



# Air & Sea Travel Center

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## ROAD TO ROME ETERNAL JOURNEY TO ITALY & SWITZERLAND

**Cities Covered:** Rome, Vatican, Florence, Pisa, San Gimignano, Bologna, Venice, Verona, Milan, Como, Zermatt, Gornergrat, Taesch, Berne, Lucerne & Zurich

### Tour Package Includes

- ★ Roundtrip International Flight from Honolulu
- ★ **38** Meals & Admissions as Stated
- ★ Visits to **SEVEN** UNESCO World Heritage Sites:
  - ★ Vatican City:
    - Vatican Museum
    - Sistine Chapel
    - St. Peter's Basilica
  - ★ Historic Center of Rome:
    - Piazza Navona
    - The Coliseum
    - Roman Forum
    - Pantheon Church
    - Trevi Fountain
    - Piazza di Spagna
  - ★ Leaning Tower of Pisa – **One of the SEVEN Wonders of the World**
  - ★ Historic Center of San Gimignano
  - ★ Venice and its Lagoon
  - ★ City of Verona
  - ★ Old Town in Berne
- ★ **THREE** Dinner Shows: Casanova, Palazzo Borghese & Stadtkeller
- ★ Gondola Ride in Venice
- ★ Boat Cruise on Lake Como
- ★ Hiking in Pennine Alps - The Gornergrat Ridge
- ★ The Largest Waterfall in Switzerland - Rhine Falls
- NEW** ★ Gratuity for Tour Guides and Drivers

### Traveling Dates:

**May 06 – 22, 2018  
(17 Days)**

### Price per person:

**\$7,488**

**Incl: Tax & Fuel Charge  
Single Supp: \$1,950**



Rome the Coliseum



Lucerne Kapellbruecke



Switzerland Lion Monument



Leaning Tower of Pisa



Gondola Ride

**Day 1\*\* May 06 (Sun) Honolulu – Los Angeles →**

We start our vacation by boarding a domestic flight to Los Angeles and staying there overnight.

**Day 2\*\* May 07 (Mon) Los Angeles – Rome →**

Today we will depart for Rome, a city and special administrative division (named "Roma Capitale") in Italy. Overnight on board.

**Day 3\*\* May 08 (Tue) Rome (D)**

Rome lives in the present, but no other city on earth evokes its past so powerfully. For over 2,500 years emperors, popes, artists, and common citizens have left their mark here. Archaeological remains from ancient Rome, art-filled churches, and the treasures of the Vatican City vie for your attention, but Rome is also a wonderful place to practice the Italian-perfected "il dolce far niente", the sweet art of idleness. Upon arrival, an Air & Sea Travel representative will greet and escort us to our hotel. We will enjoy dinner in our hotel.

**Day 4\*\* May 09 (Wed) Rome (B, L, D)**

After breakfast, we will enjoy the city tour in Rome. We will visit Piazza Navona, one of the most famous and arguably the most beautiful of Rome's many squares and The Coliseum, also known as the Flavian Amphitheatre. Located in the center of Rome, it is oval and the largest amphitheater ever built. The arena was used to host spectacular public entertainment events such as gladiator fights, wild animal hunts, and public executions from 80 AD to 404 AD. Then, we proceed to The Pantheon, built more than 1800 years ago, and still standing as a reminder of the great Roman Empire; the Trevi Fountain, the most famous and arguably the most beautiful fountain in all of Rome; and a few steps north, Piazza di Spagna, one of the most visually pleasing squares that has a monumental staircase (the famous Spanish Steps), an obelisk and a beautiful church.

**Day 5\*\* May 10 (Thu) Rome – Vatican City – Rome (B, L, D)**

Today's highlight is touring The Vatican City State, the smallest country in the world located in Rome. In 1984, the Vatican was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site – the only one to consist of an entire state. We will visit the Vatican Museum, home to some of the most renowned classical sculptures and important masterpieces of Renaissance art in the world. Our next stop is the Sistine Chapel to admire its ceiling painted by Michelangelo. St. Peter's Square is a large plaza located directly in front of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City. It is one of the most significant symbols of the Christian World and is also the heart of Christianity. We will enter St. Peter's Basilica, home of the Roman Catholic Church and the largest building in Christianity. After lunch, we will explore the city on our own. In the evening, we will enjoy a Show & Dinner at Casanova. The evenings at Casanova feature piano music and a soprano and a tenor who sing selections from Italian operas.

