ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS: Venice and the Italian Veneto

September 15-26, 2023



Villa Capra detta La Rotonda

Palladian Basilica, Vicenza

ver eleven days, we will experience the incomparable city of Venice and its mainland, the Veneto. This is where, from the 13th through the early 19th centuries, artists like Giotto, Titian, Tintoretto, Tiepolo, Canova, and most notably, the 16th century architect Andrea Palladio, left works of incomparable beauty and influence. With remarkable gardens, lake and lagoon cruises, and excellent food added to our itinerary, we will make memories to last a lifetime.

Highlights of the Venice and Veneto tour:

- 4 nights lodging in Starhotel's 5-star Splendid Venice.
- 7 nights in Vicenza's beautifully renovated 4-star Hotel Campo Marzio
- A survey of the architecture of Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio (1508-1580)—the most significant architect of the western world. We will visit palaces, churches, villas, and civic buildings that enrich one of UNESCO's most compelling World Heritage Sites. In them, you will see how Palladio borrowed from the ancients, made their elements "modern" for the 1500's, and sent them abroad with publication of *I Quattri Libri dell'Architettura* (The Four Books of Architecture) in 1570, which Thomas Jefferson would come to call his architecture bible.

A day in Padua, with a pilgrimage to Scrovegni Chapel. Giotto's fresco cycle from 1305 shows how he taught Italian painters to paint from nature, rather than in the formulaic Byzantine "Greek" style popular at the time. We will be accompanied by Claudia Bonifaccio, guide of the **Old University** which was founded in 1222, where we will visit Padua's Botanical Garden, influencer of botanical gardens throughout the world. We will continue to the historic center of the University of Padua, which includes the famous 1594 **Anatomical Theater**.

- A day trip with lunch and a cruise on Lake Garda as well as a visit to Verona's glorious Giardino Giusti.
- Seldom seen gardens of Venice, including the new Borges Garden at San Georgio; the Carlo Scarpa garden of Quirini Stampalia; and the largest private garden of Venice at the Palazzo Nani Bernardo on the Grand Canal.
- A private boat trip to the glass-making island Murano and lace-making island Burano with a sumptuous lunch.
- Homages to Antonio Canova, the leading sculptor of the neoclassical period, and to Italy's leading modernist architect, Carlo Scarpa. Canova's sculptures captured figures of myth and portraiture of the powerful, from George Washington to Napoleon Bonaparte.

We will visit the **Antonio Canova Gypsotheca Museum** in **Possagno**, which preserves the historical and artistic legacy of the great neoclassicist in a setting transformed by architect Carlo Scarpa.

A visit to Scarpa's Brion Tomb and Chapel and lunch in the scenic hill town of Asolo close to the Dolomite Mountains round out the day.

• The tour includes:

- ground and water transportation
- Venice airport transfers
- eleven (11) nights' lodging and breakfasts
- two (2) dinners
- eight (8) lunches
- · all entry and guide fees

The fee for double occupancy is \$6,395 per person. The single-occupancy supplement is \$1,300.

Please feel free to contact info@artandarchtours.com with any questions you have about Art and Architecture Tours.



