



Loretta Lamberth
European/International Travel Specialist
Take Time To Travel

770-547-9102

loretta@taketimeotravelga.com
<https://www.taketimecustom.com>



Romantic Italy

TAKE TIME CU

Depart USA



Depart USA on overnight flight to Rome

Arrive Rome--Pompeii--Positano



Private Transfer Rome airport to Positano hotel w/Pompeii Tour

While on your way to your next destination enjoy a short stop in the nearby town of Pompeii.

Your local guide will show you around the remains of the ancient Roman city buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in the year 79 AD. Enjoy a step back through the centuries to see one of the world's best examples of Roman civilization.



Check into Positano or other Amalfi Coast Town Boutique Hotel

4 nights

Anticipating an arrival at your hotel in Positano or other Amalfi Coast destination at about 4:00pm (allowing for the trip south from Rome and the 2 hour Pompeii tour). Just enough time for you to settle into your room, enjoy a lovely dinner, perhaps at the waterfront, and short stroll before calling it a day.



Evening at your leisure

Positano/Amalfi Coast All Day



9:00 AM - 6 hr

Private Full-Day Amalfi & Ravello Tour with Driving Escort

A full day tour along the Divina Costiera to enjoy the beauty of this coastline punctuated by the lovely towns of Praiano, Amalfi and the delightful Ravello. Your guide will be glad to suggest places where you can have a snack or a proper lunch.

IMPORTANT NOTE: "Driving escort" is not the same as a private driver/guide. Your private driver will provide information on the towns and sights you will visit, suggestions for ideas and dining options, but you explore on your own for the amount of time determined at each stop. This is not an escorted tour, although there is a different version where the driver would also accompany you throughout the day and act as tour guide in each location. Consider that Praiano, Amalfi, and Ravello themselves ARE the sights, along with the spectacular coastline they occupy. LUNCH IS ON OWN



Remainder of afternoon/evening at your leisure back in Positano

Capri DAY TRIP



9:00 AM - 8 hr

Capri & Amalfi Coast Mini-Cruise from Positano

A full day boat trip to discover the beauty of the Amalfi Coast and the evocative Island of Capri. Boarding from Amalfi, Praiano or Positano at the ferry-boat port. We will sail along the Amalfi coast passing the fabulous Li-Galli Island, where Ulysses encountered the mermaids.

Once in Capri we will tour the island by sea, viewing: White Grotto, The Natural Arch, Villa Malaparte, Faraglioni Rocks, Marina Piccola, Green Grotto (stop here to enjoy a swim) and finally an optional visit to the famous Blue Grotto (entrance fee not included, to be paid locally).

Once in Marina Grande (Capri's main port) you will have 3 to 4 hours free time. On the return journey there will be an opportunity for another swim along the Amalfi Coast. The boat is equipped with: bathroom, changing room, stereo, shower and cold free soft-drinks.

* This tour operates with a minimum of 2 people and a maximum of 24 people.



Remainder of afternoon/evening at your leisure back in Positano

Positano FREE DAY



Positano all day at your leisure--NO SPECIFIC PLANS

Use today to continue to explore the town of Positano and just enjoy this beautiful town and its dramatic views. Perhaps you'll take today to hike the Path of the Gods, or rent a chair and umbrella to simply enjoy the beach and sea. Depending on hotel choice, there may even be a rooftop terrace with pool to enjoy both the water and the dramatic views from on high. If you are up for another day trip into the region, consider a visit to the ancient abandoned Greek ruins at Paestum, with a tour/tasting at a local farm that makes fresh mozzarella.

Positano-Naples-Florence



Check out of Positano hotel



Private car transfer to Naples rail station



10:20 AM

Train Naples to Florence



Arrive Florence 1:17pm



Taxi transfer to hotel



Check into Florence Boutique Hotel

2 nights



Remainder of afternoon/evening at your leisure

Florence is a PERFECT, compact town for strolling! Acquaint yourselves with Medieval-Renaissance Florence today. Explore. Even though you may well visit from another angle tomorrow, you might take today to climb into the dome of the Duomo (Santa Maria del Fiore), visit inside the Baptistery, and/or climb the bell tower!



Florence all day



8:50 AM - 3 hr

Small Group Walking Tour of Florence w/Accademia visit

Your walking tour will start from Piazza della Signoria, a beautifully preserved square, where the guide will show you its highlights, among which the Loggia dei Lanzi arcade and Palazzo Vecchio.

By walking through the medieval streets of this renaissance city, you will reach Piazza del Duomo, with the magnificent Duomo Complex including: the Duomo Cathedral with its imposing dome by Brunelleschi, recognized as the architectural masterpiece of the Renaissance, Giotto's Bell Tower, one of the greatest examples of Gothic architecture in Florence, the Baptistry dedicated to St. John the Baptist, with its wonderful gilded bronze Doors of Paradise, one of the Florentine Renaissance masterpieces by Lorenzo Ghiberti (no internal visits).

The final tour destination is the Academy Museum, where, among other masterpieces by Michelangelo, you will admire the statue of David, which represents the symbol of the Florentine Renaissance art. The tour will end at the Academy Museum at approximately 12:00pm.



Remainder of afternoon/evening at your leisure

If you care to enjoy that iconic photo op view of Florence (at the perfect time of day—sunset), head to the river/cross over, walk a few blocks to finally turn uphill and reach Piazzale Michelangelo.



