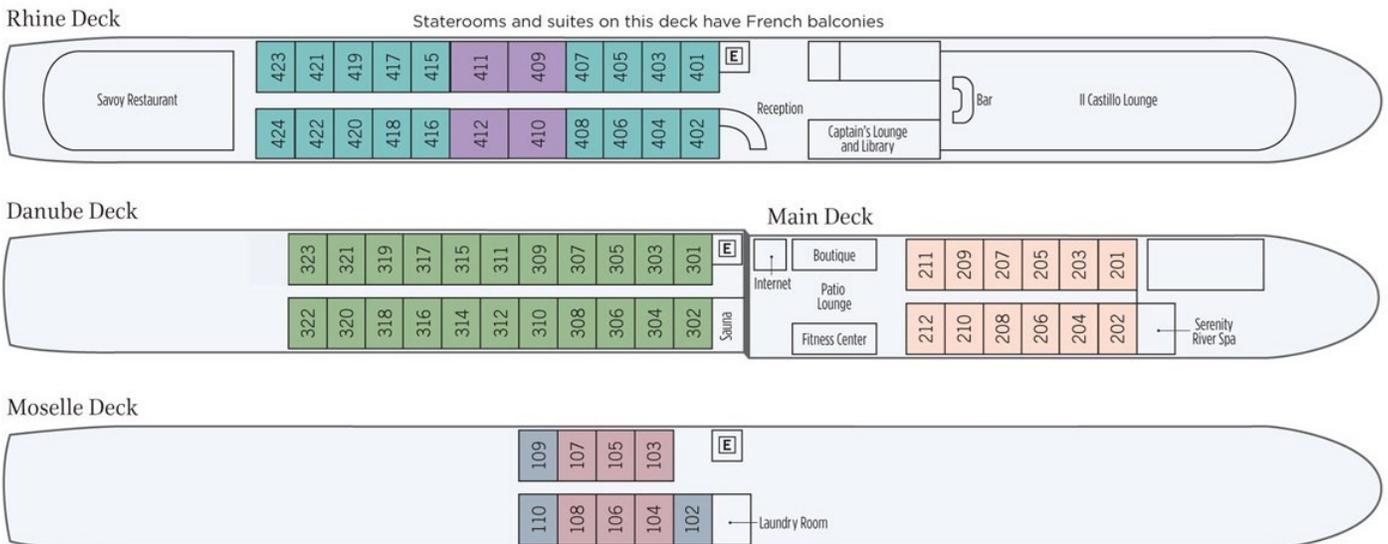
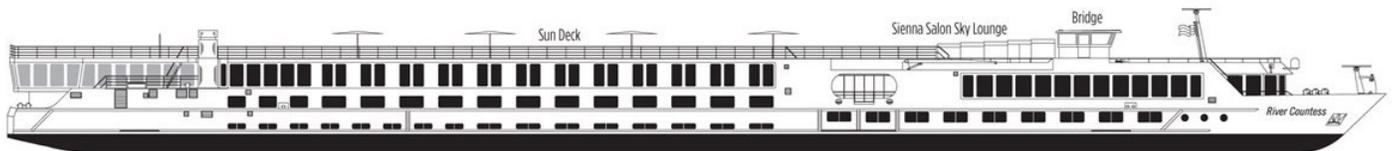
Transfer to Venice Marco Polo International Airport for your flight home. (CB/BB)

LARRY AND I ARE DOING THE CUSTOM LAND TOUR BY COLLETTE THAT COMBINES WITH THIS SEVEN DAY CRUISE ON THE PO RIVER ABOARD UNIWORLD’S RIVER COUNTESS.



Pricing depends on which options you choose and how many discounts you qualify for.
THERE AREN'T MANY CABINS
SO CALL LINDA TODAY!

DECK PLAN OF THE RIVER COUNTESS



 Suite  Category 1  Category 2  Category 3  Category 4  Category 5  Elevator