Basilica di San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice

La Fenice Opera House

Villa Emo Hall West

Venice and the Italian Veneto TOUR SCHEDULE

- September 15, 2023 (Day 1)—We will meet at Marco Polo Airport (Venice), and transfer by private coach to *Hotel Campo Marzio*, in Vicenza, the epicenter of the architecture of 16th c. architect Andrea Palladio. After check-in and a brief rest, an orientation walk, along the *Corso Andrea Palladio* and the *Piazza degli Signori*, will lead us to our Welcome Dinner at nearby *Ai Ritrovo*.
- September 16, 2023 (Day 2)—We begin the day with a visit to Palladio's *Villa Emo* (1555), in Fanzolo, a commission by wealthy Venetians turning their interest to agriculture. Frescoes here were painted by Giovanni Battista Zelotti, a contemporary of Palladio. The afternoon will take us to Piombino Dese to visit the Villa Cornaro (1552), which inspired Thomas Jefferson's original design for his own villa, Monticello.
- September 17, 2023 (Day 3) Italy's largest lake, Lake Garda, lies partly in the Veneto and partly in Lombardy. A relaxing ride from Vicenza will take us to the southern portion of Lake Garda for a day of exploration. , with We will enjoy lunch in Gardone Riviera and a pleasant boat trip to Sirmione, where we will visit the Grottoes of Catullus, home of the famous Latin poet (87-54 BC). Construction of the villa can be dated to the Augustan age. Passing through Verona, we will then visit the perfect 16th c. Giardino Giusti—the quintessence of the classic Italian garden, admired by nobles and notables throughout the centuries.
- September 18, 2023 (Day 4) Our day begins with a visit to the *Cappella degli Scrovegni* (1303) in Padua where the Renaissance painter Giotto (1266-1337) covered the chapel walls (1303-05) with exquisite frescoes of great significance to western painting. A tour of the nearby Botanical Garden—Europe's oldest--will precede lunch together. The afternoon will take us to the Old University (founded 1222) where the *Palazzo del Bo Anatomical Theatre* (1594) made possible the study of the human body through dissection. The evening is yours to rest, relax or explore Padua.
- September 19, 2023 (Day 5) Today we will travel north from Vicenza to *Villa Barbaro* (1555), at Maser, Palladio's last villa—a great 5-part structure decorated with exuberant trompe l'oeil frescoes by **Paolo** Veronese. Following lunch in the beautiful hill town of Asolo, we will visit the *Museo Antonio Canova* in **Possagno** where the celebrated neoclassical sculptor's plaster models are beautifully exhibited in a Carlo Scarpa gallery.
- September 20, 2023 (Day 6)—A special day in Vicenza, where Andrea Palladio's career can be tracked from his earliest civic building, the Vicenza **Basilica**, to the work that was completed only after his death, the **Teatro Olimpico**. With everything a few minutes' walk from our hotel, today's strolls will be unstructured, allowing plenty of time for a leisurely lunch and the occasional *gelato*!
- September 21, 2023 (Day 7)—Today we will visit two of Andrea Palladio's most notable villas—the *Villa Godi* (1542), in Malinverni, his earliest villa, and Vicenza's suburban *Villa Almerico Capra Valmarana, "La Rotonda"* (1566), the building for which Palladio is world-famous. We look forward to being hosted by Count Nicolò Valmarana at La Rotonda for a tour and luncheon in the masterpiece acquired by his great-grandfather in the early 20th c. The later afternoon and evening are free.

- September 22, 2023 (Day 8)—Today our tour transfers to the 5-star *Hotel Splendid Venice*. After hotel check-in and lunch at *Taverna La Fenice*, we will tour the famed *La Fenice* opera house and survey the *Piazza San Marco* which Napoleon deemed "the grandest drawing room in Europe." Time permitting we will visit the *Correr Museum* in Napoleon's former royal palace on the piazza.
- September 23, 2023, (Day 9)—A trip to Venice without a visit to the islands of Murano and Burano? Absolutely not! We will make a leisurely jaunt to *Burano* for lunch at the *Trattorio al Gatto Nero* where Chef Reggero Bovo serves unforgettable local dishes in one of the happiest places imaginable. After an amble to explore *Burano's lace-making tradition* (and the gaily painted houses), we will venture to *Murano* for an afternoon among the beautiful "Venetian" glass workshops and boutiques. A pleasant, unstructured day, and a free evening—but don't count on needing much dinner.
- September 24, 2023, (Day 10)—A perfect day for churches and gardens. Venice's churches of San Georgio and Il Redentore mark Palladio's final acceptance into the top ranks of 16th C. architects. At San Georgio we will also visit the new Borges Garden of the Cini Foundation (and perhaps the Campanile for the views!) with lunch along the Giudecca Canal. Our last visit of the day will take us to Palazzo Nani Bernardo on the Grand Canal where Contessa Elisabetta Lucheschi will welcome us with an aperitif at the home of her family which was built in the 16th C. and boasts Venice's largest private garden.
- September 25, 2023, (Day 11)—Our morning walk will take us to the Accademia where we will survey painters of the Venetian School among them, Titian, Tintoretto, and Tiepolo. Your free afternoon will provide options to visit *San Marco basilica*, the *Doge's Palace*, the Peggy Guggenheim Museum, the Biennale Archittetura, or other places of curiosity on your own. We will wrap up the day—and the tour with a Farewell Dinner at *Do Forni*, one of Venice's classic, and most welcoming, San Marco restaurants.
- September 26, 2023, (Day 12)—After an early breakfast at our hotel, water taxis from our hotel dock will take us to Marco Polo Airport in time for departures after 10:30 am.