Florence into Tuscany



Check out of Florence hotel



**10:00 AM
Pick up rental car**



Begin drive into Tuscany

Leaving Florence and heading into Tuscany, consider what stops you might be interested in taking along the way to end your day at your next hotel. If you are a WWII buff, literally just outside Florence is a WWII American Cemetery, if you wish to stop and pay your respects to the thousands of American soldiers resting here (most of them aviators). Smaller in scale than the American Cemetery at Normandy in France, but just as full of impact and importance. Perhaps you'll enjoy a few hours exploring San Gimignano. You won't regret the visit of this walled medieval and multi-towered Tuscan hilltown! YOU DECIDE which way to point the car!



Check into Tuscany Boutique Hotel

3 nights

Tuscany all day



Tuscany all day at your leisure and with your car

From where I anticipate your boutique hotel to be located, you can reach nearly any place of interest in the main body of the Tuscany region in less than 2 hours, but often only minutes from where you start. For today, I would suggest that you concentrate on your near vicinity making the most of visiting Siena and the towns of the Chianti region of Tuscany along beautiful, small countryside roads (Gaiole-in-Chianti, Radda-in-Chianti, Castellina-in-Chianti, Greve-in-Chianti, etc.). Or stay much "closer to home" and add the charming town of Cortona to your sightseeing list.



3:30 PM - 6 hr

Cooking school/dinner with wine tasting at Tuscany Villa

After a morning/early afternoon filled with independent sightseeing, enjoy a cooking class, complete with wine tasting all in a Tuscan villa setting.

Tuscany all day



Tuscany all day at your leisure and with your car

Perhaps you will begin your explorations with time in Montalcino, in anticipation of your wine tasting in just a couple hours. With or without its wine as claim to fame, it is a lovely hilltown.



11:00 AM - 3 hr

Winery Tour and Wine Tasting

Enjoy your morning winery visit and then lunch featuring the renowned Brunello di Montalcino wine here.



Continue Tuscany touring at your leisure

Leaving the Montalcino vicinity, nearby Montepulciano also produces a lovely red, prestigious and well-known in its own right—the Vino Nobile di Montepulciano. You can also make a nice detour to ruins of the Abbey at San Galgano (an utterly romantic ruin, a real sword-in-the stone at its nearby sanctuary) or the old monastery at Mount Oliveto.



Tuscany to Rome



Check out of Tuscany hotel



Begin drive to Rome, sightseeing along the way

The choice is yours for routing and destinations along the way to end your day back in Rome. The point is exploration. You could make stops in Orvieto (one of the most beautiful Duomos in Italy) & the nearby dying town of Civita di Bagnoregio (stranded on constantly eroding tufa rock, and reached only by a footbridge over a deep valley with history that goes back to a pre-Roman civilization, the Etruscans). But if you go the other direction instead you could easily stop in lovely places, such as Deruta (ceramics!), or Assisi (St. Francis legacy and a perfect medieval town).



Drop off rental car just inside Rome/Taxi to hotel



Check into Rome Boutique Hotel near Spanish Steps or Piazza Navona
3 nights



Evening at your leisure

You are just steps from the ancient heart of Rome. Find the Spanish Steps, and the Trevi Fountain. If it's still daylight, take a break for some shade as you head into the Borghese Gardens, some of Rome's rare "green space". Pay a visit to the Pantheon and Piazza Navona, as you continue to take in those first impressions of The Eternal City. And be sure to go back to some of these places after dark, when parts of Rome become pedestrianized and you can just enjoy a stroll out among the Romans!



Rome all day



9:00 AM - 3 hr

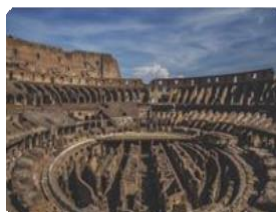
Small Group Colosseum/Roman Forum Tour

Separate fact from fiction with a small-group tour of the Colosseum, Roman Forum and Palatine Hill – three of Rome's most emblematic sites. Learn all about the history that shaped Ancient Rome as we know today.

Skip the long line into the Colosseum and dive right into its bloody but politically important history. Wander around its first and second tiers learning about the lives of gladiators and the real hand signals that emperors used to condemn fighters as your passionate and expert guide regales you with its history.

From Ancient Rome's entertainment to business, our next stop is the Roman Forum: the commercial and political heart of the empire.

Finally we head up to Palatine Hill to hear all about the legend of Romulus & Remus. Explore ancient palaces as you hear tales of the characters that played such a crucial role in shaping history.



Remainder of afternoon/evening at your leisure

Rome all day



9:15 AM - 3 hr

Small Group Vatican Museums/Sistine Chapel/St. Peter's Tour

A visit to the Vatican Museums is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Along with Skip-the-Line Access to the Museums and St. Peter's Basilica after the Sistine Chapel, you'll discover the highlights in a relaxing way with less than 20 people and an art historian guide who will give you the Vatican story in just 3 hours.

The Vatican Museums are lengthy. Without a guide, many become overwhelmed by the sheer number of artworks. Your guide will lead you through the important rooms. In this way, you'll get a big-picture view of the Vatican. The human story will stay with you. The clashes between the powerful popes and artists will give you a different perspective on the collection.

When you set foot in the Sistine Chapel, you'll be so familiar with the Renaissance that you'll recognize Michelangelo's hand on your own. The guides respect the chapel as a holy place, so they stay quiet inside, but by then you'll know what to look out for. All that you need to do is soak up the splendor and creativity. Your guide is free to talk under the vaulted dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

After skipping the lines which stretch across St. Peter's Square, you'll explore the numerous architectural, religious and artistic marvels inside. While treasures like Bernini's massive bronze altar and the dome are hard to miss, you'll want to find Michelangelo's Pietà and the rest of the basilica wonders.



Remainder of afternoon/evening at your leisure



Return to USA



Check out of Rome hotel



Private car transfer to airport for departure



Return flight to USA (arrives same day)

TAKE TIME CUSTOM--DO NOT COPY