

Bob Martinez *presents...*

# Italy's Treasures

May 20 – 31, 2023



Book Now  
& Save  
**\$250**  
Per Person

**Upgrade to Elite Airfare!** see inside for details

For more information contact

Bob Martinez

408-835-3393

[bobloves2travel@yahoo.com](mailto:bobloves2travel@yahoo.com)



**Small Group Travel** rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

**12 Days • 17 Meals:** 10 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 5 Dinners

**HIGHLIGHTS...** Italian Lakes Region, Stresa, Italian Riviera, Cinque Terre, Carrara Marble Quarries Off-Road Excursion, Tuscan Countryside, Florence, Siena, Wine Tasting, Italian Cooking Class, San Gimignano, Bologna, Venice

#### ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2, 3	Regina Palace Hotel, Stresa
Days 4, 5	Grand Hotel dei Castelli, Italian Riviera
Days 6 – 9	Villa Sanpaolo, San Gimignano
Days 10, 11	Ca' dei Conti Hotel, Venice

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

**Explorations:** These small group tours give travelers access to the world in a truly authentic way. On these active, immersive journeys, travelers connect with the cultures of the world on a deeper, more meaningful level in ways that are hard to replicate. The group size is kept small, allowing these journeys to be the most active, engaging, and rewarding experience possible.

**Day 1: Saturday, May 20, 2023 Overnight Flight** Travel along breathtaking landscapes and venture into metropolitan meccas ripe with culture and history. Discover Italy on an unforgettable journey that delves into its most cherished treasures.

**Day 2: Sunday, May 21, 2023 Stresa, Italy - Tour Begins** Begin on the arresting shores of Lake Maggiore, surrounded by the peaceful beauty of the Alpine lakes region. Visit a wine shop and enjoy a cocktail party with some *antipasto* snacks. Cruise to Isola dei Pescatori\*, the most picturesque of the Borromean Islands, where you'll engage with new friends at a dinner welcoming you to Italy. (D)

**Day 3: Monday, May 22, 2023 Stresa** In an ancient village nestled in the mountains, a local family welcomes you to sample their very own artisanal cheeses, paired with the region's best wines. The remainder of the day in Stresa is at your leisure. Explore the piazzas, flower-lined cobblestone streets, and lakeside promenades. Or, perhaps relax and enjoy the breathtaking surroundings during an optional cruise of this scenic lake region. (B)

**Day 4: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 Stresa - Orta - Italian Riviera** Witness picture-perfect views from Lake Orta, an ancient glacial lake in the Alpine foothills. A boat delivers you to the island of San Giulio, dominated by its working convent. Journey to the Italian Riviera and discover its immeasurable grandeur along the Liguria coast. (B, D)

**Day 5: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 Italian Riviera - Cinque Terre - Italian Riviera** Travel by rail today as you discover the colorful Cinque Terre (UNESCO), a string of medieval villages perched on the edge of the sea. Feel like you have stepped back in time as you traverse the rugged coastal area dotted with terraced vineyards. Spend an afternoon independently exploring this awe-inspiring landscape. (B)

**Day 6: Thursday, May 25, 2023 Italian Riviera - Carrara Marble Quarries - Tuscany** Veer off the beaten path to visit one of Italy's great natural wonders: the Carrara marble quarries. During an off-road drive in the Apuane Mountains, you'll follow the roads the *cavatori* (quarrymen) carved into the mountains while extracting the precious stone. Over the centuries, Carrara marble was used by artists such as Michelangelo to carve his *Pietà* in Rome's St. Peter's Basilica, as well as his legendary *Statue of David*. Enjoy some free time to explore Carrara's old town on your own; view the town's cathedral, the *Duomo*, built in white marble, or search for Michelangelo's bust marking his former home. Continue on through the rolling hills of Tuscany, ending the day in a historic Tuscan villa for a rejuvenating 4-night stay\*\*. (B, D)

**Day 7: Friday, May 26, 2023 Tuscany - Florence - Tuscany** Welcome to Florence – the birthplace of the Renaissance and the beloved home of the Medici family, Galileo, Botticelli and da Vinci. Set out on a walking tour of Florence's treasures and monuments, including the glittering storefronts on the Ponte Vecchio ("Old Bridge"), the only Florentine bridge to survive WWII. You'll also wander past the Palazzo Vecchio, the Piazza della Signoria, and Santa Croce. Enjoy time to explore Florence independently before returning to your villa. (B)