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September 15-26, 2023

COST AND CONDITIONS

Per Person (double occupancy): \$6,395

Single Supplement: \$1,300

This tour includes eleven (11) nights' accommodation (September 15-26, 2023) : seven (7) nights at Vicenza's Hotel Campo Marzio and four (4) nights at Starhotels Splendid Venice; all breakfasts; 8 lunches and 2 dinners; all entrance fees, private coach and water taxi transport, including airport transfers; notes; and expert guiding throughout.

The tour is limited to twenty (20) participants. A deposit of \$1900 will secure your place with final payment due by April 30, 2023. Please return your registration form to 4208 Sulgrave Road, Richmond, Virginia 23221, or scan and email to jwbraymer@comcast.net. Payment by check to Art and Architecture Tours LLC or by credit card. Payment by credit card carries a 4% service fee.

Pricing is based on currency exchange rates as of November 1, 2022. While we do not anticipate a substantial change in exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust the fee to maintain the exceptional standard of this tour should a substantial change in the exchange rate occur. Participants will be notified by July 1, 2022, should an adjustment be necessary.

Art and Architecture Tours LLC reserves the right at its sole discretion to alter the itinerary as circumstances beyond its control require.

All participants are urged to enroll in a travel insurance program at the time of registration for the broadest possible coverage including trip interruption, medical emergencies, etc.

Cancellations following registration will be honored with a refund, less a \$500 administrative fee, until April 1, 2023. After April 1, cancellations will be honored with a refund only if the registrant secures another person to take the registrant's place.

TOUR REGISTRATION

Street Address		
City	State	ZIP
Email		
Passport #		
First name to appear on name tag		
Phone		
Emergency contact		
Phone		
Food allergies or special requirements		
Name of roommate		
FOUR FEE (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY) IS \$6395 PER PERS for single use are available; we encourage single travelers to		
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carriage, or any other conveyance used in carrying out these tours, or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept responsibility for losses or additional expense due to delay, refusal of visa, or changes in air or other services, lost baggage, sickness, weather, strike, war, violent acts, quarantine, acts of God, or any other causes beyond our control. All such losses will be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to the itinerary or accommodations as may be deemed necessary for carrying out the tour. The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The price of the program is based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on June 15, 2021, and is subject to adjustment in the event of change in tariffs, taxes or exchange rates. Registration for this tour shall be deemed to be acceptance of these conditions.

About Art and Architecture Tours LLC, Founded by John Braymer in 2015, Art and Architecture Tours has become recognized for carefully curated travel ventures that exceed the expectations of discriminating tour members. Mr. Braymer, with more than 50 years of study and travel abroad, assembles itineraries that help participants integrate their travel curiosity with their interest in history, culture, architecture and the arts. With a Ph. D. in English (graduate work begun in 1970 under Oxford dons), Mr. Braymer has studied art and architectural history at the undergraduate and graduate levels with additional study in the United Kingdom and Italy. He is retired as chief executive of the American Institute of Architects/Virginia and he is Founding President of the Branch Museum of Architecture and Design in Richmond, Virginia. He also founded and published *Inform*, an architecture and design magazine, for 25 years.

Please feel free to contact him at info@artandarchtours.com with any questions you have about Art and Architecture Tours.