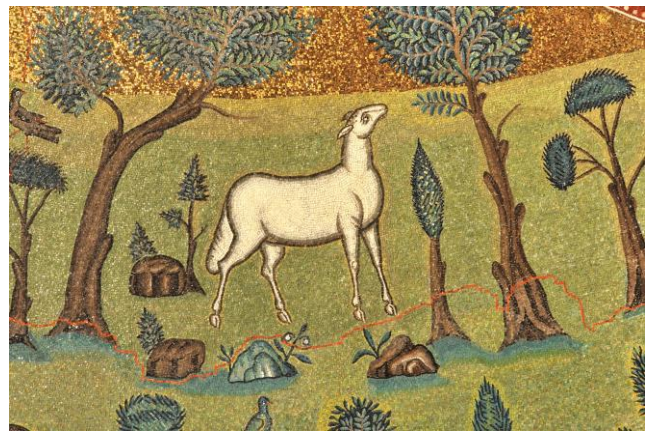




Tour Information



Art and Architecture of Ravenna & Bologna





Travel

Passports

Please ensure your 10-year British Passport is not out of date and is valid for a full six months beyond the duration of your visit. EU, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino or Switzerland valid national identification cards are also acceptable for travel to Italy.

Visas

British and EU passport holders are not required to have a visa.

For all other passport holders please check the visa requirements with the appropriate embassy.

Italian Consulate-General: "Harp House", 83/86 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4BL.

Tel: (0)20 7936 5900. Fax: (0)20 7583 9425.

Email: consolato.londra@esteri.it Website: http://www.conslondra.esteri.it/Consolato_Londra

Open Mon-Fri 0900-1200



Tickets

Included with your detailed itinerary is an e-ticket, which shows your flight reference number. You will need to quote/show this reference number at the check-in desk and you will be issued with your boarding pass. Online check-in is not available.

Your Group Scheduled or Club Class ticket is non-transferable and non-refundable. No refund can be given for non-used portions.



Baggage allowance

We advise you to check the baggage allowances carefully as you are likely to be charged the excess if you exceed the weight limit. Maximum weights for single bags apply.

With British Airways your ticket includes one hold bag of up to 23kg plus one cabin bag no bigger than 56 x 45 x 5 cm and a personal bag (handbag or computer case) no bigger than 45 x 36 x 20 cm.

Please contact the airline for further information.

<http://www.britishairways.com>

Labels

Please use the luggage labels provided. It is useful to have your home address located inside your suitcase should the label go astray.

Transfers

On arrival in Bologna, transfer to Ravenna (approx. 1 hour) to Hotel Bisanzio for three-night stay.

Departure Tax

The departure tax is included in the price of your flight tickets.

Special Requests

If you haven't already, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements. Please note that some airlines may charge for use of wheelchairs.



Accommodation

Hotel Bisanzio, Ravenna

The modern four-star Hotel Bisanzio is located in the centre of Ravenna, close to the historic quarter and a number of shops, restaurants and trattorie. Stylishly decorated communal areas recall the days when Ravenna was an ancient capital and the peaceful garden is a delightful area to relax after a day's visiting. Rooms are bright, well-furnished and comfortable, with private bath/shower, hairdryer, air-conditioning, TV, telephone, wi-fi, minibar, and safe.

Unfortunately, rooms at the Hotel Bisanzio do not include coffee/tea making facilities, so we recommend you bring a travel kettle if required.

For more information please visit the hotel's website: <http://www.bisanziohotel.com/en/home-page.aspx>



Food

Italian food rivals French in the hearts and taste buds of many gastronomes and the regional cuisine, of which the locals are very proud, wonderfully reflects the climate and local produce. Delicious pizza, pasta and risotto dishes are present everywhere throughout Italy with provincial specialities and sauces.

