

Touring holidays

Use these suggestions as they are, or adapt them to suit your own tastes and budgets. Type A (standard or basic category) rooms are included unless otherwise stated. Don't forget, our well-established French Expressions brochure features over 80 hotels of character in 19 different regions of France, many of which are ideal as overnight stops or as part of a multi-centre holiday, split between France and Italy with perhaps Switzerland, Austria and Germany too en route.



Top Hotel Splendido; bottom left Borgo San Felice; bottom right Il Pellicano



Top left Borgo San Felice; top right Villa Grazioli; bottom Hotel Poseidon

Romantic interludes

Italy is probably the most romantic country in Europe, a country where romance is not only in the beautiful landscapes, buildings and atmosphere, but where romance is a way of life. This touring holiday includes a stay at three very romantic and yet very different hotels, each enjoying marvellous locations, two on the dramatic Italian coastline and one amid the forested hills and vineyards of Chianti country in Tuscany. This itinerary makes an ideal honeymoon or just a marvellous holiday.

From Tuscany to the Amalfi Coast

From the cradle of Italian culture you start your holiday amid the Chianti vineyards of Tuscany, an excellent base for exploring cities and countryside. Then you head south through southern Tuscany to the rural heart of Umbria. A stop en route near Frascati in the Alban Hills allows for relaxation or perhaps a visit to Rome. Then finally the dramatic coastline and azure sea of the Amalfi Coast, with its lemon groves.

We include

- Three nights' bed and breakfast in a classic room at the Belmond Hotel Splendido at Portofino.
- Three nights' bed and breakfast in a classic room at the Borgo San Felice.
- Three nights' bed and breakfast in a garden view at the Hotel Il Pellicano at Porto Ercole on the Tuscan Coast.
- Scheduled flight with British Airways from London Heathrow to Milan, returning from Rome to London.
- Hire of a group A car for the duration of the holiday.



We include

- Five nights' bed and breakfast at the Borgo San Felice in Tuscany.
- Two nights' bed and breakfast at the Park Hotel Villa Grazioli near Frascati.
- Five nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Poseidon, Positano.
- Scheduled flight with British Airways from London to Pisa, returning Naples to London.
- Hire of a group A car for the duration of the holiday.



From about £2,390 per person IT11

From about £3,380 per person IT02

For centuries the grand tour was the required finale to the education of a northern European gentleman and Italy was the essential destination in any grand tour of Europe. Today, a touring holiday to Italy is an equally desirable and enriching experience. Not only do you experience the diversity of the Italian countryside, landscapes and horizons but you will cherish the variety of flavours of the Italian way of life. The travel options we offer provide numerous ways of travelling to and in Italy.

The incomparable cities Venice Florence and Rome

These cities hardly need an introduction, and whether you've visited them before or never at all, they hold a unique place in everyone's mind. From the reputedly decadent beauty of Venice, with its bobbing gondolas, Byzantine and Gothic architecture and shimmering light to the Renaissance treasures of artistic and cultural Florence at the heart of Tuscany and then the grand finale in the Italian capital, Rome, with its outstanding monuments and sites, capturing the history of Italy and Europe from the Romans to the 20th Century.

We include

- Three nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Flora or the Hotel Bisanzio in Venice.
- Three nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Helvetia and Bristol in Florence.
- Three nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel d'Inghilterra in Rome.
- Scheduled flight with British Airways from London to Venice, returning from Rome to London.
- First class rail travel from Venice to Florence and from Florence to Rome.



(Cheaper options are available in Florence, eg the Brunelleschi and in Rome, eg the Hotel Mascagni).

From about £1,970 per person IT01



Hotel Flora; top right Helvetia and Bristol; bottom right Hotel d'Inghilterra

Three lakes and Venice

A leisurely touring holiday of the northern Italian lakes culminating in a stay in Venice. You start at dramatic Lake Como and then move on to the small lake of Iseo known for its natural scenery before arriving at the lush shores of Lake Garda. Each lake has its own character and the water-side locations of our hotels on the lakes makes for an enchanting ambience. Finally, you experience the uniqueness of Venice and a stay in our hotel right on the Grand Canal and within easy walking distance of all the sights.

We include

- Three nights' dinner, bed and breakfast at the Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni at Bellagio on Lake Como.
- Two nights' bed and breakfast at the Albereta near Lake Iseo.
- Three nights' bed and breakfast at the Villa del Sogno at Gardone Riviera on Lake Garda.
- Two nights' bed and breakfast at the Ca'Sagredo in Venice (this can easily be extended by adding our extra and touring night price).
- Scheduled flight with British Airways London to Milan, returning from Venice to London.
- Hire of a group A car for for eight days from Milan to Venice.

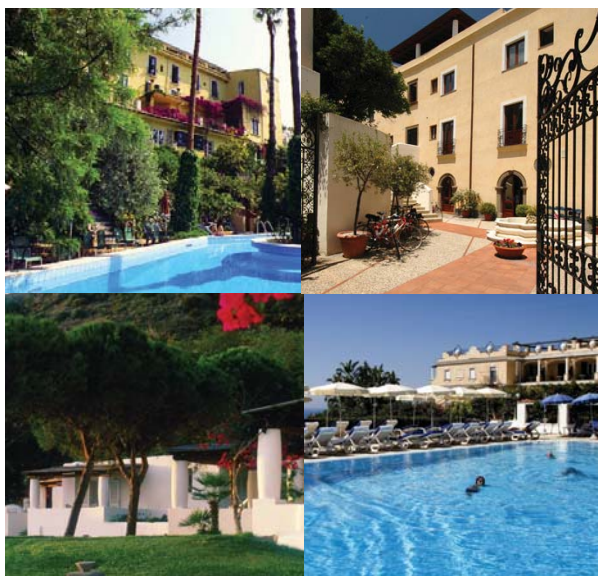


From £2,380 per person IT03



Top left Villa Serbelloni; top right L'Albereta; bottom left Villa del Sogno and Hotel Ca'Sagredo

Touring holidays



Clockwise from top left; Villa Belvedere, Villa Meligunis, La Luna, Capofaro



Clockwise from top left; Locanda delle Donne Monache, Masseria Torre Coccaro, Santa Caterina

Islands of the south

Sicily, the Aeolian Islands and Capri

A magnificent tour of the southern part of Italy, staying on four very different islands. From Sicily you head to the idyllic Aeolian Islands of Lipari and Salina and then by hydrofoil across the Mediterranean to Naples and on to the exclusive and sophisticated island of Capri.