**Day 8: Saturday, May 27, 2023 Tuscany - Siena - Tuscany** Travel south to Siena, a UNESCO World Heritage site where stunning Romanesque and Gothic architecture can be found on every corner. Walk the narrow medieval streets on a guided tour. Get to know the local lifestyle of a *contrada* (neighborhood) whose community Museum is centered around the colorful *Palio* horse race. Retreat to your Tuscan villa for a relaxing afternoon. (B, D)

**Day 9: Sunday, May 28, 2023 Tuscany - San Gimignano - Tuscany** This morning, journey into the heart of the Tuscan countryside, where a family-owned wine estate welcomes you. After a tour of the wine cellar, the estate, the vineyards, and the olive groves, you'll engage in



## Book Now & Save \$250 Per Person:

Double \$5,699;

Double \$5,449\*

Single \$6,499;

Single \$6,249;

Triple \$5,649

Triple \$5,399

For bookings made after Oct 21, 2022 call for rates.

**Included in Price:** Round Trip Air from San Francisco Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

**Not included in price:** Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$399 per person

\* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from SFO

### Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Business Class \$3,790

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

**IMPORTANT CONDITIONS:** Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

a cooking lesson with the estate's own chef. Break bread during an authentic Tuscan lunch and toast with wines produced on-site. Later, take in Tuscany's landscape, a spectrum of verdant vineyards and endless groves en route to San Gimignano. Nicknamed the Manhattan of the Middle Ages, San Gimignano's 14 towers soar distinctively over the landscape making this iconic Tuscan hilltop village stand out against the rolling hills. Taste authentic Italian gelato from an award-winning ice cream parlor while you wander the cobble streets and gaze up at the imposing towers during time at leisure in this Tuscan gem. (B, L)

**Day 10: Monday, May 29, 2023 Tuscany - Bologna - Venice** On a walking tour, discover the culture of Bologna, a city barely changed since the time of the Renaissance and Italy's food capital. Browse the

city's specialty food shops and sample local delicacies such as parmigiano cheese, mortadella - the Italian progenitor of baloney - and lasagna. Arrive later in Venice, the "Queen of the Adriatic," and settle in for a 2-night stay in one of the most romantic cities in the world. (B, L)

**Day 11: Tuesday, May 30, 2023 Venice** Spend the day in *Venezia*, the floating city home to lavish art collections, wonders of architecture, and where marbled palaces tower over gondola-laden canals. Travel by boat to Murano\*\*\* for an expert glass-blowing demonstration, a renowned tradition on the island. Journey back to St. Mark's Square, Venice's iconic main square. A local guide takes you on a tour of its incredible sites, including the Bridge of Sighs, the Bell tower, and St.

### Experience It! The Carrara Marble Quarries

Climb into the seat of an off-road vehicle to climb high into the Apuane mountains, a small chain overlooking the Mediterranean. There, you'll find the brilliant white quarries where Carrara marble is mined. These legendary quarries have supplied the world with marble since the era of the early Romans, who used it to build ancient architecture like the Pantheon. Later, renown artists like Michelangelo and Rodin would use this marble to carve their masterpieces. *Cavatori*, or quarrymen, have been pulling marble from these mountains for 2000 years. But it's not just the art and the architecture made from this marble that will take your breath away - it's the landscape too. These are mountains of marble, and you can see the bright white veins running through the rock. The brilliance of the marble quarry against the blue of the sky and the sea is a sight you'll never forget.

*"The sculpture is already complete within the marble block, before I start my work. It is already there, I just have to chisel away the superfluous material."*

- Michelangelo

For more information visit

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1093459#extensions>

Mark's Basilica. Say *arrivederci* to Italy at a savory farewell dinner. (B, D)

**Day 12: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 Venice - Tour Ends** Wake up in Venice and depart for home. (B)

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Book Now rates valid until Oct 21, 2022, valid on air inclusive packages only.**

**IDENTIFICATION**

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

**IMPORTANT:** We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

*Effective for travel after January 2023, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS travel authorization, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>*

Days of features are interchangeable.

Smaller buses, which may not be lavatory equipped, may be used on this program. In this case, frequent stops are made during travel periods.

In order to fully experience the destination, some of our hotels on these programs are located in smaller towns or on country roads where access is limited to large coaches. In these cases, you will be dropped off as close as possible and there will be a short walk to access the hotel from the drop-off area.