With gentle hills and lush green plains, the inland region of Emilia boasts excellent meat and dairy – prosciutto, salami, Parmigiano Reggiano, veal and pork chops, pork tenderloin, and pan-crisped chicken. Birthplace of *Tortellini*, *Mortadella*, *Tagliatelle*, and *ragù Bolognese*, Bologna offers one of the richest cuisines on the peninsula. And the coastal area of Romagna is greatly influenced by southern cuisine, with its use of olive oil, herbs and lovely seafood, particularly clams and eels. Side dishes of sumptuous fresh vegetables (potatoes, asparagus, tomatoes, cauliflower, peppers, sweet fennel, cabbage, aubergine, and green beans) are found throughout the region.

Traditional desserts include plenty of rich tortes, such as the *Torta di riso* (almond, rice and amaretto custard-like cake), almond and apple cream tarts, and sweet pastas, including sweet ravioli with fruits. Ice cream and sorbets are equally popular, especially in the warmer months. A speciality in Ravenna is the exquisite grape jam.

Strong Italian espresso coffee is served after the meal and will be black, in small cups, unless a *cappuccino* is requested.

Table service is common in most restaurants and bars. Usually, a discretionary service charge is added to your bill in restaurants and bars, and no further tipping is required.



Drink

The world's largest wine producer, Italy is home to some of the oldest viticulture regions. The wines are named according to their grape variety or after their village or area of origin. Excellent wines are produced throughout Italy and Sicily, with local wines offering great value and quality.

One of the country's most prolific wine regions, Emilia-Romagna's wine production is evenly split between reds and whites. The slightly sparkling purple-red *Lambrusco* and the robust fruity *Sangiovese* are excellent accompaniments to the rich dishes of the region. For a local white, try the aromatic *Malvasia*, the dry *Albana* or delicate *Pignoletto*, which have both received DOCG recognition.

Apéritifs such as *Campari* and *Punt e Mes* are excellent appetisers, while Italian liqueurs include *Grappa*, *Stregga*, *Galliano*, *Amaretto*, *Sambuca* and *Limoncello*.

Meals included in the price of your holiday are:

Breakfast – daily

Dinner – is included on 2 evenings at restaurant Ca de Ven <http://www.cadeven.it/> and restaurant Bella Venezia <http://www.bellavenezia.it>



Destination

Emilia-Romagna's Bologna and Ravenna boast wonderful but different artistic and cultural heritage. Bologna is a medieval tour de force – a jumble of atmospheric streets, lined with red brick and arcades, leading to magnificent Renaissance palazzi and medieval piazzas. Ravenna, once an important city at the heart of the Roman Empire, has quiet antique lanes lined with an eclectic mix of late Roman and early Byzantine architecture, and a crowning glory in the finest set of Byzantine mosaics in the world. Join Clare Ford-Wille to discover the art and architecture of these splendid cities.

Places of interest included in the tour:

Bologna

Bologna has been inhabited for over 3,000 years, with Etruscan, Celtic and Roman settlements, before becoming a major urban centre in the Middle Ages. Home to the world's oldest university, it is a vibrant city, with thousands of students enriching the social and cultural life. The well-preserved historical centre with its narrow-cobbled streets, lovely piazzas lined with cafes, imposing churches and medieval defensive towers, boasts a stunning mix of medieval, Renaissance and Baroque monuments, architecture and art.

For more information about Bologna, please visit:

<http://www.bolognawelcome.com/en/>

Mausoleum of Theodoric

Built in 520AD as a tomb, it is entirely made of Istrian stone. Theodoric's remains were removed by the Byzantines, who converted the Mausoleum into an orthodox oratory.

Basilica of San Domenico

One of the artistically and culturally richest churches in Bologna, the Romanesque *Basilica of Saint Dominic* is home to the exquisite shrine by Nicola Pisano and Arnolfo di Cambio, with additions from Michelangelo.

Basilica of San Petronio

Work on this Gothic-style church began late 14th century, producing one of the most imposing religious buildings in Bologna. Worth noting are the

impressive 16th century marble façade and the wonderful fresco-filled chapels.

