Treasures of Northern Italy & Austria Aug 29th - Sept 9th, 2023

www.toursbysierra.com

Tours by Sierra are small & customized with 20 years experience. Traveling to Europe during this time has become easier with fewer restrictions. Vaccines are required as many establishments require a card.

Bra to Piazza Erde.



Verona is Pure Italy, immortalized by Shakespeare, vibrant with colorful medieval buildings, a wealth of Roman ruins, the picturesque River Adige with its many historical bridges & lovely tree lined walk-ways. Feel a part of Italy, joining the "Passeggiata", a traditional Italian evening stroll from Piazza

Lake Garda, the largest freshwater lake in Italy, is backed by Alpine peaks, medieval castles & villages lined with flowers, groves of lemons & olive trees, a Mediterranean paradise!





Salzburg, Austria is a musical mecca with magnificent scenery of the Eastern Alps & rich history with medieval & baroque architecture in Altstadt, the Old City, birthplace of Mozart.

Lake Haslett, a fairy-tale of the most serene town you will ever visit. It has hosted the world's largest salt mine for the past 3,000 years.





Vienna, renowned as the City of Music & home to the most famous classical musicians. It is a city with architectural treasures as well as being recognized for the city with the "highest quality of life", a flourishing economy, & one of lowest crime rates in Europe.

Daily Itinerary

Tues. Aug. 29: Arrive in Verona. (See Details below for "Flight Options). Check into our Hotel Relais Empire. We will have an evening Meet-Up Dinner then join in with the "Passeggiata".

Wed. Aug. 30: Getting to know Verona: Sara will guide us to the highlights including food & wine tasting. This will include the Funicular Railway to a Panoramic View of City & Sunset.

Thurs. Aug 31: Free Day. I suggest the Hop-On/Hop-off sightseeing bus. Evening: Opera at the Roman Arena, built in 1 A.D. <u>www.arena.it</u>, the largest open-air opera in the world.

Fri. Sept 1: Private shuttle to Malcesine, Lake Garda.. Check into Hotel Malcesine, lake front. Free day to explore, oh so charming & my favorite medieval town on the lake with the loveliest setting of all the "Garda's" towns. To the west, the inspiring Alps sweep down to touch the lake. To the east is Monte Baldo. Take a cable car to the top with spectacular views. Visit the 14th century Scaligeri Castle where Goethe was arrested in the 18th century for sketching it. So many quaint shops & restaurants to choose from!!

Sat. Sept 2: A round-trip slow cruise on the ferry with stops to visit the romantic towns surrounding the 30 mile lake, inhabited since the Iron & Bronze Age. We stop and visit the villages we choose, have lunch and take the next ferry back to Malcesine.

Sun Sept 3: Private Shuttle to Bolzano. Train to Salzburg, check into our hotel then time is yours to explore Salzburg Old Town with cobblestone streets filled with music.

Mon Sept 4: Our professional guide (& professional singer), Junko, leads us on the unique 1,000 year history, including wonderful scenic locations of the Sound of Music.

Tues Sept 5: A private tour to a fairy-tale place & most serene town you will ever fall in love with, Lake Hallstatt. A funicular ride takes us to the three thousand year history of the world's oldest salt mine. On route from Salzburg, we will stop at the Castle at Fuschlsee; St Gilges, birthplace of Mozart's mother; Bad Isch, famous as the summer residence of Franz Josef; & the stunning scenery of Dachstein Glacier.

Wed Sept 6: Train to Vienna. Unforgettable evening on a Dinner Cruise on the Danube entertained with songs of Vienna.

Thurs Sept 7: Our guide, Gabriela, leads us on a gourmet food walk while blending Vienna's history. The remaining day is your own, with the option of adding more days to explore Austria.

Fri. Sept 8: Free day in Vienna.

Sat. Sept 9: Shuttle to airport. Depart for home

There are a couple flight options: Fly into Bologna Intl airport and a train takes you from the airport to the main train station taking you to Verona, an easy 50 minute ride; Fly directly to Verona Intl airport.

Note I: I am very willing to help anyone with plane fares. You will book a "Multi-City" flight, flying into Bologna or Verona & out of Vienna. There are a couple flight options: Fly into Bologna Intl airport and a train takes you from the airport to the main train station taking you to Verona, an easy 50 minute ride; Fly directly to Verona Intl airport. Plane fare not included.

Recommended: Travel Insurance, <u>www.travelguard.com, www.battleface.com, (customized)</u>.

Trip Details: Max of 10 travelers. Notify if you need a roommate.

Cost: \$1875/per person for double room. Single: \$2225. Deposit: \$300

(Refundable until June 12th, excludes \$100 for opera tickets).

Balance due: June 12th & last date for refund unless space is filled.

Includes: 11 nights lodging, 10 breakfasts, all ground transportation with the group, Lake Garda cruise, trains & shuttles (except for Verona airport shuttle), Opera & all tours. Does not include tips for guides. Does not include airfare.

Payment Methods: Checks to Tours by Sierra P.O. Box 912, Green Valley, AZ 85622. Zelle or (credit card add 3%)

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