*\*\*Shorts or Miniskirts are not allowed for the morning tour\*\**

**Day 6\*\* May 11 (Fri) Rome – Florence (B, L, D)**

Today, we will transfer to Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance. Signs of its glorious past make the city an open-air museum visited every year by millions of people. In 1982, Historic Centre of Florence was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. One of Florence's landmarks is Piazza Della Signoria, an L-shaped square that holds all of the city's glorious symbols. The square is overlooked by Palazzo Vecchio, originally called Palazzo dei Priori. Built at the beginning of 14th century in fortress style, the Palazzo has always been the symbol of political power.

**Day 7\*\* May 12 (Sat) Florence (B, L, D)**

We will continue our sightseeing in this city of history, tradition, art and culture. Our major attraction today is Santa Croce, the largest Franciscan church in the world. Its most notable features are its sixteen chapels, many of them decorated with frescoes by Giotto and his pupils. As an incredibly beautiful city often called "the birthplace of the modern world", Florence offers an amazing sensation of "seeing" and "feeling" with the magnificence of the Duomo Santa Maria del Fiore, the incredible collections of the Uffizi Gallery and Academy of Fine Art, which contain several centuries of history and culture. Santa Maria del Fiore, a vast Gothic structure built on the site of the 7th century church of Santa Reparata stands tall over the city with its magnificent Renaissance dome designed by Filippo Brunelleschi. Uffizi Gallery is organized as a long labyrinth of rooms with amazing works of art displayed roughly in chronological order along a U-shaped Renaissance building which was never meant to be a museum. After lunch, we will visit Academy of Fine Art, housed in a 19th century former customs house just outside the city center and a short walk from the Arno River and the

monuments of Florence. We will end our sightseeing tour by walking around the Ponte Vecchio, an Everlasting Symbol of Florence and the only bridge across the Arno in Florence until 1218. In the evening, be prepared for the Dinner Show at Palazzo Borghese. Musicians in costumes will perform in a Renaissance Show as we enjoy fine Italian cuisine.

**Day 8\*\* May 13 (Sun) Florence – San Gimignano – Pisa – Florence (B, L, D)**

Today, we will transfer to San Gimignano, whose name probably comes from the bishop of Modena. According to legend, during the barbaric invasions the saint appeared miraculously on the city walls and saved the town from Totila's threat. The Piazza Della Cisterna is the most beautiful and famous piazza as well as the heart of San Gimignano. Our next stop is The Collegiate Church, a Roman Catholic collegiate church and minor basilica in the Piazza del Duomo at the town's center. Lunch is at San Donato Fattoria, a working wine and organic vegetable farm built around 1000AC but perfectly restored. Another highlight for today is the world-famous Leaning Tower of Pisa, a symbol for the entire Italian Republic. Once a maritime power to rival Genoa and Venice, Pisa now draws its fame from an architectural project gone "terribly wrong". Yes, it is the Leaning Tower, one of the "SEVEN Wonders of the World" and a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned worldwide for its peculiar inclination. After this wonderful day, we will return to Florence and stay overnight.

**Day 9\*\* May 14 (Mon) Florence – Bologna – Venice (B, L, D)**

Today we leave Florence for Venice via Bologna, the city of arcades. Bologna is a favorite with tourists and Italians because it still retains the charm of a great city's past, rich in monuments and artworks. One of the main attractions is Piazza Maggiore in the heart of the old city and famous for the wonderful Fountain of Neptune by Giambologna. The buildings that surround the square are: the City Palace; Podesta Palace; Re Enzo Palace; the Basilica of San Petronio, the world's fifth-largest church built in the fourteenth century by the City; and the two towers, symbol of Bologna, Degli Asinelli and Garisenda. After lunch, we will transfer to Venice and take a Private Boat to our hotel on Venice Island. Venice is renowned for the beauty of its setting, its architecture, and its artwork. The entire city including its lagoon is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Day 10\*\* May 15 (Tue) Venice – Murano – Burano – Venice (B, L, D)**

