

JVT Tours and Travel

2026 Italy Trip



This curated review of the 2026 Italy tour. JVT Tours and Travel offers a comprehensive, multi-city journey through Italy's cultural, historical, and culinary highlights, spanning Rome, Florence, Tuscany, and Venice.

The expedition begins with an overnight flight from JFK to Rome. Travelers kick off their Roman experience with a hop-on-hop-off city of Rome tour featuring entry to the historic Colosseum, followed by a dedicated second day exploring Vatican City and the iconic Sistine Chapel.

On day three, the group transitions by train to Florence. The Florentine leg balances structured excursions with personal leisure, offering opportunities to visit the Leonardo da Vinci Museum, view Michelangelo's *David* at the Galleria dell'Accademia, and explore local flavors at the Mercato Centrale.

The journey into Italian culture deepens with a half-day guided wine tasting and lunch in the Tuscany countryside, alongside an excursion to Pisa to witness the world-famous Leaning Tower.

The tour includes a scenic train from Florence to Venice, providing travelers with seamless transportation logistics, upscale hotel accommodation, and a perfect blend of guided iconic sightseeing and independent exploration.

ROME - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026 - DAY 1

Group Flight Departs JFK 7:30 pm - Arrives Rome FCO at 9:50 am, American Airlines, Flight 2036.

Rome, Van Pick-up time: 10:45 AM to The River Palace Hotel

River Palace Hotel - Via Flaminia, 33, 00196 Rome-Italy

Tour of the City

Tour of the Colosseum

Roman Forum & Palatine Hill Visit with Audio Guide App

3:00 pm tour

Arena & Roman Forum + Audio Guide

1-3 hours self-guided audio tour

17 Min taxi drive to the Colosseum

L.go Gaetana Agnesi, 1, 00184 Roma

[Map to Colosseum](#)



On Your Own: Tour Places Near the River Palace Hotel

Piazza del Popolo



Piazza del Popolo

3 min walk - 0.2 miles

Nearby attractions

Many of Rome's most famous sights are within walking distance:

The River Palace Hote is just across from the Piazza square.



Via del Corso

5 min walk - 0.3 miles

Via del Corso

Rome's major shopping street (begins at the square).

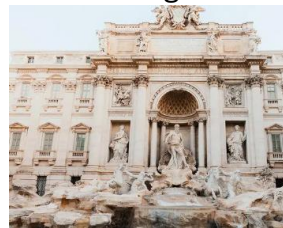
Piazza del Popolo walks to The Spanish Steps



Walking time: 11 minutes from the Hotel

The Trevi Fountain

9-to-11-minute walk directly to the south. It is an easy, downhill stroll through narrow Roman alleys



This is an overview of your trip. Please refer to the Itinerary for all travel and tour details.

ROME - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2026 - DAY 2

Tour The Vatican

- Map of the museums
- Lunch at Vatican City - Cafeteria Centrale

Sistine Chapel & lunch



You are not allowed to sit in the Chapel.

Shoulders and knees must be covered. Small backpacks are allowed, but larger bags and umbrellas require the cloakroom.

Lunch – Self Serve

Book in advance, entry to the Museums, lunch, ensuring the availability of a reserved table.



St. Peter's basilica - There is an internal passageway from the Sistine Chapel.

After visiting the Vatican Museums, you can also visit **St. Peter's Basilica**. No tickets are required. Walking time is 10 to 15 minutes. The route is flat and with good signs directing you

- View **Bernini's Baldachin**, the massive bronze canopy over the papal altar.
- The **Tomb of Saint Peter** is beneath the high altar. (Tour Groups only)

Half day tour Hop on Hop Off Bus Tour

See the Colosseum, Vatican, Pantheon, and Trevi Fountain. 90-minute tour

2 Min Taxi ride / 7 min walk meet at

[Villa Borghese, 00197 Roma RM, Italy \(parking lot\)](#)

Where to Wait for the Bus

The Landmark: Look for the large entry/exit ramps of the **Parking Ludovisi** underground garage



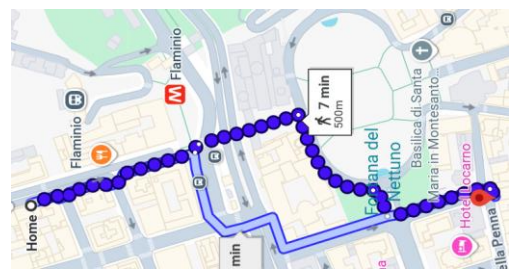
The Stop: The bus stops right along the curb near the entrance of the garage. You will usually see a Green Line Tour signpost or a staff member in a high-visibility vest.