Hotel check-in on your day of arrival is 3:00 p.m. Rooms may not be available prior to that time.

Most shops and businesses in Italy are closed on Sundays and on national/religious holidays.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

**Travel with just 16-24 guests on this tour where a smaller group setting means a more personal travel experience.**

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

When reserving single accommodations, be advised that single rooms in Italy are often smaller in size.

\*In the event of adverse weather conditions, the dinner at Isola dei Pescatori may be held at your hotel instead.

Most museums in Florence are closed on Mondays, including the Academy Gallery and the Uffizi, as are other state museums. Most state museums in Florence require reservations to access. We suggest you book a ticket on line if you plan to visit the Academy or the Uffizi during your free time in Florence.

\*\*Note that villas in Tuscany are dotted throughout the region and we use different properties on this program. Some may be located in the countryside, removed from a city center. Still others may be closer to the hustle and bustle of the region. Each one is unique, full of history, with many amenities, and brimming with true Tuscan flavor. This is part of the fun!

\*\*\*On occasion, due to inclement weather, your boat trip to Murano Island may be substituted with a visit to a local glass factory in Venice.

**The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3.** This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (1-2 hours) isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. You can expect some longer days balanced with free-time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. In particular, you should expect large crowds in the Cinque Terre, San Gimignano and in Florence, which requires minimum 2.5 miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks. For the Cinque Terre excursion, agility is required to board trains that require the ability to climb 3 one-foot tall steps holding on to railings and agility boarding local ferry boats when available. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motor coaches, especially in historic areas such as Siena, San Gimignano, Venice and Florence which requires minimum 2.5

miles of walking over flat but cobblestoned streets with narrow sidewalks. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes. If you require a walker or wheelchair, or have difficulty walking, you may not be able to access some of these areas and may want to consider an alternate program with us. Our travel counselors can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Our air guests will arrive into Milan airport and depart out of Venice airport. All departure transfers will depart from Venice city center to the Venice airport.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

**A deposit of \$600 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of October 14, 2022 are based upon availability. Final payment due by March 21, 2023. Deposits are refundable up until October 21, 2022.**

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

**NOTES:**

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For important reservation information visit  
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1093459>.

You can also find this information on your tour documents.



162 Middle Street  
Pawtucket, RI • 02860  
Phone: 1-800-852-5655 Fax: 1-401-727-9014

If paying by credit card, please complete this form and return to Bob Martinez. We can only charge your credit card for the amount noted if the signature, address and phone number are listed below. Thank you!

**CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM**

BOOKING NUMBER: 1093459  
DEPARTURE DATE: May 20, 2023

TOUR: Italy's Treasures Art, Food & Wine of Italy  
GROUP NAME: Bob Martinez

Name of Passenger:

Salutation: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print as it appears on Passport) (Jr., Sr.)

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print as it appears on your Credit Card)

Cardholder Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on your credit card statement)

Cardholder Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Type: \_\_\_American Express \_\_\_Discover \_\_\_MasterCard \_\_\_Visa

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount to be charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept Collette cancellation policy, terms and conditions.

Participating credit card companies are now requiring a billing address and phone number for **FRAUD PREVENTION**. All information **MUST** be provided. Thank you for your cooperation! If using your credit card for payment, please return this Authorization Form by mail to:

**Bob Martinez**  
Attn: Gilbert Martinez  
876 Diana Avenue  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Above credit card information has been called in to Collette.

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BOOKING NUMBER: 1093459  
DEPARTURE DATE: May 20, 2023

TOUR: Italy's Treasures Art, Food & Wine of Italy  
GROUP NAME: Bob Martinez

### Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

*Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.*

Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

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### Venice

#### Venetian Serenaded Gondola Cruise

**\$75 USD**

Experience the romance that can only be found in Venice – La Serenissima – while traveling on its famous waterways. Partake in one of Venice’s most famous pastimes – a gondola cruise. Take a pleasant stroll toward the Grand Canal to board your gondola. As you relax in your elegant watercraft, your gondolier navigates the Grand Canal as well as smaller side canals. Admire the scenery as you listen to the melodic voice serenading you in true Italian style – just like in those romantic Italian movies! This option operates weather permitting. *Duration: Approximately 1 hour.* Please note a minimum of 12 passengers is required. Transportation is not included.