Venice was a great trade center in the past. We will take a Boat Trip for San Marco Pier to discover the Venetian islands of Murano and Burano, the two most famous islands of Venice. You can admire the glass blowing display in a Glass Factory in Murano and visit a typical Lace Shop in Burano. After that, we will visit the Square of San Marco, the Bridge of Sights and many other art treasures. The Doge's Palace is built in Venetian Gothic style and one of the main landmarks of the city. It was the residence of the Doge of Venice, the supreme authority of the former Republic of Venice and became a museum in 1923. Today, it is one of the 11 museums run by the Fondazione Musei Civici di Venezia. Inside, we will see the paintings by Tintoretto, Veronese, and Bosch. The magnificent San Marco Basilica is one of the greatest and most richly embellished churches in the world – and its legion of hungry pigeons. The Grand Canal is Venice's equivalent to Main Street, snaking through the heart of Venice. A Gondola Ride is the best way to see the Grand Canal and the impressive palaces and buildings along it.

**Day 11\*\* May 16 (Wed) Venice – Verona – Milan (B, L, D)**

Today's tour begins with a transfer to Milan while making a stop in Verona, the city for lovers. This visually stunning city of excellence was awarded the UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000 because of its urban structure and architecture. We will visit the medieval setting of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet – the Garden of Juliet's House. Be sure to take pictures of Juliet's Balcony and rub the shining breast on her statue for good luck. We continue to our next photo stop at Arena, an incredibly well-preserved pink marble Roman Amphitheater where gladiators fought. It was opened on August 18, 1807 and is one of the city's main examples of neoclassical architecture. After that, we will continue our drive to Milan and stay overnight.

**Day 12\*\* May 17 (Thu) Milan – Como – Zermatt (B, L, D)**

In the dynamic city of Milan, we will visit the famous museum of the La Scala Opera House, one of the most renowned opera houses on the planet; the glass-domed galleria, Galleria Vittorio Emanuel; and the magnificent gothic Duomo, which reflects the city's creativity and ambition. No matter how many times you've seen it, the first glimpse of the Duomo's willowy, luminescent marble spires always inspires a quiet gasp of awe. We will have an excursion to Como whose proximity to Lake Como and the Alps has made it a popular tourist destination. The city contains numerous works of art, churches, gardens, museums, theaters, parks and palaces. It was also the birthplace of many historically notable figures, including the poet Caecilius, literary figures of Pliny

the Elder and the Younger, Pope Innocent XI, scientist Alessandro Volta, and Cosima Liszt, second wife of Richard Wagner. A charter Cruise of Lake Como is arranged. In the shadow of the snow-covered Rhaetian Alps, Lake Como is perhaps the most spectacular of Italy's three major lakes. After lunch, we will transfer to Zermatt, a city in southern Switzerland in the German-speaking canton of Valais. Switzerland is a landlocked country in Central Europe. Switzerland is the nexus of the diverse physical and cultural geography of Western Europe, renowned for both its natural beauty and its way of life. We will stay overnight in Zermatt.

**Day 13\*\* May 18 (Fri) Zermatt – Gornergrat – Taesch – Berne (B, L, D)**

Today, we will have a half-day hike to Gornergrat, one of the finest overlooks in Zermatt with glorious panoramic views of 20 peaks over 13,000-ft/4,000-meters high. A network of scenic hiking trails climbs the Riffelalp plateau and the Gornergrat ridge to the viewpoint. This loop combines a short ride on the Gornergrat Cog railway with the best trails to create an unforgettable hike that will have you constantly reaching for your camera. The mountain panorama and the glorious view of the Matterhorn are unforgettable. After lunch, we will drive to Berne via Taesch and have dinner at our hotel