Dinner

Negresco Ristorante Pizzeria

7 Min Walk to: Via della Penna, 52, 00186

Reservations 6:30 pm - **11.45 - 22 Euro – 26 US**



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FLORENCE - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2026 - DAY 3

Rome to Florence

ItaliaRail Train from Rome Termini Station Train #9310

Tran Departs Rome: 10:25 am - Arrive 12:01 pm at the Florence S. M. Novella Station

Your Hotel - [GALLERY HOTEL ART](#)

Address: Gallery Hotel Art, Vicolo dell’ Oro, 5, 50123 Firenze FI, Italy

Nearby Landmarks

- **Ponte Vecchio:** 0.1 miles (2-minute walk)
- **Uffizi Gallery:** 0.2 miles (4-minute walk)
- **Palazzo Vecchio:** 0.3 miles (6-minute walk) [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#)]

Afternoon Lunch

Another Choice for a simple lunch <u>La Prosciutteria Firenze</u> 7 Min walk from the Gallery Art Hotel Hours: Mon–Sun: 11 AM – 11 PM Price: EUR 10–20 Pair your meal with a glass of wine Avoid the usual tourist traps we remind you that here too, as in all our places, it is possible to do the shopping and take-home wines, preserves and all the products tasted like an old but modern “grocery store”. The venue is about 300Ft. (149 Steps) from the Uffizi, in one of the most charming pedestrian areas of the historic center. All major landmarks are reachable with a short walk	 35 Seats inside. Casual and without frills A point of sale, a shop, and Chianti countryside restaurant in the heart of the city! The boards are the heart of the experience: rich, generous, and meant to be shared. They are often mentioned among the best boards in Florence.
<u>Eat and Drink</u> Cutting Boards Tuscan Schiacciatas Chianti Port Carpacci and other dishes Wine, Sweets Distilled Spirits and Rosolio	

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FLORENCE - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2026 - DAY 3

Afternoon Shopping and Arts

Mercato Centrale

Mercato Centrale Market

Near the Santa Maris Novella Train Station

12 min by car

Also known as “San Lorenzo Market”

Food stalls are on the inside



The stalls run primarily along Via dell'Ariento, stretching between Piazza del Mercato Centrale and the Piazza di San Lorenzo.

Hundreds of outdoor vendors set up mobile carts here daily, typically operating from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Great for small gifts.

More choices at Centrale area markets

Go to the physical brick and mortar storefronts

lining the same street for mid-range quality

No pressure to purchase.

Walk 3 minutes from the Central Market

[Marco Leather Factory](#)

[Piazza di San Lorenzo, 10, 50123 Firenze FI 9](#)



PHILOSOPHY

Made for you

[Piazza della Repubblica](#)

One of the main squares in Florence and marks the center of the city since Roman times. **5 Min walk from hotel**

Visit at Night – It is beautiful



[Galleria dell' Accademia](#)

View the original statue of David, by Michelangelo

8:15 am to 6:50 pm

\$23.00 entrance fee

[Sculptures at the museum](#)



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FLORENCE - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2026 - DAY 3

Evening: Vibrant Dining & Drinks Options

Roof Top Bar Located on the seventh floor of the Gallery Art Hotel 701 Rooftop Bar overlooks the rooftops The space combines two panoramic terraces, a cocktail experience shaped by quality, atmosphere and attention to detail. Hours: Open daily from 5:00 PM to 11:30 PM 	English-club inspired venue Get away from the hustle and bustle of the streets and immerse themselves in an atmosphere of elegance and relaxation Food: Cocktails and light premium Bites \$23 to \$35  Prices are in Euro and VAT is included
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Dinner at La Ménagère: <i>(Birthday gathering, Nicki)</i> Walk slightly north into the San Lorenzo neighborhood for dinner at <u>La Ménagère</u>. It is a stunning, high-utility concept space combining a restaurant, cocktail bar, and flower shop inside a historic vaulted building. The Bistro has lower prices 	The Restaurant Cost Breakdown Cover Charge (<i>Coperto</i>): \$4.00 to 11PP (depending on the dining area/time) Starters / Appetizers (<i>Antipasti</i>): \$20 to \$29 First Courses (<i>Primi Piatta / Pasta / Risotto</i>): \$24 – \$37 Main Courses (Meat, Fish & Classics): \$37 – \$52 Desserts (<i>Dolci</i>): €7 €10 Monday through Sunday 8:00 AM to 2:00 AM 
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TUSCANY TOUR- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 - DAY 4

Wine Tour 5 Hours - *Depart hotel at 7:45 am*

Small-Group Wine Tasting Experience in the Tuscan Countryside



**September is one of the best months to explore
Tuscany's wineries**



Meet the tour bus at:
Piazzale Montelongo, 50129 Firenze FI, Italy
Meet at Santa Maria Novella train station
(15 min taxi ride from the hotel)
Go to the Bus/coach side of the complex

- Driving to Tuscany along hillside roads through Tuscany, passing among olive groves and vineyards as you go
- Visit 2 top-rated wineries in the famed **Chianti Classico region**, tour the cellars and learn how wine is produced using traditional methods



Returning to the bus terminal and Dinner Suggestion

While in Piazzale Montelongo, try to capture a sunset photograph of the city?