Piazza Maggiore

Surrounded by the *Palazzo dei Banchi*, *Palazzo dei Notai*, *Palazzo d'Accursio*, *Palazzo dei Podesta*, and the *Basilica of San Petronio*, this 15th century square is a delight. Enjoy sitting in one of the pleasant cafés, watching the world go by, or strolling along the arcades, filled with lovely boutiques.

Basilica of San Giacomo Maggiore

Built between 1267 and 1315 by the Order of Hermits of St Augustine, this lovely Basilica houses the Bentivoglio family Chapel featuring numerous Renaissance artworks, including Lorenzo Costa's famous Bentivoglio Altarpiece.

Alongside San Giacomo Maggiore is the **Santa Cecilia Oratory**, home to beautiful and colourful 16th century frescoes depicting events of the life of St Cecilia's and her husband Valeriano.

Palazzo Magnani

Now home to the Unicredit Bank, the late Renaissance Palazzo Magnani boasts a wonderful interior, including the fabulous frescoed frieze *Histories of the Foundation of Rome*, executed by the Carracci brothers in 1590.

Anatomical theatre

One of the main historical rooms of Bologna's medical school, this 17th century theatre is entirely made of wood and features beautiful carved wooden statues of famous ancient physicians.

Pinacoteca Nazionale

The National gallery, housed in the former Saint Ignatius Jesuit novitiate, displays an excellent collection of Emilian paintings from the 13th to 18th century, including the likes of Raphael, Guido Reni and the Carracci family.

Ravenna

In turn capital of the Western Roman Empire, the Kingdom of the Ostrogoths, the Byzantine Exarchate of Ravenna, and the Kingdom of the Lombards, Ravenna has a long history of political and cultural importance. A hidden gem, this glorious town is a

treasure trove of artistic delights and the location of eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

For more information about Ravenna, please visit:
<http://www.turismo.ra.it/eng/Homepage>

Mausoleum of Galla Placidia

The Mausoleum and the once connected nearby Church of Santa Croce were built by Galla Placidia, sister of the Roman Emperor Honorius, in the 5th century. Originally designed as her own resting place, it never served that purpose, as she was buried in Rome in 450. The simple and sober exterior contrasts enormously with the breathtaking interior, exquisitely decorated with marble on the lower part, and magnificent mosaics based around the theme of eternal life over death on the upper walls, cupola and lunettes. The light shining through the alabaster windows illuminates the inside creating a magical atmosphere.

Domus Tappeti di Pietra

The Domus dei Tappeti di Pietra is one of the most important Italian archaeological sites discovered in recent decades. Located inside the eighteenth-century Church of Santa Eufemia, in a vast underground environment located about 3 meters below street level, it consists of 14 rooms paved with polychrome mosaics and marble belonging to a Byzantine private building of the 5th-6th century. Of particular interest and beauty are the mosaics decorated with geometric, floral and figurative elements considered unique, as in the case of the "Dance of the Four Seasons Geniuses", a very rare representation that shows the Geni dancing in a circle or as for the figure of the "Good Shepherd", portrayed in a different version from the usual Christian representation.

Basilica of San Vitale

Founded by Julianus Argentarius and commissioned by Bishop Ecclesius in the 6th century, the *Basilica of San Vitale* is a highly important example of Early Christian and Byzantine art and architecture. It combines the influence of Oriental art and architecture and Western tradition, with wonderful Byzantine mosaics representing the religious beliefs of the Justinian era. Also noteworthy are the Baroque frescoes in the cupola and niches, executed in 1780 by painters Barozzi, Gandolfi and Guarana, and the labyrinth on the floor of the presbytery, directly in front of the altar.

Neonian Baptistery

One of the most ancient monuments of the city of Ravenna, the *Neonian Baptistery* was built at the beginning of the 5th century. Between 450 and 475 it underwent renovation, which included the interior embellishments, still present today. The decoration is three-tiered, with the lower part in marble, the middle in stucco-works, and the upper walls covered in stunning mosaics.