### Stresa

#### Lake Maggiore Cruise

**\$70 USD**

Surround yourself in the beauty and grandeur found on the lakes of Northern Italy. Cruise along scenic Lago Maggiore passing the Borromean Islands sprinkled throughout this stunning lake. These petite but incredible islands are brimming with grand villas and exquisite, world-renowned gardens. Glide past Isola del Pescatore viewing the gulf of Baveno before making a stop at Isola Bella. Then we make our way along the cobblestone streets of the quaint town to the impressive, Baroque Borromean Palace and gardens. This famed palace is steeped in immeasurable wealth and regal pageantry. On your guided tour, surroundings will bring you back to the 17th century. Get a glimpse inside life as a royal as you stroll through the opulent halls superbly decorated with rare artwork and tapestries. Then, you’ll head outside to the perfectly manicured, tiered gardens that abut the lakeshore. Behold stunning views and the splendor of the gardens as we make our way through with an expert. Return to the boat for a cruise back to Stresa. This option must be purchased at least 20 days prior to the tour’s departure. In the event that the option does not meet the minimum number of guests required to operate, guests who purchased the option will be refunded. *Duration: Approximately 2 hours.* Please note a minimum of 12 passengers is required. Transportation is not included.

**For Reservations Contact:** Bob Martinez 408-835-3393 email: bobloves2travel@yahoo.com  
Bob Martinez, 876 Diana Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

**A deposit of \$600 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of October 14, 2022 are based upon availability. Final payment due by March 21, 2023. Deposits are refundable up until October 21, 2022.**

**YOUR INFORMATION:**

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) **as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.**

**IMPORTANT:** In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: ( ) Male ( ) Female Date of Birth: month \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Issuance: (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Country of Issuance: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not traveling with you):** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**ROOMING WITH:**  Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

**AIR GATEWAY:** Departure airport for this tour: \_\_\_\_\_

Air Seat Request: ( ) Aisle ( ) Window ( ) Next To Traveling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times. Please be advised, when travelling as part of a group, many airlines do not provide seat assignments. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

Please reserve an upgrade to Elite Airfare for an additional rate of:  Business Class \$3,790

Service is limited and not available on all flights or carriers. Other restrictions may apply. Please note: if you purchase an upgrade we cannot guarantee the same flight schedule as the group. If Business class service has been purchased, it is for the international portion of the journey only.

Are you willing to separate from the group air schedule to accommodate your upgrade request? ( ) Yes ( ) No

"Federal law forbids carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries & flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>."

**TRAVEL PROTECTION:** ( ) Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$399 ( ) No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,000 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

**ON TOUR ACTIVITIES: Please choose one of the following on tour hotels**

Please Choose One: *(subject to availability)*

( ) Regina Palace Hotel – Standard (included)

( ) Regina Palace Hotel – Lake View (additional charge of \$150.00 double, \$300.00 single required)

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:** Collette ( ) Check ( ) Credit Card

Waiver/Insurance Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name (if paying by Credit Card): \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Billing Address:  Check if address is the same as above \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ M M Y Y

**SIGNATURE REQUIRED** for acceptance of the below conditions and agreement to credit card use:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation policy, terms and conditions. See <http://www.gocollette.com/about-collette/terms-and-conditions> for full terms and conditions of your purchase.

**Important Conditions:** Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees.



162 Middle Street  
 Pawtucket RI 02860  
 Phone: 1-800-852-5655, Fax: 1-401-727-9014

**TOUR:** Italy's Treasures *Art, Food & Wine of Italy*  
**GROUP NAME:** Bob Martinez

**DEPARTURE DATE:** May 20, 2023  
**BOOKING NUMBER:** 1093459

## AVAILABLE PREPAID OPTIONS

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**PASSENGERS NAME:** (Please submit a separate form for each passenger)

Salutation: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) ( Please print **EXACTLY** as it appears on Passport) ( Jr., Sr.)

	Option	Price Per Person (USD)
✓	Venetian Serenaded Gondola Cruise <i>This option operates weather permitting.</i>	75.00
	Lake Maggiore Cruise <i>This option must be purchased at least 20 days prior to the tour's departure. In the event that the option does not meet the minimum number of guests required to operate, guests who purchased the option will be refunded.</i>	70.00

Please make checks payable to Collette and send to:

Bob Martinez  
 Attn: Bob Martinez  
 876 Diana Avenue  
 Morgan Hill, CA 95037