Dinner at Proconsolo

- Florentine T-bone steak and many other specialties
- [Menu Items link](#)



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PISA TOUR - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2026 - DAY 5

Sunday – Go to meeting place to catch the tour bus for the Pisa Tour

Half-Day Excursion to Pisa Sept 7

Depart hotel at 12:30 pm

- Pisa and Piazza dei Miracoli
- Privat Tour 4 Hrs.- Viator
- Half-Day Tour of Florence
- Travel time - round trip time 2 hours

[Pisa Tour Link](#)

Meet the tour bus at: Piazzale Montelungo, 50129
Firenze FI, Italy



A DAY IN FLORENCE – MONDAY SEPT 7 – DAY 5

Visit Ponte Vecchio – Florence

Step right out of the [Gallery Art Hotel](#) and start your day walking across the iconic [Ponte Vecchio](#).

- Meet me in the hotel lobby at **9:45 am** for the **Walking Tour**.



Restaurants and Shops and jewelry
Sunset view of the river is beautiful for pictures.

Visit the Leather Market and Gourmet Food Court and Walking Tour

Mercato Centrale Market

Near the Santa Maris Novella Train Station

Shop and have lunch

The market is comprised of two separate markets,

- **Indoor market**, all things food
- **Outdoor section** selling leather, clothing and many souvenirs.

Visit Giorgio 1966 Leather Factory stall

Excellent **lunch or dinner** options - Ponte Vecchi

A Gourmet Food Court Inside



Tuscan meals on average at about \$23.00

[Walking Tour of Florence](#)



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VENICE - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026 - DAY 6

Florence to Venice

Rail Europe Train #8906 Departs Florence at 10:39 am from Novella Train station

Travel time is 2 hours and 15 min - Arrival Venice: 12:55 pm. VENICE S. LUCIA Train station

Water Taxi to Albergo Cavalletto & Doge Hotel, at San Marco – Venice (Check in 2pm)

Your Hotel: [Albergo Cavalletto & Doge \(St. Mark's Square\)](#)

Hotel Address: San Marco, Sotoporego del Cavalletto, 1107, Venezia, 30124, Italia

Venice is the most walkable city. You will take a water taxi to San Marco to your hotel.

The water ride is spectacular sightseeing on the way to the hotel

Water Taxi to your hotel

- This is a premier central location; to Venice's most famous historic sites.
- In Venice, you also have easy access to the Gondals, viewing the Cathedral and walking through the square, sitting by the pier and watching all the taxis and gondolas pass by.

Don't forget to get an Italian icy.



[Video of a water taxi ride - Link](#)

Lunch at Trattoria Al Gazzetino

San Marco (Sartopore delle Acque), 4997
30124 VENICE

[Menu Link](#)

From \$19 to \$32



Dinner at La Piazza

Humble but refined environment
4 Minute Walk from the Hotel
Outdoor seating - Close at 8:30pm
Cost: \$23 – \$35 PP US
Ranked 1st restaurant in Venice

[Menu](#)



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VENICE - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026 - DAY 6

Gondola tour through the water ways of Venice.

Catch your ride at the hotel
(85 Steps from your hotel
Short walk to any gondola
(Consider 4 persons per gondola)

Hotel Cavalletto & Doge Orseolo



Walk to St. Marks Square (San Marco)

Consider taking your gondola tour near St. Marks and Visit St. Marks Basilica.



One minute walk.



Sunset Walking Tour of Venice

Your hotel is the tour. It is one of Venice's top 3 must-dos. Doge's Palace. Get ready to learn all about power and politics

You are centrally located and can walk to St. Mark's Basilica and more shopping. Don't forget to get Italian Ices.

[Book a walking tour](#)

Image of St. Mark Basilica, Venice

Walking distance from your hotel



Venice Casino

Casino Di Venezia Cannaregio 2040 - 30121
Venice
approximately 8:00 pm for four to six guests

[Dining Link.](#)



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ROME - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026 - DAY 7

Venice to Rome

- **Depart Venice** for S. Lucia Train station Rail Europe **Train # 8911 Departs at 11:05 am**
- Travel time is 4 hours and 15 min **Arrival Rome:** 3:10 pm. Rome, Termini Station

Taxi to River Palace Hotel, Rome

Revisit – Rome

Via del Corso

Rome's main shopping center,
Via Condotta

The Spanish Steps

Walk straight down from the
fountain to all shopping.
No need to walk to the top of steps,
nothing is there



Spanish Steps.

No longer allowed to sit on the steps.

Trevi Fountain Video

Nothing to do here but pay to sit at the
basin of the fountain and enjoy the
sound of the water and your friends.
Take lots of videos and pictures.

For a late-night snack, walk in either
direction away from the fountain to
find good food at reasonable prices.



Evening Return to the Trevi Fountain.

Don't forget to throw a coin into the fountain.

Have a late lunch or dinner at the restaurant adjacent to the River Palace Hotel

ROME - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026 - DAY 8

Check-out of the hotel. Depart for the airport at **7:15 am.**

Group Transport to Leonardo da Vinci-Fiumicino Airport

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