**Day 14\*\* May 19 (Sat) Berne – Lucerne (B, L, D)**

In the morning, we can observe live bears in the heart of the Swiss Capital, Berne. Bear Park, along the bank of Aare, is the home to Finn, Björk, and their daughter Ursina. They have been living in the new park along the bank of Aare since 2009. It provides a landscape where the brown bears can climb, fish and play, and also retreat and relax. With woodsy areas, bushes, grottos, and a spacious pool running parallel with the Aare, the bears are able to live a real bear's life. The Old Town, located at the heart of Berne has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1983. In the Old Town, we can see the Clock Tower, the landmark of Berne. Today Bern is characterized by its numerous Fountains that lend a certain sparkle to the city's image and call to mind the heroes and past historical events of Bern. More than 140 years ago, public fountains played a key role for Bern's water supply. They were a meeting place where people gossiped, washed, and of course drew clean drinking water. After lunch, we will transfer to Lucerne, a beautiful small city in the heartland of Switzerland, across the lake from Altdorf, where legend has it William Tell shot an apple off of his son's head. Upon arrival, we will visit the Lion Monument, a rock relief in Lucerne designed by Bertel Thorvaldsen. The American writer Mark Twain praised the sculpture of a mortally-wounded lion as "the most mournful and moving piece of stone in the world." We will also visit Kapellbrücke, also known as Chapel Bridge, a covered wooden footbridge spanning diagonally across the Reuss in the city of Lucerne in central Switzerland. It is the oldest wooden covered bridge in Europe, as well as the world's oldest surviving truss bridge. The bridge is unique because it contains a number of interior paintings dating back to the 17th century. In the evening, we will enjoy a Show & Dinner at Stadtkeller. With excellent food and a unique city atmosphere, you can enjoy carefree hours for an unforgettable experience.

**Day 15\*\* May 20 (Sun) Lucerne – Zurich (B, L, D)**

After breakfast, we will transfer to Zurich, the largest city in Switzerland and a leading global city among the world's largest financial centers despite a relatively small population. We will take a Boat Ride to see Rhine Falls, Europe's biggest waterfall followed by a visit to the medieval town of Stein am Rhein. After that, we will enjoy our city tour in Zurich that includes City Hall, the seat of the city's executive government; Fraumunster Church, built on the remains of a former abbey for aristocratic women in 853 by Louis the German for his daughter Hildegard, and one of the four main churches of Zurich; Grossmunster Church, a Romanesque-style Protestant church; The Kunsthaus, an art museum that houses one of the most important art collections in Switzerland. Zurich Old Town is a cultural, social and historical melting pot. Farewell Dinner will be arranged for tonight.

**Day 16\*\* May 21 (Mon) Zurich – Los Angeles → (B)**

Today we will say farewell to Zurich and transfer to the airport for our return flight to Los Angeles. Transfer to hotel and stay overnight.

**Day 17\*\* May 22 (Tue) Los Angeles – Honolulu →**

Today, we will take a flight back to Honolulu, taking home lasting memories of this magnificent Italian and Swiss trip.

*We wish you a safe journey and have many wonderful memories to share with family and friends! ☺*

B: Breakfast | L: Lunch | D: Dinner



**Remarks:**

- ✦ Fares are per person, USD based on double occupancy and include all airline taxes and fees
- ✦ Business class is available, please call your agent for price
- ✦ Escorted tour with a minimum of 20 passengers
- ✦ Deluxe hotel accommodations based on double occupancy
- ✦ Local English speaking tour guide service
- ✦ National English speaking tour guide service
- ✦ All transportation and sightseeing tours in air conditioned coach
- ✦ Tour price is subject to change according to any airfare increase, increase in government taxes, additional fuel charges and fluctuation of the rate of exchange between U.S. and foreign currency
- ✦ Gratuities for Tour Guide and Drivers are included
- ✦ Refer to "General Condition of Air & Sea"
- ✦ We reserve the right to modify the itinerary to ensure a successful tour
- ✦ Tour price includes fuel surcharge & government taxes and fees. The tour price shown is current at time of listing and pricing on Dec 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Payment Policy:**

CHECK OR CASH PAYMENT ONLY. A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required at the time of application. The balance of payment is due on **Feb. 20, 2018**. In the event balance of payment is not made within the required time period, Air and Sea Travel Center reserves the right to cancel reservations and charge a service fee for cancellation.

**Written notice is required for any cancellation:**

\$ 1,000 deposit is non-refundable if you cancel after **Jan.31, 2018.**

**After Feb.20, 2018** to departure, the cancellation fee will be as follow:

**\*\*Feb.21 to Mar.20, 2018:** 50% of total price plus any other service fee caused from the cancellation;

**\*\*From Mar.21, 2018** to departure or withdraw during the tour shall be regarded as willingly giving up all rights concerned, 100% of the total price, and the request for other service as substitute shall not be accepted.

**\*\*Also we strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance when you make your reservation\*\***