Basilica of Sant' Apollinare Nuovo & the Arian Baptistery

Built in 5th – 6th centuries by Ostrogothic King Theodoric the Great, the *Basilica of Sant' Apollinare Nuovo* and the *Arian Baptistery* feature stunning examples of early Christian mosaics.

Basilica of Sant' Apollinare in Classe

Located just outside Ravenna, this majestic building was built by Julian Argentarius during the first half of the 6th century. One of the most impressive basilica of the Early Christian period, its lavish mosaics and ancient marble sarcophagi are splendid.

Palazzo Poggi

This mid-16th century palace, owned by the Poggi family, was home to the *Istituto delle Scienze* in the 18th century, before becoming the seat of the University of Bologna early 19th century. It is now one of the main university buildings and home to the *Palazzo Poggi Museum*, that features a reconstruction of the laboratories and collections from the Science Institute.

Basilica di Santo Stefano

Known as "The Seven Churches", this atmospheric complex combines several religious edifices, including the city's oldest church, and allegedly originated when Saint Petronius built a basilica on the site during the 5th century.

Your lecturer / Guide

Clare Ford-Wille Clare has lectured in most areas of art history for over thirty-five years. She still teaches at the University of London, where she obtained her degree at Birkbeck, but also lectures regularly for Morley College, the City Literary Institute, the Victoria and Albert Museum and NADFAS societies throughout Britain, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. Every year since 1978 Clare has led art study tours to places of artistic importance throughout Europe and the USA, including Amsterdam, Padova, Vicenza, Ravenna and Bologna.

These are the second set of tours that Clare has led for Travel Editions (the first to great acclaim) and we are lucky to include her as a valued member of our team.

Clare will deliver two lectures during your trip:

'Medieval to Baroque: the art and architecture of Bologna'

'The Mosaics of Ravenna'

Reading Suggestions

Henry James, *Italian Hours*, 1909.

Published at the end of his life, Henry James portrays his love of Italy through this series of essays, written over nearly four decades.

Deborah Maukopf Deliyannis, *Ravenna in Late Antiquity*.

Survey of the art and architecture of Ravenna between 400 and 800 AD, when the city played an important political, cultural and artistic role.

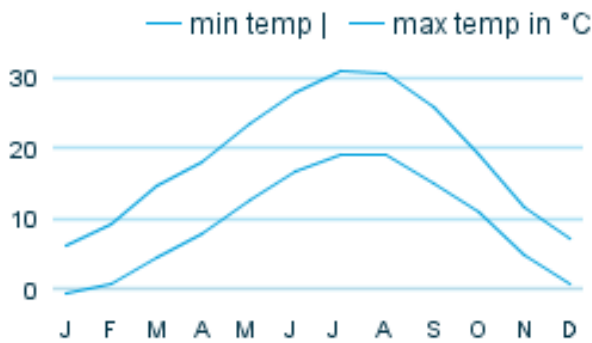
Tour manager

Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operated according to plan. If you have any problems or questions please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot, and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.



The Basics

Climate – The weather in Ravenna and Bologna at this time of year is likely to be pleasant, but evenings can be quite cool and there is the chance of the odd shower. Our best advice is to come prepared.



Time – GMT +2 hours (Summer time Apr-Oct); GMT + 1 (Standard time Nov-Mar).

Language – Italian

Religion – Roman Catholic

National holidays – New Year's day (01 Jan); Epiphany (06 Jan); Easter Monday; Liberation day (25 Apr); Labour Day (01 May); Republic day (02 Jun); Assumption of Mary (15 Aug); All Saints' day (01 Nov); Immaculate conception (08 Dec); Christmas day (25 Dec); St Stephens day (26 Dec).

Currency – Euro. €1 = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 cents.

Banks – Cashpoints compatible with international banking networks are located in all towns and cities, as well as airports, major train stations and other spots. They usually offer an attractive exchange rate. Those banks that still exchange foreign currencies into local money will always charge a transaction fee, so withdrawing money from an ATM usually represents the most logical means of obtaining euros.