We include

- Five nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Belvedere, Taormina, Sicily.
- Three nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Villa Meligunis, Lipari.
- Three nights' bed and breakfast at the Capofaro, Salina.
- Five nights' dinner, bed and breakfast at the Hotel Luna, Capri.
- Scheduled flight with British Airways London to Catania, returning Naples to London.
- Private car transfers Catania to Taormina, Taormina to Milazzo, Naples port to Capri and Capri to Naples airport.
- Hydrofoil tickets Milazzo to Lipari, Lipari to Salina, Salina to Naples.



From £2,980 per person IT13

Amalfi Coast, Basilicata and Puglia

A leisurely exploration of the southern part of Italy, covering both the well-known beauty spots of the Amalfi Coast and the lesser-known, more southerly regions of Basilicata and then on to the eastern coast and Puglia. A holiday of dramatic seascapes and beautiful interiors, both wild and cultivated. An ideal way to combine new regions and explore the south.

We include

- Four nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Santa Caterina, Amalfi.
- Four nights' bed and breakfast at the Locanda delle Donne Monache, Maratea on the coast of Basilicata.
- Four nights' bed and breakfast at the Masseria Torre Coccaro in Puglia.
- Scheduled flight with British Airways London to Naples, returning from Bari to London.
- Hire of a group A car for the twelve days from Naples airport back to Naples airport.



From £2,950 per person IT15

To Tuscany with own car

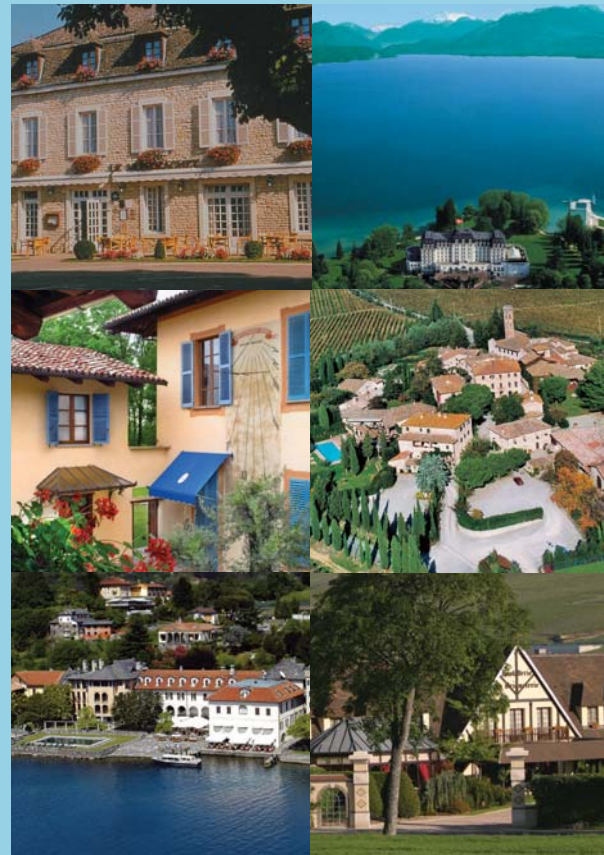
A sample touring holiday, for those interested in taking their own car to Italy, combining our hotels of charm and character in France for overnight stops with our Italian hotels. This is only a suggestion and you might want to break your journey elsewhere or extend your stay in any of the hotels mentioned. Please phone us to discuss your proposed itinerary.

We include

- One night's bed and breakfast at the Montrachet in Burgundy.
- One night's bed and breakfast at the Imperial Palace at Annecy.
- One night's bed and breakfast at the Villa Beccaris, in Piemonte.
- Seven nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Borgo San Felice in Tuscany.
- One night's bed and breakfast at Hotel San Rocco on Lake Orta.
- One night's bed and breakfast at Schwyz near Lake Lucerne in Switzerland.
- One night's bed and breakfast at the Briqueterie near Epernay, Champagne region.
- P&O ferry crossing Dover to Calais or Eurotunnel crossing Folkestone to Calais for car and passengers.



From £2,350 per person IT06



Clockwise from top: Le Montrachet, Imperial Palace, Borgo San Felice, La Briqueterie, Hotel San Rocco, Villa Beccaris



Clockwise from top: Excelsior Palace, Villa Beccaris, Hotel Bellevue

Liguria, Piemonte and the Italian Alps

From the sophisticated waters of the Mediterranean on the Ligurian Riviera, through the noble vineyards of Barolo and Barbaresco to the serenity of the Italian Alps and Cogne, in the shadow of the Gran Paradiso. A tour allowing for relaxing by the sea and exploration of attractive vineyards.

We include

- Five nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Excelsior in Rapallo, on the Ligurian Riviera.
- Two nights' bed and breakfast at the Villa Beccaris in Piemonte.
- Five nights' bed and breakfast at the Hotel Bellevue in Cogne.
- Scheduled flight with British Airways London to Pisa, returning Milan to London.
- Hire of a group A car for twelve days.



From £2,280 per person IT17