Credit cards – American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted across the country. If you're eating at a restaurant, check prior to the meal that your card will be an acceptable form of payment. Even in cities, it's advisable to carry a supply of cash with you at all times. Varying amounts of commission can be charged.

Electricity – 220 volt, two-pin continental plug.

Drinking water – Tap water is safe to drink. (Although you'll find a huge amount of bottled water for sale too)

Shops & Museums – Department stores are open 0830-1930 Monday to Saturday. Most shops are closed between 1230-1530. Please note that some museums close on Mondays.

Although very common in tourist towns in Italy, please note that street vendors selling all kinds of designer knockoffs are illegal and could land you with a hefty fine. Care should also be taken when buying antiques since Italy is renowned for skilled imitators.

Clothes & Shoes – You may like to bring a warm sweater for cool evenings. Light rain wear for the occasional storm and good flat/grip walking shoes are recommended.

Camera – bring plenty of memory cards/film and any spare camera batteries as these are not always available. Please check with your guide before photographing people.

Bath plugs – The hotel has plugs for basins, but it is useful to carry a 'universal' one with you.

Telephones/mobiles – You should be able to use your mobile phone in France, depending on your operator and contract.

Tipping – To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services, but for your guidance about £2-3 per person per day for the tour manager is the norm. We would like to reiterate that tipping is an entirely optional payment and this information is given purely to answer any questions you may have about it.



Health

Doctor/Dentist/Chemist

Please talk to your tour manager if you are feeling unwell and they will organise for you to see a doctor.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.



Hospital

Your tour manager/hotel reception will arrange hospital transport.

Keep receipts for insurance claims.

General Health Advice

We suggest you take a good supply of your own individual medicines with you and always keep some in your hand luggage in case you get delayed or your luggage goes astray. General-purpose supplies for bites, stings, or scratches, and your usual medication for headaches, or stomach upsets are always recommended. Oral re-hydration sachets are excellent for topping up salt and glucose levels.

Visit the NHS Fit For Travel website for more generally information specific to the country you are visiting – www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk

Sun Protection

Always ensure you take sufficient sun protection and moisturiser. A sun hat and sunglasses are also advisable.

Inoculations

You should check with your own doctor and take their advice as to which inoculations are required for the country you are visiting, as only they know your medical history and recommendations are liable to change at short notice.



Insurance

To be covered under your Travel Insurance Policy, if you become ill, it is essential that you contact a local doctor and also telephone the emergency number of your insurance company. You will **NOT** be covered for any claim unless this procedure is carried out. Your insurance company will then decide on the best course of medical attention.

European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)

The EHIC replaced the old E111 in 2006. Valid in all EEA countries, the card lets you get state healthcare at a reduced cost or sometimes for free. It will cover you for treatment that is needed to allow you to continue your stay until your planned return. It also covers the treatment of pre-existing medical conditions.

Please note that the EHIC **is not** an alternative to travel insurance. It will not cover any private medical healthcare or costs such as being flown back to the UK, or lost or stolen property. Therefore, it is important to have both an EHIC and a valid private travel insurance policy. It is also important to note that each country's healthcare system is slightly different, so the EHIC might not cover everything that would be generally free on the NHS.

We strongly recommend that you take out an appropriate travel insurance policy when you travel abroad.

For more information about the EHIC please visit:
<https://www.ehic.org.uk>



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

00 44 20 7251 0045 (Mon-Fri 0900-1700)

Outside office hours, please telephone our emergency staff on:

00 44 7841 023807

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

If you find that you are in need of consular assistance during your holiday:

British Consulate General Milan

Via S. Paolo, 7

20121 Milan

Italy

Tel: +39 (0)6 4220 2431

Fax: +39 (0)2 8646 5081

Italy.consulate@fco.gov.uk

Open Mon-Fri 0930-1230 and 1400-1600. Phone lines open 0900-1700. Outside these hours a consular Emergency Service is in operation and can be contacted on +39 (0)6 4220 2413.

Travel Editions

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Email: tours@traveleditions.co.uk www.traveleditions.co.uk

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